

Short Review: “Men in Black” (1997) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Men in Black (1997). Columbia Pictures, color, 98 min. Director: Barry Sonnenfeld. Writers: Lowell Cunningham (comic) and Ed Solomon. Producers: Laurie MacDonald and Walter F. Parkes. Cast: Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith, Linda Fiorentino, Vincent D’Onofrio, Rip Torn and Tony Shalhoub.

Those men in the black helicopters are not the UN, but rather a secret organization monitoring the activity of extraterrestrials throughout earth from a hidden headquarters in New York City.

A senior Man in Black (Jones) recruits a New York policeman (Smith) to help him collar an ET terrorist (D’Onofrio) who is out to cause trouble for our planet as we know it. It is a fast-moving action film/comedy that never slows down. Jones and Smith are the classic odd couple partners.

Linda Fiorentino adds sex appeal to great comic casting. It also contains great parody on popular urban and rural myths about flying saucers and alien abductions.

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