



HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE

Spring
Season
2017

Release: 2016

Cert (UK): 12A

Language: English

Runtime: 1 hr 41 mins

Director: Taiki Waititi

Writers: Taiki Waititi from a book by Barry Crump

Cinematographer: Lachlan Milne

Cast: Sam Neill, Julian Dennison, Rima Te Wiata



A mixture of a comedy and an adventure story, this film has pleased audiences around the world, both in festivals and cinemas. The plaudits come mainly for the script and the acting, but expect to enjoy the scenery too.

Rick is a very troubled city boy who is shuffled from foster home to foster home until the only people who will have him are Bella and Hector who live in the middle of nowhere. Against both

Rick's and Hec's will, they all begin to get on, until trouble with the social services drives Rick and then Hec into the bush, and a large manhunt begins...

Once alone in the bush, the repartee between the two takes off and we are taken along on the comedic adventure with them. Sam Neill and the young 'superstar' Julian Dennison are to be thanked for this – their obvious chemistry is commented on by many critics, and you may have seen them being interviewed on tv. The scenery plays its part too, much of the film being set deep in the unique undergrowth of the Kiwi bush.

The humour in the script comes from writer/director Taiki Waititi, who has learnt his trade on tv ('Flight of the Concorde' and 'The Inbetweeners') plus a couple of other films which were big in New Zealand – 'Eagle vs Shark' and 'Boy'. Let's hope we enjoy all this as much as critics and audiences elsewhere have (the film scored 98% from critics, 91% from audiences on Rotten Tomatoes).

