

If girls could kill (2009)

By Åsa Lindholm

Duration 90 minutes

Cast size 7

Excerpt

AT THE HOSPITAL

A hospital. Deserted. Silent. A nurse dashes through the room, a splashing bucket in her hand. We can hear her emptying the bucket, and we see her dash back.

Silence.

Then, in the distance, we hear a female voice speaking uninterrupted. The voice comes closer until we see TAM enter, followed by the nurse with the bucket. TAM's clothes are drenched and she is pressing a towel to her eyes.

TAM

No, like I said, I really have no idea, I mean, I don't even feel all that sad. You know? I mean, the tears just keep coming, it has to be some sort of disease, right? What did the doctor say? –I mean, you cry because you're sad, like, you can feel it in your stomach. But I don't feel anything, in your heart, right, people say it's like your heart hurts when you cry. But, I mean, the tears have just been coming, for what—two hours. Just tears for two hours, people think I'm nuts, you know? They think there's been some huge tragedy, don't they, what do you think?

NURSE

Would you like to take a seat, maybe? The doctor will be here soon.

TAM

I'm actually a little stressed out—

NURSE

Please take a seat.

TAM

My son, Svante. I mean, he's not here, right—

NURSE

Oh? No...your son?

TAM

I took a taxi here. Thought it would be too hard on him, so I came by myself, but now I'm wondering how long this is going to take.

NURSE

How old is he?

TAM

Three—

NURSE

Three years old?

TAM

It's no big deal, as long as I get home before Teletubbies is over.

The nurse wrings out Tam's towel.

TAM

The tape is two hours long. So as long as I make it home before it's over, I promise, he won't even notice I'm gone.

NURSE

Well, but—

TAM

He loves them, those Teletubbies. You know, there's a green one and a yellow one and a red one and one is, what is it, purple—the gay one. No, I'm sorry, but that's the one people think is gay. I don't think he is, exactly, what, is it because he's purple or something? Awful. He should be able to be whatever color he wants and all. Anyway, it doesn't matter, not like it would be harmful anyway. I can do other stuff while he watches it, which is nice. Maybe it's not great for him to watch it all day, but most of the time he doesn't. Not that it hasn't happened, I guess, but only once in a while. Too bad it can't restart automatically when it's over, that would have been a handy function for a videotape, wouldn't it?

NURSE

Yes, no, maybe—

TAM

What? Did I say something wrong?

NURSE

Maybe we should call someone—

TAM

Call someone?

NURSE

Yes, if he's by himself—

TAM

No, he's not by himself. I told you that.

NURSE

You did? Oh.

TAM

Yeah, I told you—he's with the Teletubbies.

NURSE

Just have a seat and we'll figure this out.

TAM

I haven't been on my own for very long, and I probably won't be for very long either. It's like, just temporary, if you know what I mean.

NURSE

Sure.

TAM

The purple one, he used to have a purse, so cute, right? But then they took it away. Ha, now I'm laughing even though I'm crying. Sick, huh? Oh, I'm getting tired of this. What will the doctor do, do you think? Block off my tear ducts? Can they do that? No, there's no way, that must be dangerous. – Now there's only thirty minutes left. Of the video, I mean.

NURSE

Don't you have anyone who could go over there?

TAM

Sure, of course. I can ask someone to go over there, I sure can.

NURSE

Would you like to borrow the phone?

TAM

No. He'll be fine.

The nurse wrings out the towel.

TAM

How much water can there be in your body? Isn't this dangerous?

NURSE

Yes—

TAM

I don't know why this is happening. I mean, I'm crying, fine. But I'm not sad. You keep treating me like I'm sad, but I'm really not. For a little while I thought I was, but now I feel like, no, I'm not sad at all here.

NURSE

Okay.

TAM

You know how I said temporarily before. I just said that, I don't know why.

NURSE

Okay. It's fine. Maybe you should have some more water.

TAM

Yeah, maybe that will help.

NURSE

Let's hope so. Then I suppose I'll have to call someone.

TAM

What do you mean?

NURSE

Well, if you don't want to call someone and ask them to take care of your son, I suppose I'll have to do it.

TAM

No, that's not necessary!

NURSE

It's fine, we're used to this sort of situation.

TAM

Look, it's stopping!

NURSE

No it isn't!

TAM

But it's slowed down a lot, that's for sure.

NURSE

Do you want me to ask someone to go to your house and pick up your son?

TAM

No!

NURSE

You're not feeling very well at all right now, and the important thing is that you let us help you.

TAM

You think there's something wrong with my mind!

NURSE

No, where did you get that from?

TAM

Okay. I'll call someone. Can I call someone?

NURSE

Absolutely. Let me check if the office over here is free.

She walks away. As soon as she's gone, Tam takes off. The nurse returns.

NURSE

No, wait—Hello! Where did you go? Please come back!

She picks up the bucket and dashes out.