Diogenes

Book factsheet

Patrick Süskind
The Pigeon

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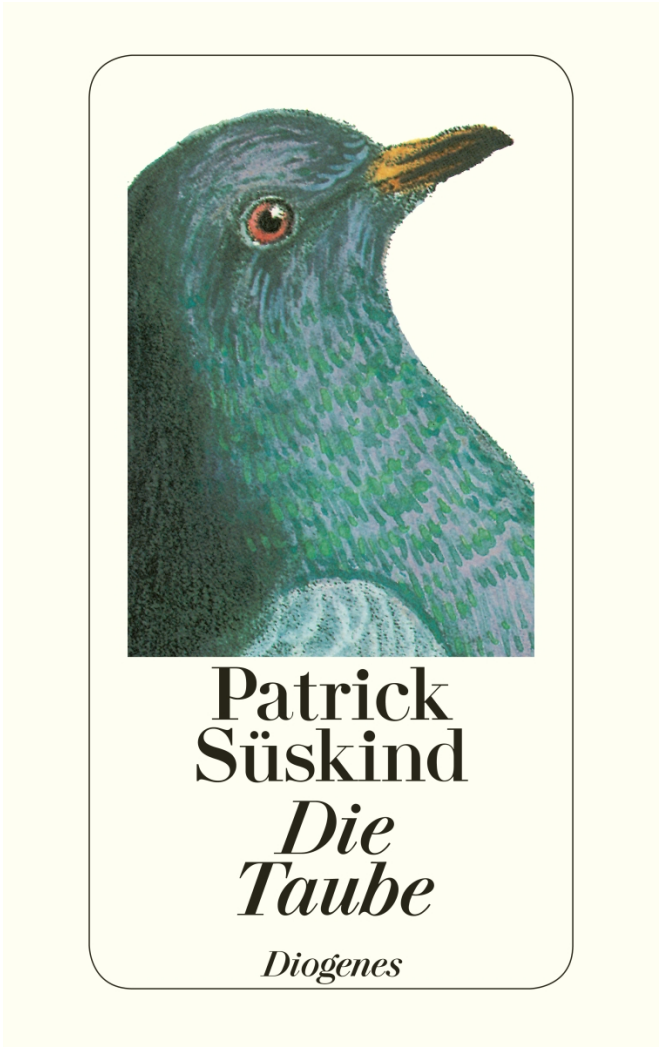

In five months' time the guard of a Parisian bank who has come to understand that the only purpose of his job is to open the door of the director's car, will finally have fully paid off his little garret thus marking the completion of yet another chapter of his life plan. But this fatalistic course of events is abruptly called into question by a pigeon which unexpectedly appears on a hot Friday morning in August 1984.

Contemporary Literature, Compulsory Reading
104 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
March 1987

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Movie adaptations

2006: Das Parfum. Die Geschichte eines Mörders
Director: Tom Tykwer
Screenplay: Andrew Birkin
Cast: Ben Wishaw, Alan Rickman, Rachel-Hurd-Wood, Dustin Hoffman

2005: Vom Suchen und Finden der Liebe
Director: Helmut Dietl
Cast: Moritz Bleibtreu, Alexandra Maria Lara, Uwe Ochsenknecht

1997: Rossini
Director: Helmut Dietl
Cast: Götz George, Mario Adorf, Heiner Lauterbach, Veronica Ferres, Gudrun Landgrebe

1991: Kontrabaß
Director: Vladimir Momcilovic
Cast: Predrag Ejdus

Awards

2007 ›Bayerischer Filmpreis‹ für die Beste Regie an Tom Tykwer für *Das Parfum*
2007 6 Lolas beim ›Deutschen Filmpreis‹ für *Das Parfum*
2007 ›DIVA‹ für *Das Parfum*
2006 ›Schauspieler des Jahres‹ für Ben Whishaw und Karoline Herfurth in *Das Parfum*
2006 ›Bambi‹ für den Besten Film des Jahres für *Das Parfum*
1997 Bayrischer Filmpreis für *Rossini oder die mörderische Frage, wer mit wem schlief.* Regiepreis für Helmut Dietl; Darstellerpreis für Heiner Lauterbach; Preis für die beste schauspielerische Nachwuchsleistung für Jan Josef Liefers

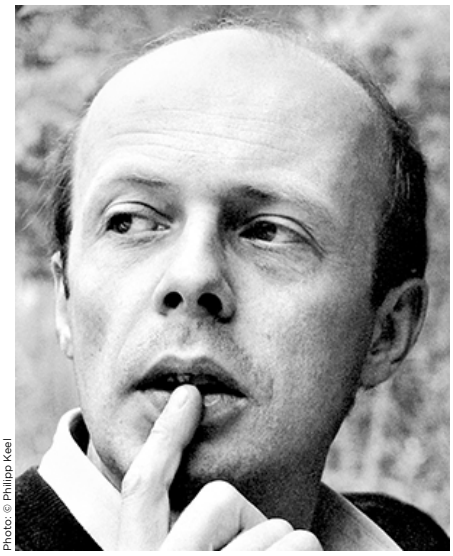
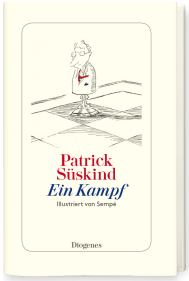
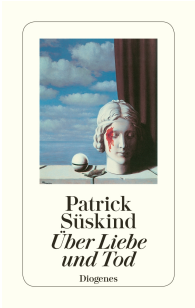


Photo: © Philipp Keel

Patrick Süskind, born in Ambach on Lake Starnberg in 1949, studied medieval and modern history in Munich and Aix-en-Provence, making a living writing screenplays. His one-man play *The Double Bass* was published in 1984, his novel *Perfume: The Story of a Murderer* in 1985, the novella *The Pigeon* in 1987 and *The Story of Mr Sommer* with illustrations by Jean-Jacques Sempé in 1991.



A Battle
80 pages
2019



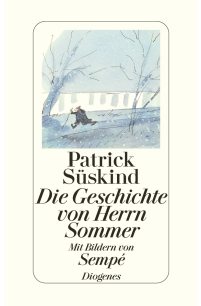
On Love and Death
64 pages
2006

Perfume - The Movie
160 pages
2006

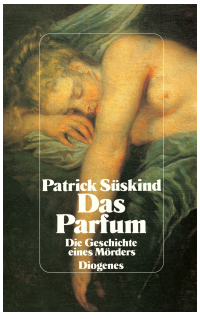
Looking for Love, Finding Love
224 pages
2005
Movie Adaptation

Rossini – Or the Deadly Question of Who Slept With Whom
304 pages
1997
Award winner
Movie Adaptation

Three Stories and a Reflection
144 pages
1995



The Story of Mr Sommer
136 pages
1991



Perfume
320 pages
1985
Award winner
Movie Adaptation
Bestseller

Awards (cont'd)

1997 Bundesfilmpreis ›Goldenes Filmband‹ für den besten deutschen Film für *Rossini oder die mörderische Frage, wer mit wem schlief*. Weitere Auszeichnungen für die beste Regie (Helmut Dietl), beste Nebendarstellerin (Martina Gedeck) und den besten Schnitt (Inez Regnier).
1997 ›Ernst-Lubitsch-Preis‹ für *Rossini oder die mörderische Frage, wer mit wem schlief*
1996 ›Drehbuchpreis des Bundesinnenministeriums‹ für *Rossini oder die mörderische Frage, wer mit wem schlief*
1987 Deutscher Fernsehpreis ›Telestar‹
1987 ›F.A.Z.-Literaturpreis‹
1987 ›Gutenberg-Preis‹
1987 ›Tukan-Preis‹
1987 ›World Fantasy Award for Best Novel‹

Praise

The Pigeon

»Süskind traces the story of Jonathan Noel, whose life evolves smoothly until his dark encounter with a beady-eyed, diabolic pigeon...frightening and surprisingly moving.« – The Guardian, London

Patrick Süskind

»Patrick Süskind is a master of the deceptively simple tale.« – Alison Roberts / The Times, London

The Double Bass
96 pages
1984
Movie Adaptation