



On the Edge

Genre: Action / Drama
Length: 8x49-52'
Format: HD
Director: Evgeniy Lavrentev

Cast: Diana Pozharskaya, Sofya Shutkina, Feruza Ruzieva, Kirill Dizevitch, Nikolay Fomenko, Natasha Shvetz

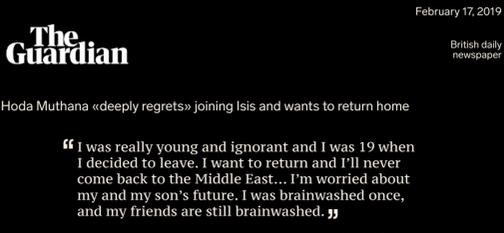
Distributor: Sovtelexport, the official sales branch of Russia Television and Radio

Synopsis

They dreamed about happiness...

Three completely different young women ended up hopeless prisoners of the Caliphate. They would've never met, if it hadn't been for blinding love that brought them to hell... Once on the edge, Lena, Katya and Amina realize that there is only one chance of survival — to escape, risking their lives...

Trailer



Real stories

Recruitment and enticement of girls into the ranks of the forbidden Caliphate fighters is a hot topic in media.

December 14, 2016



News portal of the Russian daily newspaper «Moskovsky Komsomolets»

How terrorists recruit Russian women for ISIS

22-year-old Elena Tretyakova from Moscow met Arsen Hanikov from Nalchik online. She started to call her new online friend a prince since he was so different from the majority of men. Lena fell in love at once. She saw Arsen only as her future husband and her new life as a fairy tale.

“ Danger was close. I was inches away from death. Not only mine, but other people’s as well. Innocent civilians could have been killed by my suicide. ”

Elena Tretyakova

Read the full article [here](#)



February 17, 2019



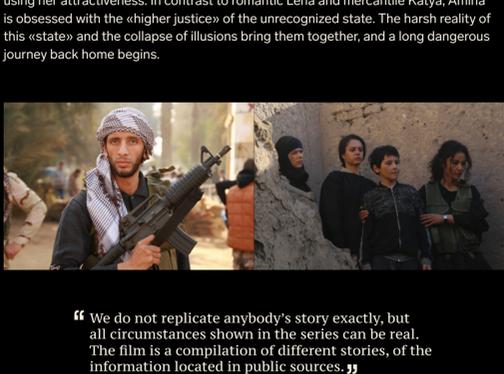
British daily newspaper

Hoda Muthana «deeply regrets» joining Isis and wants to return home

“ I was really young and ignorant and I was 19 when I decided to leave. I want to return and I’ll never come back to the Middle East... I’m worried about my and my son’s future. I was brainwashed once, and my friends are still brainwashed. ”

Hoda Muthana

Read the full article [here](#)



April 18, 2019

«On the Edge» — how the first Russian series about women recruited in ISIS turned out

Russian Internet edition and news aggregator iJournal.ru

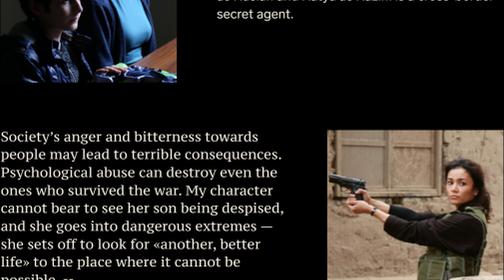
“ The project was inspired by the story of a Moscow State University student, Varvara Karaulova, who in 2016 had been sentenced to prison for 4.5 years for her attempt to cross Turco-Syrian boarder to join ISIS. Cases like this are not extraordinary neither in Europe nor in the U.S., where suchlike criminal proceedings had a similar ending. ”

Valentin Emelyanov
scriptwriter

Plot

In the action drama based on real-life events, the viewers will see how women get recruited to ISIS and become a living weapon in the hands of militias.

Different reasons lead the heroines of the series to join the terrorists. Lena, a student from a prosperous Moscow family, is going through hard times and a new romantic relationship — these circumstances push her to convert and follow her new boyfriend to an Arab country. Katya dreams of wealth and a successful marriage. She is not full of romanticism and only seeks a way to escape from provincial poverty, using her attractiveness. In contrast to romantic Lena and mercantile Katya, Amina is obsessed with the «higher justice» of the unrecognized state. The harsh reality of this «state» and the collapse of illusions bring them together, and a long dangerous journey back home begins.



“ We do not replicate anybody’s story exactly, but all circumstances shown in the series can be real. The film is a compilation of different stories, of the information located in public sources. ”

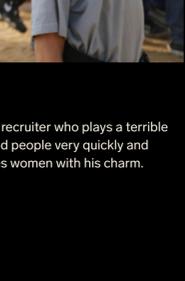
Evgeniy Lavrentiev
director



Lena Polyakova is a student of a prestigious university; she lives in a good family. Her boyfriend is cheating on her and her father is leaving the family. Her world falls apart when she suffers a car accident and ends up in a hospital. In this exact moment handsome Ruslan steps into the girl’s life. After having fallen in love with him, she converts to Islam and goes to Syria, to her loved one’s homeland.

“ If my character’s life and relationship with parents had been fine, none of that would have happened. Only a lost person who desperately needs to be talked about what went wrong and what can be done to help them, can fall into this terrifying trap. ”

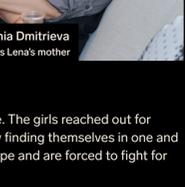
Diana Pozharskaya
as Lena Polyakova



Gorgeous Katya lives in a poor rural area and has been low on money since childhood. Dreaming about a better life, Katya comes to Moscow where she meets charming Kazim, who gives her expensive presents. Actually, he is the same man Lena Polyakova met. He invites Katya to spend some time with him in Turkey.

“ One always has to remember to keep the mind clean despite the feelings. In any situation it is crucial to stay sensible, to be in the moment. ”

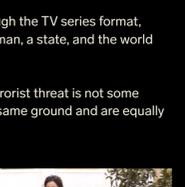
Sophya Shutkina
as Katya



Amina is Muslim. Her husband fought on the side of militias in the Middle East and died. Because her villagers bully her son for that, she decides to move to Syria so her son, Ilya, would have a life. The same man whom Lena knows as Ruslan and Katya as Kazim is a cross-border secret agent.

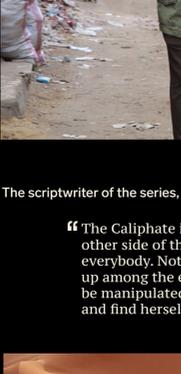
“ Society’s anger and bitterness towards people may lead to terrible consequences. Psychological abuse can destroy even the ones who survived the war. My character cannot bear to see her son being despised, and she goes into dangerous extremes — she sets off to look for «another, better life» to the place where it cannot be possible. ”

Feruza Ruzieva
as Amina



“ Amina’s line is difficult indeed. This is a sensitive and painful topic, especially considering her having a child. But the viewer understood that her life in the homeland is impossible. ”

Valentin Emelyanov
scriptwriter



Ruslan is an ISIS recruiter who plays a terrible game. He can read people very quickly and literally hypnotizes women with his charm.

“ He is one of the most interesting characters I’ve ever played. Ruslan has individual approach to every girl and they all are ready to follow him. While watching our film you will take a short course for potential victims — you will observe Ruslan and learn to identify such dangerous people in life. ”

Kirill Dytsevich
as Ruslan



Nikolay Fomenko
as Lena’s father



Evgenia Dmitrieva
as Lena’s mother

Different paths led the series heroines to the Caliphate. The girls reached out for happiness, but ended up in a terrorist hell. Accidentally finding themselves in one and the same place, Amina, Lena and Katya decide to escape and are forced to fight for their lives with weapons in their hands...

