



A ROYAL NIGHT OUT

Autumn
Season
2015

Release: 2015

Cert (UK): 12A

Language: English (USA)

Runtime: 97 mins

Director: Julian Jarrold

Writer: Trevor De Silva, Kevin Hood

Cinematographer: Christophe Beaucarne

Cast: Bel Powley, Sarah Gadon, Emily Watson, Rupert Everett, Jack Reynor



Stifled by their parents' insistent coddling and the daily expectations of their vaunted positions, Princesses Elizabeth (David Cronenberg regular Sarah Gadon) and Margaret's (Bel Powley, *The Diary of a Teenage Girl*) are determined to transcend the walls of Buckingham Palace and join the revellers outside for a night of clandestine partying. Taking part in the biggest outdoor

party London perhaps has ever seen, starting at a lively Trafalgar Square and slowly moving to the Curzon nightclub in Mayfair and further into the night, the two inexperienced young women find that the city's giddy mix of excitement and danger just might be more than they bargained for.

The incident of the royals in the night actually happened but, surely, not like this. Chaperoned by two army officers who are so incompetent that their charges escape almost immediately, they find themselves loose in the city without a compass, or a clue (or money). "A Royal Night Out" probes the tension between internal palace politics and external public relations, though they do so from opposite ends of the Second World War. With the devastating conflict over and national VE Day celebrations looming, speechmaking once more weighs heavily on the weary monarch's mind. Girls, on the other hand, just want to have fun.

The endearingly outdated colloquialisms ("Wizard!" "I'm completely cheesed off!") that pepper the script, together with the soundtrack help add to the sense of a time gone by. 'A Royal Night Out' may well be a frothier, more feminine bookend to 'The King's Speech' — though it's no less engaging or accomplished. It may well also be very different to our other titles and for that well deserves its place in the programme.