

DARK JUSTICE

(Working title)



Logline

Taking a close look at abuse, the story follows the lives of six characters whose lines intertwine online. The series examines how society has the power to take justice into it's own hands, blurring the lines between good and bad, the villain and the hero

Summary

Dark Justice is an organisation formed of two friends, *Bel* and *Brian*, from Newcastle. They have found themselves in a world which is extremely shocking and unnerving to them, however now they have started on their campaign of tracking down pedophiles, using a fake profile of a child, they can't walk away. Without meaning to, they have become an online vigilante group and we watch them hunt down their first target and execute a citizens arrest.

Jane O'Brien, a well-known radio presenter from the online radio show LBC is interviewing the famous actor *Keith Presley*, about a new film he is promoting. The producer of the radio show, *Debi*, runs a charity which helps abused women and children in her spare time. Debi has never liked this particular actor, and makes her thoughts clear to the radio presenter when the actor has left, telling her "he gives me the creeps". After the interview, Keith messages a child actor called *Tom*, aged 16, asking Tom to send him a monologue for the film that he will be auditioning for.

Tom excitedly records a monologue using his phone with the help of his drama teacher, who seems to be just as excited as the boy. Keith sends a message to the young actor asking him to send full body topless pictures to him. Tom's Mum helps with these pictures, and they send them on.

Tom's uncle *John* shows concern about this, and tries to warn the mother but to no avail. He is the kind of guy who makes statements like "all pedophiles should be strung up and shot". John is very vocal about his thoughts on men like Keith Presley and the stories he's heard about them. The mother is incredulous and tells John not to be so disgusting.

Debi, the producer, clearly an amazing and hard working woman who seems to be a voice of reason and a pioneer for good, finds out that Keith Presley has been accused of abusing children. She decides to take a leaf out of Dark Justice's book and track down these abusers, but instead of handing them into the police, she has ideas of her own.

John phones up Jane on LBC, and reveals something about himself he has never told anyone before.



Writer & Creator's Bio

Rupert Charmak is a writer, actor and producer from London. Last year Rupert had his first feature film *King Of The Cage*, optioned by Eden Films, which looks to be going into production later this year. Rupert has also spent the last eight years working with a charity called *Action Breaks Silence*, which deals with gender based violence. He has helped run self-defence and empowerment workshops with the charity, as well as helps develop their future programs. The charity has worked all across the world, including India and South Africa, and is currently developing its boy's programme on empathy. From this background, it was always on Rupert's agenda to write something relating to the complex subject of abuse.

The inspiration for this idea came from two interviews Rupert saw on LBC by a radio presenter called James O'Brien. One was with the vigilante group Dark Justice, who hunt down pedophiles who have arranged to meet with a child and they then try to execute a citizen's arrest. The other interview was with a nameless caller who told him that he has always been attracted to children, and he hates himself for it. This character who they named as John, spoke about how know one knows who he truly is, having to pretend to be someone who would be incredibly violent to people like himself. John makes it clear that he has never followed through on

these thoughts, and has never watched child pornography because he sees it as an enabler, as well as the fact he knows it's wrong. He also makes it clear that he was never abused as a child, which is often what people would assume. He has finally started seeing a therapist, but thinks about killing himself everyday.

This is where the journey started when turning this project into a TV mini series, which focuses on the lives of these characters, and others.

Writer and Creator's bio

Rebecca Loudon is a freelance acting teacher and theatre director. She was formerly Artistic Associate of Custom/Practice, a theatre company dedicated to inclusivity in the arts. Rebecca is now co-Artistic Director of the newly formed theatre company, Think and Hit, which has its first full length run of a play in London this June which she is due to direct. Recent directing credits include: *Cockamamy* by Louise Coulthard, Summerhall, Edinburgh festival (Winner of the 2017 Lustrum Award for Outstanding New Work); *Nights* by Alex Bower, White Bear Theatre; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by William Shakespeare, Brighton Festival. Last year she was director-on-tour for The Bristol Old Vic and Theatre503's co-production of *And Then Come The Nightjars* by Bea Roberts. Rebecca is excited to embark on her first project for screen with her brother, Rupert Charmak.

Characters

Bel - Dark Justice
Brian - Dark Justice
Debi - Radio Producer
Keith - Famous actor
Tom - Young actor
John - Uncle of young actor
Jane - Radio Presenter
Teacher - Tom's drama teacher
Therapist - John's therapist
Brother - Keith's brother



Format

We are doing a short form TV mini series format. Six episodes lasting between forty - fifty minutes per episode.

We have six main characters that we are following. Therefore six episodes give us the chance to thread and follow each of these interesting and intricate characters.

Each episode will start from one of the six main characters viewpoints. The devices we will be using are from the characters computer screens, smart phones and the camera in the radio presenter's studio, which is left on even when interviews aren't being conducted.

Computer

The screen will show the messages from chat rooms, Facebook, email, and the camera on the computer when they Skype. An insight into what these characters are viewing, and how they communicate with others.

Smartphone

The screen will show us messages the character is sending and who they are speaking to. It will show us apps they use. As well as any videos they record, and post online. It will also show Facetime or Skype calls they may take on these devices.

Studio camera

This will show the radio presenter and radio producer; interviews they conduct and downtime when they are offline; what they talk about, perhaps gossiping about interviewees, or fly on the wall pre and post, helping to flesh out these characters for the audience.

DARK JUSTICE

BUDGET FOR ONE EPISODE

10 Days Pre-Production; 5 Days shoot; 30 days post production.

	<u>QUANTI</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>TY</u>	<u>S</u>		

ABOVE THE LINE

Producer			£15,000	£15,000
Director	1	45	£350	£15,750
Writer			£2,500	£2,500
Cast / episode	5	5	£350	£8,750
TOTAL ABOVE LINE				£42,000

BELOW THE LINE

<i>PRODUCTION</i>				
Production Office Rental		15	£250	£3,750
Production Manager (+ 2 ass'ts)	3	15	£350	£15,750
Production Office Staff (x2)	2	15	£350	£10,500
Director's Ass't; Script Supervisor	2	15	£350	£10,500
Camera (assuming their own equipment)	3	5	£350	£5,250
Camera Equipment			£0	£0
Grip (assuming their own equipment)	3	5	£350	£5,250
Grip Equipment			£0	£0
Sound (assuming their own equipment)	2	5	£350	£3,500
Sound Equipment			£0	£0
Lighting (assuming their own equipment)	3	5	£350	£5,250
Lights etc			£0	£0

(Above Line + Production + Post Production
+ Other)

Estimated Budget

£186,990 per Episode.

£1,121,940 Total for six episodes.

