

Plain Sailing

Logline: A hapless widower abandons everything to fulfil his wife's final wishes but is handicapped by her idiosyncratic will leading to a deadly yet whimsical voyage of discovery.

Travel journalist, MIA's, (45); terminal diagnosis and will is found, but no body. She lied to her college sweetheart and literary husband ROGER, (45), about her illness. Roger, the sole heir to her significant life and terminal illness insurance is confused and under suspicion.

HOLMES (30), a flamboyant insurance investigator meets the family, he and Roger's wilful daughter SIENNA (22) are attracted.

The insurers wrangle. Sienna and unworldly brother JOHN (18) quarrel, John says celebrate as willed, Sienna says a waste. Mia's will requests Roger :-

- Cruise with GERALD (46), a close mutual friend.
- Return a St. Christopher to school-friend, ALISON (44);
- Finally ski with wealthy Cousin BEN (50).
- Find ex-colleague JOE (40), return a casket. .

Roger takes the cruise as a time-out.

Gerald proves a beast, dies accidentally. (does Mia kills rapist Gerald?) Roger meets Anne, a ships officer.

Roger, resolute, terrified of flying, sails to Toronto, meets Anne, their relationship blossoms. The kids join him.

The adulterous Alison explains the St. Christopher was Mia's first love (Roger assumes Joe, lost in Mia's bed when seduced by Alison) Alison is gutted Mia knew. They visit Niagara with Alison's husband JEAN-LUC. Alison dies in the Falls (does Mia kills her?).

Roger sails home, meets Anne. They start to trace Joe. Holmes visits about the insurance claim, learns of the deaths. Intrigued Holmes investigates, suspect Roger, offers to help find Joe. Mutually suspicious, Sienna and Holmes begin an affair. Roger befriends Holmes.

Philander Ben visits for a family 80th party, seduces Sienna, invites them to ski in New Zealand. Roger sets sail, re-encounters Anne. Kids fly later.

Holmes traces Joe to Hong Kong. Roger detours, Mia meant JO (30), the casket untouched.

Sienna and Ben suffer a water-skiing accident (Ben responsible) both hospitalised. Roger quizzes Ben, uncovers a school skiing trip secret (abortion) plus. Roger, uncharacteristically hates Ben. Holmes loves Sienna, flies to Auckland.

Holmes traces Jo to Singapore. Roger and John meet Jo who reveals all about Gerald, Ben, Mia's female partners, parallel life, takes the casket. Roger bemused, John horrified.

Holmes tells Roger Sienna dying. Roger flies, loses it, attempts to kill Ben, is stopped by Mia and Holmes.

Holmes gambled Mia alive, pretended Sienna dying to flush Mia out (she wouldn't leave her daughter dying or let Roger kill Ben and take rap).

Mia HAS terminal cancer, wanted revenge but couldn't tell Roger. Mia knew Roger would find Jo but not at the cost of his marriage. Mia meets Jo, they reconcile. Mia kills Ben, apparently dies in the act.

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Holmes obtains proof of Mia's death. The family share the pay-out. Sienna marries Holmes. John knows nothing. Roger, bewildered joins Anne on a cruise.