



Bret Easton Ellis: American Psycho, Glamorama, Lunar Park (Bloomsbury Studies in Contemporary North American Fiction)

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This collection of critical essays on the American novelist Bret Easton Ellis examines the novels of his mature period: *American Psycho* (1991), *Glamorama* (1999), and *Lunar Park* (2005). Taking as its starting-point *American Psycho*'s seismic impact on contemporary literature and culture, the volume establishes Ellis' centrality to the scholarship and teaching of contemporary American literature in the U.S. and in Europe. Contributors examine the alchemy of acclaim and disdain that accrues to this controversial writer, provide an overview of growing critical material on Ellis and review the literary and artistic significance of his recent work. Exploring key issues including violence, literature, reality, reading, identity, genre, and gender, the contributors together provide a critical re-evaluation of Ellis, exploring how he has impacted, challenged, and transformed contemporary literature in the U.S. and abroad.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Naomi Mandel's exceedingly well edited collection of essays on Bret Easton Ellis's three major novels—*American Psycho*, *Glamorama*, and *Lunar Park*—provides us with the first, long overdue, book-length account of one of the most controversial and reviled of all American authors. A brave undertaking that goes against the received wisdom of much academic and middle-brow literary criticism, this volume offers many surprising insights through close, lucid, frequently ingenious, and always astute encounters with Ellis's work. Despite—or perhaps better because of—the broad scope of approaches featured, this volume presents readers with a remarkably coherent critical conversation; no doubt to the chagrin of the author's many detractors, this collection of essays ultimately puts forth a convincing counter-canonical argument by positioning Bret Easton Ellis as one of the major American writers of the last thirty years. As such, Bret Easton Ellis proves to be not only an indispensable, and immensely teachable, resource for anyone interested in Ellis's work but also provocative for the study of contemporary literary culture in general." (Marco Abel, Associate Professor of English and Film Studies, University of Nebraska, USA)

"If Ellis's fiction is notoriously said to be about "surface, surface, surface", this collection of essays duly traces the terrestrial details and faultlines of his prose, to interpret how he diagnoses, reveals and often anticipates the most acute contemporary anxieties, from psychological consequences of materialism through the injunction between politics and media to current questions of literary authorship. What is more, the volume offers, probably for the first time, an overview of Ellis's later career as a novelist from *American Psycho* to *Lunar Park*. A must for any scholar and, indeed, with the editor's introduction, for any student or reader of contemporary American literature." (László B. Sári, Lecturer in the Department of Literatures and Cultures in English, University of Pécs, Hungary)

This collection of essays on Bret Easton Ellis's "mature work" (*American Psycho*, 1991; *Glamorama*, 1999, *Lunar Park*, 2005) is long overdue. Part of the literary "brat pack" of the 1980s (together with Janowitz and McInerney), Ellis has long stepped outside the genre fiction of his early works, becoming one of the most acknowledged critics of U.S. American lifestyle. The main targets of Ellis's biting critiques - postmodern consumer culture, the "celebrity discourse," and the omnipresence of violence are examined in this anthology in ten persuasive essays. With good reason, the book concentrates on three central novels, which are representative of both the wide range of topics negotiated in Ellis's works and the "brand Ellis" (that is, the writer's self-construction in his writings). The anthology is equipped with an excellent introduction on the "value and values of Bret Easton Ellis" as well as introductory articles to each of the three discussed texts. This anthology is not only a wonderful overview of Ellis's oeuvre. It also offers a number of witty and theoretically challenging accounts of the author's most provocative texts. All in all, this book represents an important look at the work of this still active author, covering a basic void in previous criticism of Ellis. This anthology is an indispensable study book for academic discussions of postmodern American literature. (Stefan L. Brandt, Free University Berlin, Germany)

'Mandel's collection fills a glaring lacuna in contemporary criticism. Ellis's work deserves a book-length study and this collection largely succeeds in providing sober discussion that is necessarily contextual but free of the hysteria occasioned by the extremity of the source material.'
(The Gothic Imagination)

"Naomi Mandel's exceedingly well edited collection of essays on Bret Easton Ellis's three major novels—*American Psycho*, *Glamorama*, and *Lunar Park*—provides us with the first, long overdue, book-length account of one of the most controversial and reviled of all American authors. A brave undertaking that goes against the received wisdom of much academic and middle-brow literary criticism, this volume offers many surprising insights through close, lucid, frequently ingenious, and always astute encounters with Ellis's work. Despite—or perhaps better because of—the broad scope of approaches featured, this volume presents readers with a remarkably coherent critical conversation; no doubt to the chagrin of the author's many detractors, this collection of essays ultimately puts forth a convincing counter-canonical argument by positioning Bret Easton Ellis as one of the major American writers of the last thirty years. As such, Bret Easton Ellis proves to be not only an indispensable, and immensely teachable, resource for anyone interested in Ellis's work but also provocative for the study of contemporary literary culture in general." (Sanford Lakoff)

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(Sanford Lakoff)

About the Author

Naomi Mandel is Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Rhode Island, USA.

Users Review

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Richard Rhone:

Bret Easton Ellis: American Psycho, Glamorama, Lunar Park (Bloomsbury Studies in Contemporary North American Fiction) can be one of your starter books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to get every word into joy arrangement in writing Bret Easton Ellis: American Psycho, Glamorama, Lunar Park (Bloomsbury Studies in Contemporary North American Fiction) although doesn't forget the main stage, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource info that maybe you can be among it. This great information could draw you into brand-new stage of crucial considering.

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This Bret Easton Ellis: American Psycho, Glamorama, Lunar Park (Bloomsbury Studies in Contemporary North American Fiction) is great e-book for you because the content and that is full of information for you who else always deal with world and have to make decision every minute. This particular book reveal it data accurately using great arrange word or we can state no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read that hurriedly you can have whole details in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but tricky core information with beautiful delivering sentences. Having Bret Easton Ellis: American Psycho, Glamorama, Lunar Park (Bloomsbury Studies in Contemporary North American Fiction) in your hand like having the world in your arm, info in it is not ridiculous one. We can say that no guide that offer you world inside ten or fifteen small right but this reserve already do that. So , this is good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. busy do you still doubt which?

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