



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:

Mary Rohan:

Reading a publication tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Using book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their reader with their story or even their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the books. But also they write about the data about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your young ones, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write for their book. One of them is this Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America.

Robin Millard:

Often the book Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America has a lot of information on it. So when you check out this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Mcdougal makes some research ahead of write this book. This specific book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading this article book.

Nancy Garcia:

You may spend your free time to learn this book this e-book. This Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America is simple to deliver you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train in addition to soon. If you did not have much space to bring the printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you easier to read it. You can save typically the book in your smart phone. Therefore there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

Sherry Francis:

Is it you actually who having spare time after that spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just laying on the bed? Do you need something new? This Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America can be the reply, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are and so out of date, spending your free time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these publications have than the others?

Download and Read Online Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir

of Jazz Age America Althea McDowell Altemus #PC5FX4WLQTZ

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