

The New York Times

The Best TV Shows of 2016



Sarah Lancashire and Jamie Dorrington in “Happy Valley,” from Britain
BEN BLACKALL/NETFLIX

The Best International Shows

1. **‘HAPPY VALLEY’** Britain (Netflix) The writer Sally Wainwright started out in soap opera and domestic drama before shifting into crime, and “Happy Valley” is both a tough, sometimes harrowing cop show and a meticulous, emotionally charged portrait of a community. [Season 2](#) picked up the story of a gruff, weary uniformed officer (the terrific Sarah Lancashire) and her nemesis (James Norton), and found believably frightening and moving ways to extend it.