

THE EMIGRANT

10:00:12:00

My name's Maciek Stolarczyk.
I'm 11.

10:00:22:00

I go to school in Jaworzno, Poland.

10:00:28:00

Tomorrow my dad's off to England
to drive a bus there.

10:00:40:00

Mom, my sis and I are going
there in two months.

10:00:49:00

For ever, I guess.

10:01:00:00

Maciej, let's pack up
all of this, OK?

10:01:05:00

We'll put these in.

10:01:09:00

I'll zip it up on this side.

10:01:21:00

You'll be the only guy left
home.

10:01:05:00

Unfortunately, nothing comes easy.

10:01:27:00

You know how it is.
We've talked it over a lot.

10:01:30:00

So I hope

you'll manage here.

10:01:35:00

- Am I right?

- Maybe...

10:01:38:00

Maybe...

10:01:41:00

I don't remember exactly

10:01:45:00

when I learned

of our leaving for England.

10:01:50:00

Somehow I didn't quite get it.

10:01:56:00

I've never been to England,
though my folks have.

10:02:01:00

They said it's great over there,
that we'd be better off.

10:02:12:00

Dad has a job over there,

10:02:16:00

but he has sometimes been
unemployed here.

10:02:21:00

- You got a job there?

- Yes, I've signed a contract.

10:02:30:00

The first days may be
no great shakes.

10:02:32:00

They're going to show us
the depot

10:02:35:00
and what we'll be doing there,

10:02:33:00
where to drive and so on.
It'll be tough at first.

10:02:42:00
Aren't you scared of flying?

10:02:44:00
Why? Didn't you bring me
my parachutist license yourself?

10:02:50:00
But you don't fly a plane
with a parachute on.

10:02:51:00
I'll have to look around
if they have a spare one.

10:03:04:00
Tomorrow at 4 a.m. we'll rise
in time for Dad to catch his train.

10:03:10:00
We've got everything.

10:03:11:00
Dad will go to Warsaw
and then fly to England.

10:03:43:00
Maciek..

10:04:38:00

Jaworzno is near mountains.

10:04:44:00

In winter, its slopes offer
good sledding.

10:04:50:00

We sometimes go on
trips with my class,

10:04:55:00

which we enjoy very much,

10:04:58:00

as there are no classes
or grades then,

10:05:03:00

but our teacher will teach us
something on a trip anyway.

10:05:15:00

Now we'll play Simon Says...

10:05:20:00

You will do my bidding only
after I say, "Simon says," first.

10:05:29:00

- You all get it?
- Yes.

10:05:57:00

I have a friend Jarek.

10:06:00:00

We play computer games together,

10:06:03:00

and we like to play football
and basketball too.

10:06:21:00

For a long time I did not
tell him

10:06:23:00

that I'd be leaving for England
for good.

10:06:26:00

He'd ask me persistently,
but I wouldn't talk about it.

10:06:31:00

- When are you leaving?
- In two months or so...

10:06:37:00

That's great.

10:06:39:00

When you go to school,
will your English be enough?

10:06:44:00

I may study a little more
or I may not.

10:06:49:00

That's fine.

10:06:53:00

Welcome you all
on the last day of school.

10:06:59:00

You just finished your 4th grade,
that was a breakthrough,

10:07:04:00

since you'd had so many subjects
and teachers for the first time.

10:07:08:00

That was quite a challenge
but you managed excellently.

10:07:13:00

Maciek, you seem to be
through with this ceremony

10:07:19:00

and the farewell.

10:07:22:00

How to Make Distress Calls

10:07:24:00

I'm sure you'll
have it good in England.

10:07:26:00

You'll find good friends,
have a fine school.

10:07:29:00

The girls have prepared
a song for you.

10:07:33:00

When next Friday the sun shines,

10:07:36:00

Maciek will take to the sky

10:07:39:00

So Farewell, we all say

10:07:42:00

We will miss you night and day.

10:07:46:00

You have only one class here

10:07:50:00

Our one and only Grade 4A

10:07:55:00

Good luck!

10:07:58:00

So don't care about any other

10:07:59:00

Since you're one of us.

10:08:02:00

When you feel fenced in there,

10:08:04:00

Come back right away to your class..

10:08:09:00

I flew to England by plane.

10:08:14:00

Right at the start,

I felt pushed back into my seat.

10:08:19:00

During the landing, the pilot
took such a violent turn

10:08:22:00

that I thought I'd fall out of my seat.

10:08:27:00
Next we landed
at Liverpool Airport,

10:08:32:00
where Dad was waiting for us.

10:08:34:00
I was very happy to see him.

10:08:41:00
Next, along with Dad and
his friend,

10:08:45:00
we went to the small town of Crewe.

10:08:49:00
Dad showed me my house there.

10:08:55:00
I was very happy
to get a room of my own.

10:09:07:00
I got to know
the neighborhood quite soon.

10:09:14:00
First I'd walk the streets
nearby not to get lost.

10:09:23:00
Since Crewe is not big,

10:09:25:00
I knew its major
thoroughfares quite soon.

10:09:29:00

Now I often walk alone,

10:09:31:00

trying to spot the bus
that Dad is driving.

10:09:35:00

He works a lot as a driver
in a bus company.

10:09:40:00

I sometimes jump onto his bus

10:09:43:00

and have an opportunity
to talk to him.

10:09:54:00

- Hi.

- Hi, Maciek. What's new?

10:10:10:00

- Where's Mom?

- Home.

10:10:05:00

- Are you going shopping or not?

- Yeah...

10:10:08:00

- What time will you be back?

- At 12:30 a.m.

10:07:08:00

About 12:30 a.m., Maciek.

10:10:34:00

I like the days when
Mom and Dad can stay home.

10:10:39:00
Then we visit Crewe parks
together.

10:10:42:00
It's great here.

10:10:53:00
What's odd but fine
at the same time

10:10:56:00
is that you can walk on
and even play ball on the grass.

10:11:15:00
What ice cream?
Medium?

10:11:30:00
I'm going to school tomorrow,
scared a bit.

10:11:33:00
In truth very much scared
that I won't be able to get along.

10:12:08:00
Good. I'm outta here.
Take care. Bye.

10:12:26:00
This is Maciek.

10:13:43:00
So tell me
how was the school.

10:13:47:00

How was it?

What classes did you have?

10:13:52:00

Information science, gym...

10:13:54:00

- What was first?

- Gym.

10:13:58:00

How did you practice
without an outfit?

10:14:01:00

In my uniform.

10:14:03:00

How about your classmates?

10:14:06:00

- English all?

- Yeah?

10:14:08:00

You don't say?

How did you get along?

10:14:13:00

So it's chin up tomorrow
and off to school again.

10:14:15:00

- Unfortunately.

- How will you manage then?

10:14:27:00

You think you'll manage?

10:14:35:00

I have no idea.

10:14:42:00

Written and Directed by