“I’ve seen those beautiful photographs of Earth taken from outer space, and you see clouds and you see the shape of continents . . . but what you don’t see are the colours of each of the countries you see in maps. These invisible lines are created by ideologies, sometimes absurd ones—I have to ask what right do we have to close the door on people that are in need? These complex issues are being thought about in America and Europe, and looked at very differently—how are immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers going to be treated? This is something happening now—the near future is now.”

Cuarón comments in the film’s production notes,