

# Main Characters

## Gemma

The emotional centre of the story.

- In 1989: A smart, funny Birmingham teenager obsessed with pop music, magazines, and dreaming about the future with her best friend April.
- In 2009: She's now a hardworking nurse dealing with adult life, regrets, and unresolved friendships. She has struggled to conceive a baby with her husband Tim and is aware that he strays from their marriage.
- Personality: Loyal, grounded, sarcastic, caring.

## April

Gemma's best friend and opposite.

- In 1989: Confident, glamorous, ambitious, and desperate to escape Birmingham for fame.
- In 2009: Returns for the school reunion after years away, carrying more emotional baggage than she admits. She has failed at her career in T.V, become pregnant and has accepted that the life she dreamed of might be different from the life she ends up with but that both can be equally as satisfying.
- Personality: Charismatic, dramatic, impulsive, vulnerable underneath.
- Dynamic with Gemma: The story's core friendship — funny, messy, emotional, and nostalgic.

## Tim

Gemma's husband.

- Considered sleazy and misogynistic in both younger and older versions of himself.
- Takes advantage of Gemma's good nature and plays away.
- Cheats on Gemma unknowingly with April.
- Thinks money is the key to success.
- Does not get a redemption arc throughout the story. Gemma ends up leaving him.

## Steve

- More laddish/confident personality.

- His character can be seen as being tied to the humour of middle age, relationships, and receding glory days.
- A comedic role, who April lusts after in 1989 but who hasn't changed in 2009.
- Owns/ runs the video store within the show and gives off 'stoner' vibes.

## Frank

Gemma's younger brother.

- More carefree and fun loving in the younger years. Having a crush on April and a brief young love romance.
- Adult version reflects how youthful confidence changes with age.
- Adult Frank deals with disappointment, ageing, and nostalgia.
- Adult Frank is revealed to be the father of April's daughter Diasy after a fling when he saw April in the states.

## Barney

Comic supporting character.

- Adds energy and reunion chaos.
- Usually exaggerated and over-the-top in personality.
- Usually portrayed as awkward but lovable in both his younger and older versions.
- Doubles up as the Pizza-delivery boy stripper.
- Has a crush on Gemma.

## Mum and dad

Gemma and Frank's mum and dad

- Kind, caring and gentle.
- Conscious that they want to have done right by their kids.
- Still in love after all their years together.
- Important in creating the family dynamic element of the show.