

"Is this progress?"

Watching Ascension (2021) feels like peering into the engine room of a global dream, where ambition, automation, and identity blur into one relentless rhythm.

Paired with this hauntingly beautiful score:
Red Sorrow by Audiomachine

 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQXCf2xtcaM>

the film's silent machines, factory chants, and luxury seminars echo louder. Not just about China. About all of us. Our systems  Our metrics  Our chase  

They call it progress but it buries the soul  Not every ascent is freedom  

They fill a gap we rarely see. We say, "Buy American" or "Support fair wages." But what if the price difference, even if small, still means a full month's income?

That's not a choice. That's a wall. 

So people buy what they can afford, usually made in China, because they have to. Someone, somewhere, works long hours  for low pay to make that possible.

That's the gap. Between what we believe is right  and what people can actually afford 

Their labor keeps the world running 
But their freedom stays out of reach 

So where does that leave us? On one side, Ascension shows us the cost:

the buried souls, the mechanized lives, the price of unchecked progress 

On the other, we see why the system survives:
because for millions, it's the only way to survive 

This is the tension:
The very system that dehumanizes some is the one keeping others afloat 

We don't glorify it.
We don't ignore it.
We hold both truths.  

Because real justice won't come from choosing sides but from building something better than the

choices we've been given. ✨

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