



# DANGEROUS EDGE

*A Life of*

# GRAHAM GREENE

1 X 56 HD



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### CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President  
PBS International  
10 Guest Street  
Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: +1-617-208-0735  
FAX: +1-617-208-0783

jkoch@pbs.org  
pbsinternational.org

Graham Greene's 50 books spanned seven decades and sold tens of millions of copies in countless languages. More than 100 of his stories have been adapted for television, theater, and film—some twice, such as *The Quiet American* and *The End of the Affair*.

As a journalist for 60 years, Greene covered the most dangerous events of the past century: Kenya's Mau Mau Rebellion, the Vietnam War, Haiti's "nightmare republic," the rise of Castro, and the fall of the Soviet Union.

Greene's writing captures the essence of what it means to be human: the struggle between faith and doubt, love and betrayal, action and inaction, the individual and the State. Greene famously warned writers to avoid personal, political and ideological ties: a writer must "have a sliver of ice in his heart," he said, and "be a piece of grit in the State machinery."

After Greene's death in 1991, Paul Gray wrote in *Time* magazine: "No serious writer of the twentieth century has more thoroughly influenced the public imagination than Graham Greene." And his influence continues.

While Greene's work and influence are apparent, Greene, the man, remains an enigma.

Despite repeated suicide attempts Greene lived to be 86. He was a British spy who befriended traitor Kim Philby. He was a committed Catholic who referred to himself as a "Catholic agnostic." He craved anonymity, yet his writing made him famous.

Greene attributed such incongruities to manic depression. Rather than allowing his condition to cripple him, however, he channeled it into enormous creativity, and from his death wish ultimately sprang an acute awareness of the value of life. As novelist Shirley Hazzard wrote: "Graham's life long preoccupation with the equivocations that beset all men and women, and his awareness of his own contrariety, themselves gave his novels their distinctive voice."

This documentary uses Greene's words from his books and recordings, as well as photographs and clips from his many films, to reveal the enigmatic life of a great writer. A stellar collection of writers and critics, scholars and spies, friends and foes provide a kaleidoscopic view of the world of Graham Greene.

The film is narrated by British actor **Sir Derek Jacobi**, and actor **Bill Nighy** provides the voice of Greene. Other major participants include Novelist and screenwriter **Sir John Mortimer**, Novelist and former SIS agent **John Le Carre**, award winning literary critic and novelist **David Lodge**, acclaimed writer **Paul Theroux**, former CIA operative and author of *The Great Game* **Frederick Hitz**, and Graham Greene's daughter **Caroline Bourget**.

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### CREDITS

*Executive Producer:* Barbara de Fina

*Producer, Director, Writer:* Thomas P. O'Connor



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