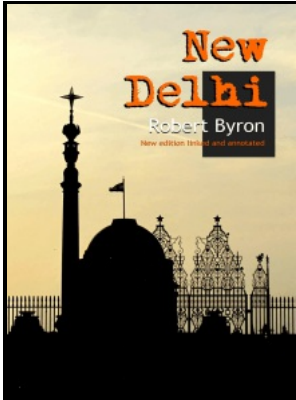


Bright young people - the rise and fall of a generation 1918-1940

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 Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index
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Caught between dazzle and death

No obvious damage to the cover, with the dust jacket if applicable included for hard covers. Their dealings with the media foreshadowed our modern celebrity culture and even today, we can detect their influence in our cultural life. His most recent books are the Victorian novel *Kept: A Victorian Mystery* Chatto, 2006 and *The Corinthian Spirit: on the decline of Amateurism in Sport* Yellow Jersey, 2006.

Bright Young People: The Rise and Fall of a Generation, 1918

But the iceberg in the path of these determined revellers was addiction.

Bright Young People: The Rise and Fall of a Generation, 1918

Immensely readable, and of real value as a sharply pointed cautionary tale. The Bright Young People were one of the most extraordinary youth cults in British history. Just as important, he relates this ultimately elegiac narrative with a surprising amount of intellectual and emotional sympathy.

Caught between dazzle and death

They were one of the most documented and self-conscious social groups of all time, the first celebrities to be famous for being famous. The catastrophic paths of denial and failure trodden by all three were not an inevitable consequence of party-going, but variations on the basic *via dolorosa* of the addict. An outlook, a gesture, an essence.

Caught between dazzle and death

Moving from the Great War to the Blitz, *Bright Young People* is both a chronicle of England's 'lost generation' of the Jazz Age, and a panoramic portrait of a world that could accommodate both dizzying success and paralysing failure. Their dealings with the media foreshadowed our modern celebrity culture and even today, we can detect their influence in our cultural life. Even if you think you know a lot or enough about them, even if you've read the acerbic novels of the early Evelyn Waugh or plowed your way through Anthony Powell's *A Dance to the Music of Time*, there's

bound to be material here you haven't seen or heard of.

Bright Young People: The Rise and Fall of a Generation 1918

Taylor has a nice way with a one-liner- 'The books Brian Howard never wrote would fill a decent-sized shelf'-and is excellent on the evolution of BYP argot. A witty and sensitive account of the pathos and the glamour of the generation fated to 'sorrow in sunlight'. The English upper-classes' sense of their intrinsic superiority included a belief in their powers of self-mastery.

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