

Movie Concept Title: **Mega**

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Logline

In an overpopulated earth of mega slums controlled by a one world United Union government, rebels plot to steal plutonium to power an old submarine in a battle against the off-shore mega yachts that exploit them.

Short Synopsis

500 years in the future establish that a class of people are living a good life on one-kilometer square offshore mega-yachts, exploiting what they need from the mega-slums. They eat in nice cafes, send kids to school in uniforms, and relax at the beach. By night the yachts' beaches rise to 50 foot walls patrolled by security forces.

Mainland is run by an oppressive one-world "United Union." Currency on yachts is G-Buck while Yuano is used on land. Primary characters Jake and Sarah live in the slums of Hollywood, assembling a team to steal plutonium. After the team is built they pull off the heist in an open pit mine. On the bus ride back Jake explains that they need to stop at a warehouse to sell some to get the money to pay everyone. When they enter the warehouse the lights go on and military police arrest everyone – expect for Jake and Sarah, who are left in silence staring at each other.

FLASHBACK THREE MONTHS Jake and Sarah are working in boxing apples (like wine and other goods, exclusively for the yachts – mainland food is processed seaweed). Jake kicks a box near a door and Sarah fills her pack with them. That evening they are relaxing in Hollywood Hills when the SWAT arrests them.

While chained to wall I jail an old man warns Jake not to accept their offer. Guards arrive "come with us, your trial has concluded." Jake is told that his five year sentence will be stayed if he will work undercover to expose a gang that is plotting to steal plutonium. Jake and Sarah are thrown from a van in Hollywood with ankle bracelet and handful of G-Bucks.

Transition to yacht, Jake and Sarah dressed nice enjoying café breakfast. Then final transition Earth-zoom to prison-walled Griffith Observatory where the rest of the gang are chained to walls.

Setting

Several hundred years in the future, cheap energy has run dry and topsoil has eroded. The earth cannot sustain 30 billion people at a reasonable standard of living. Cities around world have become violent mega-slums. National sovereignty no longer exists. It's normal to wield a knife while walking down the street to keep the near zombie-like young gangs at bay. Police have military power to arrest and kill. Trials are swift secret hearings and prisons are places to die (see photos of jail in Manila, and medieval jails with prisoners chained to stone walls.) Their primary food is processed seaweed.

But roughly a million elite have escaped to their off-shore mega-yachts where generations have enjoyed a nice lifestyle. These yachts don't travel. They are kilometer-square fortresses. They sit lower in the water than today's cruise ships. By day the walls lower, giving the illusion of living in a sea-side community (think Avila Beach Promenade with the boutique shops.) There is a section with a beach, there are abundant trees and flower gardens. Living quarters are mostly below deck. One section is a high-rise hydroponic garden.

At night walls go up and security keeps desperate pirate and refugee boats away.

These mega-yachts require a supply of plutonium to fuel the on-board nuclear power generator and the desalinization system. And they require food and supplies from factories that they control on the mainland.

- Global currency: Yuano (mainland currency. A week's wages is \$100 Yuanos, which does not purchase much.)
- Global currency: GBuck (small gold coins used by mega-yachts, worth 14,000 Yuano)

This is not a dark or violent movie, and not surreal. Most of the scenes are sunny days. There are no dramatic chases or shootouts.

Summary of Acts

Several hundred years in the future, cheap energy has run dry and topsoil has eroded. The earth cannot sustain 30 billion people at a reasonable standard of living. Cities around world have become violent mega-slums...

But roughly a million elite have escaped to their off-shore mega-yachts where generations have enjoyed a nice lifestyle by exploiting the slums. And they want to keep it that way.

Slum-dwellers Jake and Sarah organize several rebels to steal plutonium, which could be used to power an old Chinese nuclear submarine as a weapon against the mega yachts. But all may not go as planned.

Act 1 – Life on mega-yacht

Several minutes of clips of what seems to be a normal upper-middle class life in a boutique community, classical music in background, birds tweeting, people having coffee outdoors and reading newspapers, kids in school uniforms going to school

One of the boutique businesses is “OTS” (Organ Transplant Service) with a distinguished logo, advertising replacement of hearts, liver, and kidneys.

From a scene of people on a small sandy beach and small pier, a dramatic zoom-out reveals that the beach is on a massive square yacht, and there are several other similar ones within 5-15 miles, then zoom backwards over a land mass...

Act 2 – Life in mega-slum

The earth zoom pulls in to a street a few blocks from Hollywood Blvd, revealing Hollywood Hills covered with shanties, beggar children and people hawking various seaweed food items. News from a TV in a store window announces “Global population has dropped below 30 billion for the first time in 80 years, a trend demographers deem promising...” Finally focus on the key actors (**Jake** and **Sarah**) asking people if they know about obtaining plutonium. Eventually they are directed to a guy who has been plotting to steal plutonium. The couple explains their plan to steal a shipment and sell it to a rebel group. In the background a black “OTS” van drives up to group of school children. Men jump out and grab one and speed off – no one panics as if this a normal part of life. The sun sets as Jake and Sarah walk through the slums

Act 3 – Mega-yacht at night

At sunset transition of the mega-yacht. A friendly announcement directs people to return to their dwellings and have a good evening. 50 foot walls rise around the yacht with a walkway at the top. A security team is on watch with night vision and high powered artillery. A small

boat in the distance full of people is yelling for help. The watchmen get the boat in their sites and destroy it “bogey neutralized.”

Act 4 – Planning the theft and building the team

The next morning on mainland, follow the formation of the eight rebel group and experts recruited. There is a subplot in finding each team member and their specialty. One of the experts explains to the group that they have access to an old Chinese nuclear submarine. The mega-yachts are not equipped to defend against this sub, but the team that is refurbishing the sub need plutonium to get it operational again.

Act 5 – Successful theft of plutonium

The rebels travel to a plutonium mine, exploits security via some bribes with GBucks – such as buying a badge from an employee, are able to obtain and escape with a shoebox-size container of plutonium. This involves hitching rides on massive dump trucks and wearing the uniform of the workers.

Act 6 – The double-cross

The group is traveling by run-down overcrowded bus to the location of the submarine to deliver to the rebels. Jake explains that they first need to go to LA to sell a portion of the plutonium to provide the funds to pay everyone. Some are skeptical but agree. They get off the bus in Hollywood and walk to a remote warehouse, banging on the door to be admitted. Homeless are everywhere ignoring this. The door eventually opens and they walk into the dark room. Suddenly lights go on to reveal they are surrounded by military police. Jake and Sarah throw up their hands, repeatedly yelling “Alpha Sigma, Alpha Sigma.” Police ignore them and arrest the remainder of the group. Jake and Sarah are left alone in the warehouse, staring at each other.

Act 7 – Three month flashback

Fade to “three months ago” Jake and Sarah’s previous lifestyle. They are working in an apple packaging facility. Jake slides one of the boxes behind a palette and later Sarah loads a dozen into her backpack/work-bag. At sunset they are sitting up in Hollywood Hills enjoying the apples. All is serene until military police appear, take photos of the scene and arrest them. They are separated and Jake is locked in a medieval dungeon with hands chained to wall.

An old scraggly man warns “Don’t accept their offer. The plutonium is needed to save the fate of humanity.” He then explains how the mainland once had a good standard of living. But oil and coal and topsoil were running out. World leaders formed a one-world government “United Union” which stripped local authority, laws, due process and constitutional rights. In exchange the UU promised “food, housing, and medical care for all.”

But within 50 years the economy collapsed, taking the entire world with it. The elite hijacked control of UU and were able to enslave the city of Shanghai to force construction of a fleet of mega-yachts. These elite have exploited labor to maintain their lifestyle for hundreds of years. Most spend their entire life on these yachts, oblivious of history and life on the mainland.

Two guards arrive and unchain Jake, stating “Come with us. Your trial has concluded.” As they lead him away the old man repeats his warning “Don’t take their offer. Don’t take their offer.”

Jake is seated in a room with bright lights in his face. A voice says “You have been found guilty by this court of theft of United Union property, and hereby sentenced to 10 years in prison. However, if you will go under-cover to expose plutonium thefts, all charges will be dropped. You would have three months to complete the mission. Failing in your mission will be punished as treason.”

Jake is driven to a location near Act Two, fitted with a leg tracking device, handed five GBucks, and pushed from the car. Moments later Sarah is pushed from another car.

Fade out of the flashback.

[Act 8 – Reversal of fate](#)

The camera is panning the street on the mega-yacht, then zooms into a well-dressed couple having breakfast. It is Jake and Sarah. The waiter appears and says, “Two coffees and the breakfast special. That will be three GBucks.”

After some small talk, fade to a sky fly-in to Griffith Observatory (a prison surrounded with a guard tower and surrounded by high chain-link fences) and into the medieval dungeon, where the people that Jake and Sarah had worked with are chained to the stone wall, grimacing in pain.