

Funding the Future

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The BBC apparently cut several anti-Trump jokes from the BAFTA coverage last night. But, try as they might to pander to the fascist in the White House and his deluded friend in Downing Street, some comments got through. As [Vogue has reported this morning](#) (yes, it can be a useful news source, and some of its journalism is quite good):

Edward Berger's adaptation of Robert Harris's 2016 novel 'Conclave' won four of the 12 categories in which it was nominated, including Best Film, with the Conclave director making one of the most charged speeches on a night largely (and peculiarly) devoid of political sentiment (it's been reported that several Trump jokes were cut), saying:

"We live in a time of a crisis of democracy, and institutions usually used to bring us together are being used to pull us apart. Sometimes it's hard to keep the faith in that situation, but that's why we make movies, and that's why we made this movie..."

To end with a quote from Leonard Cohen, 'There's a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in.'"

Conclave, which I have seen and recommend, is a decidedly anti-fascist film for our time, which happens to have a lot of great performances in it. It rightly won the best film award. I think Ralph Fiennes should have won Best Actor.

My point is, though, that this is not the time for BBC censorship of anti-fascist comments. This is the time for it to oppose fascism.

And this is the time to celebrate those who stand up to fascism, as Fiennes' character in the film realised it was his job to do.

We're in very dark times if this ceases to be possible.