

MEDIA REVIEW

magazine

American Psycho

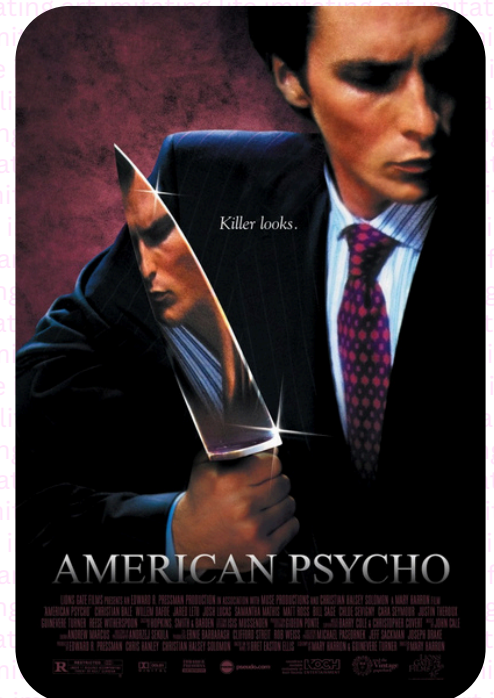


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Abandon all hope ye who enter here. The main character of the book (1991) and its subsequent film adaptation (2000) is a simply there man named Patrick whose experience as a typical member of society is documented in 'American Psycho'. Readers and audience always feel enthralled to watch such an (did you know?) utterly sane antihero who navigates throughout the cold NYC finance world in which he works. In my opinion, the book is much more immersive and detailed than the film which makes it a more worthwhile endeavour (if more scarring - I would strongly discourage reading it if you are under 16 due to the copious and detailed incidents of gore), yet the film accurately adapts the key themes and sensations of the book - if you are impatient, the film is enough to give you an insight into the unique and intricate Bret Easton Ellisverse. Fun fact: Bateman's younger brother Sean is the main character of Ellis' previous book, The Rules of Attraction. Many characters are recurrent in Ellis' other novels like Glamorama and Imperial Bedrooms, forging an eerie literary universe that feels a bit too real (another fun fact: TRoA mentions the 'weird Classics majors' who sacrifice farmers and perform pagan rituals, despite being published 5 years before The Secret History!).

Ellis' early work (Less than Zero) was a little too coming-of-age for my tastes, but when The Rules of Attraction came out in '87, I think he really came into his own, plot-wise and artistically. The whole book has a clear, crisp tone, and a new sheen of consummate promiscuity (?) that really gives the characters' accounts a big boost. He's been compared to Chuck Palahniuk, but I think Ellis has a far more personal, intimate sense of society's failings in the '90s. Indeed! In '91, Ellis released what I'm reviewing, American Psycho, his most accomplished and critically mauled book. I think his undisputed 'masterpiece' of a scene is the final one, in which everything seems to be back to normal. It's a scene so unnerving, most people don't focus on the final line 'This is not an exit.' But they should, because it's not just about the permanence of Bateman's character and ways, and the inevitability of his gore-filled future, it's also a statement about the cold society we live in itself. Hey Paul! Thanks for reading. I have to return some videotapes.

Sophie



[Do you agree? Disagree? Have something to add? Fill out this form to submit a review for a film, book or TV show. It can be one that's already been reviewed!](#)

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Don't Worry Darling

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Rather controversial when it came out in 2022, it received mixed marmite reviews, however Florence Pugh was undisputably incredible, whilst Harry Styles' performance was marginally less spectacular. Reminiscent of WandaVision and even Barbie, this plot was not entirely original, although clearly well considered, however many ideas were half baked and incomplete, leaving the viewer with many unresolved plot holes (in addition to the main cliffhanger). Although I don't doubt a meaningful reason behind all the strange and specific details (such as the contents of her dreams), this wasn't easily deduced from the information provided.



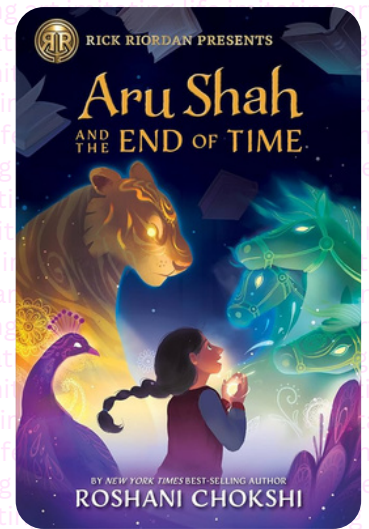
Featuring Newstead's own Gemma Chan!

The big reveal at the end was well done, the perfect amount of time dedicated to this so that you are still joining the dots in shock as the credits roll, without spelling it out too obviously to the audience. Whilst many reviewers commented on feeling annoyed and confused by the cliff-hanger, I appreciated the subtle ending that required an inference from the viewer, however I must admit that I was left frustrated!

Aru Shah

Roshani Chokshi

Amazing book series about the stories of a girl aged 13 who discovers all the Indian gods.



Five Survive

Holly Jackson

I could not put this book down - the plot was riveting!

Priyanka

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder

Holly Jackson



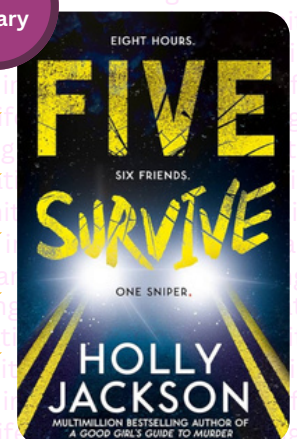
An amazing thriller which keeps you on the edge of your seat with an amazing plot and amazing surprises.

Abisha

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder is an exhilarating and captivating read. Holly Jackson weaves an intricate web of secrets, lies and suspense that keeps readers on the edge of their seats. With a strong and relatable protagonist, surprising twists, and a gripping storyline, this young adult mystery is a must-read for fans of the genre.

Aahana

school library



MEDIA REVIEW magazine

2012



2012 is a gripping film about the end of the world where many people battle to survive and few live to tell the tale. In 2012 it is finally announced that the world as we know it will self-destruct in all the natural disasters possible to mankind. But who knows if this is the story of a life time.



When Shadows Fall
Sita Brahmachari

A heart wrenching story, filled with tragedy and facing ones darkest shadows. Amazing!



Pirates of the Caribbean



Pirates of the Caribbean is my favourite film series! It is spectacular and thrilling, following crazy Jack Sparrow in his exciting adventures in the Black Pearl, with his pirate friends to help along the way.

The Outlaws



This modern twist on classic British comedy, has the perfect blend of witty comedy and a compelling, intricate and dramatic plot. An unassuming first season leads to a surprisingly complex second, with a third to be released on May 30. The fabulously chosen cast make single character effortlessly lovable, and the unlikely group creates heartwarming and hilarious relationships. Although on the surface, it is fairly lighthearted, there is some thoughtful character development if you choose to delve deeper.

In spite of its genius and phenomenal execution, it is the niche British references that make me truly adore it!



Malory Towers
Enid Blyton



It is an amazing television show and book. I recommend the BBC version, but there are many too choose from. I have read 3 of the books and they are all great.



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