

FADE IN:

INT. SHACK - NIGHT

CICERO SYMES (54) is bald, portly and impeccably dressed in an expensive white suit. His two accomplices, BLAKE (39) and WINTON (30) are also well-dressed but more rough looking.

A bare electric bulb hanging from the ceiling provides the only light.

A severely beaten man of indeterminate age is tied to a chair.

CICERO SYMES
(bellowing)
The only force in the universe that
creates gold is a *supernova!* Did
you know that?

The prisoner is barely conscious and grunts.

CICERO SYMES (cont'd)
Gold radiates a *star's* life-energy!

The prisoner grunts again.

CICERO SYMES (cont'd)
You whispered Yamashita's name far
and wide. So where's his gold?

PRISONER
(mumbling)
Lossler. He knows...

CICERO SYMES
He's dead!

Cicero nods, and Blake punches the prisoner in the face. The bulb swings back and forth, casting grotesque shadows.

A drop of blood lands on Cicero's sleeve.

CICERO SYMES (cont'd)
(shaking his head)
Like all the others.

He nods to Winton, who shoots the prisoner.

EXT. SLUM - NIGHT

Cicero, Blake, and Winton exit the shack. It is on the outskirts of a large city (Bangkok?). A light on the shack provides some illumination.