

Film title

Rebel

Tagline

Desire for a family, struggle for survival

Short synopsis

From filmmakers Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah (Bad Boys for Life) comes REBEL, an immensely powerful and nuanced portrayal of a family torn apart over a Muslim boy's future in the tradition of Incendies and A Prophet.

Long synopsis

When Kamal resolves to change his life for the better, he leaves Belgium to help war victims in Syria. But, having arrived, he is forced to join a militia and is left stranded in Raqqa. Back home, his younger brother Nassim quickly becomes easy prey for radical recruiters, who promise to reunite him with his brother. Their mother, Leila, fights to protect the only thing she has left: her youngest son. The film paints a portrait of a time that both filmmakers experienced first-hand: a period that predates the Islamic State, when many Belgians with Moroccan roots set off for Syria. Some of them were enlisted in organisations upon arriving, and were radicalised, as was the case for some of the two directors' loved ones – it is precisely this experience that is translated through Adil El Arbi and Bilall Fallah's film. "We wanted to show just how romantic and heroic jihad can seem at first glance, and how religion is weaponised."

Technical information and credits

Original title: Rebel
English title: Rebel
Year: 2022
Country: Belgium, Luxembourg, France
Language: ar, fr
Subtitles: cz
Running time: 135 min
Dostupnost: 15+

DVD / Blu-ray: DCP, MP4
Genre: Action, Drama, Thriller
Directed by: Adil El Arbi, Bilall Fallah
Written by: Adil El Arbi, Bilall Fallah, Kevin Meul, Jan van Dyck
Edited by: Frédéric Thoraval
Cinematography: Robrecht Heyvaert
Sound by: Nicolas Tran Trong

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Awards

Cannes IFF - Official Selection - 2022

Actors

Lubna Azabal, Ala Riani, Tara Abboud, Issam Messaoudi, Kamal Moummad

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