

LITFLIX

Afternoon lovely Year 11,

I have felt inspired to come up with a guide to some really useful (and enjoyable) adaptations of Literary classics. Irrespective of whether you intend to study Literature at A-Level, these productions offer an insight into different historical, social and political contexts. Why not broaden your literary horizons and give a few a go? It is free to access Freeview, BBC iplayer, ITV Hub and 4OD - if you can't do this through your TV, use your computer to access the sites. All of this content is age appropriate.

Get the popcorn ready! Happy viewing!

Mrs Scott

Freeview:

Jane Eyre (U) - BBC2 - 4.10pm - Saturday 28th March

[1943 adaptation of Bronte's novel. Small, plain and poor, Jane Eyre (Joan Fontaine) comes to Thornfield Hall as governess to the young ward of Edward Rochester (Orson Welles). Denied love all of her life, Jane can't help but be attracted to the intelligent, vibrant, energetic Rochester.]

BBC iPlayer:

Sherlock (15) *[The nation's favourite detective takes on the world. The only thing to expect is the unexpected.]*

A Christmas Carol (15) *[An original take on Dickens's iconic ghost story from the creator of Peaky Blinders.]*

Agatha Christie's The Pale Horse (15) [*Agatha Christie mystery. When a young woman is murdered, a mysterious list of names is discovered. Who wrote the list and what does it mean?*]

War and Peace (15) [*In a new adaptation of Leo Tolstoy's timeless novel, three young people experience life, love and loss against the epic backdrop of Russia's wars with Napoleon.*]

Noughts + Crosses (15) [*Another re-imagining of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. In a dystopian London, Sephy and Callum fall in love despite the odds. Can they breach the divide between the black elite and white underclass? Based on Malorie Blackman's novels.*]

The Bronte Business (U) [*First transmitted in 1977, Joan Bakewell visits Haworth in Yorkshire, home of the Brontes, to see the setting in which the novelists worked.*]

Novels that shaped our world (-) [*Examining the novel from three unique perspectives: A Woman's Place, The Empire Writes Back; The Class Ceiling.*]

The Secret Life of Books (-) [*Classic books are considered with a fresh eye. Returning to the authors' original manuscripts and letters, expert writers and performers bring their personal insights to these great works.*]

ITV Hub:

Agatha Christie's Poirot (-) - **Murder on the Orient Express, Sad Cypress, Five Little Pigs** [*David Suchet stars as Agatha Christie's fictional detective Hercule Poirot in this collection of murder mysteries.*]

Agatha Christie's Marple (-) - **The Sittaford Mystery, By the Pricking of my Thumbs, The Moving Finger** [*Agatha Christie's crime thrillers featuring the author's much-loved spinster sleuth Miss Jane Marple.*]

4OD:

Suffragette (12) [*Sarah Gavron's drama, set just before the First World War, explores the increasingly defiant campaign by British women for equality and the right to vote.*]

Birdsong (15) [*Abi Morgan adapts Sebastian Faulks's WWI love story. As Stephen Wraysford fights in the death-filled trenches of northern France, he is haunted by memories of Isabelle Azaire, the woman with whom he had an illicit and all-consuming affair before the war.*]

Any Human Heart (15) [*Jim Broadbent, Matthew Macfadyen and Sam Claflin take the lead role in William Boyd's funny, moving adaptation of his novel, exploring one man's tumultuous journey through the 20th century.*]

Elizabeth I (15) [*Helen Mirren portrays the 'Virgin Queen' in her later years in this major two-part drama.*]

Netflix:

Pride and Prejudice (U) *[An all-star cast, stately homes and beautiful countryside combine to capture the romance, drama and wit of Jane Austen's novel in the 1995 adaptation.]*

Sense and Sensibility (U) *[Facing poverty after their father's death, three sisters are obliged to rely on the generosity of others in this adaptation of the Jane Austen novel.]*

North and South (12) *[When her father moves his family to an industrial mill town, the parson's daughter, Margaret Hale, struggles to adapt to her harsh new surroundings.]*

The Great Gatsby (12) *[Fascinated by the mysterious and affluent Jay Gatsby, his neighbor Nick Carraway bears witness to the man's obsessive love and spiral into tragedy.]*

Howard's End (PG) *[When a husband, acting in his family's "best interest," does not accept his wife's deathbed wish, providence dictates that he pay for his duplicity.]*

Emma (U) *[In this Jane Austen adaptation, meddler and matchmaker Emma Woodhouse takes new protégé Harriet Smith under her wing, but her plans end up in disaster.]*

The Lord of the Rings trilogy (12) *[From the idyllic shire of the Hobbits to the smoking chasms of Mordor, Frodo Baggins embarks on his epic quest to destroy the ring of Sauron.]*

Les Misérables (12) *[The musical version of Victor Hugo's epic tale of love and sacrifice, first produced for the stage in 1985, now receives the big-screen treatment.]*

Mary Shelley (12) *[Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin was just 16 when she followed a boy and became Mary Shelley, the wounded yet fierce feminist who penned "Frankenstein."]*

Agatha Christie's Crooked House (12) *[When a detective investigates the death of his ex-lover's grandfather, he uncovers secrets about the tycoon's manipulative family.]*

Sherlock (15) *[The nation's favourite detective takes on the world. The only thing to expect is the unexpected.]*

Alias Grace (15) *[In 19th-century Canada, a psychiatrist weighs whether a murderess should be pardoned due to insanity.]*

12 Years a Slave (15) *[A freeborn black man is abducted from New York and sold into slavery in this historical drama based on the autobiography of Solomon Northup.]*

West Side Story (PG) *[A modern retelling of William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. This classic musical set among the tenements of New York City finds a pair of star-crossed lovers caught in a turf war between rival street gangs.]*

Clueless (12) *[A modern retelling of Jane Austen's Emma. Meddlesome Beverly Hills high school student Cher gets more than she bargained for when she gives a fashion-challenged student a makeover.]*