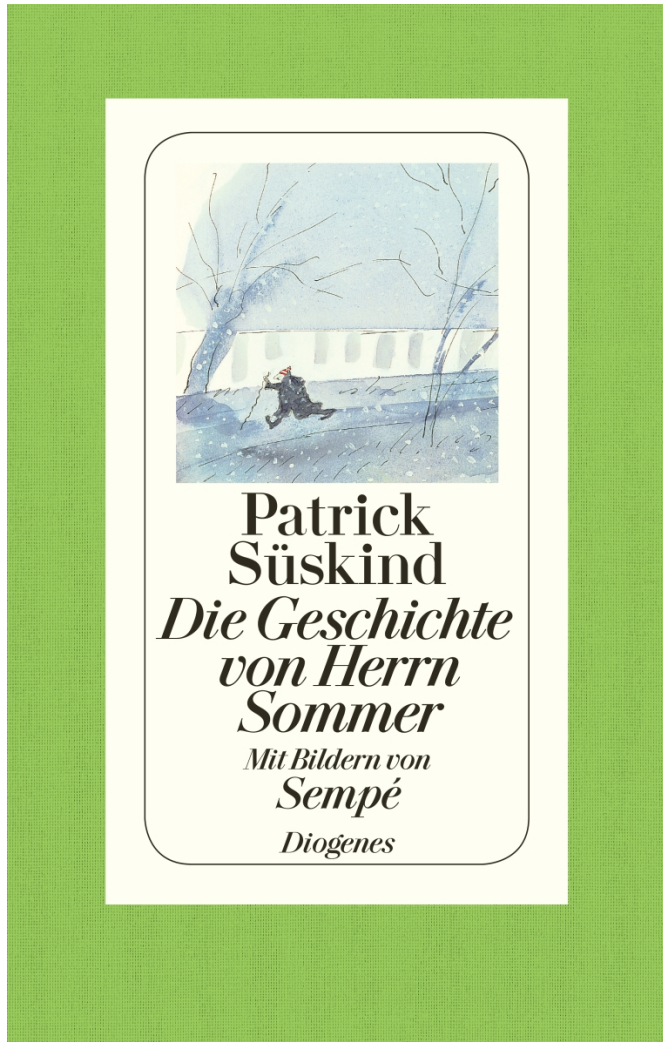


Patrick Süskind & Jean-Jacques Sempé
The Story of Mr Sommer

Published by Diogenes as *Die Geschichte von Herrn Sommer*
Original title: *Die Geschichte von Herrn Sommer*



A boy's village childhood with all the traditional attributes – father, mother, brother, sister, a house on a lake, tree-climbing, going to the races, music lessons, a bicycle, a crush on a girl in the class – is bedevilled by the mystifying appearances of the eccentric Mr Sommer. Moving through the landscape in silent haste, like a man possessed, with his empty rucksack and his long, odd-looking walking stick, Mr Sommer runs like a black thread through the boy's days. Sempé's light, caricatural illustrations perfectly capture both the humour and the gravity of Süskind's tale.

Book factsheet

Contemporary Literature
136 pages
11.6 x 18.4 cm
October 2012

World rights are handled by Diogenes

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Portuguese/PT (Porto)
Russian (Azbooka-Klassik)
Spanish/world (Seix Barral)
Turkish (Can)

🎬 Movie adaptations

Patrick Süskind

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

Jean-Jacques Sempé

2004: *Marcellin Caillou*

Director: Claude Alix

🏆 Awards

Patrick Süskind

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 Wishaw und Karoline Herfurth in *Das Parfum*

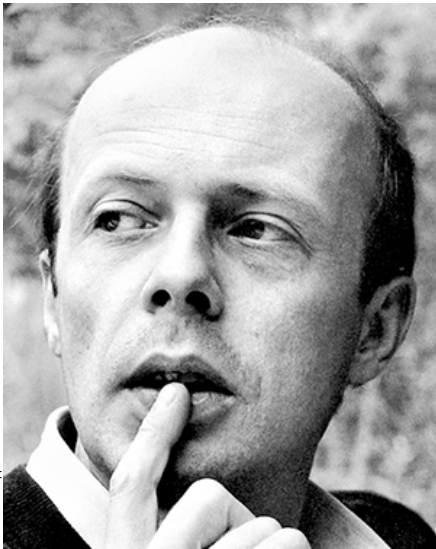


Photo: © Philipp Keel

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.



Photo: © V.S.D. / Sipa

Jean-Jacques Sempé, born in Bordeaux in 1932, lives in Paris. His caricatures in *Paris Match*, *Punch*, *Marie-Claire* and *L'Express* were merely the first steps towards his pinnacle at the *New Yorker*, for which he worked from 1978 on. Sempé's name is inevitably mentioned in conjunction with writers such as René Goscinny, Patrick Modiano and Patrick Süskind. Without him, characters such as *Le Petit Nicolas*, *Catherine Certitude* and *Mr Sommer* would be unthinkable.

Awards (cont'd)

- 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
- 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‹

Jean-Jacques Sempé

- 2022 Verfilmung *Le Petit Nicolas – Qu'est-ce qu'on attend pour être heureux?* am Festival d'Annecy mit dem ›Cristal du long-métrage‹ ausgezeichnet
- 2007 ›e. o.-plauen-Preis‹
- 2005 ›Kinderbuch-Couch-Star*‹ für ›Neues vom kleinen Nick‹
- 2005 Die ›tz-Rose der Woche‹ vom 9. bis 16. Dezember 2005 für ›Neues vom kleinen Nick‹

Praise

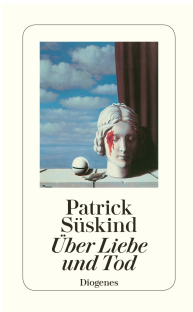
The Story of Mr Sommer

›Touching and profound, full of tenderness and vulnerability, extraordinarily human and at times desperately funny. A wonderful little work.« – René Bortolani / Das Magazin, Zurich

›A soufflé of smugness and sentimentality, of thrills and deadly perils. A good read!« – Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung

Patrick Süskind

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



On Love and Death
64 pages
2006



Perfume - The Movie
160 pages
2006



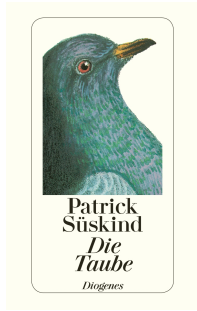
Looking for Love, Finding Love
224 pages
2005
📺 **Movie Adaptation**



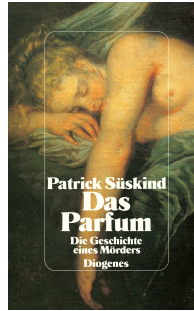
Rossini - Or the Deadly Question of Who Slept With Whom
304 pages
1997
🏆 **Award winner**
📺 **Movie Adaptation**



Three Stories and a Reflection
144 pages
1995



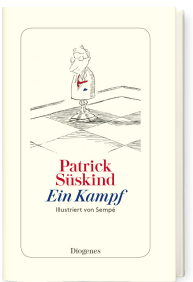
The Pigeon
104 pages
1987



Perfume
320 pages
1985
🏆 **Award winner**
📺 **Movie Adaptation**
📈 **Bestseller**



The Double Bass
96 pages
1984
📺 **Movie Adaptation**



A Battle
80 pages
2019