



Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America

Althea McDowell Altemus

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America

Althea McDowell Altemus

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America Althea McDowell Altemus

Sharp, resourceful, and with a style all her own, Althea Altemus embodied the spirit of the independent working woman of the Jazz Age. In her memoir, *Big Bosses*, she vividly recounts her life as a secretary for prominent (but thinly disguised) employers in Chicago, Miami, and New York during the late teens and 1920s. Alongside her we rub elbows with movie stars, artists, and high-profile businessmen, and experience lavish estate parties that routinely defied the laws of Prohibition.

Beginning with her employment as a private secretary to James Deering of International Harvester, whom she describes as “probably the world’s oldest and wealthiest bachelor playboy,” Altemus tells us much about high society during the time, taking us inside Deering’s glamorous Miami estate, Vizcaya, an Italianate mansion worthy of Gatsby himself. Later, we meet her other notable employers, including Samuel Insull, president of Chicago Edison; New York banker S. W. Straus; and real estate developer Fred F. French. We cinch up our trenchcoats and head out sleuthing in Chicago, hired by the wife of a big boss to find out how he spends his evenings (with, it turns out, a mistress hidden in an apartment within his office, no less). Altemus was also a struggling single mother, a fact she had to keep secret from her employers, and she reveals the difficulties of being a working woman at the time through glimpses into women’s apartments, their friendships, and the dangers—sexual and otherwise—that she and others faced. Throughout, Altemus entertains with a tart and self-aware voice that combines the knowledge of an insider with the wit and clarity of someone on the fringe.

Anchored by extensive annotation and an afterword from historian Robin F. Bachin, which contextualizes Altemus’s narrative, *Big Bosses* provides a one-of-a-kind peek inside the excitement, extravagances, and the challenges of being a working woman roaring through the ’20s.



[Download Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age Am ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America Althea McDowell Altemus

From reader reviews:

Marianne Haglund:

With other case, little persons like to read book Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America. You can choose the best book if you'd prefer reading a book. Providing we know about how is important the book Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, due to the fact from book you can realize everything! From your country until eventually foreign or abroad you will be known. About simple thing until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we can open a book as well as searching by internet gadget. It is called e-book. You need to use it when you feel fed up to go to the library. Let's read.

Clifford Walsh:

This book untitled Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America to be one of several books which best seller in this year, that is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retailer or you can order it by way of online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you easier to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this reserve from your list.

Beverly McClendon:

The book with title Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America includes a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This book exist new understanding the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world at this point. That is important to you to understand how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you in new era of the global growth. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

James Cummings:

As we know that book is significant thing to add our expertise for everything. By a e-book we can know everything we really wish for. A book is a range of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This publication Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America was filled about science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your research competence. Some people has diverse feel when they reading some sort of book. If you know how big selling point of a book, you can feel enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like currently, many ways to get book that you simply wanted.

Download and Read Online Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America Althea McDowell Altemus #OYN7WDVLMJ8

Read Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus for online ebook

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus books to read online.

Online Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus ebook PDF download

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus Doc

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus Mobipocket

Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America by Althea McDowell Altemus EPub