

'Awareness': A convoluted science-fiction thriller leaves more questions than answers



CHENNAI: "Awareness" premiered at the recent Malaga Film Festival and has now hopped on to Amazon Prime. Helmed by Daniel Benmayor, the science-fiction thriller in Spanish is awfully convoluted and traces the life of a young man with superhuman ability.

Ian (played with strange mannerisms that suit the character wonderfully) lives with his father, Vincente (Pedro Alonso), on a rusty boat that is falling to pieces. The father uses Ian's supernatural powers to commit petty crimes that help them to get by.

However, it is not all smooth sailing for them. When a robbery goes wrong, they became the targets of a mysterious outfit, termed Awareness, and a killer (Oscar Jaenada) who interestingly has powers similar to Ian's. Adding to this is a third dimension: The Mule. Not just this, there is also Adriana (Lela Loren), who wants to take the help of Ian to vanquish their common enemy.

Vicious forces are out to destroy the boy, and Awareness leads the brigade. The organisation appears to be controlling every politician, and there emerges a darkly disturbing theory. Layers woven into layers, conspiracies knitted together, they turn out to be confusion confounded, because the screenplay makes little attempt to clarify them. As the credits roll by, we are still left with many questions.
