

# A sobering look at carbon use

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## A sobering look at carbon use

### CARBON: THE UNAUTHORISED BIOGRAPHY (G)

In cinemas

David Stratton



A documentary co-production between Australia and Canada, **Carbon: The Unauthorised Biography** is a film that sets out to explain in basic terms everything you need to know about carbon. Occasionally utilising animation, the film seeks to personalise the element, with all of the talking head scientists filmed on camera referring to carbon as “she”. In addition, carbon herself narrates the film, with the voice of the redoubtable Sarah Snook (“You think you know me, but do you?”)

We learn about the source of carbon from dying stars and that one-fifth of our bodies contain the element. “Without me, life would not exist,” proclaims Snook. But “it’s the way we have been using carbon that is causing the problem”, and the result poses a challenge for us and for future generations.

Directors Daniella Ortega and Niobe Thompson have made a sobering, instructive, at times amusing, at times chilling, film. I would like to think that it will be widely seen.