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Cast Me If You Can (2010/MVD Visual DVD)

Picture: C Sound: B- Extras: D Feature: B+

Hiroshi is an actor (middle-aged at that), but always playing minor roles or supporting roles, always in the shadow of someone else, even his father, but when meeting Aya, another actress on the rise, he falls head over heels for her. This inspires him to greater heights and she encourages him that he is better than he believes and even a nobody can become a somebody if they keep trying.

He is even shadowed by his father, a famous playwright. When he finally gets a break and the lead role, he is then caught by the tabloid in an incriminating photo with the director's wife, which immediately gets him dropped from the film. Now down and out on his luck he meets Aya, another youthful actress who wishes one day to go to New York to learn acting. She helps him realize he does have talent if he can believe in himself all in Atsushi Ogata's **Cast Me If You Can**.

This was a lite comedy where supporting actors/actress are the main characters. While playing the side roles, supporting actors are always waiting for their big break, but it is difficult when there is always someone who is more popular, younger, or better looking. The film is comical for the main character, Hiroshi, being constantly mistake for something else, a cop, crook, even a kidnapper... ending him up thrown in jail (so often even the cops know it was a case of mistaken identity). While the lifestyle of an actor is do whatever you can to get into the spotlight, it becomes a sweet love story when he decides to help the girl he loves achieve her dreams... even when it means giving up his own.

This was shot on video and looks it, but the Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo sound here is fine in Pro Logic decoding as it is an advanced Dolby SR (Spectral Recording) theatrical release and the sound translates fine here.

- Ricky Chiang



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