

The Deep End

By

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EXT. PUBLIC POOL - DAY

**CU: FEET WITH IMPERFECTLY PAINTED BLACK NAILS WALK ACROSS THE CONCRETE POOL DECK.**

Over the pool intercom we hear:

LOUDSPEAKER  
Adult Swim. 15 Minutes. Adult Swim.

We follow the feet as they step up a small diving board ladder. The feet walk slowly and carefully to the very edge of the board. They stop.

We pan up/back to reveal a woman - Molly, late 30's - standing at the edge of the diving board. She wears a conservative, black, one-piece bathing suit. Her hair - STILL DRY - blows in the thick summer breeze.

Molly takes a deep breath and lets her arms rest at her side. We think for a moment that she is going to jump.

Instead she crosses one leg over the other, and sits in a lotus yoga pose on the edge of the diving board. Her hands rest on her knees.

Perhaps we notice the wedding ring on her left hand.

She closes her eyes.

CUT TO:

**A VIOLENT, FOREBODING SEA. THE SKY IS GRAY AND CLOUDY. LARGE, LOUD WAVES SLAM INTO THE WATER.**

LIFEGUARD (O.S.)  
Ok, Molly, that's enough. Molly!

BACK TO:

EXT. POOL - DIVING BOARD

**POV: MOLLY - STILL SITTING ON THE DIVING BOARD - OPENS HER EYES AND WE SEE HER REFLECTION IN THE CALM POOL WATER. SHE LOOKS UP AT THE LIFEGUARD.**

LIFEGUARD  
Time's up Molly. Other people are in line.

Molly looks behind her and sees two other adults - an overweight man and a young woman dressed in a very bright pink bathing suit - waiting for the diving board.

(CONTINUED)

**Molly doesn't jump.** She very carefully rises and turns around. She walks back across the diving board and down the ladder.

We follow her as she walks around the pool toward the shallow end. As she does, the overweight man briefly crosses frame as he runs and cannonballs off the diving board with ease, and into the water with a big splash.

Molly, frustrated, sits on the edge of the shallow end and dangles her feet in the water.

EXT. POOL - SHALLOW END

**POV: A HANDSOME MAN SWIMS EFFORTLESSLY TOWARDS HER. HE GETS CLOSER AND CLOSER. HE FINALLY APPROACHES HER AND LIFTS HIS HEAD OUT OF THE WATER. AS HE DOES, HE TAKES A HUGE GASP OF AIR.**

The man - very fit, also late 30's - stands in the shallow water, and Molly remains sitting on the edge.

MOLLY

Show off.

MAN

I feel it. Today's the day, Mol.

MOLLY

You say that every day.

MAN

I believe in you.

MOLLY

I know.

MAN

There's no reason to be afraid.  
It's just water.

He playfully and lovingly drips water from his wet, left hand onto her dry thigh. She wipes it off. We notice his matching wedding ring. He is her husband.

HUSBAND

You can do this.

MOLLY

I can't touch the bottom. It freaks me out. And what if I don't float back up to the top? What if I just sink?

(CONTINUED)

HUSBAND

(very matter-of-fact)

You won't sink. The human body is made up of mostly fat, which floats.

MOLLY

I don't know. Not today.

HUSBAND

How about this. When you jump in, keep your hand up, like this. (He demonstrates by raising his right hand high in the air). That way, if you start sinking to the bottom, I'll grab your hand and pull you up.

MOLLY

That's stupid. I don't know.

She looks back towards the diving board. The woman in the bright pink bathing suit does a beautiful dive into the water.

MOLLY

Alright, maybe that could help. Maybe. You promise to grab my hand?

HUSBAND

I promise.

He squeezes her hand in an act of encouragement. They share a hopeful look. Molly takes a deep breath, stands up and walks back towards the diving board.

Again, we follow her feet across the concrete pool deck.

**INTERCUT - POOL / OCEAN**

**POOL** - Three steps hit the concrete.

**OCEAN** - Her left foot slowly sinks into cold, wet sand.

**POOL** - Three steps hit the concrete.

**OCEAN** - Her right foot slowly sinks into cold, wet sand.

This continues until she reaches the diving board...

She steps up the ladder.

**POOL** - Her feet take four steps to the edge of the diving board. Her toes just barely hang off the end.

(CONTINUED)

**OCEAN** - Her feet take four steps to the edge of the ocean. Her toes just barely touch an incoming wave.

BACK TO:

EXT. POOL - DIVING BOARD

Molly stands at the edge of the diving board. She takes a deep breath and lets her arms rest at her side.

She closes her eyes.

**MONTAGE:**

-- **EXT. OCEAN** - A violent, foreboding sea. The sky is gray and cloudy. Large, loud waves slam into the water.

-- **INT. BEDROOM** - Molly and her husband blissfully happy in bed. He wears boxers, she wears a tank top and shorts. we cannot hear them because we still hear the sounds of the VIOLENT SEA. The WHITE sheets cover them like a wave.

-- **EXT. OCEAN** - Molly stands at the edge of the water. She is dressed in a flowing black dress. She drops WHITE rose petals into the ocean. Then she throws in her husband's FUNERAL CARD. On it we see HIS PHOTO, his name - "David Easton, beloved husband of Molly Easton" - and dates that read 1977-2015. At the bottom the text reads "**LOST AT SEA.**" The card is swallowed.

BACK TO:

EXT. POOL - DIVING BOARD

Back on the diving board, Molly opens her eyes. She seems lost and hopeless. There is a determined finality about her look that suggests she might let the water swallow her too.

Molly slowly raises her right arm. She keeps her other arm straight against her side.

She **STEPS** off the board.

Everything is still.

No sign of Molly.

Everything is quiet.

Still no Molly.

She has been under the water far too long.

(CONTINUED)

**FINALLY** we see Molly's hand pop out of the water. Her head surfaces and she is gasping for air. Her hand bobbles up and down. Waiting. Gasping. Waiting. Gasping. Waiting.

**CU: MOLLY'S HAND BEING GRABBED BY HER HUSBAND'S.**

Molly's husband, David, is in the water, standing on the pool ladder. He pulls Molly to him. They embrace.

DAVID  
You did it.

MOLLY  
I did it.

For a moment we may think that Molly did indeed sink to the bottom of the pool, drown herself, and has joined her husband in some sort of afterlife.

DAVID  
I love you.

MOLLY  
I love you too.

They kiss. The last kiss they never had.

David moves aside and helps Molly up the ladder.

As Molly emerges from the water, the lifeguard acknowledges her and gives her a thumbs up.

She turns around to look at David, but, of course, he is not there. He was a figment of her imagination all along. She knows this, but SMILES because, in her mind, he was there for her.

In her joy and newly-found resoluteness, Molly climbs the diving board ladder again. She reaches the edge and doesn't hesitate - she **JUMPS** right in.

**UNDER WATER CAMERA, SLOW MOTION: MOLLY SMILES AS SHE DESCENDS INTO THE WATER.**

**UNDER WATER CAMERA, SLOW MOTION, CU: HER PAINTED BLACK TOES ON ONE FOOT GRACEFULLY HIT THE BOTTOM OF THE DEEP END. THEY FLOAT OUT OF FRAME.**

FADE OUT.

THE END.