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Bret Easton Ellis (novel), Mary Harron (screenplay) | 1 more credit ». Stars: Christian Bale, Justin Theroux, Josh Lucas | See full cast & crew ». Twenty-seven year old Wall Streeter Patrick Bateman travels among a closed network of the proverbial beautiful people, that closed network in only they able to allow others like themselves in in a feeling of superiority. Patrick has a routinized morning regimen to maintain his appearance of attractiveness and fitness. Having just finished American Psycho, I came to IMDB to get some clarification on the ending. And it seems I'm not the only one left vaguely adrift by the ambiguous ending. I've browsed some of your comments, not all 400+ to be sure. Who is Bateman in the end. Is there a Bateman? And what did he do or did not do? The film adaptation of the Bret Easton Ellis novel American Psycho debuted in 2000. It was quickly cemented as one of the most ambiguous and confusing films in cinematic history. While initially appearing straightforward, the movie intentionally unravels at the end, making plenty of people wonder whether or not Patrick Bateman's murders even took place. Viewers of American Psycho can argue forever over whether or not all of the film's violence only takes place in Bateman's head. However, the director herself argues against this, and takes the blame for misleading audiences. In a group discussion of the film with journalist Charlie Rose, lead actor Christian Bale, and the novel's writer Bret Easton Ellis, director Mary Harron admitted that she failed with American Psycho's final scene. Source : Is Patrick Bateman in "American Psycho" actually a serial killer, or is it in his head | ScreenPrism. 19.7K views · View upvotes. I would also add that Easton Ellis's characters can be mirror images of one another which is why they do not evolve or change throughout the course of this novel or his other novels aside from the narrator who is aware of their own deficiencies and perhaps one other character who is usually below the social status/circle of the others. The main character in Psycho, as well as Ellis's other novels, often seek to resolve the deficiencies they become aware of or are driven mad by them to a point in which a mental break happens as what we can assume happens to Bateman, although this is never menti