

# Love detectives

*Drama Someday delivers solid story with some notable performances*

**S**omeday starts with Hana Yamaguchi (Doo-na Bae) hiding her face from camera flashes and reporters as she wins a grand prize for her new comic book at the age of 17. She is a comic book writer, in Japan, whose interpretation of a love story goes completely against the typical girl-comic norm. She denies the existence of love and theorizes that love occurs simply because of disrupted hormones.

The second scene shows another main character, Seok-man, with his family in a car. Seok-man (Jin-wook Lee) urges his father to speed up because they are late for a baseball game. A truck crossing the highway comes into the path of the car. In order to avoid the truck, his father makes a quick turn, resulting in an accident in which a cyclist was hit. Seok-man loses his parents and his brother in the accident.

Seok-man cannot come to terms emotionally with the accident. Jin-wook, the cyclist injured in the car accident, has been in a coma since the accident, and Seok-man has been paying the bills. Seok-man has an unusual line of work as a kind of investigator who finds lost people. It is revealed that, in order to pay for his father's debt, Seok-man borrowed \$5,000 from a private company, who turns out to be a unscrupulous lender. The debt quickly turns into a bill of \$30,000 over three years. Because of it, Seok-man has been chased by Jung-joon Seo (Jung-sae Oh), a foolish private lender.

Through Seok-man, another character is introduced, a new client, Jin-pyo Goh (Min-Joon Kim), a doctor in a convalescent home. Seok-man gets an assignment to find missing elderly patients.

Jin-pyo's favorite pastime is to read books by Hana Yamaguchi. He even has a secret drawer full of comic books in his office. He flies to Japan on the day Hana's comic books are released. Another character, Hye-young Jung (Yoon-ah Oh), an executive at an animation Company is looking for someone to do an animation based on



*Someday now available from YA Entertainment.*

a love story. She is also in love with Jin-pyo, who considers her to be a best friend since college.

Another side plot is introduced involving Hana and the elderly street sweeper Young-gil Jun, who starts his work at about 4:30 a.m., around the time Hana goes to bed. Young-gil (a Korean), has cleaned the streets for a long time. One day, Hana finds him dead in the street. His death unlocks the truth of a decades-old love story with Gumiko, who lives right across from Hana's house. Young-gil's will is left in the house, so there are instructions about his wishes. As he does not have any family to contact, Hana's family arranges his obituary and hires a cleaning service, following the last wishes of his will.

One night, Hana discovers Gumiko in the act of taking Young-gil's ashes from Hana's house. Gumiko calmly tells Hana that she must keep his ashes. Hana becomes increasingly more curious about the relationship between her two neighbors.

Meanwhile, Hana's love story idea has caused conflict with the editor, who persuades her to write a story about everlasting love. She finds a true love story almost impossible to imagine, and as her memories unfold, it is revealed that Hana's parents left her when she was only six, due to dissent between her father's side of the family (Japanese) and her mother's (Korean). Hana's grandmother has raised her since then. Hana distrusts her whole family because of this history, and her relationships with everyone she loves have been damaged.

She decides to quit her comic book career, assuming her work does not attract any readers. One day, she learns from Gumiko's daughter-in-law that Gumiko has gone somewhere and Hana is curious about her travel destination. She then flies to Korea with a ticket that her grandmother bought for her to take a break.

At the airport in Korea, Hana sees a person who resembles Gumiko, which stimulates her curiosity further. She finds Seok-man's adver-

tisement, in which he promotes his business of finding people "without asking any questions." She thinks that Gumiko might be in Korea to recollect her former relationship with Young-gil. Seok-man asks Hana to come and meet Jin-Pyo at the hospital. That's how all of main characters became involved.

Seok-man discovers through his investigators that Gumiko has gone to Gunsan, and the two go there together to find out. They learn that Young-gil was the son of a peasant who worked for Gumiko's family. Gumiko's father was a leader in the Japanese occupation of the area. The two fell in love, but never revealed their feelings because of the big differences in social and ethnic status. When Gumiko's family returned to Japan after the World War II, Young-gil followed her family because he did not want to be separated from her.

This story makes sense to Seok-man, but to Hana the idea seems impossible. During the journey with Seok-man, Hana argues about love. For Hana, love is simply a result of a hormonal imbalance, while for Seok-man, love is a pure and sacrificing emotion. Even though Hana does not agree with Seok-man's conclusions about the love story between Gumiko and Young-gil, she starts drawing a comic based on his story.

Surprisingly, all Seok-man's wild guesses about the events of that time are true; they are later confirmed by Gumiko. Hye-young, the comic book developer, discovers Seok-man's talent to develop a love story and scouts him. Hana returns to Japan where Gumiko's diary waits for her. Gumiko's diary tells about her love story with Young-gil which began in the 1940s.

Meanwhile, Jin-pyo learns that Hana's mother is in Korea. Since her husband passed away, Hana's mother has shown symptoms of aphasia and had anorexia. Jin-Pyo sends an airplane ticket to Hana, and Hana returns to Korea to meet her estranged mother, and, more importantly, to track down Gumiko's love story.

Like Seok-man, Hana is scouted by Hye-young due to her great drawing talent. Seok-man and Hana work together, falling in love gradually. While Seok-man feels his love toward her, innocent Hana does not realize her feelings until she is separated from him due to Jin-wook's death.

Seok-man despairs of his life upon the death of Jin-wook. It was his effort to save Jin-wook which held him together. To make matters worse, Seok-man inadvertently witnesses Jin-pyo propose to Hana, just as he (Seok-man) was about to confess his love for her. Seok-man is in chaos and is drinking heavily. As Hana tries to persuade him to shape up, a drunken Seok-man pushes her away cutting her hand on a piece of glass.

The injury is so severe that she cannot draw again with that hand. She decides to leave for Japan and make her story, that she nicknames "Someday," the story of an everlasting love. Hana worries that Seok-man will feel guilty if he finds out about her injury, so she tells people not to tell him about it.

However, Hye-young does tell him about the accident. Seok-man flies to Japan to meet Hana. Seok-man apologizes for what he has done to her but says goodbye forever, because he cannot live with the guilt.

With that, Hana suddenly understands what love is, how to live for it, and how to leave because of love. Due to her injured right hand, Hana uses a computer that she calls a "monster." Hana focused on drawing "Someday" because if "Someday" can't be completed, it will leave Seok-man with a permanent scar. As Hana is slowly finding her emotional way through these new revelations, Seok-man goes backpacking on a quest to find himself.

He travels to Barbizon, a suburb of Paris where Young-gil once bought a villa in hopes that he would live there with Gumiko one day. Seok-man finds Gumiko there. At the same time, Hana completes the love story between Gumiko and