

The Deep Blue Sea

Director: Terence Davies
2011 (98')



London, 1950. In an age of restraint and emotional control, Hester, the wife of a High Court judge, loses her heart to the young and dashing Freddie. Hester "gives up someone who loves her because she's found erotic love. And the idea of doing something because you're in the thrall of an emotion you can't control, that's timeless," says director Terence Davies. Weisz, who plays Hester, says that her character's actions, in Britain in 1950, are "radical in that she's a woman trying to shape her own life for herself".

"A melancholy film, without a doubt, but with great sweetness and delicacy",
The Guardian.

Vocabulary and expressions:

Blighty: A word used (more in the past) to refer to England.

We were doing something important for dear old blighty.

Dopey: Tired, lethargic.

I feel a bit dopey, that's all.

Parched: Very thirsty; extremely dry.

To ration: To limit the amount of food or provisions given to someone, e.g. to soldiers or to civilians during a shortage.

They can't ration everything.

Arcane: Secret; mysterious; obscure.

Mother has an arcane view of married life.

I take it ...: Expression used to say you believe something to be true.

I take it you don't play, then.

I take it he's not a certified medical practitioner.

Dull: Boring; uninteresting.

Cosy: Warm and comfortable.

In no time: Very soon.

We'll make it look cosy in no time.

How's tricks?: Familiar expression for "How's things?"; "How's it going?".

How's tricks Hes?

Bloke: A familiar, informal word for a man.

A bloke I met at golf.

The villain of the piece: Someone or something that is seen as being responsible for doing something wrong.

I'm not the villain of the piece.

A shilling: A unit of currency (and a coin) used in Britain prior to decimalization – the equivalent to 5 pence or 1/20th of a pound.

On the wagon: To stop drinking alcohol (familiar expression).

A month or two on the wagon and I'll be the old ace again.

To be on the level: To be acting or speaking honestly.

It's on the level. I don't enjoy hurting you.

Lines from the film:

Bill: What's happened to you, Hester?

Hester: Love, Bill. That's all.

Hester: Lust isn't the whole of life, but Freddie is, you see, for me. The whole of life. And death. So, put a label on that, if you can.

Mrs Elton: A lot of rubbish is talked about love. You know what real love is? It's wiping someone's arse or changing the sheets when they've wet themselves. And letting them keep their dignity so you can both go on.

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