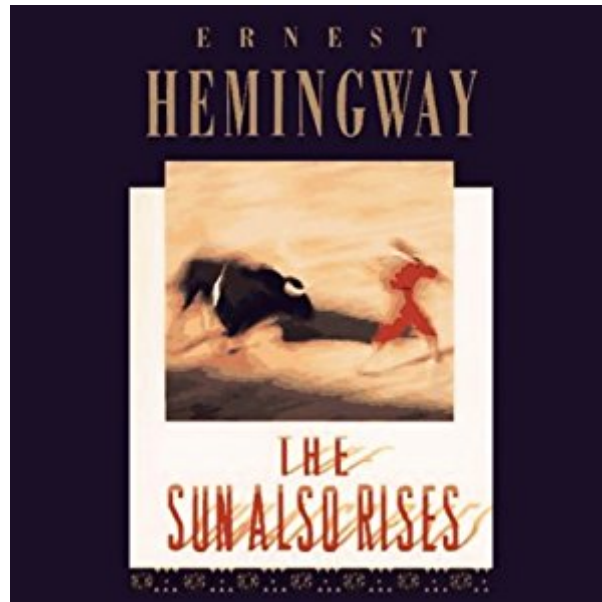




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The Sun Also Rises



Synopsis

This new edition of *The Sun Also Rises* celebrates the art and craft of Hemingway's quintessential story of the Lost Generation—presented by the Hemingway family with illuminating supplementary material from the Hemingway Collection at the John F. Kennedy Library. *The Sun Also Rises* is a classic example of Hemingway's spare but powerful writing style. A poignant look at the disillusionment and angst of the post-World War I generation, the novel introduces two of Hemingway's most unforgettable characters: Jake Barnes and Lady Brett Ashley. The story follows the flamboyant Brett and the hapless Jake as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920s Paris to the brutal bullfighting rings of Spain with a motley group of expatriates. It is an age of moral bankruptcy, spiritual dissolution, unrealized love, and vanishing illusions. First published in 1926, *The Sun Also Rises* is a "ceaseless absorbing, beautifully and tenderly absurd, heartbreaking narrative—a truly gripping story, told in lean, hard, athletic prose" (The New York Times). This new Hemingway Library Edition celebrates Hemingway's classic novel with a personal foreword by Patrick Hemingway, the author's sole surviving son, and a new introduction by Sean Hemingway, grandson of the author. Hemingway considered the extensive rewriting that he did to shape his first novel the most difficult job of his life. Early drafts, deleted passages, and possible titles included in this new edition elucidate how the author achieved his first great literary masterpiece. --This text refers to the Unbound edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

let us be as concise and frugal with words when reviewing Hemingway as he was in writing this

novel. Yes a masterpiece which greatest charm is that EH came as close to writing a verse novel as we shall see in our time. It is almost poetry and that is why the book stands well after multiple readings. This edition has included sections that Eh had excised from the book and their greatest worth is that it shows how difficult it was for the author to write in an apparently simple manner. One can never go wrong when experiencing the work of a master. An aside, if you want to get a laugh or a scare about the fate of literary culture read some of the 1 and 2 star reviews. Talk about casting pearls before swines!

Hemingway's seminal work that established his style and his reputation. Unlike his other novels, this is a synthesis of his lifestyle at the time and the modernist writing style he aspired to. His effort at blending these is only somewhat successful. It's tempting to look for allegorical meaning in the fishing, fiesta, and bull fighting. But the truth is probably simpler: that was Hemingway's life at the time and he was writing about what he knew. They do add some color to the story, but not much depth. The characters are the strength of this novel, with each one exhibiting impotence when facing the headwinds of life. Cohn's boxing is his attempt to equip himself to face his struggles, but that turns out to be useless in his pursuit of his desires. Brett lurches from one cataclysm to another. Michael's life is in an irretrievable tailspin. Ironically, Jake, who is literally impotent, is probably best equipped to deal with circumstances, but his aspirations remain out of reach. The resulting fatalistic tone evokes the Lost Generation of the 20's. Having lived through the world war, they lost interest in building a future, and instead found refuge in hedonistic excesses. Hemingway is successful in conveying that atmosphere. Ultimately though, *The Sun Also Rises* is most notable for the foundation it lays, serving as the basis for Hemingway's major works that followed.

The Sun Also Rises is one of my all time favorite books. I have read it and re-read it many times. It had been a few years since my last reading and when my wife and daughter came home with a 1960's collection of his novels that they bought at a garage sale for me for only a mere three dollars, I decided to give it another go. Conclusion: it is still great. This was Hemingway's first novel. It comes in around 90,000 words, is paced very well, and shows the foundation of Hemingway's groundbreaking style of the time. The book is simple, primarily made up of dialogue, of which Hemingway is a master, and broken up with stark descriptions of the country. *The Sun Also Rises* was an instant hit when it was published by Scribners in 1926 and made Hemingway a newly discovered star among critics and readers. It is, in my opinion, his finest work. I have read all of Hemingway's work. He is most certainly the king of the short story, a fine novel writer, and superb letter writer. He holds no

punches when it comes to character and allows the reader to form his/her own opinion when it comes to them. Several times while reading *The Sun Also Rises*, I put the book down and commented on how much I loved the book. What I enjoy most about it is that Hemingway allows the reader to read between the lines, not an easy task and one that I try to do in my own writing. I like that not everything needs to be explained; that assumptions can be made. I enjoy forming my opinion on the matter. As a reader, I should be able to judge and convict at my will. So, for those that love Hemingway and if you have not read *The Sun Also Rises* in a long while, I recommend picking up this classic and burying yourself in 1920's France and Spain for a while. It will make you laugh and cringe as Jake and the gang tear up the countryside in search of a good time while trying to come to grips with lost love, forbidden love, and new found love. Oh, and the ending is as perfect as one can be. I have not read a more perfect one since.

I had to read this in High School, and much to my surprise, I really enjoyed it(!). It was so very different from anything in my experience, and so very unusual to actually enjoy something I had to read for a Lit. class. Over the years I kept thinking I should read it again, and I finally did..., 38 years later. How would it hold up? Well..., to be honest, not as well as I hoped. For one thing, Hemingway's style is quite spare. Not at all flowery or prosaic, and sometimes a little more exposition would be appreciated. But, it's Hemingway. It's still a great story told by an acknowledged master, but the characters are just not people who evoke sympathy or empathy. Except possibly Jake, but you have to wonder about his judgement ;-). And if you ever wondered about the "Lost Generation", this book will give you a little peek at their lives, though not necessarily much insight as to why they are the way they are. Still, a great read that gets an extra star from me for nostalgia.

"*The Sun Also Rises*" is the archetypal book that defines the Lost Generation, those men who fought in World War I and experienced post-traumatic stress (although it was not defined as such then) and desperately tried to find meaning in life after so much gruesome suffering and death. I read this at the same time as I was reading "*The Paris Wife: A Novel*," by Paula McLain, a fictionalized account of Ernest Hemingway's marriage to Hadley Richardson. The couple lived in 1920s Jazz Age Paris, and it was during this time that he wrote "*The Sun Also Rises*," a book that was very much based on their friends and activities during that time. It was fascinating to read the two together and identify each character in "*The Sun Also Rises*" with the real-life person who was part of the Hemingways' Paris existence.

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