

## Film guide

### Just Jim

UK | 2015 | Cert. 15 | 84 mins  
Director: Craig Roberts

Bullied at school and ignored at home, Jim lies compulsively to liven up his otherwise drab existence. Jim hasn't got much going for him until the mysterious new neighbour named Dean takes an interest in Jim's plight. Allowing himself to be moulded in Dean's image, Jim hopes his transformation will secure social success and the girl of his dreams - but inevitably it's not quite so simple.



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#### You will like this film if you liked

Submarine (2010, 15)



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#### Watch next

Mulholland Drive (2001, 15)



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#### Talk about it (before the film)

Do you think changing your image can make your peers see you in a new light?

Have you ever been inspired to act differently or take risks by somebody else? Was it a positive or negative experience?

#### Talk about it (after the film)

- *Just Jim* is rich in cinematic influences – what references to other films did you spot?
- In what ways did Dean have an effect on Jim's personality and behaviour? Do you think that Dean was a real character, or a figment of Jim's imagination?
- How does the film comment on social success? What questions do you think it raises, and does it present any answers? Does the film support or undermine the idea that people are a product of their environment?
- Jim's hometown is described as a place where "the people look miserable but sound happy". Do you think the cinematography reflects this? How do the use of colour and the soundtrack contribute to the mood of the film?

#### Write about it

Bring your ideas together in a review and share it on our Into Film clubs' website. You could include a summary of the story, mention other films that it's similar to, describe what you particularly liked or disliked and give it your star rating.

#### Extension Activities

Jim's friendship with Dean can be seen as a sort of Faustian pact. Research what this means – do you know of any other films that contain this plot device? Film a scene about a character entering into their own Faustian pact.