



PRICA O NIKOLAI I ZAKONU O POVRAKU / THE TALE OF NIKOLAI
AND THE LAW OF RETURN / HA'AGADA AL-NIKOLAI VECHOK HASHVUT



redatelj / director: **David Ofek**; scenarist / screenwriter: David Ofek; snimatelj / cameraman: Dror Lebendiger; montaža / editing: Arik Lahav-Leibovich; producenti / producers: Edna Kowarsky, Elinor Kowarsky; zemlja / country of origin: Izrael / Israel; godina / year of production: 2008.; trajanje / duration: 54 min.

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Priča o Nikolaiu počinje u malenom zabačenom selu u rumunjskoj regiji Moldaviji. S padom komunizma Nikolai, kao i tisuće drugih seljaka, iznenada ostaje bez posla, pa odluči potražiti sreću preko mora, daleko od obitelji i doma. Tri godine je radio kao privremeni radnik u Izraelu, gdje ga je do daske iskorištavala kompanija koja ga je poslala tamo. Imao je malo kontakta sa svojom ženom, koja je rodila njihovo drugo dijete u njegovu odsustvu. Konačno je odlučio preuzeti kontrolu nad svojom sudbinom te je pobjegao od svog poslodavca i postao «ilegalac». Policija ga je uhitila i strpala u zatvor, ali se onda dogodio iznenadan preokret u njegovom životu. U ovom filmu Nikolai glumi sam sebe, te otkriva dramatične događaje iz svog života. Kako se priča odvija, film postavlja pitanja o našim vlastitim životima u Izraelu i o zakonima koji određuju naš nacionalni identitet.

Festivals i nagrade

Dobitnik je nagrade za najbolji dokumentarac u selekciji Wolgin na Jeruzalemskom međunarodnom filmskom festivalu (The Jerusalem International Film Festival, Israel). U službenim selekcijama prikazan je na desetak festivala od Švicarske, Njemačke, Poljske, Grčke, Makedonije i Moldavije do SAD-a.





The story of Nicolai begins in a tiny, remote village in the Romanian region of Moldavia. With the collapse of communism, Nicolai, like many thousands of other villagers, suddenly found himself out of work, so he decided to seek his fortune overseas, far from his family and home. For three years he worked as a guest laborer in Israel, exploited to the hilt by the company that sent him there. He had little contact with his wife, who gave birth to his second child in his absence. Finally determined to gain control of his destiny, Nicolai fled his employer and became an “illegal.” He was caught by the police and sent to prison, but suddenly his life took an abrupt turn. Nicolai plays himself in this film, and relives the dramatic events of his life. As his story unfolds, the film raises questions about our own lives in Israel and the laws that define our national identity.

Festivals and awards

The film won the Award for the best Documentary in the Wolgin Selection at Jerusalem International Film Festival. In the official selections it was presented at about ten Festivals in Switzerland, Germany, Poland, Greece, Macedonia, Moldavia and USA.