

Beat: Politics

AMERICAN THRILLER ABOUT A FAMILY ESCAPING FROM A GROUP OF ARMED REBELS

OWEN WILSON, LAKE BELL & PIERCE BROSNAN

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USPA NEWS - No Escape is a thriller in which a US family relocating to south-east Asia become caught in a violent coup against the ruling regime. The only specific information we get is about Jack Dwyer (Owen Wilson), and his failed businesses...

No Escape is a 2015 thriller directed by John Erick Dowdle, who co-wrote the screenplay with his brother, Drew Dowdle, in which a US family relocating to south-east Asia become caught in a violent coup against the ruling regime. The only specific information we get is about Jack Dwyer (Owen Wilson), and his failed businesses, and his wife Annie (Lake Bell), and their arrival to begin a new life with their two daughters.

Wilson is playing a father of two girls, who must clamber up to their hotel's rooftop to escape the seething hordes on the street, and hope for deliverance by helicopter. Pierce Brosnan plays a gurning Brit with "special" talents who aids the family on their way.

This is neither the first nor the last time Hollywood has tackled Third World chaos from a First World perspective, turning a fictionalized national trauma into a movie on that most important and universally relatable of subjects, the sufferings of good-looking, well-meaning white people. The script inspired by a non-life-threatening trip that John Eric Dowdle took to Thailand in 2006, shortly after a military coup, is banking on an audience willing to identify solely and completely with the characters.

The film was approved for release in Thailand after the film-makers agreed not to identify the country where it was filmed or to portray it negatively. Co-writer Drew Dowdle said, "We worked very closely with the Thai government and there were a lot of things they wanted us to shy away from....So although the film shows a coup breaking out in a South-east Asian city,...it never specified the country. We were very careful not to make it Thailand in the movie, so there was no Thai language used... None of the signage is Thai and most of the language that the native population is speaking is a combination of Laotian, hill-tribe languages and other languages."

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:

UPA United Press Agency LTD
483 Green Lanes

UK, London N13NV 4BS
contact (at) unitedpressagency.com
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