



Such a Good Girl

Amanda K. Morgan

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Riley Stone is just about perfect.

(Ask anyone.)

She has a crush on her French teacher, Alex Belrose.

(And she suspects he likes her, too.)

Riley has her entire life planned out.

(The plan is nonnegotiable.)

She's never had a secret she couldn't keep.

(Not ever.)

Riley is sure that her life is on the right track.

(And nothing will change that.)

She's nothing like a regular teenager.

(But she doesn't have any problem admitting that.)

Riley doesn't usually play games.

(But when she does, she *always* wins.)

She thinks a game is about to start....

But Riley always has a plan....

And she always wins.

Such a Good Girl Details

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Author : Amanda K. Morgan

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From Reader Review Such a Good Girl for online ebook

PinkAmy loves books, cats and naps says

GRADE: A-

4.5 STARS

Riley Stone is perfect. Just ask her. Shoo-in for valedictorian, cheerleader captain, volunteer. She's even kind to her classmates. Not wanting to lose focus, she's never been on a date, by choice, although she has a crush on her Alex Belrose, her French teacher. When her older brother suggests Riley let loose, she embarks on a dangerous game of cat and mouse. Riley plays to win. And when she doesn't win, bad things happen.

Riley is SUCH A GOOD GIRL. Or is she? My opinion about her shifted throughout the book. As narrator, she initially seemed like the annoying perfect girl in high school bordering between confident and cocky. She had a sense she of entitlement or maybe she just worked hard and wanted what she earned. My thoughts changed.

Amanda K Morgan built the character and plot with expert precision. Every few chapters was a page Facts on Riley Stone, interesting omniscient tidbits about Riley she hadn't mentioned and subtle clues. Saying anything more would be spoilerish.

I had an inkling of the twist and enjoyed the execution. I will have to reread to see all the clues I missed!

Kristyn - Reading to Unwind says

This is the second book of Amanda K. Morgan I have read and loved this one even more than the first one.

This book follows Riley Stone who is a perfect model student. She presents evidence on why she is perfect and why she is the best student in the school. Riley has never gotten in trouble in her life. Riley is a logical character and really thinks things through.

The author does an amazing job really leading you down one path, while still giving you some suspicion the path might not be fully correct. There are so many twists in the book that I just didn't see them all coming. The ending left me going wow Amanda you totally got me I didn't see that coming at all. I love when I finish a book and just can't let the ending go.

I liked Riley as the main character. I felt right off the bat she had something to hide because it felt like she was pouring on the perfect too much. Riley really does open up during the book and show more of her personality. At parts I felt like we could see the beginning of almost a split personality coming out. Riley is trying to make the most of her high school life and trying to start to live it up while also maintaining her perfect student mode. I also loved that we got a look at Riley's family life and that it wasn't as perfect as she wanted it to be. It felt like Riley was working hard to keep up her appearances the entire book.

The book is told entirely through Riley's point of view and I think this works perfectly for this book since her personality isn't that stable. The author does a great job making you think is Riley a reliable narrator.

The author creates one relationship in this book that is very interesting. I enjoyed that we kind of got a look back into where the relationship started and it didn't 100% come out of the blue so for me it worked. I loved the lengths that Riley was willing to go for this relationship.

I can't think of any complaints about the book that really stick out to me. I am only giving it 4 stars because I can't think of a reason I would want to reread this book. The book was great and really kept my attention, but I don't think I would sit down and read it again any time soon.

I would suggest this as a beach or weekend read when you have more time to fully digest what is going on. I had trouble putting the book down because I wanted to know what was going to happen next.

I received a copy of this book from The Fantastic Flying Book Club to provide an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of this book.

Mycoton32 says

<http://www.leslecturesdemylene.com/20...>

18/20 - Pffffffffffffioui je ne m'attendais pas du tout à une intrigue comme ça et j'ai adoré être bluffée !

Chelsea Humphrey says

This was going to be a 2 star read for me, but the book was just so dang readable that I couldn't put it down; therefore the extra star. While I was hoping for something just as twisty and mysterious as *Pretty Little Liars*, this felt more like something trying to hard to be too many things. While it made for excellent drama and compulsive reading, I couldn't shake the fact that everything fell into place a little TOO perfectly. This was one of those stories where everything is wielded to fit into a specific space and there is no wiggle room for raising realistic questions. Overall, a highly entertaining read, but one that felt a little too "matchy matchy perfect" in the end. Full review to come.

Samira says

I don't even know what's true and what's not in *Such A Good Girl*. Riley is delusional and self absorbed. She's definitely not a reliable narrator because she changes the story to suit her image of a good girl and to diminish her responsibility. The ending was meh and surprising, I guess. I read and watch a lot of thrillers and mysteries so the ending didn't blow me away. I sort of expected it.

I didn't like Riley at all and I feel she uses people. The French teacher, Alex, gave me the creeps. I'm not sure if she was ever in a relationship with him or not. Non of the characters were likeable or just not memorable so i'm being generous with my 3 stars for this book.

It was quite readable so there is that!

Nat Walton says

Such a Good Girl is the type of book that would be right up my alley, but instead I just found Riley grating and obnoxious. Her mental state and internal dialogue came off as more comical than threatening. Obviously, something about her was off but this realization never actually came to fruition for me. I kept waiting for something to actually happen and then by the end, I just felt ... confused. Instead of being a psychological thriller or a mystery of some kind, it was like teen fiction where someone slapped on an ending that could've been gripping had the story had enough time to figure itself out. There just wasn't enough intrigue or even a strong enough plot to keep me going, or even really make me want to finish the novel—it was just so short I felt compelled to finish it.

Katerina Kondrenko says

4 out of 10

Yet another book I had to read for work. Not bad, guys, not bad (there were curious twists and stuff), but definitely not my cup of tea. I just can't feel it. The author made up interesting things, but couldn't bake them in the right way.

Daniela Zekotic says

At first I was a bit hesitant starting this book, I'm usually not into reading about high school stories. But this book caught my attention right from the first page on. Amanda knows how to use her words and manages to describe everyone pretty great.

The main character Riley is an over-achiever an A student. Basically perfect, except when it comes to boys. A teacher, seriously Riley? I was a tad annoyed by her character now and then, she came off as arrogant a few times. But then again, she does get good grades and knows how to handle her stuff. And not getting any attention from your parents, while watching your brother soak it all up must be pretty annoying. I also liked how Amanda gave us some bullet points with information about Riley. The reader gets to know her better without it interrupting the storyline.

Alex.. Well Alex seemed quite sweet at first, but he became more creepy as the story proceeded. I never expected him to get to such length to be with Riley, this twist caught me off guard.

All in all it was a great and exciting story, leaving me wondering what's going to happen next throughout the whole story. And no sight of any sappy romance which I appreciate greatly.

Stacee says

I am not sure how to feel about this book. To be clear, I am 100% on board with mindfuckery and unreliable narrators and the synopsis gave off that vibe.

Riley was an interesting MC. She's smart and driven and I liked that she was more focused on school and getting into college. There were several times Riley wondered why it was important and expected for her to have a boyfriend and that really stood out to me.

Plot wise, I sort of don't have words. It was pretty clear from the start that something was off. There was a weird, creepy feeling and I kept trying to guess what was going to happen. There are a few revelations and some things I definitely didn't see coming, but I had my WTF face on through pretty much the entire book. For several reasons. {And yes, I'm being vague on purpose. There were a lot of WTF moments I liked and a lot I didn't. I don't have the ambition to clarify.}

Overall, it was a quick read with some interesting threads. I would have liked just a little bit more explanation at the ending, but it all worked.

****Huge thanks to Simon Pulse for providing the arc free of charge****

Michelle Booth says

I love to read books but I find life moving so fast that I rarely have time to read a book or at least finish one. I was so excited to get the opportunity to read "Such A Good Girl" and give my honest review. When I read in the email something about it being like "Pretty Little Liars" I was sold. I am a huge fan of that show which is based on a book series. As a 43-year-old woman I still much enjoy shows and books that are based on high school or college age story lines. Now here goes my review of "Such A Good Girl".

As I have already mentioned on my social media channels I was hardly able to put this book down. I read it in a total of three days and for me that says a lot. I often read at night/early morning after work and before my sleep time. Any book I finish and read that quickly gets a definite five stars from me.

The main character Riley and her friends seem to be the popular girls at school. They all have their strong suites. Riley excels in academics but is less experienced socially than the other girls. She does not date much although there is definitely some interest.

Riley tries her hand at being a little more outgoing in certain areas while having a little something secretive going on around her. This seemingly "good girl" may not be as good as some think she is.

This story line definitely kept me interested throughout and wanting more. The ending without giving things away definitely surprised me. There is definitely more to Riley than meets the eye that much is for sure.

I would definitely recommend this book as a good read. If you like these types of story lines like I do it should be right up your alley. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

Jasmine from How Useful It Is says

About: Such A Good Girl is a fiction novel written by Amanda K. Morgan. It will be published on 6/20/17 by Simon Pulse, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, paperback, 288 pages. This book is intended for readers ages 14 and up, grades 9 and up. The genres are young adult fiction and contemporary.

My Experience: I started reading Such A Good Girl on 4/6/17 and finished it on 4/8/17. This book is so twisted I didn't even see it coming! I enjoy reading this book and I just couldn't put it down. I like the suspense and the twists. I like reading about Riley and her friends, even though their perfection seems unrealistic. I like the organization of this book with some pages that talks about Riley and her accomplishments. I even like the hot French teacher. I like that old bookstore and definitely would want to shop there.

"It's not like I'm stupid. It means he didn't ask. It means he lied. It means nothing has changed and I'm just a fool who is wasting her time. And I am not a girl to be made a fool of." p.197

In this book, readers will follow the point of views of Riley Elizabeth Stone, the good girl & the overachiever. She volunteered & made a difference in her community at many stages in her life. I like how careful she is when she goes to a forbidden place. I like that she is not easy and in control. There was an awkward to how the love started and maybe Riley only started to take notice of him because her friends told her to do something outside of her comfort zone. Another weird area is Riley throwing up as a reaction to him. How much of it is her strategy? I wish Riley discuss her strategies during this time. At the end, it seems to be in favor, but it's unrealistic how all the guys throw themselves away for Riley, especially him. It would have been easier to understand if this book has his POV too.

"You just need to practice not giving a shit for once in your entire life." p.53

Two things I like reading about in this book: suspense & forbidden love. This book is an easy read and a page turner. I like Riley's brother, Ethan, and his views on life. He's so easy going and doesn't take things too seriously. I like his talks about a giant set of dominoes. This book has some diversity. I can tell Kolbie's bf is Indian because his name is Jamal and the friend is Sandeep. I didn't expect the ending to be that way. Overall, this book is a good read and at times addicting. I prefer being in on the strategies discussions more than being left in the dark and getting the surprise in the end, but at the same time, it's good to get the unexpected surprise. I do recommend everyone to read this book!

Pro: smart characters, twists, suspense, humor, friendship, forbidden love, secret, fast paced, page turner, couldn't put down

Con: awkward getting into the crush and little to no info on Riley's plans

I rate it 4.5 stars!

***Disclaimer: Many thanks to Simon Pulse for the opportunity to read and review. Please assured that my opinions are honest.

xoxo,

Jasmine at www.howusefulitis.wordpress.com

Helen says

SPOILER SPOILER SPOILER

I'll be discussing the twists in detail, so please turn away now if you're planning to read this book.

I would put this book at around 3 or 3.5 stars for logic/plotting issues, but maybe 4 stars for Riley's interesting characterization, which I loved, despite its inconsistencies. She's intriguing as a person, and it was easy to breeze through the book in a few hours to find out what would happen next.

This book seems like it's going to be a relatively innocuous high-school book about an ultra-competitive yet good-hearted, down-to-earth popular girl with a touch of forbidden romance. And, for about 45% of the book, that's what we get. But then, some strange, jarring twists came out of nowhere. And I still have so many unanswered questions.

Riley has a jealous, vengeful streak that is quite disturbing. It doesn't really fit well with everything else that was hinted about her (her psychological issues that only seem to span need for perfection and the amount of pressure she puts on herself). So when these feelings flared up in her, it came across as cartoonish or unbelievable. In this book, she essentially avenges herself on numerous people who have wronged her all in one convenient explosion, while making herself appear saintly or like a hero. That's to be expected if she's a sociopath, but we just really don't get any hints of that AT ALL from the way she's characterized. She seems like a girl who craves attention from her parents, who are wrapped up in her troublemaker older brother. She bends the truth a little to get Alex's sympathy when they're younger, but that is perhaps the only hint that there is something dark or unreliable about Riley. It's a far cry from making her teacher-lover swear a blood oath to her, if that account can be trusted, or musing that things would be easier if she were a killer. By approximately 65% of the way into the book, you can tell things have taken a really dark turn, but Riley is inconsistent. Things don't add up.

The problem is that there is some faulty logic somewhere. We understand by the end that Riley is an unreliable narrator, and that she has managed to manipulate people and their actions/deaths so that things turn out well for her. But which parts of the books were real? How much was fabricated by Riley in her testimony? Did she really have feelings for Alex, which turned sour when she saw that he lied about the necklace and leaving his wife? Or was she playing him all along, knowing his wife Jacqueline was the woman who caused her to lose the modeling show at age 15 (if she wasn't playing him all along, then Jacqueline being his wife is a HUGE coincidence)? How did Jacqueline and Rob end up in the car that Alex wanted to set fire to and push over a cliff? Did Riley put them in there (it doesn't seem so...there is nothing that hints it was her doing) or was Alex off his rocker as well, as she depicts him? We know he wasn't the one who took photos of her in her bedroom (Riley faked that on her own), but Alex shows confusion and claims he didn't schedule the meeting with her parents, but he *was* at the meeting, telling her parents she had (faked?) failing grades -- so she couldn't have imagined/arranged that part. If Alex is demented as well, what are the chances that both characters are murderously insane? I'm just really confused by all the little details that aren't adding up, which is NOT a sign of a well-plotted story.

Alex and his behavior with Riley doesn't strike me as believable. For example:

- having the *L'Amant* book ready to hand to her at the bookstore (did he see her before she knew he was there? when did he have time to grab the book, since it seems they start talking right after she notices Alex

and his wife and tries to hide?). Did he really suggest that book to her, or is it something Riley planned to implicate him?

- his forwardness with her, despite the risk to his job as her teacher.
- never really alluding to his past history with her (as Riley's brother's friend), which you'd think they'd talk about...after all, why is he interested in her...he never actually says why he prefers her over, say, someone older? They just go from tentative flirting to horny makeouts, and we don't get any sense of a solid relationship developing.
- how neither of them mention his wife Jacqueline the first few times they're together, even though her existence clearly hangs over their relationship.
- his dark ways of escalating when she ignores him or is out with other boys -- are all of these fabricated by our unreliable narrator (in which case we can give him a pass for not being realistic), or does he actually do these things?
- his excuse about the wine club ladies being mean to Jacqueline sounds flimsy, so I can't tell if he's the dishonest one or if Riley made this up later.
- the fact that he seems completely nice and sane as a French teacher -- but is supposedly hiding this dark, desperate side (at least according to Riley's testimonial...which certainly no student can corroborate).

SO confused. And making the reader feel muddled doesn't make for a powerful narrative.

(I was a little sad that *L'Amant* was never mentioned again after the story started taking the dark and unexpected turn.)

I loved Riley's female friendships. Kolbie and Neta are great. They do seem a little too perfect and a little too teenagery (throwing around a lot of recent slang) to be real, but this book seems to be about heightened reality, so I'll accept.

Was there any significance to the moments when Riley ties the dark pink ribbon in her hair (which happens 3 times: when she cuts gym class, takes brownies to Jacqueline, and goes on a date with Sandeep in the epilogue)?

Also, who writes e-mails back and forth instead of texts when they're on their phone? I can buy that in the beginning, but they must have exchanged phone numbers at some point so that they could text. Also, if Riley has access to Alex's phone password (it's never explained how), are all the messages from Alex actually from Riley?

Is the lavender scarf Riley is wearing at the bookstore (that Alex subsequently takes/keeps) the same scarf that they joked over while volunteering at the clothing drive when they were younger? If yes, why does Riley tell Kolbie that she bought it while shopping with Kolbie and Neta? (It seems like a big coincidence if not...did she seek out a similar scarf due to that memory?) This is not a big issue, it just seems unclear. Was the reader supposed to assume it's the same scarf? If it's not the same scarf, why even have this dialogue about it?

The characterization of Riley's parents is all over the place. They seem distracted and uninterested in her in the dinner scene, but later it's shown that her mom remembers that she got an acceptance from Princeton. They take an interest in her when Rob comes over. However, in Riley's memory of the clothing drive, she tells Alex about them, and partly to get his sympathy, she says her dad is a black-out drunk and her mom seems hollow -- but from her inner dialogue, it sounds like there's something truly wrong in her family that she feels concerned about (so she takes his "everything will be all right" to heart) -- yet we never find out what's wrong with them.

They really seem like normal concerned parents in the meeting about her French grades. They seem like reluctant parents when it comes to her past experiences with therapy -- eager to get her out of therapy. They did normal things like being proud of Riley in Pee Wee football and switching her to gymnastics/cheerleading -- and later modeling. And they chaired multiple charity events when she was a child. There's not much sign of anything darker (that would warrant Riley's unspoken worries when talking to Alex) or that lack of attentiveness that Riley seems to be pushing against.

To me it feels as if Morgan wanted to shock readers with twists, but took these twists to a really dramatic, heightened level that the groundwork (Riley's characterization, which parts of Alex were fabrication vs. real) did not support. As a result, they come off unrealistic and out of the blue instead of making the reader think, "Wow, I was surprised by this/these fantastically dark and demented character(s) and the disturbing things they've done!"

Stephanie Ward says

'Such a Good Girl' is a thrilling YA contemporary that will have readers on the edge of their seats and devouring each page. This is going to be kind of hard for me to review because I don't want to give anything away - and that's tricky for this book. The description gives you a little taste of Riley - the main character - but doesn't really tell you much about the plot. It's twisty, dark, and full of suspense. I got sucked in immediately and couldn't quit reading until I finished - which only took a few hours. I honestly haven't been drawn into a book that way in awhile, so that's how I know it's a good one.

Riley is a fascinating and unique main character. She's a "good girl" - she has been as perfect as possible from a young age. She gets perfect grades, is valedictorian, captain of the cheer squad, tries to be humble and nice to everyone, doesn't drink or even attend parties, does tons of charity work and fundraisers - including running several - and so on. She must be perfect and won't accept anything else. She has flaws - everyone does - and one of these (in her mind) is crushing on her French teacher. I'm not going into detail here because I don't want to ruin anything, but let's just say we get to know Riley a lot better and we see some of her other qualities that she doesn't show anyone else. She was incredibly realistic and easy for me to connect with right away. Mostly because she reminded me of myself, especially when I was in high school. I could identify with a lot of her "rules" that she has for herself. Perfect grades. No partying. Always be seen in a good light. Make your parents proud. Be a star student. And so on. I got her and fell into her thoughts easily. Didn't quite prepare me for what was to come though - that's all I'm saying about that. One other mention is about the writing style. The book is done in the first person, from Riley's perspective. I'm SO happy the author chose to write it this way! It was the perfect fit for the story and it definitely wouldn't have had the same impact if written in another way. Riley's point of view was exactly how this should've been told - and it allowed the story to flow effortlessly but with tons of suspense and tension building.

The plot was awesome. I didn't know what to expect going in because of the vague-ish description, but I wanted to give it a shot. Needless to say, I lost myself in the story and I'm still kind of reeling (and somewhat confused) about what happens. There are lots of twists you don't see coming at all. I thought I knew where things were going and what was really happening, but I was always wrong. I love thrillers and it takes a lot to impress me after reading so many, but this managed to do it. Towards the end, I had figured most of it out, but I couldn't stop reading. The story just kept getting more suspenseful and I just had to see what was going to happen next. That's about all I can say without spoilers, but I loved it. I very highly recommend this one for fans of YA thrillers, mysteries, suspense, and contemporary!

Disclosure: I received a copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

Laura says

Thank you to the author, Amanda K. Morgan, and Olivia (who manages the review chain) for providing me with a copy of this book. All opinions expressed are my own.

Where do I even begin with this book? I have very mixed feelings about it. Let me explain:

- 1. The theme. When you start out, there isn't too much of a theme happening.** The story follows Riley, a perfect, high school senior, as she navigates the last year of high school and the pressures of romance. That's when things start to take an unpleasant turn. I found Riley's love interest to be rather creepy to be honest. If I were her, I would have run in the other direction as soon as possible. But in any case, it seems like there's the whole 'love will prevail' theme happening which was fine and dandy. And then the author brings in the whole 'why do women even need to be dating someone to warrant attentions?' debate which was slightly unexpected but not at all unwelcome. ***But the ending!*** The ending just threw everything through a loop. It **usurps the themes** and changes everything you thought you knew which was completely wonderful! I just wish the author had done it in a slightly more obvious way. I read this book through twice and I only got the subtle references to the change in message and ending the second time around. It was **completely worth the reread**, though.
- 2. The characters.** Like I said previously, I **found Riley's love interest to be creepy** and I didn't really enjoy Riley's scenes with him. Perhaps that was the point, however, which I'm willing to concede to. **Riley herself is wonderfully portrayed and painted.** I honestly connected with her quite a bit (especially with the bookstore scene!) and I loved being in her head. Riley's friends, **Kolbie and Neta**, however, are a different story. While they are nice characters, I **didn't feel as though they were completely fleshed out** and felt. They were there and they were fine but they **weren't spectacularly built**. I felt much more from Riley's parents, surprisingly enough.
- 3. The plot.** Like I mentioned in the theme portion, the **ending takes a wonderful twist** but until then, the plot is simply standard. While I was **completely sucked in** (I finished it in one sitting both times through), it **wasn't anything remarkable**. After the second read I have come to admire the ending the author crafted, though, and the last chapter is truly stunning. Think Agatha Christie type breadcrumbs left for you after you realize what has been happening all along. It's **quite lovely and an honestly beautiful construction**.
- 4. The romance.** I've said it before and I'll say it again: I found Riley's love interest very strange and off-putting. You **could practically spot the red flags from a mile away**. Sadly, Riley doesn't seem to recognize that until it's too late and she's turned down a path she didn't want. I **did enjoy the dynamic the author created by introducing other love interests** into the mix. Not as a love triangle (or square) formation but as a comparison of what a relationship should be like and what Riley perceives it to be.

The Final Verdict:

Once I delved deeper with a second reading, the true merits of this book shone beautifully. However, some might find the subtle twist in the ending too slight and could find the book lackluster (like I did the first time around).

3.5 stars

Quotes:

“For about two seconds, I play with the normal teenage girl hope that rises up in my chest. Maybe dating someone wouldn’t be so bad. Then I pinch it out like a candle. I am more than all of that.”

“Of course, I also heard she has an insane temper and almost got fired five years ago when she threw a hammer against the wall when someone questioned her knowledge of table saws, but maybe you get that way from years of systemic sexism.”

“So of course my mom came downstairs to see what the hell her daughter was doing vacuuming so late at night (or at all), and saw Rob, who of course ma’am-ed his way into my mom’s heart immediately, and I’m relatively certain she had him mapped out as my prom date and possibly as my husband before he’d left.”

“The space heater starts to make an odd metallic noise. I hope it’s not going to explode. My mom is always going on about space heaters exploding and starting stuff on fire and everyone dying.”

“Weird that it took a guy for them to notice that their daughter was here, around, a sentient being instead of a picture to straighten on a wall. Weird that I wasn’t enough on my own when I was being the perfect child and pinning awards and ribbons to my dream board and filling my bank account I can’t touch with grants and my future with scholarships. It took a boy and bad grades to even get them to look at me.”

theresa 🌸🥑 says

This book was physically painful to read. It was just so horrible, unrealistic, offending and idk how could someone actually enjoy it. I am not usually this harsh BUT OHMYGOD this book made me so mad. I am all about flawed characters but WTF was that? What was the point? Is it me? Am i that stupid? And my expectations were not high at all- i expected something fun, dark in a cliché way (think Pretty Little Liars or Dangerous girls/boys) and easy to read, with a twist in the end and all i got was UGH, UGH AND UGH????
