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Author(s)	Sandra Hebron
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Belfast. Maine

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USA

Renowned documentary filmmaker Fred Wiseman (*Titticut Follies*, *Zoo*, *Public Housing*) has chosen the beautiful old New England port of Belfast, Maine as the subject for his 31st film. Although giving a strong sense of the landscape and the physical environment of the town itself, Wiseman's interest is clearly in the people and their ordinary daily lives. The inhabitants go about their work – as lobstermen, tug-boat operators, factory workers, doctors, teachers and policemen amongst others; and their play – at choir rehearsal, dance classes, music lessons and amateur dramatic performances. Filtered through Wiseman's attuned eye, the result is a fascinating community study which invites the audience to understand that America is indeed another country and that ordinary is a highly relative term.
Sandra Hebron

Dir Fred Wiseman / USA 1999 / 248 mins plus 30 mins interval

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