

"mi"



novel by *Kyi Aye*      directed by *Na Gyi*

*Nay Toe*

*Paing Phyo Thu*

*Ye Aung    Min Oo    Thar Nyi    Aung Ye Htike*



Title: *Mi*

Runtime: 116 min

Genre: Drama

Language: Myanmar w/English Subtitles

Director: *na gyi*

Contact: [nweoo.dr@gmail.com](mailto:nweoo.dr@gmail.com)

Victoria Production

## Synopsis (434 words)

“Mi” has nothing to lose. Everything to gain. But that doesn’t necessarily mean she is winning in life. “Mi” is dying of Tuberculosis (TB), a disease with no cure at the time, (Post War Period). “Mi” couldn’t care less, with cigarettes and brandy as her close companions. Post WWII Rangoon night life is her playground. She is popular among upper class men and known for her cleverness and abilities to fool men. No one knows her true back story.

Still, most men fall for her. Even though they knew that she could fool them, men are always after “Mi”. Among those men, Mg Ko Lay is the young, naïve one and madly in love with “Mi” who treats him the same as other men. Unable to stand the emotional toll being with Mi causes him, Mg Ko Lay runs away from “Mi” by taking a job at timber camp in the jungle, far away from Rangoon. There, he met Ko Thaw Swe who is his boss and treated Mg Ko Lay like his own brother. From Mg Ko Lay’s nightly heartbroken confessions, Ko Thaw Swe gets to know “Mi”. Not helping for Mg Ko Lay is “Mi” writing regular taunting letters to him. One day, Mg Ko Lay committed suicide. Thaw Swe got fired because of the incident.

Thaw Swe really wants to meet “Mi” who could drive a man to his own death. Thaw Swe came to Rangoon, wanting to teach “Mi” a lesson. When they meet, everything changes. Thaw Swe learns stories of “Mi” from a lot of different men. Each man has different stories of “Mi”. Thaw Swe could not figure out which one is true. Even though, Thaw Swe knows “Mi” is fooling him, he, too, can’t help getting attracted to “Mi”. He soon realizes that he is becoming like Mg Ko Lay and he finds himself trying to rescue “Mi” from her bad environment.

But there are so much more that he doesn’t know about “Mi”. Later he get tangled in a Murder Case of a rich man who has connection with Mi. Is Mi innocent? Mi is dying anyway. What’s the motive? Thaw Swe doesn’t understand “Mi” from the beginning. “Mi” doesn’t try to prove her innocence either. Yet, Thaw Swe becomes an intimate player in the web of mystery that “Mi” has laid out, rife with dangers, corruptions, and deceptions. Meanwhile, “Mi” has what she thinks as the bigger problem than any other things, doubting her existence. Will Thaw Swe able to help Mi? The real question is, “Does Mi really want to be helped?”





### Filmmaker's Statement

This is my very first feature film. To be able to shoot this feature in Myanmar, I had to wait through quite a lot of phases. I had to shoot music videos, TV commercials and short films to survive in the industry. But my dream always has been the feature. After 9 years, I am confident enough and gained trust from the productions to shoot a feature. Still it is very hard to pitch this kind of genre in Myanmar. Myanmar Cinemas are swamped with comedies and horrors.

Besides I chose a character driven script which is not familiar with Myanmar film audience. The story is there. But the dying, the murder and all the plots are not highlighted. This film is brutally about "Mi". It was very risky for the production as well. The story is based on the novel of Kyi Aye who was really popular in Myanmar Literature around 1950s and 60s. The book itself is 70 years old. It's been a while that we see a period film in Myanmar. I think it's because of the budget size, and besides there are no professional teams for production design, wardrobe and makeup etc. But I decided to make this film a period piece even though I knew it would be a lot harder. If I change the time, the story would lose some of its value.

So I had to convince my friends who are also filmmakers to help me. Most of them are directors. They helped me in wardrobe and production design. Thanks to them, production value of the film is at this level despite of the budget. I was pushing myself a lot. You could see that in the film. I wrote the script myself, directed, produced and was the DP for the film as well. So that I could spend more money on production. I had to make it happen. It was hard to shoot 1950s scenes in Myanmar. Because there are lamp post, sign boards and CCTVs everywhere. I had to plan all the shots carefully in location scouts to avoid those clusters or decide whether we would remove it in post.

But above are not the hardest part of making "Mi". My challenge was to capture someone's boredom, hopelessness and misery, then not to be boring at the same time. This film is all about Mi's existence. Monologue in book is fun. But to shoot character's thoughts in film is another story. Images and montages are my tools. "Kyi Aye" told the story of "Mi" only through the men characters in the book. But it's just through their thoughts, opinions and private feelings. So the story of "Mi" is vary depending on the teller. The informations we get are very unreliable. We could easily believe them or not. In that way, we could create our own "Mi". I tried to keep it that way in my film. Well, at least I tried.

na gyi  
Director



## TECHNICAL SPECS

Runtime: 116 min

Color: Black & White

Aspect Ratio: 2.39:1

Camera: Blackmagic (URSA Mini Pro)

Laboratory: Yangon Post

Negative Format: Digital



## CAST

Mi PAING PHYOE THU  
Thaw Swe NAY TOE  
U Tin Mg MIN OO  
U Ba Chit YE AUNG  
Shwe Da Myaung THAR NYI  
Mg Ko lay AUNG YE HTEIK

Ranger DAUNG WAI  
Police Chief U CHIT OO  
Detective HAN SETT LU  
Gardener KAUNG KYAW  
Cook Woman DAW KHIN OHN MYINT  
Doctor SUKH PREET SINGH  
Nurses DAW DEBBIE, DAW WAH WAH  
Stranger (1) MIN THU  
Stranger (2) THET HTET  
Man (1) ZAW ZAW  
Man (2) ZAW LIN HTET  
Man (3) LIN AUNG  
Man (4) AUNG MIN  
Man (5) MYAT MIN KHANT  
Mi (6) years old SU LAE YADANAR  
Mi (12) years old EAINdra MYO MYINT  
Extras SHWE PHYU (SP GROUP)  
MA MAR KYI & GROUP



## CREW

Executive Producer NWE OO  
Associate Producers NA GYI, MG MOORE PHYU  
Director of Photography NA GYI  
    First Camera ARKAR TOE  
    Second Camera HTOO HTOO  
    Camera Assistant SAI SI THU  
Production Designer MG MOORE PHYU  
    Costumes ZAW ZAW (AD LEONO)  
    Set Manager TEIN NAING  
    Gaffer PHYOE KYAW  
    Key Grip NAING SOE, MUMMY THAN  
Lighting Technicians AUNG GYI, THIHA, HEIN LIN, THAR BONE GYI  
    Prop Master KO PHONE GYI  
    Set Decorators KYAW THAN, TIN ZAW LIN, SAN LIN OO  
    Poster Design WUNNA AUNG  
    Sound Recordist SWE OO  
    Boom Operators MYO KHANT, PWAR LAY, KO SHINE  
    Sound Design KYAW KO KO  
    Foley Artists SLYNE, THAZIN (T-ZIN)  
    Music Composer MYINT THAN TUN  
Music Audio Engineer AUNG LI  
    Set Wardrobe YIN YIN MIN KHIN, AKARI DIRAKO  
    Make Up MAY OO  
    SFX Make Up AUNG KYAW TUN (LINKAR DIPA)  
                    MA LONE  
                    MA LA YAUNG  
Production Coordinator MAY SAN DEE TIN OO  
    Drivers AUNG MYINT OO, AUNG GYI, AYE MYINT  
    Catering MA THET  
                    MG MYINT (PYIN OO LWIN)  
Translation for Subtitles SAN LIN TUN  
    Clapper Loader NYEIN CHAN  
    Script Supervisor MYAT PHONE MO  
    Still Photography HEIN HTET ZIN  
        Editor NYAN WINT  
    Visual Effect NAY HLAING  
        Colorist GANESAN (YANGON POST)  
Post Production Coordinator KYAW KO KO (YANGON POST)  
    DCP YANGON POST

FILMMAKER CONTACT

Producer  
Dr. Nwe Oo  
Victoria Film Production  
nweoo.dr@gmail.com  
+9595123165, +9518566560

Director  
Na Gyi  
nnto98@gmail.com  
+9595154206

