

## Tchernobyl - Amélie

**The accident was caused** by the uncontrolled increase in power of reactor number 4, during a badly performed test. This resulted in the loss of control of the reactor core, which exploded.

**To stop the effects of the disaster**, the plant's employees did everything to minimise the accident, firefighters sacrificed themselves, and saved reactor 3. The population of the neighbouring town was evacuated, and 5000 tons of sand were poured on the plant. This last measure was not necessarily wise, as it greatly increased the risk of a thermonuclear explosion, and had to be countered by three plant workers who dove under the reactor in the irradiated water. The Chernobyl liquidators and the biorobots made it possible to build concrete protection around the plant (life span 100 years), which is a time bomb of sorts, but which still prevents certain consequences of the accident.

**This accident has seriously polluted** the entire area around the plant, within a radius of 30 km. Some animals survived the accident, but most died. In addition, the disaster allowed radioactive gases and neutron flux to escape from the reactor, contaminating a large area. The death toll from the accident is still unknown, but it is estimated to be just under one million. The consequences were not only health-related, as the use of nuclear energy was questioned and challenged following the incident.

**Several other nuclear accidents** have occurred around the world. The Fukushima-Daiichi accident in Japan in 2011 is one of them. Like Chernobyl, it was given a severity level of 7 on the INES scale. They are the only ones. It was caused by the Tōhoku earthquake which generated a tsunami. There were very few deaths, unlike Chernobyl, as safety measures were immediately followed. Indeed, only one person died of cancer caused by radiation exposure. 154,000 people were evacuated. Streamer's island is another. Another notable nuclear accident was Three Mile Island, which took place in 1979 in Pennsylvania, USA. This incident was classified as a level 5 on the INES scale. The accident was caused by the incompetence of the plant staff. They failed to identify what was wrong, and this led to an accident of lesser magnitude than Chernobyl, but still significant.

**INES** is the International Nuclear Event Scale. It is a logarithmic scale (the severity of an event increases by a factor of 10 between 2 levels) on which the severity of events is rated from 0 to 7.

**The beginning of the video serves** more to make viewers want to watch the documentary than to inform them. There is a certain amount of staging throughout the video, which serves to capture the attention.

All scientific concepts are explained clearly and concisely, making the documentary accessible to the widest possible demographic.

The video paints a bleak picture of nuclear energy and its effects on public health and the environment.

It is also a kind of tribute to the heroes who sacrificed themselves.