

Synopsis of „Leonids Story“

A Soviet family searching for a modest paradise is swept into an immense disaster. This magically animated film combines drawing, photography and documentary video to capture the surreal emotions of the too-real tragedy: Chernobyl 1986.

Leonid grew up in the village next to the reactor. The catastrophe broke his life, ruined his health, and threatened his unborn child. Yet his work takes him right into the contaminated zone. This animated film tells his story.

The film comprehends the development of this world disaster through the destiny of the protagonist and his family. The small episodes reconstruct the emotional dimension of the tragedy: The children which run to the burning reactor, getting a look on the spectacular drama, the unsuspecting village people in the surrounded area, the animals which remain behind after the evacuation, and the helpless tries of mankind to eliminate the follows of the nuclear disaster, accompanied with the faceless, communist Sovjet system.

After all there is a happy end: The triumph of life over the catastrophe.