

TV SERIES REVIEW

THE BOYS

A different side to superheroes

ABHOY HRIDDO

Amazon Prime's *The Boys* is an absolutely bonkers superhero show in the best way. From creators Garth Ennis and Derrick Robertson, *The Boys* is based around a group of vigilantes teaming up to take down a very mean version of the Justice League. It shows not only what it means to be a superhero, but what profound effects it has on the people around them.

The show starts off with the main protagonist, Hughie Campbell, played by Jack Quaid; his girlfriend is killed horrifically by a high-speed collision with the speedster known as A-Train. He is then approached by Karl Urban's Billy Butcher who offers him to join "The Boys" to teach the "supes" a lesson.

As the story unfolds each character steals the spotlight in their own way. Hughie Campbell is a charming, harmless kind of protagonist but it's Billy Butcher who steals the spotlight. Urban nails his portrayal of Butcher as he searches for the hero who murdered his wife. However, heroes are only as good as their villains or in this case, their heroes.

The Seven, basically the evil Justice League, are a dynamic bunch to follow. In public, they are the faces of heroism, truth and justice but off camera they tend to be polar opposites. Anthony Starr's Homelander is a deadly fusion between Captain America and Superman, minus the good upbringing. He's unstable, unpredictable and indestructible making him the most dangerous and most interesting villain of the show. He leads The Seven on their trail of "justice".

Following him are the six members of The Seven. We've got Queen Maeve who is basically a Wonder Woman clone. She treats her role in the seven as an obligation as she tried to do good deeds at one point of her life but failed. The Deep is a misogynistic jerk but genuinely cares about sea creatures although every time he tries to help his aquatic buddies something goes horribly wrong in the most hilarious way. Black Noir is the most mysterious of The Seven. He's mute and is never seen without a mask. A-Train is the fastest in the group but is very careless with his powers. This very carelessness started the whole show in the first place. Last but not least we have Starlight, a small-town girl whose dream was to work with The Seven. However as the show starts, her dream gets shattered to pieces as Annie learns the truth about the heroes she idolised her whole life.

Even though there are a lot of positive sides to the show, some characters were not given the spotlight much. They were interesting and mysterious and clearly deserved more recognition. Furthermore, there could have been more of the gratuitous and ferocious actions sequences than there are and a stronger link to the comics would make it much interesting.

In conclusion, *The Boys* is a violent, graphic, irreverent and entertaining show. It is a must watch for any comic-book-adapted movie and series geek. If anyone needs something fresh to watch, go check this out in Amazon Prime.

Abhoy Hriddo is a teenage geek whose only joy is indulging himself in comic books. Send your thoughts at abhoyhriddo@gmail.com



WHICH JANE AUSTEN HEROINE ARE YOU?

AYSHA ZAHEEN

Jane Austen is one of the most beloved authors of all time. She successfully sheds light on the social life of Regency-era England, mocking the absurdities and allowing female characters to uplift one another. Here are four Austen heroines, out of seven, and you get to see if you're like any of them.

ELIZABETH BENNET (*PRIDE AND PREJUDICE*)

I suppose we all have a part of us that desperately wants to be Elizabeth. If you are though, well, you are quite lovely. You get your energy from outdoors and social situations. Even though you may not be communicating with everyone, you have a keen eye and judgement. Your loyalty to your close ones is unparalleled, though the book you're reading is closer to you than anyone else. Your wit and playfulness make you shine through. However, overconfidence in your intuition and your own logic may provide slightly to your downfall. You may come across as impertinent and insincere, but those who know you are aware of how much you value human emotions and relationships.

EMMA WOODHOUSE (*EMMA*)

Known for your charming precociousness, you are a confident person who likes things their own way. You have a cheery disposition, coupled with empathy that is almost condescending. You have the tendency to believe that people who have your sense of style and are appreciative of your values and beliefs are inherently better than the rest. You can also be very ignorant of the needs of people around you, choosing to believe they all need something that you think is right for them. This may be a shortcoming, but your underlying intentions intended to benefit others and ensure the happiness of those close to you never fails to catch anyone's

eyes.

ELINOR DASHWOOD (*SENSE AND SENSIBILITY*)

You're the no-nonsense person of the bunch. You have the tendency of keeping things very much to yourself, to everyone's dismay. You tend to think your worries are of little to no significance and never allow yourself to truly open up to anyone about your troubles. However, when it comes to those who are close to you, you are hell-bent on alleviating whatever might be bothering them, readily providing support and encouragement. You are more reactive to external forces, your responses yielding to those more than what lies in your own heart. You prefer keeping to yourself over socialising, introverted by nature. However, your caring and doting nature cannot be denied, and your loved ones more readily rely on you than any other.

ANNE ELLIOT (*PERSUASION*)

You are practical and reasonable. Superficiality escapes you, thus, leaving you room for prudence, intelligence, and dignity. You are highly capable of keeping a calm disposition in the face of adversities, never really disarmed by surprises. You believe highly in your own set of principles, never falling short of committing to them even if it leaves you stranded apart from your peers. However, you also put a high emphasis on your duties and responsibilities, never disregarding the role you are ought to play in whatever situation. Your tendency to be overly-responsible allows your close ones to persuade you to their own advantage, knowing fully well that you will not fall short of carrying out your obligations. However, your compliance never dissipates your own ideas of self.

There are other heroines who are just as intriguing as the ones here at your disposal, which only means Austen wrote enough to include every woman.