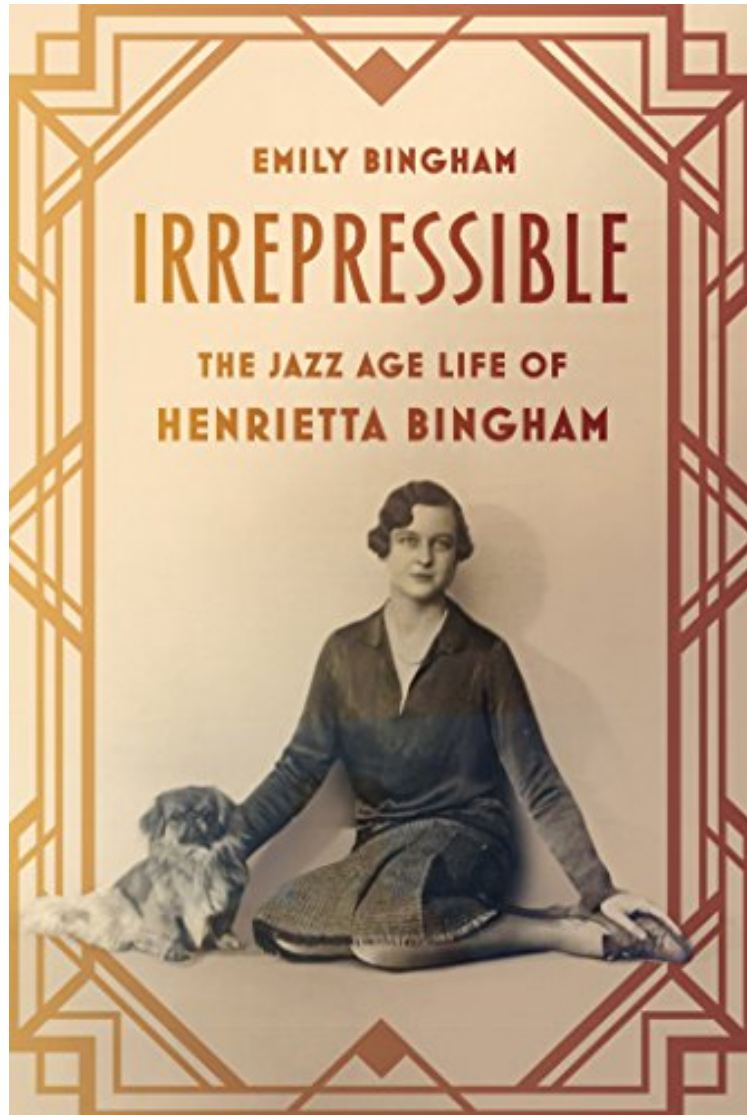


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Von Emily Bingham

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Von Emily Bingham : Irrepressible: The Jazz Age Life of Henrietta Bingham before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Irrepressible: The Jazz Age Life of Henrietta Bingham:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Interesting life...Von Jill MeyerThere's a difference in reading history written as contemporaneous accounts and reading history written well after the events. The first seems more "live", even if we sometimes know what happened after the author has written his account. That's very, very true about Joseph Roth's essays in the book, "The Hotel Years".The 65 or so essays chosen by the book's editors were mostly written as newspaper pieces, between 1919 and

1939. Roth died in 1939 at the age of 45 of alcoholism, but the Austrian-Jewish journalist had made a name for himself since 1919 as an observer of culture and politics in the inter-war years. Most of the essays included were printed in the "Frankfurter Zeitung", in a Berlin newspaper, and in two papers that I think were German-language papers published in Paris. But the articles would be printable in any newspaper, at least up til 1936 or so. Roth rarely seemed to write about specific events, though in 1934 he wrote about a journalist's job in reporting "The Night of the Long Knives". No, in general, Roth seemed to write about places he traveled - Albania and the Soviet Union, among others - and the people he met along the way, and the hotels he stayed in. Since he rarely identified which hotels they were, it's difficult to know where they were located. One hotel, though, sounds like a less wacky cousin of Wes Anderson's "Hotel Budapest", with its international staff and clientele. To return, though, to my point about reading contemporaneous history. I noticed that WW1 was always referred to as "The Great War", though I'd be surprised if Roth didn't think another world war was on its way. His writing in the early 1920's already referred to "Nazis" and "swastikas". It's too bad that Joseph Roth didn't live longer; I wonder what his impressions of the world of WW2 would be in print. But maybe it's better he didn't live longer. His writing in these selected essays is truly worth reading by anyone interested in the inter-war years.

Kurzbeschreibung Raised like a princess in one of the most powerful families in the American South, Henrietta Bingham was offered the helm of a publishing empire. Instead, she ripped through the Jazz Age like an F. Scott Fitzgerald character: intoxicating and intoxicated, selfish and shameless, seductive and brilliant, endearing and often terribly troubled. In New York, Louisville, and London, she drove both men and women wild with desire, and her youth blazed with sex. But her love affairs with women made her the subject of derision and caused a doctor to try to cure her queerness. After the speed and pleasure of her early days, the toxicity of judgment from others coupled with her own anxieties resulted in years of addiction and breakdowns. And perhaps most painfully, she became a source of embarrassment for her family-she was labeled "a three-dollar bill." But forebears can become fairy-tale figures, especially when they defy tradition and are spoken of only in whispers. For the biographer and historian Emily Bingham, the secret of who her great-aunt was, and just why her story was concealed for so long, led to Irrepressible: The Jazz Age Life of Henrietta Bingham. Henrietta rode the cultural cusp as a muse to the Bloomsbury Group, the daughter of the ambassador to the United Kingdom during the rise of Nazism, the seductress of royalty and athletic champions, and a pre-Stonewall figure who never buckled to convention. Henrietta's audacious physicality made her unforgettable in her own time, and her ecstatic and harrowing life serves as an astonishing reminder of the stories lying buried in our own families. Pressestimmen Praise for "Mordecai" "With a historian's care and a novelist's sense of story, Bingham brings to life a family of Southern Jews struggling to reconcile loyalty to their tradition . . . It's a testament to Bingham's talents that she has made the Mordecais feel every bit as loving and complicated as families really are." -- Nicholas Lemann, author of "The Promised Land" Praise for "Irrepressible" "Deeply researched and written with passion, this is the story of a tantalizing and unconventional woman in her elusive search for happiness. "Irrepressible" lives up to its dramatic title." -- Michael Holroyd, author of "A Book of Secrets" Praise for "Mordecai" "With a historian's care and a novelist's sense of story, Bingham brings to life a family of Southern Jews struggling to reconcile loyalty to their tradition . . . It's a testament to Bingham's talents that she has made the Mordecais feel every bit as loving and complicated as families really are." -- Nicholas Lemann, author of "The Promised Land" Praise for "Irrepressible" Praise for "Mordecai" Emily Bingham's lively and intimate life of Henrietta Bingham sheds surprising light on one Jazz Age woman's transatlantic adventures. "Irrepressible" gives us a hard-drinking, Harlem-loving temptress who captivated women and men alike, in both England and the United States, leaving the ground littered with their broken hearts. But it's also the story of a woman torn between her love for her controlling father and the desire to live life on her own terms. -- Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina, author of Mr. and Mrs. Prince The life of Henrietta Bingham, as recounted by her great-niece Emily in "Irrepressible," is so engrossing that readers will finish the book astonished at not having heard of her before . . . Emily Bingham has given us a faithful unretouched portrait of a bewitching, courageous, sometimes maddening woman . . . My advice is don't wait for the movie--get a copy of this engaging book and read it now. -- Jennie Rathbun "Lambda Literary" Henrietta Bingham's greatest achievement was making people fall in love with her. Thus she offers a delicious excuse to be back in a time and among a group in which love was celebrated with gratifying complexity and tenderness . . . You can read "Irrepressible" strictly for plot because [Emily] Bingham . . . propels us along at the exhilarating clip of the sporty Sunbeam in which Henrietta drove her Bloomsbury friends around the British countryside. Its literary value, though, is that of an attenuated tragedy, reminding us of our continuing failure to help people, wealthy or poor, who can't quite survive life, even as they try valiantly to live it. -- Miranda Purves "The New York Times Book" In crisp, graceful prose, Bingham trails her great-aunt from an athletic youth shadowed by her mother's death and father's marriages through her years as a magical presence and muse to her middle-age descent into breakdowns and addiction . . . With meticulous research and compassion, her great-niece has put some of those pieces together and Henrietta back in the Bingham family album. --

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"The New Yorker""Henrietta Bingham was one of those entrancing creatures more often met in books than in life . . . Emily Bingham's painstaking reconstruction of Henrietta's story shows that she was a pioneer of sorts a poignant case of a life unspooled before the world was ready for her odd grace." Edward Kosner, "The Wall Street Journal""In this sensitive and emotionally rich biography . . . [Henrietta Bingham] flashes unforgettably back into life." Joanna Scutts, "The Washington Post" The life of Henrietta Bingham, as recounted by her great-niece Emily in "Irrepressible," is so engrossing that readers will finish the book astonished at not having heard of her before . . . Emily Bingham has given us a faithful unretouched portrait of a bewitching, courageous, sometimes maddening woman . . . My advice is don't wait for the movie--get a copy of this engaging book and read it now. 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"Michael Holroyd, author of A Book of Secrets" With "Irrepressible," Emily Bingham has forensically crafted a riveting story of the American South, as her great aunt's taboo-shattering sexual odyssey spirals out of control. The mesmerizing It Girl crashes headlong into Jazz Age Bloomsbury; the result is a literary masterpiece of ground-breaking social history. "Geordie Greig, author of Breakfast with Lucian" Emily Bingham's lively and intimate life of Henrietta Bingham sheds surprising light on one Jazz Age woman's transatlantic adventures. "Irrepressible" gives us a hard-drinking, Harlem-loving temptress who captivated women and men alike, in both England and the United States, leaving the ground littered with their broken hearts. But it's also the story of a woman torn between her love for her controlling father and the desire to live life on her own terms. 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