

claire morgan the price of salt

claire morgan the price of salt: An In-Depth Exploration of a Compelling Literary Work

Introduction

In the vast landscape of contemporary literature, certain titles stand out for their profound themes, compelling narratives, and impactful characters. Among these is *The Price of Salt*, a groundbreaking novel by Patricia Highsmith, written under the pseudonym Claire Morgan. While many readers associate Claire Morgan directly with her authorship, it is essential to recognize the significance of her work in the context of LGBTQ+ literature and its enduring influence. This article delves into the origins, themes, and cultural importance of *The Price of Salt*, exploring how Claire Morgan's storytelling broke barriers and continues to resonate today.

Understanding Claire Morgan and Her Literary Persona

Who Is Claire Morgan?

Claire Morgan is a pseudonym used by Patricia Highsmith, an acclaimed American novelist renowned for her psychological thrillers. Highsmith adopted the pseudonym specifically for her work *The Price of Salt* to avoid potential backlash and to navigate the publishing landscape of the 1950s, which was less accepting of LGBTQ+ themes. Under this guise, she was able to publish a novel that was both daring and groundbreaking.

The Significance of Pseudonyms in Literature

Using pseudonyms has historically allowed authors to:

- Protect their privacy or safety
- Experiment with different genres or themes
- Reach different audiences without preconceived notions

In Highsmith's case, adopting the name Claire Morgan was a strategic move to publish a novel featuring a lesbian romance at a time when such themes were taboo.

The Background and Publication of *The Price of*

Salt

Origins of the Novel

The Price of Salt was written in 1952 and published in 1952 by Lippincott. It is notable for being one of the first widely published lesbian novels with a happy ending, contrasting sharply with the tragic conclusions common in earlier works.

Publication Challenges and Reception

- Initially faced censorship and limited distribution
- Recognized as a significant milestone in LGBTQ+ literature
- Gained a cult following over the decades

Despite initial hurdles, the novel's themes of love, identity, and societal constraints have made it a timeless classic.

Themes and Messages in The Price of Salt

Love and Desire

At its core, the novel explores the authentic love between two women, Carol and Therese, challenging societal norms of the era.

Key aspects include:

- The complexity of same-sex attraction
- The pursuit of genuine happiness despite societal pressures

Societal Constraints and Conformity

The story vividly depicts the oppressive environment faced by LGBTQ+ individuals in the 1950s, emphasizing:

- The impact of social expectations
- The risks involved in defying societal norms
- The importance of personal authenticity

Identity and Self-Acception

Therese's journey towards understanding her sexuality and her desire for love reflects universal themes of self-discovery.

The Impact and Legacy of The Price of Salt

Breaking Barriers in LGBTQ+ Literature

The Price of Salt was revolutionary because:

- It presented a lesbian relationship with a happy ending, defying the tragic trope
- It provided visibility for LGBTQ+ characters in mainstream literature
- It influenced future authors and works within the genre

Adaptations and Cultural Influence

The novel has inspired numerous adaptations, most notably:

- The 2015 film Carol, directed by Todd Haynes and starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, which brought renewed attention to the story
- The influence on contemporary LGBTQ+ storytelling in media and literature

Analyzing the Characters in The Price of Salt

Carol Aird

- A sophisticated woman navigating societal expectations
- Represents independence and the pursuit of authentic love

Therese Belivet

- A young woman discovering her sexuality
- Embodies hope, vulnerability, and self-realization

Supporting Characters

- The societal figures and family members who embody societal constraints
- The internal conflicts faced by the protagonists

Why The Price of Salt Remains Relevant Today

Representation and Visibility

The novel's honest portrayal of same-sex love has helped normalize LGBTQ+ relationships.

Inspiration for Modern Narratives

It has served as a blueprint for many contemporary stories that prioritize happy endings and authentic portrayals.

Advocacy for Acceptance

The themes encourage acceptance and understanding, promoting societal change.

How to Engage with The Price of Salt

Reading Recommendations

- Read the original novel to experience its poetic prose and nuanced characters
- Explore adaptations like the film *Carol* for visual storytelling

Further Literary Exploration

- Investigate other LGBTQ+ literature from the 1950s and beyond
- Study the evolution of LGBTQ+ representation in media and literature

Discussion and Community Engagement

- Join book clubs focused on LGBTQ+ themes
- Participate in literary festivals and panels discussing classic and contemporary works

Conclusion: The Enduring Power of Claire

Morgan's The Price of Salt

The Price of Salt, authored under the pseudonym Claire Morgan, stands as a testament to the power of storytelling to challenge societal norms and foster understanding. Its themes of love, identity, and societal resistance continue to resonate with readers around the world, inspiring generations of writers and advocates. Recognized as a pioneering work in LGBTQ+ literature, it underscores the importance of authentic representation and the courage to tell stories that matter. Whether through reading the novel itself, exploring its adaptations, or engaging in discussions about its themes, embracing this classic enriches our understanding of love's resilience in the face of societal adversity.

Additional Resources:

- The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith (also published as Carol)
- Film adaptation: Carol (2015)
- Books on LGBTQ+ literary history
- Online forums and book clubs dedicated to LGBTQ+ literature

By appreciating the legacy of Claire Morgan's The Price of Salt, we honor a pivotal moment in literary history and celebrate stories that continue to inspire empathy, acceptance, and love.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Claire Morgan in relation to 'The Price of Salt'?

Claire Morgan is not a character in 'The Price of Salt'; rather, she is an author who has written about the novel. 'The Price of Salt' was authored by Patricia Highsmith under the pseudonym Claire Morgan.

What is the significance of Claire Morgan's commentary on 'The Price of Salt'?

Claire Morgan's commentary offers insights into the novel's themes of sexuality and identity, highlighting its importance as a groundbreaking work in LGBTQ+ literature and its influence on subsequent works.

How did Claire Morgan contribute to the modern understanding of 'The Price of Salt'?

Claire Morgan contributed through essays and analyses that contextualize the novel within its historical period and explore its impact on LGBTQ+ representation in literature.

Is Claire Morgan associated with any adaptations of

'The Price of Salt'?

There is no publicly known direct association of Claire Morgan with adaptations of 'The Price of Salt'; her prominence lies mainly in her literary analysis and commentary.

Why is 'The Price of Salt' considered a significant novel in LGBTQ+ history?

'The Price of Salt' is considered significant because it was one of the first lesbian novels with a happy ending, challenging societal norms and paving the way for more open discussions about sexuality.

Has Claire Morgan written any recent works related to 'The Price of Salt'?

There are no recent publications by Claire Morgan specifically related to 'The Price of Salt'; her work primarily involves analysis and commentary rather than new fiction or adaptations.

What themes does Claire Morgan emphasize when discussing 'The Price of Salt'?

Claire Morgan emphasizes themes such as love, societal constraints, identity, and the importance of authentic self-expression in her discussions of 'The Price of Salt'.

Additional Resources

Claire Morgan's *The Price of Salt* is a remarkable literary work that has left an indelible mark on both LGBTQ+ literature and the broader realm of contemporary fiction. As a novel that challenged societal norms and redefined narratives around love and identity, Morgan's work continues to resonate with readers decades after its initial publication. This review offers an in-depth exploration of the novel's themes, writing style, historical significance, and overall impact, providing a comprehensive understanding of why *The Price of Salt* remains an essential read.

Introduction to Claire Morgan and *The Price of Salt*

Background and Context

Published in 1952 under the pseudonym Claire Morgan, *The Price of Salt* (originally titled

Carol) is a groundbreaking novel that centers around the burgeoning relationship between Therese Belivet, a young aspiring set designer, and Carol Aird, an elegant married woman navigating her own personal crises. At a time when LGBTQ+ representation was virtually nonexistent in mainstream literature, Morgan's work dared to depict a lesbian relationship with honesty and nuance, challenging societal taboos.

What makes Morgan's novel particularly significant is its depiction of love that refuses to conform to conventional norms, emphasizing authenticity and emotional depth. The book's candid portrayal of same-sex desire, coupled with its optimistic ending, set it apart from many other works of its era, which often ended tragically for LGBTQ+ characters.

Themes and Literary Significance

Exploration of Love and Identity

One of the most compelling aspects of *The Price of Salt* is its nuanced portrayal of love. Morgan masterfully explores the internal conflicts faced by Therese and Carol as they navigate their feelings amidst societal pressures. The novel portrays love as a complex, multifaceted emotion that can be both transformative and challenging.

The theme of identity is intertwined throughout the narrative. Therese's journey from uncertainty to self-awareness reflects the broader struggle of many LGBTQ+ individuals in an era hostile to their existence. Morgan's depiction is empathetic and realistic, emphasizing the importance of self-acceptance.

Societal Critique and Subversion

Morgan subtly critiques the societal expectations of the 1950s—especially those imposed on women and LGBTQ+ individuals. The characters' struggles with conformity, marriage, and societal judgment highlight the oppressive atmosphere of the time. The novel's optimistic ending, where love triumphs despite societal constraints, was revolutionary and provided hope to marginalized readers.

Historical and Cultural Impact

The Price of Salt is often credited with influencing later LGBTQ+ literature and cinema, most notably the 2015 film adaptation *Carol*. Its depiction of a same-sex relationship with a happy ending was unprecedented, breaking away from the tragic narratives typical of the period. The novel's boldness paved the way for more open and diverse stories about love and identity.

Writing Style and Narrative Technique

Prose and Language

Morgan's prose is elegant, precise, and evocative. She employs a lyrical style that captures the emotional nuances of her characters. Her descriptions are vivid without being overdone, immersing the reader in the settings and internal states of Therese and Carol.

The language reflects the era's social mores but also hints at underlying tensions and desires. Morgan's choice of words elevates everyday scenes into moments of poetic significance, reinforcing the novel's themes of longing and self-discovery.

Narrative Structure

The novel is primarily told from Therese's perspective, allowing readers to experience her internal struggles firsthand. This first-person narration fosters intimacy and empathy, making her journey more relatable.

The pacing is deliberate, emphasizing character development and emotional arcs over plot twists. The quiet, introspective tone invites readers to reflect on the characters' inner worlds and societal dynamics.

Strengths of the Novel

- Authentic portrayal of LGBTQ+ love: Offers a heartfelt and realistic depiction that was rare for its time.
- Elegant prose: Morgan's lyrical writing style enhances emotional depth.
- Historical significance: A pioneering work that challenged societal norms.
- Positive ending: A hopeful conclusion that celebrated love's resilience.
- Complex characters: Both Therese and Carol are well-developed, multidimensional individuals.

Limitations and Criticisms

- Pacing: The slow narrative might not appeal to readers seeking fast-paced plots.
- Limited scope of characters: Focus primarily on Therese and Carol, with less development of secondary characters.
- Era-specific language: Some descriptions and social attitudes may feel dated to contemporary readers.
- Pseudonym usage: Morgan's choice to publish under a pseudonym can lead to confusion about her identity and authorship in historical context.

Comparison with Other Works and Adaptations

Relation to Other LGBTQ+ Literature

The Price of Salt stands out for its optimistic portrayal of a lesbian relationship, contrasting with many contemporary works that ended tragically. Its influence can be seen in later novels such as Ann Bannon's pulp fiction and more recent titles that explore queer identities with nuance.

Film and Media Adaptations

The 2015 film Carol, directed by Todd Haynes and starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, brought renewed attention to Morgan's novel. Critics lauded the film for its fidelity to the source material and its visual elegance. The adaptation highlighted the enduring relevance of Morgan's themes and elevated the novel's prominence.

Critic and Reader Reception

Critical Reception

Upon release, The Price of Salt received mixed reviews due to its taboo subject matter, but over time, it has been recognized as a literary milestone. Critics praise Morgan's sensitive portrayal of forbidden love and her courage in addressing complex emotional landscapes.

Reader Response

Readers have found the novel to be emotionally resonant and affirming, especially within LGBTQ+ communities. Its hopeful ending provides solace and empowerment, making it a beloved classic.

Conclusion and Final Thoughts

Claire Morgan's *The Price of Salt* remains an essential work for anyone interested in LGBTQ+ history, literature, and the evolution of societal attitudes toward love and identity. Its poetic prose, heartfelt characters, and groundbreaking themes make it a timeless piece that continues to inspire and challenge readers. Despite some pacing issues and its era-specific context, the novel's message of love's resilience and the importance of authenticity are universal and enduring.

For those seeking a story that combines emotional depth with social critique, Morgan's *The Price of Salt* offers a rich, rewarding experience. It stands not just as a novel about love, but as a testament to the power of honesty and the human spirit to overcome societal constraints. Whether read as a historical artifact or a contemporary masterpiece, it remains a vital part of literary canon that advocates for love's enduring value.

Pros:

- Groundbreaking depiction of lesbian love with a happy ending
- Elegant, lyrical prose
- Deep character development
- Influential and historically significant
- Offers hope and affirmation to marginalized readers

Cons:

- Slow pacing may not suit all readers
- Limited secondary character development
- Some language and attitudes are dated
- Pseudonym may cause confusion about author's identity

If you are interested in exploring a novel that combines emotional authenticity with social critique, Claire Morgan's *The Price of Salt* is undoubtedly a compelling choice. Its legacy continues to inspire discussions around love, identity, and societal change, making it a must-read for literature enthusiasts and advocates alike.

Claire Morgan The Price Of Salt

claire morgan the price of salt: The Price of Salt Claire Morgan, Patricia Highsmith, 2017-02-18 *THE PRICE OF SALT* (1952) is a romance novel by Patricia Highsmith, written under the pseudonym Claire Morgan. The author - known as a suspense writer following the publication of her previous book, *STRANGERS ON A TRAIN* - became notorious due to the story's latent lesbian content and happy ending, the latter having been unprecedented in homosexual fiction. *THE PRICE OF SALT* was an inspiration for Nabokov's *LOLITA*.

claire morgan the price of salt: The Price of Salt Patricia Highsmith, 2012-11-05 *The Price of Salt* (1952) is a romance novel by Patricia Highsmith, written under the pseudonym Claire

Morgan. The author - known as a suspense writer following the publication of her previous book, *Strangers on a Train* - became notorious due to the story's latent lesbian content and happy ending, the latter having been unprecedented in homosexual fiction. *The Price of Salt* was an inspiration for Nabokov's *Lolita*.

claire morgan the price of salt: The Price of Salt Patricia Highsmith, 2012 With an autobiographical Afterword by the author, *The Price of Salt* is now recognized as a masterwork, the scandalous novel that anticipated Nabokov's *Lolita*.

claire morgan the price of salt: Price of Salt Or Carol Patricia Highsmith, 2015-11-10 An unlikely encounter between Therese, a young sales clerk, and Carol, a lonely homemaker, leads to an amorous romance in this classic work of lesbian fiction. Struggling against the oppressive routines of their daily lives and the strict social norms governing mid-century femininity, the new lovers take to the open road where their new relationship can thrive. But their dreamy, blissful adventure is sharply interrupted when Carol must make a difficult choice between her child and her lover. Patricia Highsmith is famous for penning thrillers like *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, but her keen ability to create compelling characters and narratives truly shines in this oft-overlooked classic. Published under a pseudonym in 1952, Highsmith's lyrical prose and sensitive, well-rounded treatment of lesbian characters marked a significant departure from the stereotyped lesbian pulp fiction that had historically dominated the marketplace. A work that demands our respect and attention, *The Price of Salt* is an honest and profound meditation on love and the importance of following one's heart.

claire morgan the price of salt: The Price of Salt Patricia Highsmith, 2011-03-15 First Digital Edition; Grier Rating: A*** Therese is nineteen and working in a department store during the Christmas shopping season. She dates men, although not with real enthusiasm. One day a beautiful older woman comes over to her counter and buys a doll. As the purchase is a C.O.D. order, Therese makes a mental note of the customer's address. She is intrigued and drawn to the woman. Although young, inexperienced and shy, she writes a note to the customer, Carol, and is elated and surprised when Carol invites her to meet. Therese realizes she has strong feelings for Carol, but is unsure of what they represent. Carol, in the process of a bitter separation and divorce, is also quite lonely. Soon the two women begin spending a great deal of time together. Before long, they are madly and hopelessly in love. The path is not easy for them, however. Carol also has a child and a very suspicious husband--dangerous ground for the lovers. When the women leave New York and travel west together, they discover the choices they've made to be together will have lasting effects on both their lives. Considered to be the first lesbian pulp novel to break the pulp publishing industry-enforced pattern of tragic consequences for its lesbian heroines, *The Price of Salt* was written by Patricia Highsmith (under the pseudonym, Claire Morgan) - the author of *Strangers on a Train* and *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. As one reviewer wrote in 1952, "Claire Morgan is completely natural. She has a story to tell and she tells it with an almost conversational ease. Her people are neither degenerate monsters nor fragile victims of the social order. They must—and do—pay a price for thinking, feeling and loving 'differently,' but they are courageous and true to themselves throughout."

claire morgan the price of salt: The Price of Salt, or Carol Patricia Highsmith, 2004-03-17 A great American writer...Highsmith's writing is wicked...it puts a spell on you. —Entertainment Weekly Patricia Highsmith's story of romantic obsession may be one of the most important, but still largely unrecognized, novels of the twentieth century. First published in 1952 and touted as the novel of a love that society forbids, the book soon became a cult classic. Based on a true story plucked from Highsmith's own life, *The Price of Salt* (or *Carol*) tells the riveting drama of Therese Belivet, a stage designer trapped in a department-store day job, whose routine is forever shattered by a gorgeous epiphany—the appearance of Carol Aird, a customer who comes in to buy her daughter a Christmas toy. Therese begins to gravitate toward the alluring suburban housewife, who is trapped in a marriage as stultifying as Therese's job. They fall in love and set out across the United States, ensnared by society's confines and the imminent disapproval of others, yet propelled

by their infatuation. *The Price of Salt* is a brilliantly written story that may surprise Highsmith fans and will delight those discovering her work.

claire morgan the price of salt: *The Price of Salt* by Patricia Highsmith (Book Analysis) Bright Summaries, 2019-04-03 Unlock the more straightforward side of *The Price of Salt* with this concise and insightful summary and analysis! This engaging summary presents an analysis of *The Price of Salt* by Patricia Highsmith, which traces the burgeoning love affair between the 19-year-old shop clerk Therese Belivet and Carol Aird, a glamorous, alluring older woman who is undergoing an acrimonious divorce. In spite of their apparent differences, the two women are soon unable to deny their attraction to one another, and must fight against the pervasive homophobia that conspires to keep them apart. *The Price of Salt* was initially published under a pseudonym, before being republished as Carol under Highsmith's own name. The novel's happy ending was unprecedented for lesbian fiction at the time, and it inspired an Academy Award-winning film in 2015. Find out everything you need to know about *The Price of Salt* in a fraction of the time! This in-depth and informative reading guide brings you: • A complete plot summary • Character studies • Key themes and symbols • Questions for further reflection Why choose BrightSummaries.com? Available in print and digital format, our publications are designed to accompany you on your reading journey. The clear and concise style makes for easy understanding, providing the perfect opportunity to improve your literary knowledge in no time. See the very best of literature in a whole new light with BrightSummaries.com!

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claire morgan the price of salt: *Finding Out* Deborah T. Meem, Jonathan Alexander, Key Beck, Michelle A. Gibson, 2022-11-21 *Finding Out*, Fourth Edition introduces readers to lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender-queer (LGBTQ) studies. By combining accessible introductory and explanatory material with primary texts and artifacts, this text/reader explores the development and growth of LGBTQ identities and the interdisciplinary nature of sexuality studies. Now available in a digital ebook format, the fourth edition has been thoroughly updated to include a new chapter on Trans Lives and Theories, and new readings. Authors Deborah T. Meem, Jonathan Alexander, Key Beck, and Michelle A. Gibson provide more discussions of important and current issues in LGBTQ studies such as the emergence of non-binary identities, and issues of race and class, making *Finding Out*, Fourth Edition an even more comprehensive introduction to the field.

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periodization and subsequently a common conception of the decade, and that cinema itself has fractured our understanding of the 1950s. *Fractured Fifties* challenges a reductive and fairly cohesive set of tropes with a complex amalgam of representations that also intervene in debates about historiography, historicity, cultural memory, mediation, nostalgia, and periodization. Ultimately, Sprengler posits that cinema has complicated our sense of the 1950s, yielding in the process a series of 1950s types or kinds, (e.g., *The Leave it to Beaver Fifties*, *The Jukebox Fifties*, and *The Cold War Fifties*, *The Retromediated Fifties*) as well as a wealth of critical insights into myriad pasts, presents, and the evolving relationships between them.

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claire morgan the price of salt: *A History of the Bildungsroman* Sarah Graham, 2019-01-03 This detailed analysis of the evolution of the Bildungsroman genre is unprecedented in its historical and geographical range.

claire morgan the price of salt: *Her Neighbor's Wife* Lauren Jae Gutterman, 2019-10-04 At first glance, Barbara Kalish fit the stereotype of a 1950s wife and mother. Married at eighteen, Barbara lived with her husband and two daughters in a California suburb, where she was president of the Parent-Teacher Association. At a PTA training conference in San Francisco, Barbara met Pearl, another PTA president who also had two children and happened to live only a few blocks away from her. To Barbara, Pearl was the most gorgeous woman in the world, and the two began an affair that lasted over a decade. Through interviews, diaries, memoirs, and letters, *Her Neighbor's Wife* traces the stories of hundreds of women, like Barbara Kalish, who struggled to balance marriage and same-sex desire in the postwar United States. In doing so, Lauren Jae Gutterman draws our attention away from the postwar landscape of urban gay bars and into the homes of married women, who tended to engage in affairs with wives and mothers they met in the context of their daily lives: through work, at church, or in their neighborhoods. In the late 1960s and 1970s, the lesbian feminist movement and the no-fault divorce revolution transformed the lives of wives who desired women. Women could now choose to divorce their husbands in order to lead openly lesbian or bisexual lives; increasingly, however, these women were confronted by hostile state discrimination, typically in legal battles over child custody. Well into the 1980s, many women remained ambivalent about divorce and resistant to labeling themselves as lesbian, therefore complicating a simple interpretation of their lives and relationship choices. By revealing the extent to which marriage has historically permitted space for wives' relationships with other women, *Her Neighbor's Wife* calls into question the presumed straightness of traditional American marriage.

claire morgan the price of salt: *The Queer Sixties* Patricia Juliana Smith, 1999 First Published in 1999. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

claire morgan the price of salt: *Britannia's Glory* Emily Hamer, 2016-10-06 This title traces the lives of individual lesbians against the background of the politics and history of the 20th century, and shows the infinite variety of ways in which lesbians made their lives in Britain. This history has relevance to contemporary life and politics within the lesbian community. British lesbians have a long tradition of diversity, of action, of success and of pride, which is documented here.

claire morgan the price of salt: *Carol (Movie Tie-in Edition)* Patricia Highsmith, 2015-11-09 A great American writer...Highsmith's writing is wicked...it puts a spell on you. —Entertainment Weekly Now a major motion picture. Patricia Highsmith's story of romantic obsession may be one of the most important, but still largely unrecognized, novels of the twentieth century. First published in

1952 and touted as the novel of a love that society forbids, the book soon became a cult classic. Based on a true story plucked from Highsmith's own life, Carol tells the riveting drama of Therese Belivet, a stage designer trapped in a department-store day job, whose routine is forever shattered by a gorgeous epiphany—the appearance of Carol Aird, a customer who comes in to buy her daughter a Christmas toy. Therese begins to gravitate toward the alluring suburban housewife, who is trapped in a marriage as stultifying as Therese's job. They fall in love and set out across the United States, ensnared by society's confines and the imminent disapproval of others, yet propelled by their infatuation. Carol is a brilliantly written story that may surprise Highsmith fans and will delight those discovering her work. This authorized edition includes an afterword by Patricia Highsmith. Previously titled *The Price of Salt*.

claire morgan the price of salt: American Sexual Histories Elizabeth Reis, 2012-01-17 The second edition of *American Sexual Histories* features an updated collection of sixteen articles and their corresponding primary sources that investigate issues related to human sexuality in America from the colonial era to the present day. Fully updated with ten new chapters, featuring recently published essays by prominent scholars in the field Provides readers with the source documents that historians have analyzed in their articles Allows readers to see how historians craft arguments based on available sources Encourages readers to evaluate historical documents, test the interpretations of historians, and draw their own conclusions

claire morgan the price of salt: Where the Meanings Are (Routledge Revivals) Catharine R. Stimpson, 2014-07-11 First published in 1990, this collection of essays in literary criticism, feminist theory and race relations was named one of the top twenty-five books of 1988 by the Voice Literary Supplement. The title covers such subjects as black literature; the reconstruction of culture, changing arts, letters and sciences to include the topics of women and gender; and, the nature of family and the changing roles of women within society. As such, Catharine Stimpson employs a transdisciplinary approach, to encourage greater understanding of the differences among women, and thus socially-constructed differences in general. *Where the Meanings Are* tells of some of the arguments within feminism during the re-designing and designing of cultural spaces, as post-modernism began to change the boundaries of race, class, and gender. It will therefore be of great value to students and general readers with an interest in the relationship between gender and culture, sex and gender difference, feminist theory and literature.

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