

Monsoon Tide

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Main Character Descriptions

Charles Messenger

Charles, who moved to Kerala after falling in love with Kate, has become a surly and withdrawn character since her mysterious death sixteen years earlier. When he first came to India he opened his heart to the country and especially to his wife. However, we now find him haunted by the past, locking away all evidence and memories of his wife's existence deep inside Chakara, his house. He is pushed to the limits when Kate's daughter returns to India and starts raking up the past.

Kate Messenger

Kate is a larger than life woman whose joie de vivre and spirit infect everyone around her. She is a talented singer, actress and social campaigner but she has had to be away from her daughter Anni for long periods to achieve all her ambitions. Her character, who lives life on the edge, knows both the heights of happiness and the depths of despair. The story of how she lived and how she died is pivotal to the plot of the film.

Anni Messenger

Anni is Kate's daughter. She arrives in India as part of the relief effort after the 2004 tsunami but soon discovers that there is a real mystery surrounding her mother's death and that her stepfather Charles may be implicated. Like her mother, Anni has real spirit and is determined to find out the truth. She is attracted to Charles's son Simon who comes out to visit his father and senses that he knows something that could be the key to unlocking the secrets of the past.

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Raj Singh

Raj Singh is the powerful Inspector of police in the area. He was also an ardent admirer of Kate's in the past and therefore had a natural animosity towards Charles. Since Kate's death, his unrequited love has turned to deep-rooted guilt that he somehow failed her by not putting away the perpetrator of, what he firmly believes, was murder. He perceives Anni's arrival as a new opportunity to finally see justice done.

Simon Messenger

Simon, a pilot, is Charles' son from his first marriage back in the UK. He is a more genial and open personality than his father, but is also somewhat defensive and protective towards him initially. He is completely bowled over by Anni who inspires him to help the relief effort and overcome some personal demons. It is clear that he too has misgivings about what happened to Kate and he ultimately starts to understand that Charles's wall of silence has to come down if any of them are to move on.

Oscar Sinclair

Oscar, who is a doctor, is Kate's long time childhood friend and a flamboyant and colourful character. He and Kate are extremely close and he would do anything for her. When they were teenagers they had one intimate encounter and Anni was the result. Whether they stayed just good friends once Kate and Charles got together is one of the central issues of the film.

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