

Inspired by real events

Lala

A film by Rocko D. Márquez

fiction | 100 min | digital color | spanish |
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MENTAL
REVOLUTION



Seguire

Una adolescente de pueblo llamada Blanca y Lala, su hermana de 24 con discapacidad intelectual, deben atravesar todo México hacia Estados Unidos en búsqueda de su madre, para que su hermano narcotraficante no vuelva a abusar de Lala, y evitar que su abuela siga tratando a su hermana como animal, por creerla poseída por el diablo.



Synopsys

In a rural community of Western Mexico, Virginia keeps her 24 years old granddaughter Lala, chained in a poultry yard with a shackle to her ankle, believing she is possessed by the devil, due to Lala's slight mental disability. The only one who takes care of Lala is Blanca, her teenage sister, who is only 17 years old. She also defends Lala and herself from the physical maltreatment they suffer from time to time at the hands of their grandmother.

Aristeo, her older brother and a 27 years old drug-dealer, considers that Lala is more like an animal than a human being and doesn't care much about her. What is a fact is that neither Blanca nor Aristeo -not even Virginia- know for sure about Lala's condition.

One night, frustrated by a new rejection in his attempt to intimate with a woman -and drunk-, Aristeo takes out his impotence on Lala and rapes her. Blanca, after witnessing the fact, decides to escape with her sister.

Looking for money to run away, Blanca finds a letter that Virginia never gave her from Rosaura, her mother and decides to go to Tijuana to find her, guided by the address of the sender written on the envelope. When she finds no money in his grandmother's belongings, Blanca then steals Aristeo's car and his money from his sale of drugs.

When Aristeo finds out, he offers himself to go after his sisters to recover the money. El Alacrán, the leader of the cartel in which Aristeo works, seems to respect his initiative and loyalty "despite his bad habits," and offers him his two best men to accompany him, a couple of fearsome capos.

He promises him that if he recovers the money, there will be no reprisals towards his sisters. However, if he fails, he will pay the consequences.

After Brenda, Blanca's best friend helps her escape, the capos torture her to make her talk, but they get carried away and end up killing her accidentally.

Meanwhile, after passing by a beach and seeing the sea for the first time, Blanca and Lala arrive in Manzanillo, where they buy bus tickets to Tijuana. But Aristeo and the capos caught up with them. However, Blanca and Lala barely manage to escape from them in a freight train.

After losing the trail to Blanca and Lala, the capos send a photo from them to their people of cartel, asking them to be alert from Manzanillo to Tijuana. If anyone sees them, they would warn Aristeo about it. Then one of the capo calls El Alacrán to update him of the situation. Knowing that they are in Manzanillo, he orders them to give a ride to a group of table dancers to Tijuana -which represents a promotion for them-, and to wait there for Blanca and Lala.

In their journey in the freight train, Blanca checks Lala's ankle and realizes that the scrape made by the shackle is severely infected. Blanca cleans Lala's wound and hugs her caressing her head until Lala falls asleep. Then, Blanca reads Rosaura's letter, and discovers that she fled with Blanca and her siblings when they were children to Tijuana. She was trying to cross the border in her attempt to find her children's father, because Virginia, after learning that something was not normal with Lala, began to mistreat her, believing she was possessed by the devil.

When they arrive in Guadalajara, Blanca decides to take to Lala to a medical office. There, a young woman doctor attends her. When she learns surprised about the conditions in which Lala has been living, she offers them to give them asylum in the hotel of her father, which is on the city's edge, until Lala fully recovers from her ankle. Finally, someone explains to Blanca that what her sister has is a mental disability that requires medical attention.

In this apparent calm, in the hotel, Blanca becomes aware of her own body and begins a sexual exploration, partly because of her having witnessed the rape of her sister and also because she has been involuntarily listening some of the sexual encounters happening in the adjoining rooms at night.

When Blanca meets Vargas, a truck driver whom she finds attractive, he offers her to take her on a trip to the south of Mexico, but asks her to leave her sister in a government facility in charge of providing social aid to people in need. Blanca just cannot accept his proposal, because she cannot shirk from her responsibility with Lala. She loves her too much.

Waiting for Lala to get recovered, Blanca meets Chano, an older truck driver who sees his own daughters reflected in Blanca and Lala and feels sorry for them. Because of this, he persuades Blanca to continue on her way to Tijuana to find her mother, since he thinks she carry alone with responsibility for her sister's care.

At the same time, on their way to Tijuana, Aristeo develops an unexpected camaraderie with the table dancers, especially with one of them. That is something he had never experienced before with any woman. However, because of his traumas with which he has carried all of his life, when she offers him to have sex with her, he simply can't do it.

Aristeo also finds himself surprised by the friendly dynamic between the capos and the table dancers, who treat each other as if they were family. This makes him thinks about his own family and the way he has always treated his sisters, especially Lala.

On their trip to Tijuana, Blanca and Lala engage in an endearing relationship with Chano. Blanca even gets to see him as the father figure they never had. And he is also fond of them. Along the way, Blanca continues to reflect on Rosaura's letter in which she learned that her stepfather, a Federal Highway Policeman, sexually abused Aristeo as a child. Because of this, Rosaura killed him.

Upon reaching a checkpoint outside Tijuana, Blanca realizes that Chano received the warning from the capos and that he offered to give them a ride to hand them over to them. Then, some sicarios from El Alacrán's cartel take Blanca and Lala. Chano watches them as he leaves, repentant for what he just did.

Already in Tijuana, the capos take Aristeo to an abandoned house, where he finds out that el Alacrán, fed up with him, gave them the order to kill him, to get rid of Lala and to keep Blanca to make her work for the cartel as a table dancer and sexually exploit her.

Given this situation, Aristeo defends them. And after a brutal fight, helped by his sisters, he kills the capos in an act of redemption. But he can't prevent Lala from end up mortally wounded. Then, with his last breath, Aristeo asks them to forgive him, and dies.

In the end with Lala's arm around her neck, Blanca arrives just in time at the hospital to save her sister's life. After the doctors attend them, we learn that Rosaura, their mother, has been in prison all these years. Once Lala gets well, she and Blanca go to the prison to see Rosaura. They await eagerly in front of a gated door, when they hear the beep of the last gate opening.

THE END



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NANCY TALAMANTES

Ganadora al Ariel a revelación femenina 2016.

LAS ELEGIDAS/David Pablos 2015

Tras los amplios vestidos que le hace su abuela, se asoma el cuerpo ya de una mujer, el cual no deja ver a nadie por temor a *Aristeo*, y por su misma formación católica.

BLANCA

Hacer el bien puede acarrear consigo terribles consecuencias.

Blanca es una adolescente de 16 años, pero su pálido rostro y amplias ojeras producto de las noches de desvelo y cansancio, la hacen ver como una bella alma en pena. De cabello descuidado, usa gruesos anteojos. Esto y sus dientes y uñas descuidados, la hacen ver más grande. A pesar de ser la más pequeña de sus hermanos, ha tenido que madurar muy pronto ya que para *Lala*, más que su hermana es como su madre.

Tiene vagos recuerdos de su madre, quien la dejó junto con sus hermanos, *Lala* y *Aristeo*, con su abuela *Virginia*, para emigrar a EUA. Ella pierde la esperanza de que su madre vuelva algún día y toma la decisión de ir a buscar, y dejar de aguantar los abusos y violencia que sufren de su hermano y de su abuela.

Su bondad y paciencia son puestas a prueba en el viaje hacia EUA, donde aprenderá, con los duros golpes de la vida, que hacer el bien, puede acarrear consigo terribles consecuencias,





LALA

Hay pocos seres tan puros e inocentes, que bien podrían ser ángeles, si existieran.

De 24 años, Lala es una mujer con cierto grado de retraso mental, que solía recibir terapias cuando su madre estaba a cargo de ella. Pero luego que ella se va, su abuela la deja encadenada fuera de la casa, en el gallinero de la huerta en que viven, porque cree que las personas con discapacidad mental están poseídas por el diablo. Y tiene años ahí.

Con su voz aguda y chillona, articula pocas palabras y frases rotas que no pronuncia bien. Pero le gusta tararear.

MARTINA MEDINA

CALIFORNIA LULLABY. 2016
SCORPION GIRL/ TV.serie 2016
31 DIAS/ Erika Grediaga 2013

Debido a los piojos y alimañas que se le pegan al vivir entre animales, su abuela la tiene con el cabello corto y trasquilado. Aunque no parezca, tras su rostro siempre enterregado, Lala es de tez blanca, facciones finas y ojos claros, como su hermana.

Y a pesar de ser extremadamente delgada, tiene gran fortaleza física.

Lala tiene como mascota a un pollito, al que ama y cuida, pero no tanto como a Blanca, a quien ve como su única protección, pues es ella quien la alimenta, la baña, y la cuida.

En el mundo, hay pocos seres tan puros e inocentes, que bien podrían ser ángeles, si existieran. Y así es Lala, una mujer alegre y curiosa que si un defecto tiene, es que bajo situaciones de mucho estrés, no sabe controlar sus emociones y su fuerza física.

A medida que ella y Blanca avanzan en su viaje, Lala presenta una notable mejoría en su condición, gracias al buen trato, a las “terapias” y juegos de Blanca. Y al final, veremos que disfruta más de la vida y de su hermana, a pesar del mundo adverso y violento en que viven.



ARISTEO

Hay pecados que solo se pueden resarcir con la muerte.

De 27 años y cuerpo atlético, Aristeo es un típico cholo, pero de rancho. De tez y ojos claro, es un joven muy complejo y acomplejado, víctima de las circunstancias de la vida. Él busca compensar sus inseguridades y cicatrices mentales con una fachada dura, cínica y sarcástica. Pero seguro es un tipo astuto, temerario y manipulador.

Aunque tiene recuerdos vagos de ello, Aristeo fue abusado sexualmente por su padre, un Policía Estatal de Baja California Norte.

ADRIÁN LADRÓN (TBC)

Amor. 2006

Güeros. 2014

La Cuarta compañía. 2016.

Él hizo guardar el secreto hasta sus 7 años, cuando Rosaura, su mamá se dio cuenta.

Tras la muerte de su padre, Rosaura trata de explicarle lo que le había estado haciendo su padre, pero no sabe cómo, y Aristeo se niega a oírla. Esto hace que desde la adolescencia, se refugie en las drogas y el alcohol.

En secreto, Aristeo se siente atraído hacia su hermana Lala, lo que le avergüenza. Por esto, trata de disimularlo al ser brusco e incluso violento en veces con ella. Y aunque luego se siente mal por esto, no sabe cómo salir del círculo vicioso en que se encuentra.

Aristeo vive atrapado en el mundo de las drogas, pero en el fondo, sabe que no está hecho para un ambiente así. Sin embargo, no conoce otra forma de vida. Al final, Aristeo trata de redimirse al defender a sus hermanas, arriesgando su propia vida, de los narcos que se las quieren llevar y cobrarse una deuda que él mismo adquirió. Y entonces comprende que, hay pecados que sólo se pueden resarcir con la muerte.



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Guión: Rocko D. Márquez &
Martina Medina

Casa Productora: Mental Revolution

Productor: Marco Antonio Salgado /
Susana Jáuregui

Fotografía: Sara Purgatorio

Diseño de Producción: Adele Achar

Música: Saúl "El muerto" Ledesma &
Santiago Cumplido

Editor: David Torres

