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THE LESSON

DCP/HD • 2014 • BULGARIA/GREECE • 105MIN • DRAMA

Nadezhda warns her students that the school thief is in her sights. She declares that once she catches him his classmates will get their breakfast money back, and she'll teach him a "good lesson".

On her return home, Nadezhda is surprised by another problem - an officer of the court threatens her with foreclosure. Her husband has missed several loan repayments for the cargo truck he bought intending to repair it and sell it. Now the entire loan has to be paid immediately so Nadezhda borrows money from a loan shark expecting to return it on the sale of the truck.

But time flies and the truck is beyond repair. There's no way to pay back the loan shark, and he starts pressuring Nadezhda. She scrambles for money, but to no avail. The truck, the house, her mother's golden tooth crowns - nothing is enough.

The loan shark threatens to hurt her child if she doesn't find the cash. Terrified and desperate, Nadezhda robs a bank. She pays back the loan shark. And she finds out who the school robber is. But now has no idea what kind of lesson to teach him.

Directed by Kristina Grozeva and Petar Valchanov

With Margita Gosheva, Ivan Burnev, Ivanka Bratoeva, Ivan Savov, Deyan Todorova and Stefan Denolyubov

Original language: Bulgarian



Kristina Grozeva, born in Sofia, Bulgaria, received a degree in journalism from the University of Sofia in 2000 and TV Directing from National Academy of Theatre and Film Arts in 2005 along with **Petar Valchanov** who graduated in Film and TV Directing from the NATFA in 2008.

Together they co-directed, the documentary *Parable of Life* (2009) and the short film *Jump* (2012) which was awarded with a Nomination for the European Film Awards 2013 at Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2013, making it the first Bulgarian short film ever nominated for EFA. *The Lesson* (2014), mark their fiction feature debut.

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