

▣ ABOUT THE MOVIE ▣ (subtitled version)

TITLE	Close Encounters of the Third Kind
DIRECTOR	Steven Spielberg
YEAR AND COUNTRY	1977 U.S.A.
GENRE	Science fiction
ACTORS	Roy Neary: Richard Dreyfuss, Claude Lacombe: François Truffaut, Ronnie Neary: Teri Garr, Jillian Guiler: Melinda Dillon



PLOT

Roy Neary is a power line worker. We don't know who Jillian Guiler is, except that she is the mother of a small boy, Barry.

Within a very short space of time, World War II aircraft are found, new, in the Mexican desert; UFOs are seen by military planes in Indianapolis; a large ship is found in the middle of the Mongolian desert; little Barry runs off in the darkness in Indiana, wanting to play with the beings who set all his toys off during the night; Roy witnesses the passing of UFO's, and Indians hear special music from the sky that they transform into a chant. Barry is soon taken by the aliens. Communication specialist, Claude Lacombe, becomes aware of the key to communication provided by the Indians, sends signals to try to attract the aliens and finds out where they are landing. Meanwhile, the "chosen" people are somehow impelled to follow the signs and go to a key location to meet the aliens, some of them almost going totally crazy in the process, as they are obsessed by the landscape of the place where the aliens are going to land. Despite government intervention, Roy and Jillian eventually manage to see the aliens land, and Barry returns unharmed, together with other people who have been missing for years. Roy is chosen by – and willingly goes away with - the aliens.

LANGUAGE

The English is mostly standard American, with only one tiny example of a strong regional accent – unless a French one can be counted. Actually, it does help if you also understand Mexican Spanish and standard French (there's a lot of it in the film, not always translated). There are not many slang expressions and the vocabulary is not very extensive, but viewing with subtitles is recommended, as the words are often obscured by the elements or other interference and, as usual, the little boy is hard to understand. By the way, the subtitles often do not faithfully reflect the words spoken.

VOCABULARY

Old hulk: a very large, very heavy and ugly thing or person; a large ship that has been wrecked and abandoned	It beats the shit out of me!: I really can't understand it at all!
To stand by: to wait and be ready to act	Doggone: American slang for "damned"
Roger!: official recognition that you have heard and understood	Sucker: someone who is stupid, because (s)he believes everything people say
To get on the horn (to): contact orally, such as by telephone	Phone rang off the hook: phone rang an extreme number of times/for a very long time
Dumb: stupid (Am. Slang)	Weird: really strange
Shove: push hard	Shutters: (here) what clicks when you take a photo
Outage: failure of electrical current	Porch: a sheltered outside entrance to a house
To cough up: to give required money or information	Sacred cow stuff: taboo; you can't do this
Turkey: American slang for a person who is presumptuous and stupid	To C.O.D.: cash on delivery; the postman takes the money for what he delivers you
This is nuts!: this is crazy!	To fart around: here, double meaning: to pass gas and make a bad smell/to act in a way that is not serious or useful
White knuckles: when the bones connecting your fingers to your hand go white, you are grabbing something hard, and so are scared	Drill: a practice session