



# A Good Girl's Guide to Murder

Written by  
Poppy Cogan

Based on the novel by  
Holly Jackson

Episode 2

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1

**FB4: EXT. LITTLE KILTON - SWIMMING HOLE - DAY**

1

A RIVER meanders through overgrown banks of cow parsley and willow. A rope swing moves gently over the green water. Somewhere, muffled, a song is playing.

A CAR is parked up on the bank. The music, louder now, is coming from inside, blended with the sound of voices raised in argument.

We creep in closer. Steamed up windows. Indistinct FIGURES.

Closer, closer, until - the front passenger door flies open, releasing the music, and a boy - SAL SINGH.

He wears jeans and a T-shirt. Sal's face is set, angry.

He strides off towards the woods.

The driver's door opens. ANDIE BELL emerges. Her face wet with tears.

We don't hear her as she calls his name, Sal!

Sal flinches at the pain in her voice. But he walks on.

Andie calls his name again.

Sal slows, and then stops. Closes his eyes.

Andie walks to him, barefoot, in the long, wet grass. Touches his shoulder.

He turns and gathers her in his arms. They kiss.

2

**INT. PIP'S HOUSE - PIP'S BEDROOM - NIGHT 4**

2

PIP sits in her bed. The clock reads 11.30pm. Her face is lit by the flickering glow of Sal's phone.

Pip's tired eyes flash with images. Flick. Flick. Flick. Selfies of SAL and ANDIE laughing, kissing, snuggling - love's young dream.

Pip rubs her eyes and scrolls on.

Texts and memes flash past like symbols on a fruit machine.

She returns to two messages and frowns.

Sal to Andie: *I dunno who u r anymore*

Sal to Andie: *I'm not talkin 2 u til u stop*

Pip glances up at the Murder Board. She climbs out of bed.

She writes the question *Stopped What?*

Pip looks at the photo of Andie Bell squeezed between her two best friends (EMMA HUTTON and NAT DA SILVA).

3 **EXT. CITY - PARADISE CAFE - DAY 5**

3

Pip stands by her parked car. She looks across the road at the Paradise Cafe.

Through the window, Pip watches the lone figure of EMMA HUTTON (23) sweep up, ready for closing.

A gust of wind and an empty can rattles down the street.

As if sensing Pip's presence, Emma looks up. They lock eyes.

PIP (V.O.)  
Interview three. Emma Hutton, Andie Bell's friend.

4 **INT. CITY - PARADISE CAFE - DAY 5**

4

EMMA and PIP sit in a booth. Pip's phone sits between them on the table recording. It's an interview, but it feels intimate, confessional.

CLOSE ON EMMA HUTTON'S face. She looks thoughtful, pensive.

EMMA HUTTON  
(quiet, intense)  
There were three of us always: me, Andie and Nat. We met in primary school and became completely inseparable.

She pauses. Blows on a cup of hot tea.

EMMA HUTTON (CONT'D)  
Andie was like a light. If she walked into a room, everybody wanted to be near her. She was funny and kind and just being around her made you feel special.

PIP  
(bright voice)  
What was Sal-

EMMA HUTTON  
Sal made her so happy.  
(beat)  
He was different to other guys our age, like, an old-fashioned romantic.  
(lowered voice)  
I mean they hadn't even slept together yet. He wanted to wait.

Pip opens her mouth to speak-

EMMA HUTTON (CONT'D)  
It's weird how you can get someone  
so wrong.

Her eyes flick to the window.

EMMA HUTTON (CONT'D)  
They never even argued. I suppose  
Andie never did anything wrong.

Emma looks down. When she looks up, tears well in her eyes.

Pip manages to butt in.

PIP  
Would she have told you if they  
were arguing?

Emma wipes her cheeks. Gathers herself.

EMMA HUTTON  
Of course. We told each other  
everything.

Pip's eyes narrow.

PIP  
Except, I've seen Sal's phone and  
there are messages on it that show  
they were definitely arguing.

Emma stares at her, stonily.

EMMA HUTTON  
(cold)  
What are you saying?

Pip notices the change in tone. Hesitates.

PIP  
That maybe you got it wrong?

Emma stares at her. Tears gone now. Expression icy.

EMMA HUTTON  
I think either you're saying I'm  
lying or you're saying I didn't  
know my best friend. Which is it?

Pip sits there awkwardly.

PIP  
I, I...

EMMA HUTTON  
I don't even know why I'm telling  
you all this.

PIP  
(irritated)  
All what? - You've told me nothing.

Emma gets to her feet.

EMMA HUTTON  
I'm done here.  
(beat)  
Oh and Pip?

Pip nods keenly.

EMMA HUTTON (CONT'D)  
Don't ever contact me again.

She disappears through the door into the kitchen at the back.

Pip picks up her phone, holds it to her lips.

PIP  
End of interview. Nice one, Pip.

5

**INT. PIP'S HOUSE - PIP'S BEDROOM - DAY 6**

5

Pip sits at her desk. A computer is open with a spreadsheet on the screen and there are brochures and print outs next to it.

She clicks on Ravi's WhatsApp, frowns and lifts her phone to her lips to record a voice note.

PIP  
(formal)  
Hello, Pip Fitz-Amobi here  
(muffins, star costume, EPQ etc).

She sends it, thinks, then starts recording another.

PIP (CONT'D)  
There are some developments in the  
Andie Bell case that you might be  
interested to hear.

She sends it and starts recording another.

PIP (CONT'D)  
Perhaps there is a convenient time  
for me to visit you at home?

Pip puts her phone down as Leanne enters with two cups of tea. She pauses to take in the MURDER BOARD. Pip watches her closely. She looks uneasy.

LEANNE

I remember after they found Sal's body, you didn't sleep for a week. You asked a million questions.

PIP

It never made sense to me.

Leanne looks at Pip anxiously. Pip sees the look.

PIP (CONT'D)

You're not going to tell me I can't do it are you?

LEANNE

I'm worried about it.

PIP

You're always worried.

LEANNE

Just promise you won't speak to the Bells or the Singhs okay?

Pip flips her phone over. It's a bit late for that.

PIP

Sure.

LEANNE

And don't let it get in the way of everything else.

PIP

Like what?

LEANNE

Like this thing of absolute beauty.

She points at the spreadsheet on Pip's laptop screen. Pip smiles. Leanne sits down next to her.

PIP

So it's a spreadsheet of all the colleges in Cambridge. I've categorised them by age, number of applicants each year and future prospects of graduates.

LEANNE

(excited)

Ooh.

She runs her finger down the list.

PIP

I think Newnham looks nice.  
Alumni include Emma Thompson,  
Jane Goodall, Clare Balding.

There's a pause as Leanne keeps scanning.

LEANNE

Or there's Trinity - where your  
Dad was.

She looks up at Pip, emotion in her face.

PIP

Trinity's definitely on the list.

LEANNE

The top of the list?

PIP

Yeah.

Leanne relaxes. Pip breathes out, relieved the emotional  
stuff is over. But then

LEANNE

(intense)

God, he'd be proud of you.

Leanne goes back to the spreadsheet.

PING A message from Ravi. Pip grabs her phone gratefully.

***Sure.***

***And will we talk like Victorian gentlemen when we meet?***

Pip smiles and types

***Indubitably***

A pause and then Ravi: ***How about here?***

A pin drop pings on her phone. Pip clicks on it. We zoom in.

6

**EXT. LITTLE KILTON - SWIMMING HOLE - DAY 6**

6

A familiar RIVER meanders through overgrown banks of cow  
parsley and willow. Ravi holds the rope swing - he lets go of  
it. It sways out over the water.

Ravi and Pip walk along the bank. Ravi throws a stick for  
Barney. Who leaps in after it.

RAVI

(pretending to be upset)  
So, you and I made a solemn pact to be partners on this case and the first thing you do is go and interview Emma Hutton without me?

Pip looks at him. She's not sure if he's joking.

PIP

Oh. Well, I...

RAVI

I'm kidding. There's no way she'd have said anything if I was there. It's why I hired you.

Pip smiles.

PIP

Well she barely said anything to me.

(beat)

According to Emma, Sal and Andie didn't argue. They were blissfully happy. But when I challenged her on it, she got all weird and cold.

(beat)

I wish Nat would reply to my messages.

Barney brings the stick back and drops it at Ravi's feet. He bends down, picks it up and hurls it into the water.

RAVI

Who's Nat?

PIP

Nat da Silva. Andie's other best friend.

RAVI

Oh, Nat da Silva. Nude-gate Nat.

He immediately looks bashful. Scratches the back of his head awkwardly.

PIP

Nude-gate what?

RAVI

I didn't come up with that!  
(shamefaced)  
Someone leaked her nudes. I only know because it was all over school at the time. I didn't see them *myself*, I mean, I heard about it.

(beat)

(MORE)

RAVI (CONT'D)

It was a whole mystery cos no one knew who did it.

Pip looks awkward.

PIP

(changing the subject)

What do you think those messages to Andie are about?

RAVI

(thoughtful)

I don't know but with Sal and Andie there was always some kind of drama.

(beat)

I think her dad hated Sal and it caused issues at home.

PIP

Why did he hate Sal?

Ravi looks at her as if to say. *C'mon. Don't be dumb.*

RAVI

His little blonde angel going out with a brown boy?

Pip frowns.

They've arrived at the water's edge. Ravi bends down and starts looking for stones to skim. Pip watches his selection.

PIP

(casual)

Everyone thinks the flat, round pebbles are the best skimmers but actually they did a big study and it's the relationship between the mass of the stone and the curvature of its underside that's important. It helps it skip across the water.

Pip picks up a large, knobbly stone from the shore. Ravi picks up a smooth round stone.

RAVI

(unconvinced)

Who did a big study?

There's a peaceful moment as they stand side by side looking out over the still water.

PIP

Do you mind talking about Sal?

RAVI

I like it. I don't get to do it much.

(beat)

Andie's the one who disappeared but her face is everywhere. Sal is nowhere. It's like he never existed.

A moment of understanding passes between them.

PIP

Okay. One, two, three...

They skim their stones. Pip's lands with a plop. Ravi's skims lightly across the surface of the water.

Pip looks annoyed. She flexes her wrist a little, feigning injury.

RAVI

(teasing)

What were you saying about the curvature and the mass?

PIP

Maybe I didn't factor in wind resistance.

RAVI

Yeah, that'll be it, let's go again. Best of three.

He smiles winningly at her. She smiles reluctantly back.

7

**INT. CARA'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 6**

7

PIP sits at the kitchen table. CARA comes in and stops dead. Pip looks at her nervously.

Cara turns away. Starts clattering pots and pans.

CARA

(tired)

Look, Dad's tutoring. I've gotta make dinner.

PIP

I can help.

She sits at the table. Cara brings over a mountain of potatoes and a peeler. Plonks it down in front of Pip. Tense silence as Pip and Cara peel potatoes.

CARA  
(low voice)  
You don't understand how hard it's  
been for Naomi, picking herself up  
after Mum died and then Sal.

PIP  
I know and I'm sorry.

CARA  
But you still did it.

PIP  
I think sometimes I get fixated on  
something and I can't think about  
anything else. Even the things I  
care about the most.

They sit in silence for a minute.

PIP (CONT'D)  
If you want me to stop doing the  
case, I'll stop.

Cara looks at Pip.

CARA  
You can do it. Just please leave  
Naomi out of it.

PIP  
Okay.

CARA  
Promise?

PIP  
Promise.

Pip breathes a sigh of relief.

They continue peeling.

She glances at Cara coyly.

PIP (CONT'D)  
Have you ever sent a nude?

Cara looks confused by the new line of questioning.

CARA  
No.  
(beat)  
But I wouldn't not.

PIP  
(surprised)  
Really? Who would you not, not send  
one to?

Cara turns away. Pip frowns.

CARA  
No one. I'm just saying I'm not  
averse to a little nude action.  
(beat)  
Why are you so interested in nudes  
all of a sudden?

PIP  
Oh, Ravi was telling me about Nat  
Da Silva's nudes getting shared.  
(gabbling)  
He didn't look at them himself,  
they were just all over school  
so...

Cara looks at her quizzically.

CARA  
Ravi Singh?

PIP  
We're working together on the case.  
He said it was a mystery who sent  
them.

Pip doesn't notice Cara's look of alarm.

NAOMI (O.S)  
It's lucky it was a mystery. Nat is  
not someone you wanna fuck with.

Pip jumps. Naomi's entered without Pip seeing.

PIP  
(beat)  
Do you still see her ever?

Cara gives her a warning look. Pip looks guilty.

NAOMI  
Nope.

She wanders over to the fridge. Cara looks at Pip with a  
little smile.

CARA  
Nat and I are in the same tennis  
club.  
(beat)  
I've got a doubles match against  
her next week.



ELLIOT

Hush. It's match point. Da Silva to serve.

A wild grunt as Nat serves to Ruby who manages to return it.

A noisy rally ensues until Cara places a perfect shot in the corner. Nat misses.

UMPIRE

Game, set and match Foxcroft, Ward.

Nat yells in frustration. Fires her ball hard at the umpire. It hits him.

LAUREN

I think Da Silva might be doping.

ELLIOT

Be sportsmanlike please.

Cara and Ruby give each other a brief hug. Nat glowers at her partner and then storms off the court. Pip swallows hard.

PIP

I'll be back in a minute.

Elliot watches Pip head off towards the changing room.

9

**INT. LITTLE KILTON GRAMMAR - CHANGING ROOMS - DAY 7**

9

Pip enters the changing rooms. The showers are running. It's full of steam. She looks around. Then NAT DA SILVA appears from the shower, she's wrapped in a towel.

PIP

Good game.

NAT

It was a shit game.

Nat lets her towel fall. Pip averts her gaze, embarrassed.

NAT (CONT'D)

Do I know you?

PIP

I've DM'ed you a few times. I'm doing a school project on the Andie Bell case. I wanted to ask you some questions if that's okay?

There's silence. Pip glances back at her. Nat stands there completely naked. Pip looks away embarrassed.

NAT

Don't be shy. Everyone's seen it  
all before.

PIP

I haven't.

A flicker of grateful vulnerability on Nat's face. She pulls  
on her hoodie.

NAT

What do you wanna know?

Pip gestures to her phone. Nat shrugs. Pip presses record.

Nat continues getting dressed.

PIP

What was Andie like?

Nat smiles.

NAT

Andie was one of those  
people...when she turned her beam  
of light onto you, it felt warm  
like you were her entire world.

PIP

She sounds great.  
(thoughtful)  
So why do you think Sal and Andie  
argued so much?

Nat looks uneasy.

NAT

(hesitant)

I guess when that beam moved  
elsewhere, it felt cold. Maybe that  
got to Sal after a while.

PIP

Did you and Emma feel that too?

NAT

No. She was the best-friend ever.

Pip waits for her to continue.

NAT (CONT'D)

If Andie had a flaw it's that  
sometimes she attracted the wrong  
guys. She'd start sleeping with  
someone new and pouff!

Nat clicks her fingers.

Pip looks confused.

PIP  
I thought she wasn't sleeping with  
Sal.

For a split second Nat freezes. Then she heads for the door.

PIP (CONT'D)  
You said sleeping with some guy.  
Who did you mean?

Nat pauses. She turns and looks in Pip's eyes.

NAT  
You seem nice Pippa, be careful.

Her eyes linger on Pip for a second. Then she's gone.

Pip frowns. The changing room is empty now. She picks up her phone and puts it in her bag.

10

**EXT. LITTLE KILTON TENNIS COURTS - ENTRANCE - DAY 7**

10

Pip, Lauren, Zach, Connor and Cara sit on the wall outside the courts. Pip's lost in her own thoughts.

ZACH  
Did you remember to order the tent?

CARA  
(she didn't)  
Of course I did!

Pip sees Nat Da Silva emerge from the gates. She stands on the pavement waiting for someone.

CONNOR  
My sleeping bag's the same brand  
used by Sir Ranulph Fiennes on his  
Shackleton expedition. It's  
suitable for all-weather.

LAUREN  
Won't you get hot?

CONNOR  
Well, that's the point, it's all  
weather.

At that moment the COOL KIDS arrive. Ruby puffs on a vape.

LAUREN  
(low voice)  
Pretend you don't see them.

Ruby turns.

RUBY

Oi Ward. Next time let's look to dominate the right hand side.

Cara gives a double thumbs up.

CARA

(sarcastic)

Sure Ruby.

(under her breath)

Maybe next time you'll work as a team to cover the angles.

STELLA

Enjoy the rest of your holidays.

LAUREN

(under her breath)

Go fuck yourself.

CONNOR

(trying to impress)

Thanks. We're going on a survival expedition.

Everybody's smiles fade with embarrassment.

Ruby blows out a plume of vapour.

RUBY

Oh. Wow.

The cool kids walk off.

Pip sees a car pull up in front of Nat. Then her eyes widen as she sees, at the wheel, the handsome DARK HAired MAN from the party.

LAUREN (O.S.)

Well done Con.

CONNOR (O.S.)

What?

Nat slides into the passenger seat. Pip watches as she leans in to talk to the dark haired man. Then they both turn to look in her direction.

Pip spins round so her back is turned to them.

PIP

(nervous)

Can we go?

The gang move off.

After a moment Pip glances nervously towards the road.

To her horror, the car draws alongside and Pip finds herself looking into the inscrutable eyes of the dark haired man. Then the car picks up speed and disappears around the corner.

11 INT. PIP'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 8

11

VICTOR is hoisting a giant overflowing rucksack onto Pip's back.

JOSH sits at the table drawing.

Pip texts Ravi. *Can I run something by you?*

Pip looks up from her phone.

PIP

I gotta go pick up Cara. Did you find the head torch?

Leanne emerges from a cupboard with a big smile on her face. She holds a wind up torch and starts to rotate its handle. A faint light flickers on.

LEANNE

One better.

She holds up the wind up torch.

PIP

Really?

LEANNE

The beauty is, no batteries.

VICTOR

But also no light.

LEANNE

There is light.

She winds it up again. The light flickers on.

PIP

It's fine, I've got my phone anyway. I gotta go.

She approaches Leanne for a hug and Leanne clutches her to her chest.

PIP (CONT'D)

And... release.

Leanne doesn't release.

PIP (CONT'D)

Mum. I'm going away for one night.

LEANNE  
Who will be driving?

PIP  
I told you, me.

VICTOR  
(gentle)  
It's okay. Pip is responsible.

Josh looks up with concern. Leanne releases Pip.

LEANNE  
What must you remember when driving  
with friends?

PIP  
(bored rendition of a sing  
song rhyme with hand  
actions)  
Strap on. Slow right down. Don't  
show off or clown around.

Josh joins in the hand actions.

VICTOR  
Oh God. Not you too.

Leanne nods. Her jaw is tight with tension.

LEANNE  
That's right. Clowning around is  
the number one cause of teenage  
automobile fatalities.

VICTOR  
I'm not sure that's a genuine  
statistic.

Leanne's eyes widen in anger.

LEANNE  
(sharp whisper)  
Don't question me.

Victor and Pip exchange glances. He hugs her.

VICTOR  
(low voice)  
Have fun. And wish Cara a happy  
birthday from me.

Ping. A text comes in from Ravi.

***Right away Sarge?***

Pip smiles.

12

**EXT. LITTLE KILTON - SWIMMING HOLE - DAY 8**

12

Ravi and Pip sit on the bank. They're listening to a recording on her phone.

PIP (V.O.)  
You said sleeping with some guy.  
Who did you mean?

There's a pause.

NAT (V.O.)  
(quiet)  
You seem nice, Pippa. Be careful.

Pip looks at Ravi.

RAVI  
You're right, that is weird.

PIP  
And then, she got in a car with the  
guy from the party.

Ravi goes quiet. Thinks for a moment.

RAVI  
Are Emma and Nat still in touch?

PIP  
I don't think so. Emma moved to the  
city.

Ravi holds out his hand.

RAVI  
Give me her number.

PIP  
What are you going to do?

RAVI  
You'll see.

She holds up her phone with Emma's number. Ravi lies on his stomach on the grass. Types the number into his phone.

Pip lies down next to him.

Ravi types.

Ravi/Nat: *Hey, long time no see. It's Nat here. New number.*

They wait.

Emma: *Hey Nats. Miss you.*

Ravi bites his lip and types.

Ravi/Nat: *How's life in town? Cocktail emoji, dancing girl emoji, cigarette emoji.*

Emma: *All good babes.*

Pip smiles. He's good at this.

Ravi/Nat: *Well jel. Did a super weird girl contact you about Andie?*

Pip punches him on the arm.

PIP

Hey!

RAVI

(smiling)

It's not me it's Nat.

Emma: *Yh. She found me at work. You?*

Ravi glances at Pip. She takes the phone from him and types.

Pip/Nat: *She got me at tennis emoji.*

Emma: *And???*

Pip/Nat: *I'm worried I slipped up about Andie's complicated love life.*

There's a pause. Then.

Emma: *You told her about Secret Older Guy?*

Pip turns to Ravi, eyes wide. He mouths F-U-C-K.

Pip/Nat: *Horrorface emoji.* Then she glances at Ravi. He nods encouragement.

Pip/Nat: *Do you think Sal ever knew who he was?*

Emma: *No way. Don't u remember wot she said...*

Pip watches the screen.

Emma: *His life would be ruined if anyone found out.*

Emma: *Andie was the OG at keeping secrets. I think the identity of Secret Older Guy died with her.*

A pause and then

Emma: *Unless you know something I don't?*

Pip and Ravi look at each other in amazement.

13

**INT. PIP'S CAR - CARA'S STREET - DAY 8**

13

PIP is parked up outside Cara's house. RAVI sits next to her. She glances at him. He looks preoccupied, worried.

RAVI

In the eyes of the world it doesn't make Sal look great, does it? The jealous boyfriend is kind of the oldest motive in the book.

PIP

(reassuring)

Yeah but Andie had two boyfriends, which means this Secret Older Guy is our first real suspect.

RAVI

Which means we're already one step ahead of the police. Sal was their only suspect.

PIP

But this guy could be anyone.

RAVI

(remembering)

'If anyone found out his life would be ruined.'

PIP

Sounds like he had a pretty good motive too.

RAVI

Nice work Sarge.

PIP

Sarge?

RAVI

Well you're not a Detective Inspector yet.

He unclips his seatbelt.

RAVI (CONT'D)

So good luck with your night in the wilderness. I'm imagining like a Revenant style battle against the elements. Pip versus nature. Who's gonna win?

PIP

(amused)

It would probably be nature. Camping's not really my thing.

RAVI  
Yeah, me neither.

PIP  
So what are you going to do?

RAVI  
(nonchalant)  
Couple of parties, might go clubbing.

PIP  
(surprised)  
Really?

RAVI  
Nope. More like a double shift at the pub, bus home, followed by an all night gaming session in my bedroom.

Pip looks at him. Trying to work him out.

CARA emerges from her house with ELLIOT, who helps her with a mountain of camping stuff. Elliot waves at Pip's car then heads back into the house.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
I should head off.

PIP  
Oh hang on, you've got to meet Cara.

RAVI  
No, no it's fine.

He's already out of the car as Cara approaches. Pip hurries out too.

14

**EXT. LITTLE KILTON - CARA'S STREET - DAY 8**

14

Pip holds Ravi's sleeve as Cara approaches.

PIP  
(enthusiastic babbling)  
Cara this is Ravi, we're doing the case together, like I said. Ravi this is Cara, best-friend since we were four. Cara, Ravi. Ravi, Cara.

CARA  
Hey.

RAVI  
Hey.

There's an awkward beat as they all look at each other.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
So, I better go but enjoy your trip.

PIP  
Okay sure.

He nods at Cara and then heads off down the street. They watch him go. Then Pip starts to help pack Cara's stuff into the car.

CARA  
(curious)  
What's he doing now? Didn't he drop out of school?

PIP  
(defensive)  
Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard. Look where he ended up.

Pip tries to squeeze a large canvas bag into the boot.

PIP (CONT'D)  
This tent looks enormous.

CARA  
I'd say it's tent-sized.

They finish packing the car. Pip slams the boot shut. As they go to get in.

CARA (CONT'D)  
Did your Mum make you sing the drive safely song?

PIP  
Of course.

CARA  
Is she still oblivious to the double meaning of the words 'strap on'?

PIP  
Yeah.

They smile.

LAUREN  
Let's go campers!

They turn to see Lauren, Connor and Zach hurrying towards them.

Lauren drags an inappropriate wheelee suitcase, Connor wears camo gear and Zach clutches a ukelele under his arm.

15 **INT./EXT. PIP'S CAR - DAY 8**

15

The gang are piled in the car. Pip's driving. The others munch on snacks.

ZACH

Oh, I made a special Cara's birthday playlist.

CARA

(touched)

Ah thanks.

ZACH

This'll get us in the party mood.

He leans forward, plugs his phone in and presses play.

Everybody rolls their eyes as Nessun Dorma from Puccini's opera, Turandot washes over them.

LAUREN

This is why other people don't like us.

ZACH

(singing along)

Nessun dorma! Nessun dorma!

Tu pure, oh Principessa

(rousing to everyone)

Come on everybody.

Everybody stares out the window or at their phones. Pip starts the engine.

16 **INT./EXT. PIP'S CAR - DAY 8**

16

Pip driving. Everybody belting out opera full blast. ZACH in the centre, arms flung wide.

EVERYBODY AND PAVAROTTI

Vincerò

Vincerò

Vincerò

17 **INT./EXT. PIP'S CAR - DAY 8**

17

The music swells as Pip's little car drives along the road.



Pip, Cara, Lauren, Zach and Connor sit in a circle. The light of the campfire casts long shadows over their faces.

Lauren pulls a bottle of rum out of her bag.

LAUREN

This one's for the birthday girl.

Passes it to Cara who takes a swig.

Lauren reaches into her bag and pulls out a bottle of vodka.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

And, this is for the rest of us.

Everyone cheers except for Pip who looks a little worried.

Zach cracks open the vodka and takes a swig. He passes it to Pip who shakes her head and passes it on to Connor.

CARA

I assumed you'd reversed your no alcohol policy after Max Hastings and the tiny thimbles.

PIP

I tested the policy and came to the conclusion that I was right the first time.

CONNOR

Who's gonna tell a ghost story?

LAUREN

Pip! Come one. Give us your top five Andie Bell killer suspects.

PIP

(joking)

You're on the list. Where were you on the night of the 19th of April 2019?

LAUREN

At a sleepover with you.

PIP

Oh yeah.

ZACH

If it's not the boyfriend it's the dad.

CARA

Or a secret lover.

CONNOR

(hushed voice)

Have you guys heard the story about the duct tape killer?

Everyone looks at Connor cynically.

CONNOR (CONT'D)

He's a serial killer. Apparently he wraps duct tape round his victims' faces before he strangles them to death.

Everyone looks a little freaked out.

CARA

Gross.

ZACH

(to Pip)

The thing is, if you're right and Sal didn't kill Andie then whoever did, is still out there...and if he finds out you're looking for him, isn't there a chance he could come after you?

There's a beat of silence as they absorb this. Pip shrugs.

CARA

(worried)

Don't say that!

PIP

(reassuring)

No one's gonna bother about some school girl doing a project.

LAUREN

Okay focus!

Lauren gets out a piece of paper lays it out on the ground in front of them. With a pen she divides the page into four. She writes the words YES in two diagonal squares and in the other two squares, the word NO.

PIP

What are you doing?

LAUREN

We're playing Charlie, Charlie.

Lauren lays down a pencil, balances another carefully on top at right angles.

CARA

This is going to end badly.

CONNOR

Who are we going to summon?

They look at each other. A moment of silence.

Lauren raises her hands dramatically.

LAUREN  
Andie Bell!

She looks up to the night sky and takes a deep breath.

LAUREN (CONT'D)  
(spooky voice)  
Andie, Andie. Are you there?

PIP  
Oh, come on!

The pencil wavers, moves slowly to No. Everyone grins.

LAUREN  
There was a breeze.

CARA  
Surely if she says she's not there,  
then she kind of has to be.

LAUREN  
Good point.  
(beat)  
Andie, Andie will you speak to us?

The pencil wavers and moves to Yes.

Everybody smiles and reaches out to clasp hands.

LAUREN (CONT'D)  
What shall we ask her?

ZACH  
(intense)  
Do naked singularities exist?

Lauren looks at him. Zach shrugs.

CONNOR  
(quiet)  
Andie, Andie are you buried here?

Everyone looks at her.

CONNOR (CONT'D)  
What? They never found her body.  
She could be anywhere.

There's a long silence as the group look out into the trees.

Everybody stares at the pencil. It trembles a little and then starts to move. Even Pip's eyes widen. It comes to hover over YES.

Everybody screams, Cara lets out a little shriek.

CARA  
Ohmyfuckinggod.

She crumples up the paper and the gang descend into terrified giggles.

23      **INT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - PIP'S TENT - NIGHT 8**      23

It's dark in the marquee. Pip and Cara are asleep. Someone tugs on Pip's arm. It's Lauren.

LAUREN  
(urgent whisper)  
I need to pee.

24      **EXT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - NEAR CAMPSITE - NIGHT 8**      24

In the flickering light of the wind up torch, Pip, Lauren and Cara trudge away from the camp. They're wearing PJs and trainers.

LAUREN  
It's like we're pond life. You, me  
and the rest of us are the bottom  
feeders, the flatworms and the  
tadpoles, stuck in the sediment.  
(beat)  
Ant, Ruby and the rest of them  
exist on the surface, the damsel  
flies and the boatmen. All we can  
do is gaze up towards the light.

PIP  
Speak for yourself.

Cara and Lauren head off behind trees.

CARA (O.S.)  
And they don't even see us.

LAUREN (O.S.)  
Exactly!

PIP  
(to Cara)  
Why do you care so much what they  
think?

LAUREN (O.S.)  
Duh. Because she wants to hook up  
with Ruby.

Pip snorts with laughter. But Cara isn't laughing. Pip frowns.

PIP

Why would you want to hook up with Ruby Foxcroft? She doesn't work as a team or cover her angles.

Cara is silent. Cara and Lauren return.

LAUREN

But she has perfect thighs.

PIP

(confused)

Yeah but why *Ruby Foxcroft*?!

CARA

Well you've been off having sneaky assignations with *Ravi Singh*.

LAUREN

Ravi Singh! So that's why you're so interested in Sal's case.

Pip stops dead. The others walk on a few paces. Then stop and look back at her.

PIP

That's not why I'm doing it.

LAUREN

I think we're gonna need to unpack this.

PIP

(sharp)

Or we're not.

LAUREN

(awkward)

Okay. Sor-ry.

Pip walks on. An awkward silence hangs in the air.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

I think I pee'd on my leg.

They laugh, tension broken. Cara and Lauren link arms with Pip as they head back to camp.

Suddenly Pip stops and holds up her hand.

They fall silent. Nothing but the sounds of the forest.

An owl hoots.

LAUREN (CONT'D)

Shit.

PIP

Ssh.

The sound of twigs snapping.  
Then A FOOTFALL somewhere nearby.  
Lauren and Cara cling to each other.  
Their eyes search the darkness.  
Pip gasps.

PIP (CONT'D)

(whisper)

Look.

She points between the trees.  
Just beyond the tents, a little square of light moving.  
Cara squeals.  
CONNOR and ZACH emerge from their tent.

PIP (CONT'D)

There's someone there.

A SHADOW moves off into the trees.  
Connor breaks into a run after them. Pip hesitates for a second and then sprints after him.

CARA

Pip!

25

**EXT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - NIGHT 8**

25

Pip's off the path, running through the trees.  
She can hear Connor just ahead of her. Footsteps on the forest floor.  
The trunks of trees flash past. Silver branches twist like limbs towards her.  
Then the torch cuts out.  
Darkness.  
Pip trips.  
She falls hard on her face.  
Pip lies winded. She feels her head tentatively. She's okay.

CONNOR (O.S.)  
Pip! I've lost him.

In the dim moonlight she scrabbles around for the torch. Her breathing shallow and panicky.

Her fingers close round the torch. She gets to her feet.

Somewhere, Pip hears the snap of a twig.

PIP  
(terrified whisper)  
Connor?

Silence.

She starts to wind up her torch again.

The flickering light strobes the forest around her.

And suddenly Pip stifles a scream.

In the distance, the outline of a HOODED PERSON standing in the shadow.

Then the torch flickers. And the figure is gone.

26

**EXT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - NIGHT 8**

26

Pip stumbles back the way she's come. She whimpers with fear. Every noise makes her jump.

All around her, shadows leap. The gnarled and knotted trunks of the beeches seem to stare at her like eyes.

She hurries on. Glancing over her shoulder into the darkness.

Then BAM.

Pip crashes into someone and SCREAMS.

CARA  
It's okay. It's me.

Beams of torch light shine on Pip's terrified face.

The GROUP gather round her.

27

**EXT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - CAMPSITE - NIGHT 8**

27

Zach, Connor, Pip, Lauren and Cara sit by the smouldering fire. They look pale and freaked out.

LAUREN  
(panicking)  
It was a fucking serial killer.

PIP  
(reassuring herself)  
Statistically you're more likely to die in a bath than be murdered by a serial killer.

LAUREN  
So who was it then?

PIP  
(reassuring)  
It was just a hiker who got lost.

LAUREN  
Or it was the ghost of Andie Bell.

PIP  
(firm)  
Or it was just a hiker who got lost.

Connor looks at Pip. She tries to look brave.

CONNOR  
Zach and I will stay up and keep watch.

CARA  
No offense but we all saw you when Dylan knocked your physics books on the floor.

CONNOR  
(grumpy)  
It's called the Foetus. It's a defensive pose used in a lot of combat situations.

Pip smiles at them gratefully.

PIP  
Don't worry guys. You can go to bed.

28

**INT. OUT OF TOWN FOREST - PIP'S TENT - NIGHT 8**

28

Cara and Lauren are snuggled up in their sleeping bags. A torch hangs from the roof, giving off a dim light.

Pip lowers the flap on the marquee and heads over to her sleeping bag.

She frowns - there are a few bits of soil and twigs on it. She lifts up the bag and shakes it out.

Something falls to the floor.



CARA  
You're not still upset about the  
Ruby thing are you?

PIP  
How come you only told Lauren that  
you liked her?

CARA  
I didn't tell her. She guessed.

PIP  
Why didn't I guess?

CARA  
Cos you're not really interested in  
all that stuff.

Pip is silent.

CARA (CONT'D)  
It's just a stupid crush. She's a  
damsel-like remember and I'm a  
tadpole.

PIP  
(firm)  
You're a flatworm like me.

CARA  
What are you worried about?

PIP  
I don't want anything to change.

Cara looks at her amused at the uncharacteristic drama.

CARA  
(soothing)  
C'mon, I've known you since we were  
four. Nothing's ever going to  
change between us.

Cara holds up her fist. Pip fist bumps her and smiles. Cara  
gets out the car.

Pip watches Cara go in the front door. It closes. Pip starts  
the engine but hesitates.

A BLACK CAR has pulled up. Inside Pip can see MAX HASTINGS  
and NAOMI. They seem to be arguing. Max leans close to Naomi,  
she shrinks away.

Then she gets out of the car and hurries inside.

32      INT. PIP'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY 9      32

A gloomy hallway. The sound of a key in the lock.

Pip opens the door and comes in.

She closes the door behind her and slides the bolt across.

PIP

I'm back.

No reply.

We follow Pip down the hall.

She opens the door.

33      INT. PIP'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY 9      33

Pip enters the kitchen. Everything is tidy, quiet. Barney's bed is empty.

Pip tenses up as she sees a note on the kitchen table.

Crisp, white, folded with the word PIP on it. She approaches it slowly. Picks it up and with trembling hands, opens it.

***Gone shopping. Back later.***

Upstairs a floorboard CREAKS. Pip glances nervously at the ceiling, then puts the note back on the table. BUZZ. Another text from Ravi. ***Did you cauterise your own wounds?***

Pip ignores it and heads out of the kitchen.

34      INT. PIP'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY 9      34

Pip climbs the stairs.

Walks down the upstairs landing towards her room.

She pushes open the door.

35      INT. PIP'S HOUSE - PIP'S BEDROOM - DAY 9      35

Pip dumps her stuff on the bed.

Another message from Ravi. ***Did you spend the night in a bear?***

Pip frowns, confused, then turns her phone over. Sighs.

A DOG BARKS.

She goes to the window and looks out. The garden is growing dark. Shadows move.

Pip locks the window. Pulls the curtain closed.

She sits on her bed, takes out the threat and holds it in trembling hands.

STOP DIGGING PIPPA.

Pip puts the threat down. Takes her phone, searches through presses play.

NAT DA SILVA (V.O.)  
 You seem nice Pippa.  
 (rewind)  
 Pippa. Pippa.

Pip gets up and scans the images on the murder board. She goes to the PERSONS OF INTEREST LIST. The names Jason Bell, Naomi Ward, Max Hastings, Nose Stealer, Secret Older Guy. She writes the name NAT DA SILVA.

Then she notices something. A photo of the press conference.

She leans in closer and closer. She types something into her laptop.

Then she takes out her phone and texts Ravi.

*Can you come over?*

Ravi: *Yeah.*

36

**INT. PIP'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY 9**

36

PIP watches RAVI anxiously. She looks worried. He's looking at the murder board.

Ravi's eyes graze over the pictures of Sal, Andie, him. He looks sad.

PIP  
 Do you think I'm crazy?

RAVI  
 Hundred percent.  
 (beat)  
 But that's not necessarily a bad thing.  
 (beat)  
 So, what have you got?

Pip nods at the photo of the press conference. Ravi leans in.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
 What am I looking at?

Pip points to a man standing behind the Bell Family. The dark haired guy from the party is there dressed in *police uniform*.

PIP

His name is Dan da Silva. He's Nat da Silva's brother. He was a *police officer* working on the case.

Ravi looks closer.

RAVI

Oh *shit* I remember him. He was a right prick.

PIP

He's the one who warned me off at the party.

They look at each other, dead serious.

RAVI

That's creepy. What's he trying to hide?

(beat)

Could *he* be Secret Older Guy?

PIP

Yeah. But then there's Nat, being all 'you seem nice Pippa. Be careful.'

(thoughtful)

Could he be *covering* for Nat?

Ravi looks at her.

RAVI

Maybe.

Ravi turns to look at the board. Then he starts to take down some photos, rearranges them.

PIP

Hey!

RAVI

I'm just putting them in chronological order.

(beat)

A little surprised you haven't done it already to be honest.

(beat)

Look.

Pip looks.

PIP

At what?

Ravi points to a row of photos.

RAVI  
Andie, Emma, Nat.  
(beat)  
Andie, Emma, Nat.  
(beat)  
Andie, Emma, Nat.  
(beat)  
All the way to here, April, two  
weeks before Andie went missing.

He points at three pictures.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
It's just Andie and Emma, Nat drops  
out.

He looks at Pip.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
They definitely fell out about  
something.

Pip looks at it, then she looks at the date of the pictures.

PIP  
When were the nudes leaked?

RAVI  
It was April. I remember cos we'd  
just lost 5-0 in the under 14s.  
Everyone was passing them round on  
the coach back.

They look at each other. The same thought coming to them.

PIP  
And you said it was a mystery who  
sent them. What if it was Andie?

RAVI  
Would she do that to her best  
friend?

PIP  
I don't know but if she did, that  
would give Nat a pretty good  
motive.

She holds out her hand. Smiles winningly at him.

PIP (CONT'D)  
I'm gonna need your phone again?

The carpark by a railway track. Pip and Ravi wait nervously  
under a street light. They sit on a bench and eat snacks.

RAVI

Next time we need to get the  
stakeout food right.

PIP

What's wrong with crisps.

RAVI

Too noisy. We need something quiet.

PIP

Like a doughnut?

RAVI

Too sticky. Think of the finger  
prints.

PIP

True.

(giving it serious  
thought)

What about Marshmallows? That's  
gotta be the quietest food in the  
world.

RAVI

Perfect.

A CAR ENGINE. Pip turns to see a BLACK CAR pull up.

In the driver's seat sits NAT DA SILVA.

She gets out of the car and stands illuminated under a light.  
She looks around. Pip takes a breath and steps out of the  
shadows. Nat looks confused.

PIP

Hi Nat.

NAT

Hey.

There's a beat.

NAT (CONT'D)

I'm just waiting for a friend so...

She takes her phone out.

PIP

You mean Emma?

Nat looks up at her.

RAVI

Emma's us.

NAT  
What the fuck?

PIP  
(bluffing)  
We know it was Andie who shared  
your nudes.

Ravi looks at Pip, embarrassed at her blunt approach. Nat  
hesitates, then turns.

NAT  
(dismissive)  
I'm sorry?

Nat stares at Pip, working out what she's getting at. Pip  
starts to quail under her gaze.

NAT (CONT'D)  
(revelation)  
Oh. You think Andie released my  
nudes and I killed her in  
vengeance?  
(genuinely horrified)  
Wow, that's dark. Andie was my best  
friend.

Pip looks at the ground. Shamefaced.

Ravi interrupts.

RAVI  
(gentle)  
You and Andie fell out though  
didn't you? Just before she  
disappeared.

Nat hesitates.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
I had a row with Sal the night  
before he died. It still feels bad.

Pip watches Nat's expression soften.

NAT  
She'd changed.

RAVI  
How?

NAT  
I dunno. Before she died, she'd  
just gone into self-destruct mode.  
She was hanging out with this guy  
who...

Nat searches for the words.

NAT (CONT'D)  
...was just a nasty piece of work.  
I told her to stay away from him  
but she wouldn't listen.

RAVI  
Who?

Nat's eyes gleam with anger.

NAT  
(bitter)  
Max Hastings.

A flicker of vulnerability. Then she turns and gets into her car. Ravi and Pip watch as she drives away.

38

**EXT. LITTLE KILTON - SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT 9**

38

Ravi and Pip walk down the dark street. Pip's buzzing, full of energy. Ravi's mulling something.

PIP  
Could Max be Secret Older Guy?

RAVI  
(defensive)  
All Nat said was they were hanging out.

PIP  
Yeah but Max said he literally never spoke to her. He lied.

RAVI  
Well maybe he just forgot.

Pip looks at him, confused, she can see he's a bit defensive.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
Max could be a dick but he was round our house the whole time, he  
(hesitates, embarrassed)  
taught me how to do a rainbow flick.  
(beat)  
I guess I just don't wanna think he could do something like that to Sal.

PIP  
(gentle)  
Do you still see him ever?

RAVI  
Not really. Not since the funeral.

There's a beat as they both process that.

They pause on the corner.

RAVI (CONT'D)  
Okay, I'm this way. Do you want me  
to walk you home?

PIP  
No. I'm fine. But thanks.

Pip watches Ravi walk off. Then she turns and hurries off in  
the other direction.

39

**INT. MAX HASTING'S HOUSE - PORCH - NIGHT 9**

39

TOBY HASTINGS opens the interior porch door and looks blankly  
at PIP.

TOBY HASTINGS  
Hello?

PIP  
Hi. I'm a friend of Max's.

Toby winks at her.

TOBY HASTINGS  
Lucky old Max.

Pip hesitates for a second.

PIP  
Is he in?

As if by magic ROSIE HASTINGS looms behind him.

ROSIE HASTINGS  
(sharp)  
Toby. We need more wine from the  
cellar.

TOBY  
Max is upstairs. Just follow the  
smell of Paco Rabane.

PIP  
Thanks.

Pip heads for the stairs. Rosie watches her.

40

**INT. MAX HASTINGS' HOUSE - STAIRCASE/LANDING - NIGHT 9**

40

Pip climbs the stairs two at a time. Her jaw is set. She  
looks pissed off.

She strides across the landing and knocks at Max's door. No answer.

A glance down the corridor, then she pushes it open.

41

**INT. MAX HASTINGS' HOUSE - BEDROOM - NIGHT 9**

41

Pip enters. The sound of the shower in the ensuite bathroom.

She closes the door gently behind her and looks around. The ultimate boy's den.

A la-Z-boy reclining chair in front of a massive screen. A king size bed. A desk and a wall of pictures of models.

Pip appraises them. All the women are a type. Blonde hair, blue eyes etc.

Pip glances at the shower room door. The shower is still running. She takes the opportunity to search the room. She opens the desk drawers and rifles through.

Inside is an ashtray with a joint, half smoked.

She closes it again. Moves to the desk. Flicks through some papers. Picks up the books on the shelves flicks their pages.

Then her eyes move to the bedside table.

A framed photo of Sal, Naomi, Jake and Max arms slung round each other at some party.

Pip picks it up and studies it. Then she feels something on the back of the picture and flips it over.

Another photo is wedged into the back of the frame.

She takes it out and shakes her head in shock.

A photo of Andie Bell naked.

Andie's head is tilted back, her eyes, dark beneath half lowered lids.

She's in a bathroom. Red walls, a zigzag black and white tiled floor. She holds her phone up to snap her reflection in the gold mirror.

Pip stares at the image. There's something cold and blank in Andie's expression that chills her.

She gets out her phone and takes a picture of it.

MAX (O.S.)  
(low voice)  
What the fuck are you doing?

Pip leaps out of her skin.

She turns to see MAX standing by the door. He's wet from the shower, a towel wrapped round his waist.

He steps towards her, his eyes on the photo in her hand.

Pip raises her chin.

PIP

Did Sal know you were sleeping with his girlfriend?

Max eyes her with cool amusement. He's totally calm.

MAX

You're funny. You're like, some hysterical, avenging virgin.

PIP

(straight back at him)  
I take that as a compliment.

MAX

I didn't sleep with Andie.  
(beat)  
I found it in a classroom at school. I keep it by my bed for *inspiration*.

Pip looks him dead in the eye. She's not going to rise.

MAX (CONT'D)

(amused)  
Just because I appreciate the female form, doesn't mean I'd screw my best friend's girlfriend.

Pip fumbles in her pocket and produces her phone, scrolls through. We see screenshots of messages from Sal to Andie.

PIP

How do you explain these then?

She hands Max the phone. He reads them. A smile flickers across his face.

MAX

Oh, so he'd finally caught on.

He looks up at Pip.

MAX (CONT'D)

Andie was selling drugs.

PIP

How do you know?

MAX

I was one of her customers. She sold them at Calamity parties mainly. Sal hated drugs.

PIP

(confusion)

She was a drug dealer.

MAX

She worked for a dealer.

PIP

(disbelief)

Who?

Max hesitates.

MAX

I don't know his name.

PIP

So how do I find him?

MAX

At a Calamity I'd guess.

He looks at her and smirks.

Then he takes a step towards her, snatches the picture out of her hand. Pip backs up against the door.

MAX (CONT'D)

(low voice)

A Calamity is hot and sweaty and noisy and just a little bit fucked up in all the best ways.

Max smiles a slow smile.

MAX (CONT'D)

You're such a good girl Pip. Are you really ready for that?

Close on Pip. *Is she?*