



## LOVELESS (Nelyubov)

Spring  
Season  
2018

**Release:** 2017

**Cert (UK):** 15

**Country:** Russia

**Language:** Russian with English Subtitles

**Runtime:** 2 hour 7 mins

**Director:** Andrei Zvyagintsev

**Writer:** Oleg Negin, Andrey Zvyagintsev

**Cinematographer:** Mikhail Krichman

**Cast:** Maryana Spivak, Aleksey Rozin, Matvey Novikov



'Loveless' is the story set in 2012 Moscow of an unloved Russian boy Alexey, neither of whose unlikeable divorcing parents, Boris and Zhenya, want to take him with them and who disappear one day. It's two days later before they notice their son's disappearance after a call from his school, so wrapped up are they in their new lovers.

We see glimpses of Andrei Zvyagintsev's

views of modern Russian society in other hard characters such as Zhenya's mother, described by her son in law as 'Stalin in a skirt'.

The longer second half of the film is the sometimes desultory search the couple make for their son, the disinterest of the police and the contracting activity of the volunteer group who take up the search. It is shot in muted colours with a background of unremittingly bad national news.

The whole film shows a depressing view of middle class Russian capitalism where money and smartphones are shown as far more important than family responsibilities.

Directed by Andrei Zvyagintsev ('Elena', 'Leviathan'), it won the Jury prize at Cannes and best film at the London Film Festival last year and has been nominated for an Oscar and a Golden Globe.

*The pristine and merciless new film from Andrey Zvyagintsev begins out in the cold, and its temperature just keeps dropping from there.* – Robbie Collin, *Telegraph*.

