



## OUR LITTLE SISTER (UMIMACHI DIARY)

Autumn  
Season  
2016

Release: 2015

Cert (UK): PG

Language: Japanese

Runtime: 2 hrs. 08 mins

Director: Hirokazu Koreeda

Writer: Akimi Yoshida (manga), Hirokazu Koreeda (screenplay)

Cinematographer: Mikiya Takimoto

Cast: Haruka Ayase, Masami Nagasawa, Kaho, Suzu Hirose



The films of Hirokazu Koreeda have long featured in screenings by KFC and KFF. He seems to capture the innocence and magic of childhood in films such as *I Wish*, and *Like Father, Like Son*. For *Our Little Sister*, Koreeda takes his source material from *Tales from a Seaside Town* an ongoing saga published monthly in the Japanese woman's manga *Flowers Magazine*.

*Our Little Sister* is at once a touching tale of both womanhood and sisterhood, centering on three siblings of varying personality – the austere one, the adventurous one, the aberrant one – who live together among the memories of a crumbling family home. The arrival of a younger half-sister provokes a re-examination both their lives and the charred remains of the bridges burned in the past – familial pain that is glimpsed just below the formalities.

Despite all the emotional struggles and dilemmas carried by the characters, the story conveys tranquility and generosity while some scenes mirror the pure joys and pleasures life is made of. Classic Koreeda indeed.

Rich in detail and essence, the optimistic "*Our Little Sister*" follows the combination of amiable tones and social analysis, so characteristic of Ozu and Shimizu. It confirms Koreeda as one of the best Japanese filmmaker working today.

That's it for the Autumn season. We wish you the most wonderful Festive Season and look forward to welcoming you back on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January.