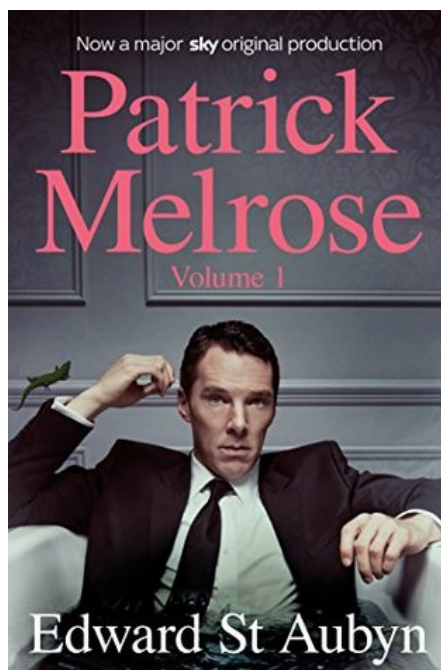




Patrick Melrose Volume 1: Never Mind, Bad News and Some Hope (Patrick Melrose Novels Vol 1)

Edward St. Aubyn

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***Patrick Melrose Volume 1* contains the first three novels in Edward St Aubyn's semi-autobiographical series, filmed for Sky Atlantic and starring Benedict Cumberbatch as aristocratic Patrick.**

Moving from Provence to New York to Gloucestershire, from the savageries of a childhood with a cruel father and an alcoholic mother to an adulthood fraught with addiction, Patrick Melrose is on a mission to escape himself.

But the drugs don't make him forget his past, and the glittering parties offer him no redemption . . .

Searingly funny and deeply humane, *Patrick Melrose Volume 1* contains the first three novels in the Patrick Melrose series, *Never Mind*, *Bad News* and *Some Hope*. *Patrick Melrose Volume 2* is also available, containing the final two novels in the series, *Mother's Milk* and *At Last*.

Patrick Melrose Volume 1: Never Mind, Bad News and Some Hope (Patrick Melrose Novels Vol 1) Details

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From Reader Review Patrick Melrose Volume 1: Never Mind, Bad News and Some Hope (Patrick Melrose Novels Vol 1) for online ebook

Jan says

Terrible. Terrible story. Terrible characters. Terribly and utterly compellingly well written. One of those 'I hate it and yet I can't put it down'

Cake says

Fantastic

The kind of articulate wit reminiscent of Evelyn Waugh and F Scott Fitzgerald. Book 2 is a little like a very very posh Trainspotting. Can't wait to read the next 2 books!!! And then I'll allow myself to watch the TV show I've been saving.

Marty Webb says

Yes!!!

Michael Olsen says

A load of bollocks

Started off well enough. Intriguing and sensitive. However I don't need to read pages and pages of description about drug addiction and a bunch of people who were not part of the early plot. I got so frustrated I left the last chapter unread. Maybe I missed something but my advice is don't bother.

Tina Price says

Although this is compelling reading, leaving you asking first of all, what horrible thing is going to happen next to PM and eventually what horrific thing is PM going to do, it is also profoundly depressing. A good reminder that wealth is not everything, in fact wealth is not much at all, if it is not allied with a decent approach to life and a sense of some sort of purpose. In the end this can feel like a posh man's Trainspotting, and the details of the drug taking are really harrowing. How the addict dances with disease and death is well portrayed, as is the black despair of thinking from fix to score to fix to oblivion. What really makes the reader think is the understanding that this novel appears to be almost autobiographical, a tragic thought.

I do intend to read on, in the hope that PM will find some sort of sanity and peace in his so far troubled life.

Heather says

Once again, I realize I don't really understand British humor. I wish I did. At times the writing was perfection but I disliked so many of the characters. (I suppose that was the desired effect.)

Anyway... moving on to volume 2.

Helene says

I was reading this book in parallel with watching the Sky/SunnyMarch TV adaptation and I must say they stayed as close to the books as possible, which is certainly a good point when you enjoyed the books.

Though both books and TV show are absolutely not my cup of tea, it helped me discover something I would not have read/watched otherwise.

Paul Haigh says

Really well written in a very particularly style. Oscar Wilde meets Jane Austen with a bit of Sebastian Horsely thrown in. Insightful, amusing skewering of the English upper class but continuing further into exploration of individual characters and personalities.

Vicky says

Gosh St Aubyn really has a knack for making the reader feel just like his characters. Bad News honestly made me feel high as a kite.

jrendocrine says

reminded of these wonderful books by St Aubyn while watching the new TV series (which is pretty spot on, Cumberbatch at his best). They are dark and terrible, and yet shiny and brilliant.

Traci says

I gave up half way through, I'm not saying it's a bad book but it just was not for me

Hannah says

This was a really compelling read and I am really rather glad to have picked it up before watching the adaptation. Although I have just started the Sky version and it is very good, the book reaches hidden depths and has strengths in different ways. For example, where the adaptation uses flash backs to reveal Patrick's past of the first volume, I like the way the book spits that out before you see its impacts evolve over Patrick's following decades.

I love Patrick's dry cynicism, his wit, his self-loathing which comes across as slow and self- depreciating to other characters. I also noticed how, somehow, St Aubyn manages to make sure Patrick never really feels like the main character in his own book. The writing style passes the baton every few paragraphs, taking the narrative through the daily lives of all the other members of high society, no matter how frivolous and pompous their stories may be. I guess what he's trying to show is how, even through the seeming self-obsession of Patrick's lifestyle in his grief, it's happening in a complex social bubble of high society.

Now for the 2nd volume before I get onto the next episode!

Maureen says

Want to keep reading, for sure. Feel like I only read part of a book, so it's hard to review. Want to watch it, as well, but not until I finish the set.

Lyn Johnson says

This book is very well written and acutely observant of the dysfunctional upper classes in Britain. The first part of the book is very compelling even though the subject matter is very depressing. Reminded me of how I felt when I read Lolita. I didn't like what I was reading but I couldn't stop.

Ruth Saville says

At first I liked the quirkiness, but then I got fed up with feeling no empathy for the central character or caring about what happens to him. So by the end I just wanted to finish the book!
