



the ascanio celestini giorgio tirabassi maya sansa

# black sheep

a film by ascanio celestini

with ascanio celestini giorgio tirabassi maya sansa luisa de santis nicola rignanesi barbara valmorin luigi fedele  
director of photography danièle cipri editing giorgio franchini production design tommaso bordone costume design grazia colombini  
sound design maurizio argentieri production manager antonella viscardi a.p.a.i. story and screenplay ascanio celestini ugo chitti wilma labate  
based on the book la pecora nera by ascanio celestini executive producer passione  
produced by alessandra acciai carlo macchitella giorgio magliulo directed by ascanio celestini

madeleine

Rai Cinema

deluxe

Premiere

DOLBY DIGITAL

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BETA CINEMA



**Director** Ascanio Celestini

**Cast** Ascanio Celestini  
Maya Sansa  
Giorgio Tirabassi  
Luigi Fedele

**Genre** Dramedy

**Language** Italian

**Length** 93 min

**Produced by** Madeleine in collaboration with Rai Cinema  
and BIM Distribuzione



## THE BLACK SHEEP

### SYNOPSIS

Nicola is a young boy who was born in the country during the Sixties, with his mother sent to an asylum, his father and his two brothers that are shepherds and his grandma rearing chickens that takes care of him.

At school he's banished to the last desk, he's absent-minded, he doesn't do his homework and the teacher calls him "the black sheep", but he loves Marinella, the most beautiful girl of his class and when he's not lost in her eyes or blonde hair, Nicola tells about extraterrestrials and women licking naked men; to show everybody he's brave, he eats spiders still alive.

A crime committed by his brothers, falls on the dangerous kid that talks about aliens; Nicola becomes a troublesome witness and his reckless family sends him to the asylum where his mother died and where nobody will listen to him when he talks. A guest, not a patient, in a place that feeds him and puts him up.

Following a second tragic event of which the responsibility falls on him again and after having suffered brutal treatments, Nicola develops another identity by inventing a friend, a technician, that keeps him company.

There will be two different actors to play Nicola's split personality, generating a slight touch of humour. Then Nicola meets Marinella, the beloved of his childhood, at the supermarket where he often goes accompanied by the old nun that has known him since then. In a sweet love atmosphere, Nicola pluck up courage to declare his love still there after 35 years, while the other one, ignored by the surrounding world, comments with risqué talks.

The joy of finding her again and the deep sorrow after her clear refusal, give Nicola the possibility of recovering himself, getting rid of the imaginary friend.

### THE DIRECTOR

Ascanio Celestini, born in Rome in 1972, is working as an actor and writer. His writing is based on field research and investigation in memory of recent events and issues of modern history and public imaginary. "Radio Clandestina," "Scemo di guerra", "La pecora nera (The Black Sheep)" and "Appunti per un film sulla lotta di classe" are some of the shows that he's performing in Italy and abroad. He's the author of the documentary "Senza paura," and the album "Parole Sante". For several years, he has been author and actor in the show "Parla con me," by Serena Dandini on RaiTre. His books are published by Einaudi and Donzelli. "The Black Sheep" is his first film as director.

