



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 ...pdf](#)

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

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

From reader reviews:

Walter Reeves:

What do you concentrate on book? It is just for students since they're still students or it for all people in the world, what the best subject for that? Simply you can be answered for that concern above. Every person has diverse personality and hobby per other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't need do that. You must know how great and also important the book Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America. All type of book is it possible to see on many solutions. You can look for the internet methods or other social media.

Theodore Parish:

This Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America book is simply not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is actually information inside this book incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America without we recognize teach the one who reading through it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America can bring once you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it inside your lovely laptop even telephone. This Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America having very good arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not feel uninterested in reading.

Keesha Marks:

Information is provisions for those to get better life, information these days can get by anyone from everywhere. The information can be a know-how or any news even a problem. What people must be consider any time those information which is inside former life are difficult to be find than now could be taking seriously which one works to believe or which one typically the resource are convinced. If you obtain the unstable resource then you get it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen within you if you take Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America as your daily resource information.

Darlene Goins:

Don't be worry for anyone who is afraid that this book will probably filled the space in your house, you might have it in e-book means, more simple and reachable. This particular Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America can give you a lot of good friends because by you checking out this one book you have matter that they don't and make you more like an interesting person. This book can be one of one step for you to get success. This publication offer you information that probably your friend doesn't understand, by knowing more than additional make you to be great individuals. So , why hesitate? Let me have Big Bosses: A Working Girl's Memoir of Jazz Age America.

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

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