

the film the business

the film the business is a notable British crime drama that delves into the complexities of the drug trade in the 1980s. Directed by Nick Love, this film captures the gritty atmosphere of the era, showcasing the rise of a young man who becomes deeply involved in the illegal narcotics business. The film the business highlights themes such as ambition, loyalty, and the consequences of living a life of crime. It also features a compelling soundtrack that complements its intense narrative and period setting. This article will explore various aspects of the film, including its plot, characters, production background, cultural impact, and critical reception. Each section aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the film the business and its significance in British cinema.

- Overview and Plot Summary
- Main Characters and Performances
- Production and Direction
- The Soundtrack and Cinematography
- Cultural Impact and Legacy
- Critical Reception and Audience Response

Overview and Plot Summary

The film the business is set in the mid-1980s and follows the journey of Frankie, a young and ambitious man who leaves his small-town life to seek fortune and excitement in the drug trade. The story chronicles Frankie's rise through the ranks of the criminal underworld, focusing on his involvement in smuggling and distributing cocaine along the southern coast of England. The plot explores the allure of wealth and power, as well as the dangers and moral dilemmas associated with illegal activities.

The narrative structure interweaves moments of tension, action, and character development, offering viewers a detailed look at the inner workings of the drug business. The film also depicts the social and economic backdrop of 1980s Britain, highlighting the era's cultural influences and challenges.

Main Characters and Performances

Frankie

Frankie, portrayed by Danny Dyer, is the central character whose ambitions drive the storyline. His transformation from a naive youth to a confident and ruthless drug dealer forms the emotional core of the film the business. Dyer's performance captures the complexity of Frankie's character, balancing charisma with the darker aspects of his criminal lifestyle.

Supporting Characters

The film features a diverse cast of supporting roles that enrich the narrative. These include Frankie's associates, rivals, and love interests, each contributing to the development of the plot and providing insight into the drug trade's social dynamics. The interactions among characters reveal themes of trust, betrayal, and survival.

- Frankie's mentor and key figure in the drug trade
- Law enforcement representatives pursuing the drug network
- Family members affected by Frankie's choices

Production and Direction

Directed by Nick Love, the film the business benefits from a vision that emphasizes authenticity and atmosphere. Love's direction focuses on creating a realistic portrayal of the 1980s criminal scene, using detailed set designs and period-appropriate costumes to immerse the audience in the time period.

The production team invested significant effort in location scouting, choosing coastal towns that reflected the gritty and vibrant environment essential to the story. The screenplay balances dialogue-driven scenes with action sequences, maintaining a steady pace throughout the film.

The Soundtrack and Cinematography

Soundtrack

The film the business is particularly noted for its soundtrack, which features a selection of iconic 1980s tracks. These songs enhance the film's nostalgic feel and complement the emotional beats of the plot. The music selection includes genres such as pop, rock, and new wave, reflecting the musical landscape of the decade.

Cinematography

The cinematography employs a distinctive visual style that captures both the glamour and the grittiness of the drug world. Lighting and camera techniques are used to create tension and highlight character emotions. The coastal settings are showcased with wide shots, emphasizing the contrast between the beauty of the environment and the darkness of the illicit activities occurring within it.

Cultural Impact and Legacy

The film *The Business* has had a lasting impact on British cinema, particularly in the crime genre. It has been praised for its authentic depiction of 1980s youth culture and the drug trade, influencing subsequent films and television series exploring similar themes. The film also contributed to the career of its lead actor, Danny Dyer, who has since become a prominent figure in British film and television.

Its portrayal of ambition and moral conflict resonates with audiences, making it a reference point for discussions about the consequences of criminal lifestyles. The film also sparked interest in the historical context of Britain's drug scene during the 1980s.

Critical Reception and Audience Response

Upon release, the film *The Business* received mixed to positive reviews from critics. Many praised its energetic storytelling, strong performances, and authentic period details. However, some critics noted that the film's glamorization of the drug trade could overshadow its cautionary elements.

Audiences responded favorably to the film's engaging plot and memorable soundtrack, contributing to its cult status over time. The film remains a popular choice among fans of British crime dramas and 1980s nostalgia.

1. Strong performances, particularly by Danny Dyer
2. Effective use of 1980s music and style
3. Realistic portrayal of the drug trade
4. Criticism regarding glamorization of crime

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the film 'The Business' about?

The film 'The Business' is a British crime drama that follows a young man named Frankie who becomes involved with the Miami drug trade in the 1980s, exploring themes of ambition, loyalty, and the consequences of a life of crime.

Who directed the film 'The Business'?

The film 'The Business' was directed by Nick Love, known for his work on British crime and drama films.

When was 'The Business' released?

'The Business' was released in 2005.

Who are the main actors in 'The Business'?

The main actors in 'The Business' include Danny Dyer, Tamer Hassan, and Michelle Gayle.

What genre does 'The Business' belong to?

The film 'The Business' belongs to the crime drama genre, with elements of action and thriller.

Why is 'The Business' considered a cult classic among British crime films?

'The Business' is considered a cult classic due to its authentic portrayal of 1980s drug culture, memorable soundtrack, and its gritty yet stylish depiction of crime and ambition, resonating with fans of British gangster cinema.

Additional Resources

1. *Casino: Love and Honor in Las Vegas*

This book by Nicholas Pileggi delves into the intricate world of Las Vegas casinos, exploring the intertwining of mob influence, business strategies, and personal ambitions. It provides a factual backdrop to the kind of underground business dealings and corruption depicted in films like **The Business**. The narrative showcases the rise and fall of key players in the gambling industry, making it a compelling read for fans of crime dramas.

2. *The Godfather* by Mario Puzo

A classic novel that explores the dynamics of organized crime families in America, **The Godfather** offers a deep dive into loyalty, power struggles, and business dealings within the Mafia. Its themes of family loyalty and

criminal enterprise resonate with the gritty underworld portrayed in **The Business**. The book is essential reading for understanding the complexities of crime-driven business empires.

3. *Goodfellas* by Nicholas Pileggi

This true-crime book chronicles the life of Henry Hill and his involvement with the Lucchese crime family. It provides a raw and honest look at the day-to-day operations of organized crime, from petty crimes to large-scale business ventures. Fans of **The Business** will appreciate the detailed depiction of mob life and the consequences that come with it.

4. *McMafia: A Journey Through the Global Criminal Underworld* by Misha Glenny

Exploring the globalization of crime, **McMafia** unveils how organized crime syndicates operate like multinational corporations. The book covers a wide range of illegal businesses, including drug trafficking, money laundering, and arms dealing. It offers an insightful perspective on the international scope of crime-driven businesses akin to those portrayed in **The Business**.

5. *The Firm* by John Grisham

This legal thriller follows a young lawyer who gets entangled with a corrupt law firm involved in organized crime. It combines the tension of corporate law with the dangers of criminal enterprises, mirroring the high-stakes world depicted in **The Business**. The novel is a gripping exploration of ethics, ambition, and survival within a corrupt system.

6. *City of God* by Paulo Lins

Set in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, this novel tells the story of gangs and drug dealers vying for control over their territory. It portrays the raw and violent reality of operating a criminal business in an environment riddled with poverty and corruption. The gritty storytelling and complex characters provide a powerful look into the underworld similar to that in **The Business**.

7. *American Tabloid* by James Ellroy

This novel intricately weaves together crime, politics, and business in 1950s America. It focuses on the interplay between the FBI, the Mafia, and political figures, exposing the dark alliances that fuel power and corruption. Readers interested in the murky connections between crime and legitimate business will find this book compelling.

8. *Blow* by Bruce Porter

The biography of George Jung, a major player in the American cocaine trade during the 1970s and 1980s, **Blow** details the operations of drug trafficking businesses. It highlights the risks, rewards, and eventual downfall associated with illegal enterprises. This real-life story complements the themes of ambition and crime seen in **The Business**.

9. *Snitch* by Edward Bunker

Written by a former criminal, **Snitch** provides an authentic look at the criminal underworld and the personal struggles of those involved. The narrative focuses on betrayal, loyalty, and survival within crime networks,

themes that echo the tension and moral complexity found in *The Business*. Its gritty realism offers a unique perspective on life inside the criminal world.

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