A young boy with dark hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, is shown in a close-up shot. He is looking off to the left with a thoughtful or slightly sad expression. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a room with a window. The lighting is soft and natural.

a film by Mehrdad Hassani

Adjustment

Short Film Press Kit

Tagline

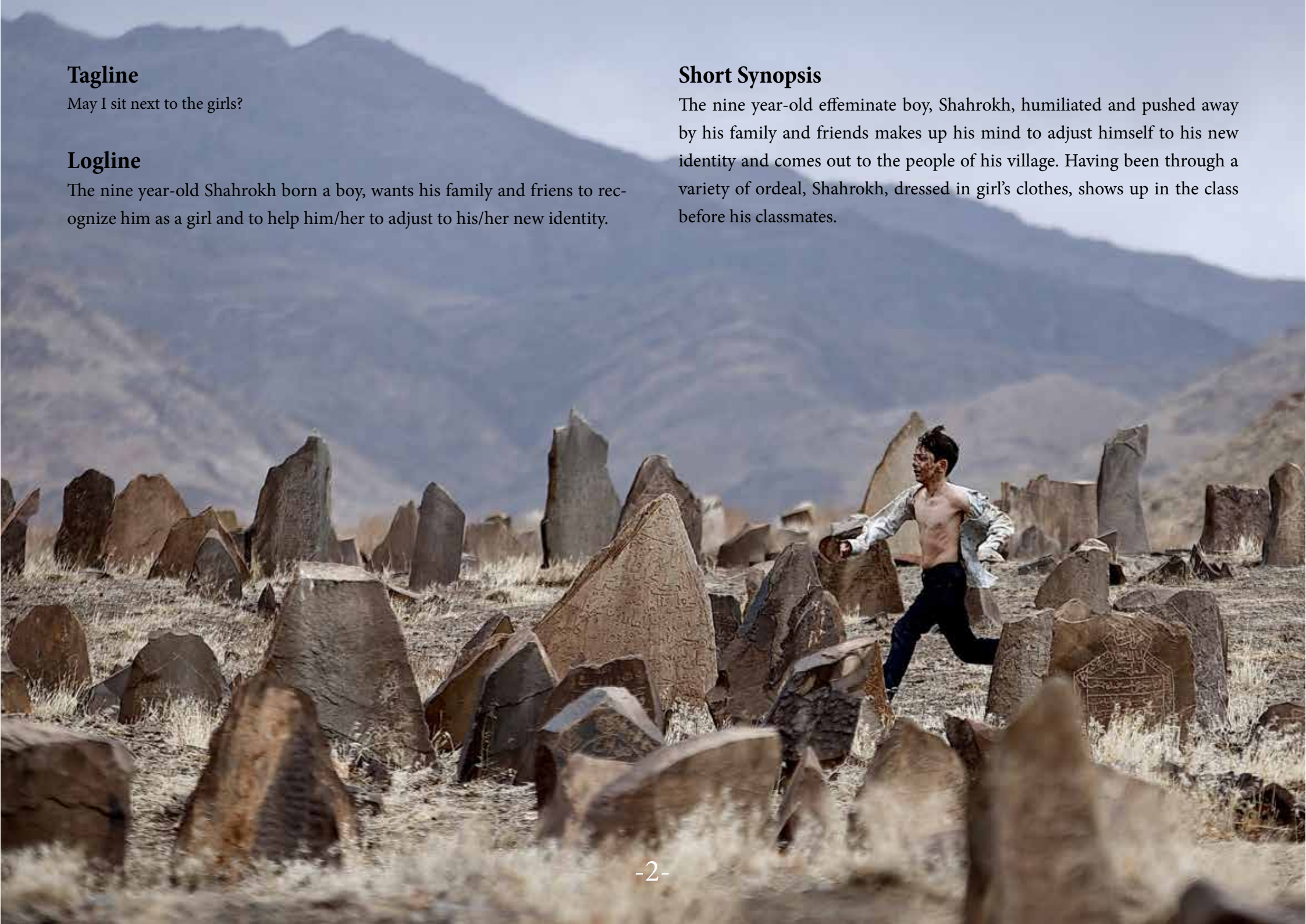
May I sit next to the girls?

Logline

The nine year-old Shahrokh born a boy, wants his family and friends to recognize him as a girl and to help him/her to adjust to his/her new identity.

Short Synopsis

The nine year-old effeminate boy, Shahrokh, humiliated and pushed away by his family and friends makes up his mind to adjust himself to his new identity and comes out to the people of his village. Having been through a variety of ordeal, Shahrokh, dressed in girl's clothes, shows up in the class before his classmates.



Full Synopsis

Shahrokh sits in the classroom, scraping off his nail polish anxiously. The Villagers complain the Teacher, calling Shahrokh a wicked boy, who must be kicked out of the school for his effeminacy and the bad effect he may produce on other students. The Teacher asks Shahrokh not to come to school for a few days until he comes up with a solution. In the night, Shahrokh's father asks his son to show him his hands and flips out when he sees one of Shahrokh's hands with painted nails; because the guests are to come to their house to ask for Shahrokh sister's hand and father thinks Shahrokh brings shame on him by his behavior.

Shahrokh's mother asks him not to show up before the guests and spend the night in his aunt's house. Shahrokh leaves the house in the rainy night, heads to a barn to talk to his girl best friend, Ghazal, and gives her a nail polish. Ghazal asks Shahrokh to go since her father strictly forbade her from talking to him.

Shahrokh goes to his aunt's house, but when he arrives there, hesitates for a while, changes his mind, and decides not to get in. Shahrokh goes to the school instead and spends the night in the classroom.

The next morning, Shahrokh awakes to the voice of children playing in the school yard and goes to play with them. The school boys, influenced by their parents, begin to humiliate and beat Shahrokh up. The Teacher comes and separates them. Shahrokh, whose clothes have been tattered, escapes the school.

Shahrokh runs around the village alleys, spotting a pretty dress hanged on the rope through the crack in the wall. Shahrokh runs off with the dress to the village pound, washes his face and hands, and changes his clothes.

The Teacher is dictating letters to the students in the class when Shahrokh, dressed in girl's clothes, comes in. The students laugh at him, but the Teacher defends him.

Shahrokh asks the Teacher to sit next to the girls. The Teacher gives him a thump up and continues dictating letters to the student.





Trailer Link: <https://vimeo.com/735357501>





Director's Biography

Mehrdad Hassani

Mehrdad Hassani is a writer and director, sculptor and a photographer who is from Rafsanjan (one of the desert areas of Iran). He began his artistic career in his teenage years by joining school theater groups as an actor. In his youth, he became interested in sculpture and a few years later, he held a large exhibition of his works in the city of Kerman, which was well noticed and admired by the audience.

Then, at the same time, he enrolled in photography and filmmaking classes of the Iranian Youth Cinema Society, and after passing some specialized courses, he produced some short fiction films, and also participated in feature film making as a director's consultant and costume and scenic designer.

Hassani, successfully completed the directing courses of Mr. Asghar Farhadi and the acting courses of Mr. Hamid Samandarian. He is also a graduate of Bachelor of Art Studies from Sooreh University of Tehran. He has made five fiction short films as a filmmaker so far, which has received more than 38 appearances and 16 international awards.





Director's Statement

In my opinion, drawing political borders and favoring an ethnic group over the others based on their place of birth are as equally absurd and immoral as drawing a line between people on the basis of their gender and sexuality. Sadly, there are still people, in Iran and many other developing countries, who consider people with contrasting sexual orientations as perverts, evils, and threats to their community.

The idea behind making this film goes back to my childhood and my first year in the school when I witnessed the inability of my helpless friend and neighbor next door who had conflicts with his physical characteristics as a boy and was subject to humiliation and rejection from his parents and friends because of his girlish behaviors. I couldn't help him back then, but now I'm delighted that I can draw the people's attention, through this picture, to the questions on whether humans are different from each other or they are inherently equal?

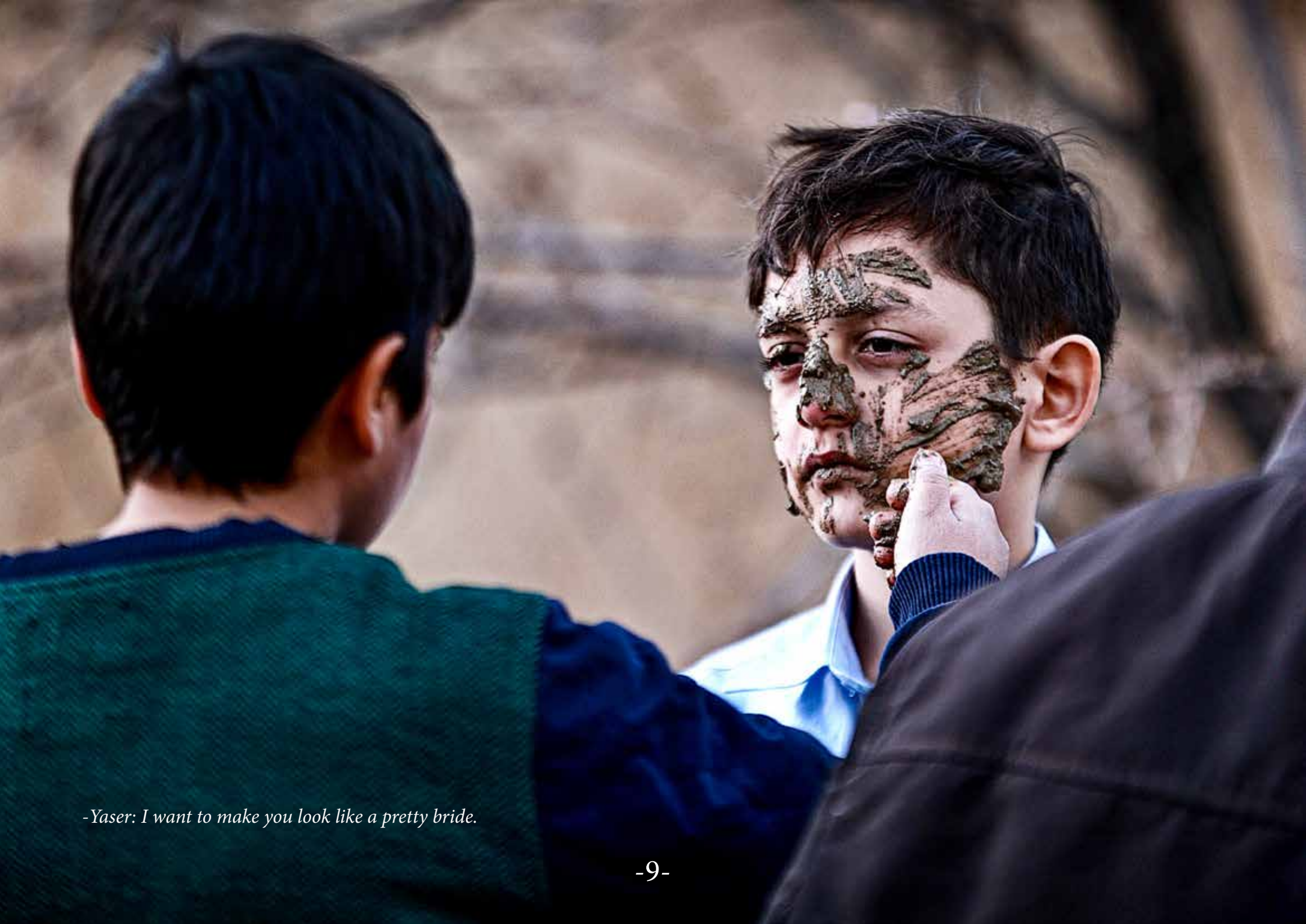
Whether this amount of violence is a product of the collective mind of a sick person persistently trying to ignore the truth? Whether this amount of verbal and physical abuse is normal to happen to a human being for just having different sexual tendencies?; Where this amount of aggression and bias towards such a human being is rooted from? I believe that the world is built on awareness and I try, as much as possible, to align my steps in the path of reaching this goal.

The Filmography of Director

- **Maybe I Know** | 25 min | 2011
- **Silence** | 13 min | 2013
- **Daughter** | 15 min | 2016
- **Sheida's Schoolwork** | 10 min | 2020
- **Adjustment** | 16:30 min | 2021

- Ghazal: I know that you're not a bad boy, Shahrokh.





-Yaser: I want to make you look like a pretty bride.



- Shahrokh: ...

Specifications

Title: Adjustment

Running Time: 16:47

Shooting Format: Blackmagic 4K

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 (2.35.1 Letterbox)

Sound: Stereo / 5.1 Surround Sound

Country of Production: Iran

Year: 2021

Language: Persian

Subtitle: English Subtitle

Cast and Crew Credits

Writer: Farzad Ahmadi

Director: Mehrdad Hassani

Producer: Hassan Mohammadi

Executive Producer: Saeed Zamanian

Director of Photography: Pooyan Aghababaei

Cast: Moein Asoudeh - Mansour Nasiri - Fatemeh Moradi

Costume Designer: Sepideh Dastineh | **Set Designer:** Mehrdad Hassani

Editor: Majid Taremi | **Makeup Artist:** Farivar Moayeri

Sound Designer: Hossein Ghochian | **Sound Recordist:** Saman Shahamat

Visual Effect: Afrooz Tavakoli | **Special Effect:** Iman Karimian

Photographer: Mahsa Abbasi | **Graphist:** Mansour Nasiri

Adjustment's Poster





Cast - Biograpy

Mansour Nasiri

Born in 1988 is an Iranian actor. He has started theater since 2009 while he was studying at university. Then he began taking professional acting classes at Samandarian academy in 2011, since then he has played 12 plays, 13 Cinematic projects (Shortfilms, Features, TV series) Like: "Magralen" (Short Film, 2019), "Just 6.5" (Feature, 2019), "Siyavash" (TV Series, 2021), "The Mansour" (Feature, released in international Fajr Festival 2021 in Iran).

He has played the Leading Role in the play "Glengarry GlenRoss" (by David Mamet) in 2013 and the Leading Role in the play "An Enemy of the People" (by Henrik Ibsen) in 2016.




He won Baran independant theatre festival award for the second best actor for the play "An Enemy of the People" in 2016 and won Omid independant theatre festival award for the second best actor for the play "The Most Honest Murderer of the World" in 2012.

He also has three directing experiences, for one of which he won Omid independant theatre festival award for best director for directing the play "The Most Honest Murderer of the World" in 2012.

He works in movies and would like to experience the international cinematic projects as well.



Filmography

-  - **Magralen (2019) - Role: Father**
Shortfilm by Maryam Zarei
 Berlinale 2019 | Linz 2019 | Edmonton 2019
 Odense 2019 | Unicef 2019
Unicef Iran best short film award
- **In Land's Way (2020) - Role: Father**
Shortfilm by Payam Rezaei
Best experimental short film award in Tehran shortfilm festival 2020
- **Cannibal (2020) - Role: The Husband**
Shortfilm by Ramin Samani | Alpinal 2021
- **Just 6.5 (2019) - Role: Prison Guard**
Feature Film by Saeed Roustayi
- **Siyavash (2021) - Role: Butcher**
TV Series by Soroush Mohammadzadeh
- **Adjustment (2021) - Role: Teacher**
Shortfilm by Mehrdad Hassani





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Adjustment

a film by Mehrdad Hassani

2022

**DARK
ROOM**

