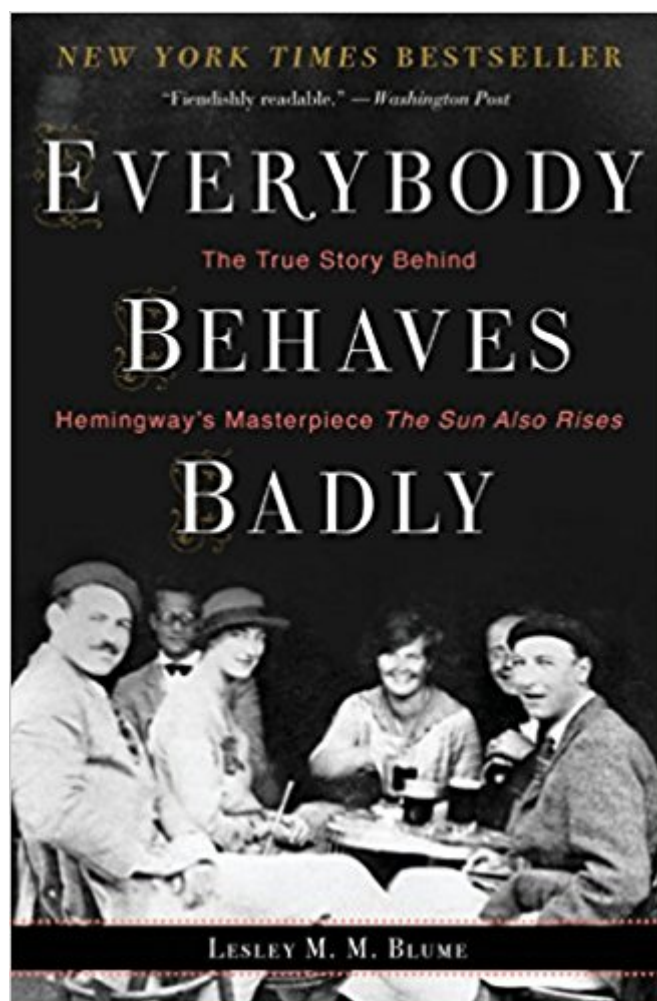




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Everybody Behaves Badly: The True Story Behind Hemingway's Masterpiece The Sun Also Rises



Synopsis

“Brimming, addictive . . . In *Everybody Behaves Badly*, the party has just begun and the taste of fame is still ripe . . . The Lost Generation [is] restored to reckless youth in living black and white.” • James Wolcott, *Vanity Fair* “An essential book . . . a page-turner. Blume combines the best aspects of critic, biographer and storyteller . . . and puts the results together with the skill of an accomplished novelist. [This is] a complicated story, told masterfully.” • *Minneapolis Star Tribune* “Magnificently reported.” • Gay Talese In the summer of 1925, Ernest Hemingway traveled to Pamplona for the infamous running of the bulls. He then channeled that trip’s drunken brawls, sexual rivalry, midnight betrayals, and midday hangovers into a novel that redefined modern literature. Lesley Blume tells the full story behind Hemingway’s legendary rise for the first time, revealing how he created his own image as the bull-fighting aficionado, hard-drinking literary genius, and expatriate bon vivant. In all its youth, lust, and rivalry, the Lost Generation is illuminated here as never before. “Engrossing . . . Drawing on journals, letters, and autobiographies of many members of the artistic circles in which Hemingway moved in the early 1920s, Blume shows how ruthlessly Hemingway betrayed his mentors, skewered his friends in his fiction, and sought to advance his career at all costs.” • *Boston Globe* “Fascinating . . . compulsively readable.” • *Houston Chronicle*

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Customer Reviews

• A New York Times Bestseller • A Washington Post Notable Book of 2016 • "The story behind Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises* is totally captivating, smartly written, and provocative." • Glamour "Meticulously document[ed] ... pacily written ... Ms. Blume has drawn deeply upon many sources, particularly Hemingway's own correspondence, to deftly portray the cast of lost characters, their thin-skinned vanities and their quarrelsome insecurities." • The Wall Street Journal "Fiendishly readable ... a deeply, almost obsessively researched biography of a book, supported by a set of superb endnotes worth reading in their own right." • Washington Post "Masterfully told ... "Everybody Behaves Badly" is deeply evocative and perceptive, and every page has a Hemingway-like ring of unvarnished truth." • Christian Science Monitor "[A] must-read ... In Lesley M.M. Blume's latest release, escape to the real-life world of Hemingway's groundbreaking piece of modern literature, *The Sun Also Rises*. The boozy, rowdy nights in Paris, the absurdities at Pamplona's Running of the Bulls and the hungover brunches of the true Lost Generation come to life in this intimate look at the lives of the author's expatriate comrades."

• Harper's Bazaar "[An] impeccably researched and resonant account of the true story behind *The Sun Also Rises* ... *Everybody Behaves Badly* breaks ground by stressing how important *The Sun Also Rises* was in bringing modernist literature to a commercial audience and, especially, the part Fitzgerald played in helping to encourage Hemingway and shape his manuscript." • The Financial Times "Without sounding unduly disapproving or moralistic, Blume gives us a portrait of the artist as a young opportunist | [an] excellent book." • The Times Literary Supplement "My favorite book of 2016 ... a fascinating recreation of one of the most mythic periods in American literature • the one set in Paris in the 1920s • and about the writers and artists who were drawn there: Hemingway's friends, mentors, lovers, and enemies. Everyone behaved badly indeed, Hemingway worst of all, which is one reason it's hard to stop reading."

• Jay McInerney "As meticulous a history of the early 20th Century as it is a true drama-fueled page-turner starring characters like F. Scott Fitzgerald, *Everybody Behaves Badly* ticks both beach read and academic columns." • Tory Burch Daily "A spirited account of a spirited age, when writers saw an opportunity to change the culture ... Blume presents a sharp portrait of a young nobody desperately, sometimes maliciously, trying to become a great • if not the great • writer of his time. Despite the wobbly tower of books about Hemingway, it seems we can't keep from returning to him, and writers like Blume make it worth our while." • Los Angeles Review of Books "Thick with juicy details...[with] a

fascinating epilogue ... Blume writes that the outline alone for her book ran to 1,400 pages. And every page of that labor is visible." *Dallas Morning News* "[A] vivid character- and fact-filled book | One of the distinguishing features of *Everybody Behaves Badly* is just how crammed with anecdotes and facts it is • not to mention judgment and analysis. Ms. Blume has cast her net wide and dug deeply and intelligently into primary and secondary sources. And it is precisely all this assiduousness on her part that makes this such a valuable addition to the vast literature on Hemingway, modernism, Paris in the 1920s, [and] expatriate American culture | Ms. Blume spares us none of the gory details of betrayals • literary and personal • naked ambition, ruthlessness, and all manner of nastiness that went into the making of [Hemingway's] stunning debut. • *The Washington Times* "Blume's achievement is doubly remarkable. As an award-winning journalist and cultural historian, she revisits the intense nightlife of Parisian bars and cafes and the explosive, rivalrous drama of Pamplona in a chiseled, precise style that would please the master himself. By filling in Hemingway's purposeful silences and omissions with the story's real-life people and actual events, she accentuates the author's artistic genius and enlarges our understanding of the novel's complex characters and themes. This is a book for novice Hemingway readers as well as veterans of his work." *The Tampa Bay Times* "Everybody Behaves Badly is a page-turner of the highest order, chock-a-block with more scandal than the latest issue of *Us* magazine. It also offers deep insight into the paradox that is Hemingway himself ... It all makes for fascinating reading, and Blume's style, which has been compared to Flannery O'Connor and Truman Capote, is easy and engaging." *Winnipeg Free Press* "A wonderful book." *The Chicago Tribune* "[A] revealing reconstruction of Ernest Hemingway's revelry with friends in Pamplona, Spain, in 1925 and how it became the source of his groundbreaking modernist novel *The Sun Also Rises*. • *The Sacramento Bee* "In 1925, Ernest Hemingway and five companions traveled to Pamplona for six debaucherous weeks of booze, sex, and bullfighting that inspired *The Sun Also Rises*. Blume uncovers the truth behind the foundational roman à clef of the Lost Generation." *Departures* "Everybody Behaves Badly is the rollicking back story to Hemingway's vigorous work that cut American writing to the bone. Blume's excellent work enriches us with new research put to artful purpose. • *Buffalo News* "Richly gossipy, beautifully illustrated (with some period photographs that the reader had actually never run across before), and lavishly well written ... Blume's full bore research is matched only by her own gift with words. *Everybody*

Behaves Badly

• makes for a fine addition to the bookshelf that already contains Hemingway's own *A Moveable Feast*, as well as Nancy Mitford's *Zelda*, A. E. Hotchner's *Papa Hemingway*, and Calvin Tompkins's *Ernest Hemingway: The American Years*. It is just that good." •New York Journal of Books

• "The Lost Generation in all its depression and excess was immortalized in *The Sun Also Rises*. Now, cultural critic Blume pens the true story of that infamous 1925 trip to Pamplona from which Hemingway drew his inspiration, delving into the salacious travails of the group that would define an era of modern literature.

• *DuJour*

• "Blume's *Everybody Behaves Badly* can live squarely on its own as a commentary on Hemingway's post-war, expatriate psychology of creativity and its cost to his personal relationships.

• Signature "As the old saying goes, truth is stranger than fiction. And the two often intertwine, as we learn in Lesley M.M. Blume's mesmerizing account of the young Ernest Hemingway in Paris in the 1920s as he prepares to write his breakout debut novel, *The Sun Also Rises*. Blume's book is nonfiction, impeccably documented. Yet, like Hemingway's fictional masterpiece, it reminds us that real life can inspire great stories and writing." •Book Page

• "A biography of a novel...*Everybody Behaves Badly* is itself an engrossing and varied tale: raucous and dissipated, pitiable and serious. Blume's research offers new detail to a well-studied story, and her narrative style is as entertaining as the original. Obviously required for Hemingway fans, this engaging work of nonfiction will also please a broad audience." •Shelf Awareness for Readers

• "[An] intelligent opus ... adroit ... spectacularly good ... Blume provides a wealth of knowledge in the tightly packed 332-page study of Hemingway." •Idaho Mountain Express

Everybody behaves badly . . . Give them the proper chance. Jake Barnes in *The Sun Also Rises* In the summer of 1925, Ernest Hemingway and a clique of raucous companions traveled to Pamplona, Spain, for the town's infamous running of the bulls. Then, over the next six weeks, he channeled that trip's drunken brawls, sexual rivalry, midnight betrayals, and midday hangovers into his groundbreaking novel *The Sun Also Rises*. This revolutionary work redefined modern literature as much as it did his peers, who would forever after be called the Lost Generation. But the full story of Hemingway's legendary rise has remained untold until now. Lesley Blume resurrects the explosive, restless landscape of 1920s Paris and Spain and reveals how Hemingway helped create his own legend. He made himself into a death courting, bull fighting aficionado; a hard drinking, short fused

literary genius; and an expatriate bon vivant. Blume's vivid account reveals the inner circle of the Lost Generation as we have never seen it before, and shows how it still influences what we read and how we think about youth, sex, love, and excess." --This text refers to the Digital edition.

I have always been interested in the Ex-Pats of 1920s Paris. Of the writers, I am much, much more Team Fitzgerald, than Team Hemingway. But I enjoyed very much this account of Hemingway's development of his style and the impact it had. I reread *The Sun Also Rises* about a year ago and still can't say that I understand completely what all the fuss was about, but this book helped me put it into context which I appreciate. Probably the most interesting thing about the book for me was the confirmation it provided of my long-held opinion that Hemingway, whether or not a great writing talent, was most definitely not a great person. He left an enormous amount of human wreckage in his wake - wives, children, lovers, friends, mentors, even detractors - almost everyone who came in contact with him suffered some degree of emotional damage. But in the end, I suppose, his most damaged victim was himself.

If you feature "*The Sun Also Rises*," you'll find this one very useful as background. I personally found it more interesting than "*The Sun*," but then I was never a big Hemingway fan. If you're interested in the literary characters populating Paris and Provence during those years, this book adds new pieces to that puzzle.

Better than any of the other bios I've read! If you are interested in how Hemingway learned to write like Hemingway, this is a must read!

You can't put this book down! Anybody interested in Hemingway and Paris in the 1920s will relish this reunion with a familiar cast of characters. Great job, Lesley Blume!

Fascinating story of a unique period in literary history. Lesley Blume brings it back to life and makes you want to re-read the works of some of America's great authors such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Ernest Hemingway. Really enjoyable and makes a good companion to "*Paris is a Moveable Feast*", Hemingway's account of that period.

Nothing new as far as information on Hemingway. The author seemed biased when it came to certain characters, which was disappointing given the amount of research that went into the book.

As many have pointed out, the book WAS well researched, but overall, it was a bland (I hate to use the term boring) read, and sadly I did not finish reading it.

Everybody Behaves Badly is a biography of the portion of Hemingway's life when he was writing his breakout novel *The Sun Also Rises*. It portrays Hemingway in ruthless pursuit of fame and fortune via novel writing. This was a more realistic dream in the 1920s than now, but it still wasn't easy for Hemingway. To achieve it, he used a journalistic style for fiction—a new idea at the time—and presented a colorful, macho persona for publicity purposes. He also aggressively competed with other, more successful writers, most notably F. Scott Fitzgerald, whose works Hemingway belittled as frivolous. Not that Hemingway stopped there; for example, this book prints part of a long poem where Hemingway savaged Dorothy Parker not only for disliking certain aspects of Spain (such as bloody bullfights and men pinching her behind), but for having attempted suicide and being Jewish. However, Hemingway did stoop to borrowing from other writers; I didn't know before reading this book that the trademark phrase “Lost Generation” was actually Gertrude Stein's. Hemingway also cast off his long-suffering first wife Hadley when wealthy socialite Pauline Pfeiffer came along. *The Sun Also Rises* is about a group of people behaving badly when they go to watch the bullfights at Pamplona. Lots of drinking, casual sex, and sexual rivalry. If it's been awhile since you read the novel, reread it before starting this biography. The characters are based on real people and Hemingway, who had a phenomenal memory, recorded many things they actually said and did. Not that he warned them—they found out when they read the novel and his depictions haunted some for the rest of their lives. Hemingway was really not a nice guy. Although he was charismatic, and strikingly handsome in his youth (not that this ARC contains any photos), I don't know how he got away with being so deceitful and manipulative. But reading about him is fascinating, in a repulsive way.

I'm addicted to books about the American expats in Paris in the 1920s, and this book fed my habit. I know a lot about the Murphys and Fitzgeralds, so it was interesting to learn more about Hemingway. However...after reading this, I'm convinced that the Murphys and Fitzgeralds were far more kind and loyal to their friends than Hem was!

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Everybody Behaves Badly: The True Story Behind Hemingway's Masterpiece *The Sun Also Rises*

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