SYNOPSIS

The Film is set in the near future, in a world of perfect capitalism. Society is sustained by a class of top achievers, meanwhile, so-called minimum recipients live under sedation in Fortresses of Sleep. The great majority of top achievers view themselves as happy. An outsourced agency has been established for the rest: Life Guidance is charged with turning these individuals into optimal people as well. Alexander has internalized the system but one wrong word to his child triggers Life Guidance. He starts to rebel and encounters the horror of the system in all its brightness and affability.

DIRECTOR

Ruth Mader studied directing at the film and television department of the university for music and performing arts in Vienna. She graduated with distinction from Michael Haneke's Master Class. Her films have been part of the Cannes Film Festival four times: NULL DEFIZIT (2001), Cinéfondation section, STRUGGLE (2003), Un Certain Regard, GFRASTA (2005), Tous les Cinémas du Monde section and in 2007 she presented her screenplay SERVIAM (2007) in the L'Atelier series. Mader's film WHAT IS LOVE (2012) premiered in the Forum section of the Berlin International Film Festival. Numerous international awards include the International Critics’ Prize (FIPRESCI Prize) and a nomination for Cannes' Caméra d'Or. In 2017, her feature film Life Guidance celebrates its world premiere at the Venice Film Festival, competing in the Giornate degli Autori section.