



• LIVE

Guilty Man no.21

COMPS



Sympathy for Lady Vengeance
(2005)
Crime, Drama, Thriller



Black Mirror: White Christmas
(2014)
Crime, Drama, Mystery



TENE

Set in a dystopian, near-future society in which the most heinous criminals are executed on publicly broadcasted television, turning capital punishment into capitalistic spectacle.

Prisoner Number 21 grapples with a missing memory, angry Executioners, and the unrelenting justice system. He doesn't even know who he is. He's hopeless... until the ones who want to kill him save him instead.

This is a sci-fi influenced **dramatic thriller**, intent on playing with the audience's expectations to face **ethical dilemmas** alongside a cast of characters where nobody is truly a good person.

Jaehyun Choi (no.21)

Number 21, a lost and desperate middle-aged man, is in prison. For what, he doesn't know because his memories have been wiped.

He feels like the victim, but according to everyone against him, *he* made the victims.

He's the unwilling "star" of *The Executioner* show, where he discovers his past while being punished for it.



Raccoon Mask and Frog Mask

Two mysterious, masked, seemingly sadistic buy-ins to the Executioners panel on the show. Who else would buy seats for a killing other than sadists? Or is there... another motive behind these two masks?



The Executioners

The family members of the victims are given the right to deliver direct justice to the killer of their loved ones. Today's show features: a young man (lost his sibling), an old man in a suit, and his wife (lost their child).



Streaming Robots

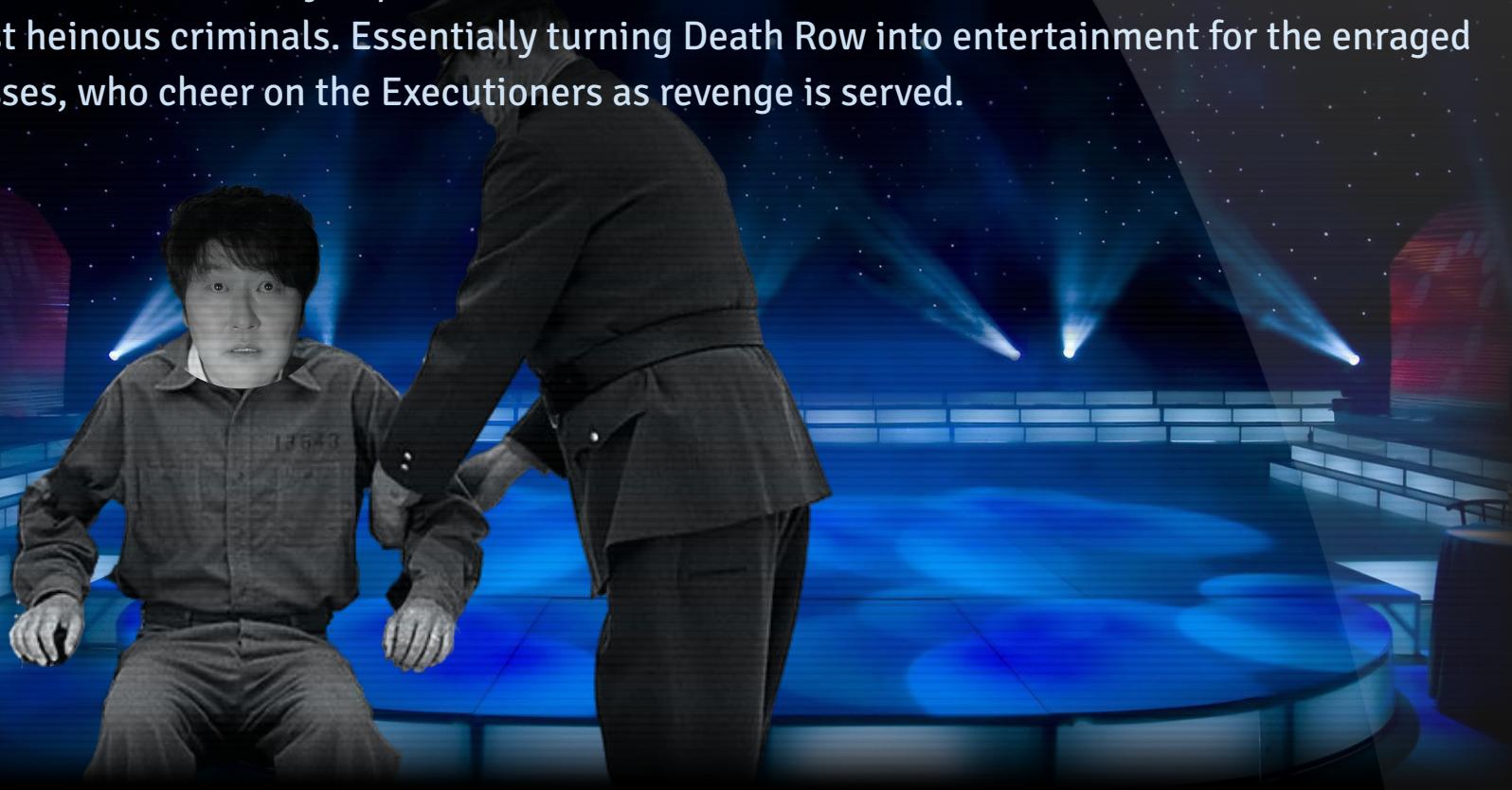
The show employs the help of camera robots to help livestream. These robots will automatically follow the trail of anger, fear, and sadness—whatever will grab the audience's attention and ensure retention.



THE EXECUTIONER

● LIVE

The Executioner is a dystopian television show that airs the live executions of the nation's most heinous criminals. Essentially turning Death Row into entertainment for the enraged masses, who cheer on the Executioners as revenge is served.



Number 21 wakes up. It's cold, like the emptied chasms of his memories. He doesn't even remember his name.



The prison doctor had scrapped up his memory loss to a “dissociative disorder”. Number 21 suspects that the doctor is withholding information, but isn't in a position to dig further. He resigns into a dingy cell with only the bare necessities.



The reflection in the mirror shows a drained man in his mid-30s, a stitched laceration smeared across his forehead. He doesn't remember this stranger's face, but it is his.



After a couple days of being examined in the infirmary, threatened by the guards, and eating gruel, Number 21 was transported to another facility. This time, the rooms were much more welcoming, almost as if he wasn't a prisoner. But he would come to realize that this place was worse than the last.



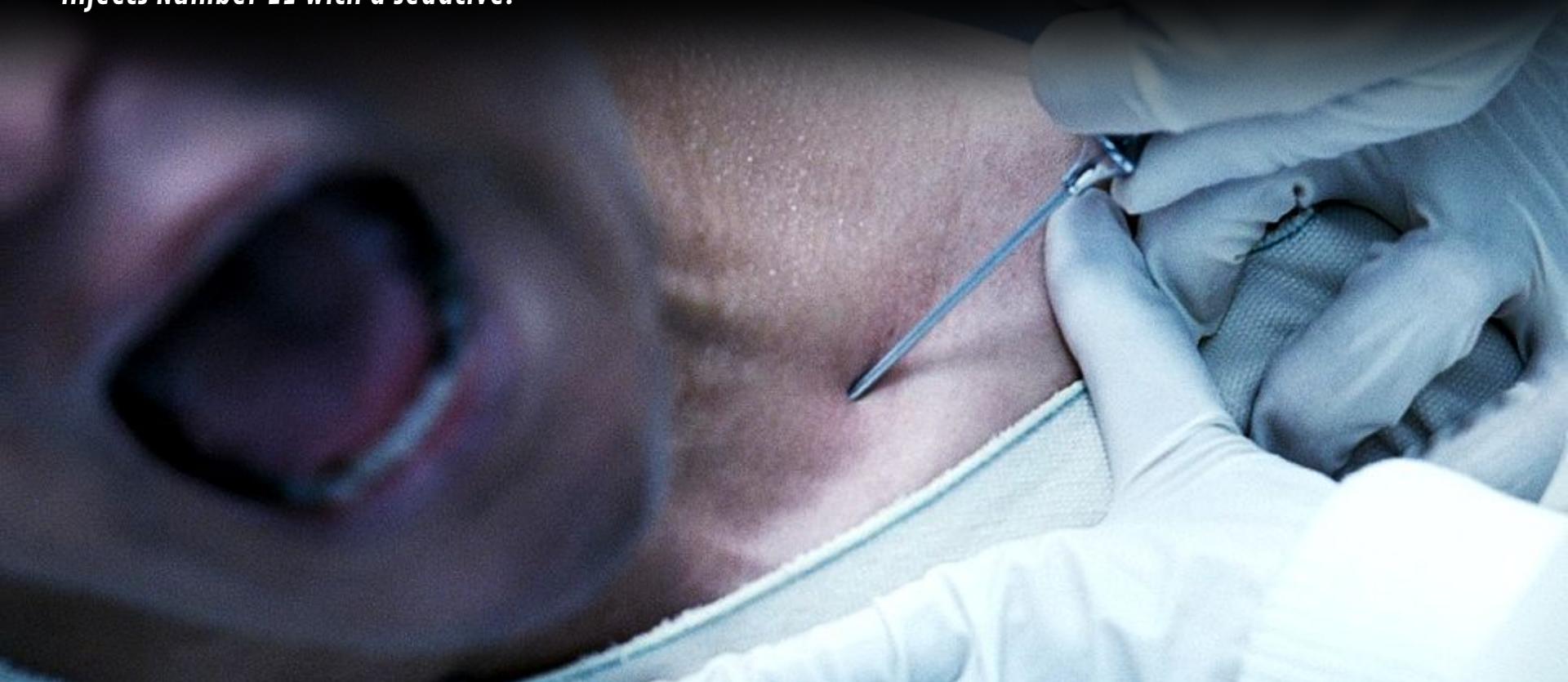
Number 21 is startled awake by a flurry of slaps to the face. A pair of masked men, wearing a frog mask and a raccoon mask, beat him into submission and tie him up. They torture him with a knife and make it clear that they plan to kill him.



To Number 21's relief, their plan is cut short by the entering guard. He reveals that Number 21 cannot be killed before the official execution can take place.



“Execution”? The word slices through Number 21’s foggy mind. He has no idea what crime he’s committed, but it must have been bad enough to warrant the death penalty. When begging the guard to explain yields nothing, he starts to cry but is held back by the guard’s ominous command, “It’s too early to cry.” A nurse injects Number 21 with a sedative.



That's it. His execution would become a spectacle broadcasted on national television, fodder for the masses hungry for justice. He was on the reality show, "The Executioner," where victims' families would gather to discuss the—often violent—methods of accomplishing this justice. Torture and mutilation is commonplace here.



Number 21's grim fate sits on the horizon of his darkening mind as the last light of his consciousness dips under.



When Number 21 wakes up again, he meets the families of his victims. Camera robots are scattered across the stage. The camera lock onto him as the three “executioners” on the couch meet Number 21’s gaze.



The youngest of the trio runs up to Number 21 and punches him, dumbfounded that his sister's killer couldn't remember his own crime. The camera robots relish the moment—delicious drama to feed the viewers. The show begins.



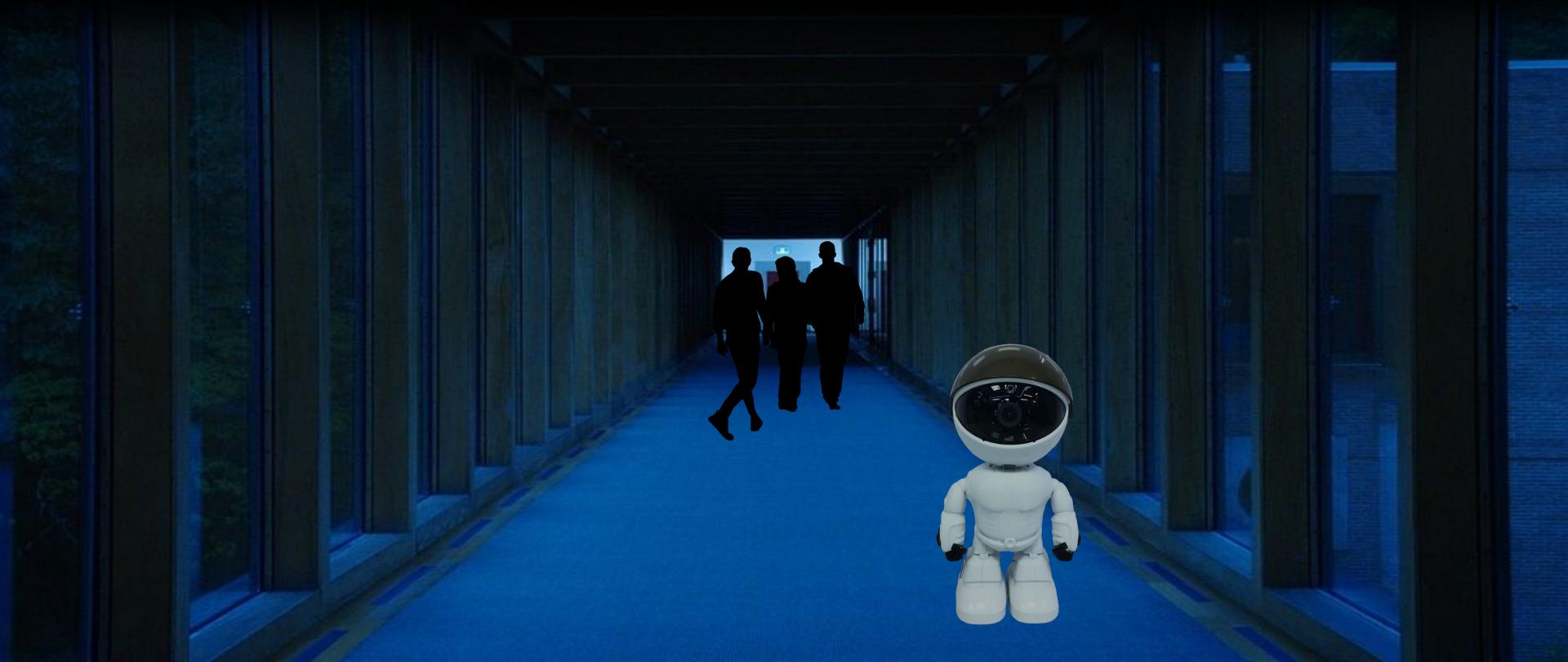
Number 21 realizes what he's done. He's killed five people, minimum.



The frenzied man pushes a button on the remote he was holding. Number 21 is immobile, unable to control his own body. He struggles helplessly as his fingernail is crushed by pliers. He comes to, and his mind is no better at grasping the murders that he is supposed to remember.



The older executioners, a man and a woman, lead Number 21 to another room to continue the interrogation. Of course, the camera robots follow suit, on a mission to stream the entire ordeal to the audience.

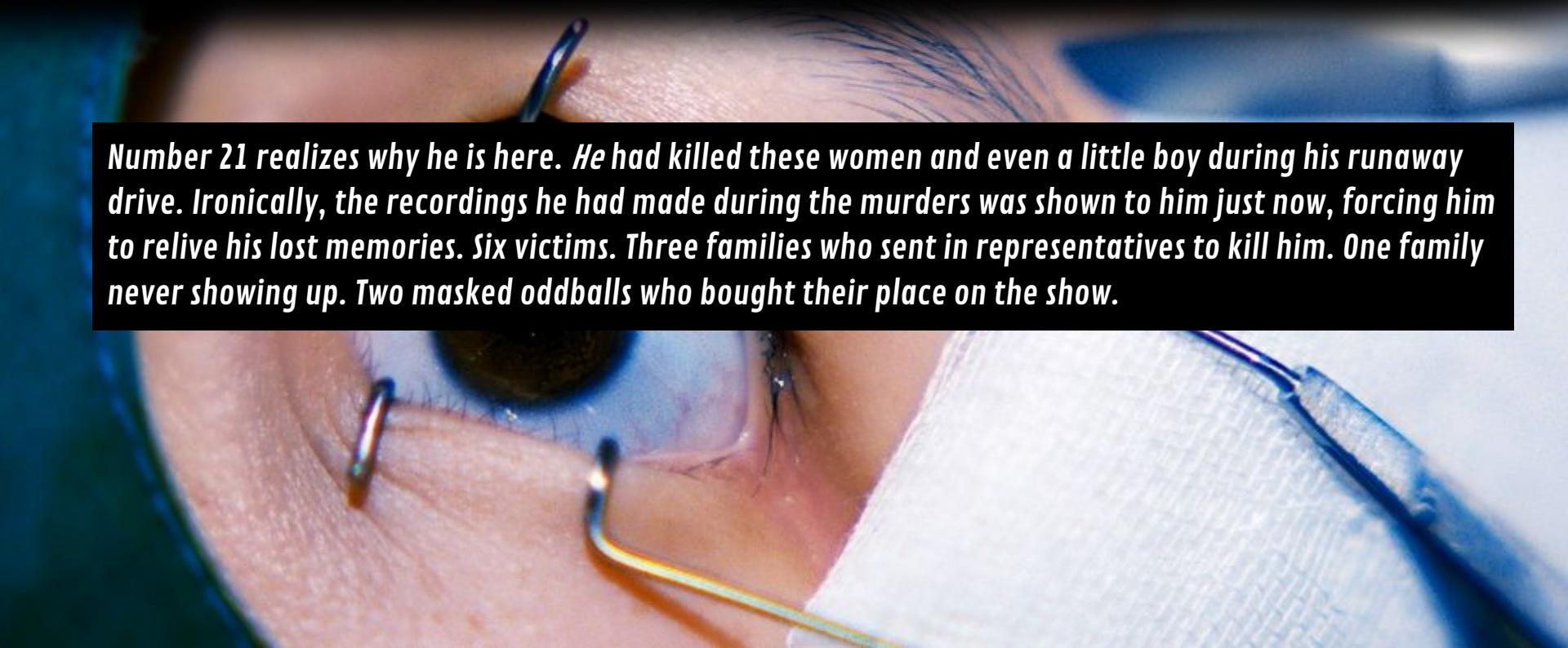


A woman is tied to a scaffold, screaming as Number 21 pierces her skin with a crude metal knife. Number 21 cannot force himself to stop, his hands moving on their own.



His crime had been the torture and murder of multiple female victims for the depraved goal of recording their pain alongside his own pleasure. Ironically, these recordings had shocked the jury and sealed his fate in court. Six victims. Three families who sent in representatives to kill him. One family never showing up. Two masked oddballs who bought their place on the show.

Number 21 realizes why he is here. He had killed these women and even a little boy during his runaway drive. Ironically, the recordings he had made during the murders was shown to him just now, forcing him to relive his lost memories. Six victims. Three families who sent in representatives to kill him. One family never showing up. Two masked oddballs who bought their place on the show.

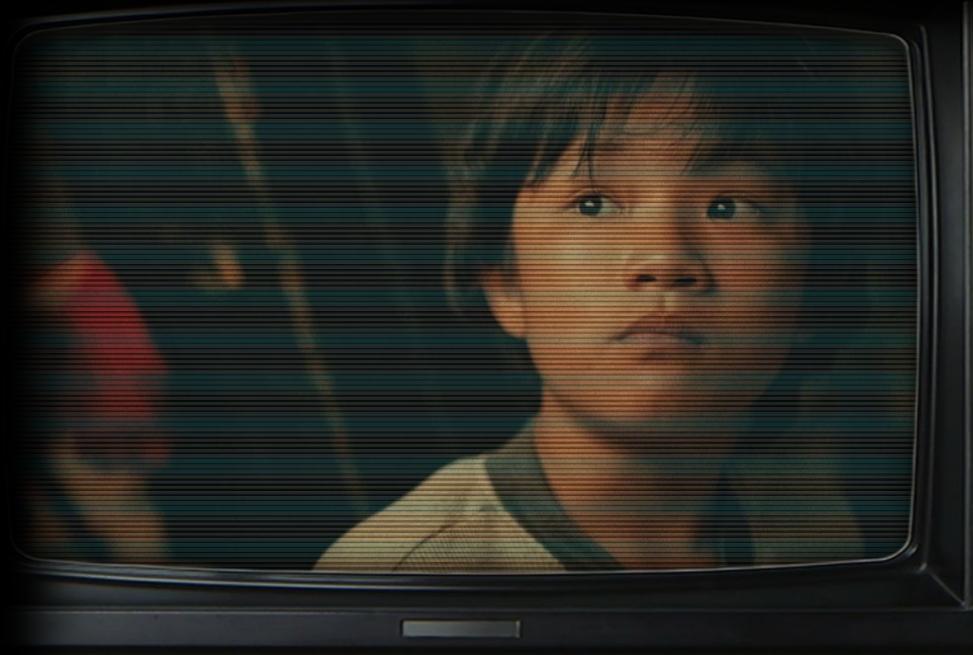


The bailiff reveals that a nanobot had been inserted into Number 21's head in order to render him completely obedient during the show. As a side effect of the operation, he lost his memory. Number 21 would have to memorize (or rather, pretend to remember) the faces of all of his victims, or suffer the consequences.

The bailiff reveals that a nanobot had been inserted into Number 21's head in order to render him completely obedient during the show, unable to fight back against the torture. The side effect of the nanobot operation is memory loss. The showrunners force him to look at and memorize the faces of his victims, projected onto the screen... or else he would have to suffer the consequences, chosen by the Executioners.



Then, a little boy's face comes up on the screen. It's strange, for a killer who only went after women. Actually, this one was a mistake. In addition to killing 5 women, he had murdered an unstanding family's only child



After the interrogation, Number 21 goes to the kitchen to find food and drink. It would be his last meal. A camera robot had followed him into the kitchen. Two words blink on it's screen: "back pocket" repeatedly. Number 21 reaches into his back pocket and pulls out a note reading, "you are not real."



The executioners enter the kitchen. Number 21 pleads with them, revealing the note he just found and claiming that he had been falsely accused of the crimes in place of the real serial killer.



The bailiff provides further insight into Number 21's past. He was born with a silver spoon, except he had fashioned the spoon into a knife instead, choosing to kill. Sometimes, wealthy criminals would create replacement clones to suffer their legal punishments. Unfortunately, this means that the DNA test would come up positive for him if he were a clone. Still, Number 21 clutches a string of hope—perhaps he isn't the real Jaehyun Choi.



While Number 21 is detained, tied to a chair in one of the facility's rooms. Frog Mask and Raccoon Mask burst inside, guns in hand and shoot the cameras.



Then, Raccoon Mask starts taking off of his clothes, swapping them for Number 21's. Reasonably terrified, Number 21 complies with their commands. Then, Raccoon Mask's mask is taken off, and Number 21's jaw drops.



It was like looking into a mirror.

The mask was shoved onto Number 21's face, as footsteps drummed on the stairs outside. Without hesitation, Frog Mask shoots the former Raccoon Mask, sending him crashing onto the floor, spasming in a final dance.

Simultaneously, the door flies open and the executioners and guards enter. Number 21 and Frog Mask are suspended from their posts as executioners and led out of the building, leaving the real Raccoon Mask dead on the floor.



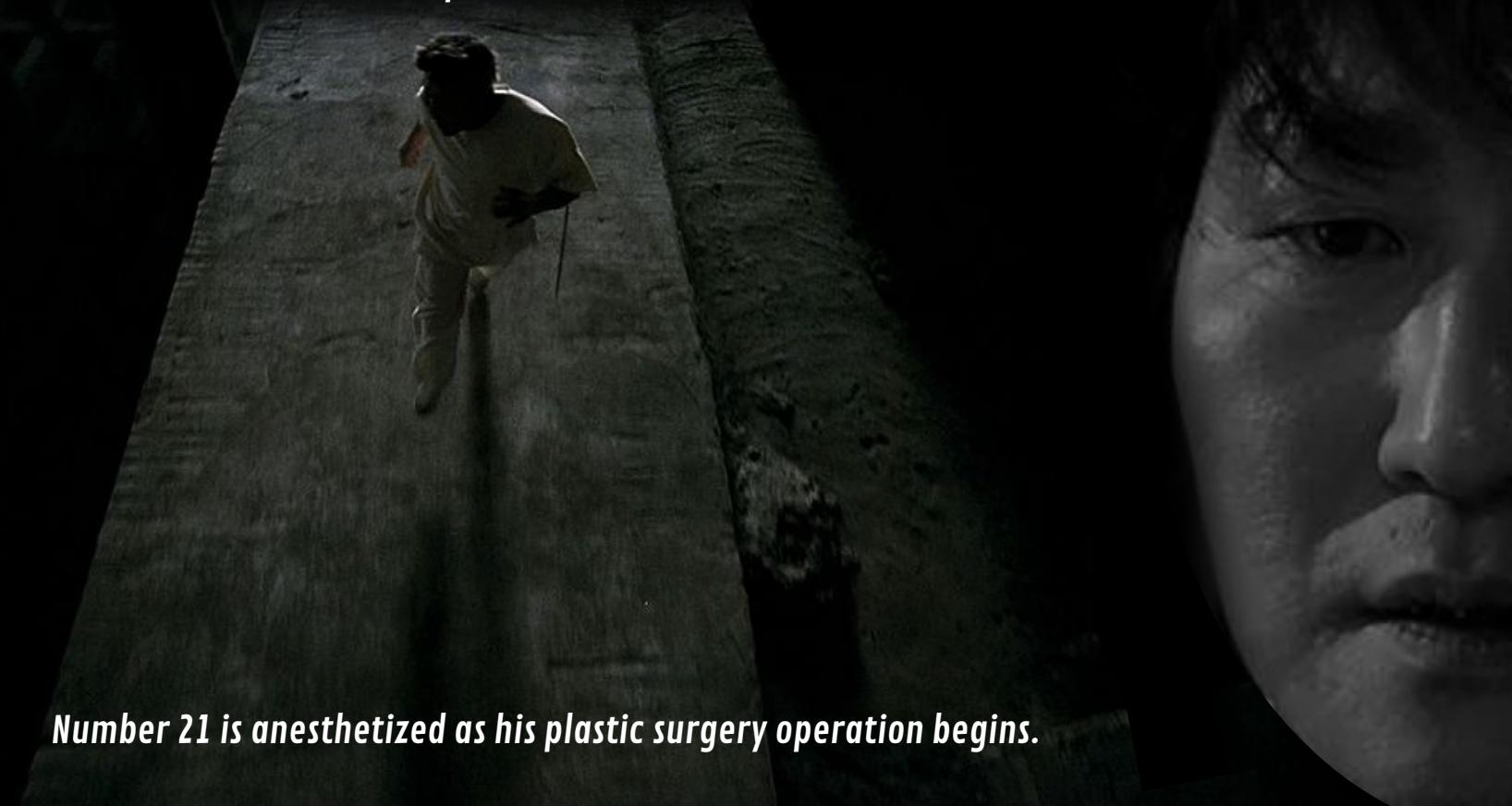
Number 21 can't believe his luck and can't understand why the masked duo would help him. As Frog Mask drives him away from what was a purgatory turning hell, Number 21 asks him all of the questions that were flooding his mind.



Frog Mask reveals that he was the one who had written the note, but that he was only a hand for hire. Raccoon mask was just his mentally underdeveloped clone, sealing his fate as fodder, enabling Number 21, the real Jaehyun Choi, to escape.



Frog Mask explains the next course of action: change Number 21's face, IDs, and remove the nanobot in his head – then escape. Number 21 agrees to go through with this plan, thinking that it is no worse than being labeled for death and on the run for multiple homicides.

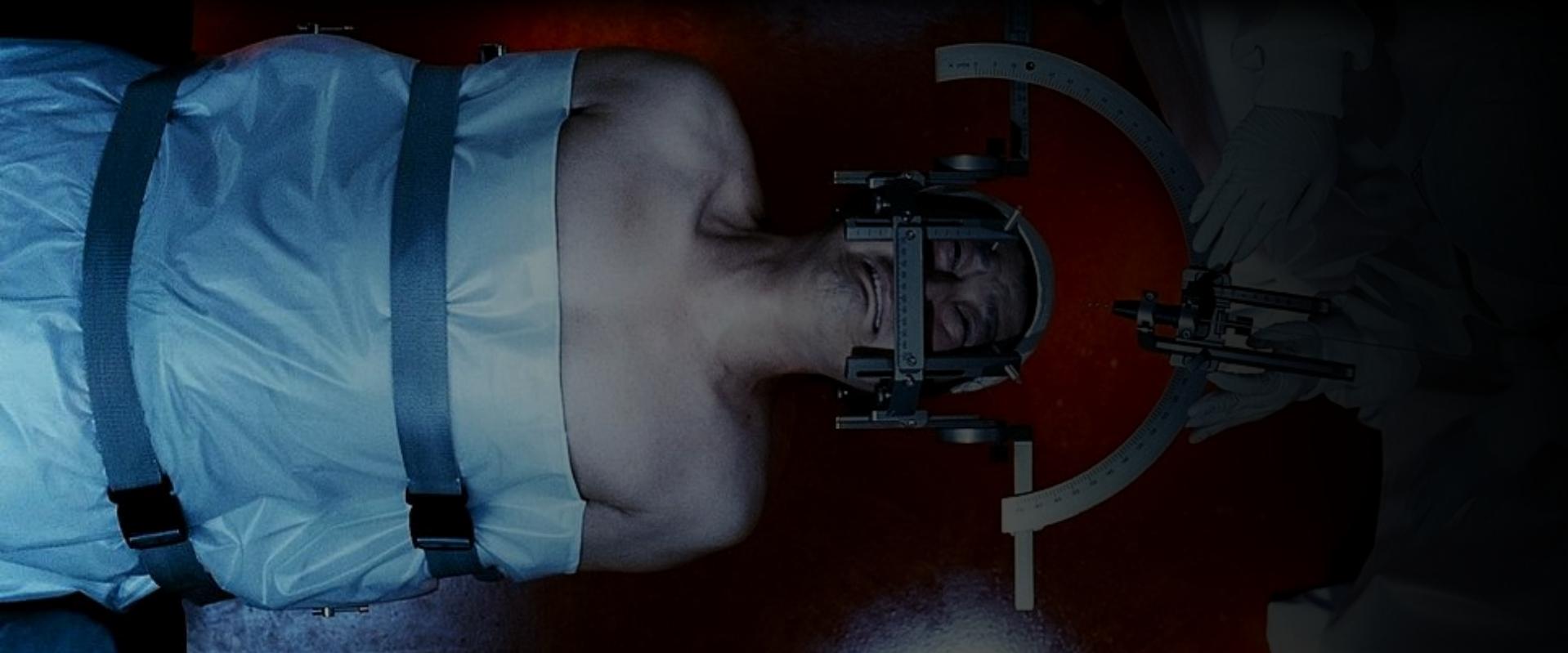


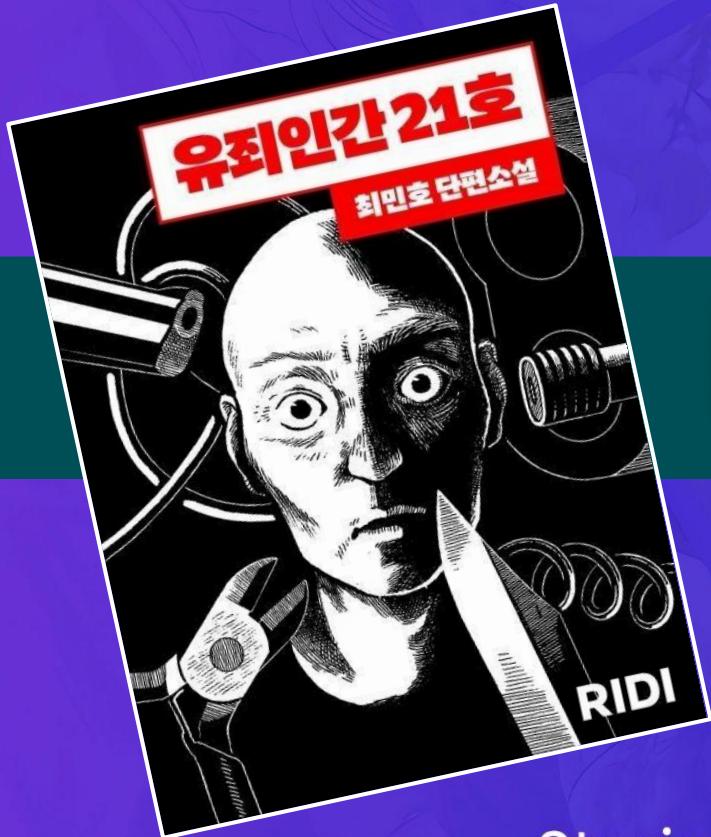
Number 21 is anesthetized as his plastic surgery operation begins.

*Upon waking, Number 21 sees not a new life but the same fate he had just escaped. He is in a cell again, unable to move. A familiar face, the female guard that had escorted him to the TV show facility before, now leers at him. The realization strikes Number 21—this woman was the mother of the child he had accidentally killed. The showrunners had foreknowledge that Jaehyun Choi would try to escape and tracked him. There is only one way that *The Executioner* can ever end—in revenge.*



Following his recapture, Number 21's limbs are shaved off one by one, until he's within an inch of his life. Just enough to experience the agony of his victims over and over again until that last inch is crossed.





Guilty Man no.21

Stories worth the binge

Manta