

NIKOLAY TOKAREV

ALEKSANDRA BUTENKO

ANTONINA MARYUSHKO

EKATERINA VOSKRESENSKAYA

DIRECTOR —
SARDANA MARKOVA

WRITER — VICTORIA SHCHERBINA
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY — EGOR DODONOV
EDITOR — VLADISLAV SUKHODOLSKY
ORIGINAL MUSIC BY — MOISEY KOPYAKOV
PRODUCTION DESIGNER — ANNA DUMITSKAIA
MAKEUP ARTIST — ALEKSANDRA LASTOCHKINA

THE LAST BELL

Moscow
Film
School

Film Information

Key information for film festivals, press, and industry professionals



Original Title	Последний звонок
International Title	The Last Bell
Format	Narrative Short Film
Genre	Psychological Thriller, Drama
Running Time	21 min 30 sec
Country / Year	Russia / 2026
Language	Russian, with English subtitles
Completion Date	29 July 2026
Production	An independent student film by Sardana Markova, made at Moscow Film School
Premiere Status	No public screenings to date; world premiere status available



LOGLINE

Dasha, a graduating high school senior, sets out to expose a charismatic tutor she believes is responsible for her friend’s death. As she tries to uncover the truth, she learns details that force her to reconsider what justice means.

SYNOPSIS

Quiet and withdrawn, 18-year-old Dasha is constantly criticized by her mother for being “lazy” and “listless.” She cannot come to terms with the death of her best friend. Dasha suspects that Viktor Borisovich, 57, a teacher at a local college, is responsible for her friend’s death. Charming and charismatic, he skillfully conceals a much darker side.

Dasha is convinced that he is the man who took her friend away from her. Her friend was the only person she truly felt close to, a girl with “fire in her eyes” who “had her whole life ahead of her.”

For several months, Dasha has been taking private lessons with Viktor Borisovich while preparing for her social studies exam. Yet the “ruthless” predator seems to have no interest in her. Dasha decides to provoke him. During their next lesson, she makes it clear that she knows who he really is and intends to tell everyone.

Unfazed by her accusation, Viktor Borisovich reveals what he has been doing for years. His revelations force Dasha to reconsider her understanding of justice and take justice into her own hands. But Viktor Borisovich’s plan proves far more sinister and disturbing than she ever imagined.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



The Last Bell grew out of my interest in true crime stories. I have never been interested in violence for its own sake. What has always drawn my attention is a different question: how a person can find themselves in danger, why a threat may remain unrecognized until it is too late, and what prevents someone from trusting their own intuition.

The film carries a warning: danger does not always look obvious. Sometimes it hides behind charm, intelligence, and the familiar comfort of an ordinary domestic space. The most charismatic people can also be the ones who are especially skilled at manipulating trust.

For me, this film is not about cruelty as spectacle. It is about naivety and the attempt to survive in a world where evil can appear human, charming, and deceptively safe.

DIRECTOR

Sardana Markova

Director, producer, VFX artist



Sardana Markova is a director, producer, and VFX artist from Yakutsk, the capital of the Sakha Republic (Yakutia) in northeastern Siberia, Russia. Wait need correct. Let's produce without typo. Full. Must be careful. Use "northeastern Siberia, Russia." Good.

She came to filmmaking through jewelry craft, visual arts, and VFX. After working as a jeweler, she studied Visual Effects at Moscow Film School and began developing her own film projects as a director and producer.

In 2026, Sardana was accepted into the Directing program at Moscow Film School, where she will study with Alexey Popogrebsky and Pavel Bardin. Her short film *The Last Bell* was completed in 2026.



Cinematographers

Director: Sardana Markova

Writer: Victoria Shcherbina

Director of Photography: Egor Dodonov

Production Designer: Anna Dumitskaia

Editor: Vladislav Sukhodolsky

Sound: Svetlana Mikhailova

Original Music by: Moisey Kobaykov

Makeup Artist: Alexandra Lastochkina

Cast

Nikolay Tokarev — Viktor Borisovich

Aleksandra Butenko — Dasha

Antonina Maryushko — Ksyusha

Ekaterina Voskresenskaya — Dasha's Mother



FESTIVAL MATERIALS

Stills from the Film



Technical Information

Production Format	Digital
Festival Screener	MP4 / H.264 / 1920 × 1080 / 25 fps / burned-in English subtitles
Screening Copy	DCP available
Aspect Ratio	16:9
Sound	Stereo / 24-bit / 48 kHz
Original Language	Russian
Subtitle Files	English SUBs (.srt file) available
Rights	International festival rights are held by Sardana Markova
IMDb	https://www.imdb.com/title/tt38694504/

Festival Contact

Sardana Markova — Director, Producer and Rights Holder

Email RUS: contact.sardana.markova@yandex.com

Email ENG: sardana.mrk@gmail.com

Location: Moscow, Russia

IMDb Pro: <https://pro.imdb.com/name/nm17473770>

Kinopoisk: <https://www.kinopoisk.ru/film/12010762>