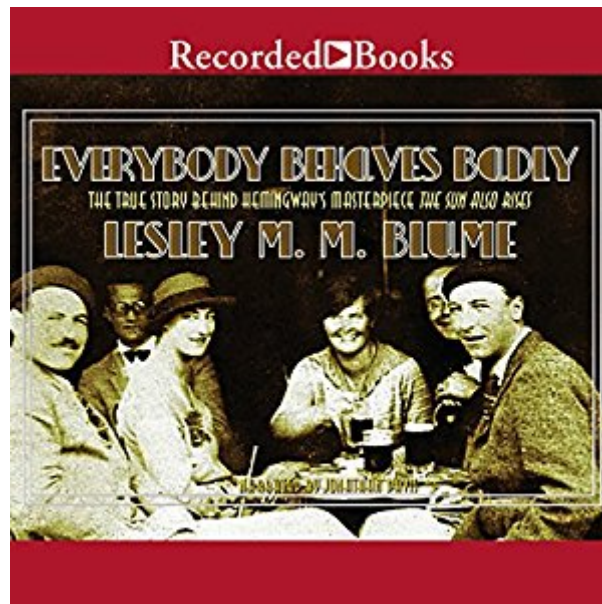


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Everybody Behaves Badly: The True Story Behind Hemingway's Masterpiece The Sun Also Rises



Synopsis

The making of Ernest Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises*, the outsize personalities who inspired it, and the vast changes it wrought on the literary world. 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 maelstrom of 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.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The very second I requested a review copy of this book I was instantly filled with regret. While I've never been particularly engrossed in reading about Hemingway, I have read *THE SUN ALSO RISES* twice (and inspired by this book, read it a third time, and far more carefully this time), *A FAREWELL TO ARMS* twice and with some interest as to its composition, since it was composed in

part in the northern part of the state of Arkansas in Piggott, where he wife was giving birth. Both novels I loved, along with most of the early short stories from the early and mid twenties. From then on my reading is spotty. I read and was appalled by TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT, which may be the worst novel written by an major American writer and I read THE GREEN HILLS OF AFRICA, which I liked a great deal more . I have tried twice to read FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS and I've been assured that it is a good book, but my psyche cannot reach this conclusion. I did enjoy A MOVEABLE FEAST, though I've always suspected it contains more fiction than many of his novels. For me Hemingway's books from the twenties are nearly all that I truly like by him, the one great exception being THE OLD MAN AND THE SEA, which is an astonishing work for a man who hadn't been at his best nearly thirty years. I should add also that I have read the first volume of his letters in the edition published by Cambridge University Press. But what I had tried to avoid was reading the seemingly endless number of books on Hemingway. I had read Carlos Baker's shorter bio when in college and Lynn Hunt longer biography as an adult, but really, I reached the point where I felt that I was done with him. The drama and the romanticizing of his life.

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