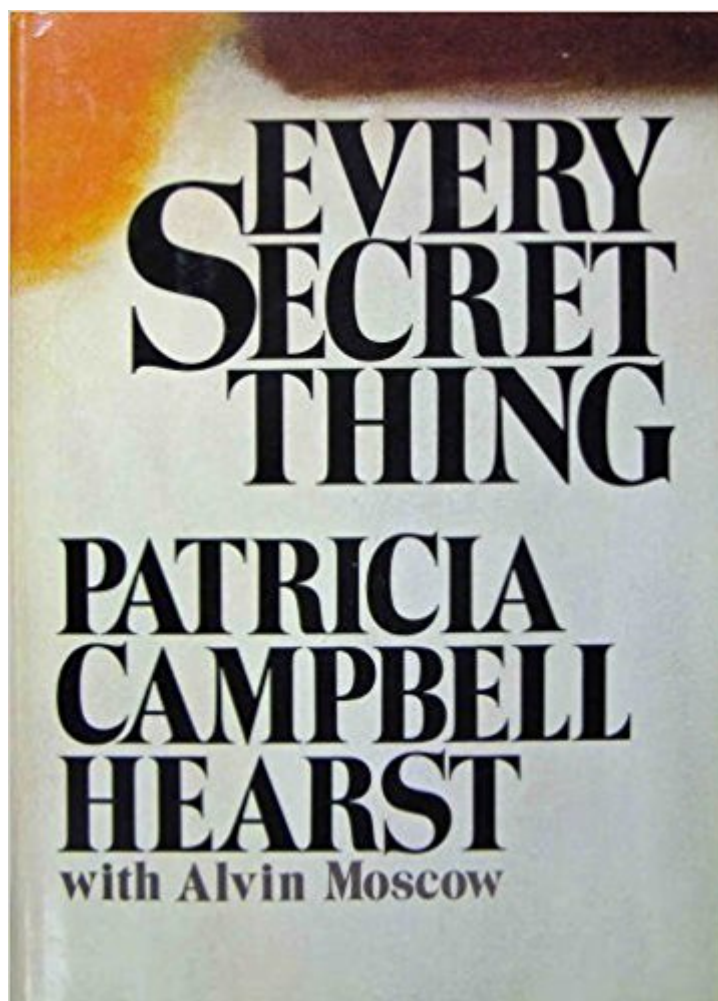


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Every Secret Thing



Synopsis

Hardcover: 466 pages Publisher: Doubleday; 1st edition (November 1981) Language: English

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Customer Reviews

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I simply couldn't put it down. It is a thoroughly gripping, pulse-pounding, suspenseful, and harrowing read. No crime novel I have ever read tops this one for the audacious, astonishing circumstances involved. You come away with deep admiration for her tenacity and courage in her having survived such horrific treatment at the hands of the members of the SLA, which comprised of brainwashing, degradation, and rape. In addition, as she comes across here, she is an appealing, immensely *likable* person, and her observations about the myriad situations, people and proceedings is noted with deft, dead-on logic and reason. Hearst is now that rare combination of being both upper-class *and* street smart. There is a lot in here that is truly, alarmingly disturbing at what she suffered at the hands of those thugs, and you feel a tremendous empathy and genuine pity for her. You get her horrifying terror as she describes her kidnapping and thrown into a car trunk (my heart was racing during this section); the claustrophobia as she, blindfolded, was kept in a closet for nearly two months; the constant, agonizing worry of doing or saying something wrong with the SLA members, and most of all, of having her life being snuffed out by them or in an FBI raid. Relief at her capture is profound, but her subsequent trial and conviction finds her (not surprisingly) confused, exhausted, and in ill-health. You get a chuckle at one point when she notes that jail is a virtual nirvana compared to her time with the SLA. Hearst, though, was treated by the press and the masses with

contempt and widespread, misogynistic hatred, with many actually convinced that she willingly joined the SLA. At the time that all of us witnessed this spellbinding furor in the news, it was an affair of the most trumped-up media sensationalism. She got through all this with the help of her close-knit and loving family (her parents are very sympathetic figures here), plus her supporters - of whom started a nationwide Committee for the Release of Patty Hearst. It worked, and nearly 5 years to the day of being kidnapped, President Carter commuted her sentence, and she was freed. She was granted a full pardon by President Clinton in his last day in office. One marvels with near disbelief that she came out of all of this alive and well. My admiration for her is complete. If you're interested in a really great and absorbing read, this sure is it. Hearst and Alvin Moscow did a faultless job constructing this together; the style, delivery, and narrative is of a very high standard. One of the best books of one of the defining incidents of the 1970s.

riveting account of how hearst slipped into stockholm syndrome after being tied and locked in a dark closet with only her tormentor for company. the SLA won america's heart when they demanded a food truck be delivered to a poor area of town. the result was a near-riotous pushing and shoving match. this brought more attention to the class disparity in san francisco, which is even more defined (and extreme) now. hearst genuinely cared about the downtrodden and wanted to help, and was frustrated with the red tape involved with the social welfare programs. the SLA took several "shortcuts" in achieving their goals, but their leaders were responsible for committing Capital crimes.

This is the true story of the woman shown in the unforgettable surveillance photos from a 1974 bank robbery in San Francisco. One of the most indelible images of the 1970's was heiress Patty Hearst, toting a machine gun and looking for all the world like a political revolutionary. But of course, there was far more to the story than what the world saw in those grainy black-and-white photographs. This book was well written and flows with the narrative of a great crime novel.

I chose this rating because overall, the book was very good and informative. I feel that this was such a huge part of American history when I was growing up but I never knew about it. I think it was brave of Ms. Hearst to re-visit and write this from her viewpoint. I believe she was brainwashed into the culture of her captors and what she did, she did because she was brainwashed into this violent life. It is a thought provoking book.

I was only a small girl with I heard about Patty being kidnapped. The news anchor interrupted Sat

morning cartoons to say Patty was kidnapped. I followed as much of the story as I could, but since I was a kid, that wasn't much. It's so sad to read about her torment and imprisonment and I'm so happy that now she is free of it all. A great book to read especially if you still have questions regarding if she was involved or not.

Arrived on time, and I was surprised to see the slip cover was in good shape, as well as the book, and it was a first edition. As for the content, well, it's hard to believe her but once you're kidnapped, you can't be blamed for whatever happens afterwards. Good companion read for Toobin's latest: American Heiress.

arrived promptly--in good condition a great read about a very curious and bizarre case. Its a page turner from the woman it happened to. It's a brave and revealing take on everything about her kidnapping and captivity

There's nothing like a first person account! I read this when it first came out and was thrilled to receive a copy of my own. When this was a current event, it seems everything was slated against Patty (if I may be so bold as to address her that way) and it was not only informative but also entertaining....riveting...I hung on every word to see what they would put her through next.

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