

ANEMONE

Written by

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A Slenderbodies Music Video

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EXT. UNDERWATER - OPEN SEA - TWILIGHT (LAKE MICHIGAN)

FADE IN - Moving toward the surface of the water, we glide up to the bottom of a small wooden boat rowing along.

EXT. SURFACE - OPEN SEA - SAME

We continue above the surface revealing the passengers of the boat - a YOUNG MAN and YOUNG WOMAN, dressed in 18th century regalia. The woman bears a large lace bonnet and is clutched inside a decorative gown. The man is clad in breeches and a white ruffled linen shirt.

As the man rows, we see the woman looking particularly uninspired. Glancing at one another, their lackluster connection is evident. We see their tiny craft dragging along in the open water - alone and isolated.

(VERSE 2) The woman leans to the side of the boat, looking down into the deep. A bioluminescent glow subtly shines from below, reflecting in her eyes.

She imagines herself walking on the ocean floor, among the dancing coral and swaying seaweed.

The man notices her getting closer to the surface - he's now concerned and slightly annoyed.

(VERSE 3) Mesmerized, the woman begins to see more and more shimmering colors emerge - sweeping kelp, swimming fish, and then:

MERMAIDS appear from the glow, swimming upward to the boat.

(PRE-CHORUS) The man stops rowing which pulls the woman's attention away from the water.

After a beat, the woman stands up - takes the bonnet from her head and tosses it into the water, while keeping remissful eye contact with him.

From afar, the bonnet floats before a scaly feminine hand pulls it underwater - as the man quickly stands up in the boat to match the woman.

Torn between scorn and confusion, the man maintains eye contact with her while she formally releases her gown into the boat.

Standing in her undergarments, a beat holds between them.

Before he's able to take a step toward her she -

Lunges over the side of the boat into the sea.

(CHORUS) Bewildered, the man leans over, clutching the side of the boat as we continue below the surface:

EXT. UNDERWATER - OPEN SEA - NIGHT

As the woman sinks into the bioluminescent water, four MERMAIDS swim to her, surrounding her. They're fashioned in different colors: purple, orange, green, and gold.

Apprehensive at first, the woman struggles to swim as the scaly beauties smile to greet her. They appear playful and happy as one takes her hand and pulls her away.

EXT. SMALL BOAT - SURFACE - NIGHT

The flustered man paces about trying to decide what to do before he sees two mermaids looking at him from below the water as they swim around the boat.

One rises above the surface and clutches the side - smiling at him.

He's transfixed by her at first - and after a beat, quickly reaches for a harpoon and lunges at her.

She throws herself back into the water as he violently stabs at the surface with the harpoon.

The water stirs with shimmery blue all around the boat.

He halts the assault for a moment, noticing the magical waters - then immediately, the harpoon is yanked away from him.

As he moves to the edge of the boat to retort, the two mermaids capsize the vessel with their tails - making the man splash into the water.

EXT. UNDERWATER - DEEP SEA - NIGHT

(BRIDGE) From below, the woman swims along with the two other mermaids as she is immersed in the mystical depths of the sea. They show her how to swim with their fish-like tail fins.

From afar, we see her gliding along with them through the wonderland of colorful dancing seaweed and anemones.

Subtle scales start to appear on her legs, hands, and face.

The ends of her hair turn to a light blue.

She looks up to where the man is floating - flailing about.

EXT. UNDERWATER - NEAR SURFACE - NIGHT

As the man tosses around, fighting to swim upward - he fails to gain any traction.

Two mermaids surround him, as he punches and kicks around to fend them off, he begins to tire as they get closer.

They restrain him and softly touch his face.

His frantic state begins to calm as they get very near to him.

Their soothing tact puts him in a trance as one mermaid moves in and kisses him.

After a beat, he opens his eyes as the mermaid releases -

(2ND CHORUS) She slowly pushes him away, as he seems to catch a current and moves off toward the surface through the sea.

The two mermaids swim toward the others below.

As he drifts away, he sees her with the other mermaids - swimming as one of them, bearing a newly grown tail fin. She's now a full-blown mermaid.

She swims all around the coral reef, dancing through splashes of ink and swaying anemones.

He fights to swim toward her - against the current, until he submits to the sea in exhaustion.

EXT. UNDERWATER - DEEP SEA - NIGHT

The woman sees the man moving off into the moonlit waters and teases a playful smile before swimming away into the bioluminescent deep.

EXT. BEACH COAST - MOMENTS LATER

(OUTRO) The man washes up on a beach - coughing water and collecting his bedraggled self. The upturned boat lies not far off.

He looks out into the sea, in which the shimmering blue waters subtly recede.

Looking to his right, four other washed-up men and small boats are revealed - staggered along the shore, the men look longingly out into the sea.

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