

Project Elisium

Logline

In a dystopian society a private corporation colonizes a planet with superior living conditions for humans but one man becomes suspicious of their true motives.

Summary

The action of the film takes place in a dystopian society. Science has made a lot of progress, but nevertheless the living conditions have deteriorated severely. Planet earth faces ecological damage and overpopulation which places the life of humans in peril.

Suddenly the private corporation "Elisium" announces the solution to this problem. It succeeds in colonizing a planet with superior living conditions for humans. There is clean air, exquisite mansions for people to live in, solutions for previously incurable diseases. All this makes it possible for humans to live much longer. Everyone who wishes to make a contract with "Elisium" must pay a large sum of money. The first settlers have already arrived there using a spaceship. They socialize with humans who are still on earth using video-conferencing and often appear on television. The planet of the project "Elisium" impresses everyone and the settlers themselves seem happy and satisfied.

The main protagonist Tim, writes articles about this new project. He has a girlfriend, Amanda, who is a musician. Her parents are rich industrialists who are suffering from a severe illness. Their health is weak and only the project "Elisium" can cure them, and their daughter decides to follow them. Tim promises to accumulate enough money so that he will be able to buy a ticket and go after her. The girl leaves with her parents and afterwards he can only communicate with her via video-calling. Together with his friend Wang who lives in China, he tries to make a computer program with which he can earn enough to be able to buy his ticket to "Elisium". However, their business suffers failure and Tim is left in a dire financial situation. He lives in a small room in a rundown section of the city and his only happiness is to talk to Amanda.

Although Amanda seems content and optimistic, Tim starts to feel a certain anxiety, because he senses that she has lost her creative streak — her musical compositions have become primitive and soulless. He starts to be afraid that the long journey affected her badly and that she finds it difficult to adjust to the new setting. He decides to get to the planet of "Elisium" no matter what and attempts to get a job on the spaceship. But he faces a setback — he finds out that all the workers are robots. With his friend Wang from China, he hacks into the programming of one robot and manages to switch places with it. He gets to the ship and talks to Wang using video-conferencing. The ship is impressively luxurious — it has restaurants, shops and he wants to spend his time well. However certain things start to bother Tim. He starts to observe the robots and with the help of Wang breaks into the ship's program.

Tim finds out that the length of the space travel is only three days and that afterwards the ship becomes immolated. Planet "Elisium" does not exist — it is only a virtual reality simulation by the corporation "Eliza". All humans aboard the ship were made into digital copies with a 3D scanner before the flight and the earthly inhabitants only socialized with virtual clones of the people who supposedly went to the planet of "Elisium".

In desolation Tim tells the truth about all this to Wang during his last video-call, but he does not know that all communication pathways have all been blocked. Instead what Wang hears is Tim telling her how perfect everything is on the spaceship. At this very moment the spaceship becomes annihilated.

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Format

The format is of a short series, 7-10 episodes.

The narrative is depicted using video and text conversations between Tim, Wang and Amanda, and online news.

Budget

\$100 000

Biography

Diana Ringo was born in 1992 in Moscow. Her mother is Russian and father is Finnish. She lived in Finland since the age of two and when she turned sixteen she moved to Austria where she now lives.

She was educated as a pianist in the conservatories of Helsinki and Vienna. She is also a composer.

Diana works as a freelance journalist, writing articles about cinema.

She is the founder and director of the Prague Independent Film Festival since 2016.

Diana Ringo speaks fluently English, Russian, German and Finnish. She is a citizen of Finland.

