

The Healing Mist

A Short Film

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CAST LIST

JOYCE - Realtor

BRIANNA - Renter

MIST/CAMI - Gypsy Healer Spirit

FADE IN

EXT - MORNING/CLOUDY DAY - RENTAL HOUSE

(CAMERA POV ON FRONT PORCH/DOOR/AGENT/RENTER)

The Real Estate Agent-JOYCE and Renter-BRIANNA get out of JOYCE's car, close the doors and walk up to the house. The AGENT takes out her keys, opens the door and steps back.

JOYCE

There you are Miss.

BRIANNA

Aren't you coming in ?

JOYCE

No, no need to, it's best
to let you explore on your own.

The AGENT looks in the door worriedly and anxiously backs away from BRIANNA and the door.

INT - MORNING/CLOUDY DAY - RENTAL HOUSE

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/HALLWAY)

BRIANNA walks in, starts in the first room on the left, opens the door, she peeks in and looks around.

BRIANNA

Nice living room,
love the colours.

She closes the door, walks down the hallway to the next room on the left, opens the door to the bathroom, turns on the light, looks around.

BRIANNA

It's bigger than I
thought it would be.
Even a claw foot tub!

She turns off the light, closes the door and walks on down the hallway, pokes her head in the kitchen then walks on to the room off the kitchen - the den.

INT - MORNING/CLOUDY DAY - DEN

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/WINDOW FROM ACROSS HALL THROUGH DOORWAY)

BRIANNA opens the door, turns on the light and walks in looking at the shelves and the bay window with the seat.

BRIANNA

How beautiful...
This would be perfect
for my writing room.

BRIANNA is standing in the middle of the room and the lights go out for five seconds, when the lights come back on, BRIANNA notices a note on the window that says 'RUN'.

BRIANNA

What the...? Where
did that come from?

BRIANNA spins around then freezes as she hears creaking noises. She calls out to the Real Estate AGENT Joyce

BRIANNA

Joyce, did you decide
to come in?

No response.

(CAMERA POV DOWN HALLWAY FROM KITCHEN/DEN)

The hairs stand up on BRIANNA's arms, she rubs her arms then decides to run, out of the room, down the hallway and towards the front door. There is a 'misty cloud' hovering in a left side doorway that decides to float as if after BRIANNA.

EXT - CLOUDY DAY - RENTAL HOUSE

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/HOUSE FRONT DOOR/WOODS)

BRIANNA continues to run out the front door, jumping off the porch, turning to see that the misty cloud is following her and closing in. JOYCE and her car are nowhere to be seen.

EXT - CLOUDY DAY - WOODS

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/WOODS)

BRIANNA runs harder, zigzagging through the woods, trying to escape the Mist, that sees BRIANNA's course changes and follows, right through the trees. BRIANNA continues running, over the nearby boulders, over the large logs, becoming increasingly tired, checking behind her and by not watching where she is going, falls into a pit of some kind, landing on bones of animals.

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA IN PIT-FROM ABOVE)

BRIANNA tries to stand up and collapses back down.

BRIANNA

Owww!!! What in the..
that hurts!

BRIANNA looks at her injured leg, then tears a part of her shirttail off, uses it as a bandage, tying it around her leg at the cut. She gets up carefully, balancing on her good leg and feels along the sides of the pit, it's dirt, with little rocks.

BRIANNA

Hmm...what to use as a spoon
to dig steps into the sides.

BRIANNA looks around, finds a spoon like bone and digs steps into the walls. Little by little she carves out the steps. She finally breaks through the surface and climbs out carefully. BRIANNA looks around, a distance away, the MIST is hovering, BRIANNA tries to quietly make her way away from it, continuing to check behind her while hobbling along. She makes it a fair distance, then a branch snaps under her foot. BRIANNA freezes in place, slowly turns her head to check and see if the MIST has heard the noise, if it's able to hear.

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/MIST)

BRIANNA

(Whispers)

Damn!

The MIST has indeed heard, somehow and moves toward BRIANNA, who scrambles to her feet, moving as quickly as she can, but of course, being handicapped, the MIST catches up to her. MIST moves in front of BRIANNA and hovers, stopping her.

BRIANNA

No! Please don't hurt me.

Before BRIANNA's eyes, the MIST forms the shape of a female human gypsy, not speaking, but using her hand movements, MIST motions for BRIANNA to sit down on the nearby boulder.

BRIANNA

Oh, ok.

BRIANNA hobbles over to the boulder, sits down and elevate her leg beside her. The MIST motions to remove the makeshift bandage. Carefully BRIANNA unties it and exposes the coagulating six-inch wound. BRIANNA carefully pulls the remnants of cloth out of the wound and the MIST moves closer, reaching a hand towards the leg.

BRIANNA
(Gasps)

BRIANNA holds her breath as MIST's hand hovers over the leg for a moment moving closer to BRIANNA's skin, she feels a tingling and the wound seems to be sealing itself back up with a light sparkling, the pain goes away. BRIANNA looks to the MIST in awe.

BRIANNA
Thank you.

MIST moves her hand back, lowers her head, then motions for BRIANNA to follow.

BRIANNA
Are, um, were you
a gypsy healer?

MIST moves with such grace over the ground and keeps looking back to see if BRIANNA is following. BRIANNA speeds up to walk beside MIST, BRIANNA's mind racing with so many questions.

BRIANNA
Where do you come from?
Why are you still here
and not moved on?

(CAMERA POV ON WATERFALL/POOL/MIST/BRIANNA)

MIST does not answer. They come to a waterfall with a small pool at the bottom, MIST motions for BRIANNA to rinse off the leg. BRIANNA carefully makes her way down to the small pool, sitting down on a flat rock and scoops the water in her hand and rinse off the wounded but healed leg. BRIANNA looks at the MIST and she is standing nearby, pointing to different plants.

BRIANNA

That's willow...and cowslip,
mushrooms and chamomile.

BRIANNA

We are kindred spirits then,
I'm an herbalist as well.

MIST nods.

BRIANNA

I have so many questions,
can you, will you answer them?

(CAMERA POV ON MIST/BRIANNA/WOODS)

MIST nods slowly and they walk back to the house with MIST showing BRIANNA the plants along the way, which she picks and carries along.

BRIANNA

What is your name?

MIST points to the chamomile plant in BRIANNA's hand.

BRIANNA

Chamomile?

MIST moves her hands as if cutting something in half.

BRIANNA
Cami?

CAMI nods her head.

BRIANNA
How long have you been
here and not moved on?

CAMI shakes her head, not wanting to answer.

BRIANNA
Is there something keeping you here?

EXT - CLOUDY AFTERNOON - RENTAL HOUSE

(CAMERA POV ON HOUSE/CAMI/BRIANNA)

CAMI nods and points towards the house. BRIANNA looks at the house, which seems to have a grey hue hanging over it. BRIANNA looks at CAMI curiously.

BRIANNA
Something in the house
is keeping you here?

CAMI nods again and moves into the house, BRIANNA follows her in the house.

INT - CLOUDY EVENING - HALLWAY TO BASEMENT

(CAMERA POV DOWN BASEMENT STAIRS)

CAMI leads BRIANNA down into the basement, BRIANNA turns on the light switch before descending the stairs. BRIANNA gasps, when she reaches the bottom, as there is a skeleton leaning against one of the posts holding up the house, CAMI points towards it.

BRIANNA
Is that you?

CAMI nods, bows her head, then raises her head and moves toward BRIANNA, arms extended. BRIANNA holds her arms out and the CAMI's arms envelopes BRIANNA's, it's a form of communication, more of feelings than of words.

BRIANNA
You were a gypsy healer, held
captive here by someone who became
enamoured with her,...and as you
died, spoke a curse upon the house
that you would haunt whoever lived here
until a kindred spirit came?

CAMI moves her arms off BRIANNA's and BRIANNA looks at her.

BRIANNA
Would a proper burial by said
kindred spirit help you move on?

CAMI smiles beautifully.

BRIANNA
Wait here, I'll be right back.

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/HALLWAY LINEN CLOSET)

BRIANNA goes upstairs to the main floor, finds the Linen closet, takes out the flat sheet of linen and returns to the basement.

INT - CLOUDY EVENING - BASEMENT

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/MIST)

BRIANNA lovingly gathers up CAMI's bones, cleans the dirt from decades from them and gently sets them in the linen. BRIANNA took the herbs picked, places them gently on CAMI's bones and

wrapped her skeleton with love. BRIANNA spies a shovel in the basement corner, picks it up and carries it along with the bundle up the stairs.

EXT - FULL MOONRISE - BACKYARD GLEN/RENTAL HOUSE

(CAMERA POV ON BRIANNA/MIST/WRAPPED SKELETON)

CAMI leads the way to a small knoll as BRIANNA gently carries the linen wrapped skeleton and shovel out the house back door to the little glen behind the house. BRIANNA lovingly sets the bundle down to one side then uses the shovel to start digging. CAMI hovers nearby, her head hanging in sadness. BRIANNA sets the shovel down when the hole is deep enough, walks over and picks up the bundle.

BRIANNA

With Blessings and Love, I
commend Cami's physical body
to the earth and set her
spirit and soul free.

BRIANNA kneels down, gently places the bundle in the hole, stands up and shovels the dirt over it. Once fully covered, BRIANNA fashions a cross out of nearby branches and plants it at the end of the plot. She then kneels down at the graveside, lets a few tears fall and sees CAMI's spirit compress into an orb and float up into the night sky.

THE END