



Only Yesterday: An Informal History of the 1920s

By Frederick Lewis Allen

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Prohibition. Al Capone. The President Harding scandals. The revolution of manners and morals. Black Tuesday. These are only an inkling of the events and figures characterizing the wild, tumultuous era that was the Roaring Twenties. Originally published in 1931, *Only Yesterday* traces the rise of post-World War I prosperity up to the Wall Street crash of 1929 against the colorful backdrop of flappers, speakeasies, the first radio, and the scandalous rise of skirt hemlines. Hailed as an instant classic, this is Frederick Lewis Allen's vivid and definitive account of one of the twentieth century's most fascinating decades, chronicling a time of both joy and terror--when dizzying highs were quickly succeeded by heartbreaking lows.

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Only Yesterday: An Informal History of the 1920s By Frederick Lewis Allen Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #67373 in Books
- Brand: Allen, Frederick Lewis
- Published on: 2010-06-29
- Released on: 2010-06-29
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .79" w x 5.31" l, .60 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 338 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

"A perfectly grand piece of historical record and synthetic journalism." -- *Chicago Daily Tribune*

From the Back Cover

Only Yesterday deals with that delightful decade from the Armistice in November 1918 to the panic and depression of 1929-30. Here is the story of Woodrow Wilson's defeat, the Harding scandals, the Coolidge prosperity, the revolution in manners and morals, the bull market and its smash-up. Allen's lively narrative brings back an endless variety of half-forgotten events, fashions, crazes, and absurdities. Deftly written, with a humorous touch, *Only Yesterday* traces, beneath the excitements of day-to-day life in the 20s, those currents in national life and thought which are the essence of true history.

About the Author

Frederick Lewis Allen was born in Boston in 1890 and graduated from Harvard in 1912. He served on the editorial staffs of the *Atlantic Monthly* and *Century* magazines and was editor in chief of Harper's magazine from 1941 until his death in 1954

Users Review

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