

G7310 GREEN DRAGON (USA, 2001)

Credits: director/writer, Timothy Linh Bui.

Cast: Patrick Swayze, Forest Whitaker, Don Duong

Summary: Melodrama set in 1975 California. In 1975, refugee camps were set in the desert at Camp Pendleton, Calif. to house an exodus of over 100,000 Vietnamese immigrants before and immediately after the fall of Saigon. When Tai (Don Duong) arrives, he is confronted by a camp filled with despair. Jim Lance (Swayze) is the humane Marine sergeant in charge of housing the refugees until sponsors can be found to help them assimilate into American life. Tai, who speaks English becomes a translator for the Marine. The two men are plagued by survivor's guilt, the sergeant over sending his brother to Vietnam where he was killed, and Tai over having taken a seat on a plane that could have gone to someone more worthy. Several other refugees' life stories unfold as they wait for sponsors.

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