

Sample Review

Each review contains up to 15 tidbits of information, as enumerated below. Please realize that we faked a bit of info in this review for demonstration purposes.

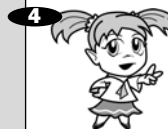
1. The label “asians in usa” indicates films made in the United States, but featuring Asian stars.
2. Title (see also #4 below)
3. The TV icon appearing after a title means that the video comprises one or more episodes from a TV series.
4. Our DragonHound girl denotes anime features.
5. Synopsis/review
6. Byline of reviewer; see **Contributors**, p. xxi
7. Alternative titles—we’ve listed all the alternate titles we could find, including the original language titles. An easy look-up Alternative Titles Index is located in the back of the book.
8. Critical rating of the movie (1/5 to 4/5, or **WOOF!**, 4/5 being the ultimate praise)
9. Year movie was released
10. MPAA rating (if any)
11. Length in minutes
12. Black and white (BW) or color (C)
13. Country of origin; see previous page
14. Credits, including cast, voice cast (V), narrator (N), director (D), screenwriter (W), cinematographer (C), and music composer/lyricist (M).
15. Video formats (VHS and/or DVD)

1

asians in usa

2

The Big Heat 3



4

5

Tough Hong Kong copper John Wong Wai-pong (Waise Lee) learns that nerve damage is affecting his gun hand. He’s about to turn in his resignation from the force, when his chief (Ken Boyle) tells him that his former partner Skinny Tse has been murdered in Malaysia by triad boss Han Ching (Paul Chu). He delays his resignation, and his wedding, to take on the case, bringing clumsy rookie Lun Kwok-keung (Matthew Wong) to work with his assistant Tangerine Kam (Phillip Kwok). Tse was killed trying to blackmail Han and shipping company president Ho Kanin (Stuart Ong), and copies he made of incriminating evidence are found in his bag. Han, who is blackmailing Ho himself, turns the tables on the cops by sending hit men (including Michael Chow) after Wong and his team, while using his influence to stymie their investigation. Playing rough, Wong uses some illegal tactics to get Ho to testify. However, Han’s thugs invade the hospital and go all out to kill Ho.

From the opening shot of a drill bit going through a man’s hand, you know this is one hard-edged police thriller, which combines illustration of straightforward police procedures with gory violence. Thugs don’t just get shot in this movie—they get their hands blown off and then get run over by trucks. One expects Danny Lee to pop up in every other scene. Paul Chu plays one of the most relentlessly evil drug lords in movie history. This may contain the first use of the “shoot the hostage in the leg” technique on film. Not surprisingly, action director Phillip Kwok takes on a lot of the rough-and-tumble stuff himself. **6**—**MM AKA:**

7 *Sing Si Dak Ging; Cheng Shi Te Jing.* **8** 4/5

9 1988 **10** (R) **11** 105m **12** C **13** HK
14 Waise Lee, Joey Wong, Phillip Kwok, Paul Chu, Stuart Ong, Peter Lai, Matthew Wong, Roy Cheung, Michael Chow, Robin Shou, Ken Boyle, Che-kirk Wong, Aaron Kwok; **D:** Andrew Kam, Johnny To; **W:** Gordon Chan; **C:** Horace Wong; **M:** Lo Tai-yu. **15** VHS, DVD