

**1 MONTAGE - 2047****1**

PHOTOS of CHENG reel one by one. SCIENTIST picks up the phone but their voice is inaudible. Cheng is nervous.

SCIENTIST (V.O.)  
(inaudible)

CHENG (V.O.)  
Hello? HighTech, yes. I want to test  
the new prototype.  
(beat)  
yes that one.

SCIENTIST (V.O.)  
(inaudible)

Cheng gets impatient.

CHENG (V.O.)  
Yes, yes. I know the risks. I really  
don't give a shit.

SCIENTIST (V.O.)  
(inaudible)

CHENG (V.O.)  
Because I have three months!  
(beat)  
The doctor gave me bloody three  
months. Life *here* is meaningless!  
I want to go back. I don't want to  
stay here.

CUT TO BLACK

CHENG (V.O.)  
There's nothing left for me here.

Machine whirring.

CHENG (V.O.)

Lim Jia Cheng. 46. Test subject  
2047. Accessing Neuro-log 2010.

**2 INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT - 2010****2**

Cheng lies on the bed stiffly. His eyes wide open. He turns to observe his surroundings. It's familiar. He sits up and examines his body. He spots his WII CONSOLE and crouches next to it. He grabs the CONTROLLER shaking it uncontrollably.

CHENG  
(exclaims)  
YES!

MOM calls him from outside.

MOM  
Son? You ok?

Cheng is in disbelief. He hasn't heard that voice in a long time. He leaves the room hesitantly.

**3 INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT - 2010**

**3**

He walks to the kitchen and stops at the door. There she is. Mom opens the lid of the STEAMER.

MOM  
Come, supper.

He tears up and runs up to her to hug her. Mom is taken aback and laughs. She pats Cheng on the back tenderly.

MOM  
干嘛你? Got nightmare ah?

Cheng smiles widely and hugs Mom tighter. Mom lightly pushes Cheng away towards the DINING TABLE. Cheng sits. Mom hastily uses a CLOTH to take ANG KU KUEH out of steamer and onto table.

MOM  
Last time, when you get nightmare,  
you always cry "Mommy!". Now leh?  
Every time I sayang you, you make  
noise.  
(imitating Cheng)

Mommy don't disturb me!

Cheng laughs, amused.

MOM

Okay la. Eat. Careful hot ah.

Mom takes an ANG KU KUEH and slowly bites into it. She enjoys it. Cheng's arms are still crossed on the table. He watches her intently.

CHENG

You are exactly how I remember you.

Mom pauses. Cheng frowns. Parts of her begin to pixelate. Cheng leans back slightly. He is shocked. The stimulation around him contain anomalies. A few moments pass. It reverts. Mom takes another bite, still enjoying it.

MOM

Why are you here?

CHENG

Huh?

MOM

Why are you stuck in your mind?

CHENG

I'm not stuck. I chose to come back.

Mom finishes her kueh and dust off her hands.

MOM

Why?

Cheng pauses. He leans forward onto the table, trying to find the words. He sighs and sags his shoulders in defeat.

CHENG

I stopped my chemo. The doctor gave me three months. I have no children.

My wife left me. You-

Mom looks at him, unfazed. She listens to him as if he is telling her about his day at school.

CHENG

You're gone...out there but here you are!

MOM

Ah Cheng. Go home.

Cheng seems offended by what Mom said. Mom just smiles sweetly at him.

CHENG

There's nothing left for me there.  
And if this thing works, I can be  
here happily forever.

MOM

But life goes on.

Cheng loses his temper and bangs the table. He becomes hysterical.

CHENG

Bullshit! Life - it's short and  
stupid and it- there's nothing to  
live for. I have nothing to live  
for. There's no meaning. No meaning!

Mom holds Cheng's hand. He cries softly with his head bowed.  
Mom nods.

MOM

You're right. Life is meaningless.  
It's meaningless because it's  
temporary.

Cheng lifts his head.

MOM

But because it's temporary, it  
should be joyful.

Cheng shakes his head.

MOM

One day. It only took me one day for  
me to find my joy in life.

Mom squeezes Cheng's hand tighter.

MOM

You have three months?

Mom waves her hand off. Cheng wipes his tears but they are  
persistent.

MOM

Your life is not over yet.  
This...technology, it says that it  
helps you live in your brain  
forever? Become immortal? 屁话。 It  
ends your life even before it's  
over.

CHENG

I don't even know where to start if  
I go back.

MOM

(with gusto)  
Enjoy every single moment. Sleep,  
eat, shit - everything! Remind  
yourself that you are alive.

Mom jiggles Cheng's hand, trying to cheer him up.

Cheng smiles slightly and shakes his head.

CHENG

But I'll miss you.

MOM

Miss for what? Just enjoy yourself.  
When you see me again three months  
later, I want to hear all about it.

Before you go...

Mom pushes the plate towards Cheng and picks up another kueh. Cheng laughs with his eyes still wet. He lets go of Mom's hand and takes an ang ku kueh, biting into it. They enjoy their last supper together.

FADE OUT

