# Faye Marsay reflects on filming impactful series Adolescence



Faye Marsay, the 38-year-old actress known for her role as DS Misha Frank, has shared insights about her experience filming the critically acclaimed series *Adolescence*. The show, which has captivated audiences since it premiered on Netflix earlier this month, explores deeply relevant issues surrounding online misogyny and its impact on youth.

In an appearance on the *Reign with Josh Smith* podcast, Marsay recounted a poignant moment during the filming process when co-creator and star Stephen Graham delivered a speech that left many members of the cast in tears. This address took place prior to the filming of the first episode, after a two-week rehearsal period. Marsay noted that Graham gathered the cast in an area reminiscent of a village square, where trailers were located, and shared his thoughts on the significance of their work.

She reflected on his speech: "It was this most empowering speech about how special it is that we're all here doing this, that jobs like this don't come along very often, that scripts like this don't come along very often and that we could make a real difference being in this show." Graham compared the experience to that of a football team preparing for their Champions League final, a metaphor that resonated deeply with the cast. Marsay described the atmosphere as spiritual, with actors embracing each other after the speech and preparing emotionally for their first take.

*Adolescence* features a unique format, with each episode filmed in a single continuous take. The plot follows the Miller family, whose lives are irrevocably changed when their son Jamie, portrayed by Owen Cooper, faces arrest for the stabbing of a female classmate. This storyline has generated discussions about the influence of toxic online behaviours on young individuals.

In the podcast, Marsay discussed her character's experiences, highlighting the challenges women face in a world inundated with issues like misogyny. She also revealed that she improvised a notable line referencing the controversial figure Andrew Tate, which was embraced by director Philip Barantini and added to the script. "I wanted to convey the 'tiredness' that women feel around the horrifying subject matter, because they've been exposed to it so frequently they've become 'used to it'," she explained. Marsay emphasised the importance of addressing the weariness many women experience about such topics.

Reflecting on her past experiences, Marsay addressed the abuse she faced while playing The Waif in *Game of Thrones*. She described the intense harassment from internet trolls, stating, "the abuse I got from that was insane... It got pretty dark." She noted that the anonymity of the internet lends itself to a kind of freedom that can fuel misplaced anger aimed at public figures.

The show has not only drawn in audiences but has also generated speculation about the potential for a second series. Graham indicated that while there is a possibility of developing another story, the decision would heavily depend on audience response. He expressed surprise at the show's impact: "I suppose what I’m trying to say is that we had no idea that it would impact socially the way it has."

While there is some enthusiasm about continuing the narrative, director Philip Barantini believes *Adolescence* should remain a standalone series, noting the remarkable conversations it has already sparked. "I think it’s a package of this moment in time," he remarked, suggesting that the series encapsulates a critical dialogue that has emerged in contemporary society without the need for further sequels.

As *Adolescence* continues to gain traction, both viewers and critics are engaging deeply with its themes, reflecting on the societal concerns it raises about the current state of youth culture and masculinity.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.elle.com/uk/life-and-culture/culture/a64183888/faye-marsay-adolescence-seen-her-before-movies-tv-shows/> - This article discusses Faye Marsay's role in Adolescence and her background in shows like Game of Thrones and Black Mirror, providing context for her acting career and relevance to the Netflix series.
* <https://www.stylist.co.uk/entertainment/tv/adolescence-faye-marsay-interview/971681> - This interview with Faye Marsay highlights her experience filming Adolescence and the importance of the show's themes, aligning with her reflections on the series' impact and societal relevance.
* <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt31806037/> - This IMDb page provides details about the Adolescence series, including its plot and cast, corroborating the show's storyline about a young boy accused of murder and its cast members.
* <https://www.gameofthrones.com/> - This official Game of Thrones website supports Marsay's role as The Waif, where she experienced harassment, by providing background information on the series and its characters.
* <https://www.netflix.com/title/31806037> - This Netflix page for Adolescence confirms the show's presence on the platform and aligns with discussions about its impact and audience response, reflecting its popularity and critical acclaim.