

Director: Barış Atay Writer: Onur Orhan









Aras and Marba are husbandand-wife travelers who had to leave their homeland because of conflicts. They cross deserts and mountains on foot, almost starving, hoping to be able to start a new life somewhere. When their endurance is at an end, while they are on top of a mountain, they see a house in the middle of a large, green field. They knock on the door, having agreed among each other to present themselves as

## synopsis

siblings rather than husband and wife. Specifically Marba wishes so, because Aras is a beautiful woman and Marba is scared of the possibility of being killed by men who would want his wife for themselves.

Their hosts Niac and Bocaj answer the door with guns. When these two travelers become guests in their house, the struggle for power between Niac, the tough-looking older brother, and Bocaj, the talkative one, escalates even more. They both want to get with Aras using their own methods. Bocaj acts playful, while Niac has a more menacing

behavior. But these two share a big secret: They once attempted to kill their brother Fesoj. Years ago, Niac and Bocaj were jealous of the attention their parents were giving to Fesoj who was a beautiful baby, and they threw him into a well. Fesoj didn't die but became disabled. He lost his ability to speak and he kind of started to act like an animal. So, Bocaj treats him like his pet.

As Bocaj is constantly around Aras trying to flirt with her, Niac makes an unexpected gesture and gives gifts to the young woman. Bocaj counters this move by sharing their secret with Aras. By introducing her to Fesoj, he thinks he can maybe form some sort of bond with her as accomplices. Bocaj has also peeped on Aras while she was taking a bath and realized that she is pregnant and that Marba is her husband.

Tensions reach a breaking point when Niac goes into Aras' room and rapes her. Now, the hostility among the occupants of the house is out in the open. Marba tries to run away with Aras, but Niac catches them and kills Marba. Aras realizes that only she can save herself and decides

to run away, but she also releases Fesoj as she leaves the house. Meanwhile, Bocaj builds up his courage and decides to kill Niac. Niac shoots Bocaj, and Fesoj injures Niac. While the two brothers, now two enemies covered in blood, are fighting each other, Aras and Fesoj make a run for their freedom.



Even long before I became an actor and a director, I believed that motion pictures had the power to document every single moment of our lives. There was something else I noticed, something that really impressed me: Every good director has a unique personal approach to the stories they decide to film, which makes their films one of a kind. Because of this, the many films that focus on social issues are shot with different emotions and different methods, but they still leave their mark on history, eternalizing and universalizing the era in which they take place.

participating in them but by looking into the processes and the results of them. Due to its geographical location, my homeland has always been a key stop on a road of involuntary migration. This enabled me to get a feel for some of these wars and see the tragedies involving the victims up-close.

I'm a director who grew up near the Turkey-Syria border, therefore, it was impossible for me to not be affected by the war that was happening right next to us. So, as a citizen of what may be called a Middle Eastern and the location should remain

Humanity in a vicious cycle... Everybody who has ever had to leave their hometown and look for a new place to live is the same. Both 5000 years ago and in a post-apocalyptic future...

# director's commentary

Aden is more than just a story about a couple who take shelter in a house belonging to two brothers who are trying to one up each other in a fight for power. It is also a movie about a vicious cycle that has kept going throughout the history of humanity. Settlement, civilization, being in power, war and destruction...

Even though I haven't even been alive for too long, I have witnessed many wars, not by country, I wanted the characters to reflect some of the prominent aspects of the lands I live in. But what I had to be careful about the most was the universal themes: Power and human nature, the will and desire to achieve power, manhood and womanhood, war and immigration... These themes apply to the whole world. Thousands of years of civilization have been shaped by these themes. Knowing that Aden focuses on these big issues, I decided that the time period



Aden not only talks about the disruptiveness of war and the individual and social effects of its tragic consequences, but also focuses on the fight for power and the social issues women experience in a male-dominated society. In order to present a different perspective, we decided to create a post-apocalyptic atmosphere. We believe that this was the best way to address these age-old issues, no matter where or when they appear. We hope to be able to draw attention to what has been happening with societies and people that we have never come in contact with.

He was born in Germany on the 22nd of September, in 1981. He graduated from elementary school and high school in Antakya and entered the Department of Biology at Cukurova University. He dropped out in his senior year, took an aptitude test and entered the Department of Theatre at Yeditepe University. After graduation, he got his master's degree in Cinema and Television

# barış atay

Arts from Kadir Has University. Atay appeared in a number of TV movies, theatre plays and motion pictures that have been nominated for many awards, some of which they won. His directorial debut "Lack" was screened during the Istanbul Film Festival. It also received the award for best supporting actor in the Adana Golden Boll Film Festival and the award for best actor in Malatya Film Festival. The film was also screened in the Montreal World Film Festival and the Channai Film Festival.

### cast





"YOU'RE ASKING ME IF I RESISTED. CAN YOU RESIST HIM? HE PUTS THE MEAT ON THE TABLE, YOU CAN'T OPPOSE HIM. HE LOADS THE RIFLES, YOU CAN'T OPPOSE HIM."



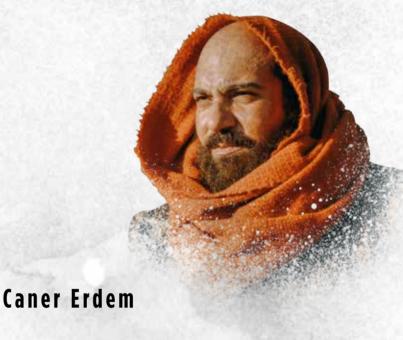






- MARBA

"YOU ARE A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN AND I DON'T WANT TO DIE BECAUSE OF YOU. SO, IF ANYONE ASKS WHO I AM TO YOU, JUST SAY THAT YOU ARE MY SISTER."

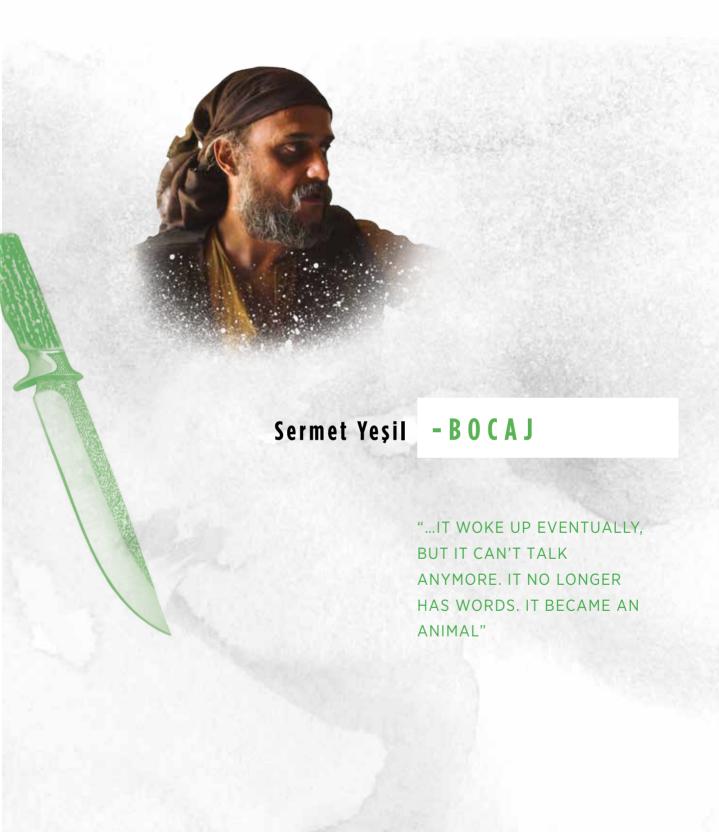


### -NIAC

## Cemalettin Çekmece

"YOU LOSE SOME GAMES, BUT THOSE
GAMES DON'T REALLY MATTER.
SOMETIMES, YOU SAVE YOUR BEST MOVE,
YOUR GRAND MOVE FOR THE FINAL GAME.
YOUR OPPONENT THINKS THAT THEY
HAVE WON, BUT THEN YOU TAKE
EVERYTHING."





# director



Barış Atay

writer

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