



(Image: BBC/Moonage Pictures)

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder – series review

The long-awaited book adaptation of AGGTM published by Holly Jackson finally graced our television screens this week and it did not disappoint. The BBC series was written by Poppy Cogan and produced by Florence Walker, and it consists of six 45-minute-long episodes.

Set in the fictional town of Little Kilton, which the crew filmed in Somerset, the show follows Pip Fitz-Amobi (Emma Myers) crack a five-year-old case related to the murder of Andie Bell (India Lillie Davies). Essentially, Pip needed an idea for her EPQ and Andie's case fascinated her so much that she felt compelled to solve it. However, she doesn't end up solving it by herself, her partner in crime Ravi Singh (Zain Iqbal) plays a big part and interestingly he is the younger brother of Andie's ex boyfriend (Sal). Following Andie's death, Sal was deemed responsible due to his 'confession' and suicide which the people of Little Kilton have always believed was suspicious. Since Sal's death, the whole family have been shunned out. It is therefore Pip and Ravi's duty to uncover the truth and release the Singh family from their despair.

While the show was a great watch and admittedly, I did binge it in one day, there were minor errors with the storyline that didn't do the book justice. Firstly, the scenarios of how Pip was introduced to certain characters was entirely different. For example, the meeting of drug dealer Howie took place at the calamity party instead of his house which when reading it I felt allowed Jackson to create suspense as it is not normal for a college student to approach a drug dealers house. Secondly, a new scenario was developed whereby young Pip had seen Andie and Sal on the day of their deaths. Personally, this was too far fetched and made Pip the main character in a way that was not necessary. Furthermore, the suspense of the show was lacking, although this may be a bias perspective as I have read the book and therefore, I am aware of every loophole and the ending. There has also been heavy criticism of Emma Myers' accent circulating on social media as many viewers believed her British accent to be questionable. Unfortunately, this also stuck out to me and in certain scenes I wondered whether she was Scottish as opposed to British, when I later discovered she was American this made a lot of sense. Nevertheless, she was a wonderful actress and displayed what I originally imagined Pip to be.

Overall, the storyline was appealing to me, and each episode did have me hooked despite the thrill aspect lacking. The YA themes may not appeal to all audiences however there is something for

everyone in this series, even Leanne Fitz Amobi's book club may interest some older audiences! I am hopeful that the BBC will continue to adapt the rest of the series and if you haven't already, I would suggest giving it a watch.

By Anya Collins