

4.5/5.0

SPOILERS

TW: Drug use, death, kidnapping

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson was one of my first mystery thrillers, and I was IMMERSED!

This book was fast-paced, and the writing style was truly engaging!

Pippa Fitz Ammobi, a 17-year-old high school student in a small town, Little Kilton, chooses a six-year-old unsolved murder case of Andie Bell for her senior capstone project.

“When you ask people in town what happened to Andie Bell, they’ll tell you without hesitation: ‘She was murdered by Salil Singh.’ No ‘allegedly,’ no ‘might have,’ no ‘probably,’ no ‘most likely.’ He did it, they say. Sal Singh killed Andie. But I’m just not so sure.”

I loved how Holly’s writing pattern made me feel like I was investing the case with Pip.

Who killed Andie? Is she dead?

Did Sal kill himself? If not, who framed him, and why?

I tried predicting the story too many times and failed.

The ending was so unexpected and left me speechless.

Throughout the story, she meets many harmful people (murder suspects and drug dealers??) but doesn’t back out.

“I'm not sure I'm the good girl I once thought I was. I've lost her along the way”

She compiles a persons-of-interest list, and as the plot goes on, the list expands and even adds her best friend's sister.

“I’ve already learned my lesson here: when you catch someone lying about a murdered girl, you go ask them why.”

I also admired how Sal's brother, Ravi supported her at every turn. After starting an investigation together, the two quickly come to realize that they may have gotten themselves into a serious mess.

“We’re a team, remember. You and me.”

The only thing that didn’t make much sense to me was how everyone easily spills their deep dark secrets to a high schooler for just a ‘school project’.

Regardless, I enjoyed reading agggtm.

I’m so excited to read the other two books in the trilogy!