



PICADOR

## AMERICAN PSYCHO

by BRET EASTON ELLIS

Five years ago *Less Than Zero* caused a sensation. Now *Bret Easton Ellis* has done it again with **AMERICAN PSYCHO**, a bleak, bitter and aversive novel about a world we all recognise but do not wish to face. Patrick Bateman is 26, handsome, sophisticated, charming and intelligent. He is also a psychopath. He works on Wall Street by day earning a fortune. At night he spends it in ways we cannot begin to understand. In fictionalising a character of such obvious hypocrisy *Bret Easton Ellis* takes us on a head-on collision with America's greatest dream-and its worst nightmares. **AMERICAN PSYCHO** is an explosive novel which brilliantly exposes American culture today. American Psycho is black comedy, a disturbing portrait of a madman, a subtle send-up of the blatant behaviour of the '80s-and a grotesque nightmare of murder and insanity.

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*"It's a very disturbing book, but the author is writing from the deepest, purest motives"*

- JOE MCGINNIS author of *FATAL VISION*

*"Although the book contains horrifying scenes, they must be read in the context of the book as a whole; the horror does not lie in the novel itself, but in the society it reflects. This book is not pleasure reading, but neither is it pornography. It is a serious novel that comments on a society that has become inured to suffering "*

- NORA RAWLINSON, LIBRARY JOURNAL

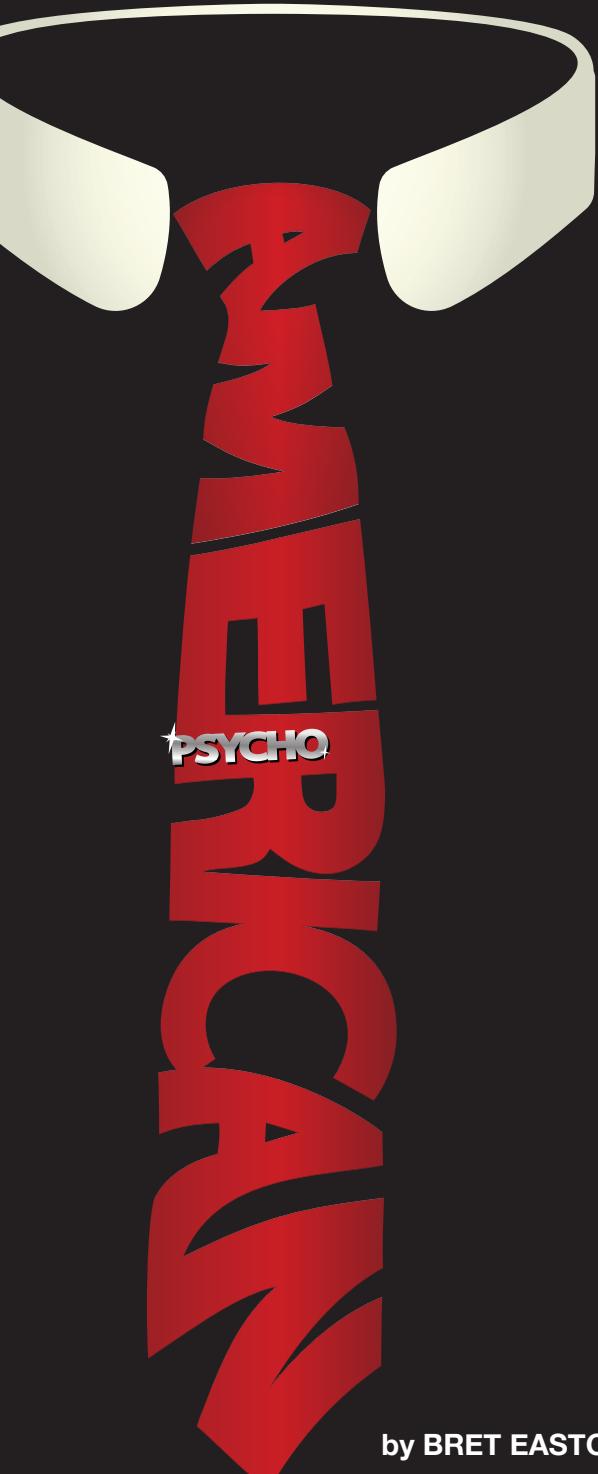
*"He has forced us to look at intolerable material, and so few novels try for that much anymore"*

- NORMAN MAILER, *VANITY FAIR*

Cover illustration by Dustin Prendergast

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# AMERICAN PSYCHO



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### Bret Easton Ellis

American author known for his controversial novels that delve into the darker side of contemporary society. His debut, *"Less Than Zero"* (1981), explored the lives of disaffected youth in affluent Los Angeles. *"American Psycho"* (1991) thrust him into the spotlight with its satirical take on yuppie culture and a wealthy serial killer. Ellis continued to challenge norms with works like *"The Rules of Attraction"* (1987) and *"Glamorama"* (1998), touching on themes of alienation and materialism. Despite criticism for his portrayals, Ellis remains an influential voice, pushing readers to confront society's complexities through his sharp and unflinching writing.