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Paradise

Also from Japan comes the twisted psycho-sexual drama, Paradise, which resembles both the non-Madonna version of **Swept Away** and **Robinson Crusoe**. After spending an awkward afternoon campaigning for political office in her hometown - a fishing village in southern Japan -- a well-known TV anchorwoman finds herself stranded on a remote island with an angry young fisherman and a sex-starved Chinese oddball. The struggle for survival and domination evolves in ways that are impossible to predict, and, again, we're left to ponder the nature of sexual relations under pressure.

-- Gary Dretzka