

Edinburgh International Film Festival 2016 Adult Life Skills *****



[tweet_box design="default"]As hilariously quirky as it is tragically poignant, this charming film from first-time director Rachel Tunnard is original and memorable.[/tweet_box]

Anna (Jodie Whittaker) is twenty-nine and has suffered the loss of her twin Billy in circumstances which the film does not explain. In trying to cope with his death she has regressed to the childhood and adolescent model- and film-making she and Billy shared, holed up in the shed of the house of her mother and grandmother (the wonderful sparring partnership of Lorraine Ashbourne and Eileen Davies).

As she approaches her thirtieth birthday, friends Fiona (Rachael Deering) and Brendan (Brett Goldstein) try to support her to embrace life once again but it is her neighbour's child who forces her to face reality.

Set somewhere in rural middle England, the language used is not for those of delicate sensibilities but neither is it gratuitous.

Adult Life Skills was a worthy winner of the Nora Ephron Award at the Tribeca Film Festival (2016).