

MOVIE

RECOMMENDATION

PLASTIC CHINA

- **Movie Name:** Plastic China
- **Director:** Jiu-Liang Wang
- **Run Time:** 81m
- **Year of Release:** 2016

Plastic China is a powerful and eye-opening documentary directed by Wang Jiuliang that dives into the hidden world of global plastic waste. The film follows the life of a young girl and her family working in a makeshift recycling workshop in rural China, exposing the harsh realities behind the plastic we throw away. Through raw, unfiltered storytelling, it sheds light on environmental injustice, poverty, and the global consequences of plastic pollution.

This film reminds us that our discarded plastic doesn't just vanish — it travels, it affects lives, and it leaves a lasting footprint on both people and the planet.

PLOT SYNOPSIS

Plastic China (2016) is a documentary that delves into the lives of a family working in a plastic recycling workshop in rural China. The story centers on an 11-year-old girl, Yi-Jie, who lives with her family in a small village where they work with massive amounts of discarded plastic waste, much of it imported from wealthier countries. The film captures their daily struggles as they manually sort, melt, and repurpose the plastic, often in harsh and unsafe conditions.

Yi-Jie's parents, along with many others in the community, rely on this work as their primary source of income. However, the impact of the plastic industry is far from just economic; it also takes a toll on their health, as the family members are constantly exposed to toxic fumes and dangerous chemicals from the plastic they handle. Despite the challenges, Yi-Jie dreams of escaping this life and going to school, offering a poignant contrast between her innocent hopes and the grim reality she faces.

The documentary highlights the broader issue of plastic waste and the global chain of disposal, revealing how the trash of industrialized nations often ends up in developing regions, where it harms both people and the environment. Through Yi-Jie's perspective, Plastic China explores the environmental, social, and human costs of the world's addiction to plastic.

