

It's Not Me, I Swear!

By Felicity Honnef

It's Not Me, I Swear! is a fabulous, funny, and emotional film centred around ten-year-old Leon, a disturbed young boy who was declared normal at birth but who hasn't been normal since. He states that although he isn't made for the world, it seems to be made for him. The film incorporates some of life's most tragic aspects and balances them cleverly with humour, proving there is often a light at the end of the tunnel. The music complements the movie, and the camera angles are like that of a ten-year-old viewing the world.

It's Not Me, I Swear! has a number of different characters, and the relationships between them remain prominent throughout. It is easy to relate to and empathise with the characters, who exemplify feelings of fear, loneliness, embarrassment, suicide, ignorance, desperation, understanding, pain, guilt, restriction, lying, shame, happiness, perfection, freedom, and love. It is an emotional film in which the characters are neither black nor white but instead are shades of grey.

From his mother's abandoning him, his accidental suicidal attempts, and, worst of all, his growing smile and affection for the abused girl, Leah, who lives across the road, Leon has a lot to deal with. Despite all this, Leon continues to make humorous remarks such as 'the best day of my life ended as peacefully as a meteorite hitting a nunnery'. Throughout the film Leon remains true to his character and antics. For reasons such as this it is easy to forgive Leon, as it seems he can do no wrong.

It's Not Me, I Swear! is a clever and cunning comedy. Despite dealing with the worst of life's commodities, it is by no means a dark or terrifying film. Leon's naïve view of the world is touching, leaving the audience to care genuinely about him and his friends. It is a film you will want to watch again and again!