

Shimmering Waters (2016)

By Johanna Emanuelsson

Duration 50 minutes

Cast size 3

EXCERPT

10. SIGYN'S BIOLOGY CLASSROOM

Sigyn von Coffeebreath is standing in her classroom, staring at the homemade wooden castle.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH

Well now, Sigyn...Perhaps you should have a cup of coffee, wouldn't that be nice...?

Sigyn von Coffeebreath sighs deeply and sits down with her cup of coffee.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH

My dear, beloved Profanum, where could you be? Where have you gone?

Sigyn von Coffeebreath looks at the class-pet list, her eyes sad. Suddenly she frowns at the paper, squints, and slowly picks it up, she looks at it for a moment, her fingers running over the words. Surprised at what she sees, she begins to rub at the paper, and then she can see clearly.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH (reading)

Class-pet duty, September 16: Sussan, Tussan, and...Mussan...? What on earth...?

Sigyn von Coffeebreath looks nervously around the empty classroom.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH

Oh my, Sigyn...This isn't quite...I think we may have jumped to some hasty conclusions here...Oh, what have you done now? Chasing off innocent children...No...Sigyn, you have to fix this somehow. You're simply going to have to go look for them...But where?! In the forest, of course! But, ooh, the forest is so big and dark...

11. ALLY'S MESSY ROOM

Solan is sitting in her daughter's messy room, talking on the phone.

SOLAN

...she's pale, very pale, almost sort of bluish-white. She's short, has freckles, glasses, red hair, in like a pageboy but with long bangs and the back is cut shorter, she was wearing some ripped jeans, I think, and a Darkthrone t-shirt...What?...Darkthrone? I don't know, I guess it's a brand or something...Right, and then she probably had her rubber gloves and her instruments with her, I think...No, not musical instruments, a pair of rubber gloves and a little tweezers and a Swiss Army Knife...What?!...No, it was her father's! It's very old, you couldn't use it to hurt a living thing...she's interested in biology! She uses it when she's dissecting...

Solan bursts into tears

SOLAN *(sniffing)*

...Yes, I'm still here...she doesn't usually do anything like this...her dad died a year ago and ever since she's been awfully closed off somehow...Thanks...You'll call as soon as you have good news...Thanks...bye for now...bye-bye.

Solan bursts into tears again and clasps her hands.

SOLAN

Don't take my daughter away from me too! Please! Please, please, please! Let me keep my daughter, she's all I have...

12. MANISHA'S FREAKY ROOM

Hava is sitting on Manisha's bed, Manisha's mom is in the bed with a blanket over her. Hava is on the phone.

HAVA *(sniffing)*

Face painted white...Yeah? What's wrong with that?! Her face was white and she had Corpse paint...What's that?...Seriously? Okay, well, imagine putting on too much mascara and eyeliner and then crying for three days, that's what corpse paint looks like!...I don't know, it's like a style, what do I know?...And also she had a Hannibal mask...Yeah, like the serial killer, yeah!...A mask with like nails over the mouth, yes, it's a toy!...No, I'm not shouting...No, she's never run away before...Our dad died almost two years ago now and ever since she's been awfully closed off somehow, but...Okay, you'll call as soon as you hear anything...Thanks...Bye.

Hava strokes her mother.

HAVA

It'll be okay, Mom, she'll come back. I promise. Oh Mama, don't cry...I could do your makeup, Mom? If you want. I could turn you into a budget-babe. I can paint your eyes happy. I can hide the dark circles under your eyes so you don't look so tired. I can paint your cheeks perfectly rosy so you look young and fresh, and with beautiful burgundy nails I promise you'll feel more cheerful...you'll be a real budget-babe...Mom?

Hava walks over to a window, opens it, and cries out in despair.

HAVA

Manisha! Manisha! Where are you?! Manisha! Come back, Manisha!

13. In the Abnormally Large Forest

It's dark in the forest, which looks more like a gigantic room than a gigantic forest. Somewhere in all that gigantic space, Sigyn von Coffeebreath is performing an organized search all by herself, with her arms stretched out to the sides.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH

Attention, attention! Hello! Hello! Hello! I am searching for two people...hello?! I am combing the forest out here, hello! I am searching for two short people, so-called children...

Sigyn von Coffeebreath spots a creepy-crawly and shrieks.

SIGYN VON COFFEEBREATH

Oh my lord! Oh, ew! Oh, it was just a little snail, wonderful creatures...ATTENTION! I am searching for two short people! Hello?!...Hello?!

Sigyn stops, gazing around the abnormally large forest in resignation. Ally and Manisha are somewhere else entirely, on their rocks, pretending they're not freezing. Suddenly they hear someone calling out in the distance.

ALLY

What was that?

MANISHA

Don't know.

ALLY

It sounded super weird.

MANISHA

Maybe it was some animal.

ALLY

No way, that was no animal.

MANISHA

How do you know?

ALLY

Cause my dad worked with animals!

MANISHA

Like as a farmer?

ALLY

No, he took care of sick animals.

MANISHA

So that's why you're always messing around with those slimy bugs all the time.

ALLY

Shut up!

MANISHA

You shut up!

ALLY

I know what's wrong with you!

MANISHA

I know what's wrong with you!

ALLY

Your problem is, you're a psycho!

MANISHA

If one of us is a psycho here, it's you!

ALLY

Aw, whaddaya mean, you chicken-who-likes-horror nerd?!

MANISHA

Your *dad* was a psycho, maybe it runs in the family!

ALLY

My dad was not a freaking psycho!

Ally falls silent.

MANISHA

I mean...I was just kidding, Ally. Sorry.

ALLY
He wasn't psycho/

MANISHA
/sorry/

ALLY
/he drowned/

MANISHA
/he did?

ALLY
Yeah? What's so weird about that?

MANISHA
No, nothing!

ALLY
He died by drowning himself.

MANISHA
He drowned himself?

ALLY
What the hell aren't you getting about this?!/

MANISHA
/mine too!

Ally stops.

ALLY
What?

MANISHA
My dad did too. He didn't drown himself, but he did drown.

MANISHA/ALLY
They never found him. My dad either. So he isn't buried in the ground. What are you doing? Stop copying me. *You're copying me. You're copying me.* Quit it! He's buried at sea instead. It's not funny anymore!

Ally suddenly spots something.

ALLY

Look! Look over there! Behind the trees!

MANISHA

What?

ALLY

It's shimmering, or whatever!

MANISHA

Shimmering?

ALLY

Yeah, the moon is reflecting off something and making it shimmer. It must be water that's shimmering!

MANISHA

I don't see any shimmering. You're seeing things! That's, like, a meadow, not water.

ALLY

Come on!

MANISHA

No!

Ally starts walking towards whatever is shimmering.

MANISHA

You're totally psycho!

Manisha reluctantly follows.

MANISHA

Ally, wait up! Ally!