

FILM: FATIMA



Film Title: **FATIMA**
 Director: **Phillipe Faucon**
 Writer: **Phillipe Faucon**
 Year of Production: **2015**
 Original language: **French, Arabic**
 Subtitles: **English, Portuguese, French**

FILM SYNOPSIS

Fatima lives on her own with two daughters to support: 15-year old Souad, a teenager in revolt, and 18-year old Nesrine, who is starting medical school. Fatima speaks French poorly and is constantly frustrated by her daily interactions with her daughters. Her pride and joy, they are also a source of worry. To ensure the best possible future for them, she works odd hours as a cleaning woman. One day, she takes a fall on the stairs. On leave, Fatima begins to write to her daughters in Arabic that which she has never been able to express in French.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS

PORTUGUESE FOCUS GROUP FEEDBACK ON FATIMA

"Thematically, a very serious and deep approach of immigrant's insertion problems, considering 1st generations (parents, the first comers) and 2nd generations (children, already born in Europe and squeezed between two very different cultures). Visually, I liked very much the "documental-type", although being a fictional story."

"Deep and detailed."

"In addition to the integration problem, the protagonist also deals with the problem of generational conflict."

"The protagonist's ability to maintain her lucidity within a world she does not know (language, habits, culture). She struggles for her daughter to be a doctor and has yet to deal with a rebellious daughter and envious neighbours."

"Fatima is a strong women fighting for offering better conditions to her daughters, in spite constantly being frustrated with her daily interactions with them. She works odd hours as a cleaning woman. She writes to her daughters in Arabic, which she has never been able to express in French. And expresses in a clear way her feelings, thoughts and the struggle to facilitate the integration of their daughters in the French society. Surely a narrative with which refugees can easily identify and be an inspiring source for their own processes of inclusion."

FILM TRAILER LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHM9rSskaqw>

Film available to buy on DVD