
Loitering With Intent Muriel Spark

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Loitering with Intent New Directions Publishing

Where does art start or reality end? Happily loitering about London, c. 1949, with the intent of gathering material for her writing, Fleur Talbot finds a job “ on the grubby edge of the literary world ” at the very peculiar Autobiographical Association. Mad egomaniacs writing their memoirs in advance — or poor fools ensnared by a blackmailer? When the association ’ s pompous director steals Fleur ’ s manuscript, fiction begins to appropriate life.

The New Magdalen a Novel New York Review of Books

“ Sleek and suggestive . . . [Reality and Dreams] is so smart and seductive that you fail to notice how completely you ’ ve accepted a world gone utterly awry. ” —Kirkus Reviews British film director Tom Richard won acclaim for his moments of pure creative inspiration. But when Richard is hospitalized after toppling from a crane during a shoot, he awakes not knowing what is real and what is not—and with no idea who to trust. Soon his wife, children, and friends are all undergoing crises of their own, from the breakup of a marriage to the loss of a job. As Richard fights to regain his health and stay centered amid the swirling chaos of his personal life, he must also wrest control of his film—his most prized pursuit—from those who seek to take it away. Witty and engrossing, Reality and Dreams is a whiplash ride through the highs and lows of the creative process. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Muriel Spark including rare photos and never-before-seen documents from the author ’ s archive at the National Library of Scotland.

Symposium New Directions Publishing

On a once burgeoning, highly cultured human colony laid waste by a plague, a handful of survivors struggles against a sexually seething artificial

intelligence that has taken control of their minds. By the author of *Cybernetic Jungle*.

The Comforters Canongate Books

All the Stories of Muriel Spark spans Dame Muriel Spark's entire career to date and displays all her signature stealth, originality, beauty, elegance, wit, and shock value. No writer commands so exhilarating a style -- playful and rigorous, cheerful and venomous, hilariously acute and coolly supernatural. Ranging from South Africa to the West End, her dazzling stories feature hanging judges, fortune-tellers, shy girls, psychiatrists, dress designers, pensive ghosts, imaginary chauffeurs, and persistent guests

All the Stories of Muriel Spark Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

From the cruel irony of 'A member of the Family' to the fateful echoes of 'The Go-Away Bird' and the unexpectedly sinister 'The Girl I Left Behind Me', in settings that range from South Africa to the Portobello Road, Muriel Spark coolly probes the idiosyncrasies that lurk beneath the veneer of human respectability, displaying the acerbic wit and wisdom that are the hallmarks of her unique talent. The Complete Short Stories is a collection to be loved and cherished, from one of the finest short-story writers of the twentieth century.

Reality and Dreams Liveright Publishing

New York Times • Times Critics Top Books of 2021

The Times (of London) • Best Books of the Year

Excerpted in The New Yorker Profiled in The Los

Angeles Times Publishing for the centenary of her

birth, Patricia Highsmith's diaries "offer the most

complete picture ever published" of the canonical author (New York Times). Relegated to the genre of mystery during her lifetime, Patricia Highsmith is now recognized as one of "our greatest modernist writers" (Gore Vidal). Beloved by fans who were unaware of the real psychological turmoil behind her prose, the famously secretive Highsmith refused to authorize a biography, instead sequestering herself in her Switzerland home in her final years.

Posthumously, her devoted editor Anna von Planta discovered her diaries and notebooks in 1995, tucked in a closet—with tantalizing instructions to be read. For years thereafter, von Planta meticulously culled from over eight thousand pages to help reveal the inscrutable figure behind the legendary pen. Beginning with her junior year at Barnard in 1941,

Highsmith ritualistically kept a diary and notebook—the former to catalog her day, the latter to brainstorm stories and hone her craft. This volume weaves diary and notebook simultaneously, exhibiting precisely how Highsmith's personal affairs seeped into her fiction—and the sheer darkness of her own imagination. Charming yet teetering on the egotistical, young "Pat" lays bare her dizzying social life in 1940s Greenwich Village, barhopping with Judy Holliday and Jane Bowles, among others. Alongside Flannery O'Connor and Chester Himes, she attended—at the recommendation of Truman Capote—the Yaddo artist colony in 1948, where she drafted *Strangers on a Train*. Published in 1950 and soon adapted by Alfred Hitchcock, this debut novel brought recognition and brief financial security, but left a heartsick Highsmith agonizing: "What is

the life I choose?" Providing extraordinary insights into gender and sexuality in mid-twentieth-century America, Highsmith's diaries convey her euphoria writing *The Price of Salt* (1951). Yet her sophomore novel would have to be published under a pseudonym, so as not to tarnish her reputation. Indeed, no one could anticipate commercial reception for a novel depicting love between two women in the McCarthy era. Seeking relief from America, Highsmith catalogs her peripatetic years in Europe, subsisting on cigarettes and growing more bigoted and satirical with age. After a stay in Positano with a new lover, she reflects in her notebooks on being an expat, and gleefully conjures the unforgettable *The Talented Mr. Ripley* (1955); it would be this sociopathic antihero who would finally solidify her true fame. At once lovable, detestable, and mesmerizing, Highsmith put her turbulent life to paper for five decades, acutely aware there must be "a few usable things in literature." A memoir as significant in our own century as Sylvia Plath's journals and Simone de Beauvoir's writings were to another time, *Patricia Highsmith: Her Diaries and Notebooks* is an historic work that chronicles a woman's rise against the conventional tide to unparalleled literary prominence.

Territorial Rights New Directions Publishing

A slender satirical gem from the "master of malice and mayhem" (*The New York Times*) *The Ballad of Peckham Rye* is a wickedly farcical tale of an English factory town turned upside-down by a Scot who may or may not be

in league with the Devil. Dougal Douglas is hired to do "human research" into the lives of the workers, Douglas stirs up mutiny and murder.

The Ballad of Peckham Rye Loitering with Intent "A substantial addition to Spark criticism, of which there has been surprisingly little published in recent years."--Aileen Christianson, University of Edinburgh --Book Jacket

The Ballad of Peckham Rye Catapult

Muriel Spark's bracingly salty memoir is a no-holds-barred trip through an extraordinary writer's life.

Loitering with Intent New Directions Publishing

Loitering with Intent New Directions

The Girls of Slender Means (New Directions Classic) W. W. Norton & Company

At once a chase novel, black comedy, and softly keening death song, *Count Luna* starts off at a gallop and accelerates into warp speed At the start of WWII, Alexander Jessiersky, an Austrian aristocrat, heads a great Viennese shipping company. He detests the Nazis, and when his board of directors asks him to go along with confiscating a neighbor's large parcel of land for their thriving wartime business, Jessiersky refuses. Yet, without his knowledge, the

board succeeds in sending the owner of the land, a certain Count Luna, to a Nazi concentration camp on a trumped-up charge. Years later the war is over, but after a series of mysterious events, Jessiersky, deeply paranoid, becomes convinced that Count Luna has survived and seeks vengeance; driven to kill the source of his dread, he decides to hunt down Luna—and his years-long chase after the spectral count finally takes him deep into the catacombs of Rome... The nightmare logic of Count Luna comes from deep within Jessiersky's festering fears and serves up his brooding, insanity-spiced, delicious disquisitions—on what the Etruscans knew, on cemeteries as originally "sleeping places"—before coming at last to death itself: "Well, well, well, thought Jessiersky, swallowing hard. So you do die after all. You refuse to believe that someday you will die but then you die. And you don't even notice it. And yet the fact that you don't is the best thing about dying..."

The Republic of Imagination Tor Books

For readers of Roberto Bolaño's *Savage Detectives* and Muriel Spark's *Loitering with Intent*, this "sublime" and "delightfully unhinged" metaphysical mystery disguised as a picaresque romp follows one

poet's spectacular fall from grace to ask a vital question: Is everyone a plagiarist? (Nicolette Polek, author of *Imaginary Museums*). A scandal has shaken the literary world. As the unnamed narrator of *Dead Souls* discovers at a cultural festival in central London, the offender is Solomon Wiese, a poet accused of plagiarism. Later that same evening, at a bar near Waterloo Bridge, our narrator encounters the poet in person, and listens to the story of Wiese's rise and fall, a story that takes the entire night--and the remainder of the novel--to tell. Wiese reveals his unconventional views on poetry, childhood encounters with "nothingness," a conspiracy involving the manipulation of documents in the public domain, an identity crisis, a retreat to the country, a meeting with an ex-serviceman with an unexpected offer, the death of an old poet, a love affair with a woman carrying a signpost, an entanglement with a secretive poetry cult, and plans for a triumphant return to the capital, through the theft of poems, illegal war profits, and faked social media accounts--plans in which our narrator discovers he is obscurely implicated. *Dead Souls* is a metaphysical mystery brilliantly encased in a picaresque romp, a novel that asks a vital question for anyone who makes or engages with art: Is everyone a plagiarist?

The Hothouse by the East River New Directions Publishing

'Muriel Spark's most celebrated novel . . . This ruthlessly and destructively romantic school ma'am is one of the giants of post-war

fiction' Independent 'A brilliantly
psychological fugue' Observer The Prime of Miss
Jean Brodie is Muriel Spark's most significant
and celebrated novel, and remains as dazzling as
when it was first published in 1961. Miss Jean
Brodie is a teacher unlike any other, proud and
cultured, enigmatic and freethinking; a
romantic, with progressive, sometimes shocking
ideas and aspirations for the girls in her
charge. At the Marcia Blaine Academy she takes a
select group of girls under her wing. Spellbound
by Miss Brodie's unconventional teaching, these
devoted pupils form the Brodie set. But as the
girls enter their teenage years and they become
increasingly drawn in by Miss Brodie's personal
life, her ambitions for them take a startling
and dark turn with devastating consequences.

Count Luna University of Missouri Press
When Barbara Vaughan's fiancé joins an
archaeological excursion to the Dead Sea
Scrolls, she takes the opportunity to
explore the Holy Land. It is 1961, and the
nation of Israel is still in its infancy.
For Barbara, a half-Jewish Catholic convert,
this is a journey of faith, and she ignores
warnings not to cross the Mandelbaum Gate
from Israel into Jordan. An adventure of
espionage and abduction, from pilgrimage to
flight, The Mandelbaum Gate is one of

Spark's most compelling novels, and won the
James Tait Memorial Prize.

Memento Mori New Directions Publishing
A strange, thrilling novel about desperate
love, paranoia, and heartbreak by one of
America's most singular writers. "What's new.
What else. What next. What's happened here."
Pitch Dark is a book about love. Kate Ennis is
poised at a critical moment in an affair with a
married man. The complications and
contradictions pursue her from a house in rural
Connecticut to a brownstone apartment in New
York City, to a small island off the coast of
Washington, to a pitch black night in
backcountry Ireland. Composed in the style of
Renata Adler's celebrated novel Speedboat and
displaying her keen journalist's eye and
mastery of language, both simple and sublime,
Pitch Dark is a bold and astonishing work of
art.

The Complete Short Stories Crown
In 1992, Spark invited Martin Stannard to write
her biography, offering interviews and full
access to her papers. The result is this
biography of the Scottish author.

**Patricia Highsmith: Her Diaries and
Notebooks: 1941-1995** New Directions
Publishing

In this seminal investigation, Jennifer Lynn

Randisi explores the intersection between satire and mysticism and argues that they have an odd affinity: each allows Spark to write with 'invisible ink' to create a world with language only to dismiss it as a fiction, a lie.

MacMillan Publishing Company

Household servants and accidental guests must wait out the orders of the lords of the house: not to disturb. A winter's night; a luxurious mansion near Geneva; a lucrative scandal. The first to arrive is the secretary dressed in furs with a bundle of cash, then the Baron, and finally the Baroness. They lock themselves in the library with specific instructions not to be disturbed for any reason. Soon, shouts and screams emerge from the library; the Baron's lunatic brother starts madly howling in the attic; two of the secretary's friends are left waiting in a car; a reverend's services are needed for an impromptu wedding—and despite all that the servants obey their orders as they pass the time playing records, preparing dinner, and documenting false testimonies while a twisted murder plot unfolds upstairs.

Vocation and Identity in the Fiction of

Muriel Spark Casemate Publishers

Robert wants nothing more than to become a serious art historian. But his hopes for a staid academic life are put on hold when he's driven from London to Venice to escape one lover and seek out another: the enigmatic Bulgarian refugee Lina Pancev. In Venice, Robert encounters a grand carnival of lust, lies, blackmail, cocktail parties, and regicide. As he chases Lina, his heart's desire, the city itself provides a priceless education in love, art, and beauty. Witty yet elegant, Territorial Rights is a celebration of human imperfection and complexity, with as many shifting identities, wardrobe changes, and sumptuous settings as a comic opera.

The Informed Air: Essays New Directions Publishing
A New York Times bestseller The author of the beloved #1 New York Times bestseller Reading Lolita in Tehran returns with the next chapter of her life in books—a passionate and deeply moving hymn to America Ten years ago, Azar Nafisi electrified readers with her multimillion-copy bestseller Reading Lolita in Tehran, which told the story of how, against the backdrop of morality squads and executions, she taught The Great Gatsby and other classics of English and American literature to her eager students in Iran. In this electrifying follow-up, she argues that fiction is just as

threatened—and just as invaluable—in America today. Blending memoir and polemic with close readings of her favorite novels, she describes the unexpected journey that led her to become an American citizen after first dreaming of America as a young girl in Tehran and coming to know the country through its fiction. She urges us to rediscover the America of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* and *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and challenges us to be truer to the words and spirit of the Founding Fathers, who understood that their democratic experiment would never thrive or survive unless they could foster a democratic imagination. Nafisi invites committed readers everywhere to join her as citizens of what she calls the Republic of Imagination, a country with no borders and few restrictions, where the only passport to entry is a free mind and a willingness to dream.