

7 Hours on Earth

A film by the award winning director, Patricia Sharpe From the writer of the 2018 hit movie 'No Sleep Til Christmas'

Here, in a nutshell, is the plot of our story '**7 Hours on Earth**'

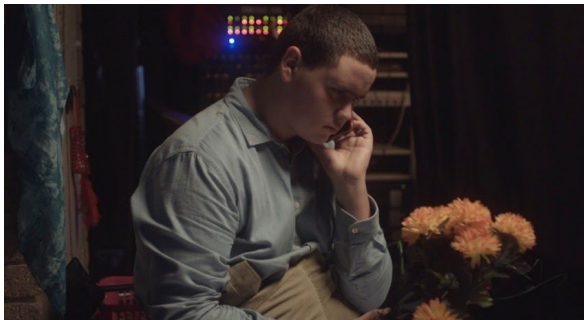
As she is following a course of cognitive behavioural therapy, a teenage girl decides to change her behaviour to tackle her low self-esteem. This includes dumping her newly- acquired boyfriend (really not cool enough), falling out with her best friend, (too pretty and popular), trying to get her boyfriend back (because he moves onto said best friend), and ending up far more miserable than before. This all gets noticed by a being with super- powers, who takes pity on the girl and tries to help her get the boy she wants and believe in herself. He makes a terrible mess of it. But in the end it all works out – but not exactly how you'd expect.



This is also pretty close to the plot of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. So the idea is, we steal his plot, which he stole from somewhere else anyway, and use it to make something rather contemporary – a comedy about what

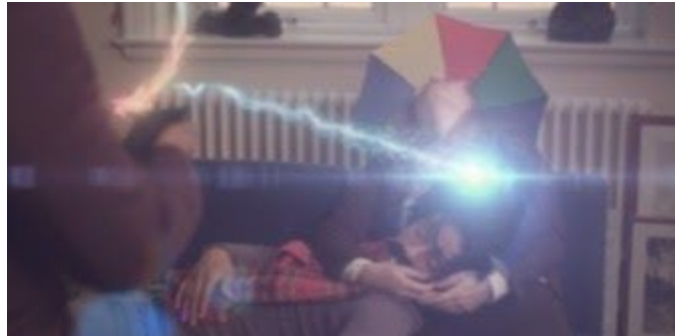
happens when some perfectly normally hormonal South London teenagers have a close encounter with aliens who have been downloaded into the bodies of their Headmaster, Deputy Head and several of the kids they are at school with.

It's all set on the balmy summer night of the school play – *Romeo and Juliet* – just as last minute rehearsals are revealing how ropy and unready it still is. Super-confident best friend, Charlotte is supposed to be doing make-up but has stolen a set of school keys and is planning a double-date night of beer and debauchery in the Art Room, for herself and her hot boyfriend, Louis, and Helen (our CBT girl) and her new nervous boyfriend,



Dan. Just as the school day ends and the play frenzy starts, there's a kerfuffle in the pink- streaked evening sky. Half a dozen disembodied alien entities are transitioning between dimensions when something goes wrong and they have to take the emergency procedure of downloading themselves into the nearest available bodies. With various unearthly squeaks and static-laden panic transmissions, they are flung into the bodies of the occupants of the Headmaster's office – just as he disciplines some naughty year 7s and 8s, including Milly, a notorious mischief-maker.

The aliens have access to the memories of the people they have been put into, but a lot of what humans think and do makes no sense at all. They figure out who they are, and get out into the school trying to look normal. They soon catch on to the Helen/Charlie, Dan/Louis situation and it becomes clear that in spite of all the differences between the humans and the aliens, there is one bit of common ground: lurve. The being who now inhabits the



Headmaster's body – let's call him Mr King for ease, though Mr King is just his outer shell - was already having a relationship with the being now in the deputy head's body – Veronika for ease - and she was messing him around, just like Dan starts messing

Helen around. Mr King feels empathy for her misery and besides he's got time to kill, so he makes it his mission to help her get with Dan. And along the way, to sort out the disastrous school play which is being wilfully blown- apart by its own actors who all have issues of their own.



Of course, it all goes terribly wrong, with the head alien and his year 8 side kick, Milly, using out-of-this- world technology to make things right; but with all humans looking the same, it ends up with misunderstandings, betrayals, hysterical tears, a ruined script, a honey-trap, a massive brawl - all just as the school governors and audience arrive. It seems no one can be happy at this school, on this night. Not the audience, the actors, the director (the abominable Hugh Jass), the aliens or the

heart-broken teenagers. How does it all end? Who knows? It's a contemporary comedy set in a school, so a double wedding isn't on the cards. Let's just say, no one's grades improve and the aliens do not ever make sense of us humans.
