



Three Identical Strangers – Review

In 1980, 19-year-old Bobby Shafran rolled up for his first term at **college**, near New York. He was surprised to find himself greeted, even kissed, by other students, saying “**Welcome** back, Eddy!” One of Eddy's friends shakily asked him if he was adopted and had been born on July 12, 1961? Yes. And yes. And that meant he had an **identical** twin he knew nothing about. That same night Bobby drove to Long Island to meet Eddy Galland. They immediately recognised each other as each other's **duplicate**.



This story of twins, separated as babies and reunited by chance, made it into the papers. The story then went from amazing to incredible. A third brother, an identical **triplet**, David Kellman, recognised himself in the newspaper pictures of Bobby and Eddie.

The first third of Three Identical Strangers is a feel-good reunion documentary of lost brothers found through happenstance. But once the euphoria passes, director Tim Wardle takes his audience on an



engrossing, heartbreaking journey into the lives of three innocents whose lives became experiments for scientists on a **quest** to unravel how identity is shaped. Sadly, in their zeal to figure out if nurture or nature wins, they forgot the human beings in the middle of the mix.

How could it have happened? Bobby, Eddy and David and their families learned that they had been separated at six months and placed for adoption by the Louise Wise

Agency, under the auspices of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, a charity. The **adopting** families were never told that the boys had identical brothers.

Ostensibly, separating them was done to make it easier to place the babies. In fact, they were part of a monstrous experiment, masterminded by child psychoanalyst Peter B Neubauer, apparently designed to reveal whether genes or environment mattered most.

Made by British director Tim Wardle, Three Identical Strangers won a documentary award at last year's Sundance Film Festival. It combines **interviews**, archive **footage** and dramatic reconstructions to take us as close in to the story as possible, not coming to any conclusions. You won't be able to look away.



Three Identical Strangers – Crossword

GUANYA 2 ENTRADES GRATUÏTES AMB EL CINEMA EDISON I CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL

- 1) Completa els mots encreuats amb el vocabulari de la crítica.
- 2) Reuneix les lletres de les caselles en negreta i forma la paraula secreta.
- 3) Sigues el 1er en publicar la paraula al Facebook de Cambridge School www.facebook.com/CambridgeSchoolPage i guanyaràs 2 entrades per a una pel·lícula en VO a la **Secció Cineclub** del Cinema Edison (a recollir al mateix cinema).



ACROSS

1. taking someone else's child into your family and legally make him or her your own child
3. university (in The US)
4. to film of a particular subject or event
6. used for saying that although someone pretends to have one reason for something, there is in fact another reason
8. to greet someone in a polite and friendly way
10. exactly the same

DOWN

2. an exact copy of something
5. a baby that is born at the same time as two other babies to the same mother.
7. a formal meeting in which someone asks you questions
9. a long, difficult search



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