

## Reductio Ad Absurdum:

A lot of people love this director, but his failure to cast Bradley Cooper in a leading role has once again earned him scorn in Echo's eyes. "There's no reason they couldn't have put him in a minor role," she said after watching the first half of the film. Her suggestions on suitable positions: a comely street-urchin, vegetable salesperson, or sidekick of the sidekick. "He could help with the typing," she added, hunkering down to watch the film to its somewhat illogical conclusion.

This New Years, we're happy to release another edition of our semi-regular Chinese movie guessing game. Listen to our short clip from a recent Hollywood movie dubbed into mandarin. And if you can guess the film, send Echo an email at [echo@popupchinese.com](mailto:echo@popupchinese.com) and be entered in a draw for a month of free premium access to Popup Chinese. And Happy New Years!

### Text :

甲: 看不出，你们这儿还挺空的。  
kàn bù chū , nǐmen zhèr hái tǐng kōng de 。

*You'd never know it's so empty in here.*

乙: 我们必须转移犯人，不然就要发生暴动了。这家伙对其他犯人有奇怪的影响，就好像他能控制别人的思想。

wǒmen bìxū zhuǎnyí fànrén , bùrán jiù yào fāshēng bàodòng le 。  
zhè jiāhuo duì qítā fànrén yǒu qíguài de yǐngxiǎng , jiù hǎoxiàng tā  
néng kòngzhì biérén de sīxiǎng 。

*We needed to move the prisoners, otherwise there would be a riot. This fellow has a strange influence on the other prisoners. It's like he can control their thoughts.*

乙: 非常感谢，再见先生。  
fēicháng gǎnxiè , zàijiàn xiānsheng 。

*Thank you very much. Goodbye sir.*

甲: 放心，我不会迷路的，你有事就先去忙吧。  
fàngxīn , wǒ bù huì mílù de , nǐ yǒu shì jiù xiān qù máng ba 。

*Relax. I won't lose my way. If you've got something to do, go and do it.*