

2 MOONRISE KINGDOM

REVIEW BY JAMES MADDEN

Wes Anderson brings to the screen another nostalgic film dipped in sepia tones and filled with deadpan characters. Set in a fictional New England island in 1965, *Moonrise Kingdom* is enjoyable for its style and its performances, with an amusing script written by Anderson and Roman Coppola.

Escaping his "Khaki Scout" group at Camp Ivanhoe, 12-year-old Sam Shakusky (Jared Gilman) secretly plans to meet up with 12-year-old Suzy Bishop (Kara Hayward) in the wilderness and begin an innocent and partially primal love affair. While they go about their travels with much success, the scout group, police and Suzy's parents are less successful in their search and rescue mission.

Children exude a level of intelligence and wisdom that is missing from the adults. Edward Norton and Bruce Willis both wonderfully play men in positions of authority (Scout Master Ward and Captain Sharp respectively) who seem to go unnoticed and disrespected, deviating from their usual action hero personas of late. Norton and Willis, along with newcomers Gilman and Hayward are joined in excellent company with Bill Murray, Frances McDormand, Jason Schwartzman and Bob Balaban. Complete with Anderson's trademark distinctive humour, *Moonrise Kingdom* is another hit featuring teenage romance, feelings of isolation and plenty of adventure.

Moonrise Kingdom is in cinemas from August 30.