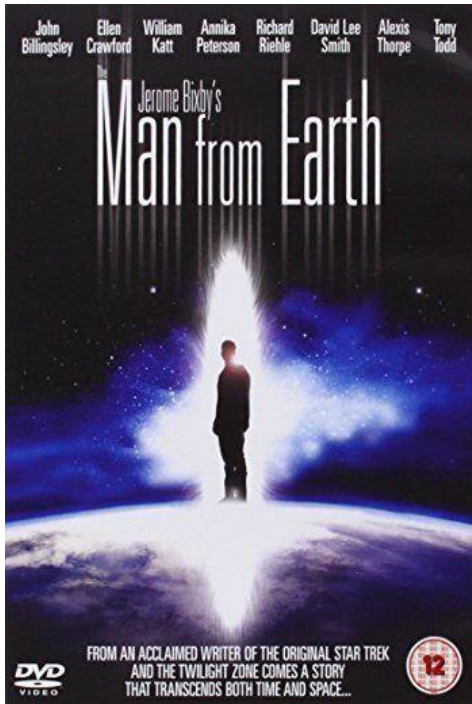


REF: 253

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **Man From Earth**



[1 Disc]

Library Image

ISBN: 5060020626890

ABD4736

## Information

Release Title: **Man From Earth** - 01<sup>st</sup> January 2014

(United Kingdom)

Publication: Also known as: Jerome Bixby's The Man from Earth

Origin: United States

Release date: United States – 10<sup>th</sup> June 2007

AKA:

Genres: Drama, Fantasy, Mystery, Sci-Fi

Disc Nos. 1

Certification: PG

Duration: 1hr 27m

Region Code:

Region:

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations: Agua Dulce Movie Ranch - 34855 Petersen Road, Agua Dulce, California, USA

Sound mix: Dolby Digital

Aspect Ratio: 1.78:1

Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Richard Schenkman
Written by	Jerome Bixby
Produced by	Richard Schenkman Eric D. Wilkinson
Starring	David Lee Smith John Billingsley Tony Todd
Cinematography	Afshin Shahidi
Edited by	Neil Grieve
Music by	Mark Hinton Stewart
Distributed by	Anchor Bay Entertainment Shoreline Entertainment
Release date	November 13, 2007
Running time	89 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English
Budget	\$200,000 <sup>[1]</sup>

# 1 - Title: Man from Earth

## Storyline

Professor John Oldman is packing his belongings onto his truck, preparing to move to a new home. His colleagues show up to give him an impromptu farewell party: Harry, a biologist; Edith, an art history professor and devout Christian; Dan, an anthropologist; Sandy, a historian who is in (unrequited) love with John; Art, an archaeologist; and his younger student Linda.

As John's colleagues press him to explain the reason for his departure, he picks up from a reference to Magdalenian cultures by Dan and slowly, and somewhat reluctantly, reveals that he was born in the Palaeolithic period. He states that he has lived for more than 14 millennia, and that he relocates every ten years to keep others from realizing that he does not age. He begins his tale under the guise of a possible science-fiction story, but eventually stops speaking in hypotheticals and begins answering questions from a first-person perspective. His colleagues refuse to believe his story but accept it as a working hypothesis in order to glean his true intentions. John relates he was a Sumerian for 2000 years, later a Babylonian, and eventually went east to become a disciple of the Buddha. He claims to have had a chance to sail with Columbus (admitting that at the time he still believed the earth was flat) and to have befriended Van Gogh (one of whose original paintings he apparently owns, a gift from the artist himself).

In the course of the conversation, each guest questions John's story based on knowledge from their own academic specialty. Harry struggles with how biology could allow for the possibility of a human being living for so long. Art, arguably the most sceptical of the group, questions prehistory. He exclaims that John's answers, although correct, could have come from any textbook; John rejoins that, like any human, his memory is imperfect and he only sees events from his own narrow, hence not omniscient, perspective. Dr Will Gruber, a psychiatry professor who arrives at Art's request later that afternoon, questions if John feels guilt for outliving everyone he has ever known and loved. He then threatens John with a gun (later revealed to have been unloaded) before temporarily leaving. John then learns from Harry that Will's wife had died the previous day after a long illness. John chases after Will, expresses his condolences and John rejoins the group.

The discussion veers to religion, and John mentions that he does not follow any. Even though he does not necessarily believe in an omnipotent God, he does not discount the possibility of such a being's existence. Pressed by the group, John reluctantly reveals that in trying to take the Buddha's teachings to the west, into the eastern Roman Empire, he became the inspiration for the Jesus story. After this revelation, emotions in the room run high. Edith (the representative "true believer" of the group) begins crying. Will, who has returned after saying he drove around and didn't know where else to go, demands that John end his tale and give the group a sense of closure by admitting it was all a hoax. He threatens to have John involuntarily committed for psychiatric evaluation should he refuse to do so. John appears to ruminate over his response before finally "confessing" to everyone that his story was a prank.

John's friends leave the party with various reactions: Edith is relieved; Harry indicates an open mind; Art never wants to see John again; Will still believe John needs professional help; Sandy and Linda clearly believe John; Dan is heavily implied to believe John. After everyone else but Will and Sandy have left, Will overhears John and Sandy's conversation, which suggests the story could be true after all. John mentions some of the pseudonyms he has used over the years, and Will realizes one was his father's name. He asks John questions that only a very close acquaintance could answer. When John answers them correctly, Will has an emotional breakdown, suffers a heart attack, and dies in John's arms. After the body has been taken away, Sandy realizes that (if the story is true) this is the first time John has seen one of his grown children die. John wordlessly gets in his truck and starts to drive to an unknown destination. Having reconsidered, he then stops and waits for Sandy, who slowly walks over to the truck.. [Wiki](#)

**Review:** This is a movie to provoke deep thought and conversation and that dares to challenge mainstream beliefs. It is one of the most intensely engaging dramas that I have had the pleasure to see. Excellent ensemble performances created believably real characters, each with his or her own fallibilities, personal credo, and enthusiasms.

The movie is basically a conversation amongst college professors. So, if you are looking for serial murders, chase scenes, or shoot-outs, you won't find it here. If you enjoy thought experiments and intelligent discourse and appreciate what it means to accept your friends for who they are, see this. [IMDb](#)

# Cast

David Lee Smith as John Oldman  
Tony Todd as Dan  
John Billingsley as Harry  
Ellen Crawford as Edith  
Annika Peterson as Sandy  
William Katt as Art Jenkins  
Alexis Thorpe as Linda Murphy  
Richard Riehle as Dr. Will Gruber  
Robbie Bryan as Police Officer [Wiki](#)

## Parental Guidance

### Certification

Australia:PG Egypt:Not Rated (DVD rating) France:Tous publics Germany:0 Netherlands:9 Philippines:13+ (self-applied) Poland:12 (DVD rating) Portugal:M/12 Singapore:NC-16 South Korea:12 (2017) Spain:7 (ICAA) Sweden:15 United Kingdom:PG United States:Not Rated United Arab Emirates:15+

**Sex & Nudity** – None, **Violence & Gore**- None, **Profanity**- None, **Alcohol, drugs & Smoking**- Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - Mild

