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S3756 SIMPLY FOBULOUS (USA, 2005)

Credits: director/writer, Richard Cranor.

Cast: Steven Liu, Chau Luu, Kathie Pham, Nancy Calos-Nakano, Shigeko Nakano.

Summary: Romantic comedy set in contemporary Seattle, WA. A rebellious daughter succumbs to her mother's dying wish for her to marry a Vietnamese mail-order husband (Liu). Unwilling to marry him when he arrives, Thuy (Luu) loans him to her sister Van (Pham), who uses him to hold her shopping bags and other important tasks. Both sisters look down on Dung's simple Third World ways. However, Dung finds his own way to adapt to life in America by becoming friends with a trio of bubble tea loving Vietnamese guys from work. They show him the ropes, teach him a few dirty words, and help him find his way around America. Dung reveals his secret to them, that he speaks English fluently, and that he knows what his host family really thinks of him. They have only been looking out for their own best interests, with little regard for Dung's. After all, to them, Dung is a FOB, or 'Fresh Off the Boat.' What does he know about anything? To everyone's surprise, Dung's secret is revealed, along with a hidden romance for an unexpected member of the Nguyen family. A wedding happens after all and it brings a divided family back together.

Lamborn, Karyn Kubo. "Romantic comedy shows the 'Simply FOBulous' side of mail-order husbands" International examiner 33/10 (May 17-Jun 7, 2006) [web site viewed May 2006] (<http://www.iexaminer.org/archives/?p=215>)

Polo. "Mrs. Mai's potent import" The Asian reporter 16/7 (Feb 14, 2006), p. 13. [web site viewed May 2006] (<http://www.asianreporter.com/arts/2006/07-06simlyfab.htm>)