

## **The Man Who Wasn't There (15)**

A neo noir Coen brothers film which left a few members a bit bemused (what was the flying saucer all about?) whilst at least one absolutely "loved it".

The film tells the story of how Ed Crane (a mesmeric Billy Bob Thornton), a barber, tried to change his life by blackmailing his wife's boss and lover, and then how everything falls apart. With excellent support from Frances McDormand as Doris, Ed's wife, and others including a very young Scarlett Johansson, Ed narrates the film with the same dry monotone as his goes through life.

The cinematography was brilliant and the set dressing, mood, chain smoking and ambience absolutely spot on for late 1940s California. The script got a bit lost at times (see the flying saucer comment above), but the twist at the end was very well done.

Overall, enjoyable, but maybe not one to see again and again.