

A black and white photograph of two men standing outdoors at night. The man on the left is wearing a dark suit jacket and a white shirt, looking towards the man on the right. The man on the right is wearing a sailor's uniform, including a white sailor's cap and a dark jacket with light-colored sleeves, looking back at the first man. The background is dark with several out-of-focus light sources, possibly streetlights or bokeh from a camera lens.

*My Beautiful Laundrette*

*A film by Stephen Frears*

# The Plot

London, 1980's.

At the head of the family stands **Nasser** Hussein, Omar's uncle, who has a number of small businesses. He is fascinated by **money**, so he would do anything for it...even lead illegal activities. He flaunts his riches whenever and wherever he can.





Meanwhile, his alcoholic brother *Ali*, once a famous journalist in Pakistan, lives in a *seedy flat* with his son, *Omar*.

He does not pursue his brother's yearning for money and constantly *urges his son Omar to study* at college.

Despite his father's opinion, **Omar** accepts his uncle's job offer: to manage a run-down **Laundrette** in London's outskirts.



But Omar wants to make this place successful so, with the help of **Johnny** (an old high school friend just re-found), manages to steal some of his uncle's cocaine supplies which

come from illegal activities. This money helps him **renovate** the laundrette.





*Johnny leaves behind his neofascist-punk-Paki-bashers **gang** to follow his beloved.*

*Soon they will **avenge** his betrayal by assaulting the laundrette.*

*Omar and Johnny each have to evaluate if their **ideals of success are worth it.***



## Omar

*Is a brilliant young man with a gift for business.*

*He wants to be successful in life, especially to show to the native British that he is just as good if not better than them.*

*Sometimes it seems he's more interested in his goals than in Johnny.*





## *Johnny*

*Is a loafer, with little prospect of success.*

*He feels an intense love for Omar and he becomes jealous when he hears that Nasser is trying to push Omar to marry his daughter, Tania.*

*The film ends with Omar and Johnny forming a stronger relationship.*

## *Aims of "My Beautiful Laundrette"*

- The movie is concerned with giving us a feeling for the society its characters inhabit.*
- Modern Britain is an example of contrasts, between rich and poor, between upper and lower classes, between native British and the various immigrant groups.*
- The movie adds the conflict that lies between straight and gay.*



# Quotes

*Johnny: We'll just have to do a job to get the money.*

*Omar: I don't want you going back to all that!*

*Johnny: Just to get us through, Omo. We're going to go on. You want that, don't you?*

*Omar: Yeah. I want you.*

...

*Tania: I'm going. You can come.*

*Johnny: No good jobs like this around.*

*Tania: Omar just runs you around everywhere, like a servant.*

*Johnny: I'll stay here with my friend and fight it out.*

*Tania: My family, Salim and all... will swallow you up like a little kebab.*

*Johnny: I couldn't leave him. Not now. Don't ask me to. You ever touched him?*

*Thank-you*

my  
**BEAUTIFUL**  
laundrette

