

## **The Sorrowful Silence**

*Between two sinful people, the lesser sinner loses... the other triumphs...*

The story begins with a bus riding among the woods in a gloomy day with a melancholic music. This scene appears again throughout the movie in a non-linear way.

The class is going on a school trip after their mid exam. Children and teachers are having a joyful time inside the bus. Sathya, our main character, is a mid-age charming and pleasant teacher who doesn't have any children and her husband is being treated in a hospital. The camera rotates through inside the bus showing us a glimpse of how children are having a good time and halts focusing on a one particular child who is about 10 years old. Unlike others, he is staring at Sathya in an odd way. Sathya notices he is looking at and gives him a look. Camera fades out.

After a one week, we see lots of, the missing child posters positioned on various walls and some are scattering on the ground. We realize it is the child, who stared at the class teacher in the beginning in the bus.

In the hospital, we see Sathya, is treating her disabled husband who is lying on the bed. She put the husband with the assist of a nurse to a wheel chair and takes him outside. The husband looking gratefully at his beautiful wife and tries to whisper but could not. Sathya looks at with an empty mind and caress his head and stares at something for a long time.

In the school, Sathya is teaching to students, we notices an empty chair who we assumes it is belong to the missing child. Even though students are trying to concentrate studying, they could not after the misfortunate incident happened to their class mate. Even Sathya seems to be depressing about the incident as she stares at the empty for a long time. Some policemen along with the principal arrive to the class room and ask the class teacher to come to the police station. The class teacher gets frighten and stares back at his students while taking away to the police station.

In the police station, the class teacher is weeping while getting interrogating with some policemen. One policeman shows the teacher, some of written letters belong to the missing child. In these letters, the child has expressed his love to the teacher and they were found by his parents who suspects Sathya has something to do with the disappearance of their child. Sathya deeply mentions she has nothing to with the disappearance and that he was like her own child. Hearing this, the policeman gets more concern about her, yet sends her away as no proofs were available to keep her in custody. As she leaves, the parents dash in front of her and yell. They say they will never forgive for her for she has done for their child and that they will seek the vengeance. Even other people at the police station look at her in a very suspicious way as they reach to parents for comfort them.

Onward this moment, everyone in the village avoid her at every possible way, even her close friends in the school. The only person who is faithful and not willing to leave her is the disabled husband of her. She feels she has been mistreated in the school even by her students and spend most of her weeping.

After taking lot of courage, one day she goes to the parent's house and knocks the door. At that time, only the husband was inside home and he shows the pity when he notices the dreadful appearance of the class teacher and invites her inside. He makes her a cup of tea and sits on the couch to listen for her for what she has to say. After looking at the photos of the missing child on the wall, she takes a seat and says there is something she has to tell and as soon as she was about to spill it, the mother reaches to home and causes a drama after seeing her husband is treating the class teacher. She gets wild and drags her hair and pulls her outside yelling at her while calling her murderer. Even the neighborhood come to there and tries to lure away the class teacher.

Days pass by and the policemen keep investigating the woods where the class trip happened few weeks earlier but could not find any clues about the missing child. Sathya is weeping looking at her loving husband in the bed at hospital and she gets into the bed and sleeps holding him tightly. The mother is scolding her husband for bringing the class teacher inside with inaudible dialogues. The principal is staring at the resignation letter written by Sathya at his home while looking at a photograph of her with him with some students at a sport meet last year.

Bus riding scene among the woods with a melancholic music appears again. This shot lasts about two minutes.

Next day, Sathaya gets late to wake up and hurries her way to proceed to the hospital as she already passed her usual time. As she reaches to her husband's room she shocks to find out that he is not breathing and starts to cry in horror. She gasps after seeing someone has unplugged oxygen cable and that was the reason her husband got killed. Furiously she gets into the doctor's room and grabs the doctor yelling at him and at nurses as well. They swear they didn't know anything about it and call guards as the situation gets heat up. The guards take her away despite her protest.

After six months of her husband's death, we see her now with an aging look sitting in a courtroom. She is expecting to have a justice for her husband's killing and demands it with the judge. A lawyer comes inside the judge room and sits next to her and holds her hand. After a while the hospital crew comes inside and takes seat next to them. However next we see Sathya is sobbing while traveling inside the bus and stops near a cemetery. She goes to her husband's tomb and uncomfortably starts to cry in front it.

Sathya is doing some shopping in a supermarket and now people are not ignoring and one teenage boy helps her to pick up the shopping cart she couldn't lift. She feels someone is staring at him and she looks at him, it is the father of missing child. When he notices he got caught looking at her, he suddenly steps outside and gets away before she could get him to talk.

Sathya is walking carrying the shopping bags after getting down from the bus and she passes her school where she used to teach. As she walks by it, some new students near the fence stop playing and look at her. She hurries her steps to get home. After walking a little bit, she stops and turns to look at the children. They were playing again hide and seek. A white school service van stops near her and an old person looks at her. She looks at him and they exchange an empty look. Sathya continues walking as the driver continues driving his school van to get the students as it is close to finish the school hour. Camera fades out.

We now go back inside the bus on that school trip day and notice the missing child is looking at his class teacher. Class teacher notices him and after a while gives him a lovely smile and joins with other students and teachers to sing. The child is happy after receiving a smile from her

favorite teacher. Bus riding scene among the woods with a melancholic music appears again for the last time. After a one minute, we notice a white school service van getting close to it and ride along with the bus. The child inside the bus suddenly notices the school van gets terror. He gets closer to window and tries to check who is inside the van. It was the same man who met Sathya near the school nearly after six months. Suddenly the child's happiness is gone as the van driver looks at him from the window with an evil gaze.

Back to present, after reaching to home, Sathya closes the door and breathes heavily after seeing the children are playing. That moment brought back the bitter moments she had in the past. She goes through some closets to find something.

Back to School trip day, the child is behaving nervously and keeps his eye for the van driver. Then he notices he is looking at him from a distance in that weird smiling. He looks around and notices his teacher and tries to run her. Just in that moment Sathya is being called by other teachers to arrange the lunch for students. After seeing she is not alone to talk about his fear, the child is runs somewhere else looking for safety.

Back to present, Sathya finally found a photo she was looking for and it was the missing child with her taken in a teacher's day. She holds it tightly and starts weeping in her messed up dark room.

Back to school trip day, the child is running fast through the woods. The van driver who we think now is a child molester, running behind him. The child is trying to escape from him as much as he could but notices he is getting to closer to him. Sathya is also now into the woods walking around looking for her student. Suddenly she hears a huge screaming from him in a distance. The molester hears it as well and speeds up and sees the child has died after falling into a deep ground. His head was bleeding and not moving. Molester hears a foot step from behind and escapes from there. Sathya gets to there and gasps notices her favorite child is killed.

Back to present, the molester is slowly driving his van near the playground of the school while giving a deceiving look at children who are playing hide and seek. Sathya is making a neck knot with a saree.

Back to school trip day, Sathya is sitting on her knees near the body and caress the child's head while sobbing. She spends a long time looking at him and then drags his body near to a river and pushes the body to the river. The body flows through the river and vanishes away. After disappear the body to the water and as she turns to go back, she then notices a figure has been looking at her the whole time and as soon as she turns, he has run away therefore she couldn't realize who that was. She slowly reaches back to where students and teachers were expecting a fuss from them but it looks the person hasn't tell about the incident to anyone and therefore she plans to play neutral about the child from hereafter which later leads to all the misfortunate events.

Back to the present day, Sathya puts the knotted saree around her head and get into the chair with barefoot. After a moment she pushes the chair away and starts to struggles and slowly dies away.

In the last scene, child molester has stopped his van near the playground and watching children are playing in a ravening look. The camera is focusing on one particular child who was playing and he steps away from the camera and camera stays in one position. After a while he comes back to the camera and stares on it until screen fades out.

The philosophy of the story is, there are two kinds of people who commit sins and the less evil sinner loses and the more evil sinner wins. Sathya committed a sin of having a mother-and-son relationship with an outside child who is not belonged to her. Child molester probably has done lot of child abuses without getting caught and did caught Sathya perishing the body, thus Sathya could not expose the death of the child and therefore gets wrong accusation while he, the real culprit gets away.