

After the Storm

Cert PG Japan 2016 113 mins

Crew

Director /
 Screenplay / Hirokazu Kore-eda
 Film Editing
 Cinematography Yutaka Yamasaki
 Original music Hanaregumi

Cast

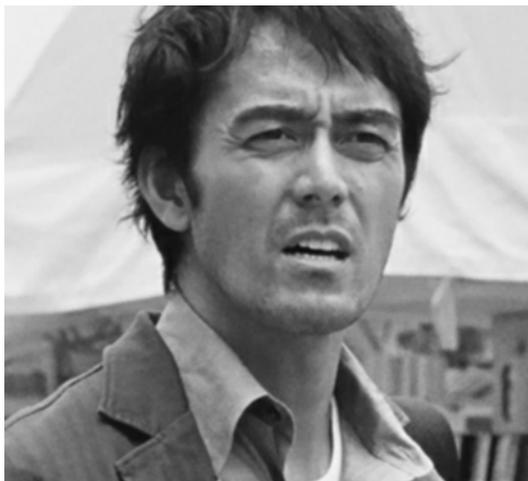
Hiroshi Abe Ryota Shinoda
 Yoko Maki Kyoko (Ryoto's ex-wife)
 Taiyô Yoshizawa Shingo (Ryoto's son)
 Kirin Kiki Yoshiko (Ryoto's mother)
 Satomi Kobayashi Chinatsu (Ryoto's sister)

Synopsis

Tokyo, the present. Ryota dwells on his past glory as prize-winning author, but nowadays gambles away any money he makes from working as a private detective.

Since the death of his overbearing father, he has spent more time at the home of his aging mother Yoshiko, partly because he suspects that his sister Chinatsu is taking financial advantage of her. Chinatsu in turn believes the same of Ryota. Their mother of course has the the measure of both of them.

Ryota wants to reform his life, to get back with his ex-wife Kyoko, and to have a better relationship with his son Shingo. One stormy summer night, opportunity knocks...



Booking Information

Distributor: Arrow Film Distribution

DVD bookings:

01923 858306

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www.arrowfilms.co.uk

Available: now



Reviews

Much of Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda's poignant new film about growth, the passing of time and generational differences follows Ryota through his day-to-day life as a dodgy private detective. But it is in his mother Yoshiko's apartment that the true emotional nourishment is served up, as Yoshiko provides a welcoming shelter for Ryota, and for his son and ex-wife, so that they may weather a metaphorical and literal storm.

Kiki turns in a gorgeous performance as Yoshiko. From the very first frames, as she stirs her curry and laments her life, she convincingly conveys playful wit, intelligence, tenderness and a keen eye for crap.

.... As ever, Kore-eda masterfully investigates the nooks and crannies of the commonplace with a delicate hand, posing questions about destiny and chance. He throws in the tasty and less flavoursome ingredients of life to deliver a hearty dish, where unfulfilled dreams rest closely beside hopeful ambition. And just like much of his previous work - including *Like Father, Like Son* and *Our Little Sister* - he probes the nature / nurture debate in a quietly powerful, thought-provoking way.

Katherine McLaughlin, The List, May 2017

No modern filmmaker has as sure a grasp on family dynamics as Hirokazu Kore-eda. Watching the Japanese master's recent films - *Still Walking*, *I Wish*, *Our Little Sister* - is as emotional as leafing through an old photo album. The ornaments, rituals and dinner ingredients may be unfamiliar, but the joys, fears, hopes, conflicts, in-jokes, doubts, misgivings, understandings and moments of clarity are totally relatable.

.... Not a great deal happens in *After the Storm* - as the title implies, a typhoon passes through, and the family weathers it. But Kore-eda's insight is so unflinching, his affection for his characters so intimate and sure, that not a moment here feels wasted.

Tom Huddleston, Time Out, May 2017

FILM FACTS...

- ☆ The film premiered at the Cannes Film Festival 2016, where it was nominated for 'Un Certain Regard'. It had a general release in the UK in June 2017.
- ☆ It was filmed in six weeks in 2014, during a break in the filming of *Our Little Sister* (which was released first). Kirin Kiki (here playing Ryota's mother) appears in both films.
- ☆ The original Japanese title of the film "Umi yori mo mada fukaku" translates as "Even deeper than the sea", which is a line from a well-known (in Japan!) 1980's pop song "Wakare no yokan", heard diegetically in the film.