



The Price of Salt: OR Carol

By Patricia Highsmith

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A chance encounter between two lonely women leads to a passionate romance in this lesbian cult classic. Therese, a struggling young sales clerk, and Carol, a homemaker in the midst of a bitter divorce, abandon their oppressive daily routines for the freedom of the open road, where their love can blossom. But their newly discovered bliss is shattered when Carol is forced to choose between her child and her lover.

Author Patricia Highsmith is best known for her psychological thrillers *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. Originally published in 1952 under a pseudonym, *The Price of Salt* was heralded as "the novel of a love society forbids." Highsmith's sensitive treatment of fully realized characters who defy stereotypes about homosexuality marks a departure from previous lesbian pulp fiction. Erotic, eloquent, and suspenseful, this story offers an honest look at the necessity of being true to one's nature. The book is also the basis of the acclaimed 2015 film *Carol*, starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara.

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Editorial Review

Review

“A document of persecuted love?perfect.” (The Independent)

“About the pursuit of love, and true happiness...It has characters who laugh, and who laugh without scorn or illusion...very recognizably Highsmith, full of tremor and of threat and of her peculiar genius for anxiety.” (The Sunday Times)

From the Back Cover

A chance encounter between two lonely women leads to a passionate romance in this lesbian cult classic. Therese, a struggling young sales clerk, and Carol, a homemaker in the midst of a bitter divorce, abandon their oppressive daily routines for the freedom of the open road, where their love can blossom. But their newly discovered bliss is shattered when Carol is forced to choose between her child and her lover. Author Patricia Highsmith is best known for her psychological thrillers *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. Originally published in 1952 under a pseudonym, *The Price of Salt* was heralded as "the novel of a love society forbids." Highsmith's sensitive treatment of fully realized characters who defy stereotypes about homosexuality marks a departure from previous lesbian pulp fiction. Erotic, eloquent, and suspenseful, this story offers an honest look at the necessity of being true to one's nature.

Dover (2015) republication of the edition originally published by Bantam Books, New York, 1953.

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About the Author

Patricia Highsmith (1921–95) won the O. Henry Award for her first published short story, "The Heroine." Her 22 novels and eight collections of short stories include such well-known books as *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. Highsmith engaged in sexual relationships with women as well as men, and *The Price of Salt* is regarded as highly autobiographical.

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