

KINO LORBER

REPERTORY

SCUM

A film by Alan Clarke

1979 / U.K. / 96 min. / In English

Press materials: www.kinolorber.com

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Kino Lorber

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Synopsis:

A landmark expose of Britain's violent reform schools, Alan Clarke's *Scum* is a controversial shock to the system. Originally made for TV in 1977, the BBC withheld the program from release, due to its intense depictions of suicide, rape and racism. Refusing to be censored, Clarke reshot the film as a theatrical feature in 1979, making his attack on the borstal system even more scathing, and it is the latter, more vitriolic version that is available from Kino Lorber.

Scum tells the story of Carlin (Ray Winstone, *The Departed*), a new reform school inmate with a reputation as a hard case. The authorities encourage gang leader Pongo (John Blundell) to humble Carlin, but he beats Pongo down and takes over the mantle of Daddy. The guards institute a reign of terror and neglect, with Carlin emerging as an unlikely leader. One of the most important British features of the last 35 years, *Scum* still packs a wallop.

Scum has been restored from the original negative at Pinewood Studios UK, from materials held at the BFI.

Press Quotes

"Even after all these years, *Scum* still hits hard and deep. It has lost none of its power."

- Philip Thomas, *Empire*

"I thought I'd already found all the masters and I then I saw Alan Clarke."

- Harmony Korine

Fearless, unflinching, and often brutally graphic, Alan Clarke made films that rank among the most original—and controversial—in British cinematic history."

- Harry Sword, *Vice*

"Visually muted and disturbingly quiet, the film has the icy cold aesthetic of a Kubrick picture (think the dream sequences found within a film like *A Clockwork Orange*) and yet has the lyricism and beauty of a Gus Van Sant film. Filled with breathtaking tracking shots, this film is extremely touch to watch and yet impossible to turn away from."

- *Criterion Cast*

CREDITS

Directed by Alan Clarke
Produced by Davina Belling
Don Boyd
Martin Campbell
Clive Parsons
Michael Relph

Written by Roy Minton (based on his teleplay)

Director of Photography
Phil Meheux

Editor
Michael Bradsell

Art Director
Michael Porter

Cast:

Ray Winstone.....Carlin
Mick Ford.....Archer
Julian Firth.....Davis
John Blundell.....Banks
Phil Daniels.....Richards
John Fowler.....Woods
Ray Burdis.....Eckersley
Patrick Murray.....Dugan
Herbert Norville.....Toyne
George Winter.....Rhodes
Alrick Riley.....Angel
Peter Francis.....Baldy
Philip DaCosta.....Jackson
Perry Benson.....Formby
Alan Igbon.....Meakin
Andrew Paul.....Betts
Sean Chapman.....James
Ozzie Stevens.....Smith
Ricky Wales.....Chambers
Peter Howell.....Governor
John Judd.....Sands
Jo Kendall.....Matron
John Grillo.....Goodyear
Philip Jackson.....Greaves
Bill Dean.....Duke
P.H. Moriarty.....Hunt
Nigel Humphreys.....Taylor
James Donnelly.....Whittle
Joe Fordham.....Reg
Ray Jewers.....Gym Instructor
Ian Liston.....White