

Green And Pleasant

6x1 hour returnable comedy-drama series

"It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first."

Ronald Reagan

Politics. It's one pig-fucking, chokey-wank, sex-taped, office dalliance, rent boy banging cess-pit. And that's just the sex stuff. We haven't even touched on the expense scandals, the huge party donations, the corporate tax relief, government nepotism, politicians investment portfolios and, well... all the war crimes. Love it or hate it, politics permeates our everyday. These people are voted in to represent us but an open collar on Newsnight and a photo-op outside their second home isn't going to tell us who these people are. But behind the picture perfect PR fuckery is a salacious world of ambition and corruption. Inspired by some of the most raucous, scandalous and downright scary political scandals of recent years, Green and Pleasant examines the people behind the political landscape, the pieces on the board and the invisible hands that move them.

I want Green and Pleasant to be the high drama version of "The Thick Of It", the political "Succession" and the "House of Cards" for the next political generation. But this isn't a show about politics, it's about the effect of politics, the human error. It's character driven darkly comic, chillingly dramatic study of British democracy.

Jamie Campbell, wants to make a difference, he wants to change the world for the better, he wants to work in politics. But he spends his days working in a pub struggling to get his foot on the political ladder, constantly turned away from positions on the left and beginning to lose hope that he'll ever be able to be a part of the change he always believed in. That is until Jamie bumps into an old university acquaintance Hugo. Hugo is the sort of chinless wonder Jamie always avoided at uni, signet rings and Schoffles galore. But Jamie learns that Hugo's dad is the Right Honourable Marcus Spearing, Conservative MP for Sutton and Cheam. Hugo suggests that his dad might be the "in" Jamie needs, the only problem is that he represents the other side of the floor, the antithesis of all of Jamie's political beliefs. But it's the job he wants, it's the chance to start doing something good, to have a hand in making the country better.

Jamie sees this as a chance to insight change from the inside. Desperately believing in the power of democracy and certain that he can do some good, Jamie swallows his pride and perhaps some of his beliefs along with it and takes the job.

It's here that he meets Sadie Khan, the shining light of right wing politics and a current special advisor to Marcus. Sadie is placed on the top of the conservative A-list, tipped to stand for her own borough in the next general election. The borough she's being pushed towards? Marcus' own of Sutton and Cheam. As word comes down from the powers above and Sadie begins to be groomed, she recognises Jamie's usefulness and hopes to recruit him as her own special advisor.

Torn between his loyalty to Marcus, his own political ideals and Sadie's tantalising offer, Jamie is forced to put first the one thing he doesn't believe politics is about... Himself. As Jamie is slowly twisted by his position and the people around him he begins to lose sight of the bigger picture, the good he always hoped to achieve and he soon becomes the monster he always swore to slay. But, much to his own surprise, Jamie seems to have a talent for pulling the invisible strings behind the scenes.

I'm fascinated by politics and the people who choose to make it their career, their lives. Deep down, and regardless of where you sit on the spectrum I have a total belief that people are trying to do what they believe is right. Or at least right by their own moral compass. They commit to a life of service in the public eye and we rail and gasp when they do anything remotely human. One of my best friend's parents is a prominent Conservative MP. Fervent Brexiteer and stands for pretty much everything I don't. He has always treated me with kindness, open arms and a big hug. We debate and argue points and he speaks with genuine conviction and honesty despite (in my opinion) being totally misguided. But hey, that's democracy, and boy is it rife with some phenomenal characters and shit loads of drama.

