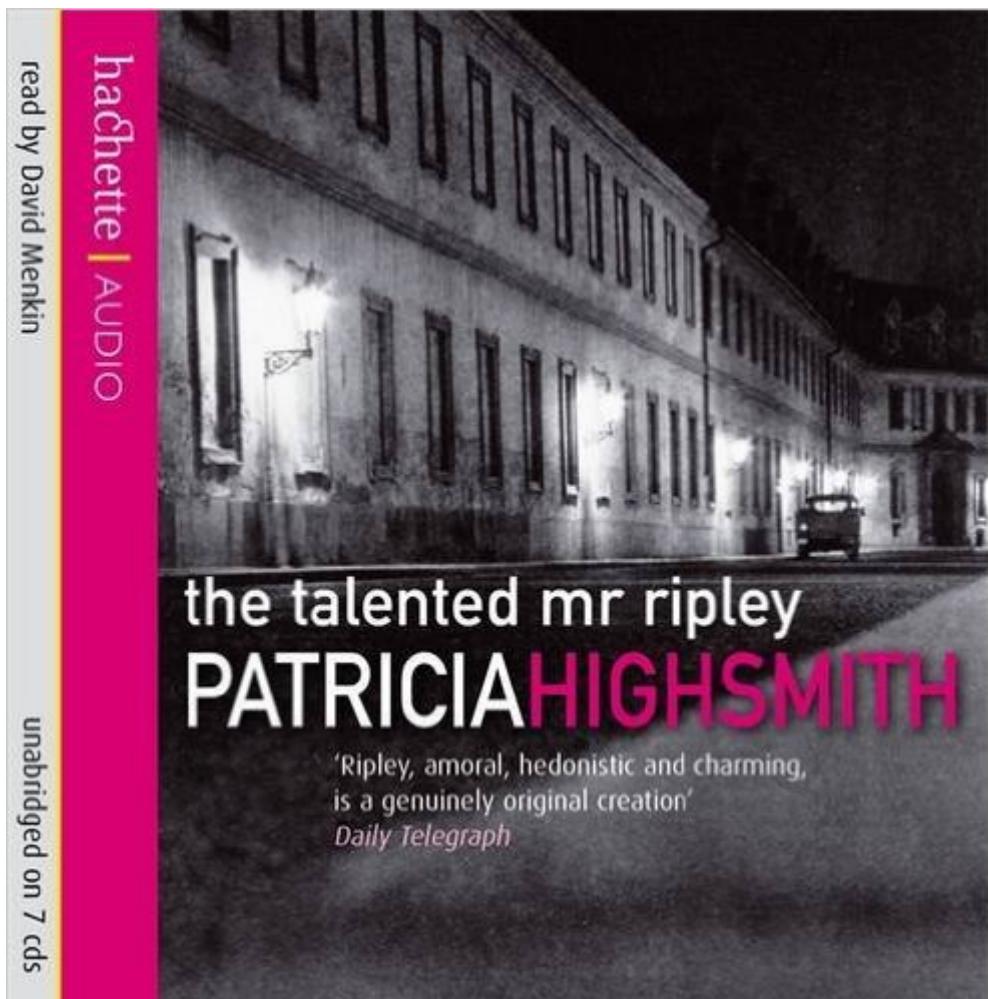


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The Talented Mr. Ripley (Audio CD)



Synopsis

The first stage adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's famous crime novel *Tom Ripley* is a criminal with an ambiguous past. He is sent to Italy by a wealthy financier to try and coax home the rich man's son. In the process Ripley becomes both attracted and seduced, finding the murderer the only way to deal with the situation. From that point Ripley tries to cover up his crime. Patricia Highsmith's beguiling tale of morality and amorality is given a dramatic rendering by contemporary dramatist Phyllis Nagy, who knew Highsmith in her later years in Paris. "Each play I see by Phyllis Nagy confirms me in the belief that she is the finest playwright to have emerged in the 1990s" (Financial Times) -- This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

Audio CD

Publisher: Hachette Audio (2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1405503270

ISBN-13: 978-1405503273

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 5.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.5 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (334 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,080,406 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in [Books > Books on CD > Authors, A-Z > \(H \) > Highsmith, Patricia #73533 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#)

Customer Reviews

Highsmith's books--all of which feature murders--are not typical murder mysteries because Highsmith never leaves the reader in the dark as to the identity of the murderer. (The sole exception runs for only three pages in the third novel, in which Highsmith playfully leaves the reader wondering, with other characters, whether Ripley was responsible for the unnecessary demise of third-tier character.) A mystery novel that discloses the identity of the murderer may create tension by dealing with the question whether other characters, such as a law enforcement officer or a spouse, will learn the identity of the murderer. The first book contains considerable dramatic tension of this type, but the second two contain considerably less (especially for the reader familiar with the Ripley series). The strange appeal of these novels--especially the latter two--lies more in their overall lack of dramatic tension. In the second and third books, Ripley's easy, cultured life invites the reader to relax, perhaps brew himself or herself a cup of tea, and, above all, let his or her guard down.

Never mind that the purpose of a quick trip is murder most foul; Ripley never lacks the time to pick up a tasteful gift for Heloise, his wife. Never mind that Ripley and a friend must dispose quickly of bodies; Ripley never lacks the time to prepare (true, in this instance, hastily) a sumptuous meal after the murders. As unusual as these books are in their lack of dramatic tension, they are even more unusual in their presentation of Ripley. Many reviews describe him as amoral. He is amoral, but only if that word permits one to display some morals. In the second and third books, Ripley emerges as a person who is deeply in love with, and committed to, his wife.

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