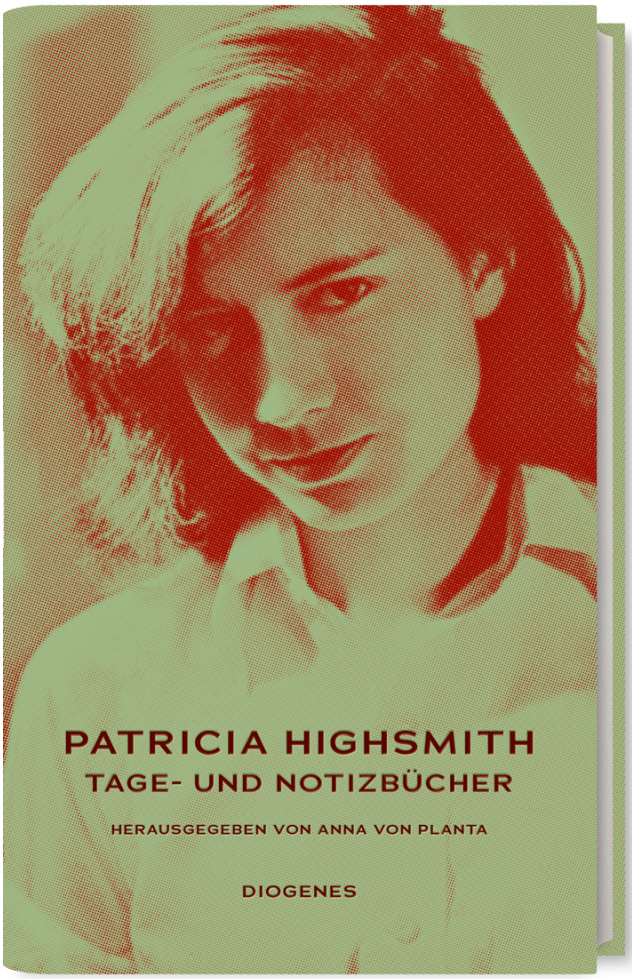
Diogenes

Book factsheet

Patricia Highsmith
Her Diaries and Notebooks

Published by Diogenes as *Tage- und Notizbücher*
Original title: *Her Diaries and Notebooks*



As much as Patricia Highsmith wrote, there is one thing she always left out: herself. So it was a sensation when, after her death in 1995, 18 journals and 38 notebooks were found in her linen cupboard, written in without interruption since her college days.
A woman who travelled around half the world, lived at least two lives simultaneously and, from a cool half-distance, penned psychological novels about fundamental themes like love, alienation and murder.
»Every artist is in the business for his health«
Notebook, August 31st, 1966

Contemporary Literature
1376 pages
12.5 × 20.5 cm
November 2021

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suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

Translation rights currently sold:
Chinese/CN (Shanghai Translation)
English/UK (Weidenfeld & Nicolson/Orion)
English/USA (Norton)
French (Calmann-Lévy)
Greek (Agra)
Italian (La nave di Teseo)
Korean (Plain Archive)
Portuguese/BRA (Intrínseca)
Portuguese/PT (Relógio d'Agua)
Spanish/world (Anagrama)

Movie adaptations

2024: Ripley
Director: Steven Zaillian
Screenplay: Steven Zaillian
Cast: Andrew Scott, Dakota Fanning, Johnny Flynn

2021: Deep Water
Director: Adrian Lyne
Screenplay: Zack und Sam Levinson Helm
Cast: Ben Affleck und Ana de Armas

2021: Loving Highsmith
Director: Eva Vitija
Cast: Bekannte und unbekannte Schauspieler

2016: A Kind Of Murder
Director: Andy Goddard
Screenplay: Susan Boyd
Cast: Patrick Wilson, Jessica Biel, Haley Bennett

2015: Carol / Salz und sein Preis
Director: Todd Haynes
Screenplay: Phyllis Nagy
Cast: Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara und Kyle Chandler

2014: The two faces of January
Director: Hossein Amini
Screenplay: Hossein Amini
Cast: Kirsten Dunst, Viggo Mortensen, Oscar Isaac

2009: Cry of the Owl
Director: Jamie Thraves
Screenplay: Jamie Thraves
Cast: Paddy Considine, Julia Stiles

2005: Ripley under Ground
Director: Roger Spottiswoode
Cast: Barry Pepper, Tom Wilkinson, Claire Forlani

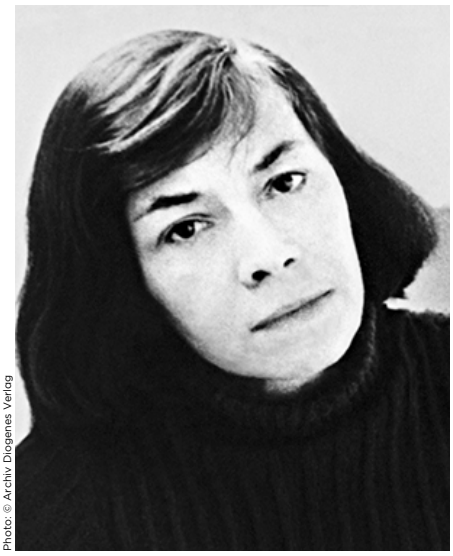
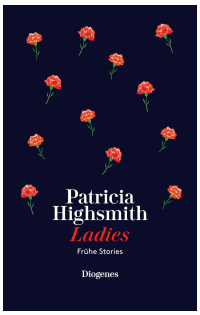


Photo: © Archiv Diogenes Verlag

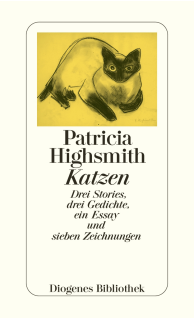
Patricia Highsmith (1921 – 1995), born in Fort Worth, Texas, grew up in Texas and New York and studied Literature and Zoology. She wrote her first short stories while still in high school and initially earned a living as a comic book writer. She had her first international hit in 1950 with her debut novel *Strangers on a Train,* and the film adaptation by Alfred Hitchcock catapulted her to worldwide fame. Patricia Highsmith died in Locarno in 1995.



Ladies
320 pages
2020
Bestseller



The Complete Ripley Novels
2224 pages
2015



Cats
160 pages
2005



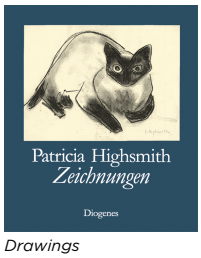
The Animal-Lover's Book Of Beastly Murder / Little Tales Of Misogyny
416 pages
2004



Posthumous Short Stories II
384 pages
2002



Posthumous Short Stories I
400 pages
2002



Drawings
144 pages
1995



Small g - a Summer idyll
432 pages
1995

Movie adaptations (cont'd)

1999: The Talented Mr. Ripley
Director: Anthony Minghella
Cast: Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jude Law, Cate Blanchett

1996: Once You Meet a Stranger
Director: Tommy Lee Wallace
Cast: Jacqueline Bisset, Mimi Kennedy, Andi Chapman

1993: Trip nach Tunis
Director: Peter Goedel
Cast: Hunt David, Sillas Karen

1991: Der Geschichtenerzähler
Director: Rainer Boldt
Cast: Christine Kaufmann, Udo Schenk, Anke Sevenich

1989: L´Amateur de Frissons
Director: Roger Andrieux
Cast: Jean-Pierre Bisson, Marisa Berenson

1989: Le jardin des Disparus
Director: Mai Zetterling
Cast: Ian Holm, Eileen Atkins

1989: L´Epouvantail
Director: Maroun Bagdad
Cast: Jean-Pierre Cassel, J. Fox

1989: A Curious Suicide
Director: Bob Biermann
Cast: Nicol Williamson, J. Lapotaire

1989: La ferme du malheur
Director: Samuel Fuller
Cast: Philippe Léotard, Assumpta Serna, Chris Campion

1989: Legitime Défense
Director: John Berry
Cast: T. Weld, D. Olbrychski

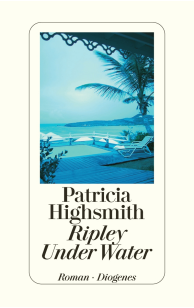
1987: Le cri du hibou
Director: Claude Chabrol
Screenplay: Odile Barski
Cast: Christophe Malavoy, Mathilda May, Jean-Pierre Kalfon

1986: Die zwei Gesichter des Januars
Director: Wolfgang Storch
Cast: Yolande Gilot, Charles Brauer, Thomas Schücke

1983: Tiefe Wasser
Director: Franz Peter Wirth
Cast: Jo Nasch, Vic van Allen

1983: Ediths Tagebuch
Director: Hans Werner Geissendörfer
Cast: Angela Winkler, Vadim Glowna, Leopold Verschuer

1981: Eaux profondes
Director: Michel Deville
Screenplay: Florence Delay
Cast: Isabelle Huppert, Jean-Louis Trintignant, Jean-Luc Moreau



Ripley Under Water
432 pages
1991



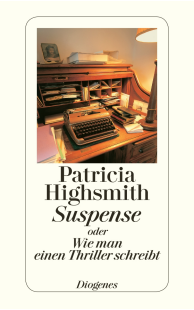
Carol or The Price of Salt
408 pages
1990
Movie Adaptation



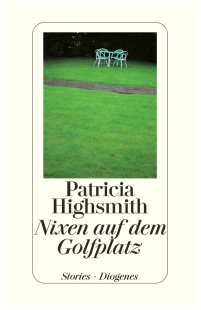
Tales of Natural and Unnatural Catastrophes
272 pages
1988



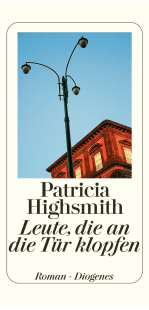
Found in the Street
360 pages
1986



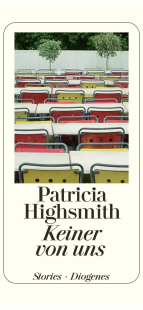
Suspense
136 pages
1985



Mermaids on the Golf Course and Other Stories
232 pages
1985



People Who Knock on the Door
384 pages
1983



The Black House
352 pages
1982



The Boy who Followed Ripley
496 pages
1980



A Game for the Living
336 pages
1979



Slowly, Slowly in the Wind
288 pages
1979



Edith's Diary
436 pages
1978
Movie Adaptation



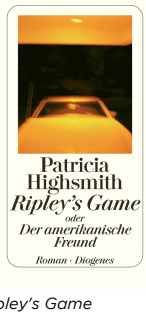
The Glass Cell
288 pages
1976
Movie Adaptation



Deep Water
304 pages
1976
Movie Adaptation



The Cry of the Owl
320 pages
1976
Movie Adaptation



Ripley's Game
384 pages
1976

Movie adaptations (cont'd)

1977: Dites-lui que je l'aime
Director: Claude Miller
Cast: Gérard Depardieu, Miou-Miou

1977: Die gläserne Zelle
Director: Hans Geissendörfer
Cast: Helmut Griem, Brigitte Fossey, Dieter Laser

1976: L'ami americain
Director: Wim Wenders
Cast: Bruno Ganz, Dennis Hopper, Lisa Kreuzer

1969: Once You Kiss a Stranger
Director: Robert Sparr
Cast: Paul Burke, Carol Lynley, Martha Hyer

1963: Le meurtrier; Enough Rope
Director: Claude Autant-Lara
Cast: Gert Fröbe, Maurice Ronet, Robert Hossein, Yvonne Fourneaux, Marina Vlady

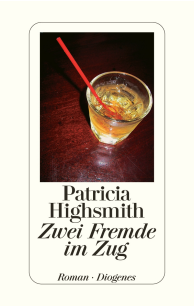
1962: Le meurtrier
Director: Claude Autant-Lara
Cast: Robert Hossein, Marina Vlady, Gert Fröbe, Maurice Ronet

1959: Plein soleil
Director: René Clément
Cast: Alain Delon, Maurice Ronet, Marie Laforet

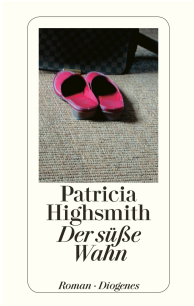
1951: Strangers on a Train
Director: Alfred Hitchcock
Cast: Farley Granger, Ruth Roman, Robert Walker

Awards

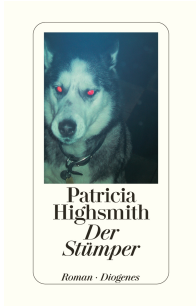
2015 *Carol*-Kinofilm von Todd Haynes bekommt ›Preis der Frankfurter Buchmesse‹ als ›beste literarische Verfilmung‹
1993 ›Finnischer Krimipreis‹ der Suomen dekkariseura für ihr Gesamtwerk
1990 ›Officier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres‹
1987 ›Prix Littéraire‹ des Festival du cinéma américain von Deauville
1979 ›Schwedischer Krimipreis‹ in der Kategorie ›Grand Master‹ der Svenska Deckarakademin als Auszeichnung für das Lebenswerk der Autorin
1975 ›Grand Prix de l'Humour Noir‹ für *L'Amateur d'escargot* (dt. *Der Schneckenforscher;* Original: *The Snail Watcher*)
1964 ›Dagger Award‹ in der Kategorie ›Best Foreign Novel‹ für The *Two Faces of January* (dt. *Unfall auf Kreta/Die zwei Gesichter des Januars*)
1957 ›Grand prix de littérature policière‹ in der Kategorie ›International‹ für *Plein Soleil – Monsieur Ripley* (dt. *Der talentierte Mr. Ripley*; Original: *The Talented Mr. Ripley*)



Strangers on a Train
256 pages
1974
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller



This Sweet Sickness
272 pages
1974
Movie Adaptation



The Blunderer
272 pages
1974
Movie Adaptation



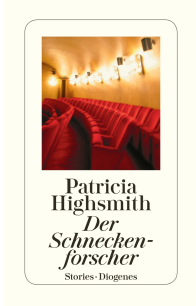
A Dog's Ransom
400 pages
1974



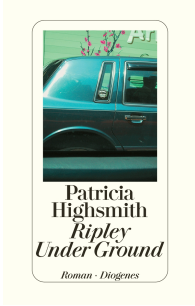
The Two Faces of January
256 pages
1974
Movie Adaptation



A Suspension of Mercy
224 pages
1974
Movie Adaptation



The Snail Watcher
256 pages
1973



Ripley Under Ground
368 pages
1972
Movie Adaptation



The Talented Mr. Ripley
336 pages
1971
Movie Adaptation



The Tremor of Forgery
288 pages
1970



Those Who Walk Away
336 pages
1968

Awards (cont'd)

1946 ›O. Henry-Preis‹ in der Kategorie ›Best First-Published Story‹ für *The Heroine* (dt. *Die Heldin*. Dt. in: *Der Schneckenforscher*; in Original: *The Snail Watcher*)

Praise

Her Diaries and Notebooks

»It promises to be one of the literary highlights of 2021 — publication of the diaries of Patricia Highsmith, one of the most conflicted, fascinating novelists of the 20th century.« – Edward Helmore / The Guardian, London

»Patricia Highsmith's lacerating diaries and notebooks, however, will be seen as one of the great twentieth- century artistic self-portraits.« – Frances Wilson / New York Review of Books, New York

»A portrait of the writer as a young woman« – The New Yorker, New York

»Disclosures from a meticulously documented life [. . .] An admirably edited volume for scholars and voracious fans.« – Kirkus Review, New York

»A quarter century after the death of novelist Highsmith (1921–1995), fans are given a fascinating and unprecedented look into the ›playground for [her] imagination‹ [. . .] Devotees and historians alike will linger over every morsel.« – Publishers Weekly, New York

»More than 50 years of the novelist's diaries and notebooks have been assembled in this volume, painstakingly annotated for context by Highsmith's longtime editor von Planta [. . .] An exceptional effort [. . .] Sure to be a resource for future scholars [. . .] offering a frank and detailed account of a woman and writer coming of age.« – Asa Drake / Library Journal, New York

»With a presentient awareness of her audience, Highsmith's candid entries reflect a determined writer and an uneasy heart as they outline her work, reading, and social life.« – Asa Drake / Library Journal, New York

»But her writing owes everything to this attitude: of confronting the world armed with a steel needle.« – Claudia Voigt / Spiegel, Hamburg

»They [the records] testify to the recalcitrant, unrelenting spirit of this great American curmudgeon and gifted crime writer.« – Focus, Berlin

»Reading Patricia Highsmith's diary entries filled me with a joy that goes beyond the thrill of such a literary treasure being published for the first time after almost thirty years.« – Anuschka Roshani / Das Magazin zum Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich

Praise (cont'd)

»They offer intimate insights into a writer's soul - and into her attempt to write a lesbian novel, which she published under a pseudonym in 1952.« – Welt am Sonntag, Berlin

»The Highsmith community has been eagerly awaiting this moment: *The Diaries and Notebooks* are finally being published.« – Linda Stift / Die Presse, Vienna

»In these diaries and notebooks, one gets to know unknown sides to the crime writer: the lyrical, ecstatic and aphoristic.« – Tobias Gohlis / Die Zeit, Hamburg

»Published for the very first time, this outstanding edition presents a curated selection of 1300 pages of Highsmith's 18 diaries and 38 notebooks. A fascinating document of cultural history.« – Maike Albath / Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Berlin

»Phrased in a much more direct and forthcoming voice than the low, flat, compellingly psychotic murmur she tended to use for her fictions, Pat Highsmith's astonishing candor in the witness stand of her personal notebooks, and heartbreaking self-exposures in the jury box of her diaries, are like nothing else in American confessional literature.« – Joan Schenkar

»The whole book is excellent. Highsmith is pointed and dry about herself and everything else. But the early chapters are special. They comprise one of the most observant and ecstatic accounts I've read — and it's a crowded field! — about being young and alive in New York City. […] It's been sharply edited by Anna von Planta, Highsmith's longtime editor. The introductory material for each section is useful and concise. There's no desire to hit ›skip intro.‹« – Dwight Garner / The New York Times, New York

»And what a journey she goes through, from 1941 until 1995, recreated in an elliptic, even cryptic tone.« – François Rivière / Le Figaro Littéraire, Paris

»We also have to welcome the editorial choice of mixing her diary entries, which chronicle her loves, her travels in Europe and South America, her ideas on religion or marriage, with those of the notebooks dedicated to her literary reflections.« – Macha Séry / Le Monde des Livres, Paris

»Here remain, however, a bit more than a thousand printed pages, covering the years 1941-1995, which allow us to approach her complex personality and to dig down into the source of inspiration for some of her books.« – Nathalie Crom / Télérama, Paris

»This volume is not only a revealing document of cultural history, but most of all the self-portrait of a glittering and contradictory writer.« – Maike Albath / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»Highsmith's German editor since 1984, Anna von Planta, and her team did this brilliantly.« – Jochen Schimmang / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Frankfurt

Praise (cont'd)

»A milestone in the literary diary genre, and not just for the 20th century.« – Rainer Moritz / Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

»Her Diaries and Notebooks show that the mental landscapes of Highsmith's protagonists are indeed often inspired by her own psychological abyss.« – Uli Hufen / Deutschlandfunk, Cologne

»›The forest made only of ›nos‹ is resurrecting again.‹ she once wrote. Even just sentences like these make reading it worthwhile.« – Franziska Hirsbrunner / SRF2 Kultur, Zurich

»Yet despite the extremes of mood and tone, this volcano of a book, winnowed from more than 8,000 pages of notebooks and diaries left behind when Highsmith died in 1995, is in fact a model of compression.« – M.G. Lord / Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles

»One of the delights of the early diary entries is the unlikely spectacle of Highsmith as steward of a lot of glancing – *Bridget Jones*-type material (8 November 1943: Nice day. Wore moccasins to work with great success.)« – Emma Brockes / The Guardian, London

»A new book, *Patricia Highsmith: Diaries and Notebooks,* opens a window onto this extraordinary writer's inner life and working methods.« – Ian Thomson / Evening Standard, London

»Furthermore, the magnificent result is, indeed, unpredictable. It's impossible to guess what Highsmith will come out with next. There is a startling phrase on every page.« – Mark Sanderson / The Times, London

»Her great contribution to the mystery genre turns out to be nothing else than her diaries and journals. Even these pages conceal with one hand what they display with another: ›It is curious that in the most interesting periods of one's life, one never writes one's diary.‹« – Benjamin Kunkel / The New Republic, New York

»The translators have done an excellent job, matching the voice of the diaries with that of the notebooks.« – Natasha Cooper / The Times Literary Supplement, London

»As the *Diaries and Notebooks* reveal, Pat was also unpredictable, which makes you want to dive right back into her oeuvre again.« – Marianne Payot / L'Express, Paris

»A war chest beneath duvet covers.« – Didier Jacob / L'OBS, Paris

»A spellbinding read.« – Knut Cordsen / BR24, Munich

»Anybody who isn't a fan yet should read one of the mentioned novels or *The Cry of the Owl* or *This Sweet Sickness*. But beware: This stuff is addictive.« – Thomas Bodmer / Die Weltwoche, Zurich

»A woman making her way through a male century.« – Joachim Leitner / Tiroler Tageszeitung, Innsbruck

Praise (cont'd)

»These secret diaries take us inside Patricia Highsmith's brilliant yet twisted mind.« – David Sexton / The Sunday Times, London

»*Patricia Highsmith: Her Diaries and Notebooks,* out from Liveright and compiled by Highsmith's longtime editor Anna von Planta, provides stunning access to the mind of a notoriously secretive author.« – Keziah Weir / Vanity Fair, New York

»The author left 38 notebooks and 18 diaries, which the heroic Anna von Planta has decoded and cut into this vast, engrossing collection.« – Lucy Atkins / Sunday Times, London

»Although the originals of the diaries have been available to scholars for some years, and have already been mined by biographers, for the interested reader this volume of previously unpublished material breaks new ground, providing us with a chance of glimpsing at last the real Patricia Highsmith.« – Christopher Priest / The Spectator, London

»The truth about her is infinitely more interesting and complex, as can be seen in this selection from her 8,000 pages of diaries and notebooks, which she maintained from the age of 19 to the end of her life.« – Craig Brown / Daily Mail, London

»But nothing, as Schenkar suggested, in those volumes compares with the galvanic thrill of reading Highsmith's raw first-person accounts, of following the writer as she tries to make sense of her self over the course of half a century.« – Melissa Anderson / Bookforum, New York

»Editor Anna von Planta has succeeded in this incredible feat, creating one of the most outststanding books of the year.« – Anton Thuswaldner / Salzburger Nachrichten, Salzburg

»An untiringly insightful, soul-nourishing book that narrates a long journey into solitude.« – Gregor Dotzauer / Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin

»The publishing event of the season [...]« – David Morán / ABC, Madrid

»The diaries are peppered with memorable phrases that give us an accurate x-ray of her [Highsmith's] psychology.« – J. Ors / La Razón, Madrid

»In spite of her fame as a misanthropist, her diaries reveal a woman who ›dove head first into life and writing‹.« – Francesc Bombí-Vilaseca / La Vanguardia, Barcelona

»The thousand pages of *Diaries and Notebooks 1941-1995* form a ›lacerating, pointed and heartrending‹ volume that contains Patricia Highsmith's most intimate writing.« – El Mundo, Madrid

»This marvelous collection will appeal to Highsmith completists, as well as readers tentatively wading into the author's deeper waters for the first time.« – Sarah Weinman / The New York Times, New York

Praise (cont'd)

Patricia Highsmith

»Many of her stories reflect the kind of breathtaking misanthropy that could only have been achieved over a lifetime. And virtually all share the same sense of macabre inevitability, which means that the number of stories end up in almost that many deaths. Ms. Highsmith was never one for halfway solutions. What is interesting about Ms. Highsmith is that instead of describing such an denouement with suitably ghoulish overtones, she typically treats it in almost businesslike fashion. Her interest is in the generally unspeakable tensions and resentments that lead up to such outbursts, not in the messy side of murder.« – Janet Maslin / The New York Times

»Patricia Highsmith is a giant of the genre. The original, the best, the gloriously twisted Queen of Suspense.« – Mark Billingham

»Patricia Highsmith was every bit as deviant and quirky as her mischievous heroes, and didn't seem to mind if everyone knew it.« – J.G. Ballard / Daily Telegraph, London

»Patricia Highsmith should be considered an essential postwar writer who captured the neurotic apprehensions of her times. By her hypnotic art Patricia Highsmith puts the suspense story into a toweringly high place in the hierarchy of fiction.« – The Times, London

»One thinks of comparing Miss Highsmith only with herself; by any other standard of comparison, one must simply cheer.« – Auberon Waugh

»To call Patricia Highsmith a thriller writer is true but not the whole truth: her books have stylistic texture, psychological depth, mesmeric readability.« – Sunday Times, London

»Although she is today one of the world's most widely read contemporary authors, there is still more of Patricia Highsmith to discover...« – Le Monde, Paris

»Patricia Highsmith keeps moving, darting in and out of our fields of vision, making afterimages that will tremble – but stay – in our minds.« – The New Yorker

»For eliciting the menace that lurks in familiar surroundings, there's no one like Patricia Highsmith.« – The Times, London

»Patricia Highsith was the undisputed mistress as well as one of the creators of the modern psychological crime novel.« – Simon Shaw / Mail on Sunday

»Miss Highsmith is a novelist whose books one can re-read many times. There are very few of whom one can say that. She has created a world of her own - a world claustrophobic and irrational which we enter each time with a sense of personal danger. [...] Highsmith is the poet of apprehension.« – Graham Greene

Praise (cont'd)

»One of our greatest modernist writers.« – Gore Vidal

»Patricia Highsmith, the greatest of all crime writers.« – The Times, London

»Ripley has always been a source of inspiration for cinema, which is what makes him lively, shining and omnipresent still today.« – Nadia Terranova / La Stampa, Torino

»Everything appears entirely causal in Highsmith's books. Logically inferred, and presented in a dramaturgically polished manner.« – Ronald Pohl / Der Standard, Vienna

»To read Highsmith's stories is a delight, a real celebration.« – Alex Rühle / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»For some unknown reason Patricia Highsmith, one of the most important modern narrators, is regarded as an author of crime novels. She is both.« – Gore Vidal

»In the best stories, there is a clarity in terms of composition and a unity in tone that reminds you of Edgar Allan Poe, staged with a backdrop that evokes Edward Hopper.« – Tiziano Gianotti / La Repubblica, Rome

»The grande dame of the thriller turns 100 and is more up to date than ever. Her creatures are patrolling the moral low life of our nature, committing their cruelest crimes.« – Laura Ventura / La Nación, Buenos Aires

»Truly, Highsmith, who was an avid reader of Dostoevsky and Kierkegaard, illuminates the shimmering shades of good and evil.« – Maike Albath / Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich

»Highsmith's unfathomable nature is every bit as deep as Fyodor Dostoevsky or Joseph Conrad's hellscapes.« – Jan Wilm / Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Zurich

»… queen of psychological suspense.« – The Guardian, London

»Patricia Highsmith will take you on a journey, into temptation, passion, guilt, cruelty and danger. She is the voice that dogs you in the dark, seductive and persuasive, nightmarish yet irresistible.« – Amanda Craig

»I love the addictive quality of Highsmith's novels, her ›low hypnotic murmur‹ or the feverish, lyrical prose in *Carol.*« – Jill Dawson

»Although I'm a great admirer of Patricia Highsmith's thrillers and the complex moral landscape she explores, for me the high watermark will always be *Carol,* aka *The Price of Salt*« – Val McDermid

»Highsmith (1921-1995) introduced new layers of psychological complexity to the crime thriller, one key reason why filmmakers continue to be so attracted to her.« – Geoffrey Macnab / The Independent, London

Praise (cont'd)

»Whereas other crime writers' work often becomes dated or seems tied to a specific period or place, Highsmith's books have enduring and universal appeal.« – Geoffrey Macnab / The Independent, London

»We are often drawn into Highsmith's claustrophobic world like flies tentatively exploring the gossamer strands of a spider's web.« – Andrew Wilson / The Sunday Times, London

»The canonization of Patricia Highsmith – doyenne of the psychological suspense novel, depressive homosexual, mean drunk, and one of the greatest, darkest American storytellers since Poe – has officially begun.« – Terry Castle

»When you read one of Highsmith's stories, you've given her permission to follow you, catch you, take you apart. Get ready to run.« – Carmen Maria Machado / The Guardian, London

»The 21st century – when imposture is at the heart of online life, when self-identification precedes authenticity – seems more and more like the age of Tom Ripley, Highsmith's greatest creation.« – Matthew Sperling / Apollo Magazine, London

»She revolutionized the detective novel by inventing, just after the Second World War, the psychological thriller.« – Élise Lépine / Alibi, Paris

»Nobody describes the horror of murder more vividly.« – Nando Salvà / El Periódico, Barcelona

»And ever since Hitchcock's classic *Strangers on a Train* (1951), Highsmith grows more filmable every year, perhaps because our world is so swiftly catching up with the sort of people she wrote about: men and women who lie, commit forgery, and develop manipulative fictions to damage everyone around them.« – Scott Bradfield / The Spectator, London

»Her works keep their powerful attraction intact, the sensation that, by them, we draw closer to the abyss from which we are trying to run away from.« – Guillermo Altares / El País, Madrid

»Reading her is like having a devil on your shoulder arguing that decency and good citizenship are boring and cowardly, and so compellingly that you've acquiesced before you know it.« – Jake Kerridge / The Telegraph, London

»She was also the first to make short work of the hitherto almost sacred dualism of good and bad, and cancelled out the traditional ending« – Charles den Tex and Anneloes Timmerije / De Volkskrant, Amsterdam

»With a concise and minimalistic style, inspired by Maupassant, Highsmith draws a character who is the pinnacle of the inversion of values postulated by Nietzsche and who tramples traditional values.« – Rafael Narbona / El Cultural, Madrid

Praise (cont'd)

»Highsmith wanted to show the murderers, almost murderers and murder fantasists from the inside because it rarely shows from the outside.« – Jürgen Kaube / Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, Frankfurt

»The constant inner apprehension, which one is subject to while reading, does not end after the last sentence.« – Linda Stift / Die Presse am Sonntag, Vienna

»You should read Highsmith because she dared to look into the abyss where our blackest thoughts reside.« – John Vervoort / De Standaard, Brussels

»The notion that her books do not belong on those shelves because the complexity of their characters or the acuity with which they interrogate social mores, is laughable – for this is exactly what the very best crime novels do.
It is why they endure. It is why we find them irresistible.
And it is why we will likely be reading Patricia Highsmith for the next one hundred years, too.« – Paula Hawkins / crimereads.com

»The profusion of *Ripley-esque* stories is perhaps no coincidence. For the con-artistry of *Ripley* speaks more than ever to our Instagram age, where the carefully-curated and crafted image trumps reality.« – Hugh Montgomery / BBC, London

»Highsmith's writing style keeps you on the edge of your seat.« – Terri-Jane Dow / Mslexia, Newcastle Upon Tyne

»Tense, compelling and disturbing, though her subject matter is, Highsmith's writing is sharp and witty – and incredibly readable.« – Terri-Jane Dow / Mslexia, Newcastle Upon Tyne