

TV Review: Catching a Killer: A Bullet Through the Window; Love, Lies & Records

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Catching a Killer provided another fascinating, if grim, real-life murder investigation that seemed open-and-shut, but became anything but



Catching a Killer: A Bullet Through the Window Channel 4

★★★★☆

Love, Lies & Records

BBC One

★★☆☆☆

Modern technology is an utter godsend to TV crime documentaries. How did they manage without it? The harrowing first 999 call to report a murder puts the ready-packaged intro in the bag. Taped police interviews and contemporaneous radio reports narrate more dramatically (and cheaply) than any boring voiceover. And then there's the leading lady: CCTV. Honestly, it should have its own Equity card. Those ghostly pictures provide the atmospheric money-shot and let the viewer feel important trying to spot clues in the footage.

Catching a Killer made good use of all these things in a murder case that seemed straightforward on the surface, but proved to be a low-key mind-games thriller. The title was a bit confusing, given that the man who shot 19-year-old Suhaib Mohammed walked into a Milton Keynes police station soon afterwards and confessed. There seemed to be no killer to catch. But something didn't smell right. The confessor,

Mohamed Noor, refused to say where he got the gun or whether anyone else was with him. But CCTV, the fuzz's cocky watchman, showed two people running from the house after the shooting, not one.

Enter Albert Prempeh, who claimed he had been coerced into accompanying Noor in fear of his life. In a convincing police interview he even broke down in tears (I was totally taken in, but then I can be quite gullible). He also said Noor had fired a warning bullet into his ceiling — and there it was in the wooden beams. Even the interviewing officer seemed to believe him. CCTV delivered the truth serum again. A different camera showed Prempeh swaggering quite happily to the address where Suhaib was shot, not cowering, but leading the way. As someone said, succinctly, he was “full of shit”. And quite the actor.



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RORY MULVEY/CHANNEL 4

Both men got 30 years and the deeply moving and brave interviews with Suhaib's father and sister told us just how easy it is for a nice young lad, who wasn't the intended victim, to be groomed into a world of drugs in a very short time. A terrifying tale for any parent and, in TV terms, an education.

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