



SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD (Wu Sha)

22nd
Year!

Autumn
Season
2020

Release: 2019

Cert (UK): NC

Country: China

Language: In Mandarin and Thai with English subtitles

Runtime: 1 hour 52 mins

Director: Sam Quah

Writer: Kaihua Fan, Jeethu Joseph, Sheng Lei, Peng Li, Yuqian Qin, Pei Zhai

Cinematographer: Ying Zhang

Cast: Yang Xiao, Zhuo Tan, Joan Chen



Watching the trailer for this film, there is no dialogue, just lots of intriguing shots interspersed around a man at a desk. Only in the final seconds do you hear a voice say "Tell me everything that happened"; I was already hooked. For lovers of crime thrillers with twisting plots, this first feature film from director Sam Quah is definitely for you.

Our antihero is movie-mad Li Weiji; a poor Chinese immigrant in Thailand who comes home one day to find his wife burying a body in the back garden. He decides to use the knowledge he has acquired watching endless police dramas to protect his family, but *'Famously intuitive police chief La Wen (Joan Chen) has a gut feeling...'* – Katie Rife, AV Club, who goes on to say *'Chen is delightfully wicked as the morally compromised chief of a corrupt and abusive police department'*.

'You would think that a film about a film-obsessed character would go in a predictable route that an equally film-obsessed audience would see coming; however, that's not the case. You never know which move each player will make next. 'Sheep Without a Shepherd' is an exceptional ode to crime thrillers and cinema lovers, with the affecting relevance of how the roar of the victimized can topple their oppressors' – Sara Clements, AwardsWatch.

Do you think you can out-think Li Weiji as he tries to out-think the police...?

