

Edinburgh International Film Festival 2016 Away ***



[tweet_box design="default"]Sweet, offbeat film from director David Blair which throws together two unlikely and very different characters.[/tweet_box] There are moving performances by desperate Joseph (Timothy Spall) and runaway Ria (an enthralling Juno Temple).

Ria and Joseph end up in Blackpool together, Joseph trying to escape a bereavement which has left him in despair and on the verge of alcoholism, Ria running from her nasty, abusive partner Dex (Matt Ryan).

Trying to sell the drugs haul she has stolen from Dex so that she can liberate herself and her sister Kaz (Hayley Squires), Ria encounters a chillingly sinister Angie (Sharon Lynch) and her minions.

This bittersweet film asks what it is in others than sometimes touches our hearts so completely and unexpectedly that we are prepared to sacrifice our life for someone we have come to love.