

Lynnette Visger

A Film Synopsis For:

THE COLLECTORS' MANSION

The COLLECTORS' MANSION starts with the introduction of Miss Haldane Turner, a collector of puzzles, arriving at Cliffside Mansion. There, she is greeted by manservant Webster Cod. He takes her into the house, revealing the building to be a maze. He drops her off at her room, telling her he will be back to fetch her for dinner. While alone, Haldane reveals why she is at the house, and then goes around the room, checking the window, and reading magazines.

When it is time for dinner, Cod retrieves Haldane and takes her to the dining hall. There she sees an old friend and is introduced to other collectors and her host, Mr. Fredrick Sharpe – the furniture collector. The other collectors are [in order of reveal]: Ms. Georgina Tate – the flower collector, Mr. Christoph Richards – the snake oil bottle collector, Mr. Jerold Connors – the map collector, Mrs. Sayomi Fujimoto – the fan collector, Miss Patricia Davies – the handkerchief collector, and Mr. Brenton Samuel – the story collector. After eating, they go to the study to talk about themselves, about their collections.

The next day, Haldane and her new acquaintances go to the tea room. They further get to know each other, after Mr. Sharpe has to go do some paperwork. While alone, they get worried about being left alone for so long. Haldane finally gets fed up and curious enough to start snooping around the house. All but Ms. Georgina and Mr. Richards follow her into the maze, only to get lost within a few minutes. Mr. Sharpe finds them quickly and gets upset, telling them they could have gotten terribly lost. He calms down but dismisses them for the day.

At breakfast, the next day, Mr. Richards leaves the dining hall to go for a smoke, but never returns. Cod leaves the group in the study before leaving to find him. The group gets to know Mr. Sharpe and they dance with each other. When Cod returns, he admits he cannot find Mr. Richards, causing panic among the guests. Ms. Georgina urges for him to call the police. Cod does but, unfortunately, the police cannot get to them until the next day. Mr. Sharpe dismisses them, and Cod takes each of them to their rooms, but not before Haldane gets suspicious and divides everyone, excluding Ms. Georgina, into groups.

The group gathers from breakfast once more, to realize Ms. Georgina is now nowhere to be seen. They go to the tea room for the day. As they sit down for a couple of games, Mr. Sharpe is once again pulled out for work. The hours go by without a word from him. Cod returns to deliver lunch and gives them the information that police cannot get to them due to the rain and will be much later. Brenton is angered by this and takes Haldane into the maze to phone the police himself. They get lost. They take that chance to try and find Mr. Richards, but only end up getting into an agreement about their relationship. It is night by the time they are found. Haldane expresses her complete distrust of anything going on in the house and urges Brenton to leave with her. He agrees but only once the police arrive.

As the sun comes up the next morning, only Haldane, Brenton, Jerold, Patricia, and Mrs. Fujimoto are in the dining hall. Haldane, determined to find out what is going on, goes to explore only one hallway with Brenton and Patricia. They find a hidden room filled with other peoples' collections along with items belonging to the vanished Mr. Richards and Ms. Georgina. They run to the others and escape with them into the maze.

They get lost in the maze, but Haldane realizes it is a puzzle and uses her skills to get them out. As soon as she realizes it is a puzzle, however, they hear Mr. Sharpe and Cod coming

after them. They make to the end of the maze before Cod – the people collector – corners them and chases them into the entrance room. Mr. Sharpe locks the door, but Haldane manages to trick Mr. Sharpe and Cod and opens the doors, shoving Brenton outside. Mr. Sharpe and Cod capture Jerold and Patricia, but before Haldane can save them, Mrs. Fujimoto pushes her out. The three escape into the rain. Mr. Sharpe starts to go after them but is called back by someone yelling.

Haldane and the others make to the police station and tell them what happened. The police investigate but cannot find anyone inside. That night, Mrs. Fujimoto is the first to leave, abandoning her collection at the station and not saying a word to the others. Haldane and Brenton leave together after she is gone. They reconcile their relationship, leave their collections behind, and go arm-in-arm into the rain.

The film ends with the police locking up the house and driving away. Once they are gone, a light goes on in the window on the top floor.