

1 Background and First 3 Chapters

1.1 Hemingway

- Hemingway came up with the Hemingway code, summarized by the following ideas:
 - Live Passionately
 - Do not be controlled by others
 - Be honest, controlled, and disciplined
 - Take risks, be persistent
 - Do not pity yourself, and accept death on your own terms.
- Fitzgerald and Hemingway write at the same time, but there are many important differences. Like Fitzgerald, Hemingway got involved with other writers.
- Hemingway uses a simple sentence structure and reveals fairly little.
- Hemingway also uses irony, sarcasm, and understatement. So Hemingway should remind me of myself in some twisted way.
- Hemingway was born in Oak Park, Illinois, to a doctor. He loved the woods, boxed, and played football. Like many other writers of the time (I'm looking at Fitzgerald here) he was involved in WWI. He was rejected by the US Army, as a result of eyesight.
- Hemingway, rather than fighting, served as an ambulance driver in Italy. Wrote A Farewell to Arms about it.
- In Paris, he met other writers including Ezra Pound, Gertrude Stein, and F. Scott Fitzgerald.
- These American authors living in Paris were called “expatriates,” and Stein named the generation of writers “The Lost Generation.” Stein had an influence on Hemingway, advising his style and telling him to concentrate more.
- In 1923, Hemingway saw his first bullfight in Pamplona, Spain. He used his experiences with bullfighting in writing The Sun Also Rises.
- Published TSAR in 1926, and it was a critical success.
- Also wrote Farewell to Arms, For Whom the Bell Tolls, and The Old Man and the Sea.
- Received the Nobel Prize for literature.
- Uses the quote from Stein, and a quote from Ecclesiastes

1.2 Backdrop of the Book

- Jake Barnes, our narrator, is a WWI vet in the newspaper business. He was injured in the war.
- Robert Cohn is a Jewish man from a wealthy family, and is apparently a mediocre writer (assuming we can trust our narrator.)

- Lady Brett Ashley is Jake's love aged 34. She plans on getting a divorce from Lord Ashley.
- Bill Gorton is Jake's friend met in Spain and a writer.
- We find Cohn has little self-confidence and is controlled to a fair extent by the women in his life.
- Cohn has been discriminated against for being Jewish, and while he hates boxing he hides behind it and uses it to feel safer.
- Cohn was from one of the richest and oldest Jewish families in New York. Robert was nice, friendly, but shy. It made him bitter.
- Braddocks is Cohn's literary friend, and Barnes is his literary friend. Cohn wrote a novel, but it was a critical failure.

1.3 Chapter 1 through Chapter 3

- Cohn had been reading The Purple Land and is taking it too literally. Jake thinks Cohn needs to look more realistically at life. Cohn needs to live life rather than having all these Romantic delusions. Jake believes that nobody ever lives life to the fullest except for bullfighters. Robert is not so interested in bullfighters, and Jake says he should read a book about it.
- Robert wants to see a different life than he has, Jake is satisfied with what he's doing. Jake has tried going to other countries, and says "You can't get away from yourself by moving. I've tried all that." This is the idea you can't run away from death or yourself.
- We are introduced to Lady Brett Ashley, and she was "Damned good looking." She wears her hair in the style of the 20s, short and brushed back "Like a boy's."
- There is evidence she and Jake are more than just casual friends. She dodges Robert's attempts at flirtation. At her entrance Jake immediately points out her presence, and is insulted that he brought Georgette. She calls him darling.
- Ends the chapter saying she is miserable. She acts carefree, but is unhappy with the circumstances.

2 Chapters 4-6

2.1 Chapter 4

- Brett is unreliable, and portrayed as not knowing what she wants and speaks differently from how she acts.
- Brett is assertive and independent, but "afraid of so many things." Jake claims he can see through her exterior.
- "Don't we pay for all the things we do?" -Jake
- "When I think of the hell I've put chaps through, I'm paying for it all." -Brett

- In response to this, Jake says his war injury is supposed to be funny, and that he never thinks of it.
- Jake has grown tired of the subject, though “Certain injuries are a source of merriment” but are a pain for those with them.

2.2 Chapter 5

- Zizi and Mippipopolous. Mippi knows a lot about people, and owns a chain of sweet shops. Brett says he’s “one of us.” This suggests he is aristocratic, from America and living in Europe, frivolous, and all the like things.
- Jake takes this walk through the city streets, walking past cafes. Comes to a statue of Marshall May, a French military hero known for his bravery.
- Jake has a very important relationship with bullfighting, he takes in bullfighting papers or something. He mentions how the Catholic Church says he shouldn’t think about his permanent injury.
- Jake lays awake thinking about Brett, and cries. He wants to be with her, but feels there is no chance. They go out again, and kiss, and he goes back upstairs, gets into bed, and says “it is awfully easy to be hard-boiled in the daytime, but at night is another thing.”
- He throws out the idea that Brett isn’t even worth crying about.

2.3 Chapter 6

- Jake has a conversation with a couple other newsmen, at a press conference. Jake does not consider these men friends, just acquaintances. They don’t know each other very well. The other newsmen are married and have kids.
- Cohn has an incapacity to enjoy Paris. Jake thinks he got this from the writer H.L. Mencken. He implies this is where Robert gets many of his ideas.
- Jake encounters Harvey Stone, and they see Robert Cohn coming and Harvey is kind of a dick. Says Cohn is an unintelligent moron. Then later says he is a case of arrested development.
- Cohn takes this pretty well, but threatens Stone a bit. Jake notes he feels he has not shown Robert clearly. Up until Cohn fell in love with Brett, he had never made a remark that would detach him from others. Externally, he had been formed at Princeton but internally he had been formed by women in his life.
- Francis is upset that Robert refuses to marry her. Jake dislikes how Robert allows Francis to walk all over him.

3 Chapter 7-9

3.1 Chapter 7

- Brett pays Jake’s concierge, and in Jake’s room show up Brett and the Count.

- The count is a perfect example of a member of the lost generation, and he's all about satisfying physical desires. He only smokes good cigars, only drinks champagne out of a magnum, etc.
- He's been through multiple wars and revolutions. He's also drowning in women when Brett and Jake leave.
- He's "BIG. He's FAT. He's LARGE," –Bucher 2015
- They talk of titles, and the count talks of how a title is a bother. Brett says they're useful, but Mippi says they're more trouble than they're worth.
- Jake not having a title is indicative of his different-ness. The count says to Brett that she's always drinking, which is a result of wanting to avoid serious conversation.
- Count says because he has lived so much, he can enjoy so much, and because he has come to know all the values he is successful. Brett says he hasn't any values, and that he's dead. She's just the same.
- Count is compared to Jake throughout the chapter. They have different views of danger, and the Count tries not to be alone ever.
- Jake actually fought in a war, the count pretends he was in a war.
- Jake values nature, his job, things that aren't wealth or image.
- In response to the idea Jake and Brett ought be married, Jake says "We ought to lead our own lives." This is all lost generation-y.
- They continue on to a club, and Brett brings up Michael. She says she's going to marry him, and hasn't thought about him for a week, and this will be her third marriage.
- She again says she is so miserable. Jake says she has made no progress, and that he's going through something that has happened before.
- Brett is shown here to be fairly incapable of finding love and fulfillment, and is miserable.
- The count supports Zizi, and that he has a future, but the Count doesn't want him around.

3.2 Chapter 8

- Jake is pleased to have time with nothing to do with Cohn or Brett.
- Robert got into boxing as a method of coping, but this is not the reason the Black Boxer got into it.
- Gorton brings up the stuffed dogs, which some critics say are symbolic of people trying to adjust to life after the war, as they are only imitating life.
- Brett is indecisive, and doesn't know how she feels, but Jake knows what he wants and isn't fake. He just can't get it.
- Brett makes it clear that she likes Paris, and regrets leaving.

- Gorton drinks, a lot, and views being undaunted as pretty important.
- Jake makes his point about Paris, saying it's crowded with Americans. Especially Americans who want the quaint, untouched ideal of Paris, and he has a disdain for the Americans who do this.
- They circle the island, and it's quite dark. Jake has an affinity for nature, which is shown in this walk along the river. This is in some sense the first time he has been satisfied with Paris, and he is enjoying the night.
- This is one of the rare points where Paris hasn't been spoiled by the presence of his compatriots.
- Toward the end of the chapter, we meet Brett and Michael. Michael, like Brett, is morally bankrupt with the benefit of also being financially bankrupt.

3.3 Chapter 9

- This chapter has Jake angry with Robert, and there is definitely a breach in their friendship (if at any point one could have called it that.) There is animosity and disgust.
- Chapter opens, Jake receives a letter from Robert. In the morning, when he writes Robert back, that they would leave on the 25th unless they decided otherwise.
- Brett asks if Robert will be on the trip, and asks if it'll be hard on him. You can tell Jake is unhappy, and sarcastic and blunt with her. This is in no small part because she is rubbing it in his face.
- Jake being so sarcastic shows an aspect of himself that isn't often seen through the rest of the novel.
- Jake is volunteering to be with Brett and Michael, showing remarkable similarities to Nick "Third Wheelin'" Carraway
- The behavior of the conductor is indicative of money neither being power nor influence, and possibly that money is not satisfying.
- People are off pretending to be Catholic, and those who aren't doing so aren't getting to eat but are enjoying themselves and nature more. This is nature versus hurrying to satisfy one's needs.
- Jake, who's actually Catholic, is kind of offended by those who are pretending to be Catholic.
- They all are constantly moving, even possibly at random, and are all trying to escape themselves. This is symbolic.
- Bill has anger toward Robert, and it's partially driven by Robert's hatred of Jews. He's angry both about Robert's superiority and his Jewishness.

4 Chapter 10-18

4.1 Chapter 10

- This chapter contains a lot of religious references, and mention of Jake's Catholicism.
- Jake goes to the Cathedral, pray for others, himself, money (which reminds him of the count,) which ends up bringing him onto a tangent.
- Jake regrets being a rotten Catholic, and views Catholicism as a grand religion and only wishes he could be a better Catholic.
- Cohn is nervous, as he is unsure if Jake knows about Cohn and Brett. Jake says he will go to the station with Cohn, just to devil him (and make him more nervous.) Jake is pretty spiteful here.
- Jake enjoys this nervousness, and says Cohn has a tendency to bring out the worst in people.

4.2 Chapter 15

- This is pre-bullfight. Robert says he is only worried he'd be bored, an indication of his lack of understanding of bullfighting and being out of his element.
- Cohn has typically been a participant in sports, not a spectator.
- Brett worries if she'll be able to go through with it alright. Bill says to Cohn that he isn't likely to be too bored.
- Robert has decided to live life and fall in love outside his value system, and it shows.
- Pedro Romero was 19, alone, and handsome.
- Robert is sickened by the bullfight, Brett doesn't mind, and Brett is into Pedro Romero.
- Romero is a good bullfighter, knowing how to control the bull without wasting its energy, working it so it is tired at the end. He works close to the bull, without using any trick. He is calm and skillful, and has grace and purity of movement.
- Romero is a contrast to Robert and relates to everyone's values and all that.

4.3 Chapter 16

- Montoya wants to protect Romero from the corruption of Americans and foreigners in general, tells Jake not to give Romero the message from the ambassador.
- Jake says to pretend like he forgot to give it to him. Jake sees the importance of not spoiling Romero, then does a face-heel turn in the situation with Brett.