

- *“If you are lucky enough to have lived in Paris as a young man, then wherever you go for the rest of your life, it stays with you, for Paris is a moveable feast.”*

Ernest Hemingway



Charles Dickens

“What an immense impression Paris made upon me. It is the most extraordinary place in the world!”



Gaston Leroux

“In Paris, our lives are one masked ball.”



Honoré de Balzac

“Whoever does not visit Paris regularly will never really be elegant.”



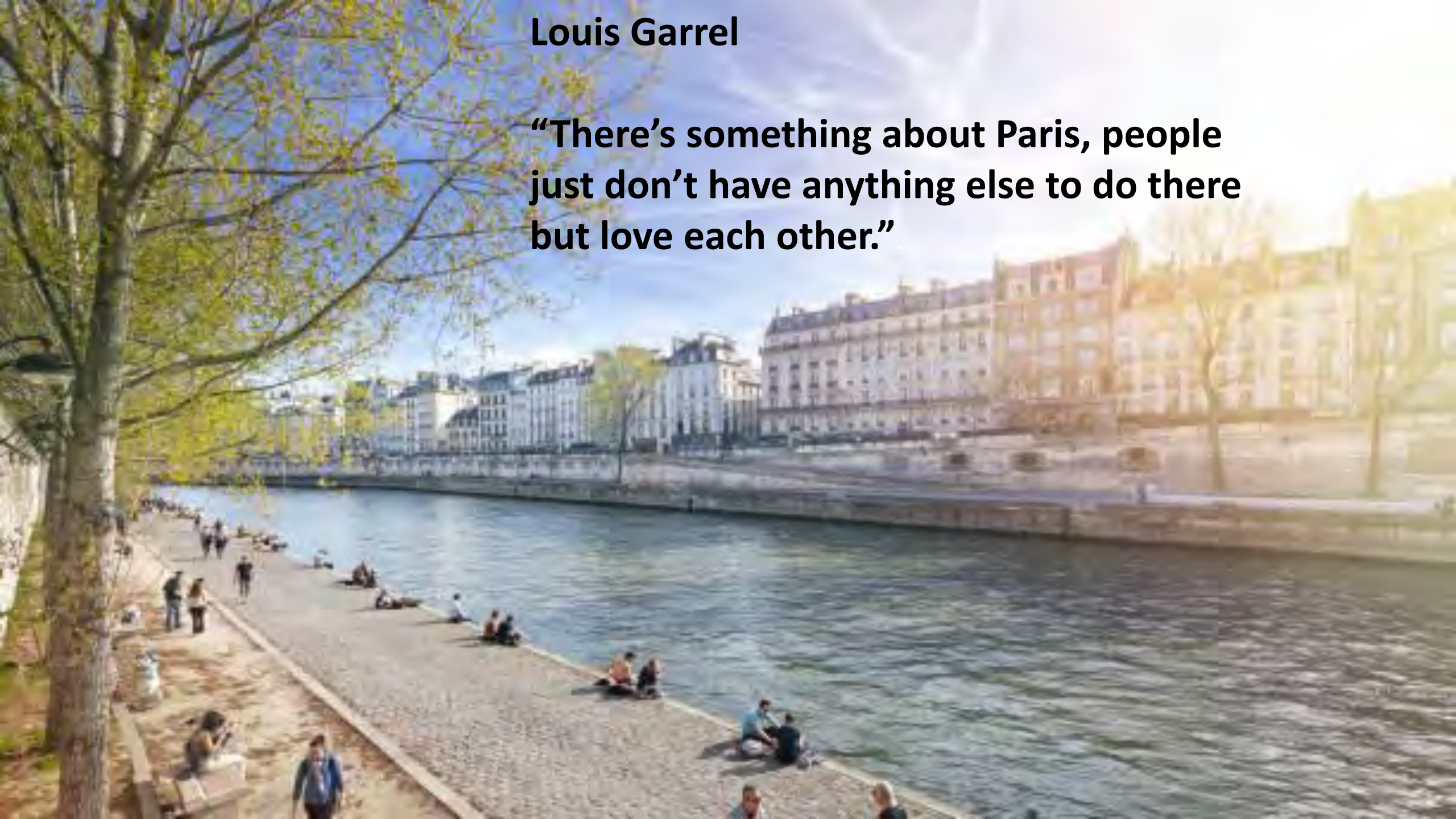
Lee Radziwill

“Paris is the most beautiful city in the world. It brings tears to your eyes.”



Louis Garrel

“There’s something about Paris, people just don’t have anything else to do there but love each other.”



An aerial photograph of Paris, France, taken during the golden hour of sunset. The city's dense urban landscape is visible, with numerous buildings featuring light-colored facades and dark, tiled roofs. In the center-left, the prominent spire of a cathedral, likely the Sacré-Cœur, stands out against the sky. The background shows a vast expanse of the city stretching towards the horizon under a soft, orange-hued sky. The overall scene captures the romantic and historic atmosphere of the city.

Michael Kors

“The shopping, the food, the views! Paris is a city that entrances us all – and I’m no exception.”



Natalie Portman

**“Everyone dreams
of living in Paris.”**

Audrey Hepburn

“Paris is always a good idea.”



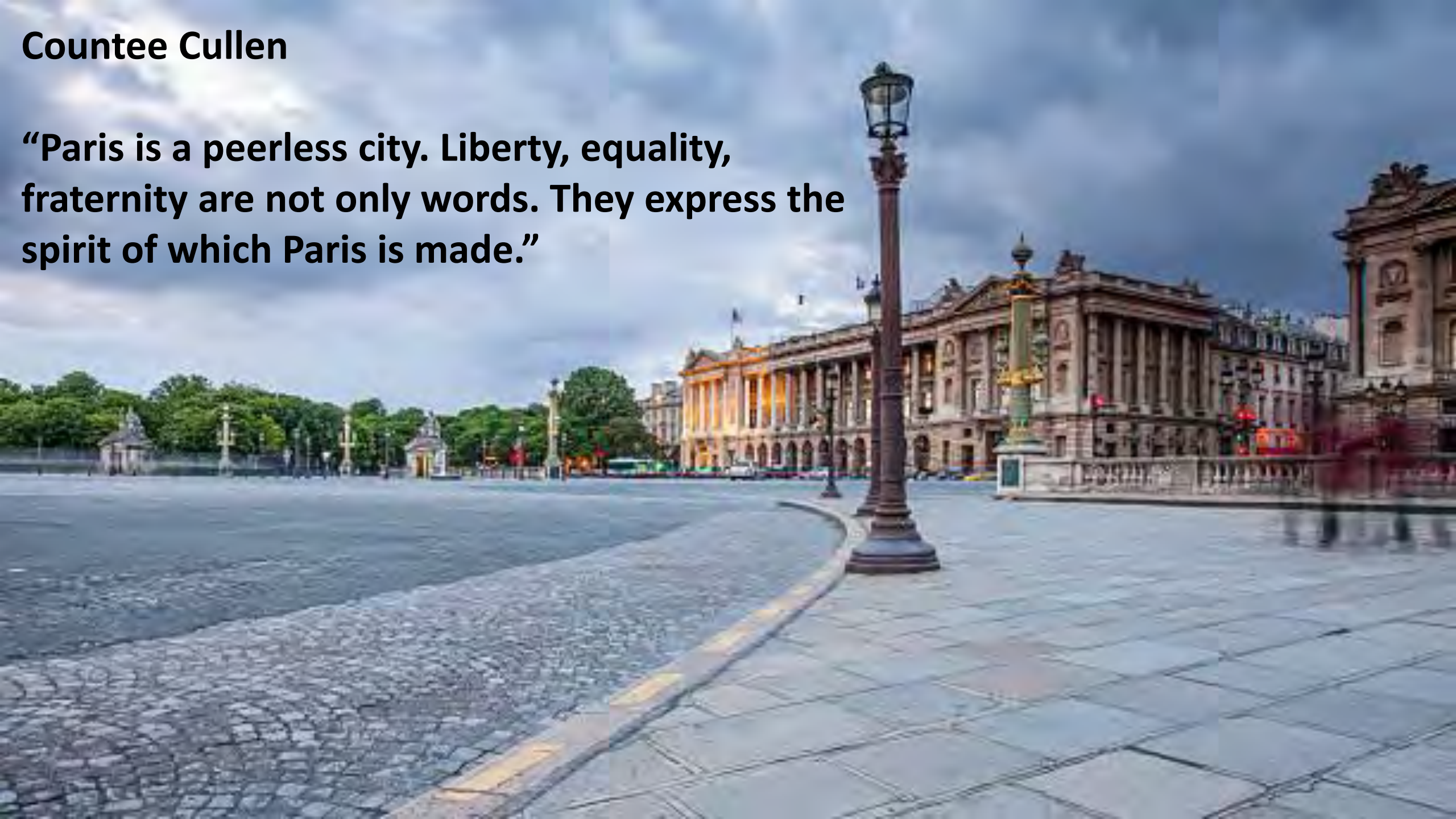


Caitriona Balfe

“It’s true, you never forget your first love, and for me, that will always be Paris”

Countee Cullen

“Paris is a peerless city. Liberty, equality, fraternity are not only words. They express the spirit of which Paris is made.”



E.A. Bucchianeri

“You’ll have to fall in love at least once in your life, or Paris has failed to rub off on you.”



Doni Belau

“Paris is the City of Light, of love, of beauty, of romance and of hope over fear, gratitude over cynicism and light over darkness. The light must, has before and will always prevail. I stand with the City of Light now and forever.”





Erich Maria Remarque, Arch of Triumph

“Paris is a city where time is best to spend by doing nothing.”



Friedrich Nietzsche

**“An artist has no home
in Europe except in
Paris.”**

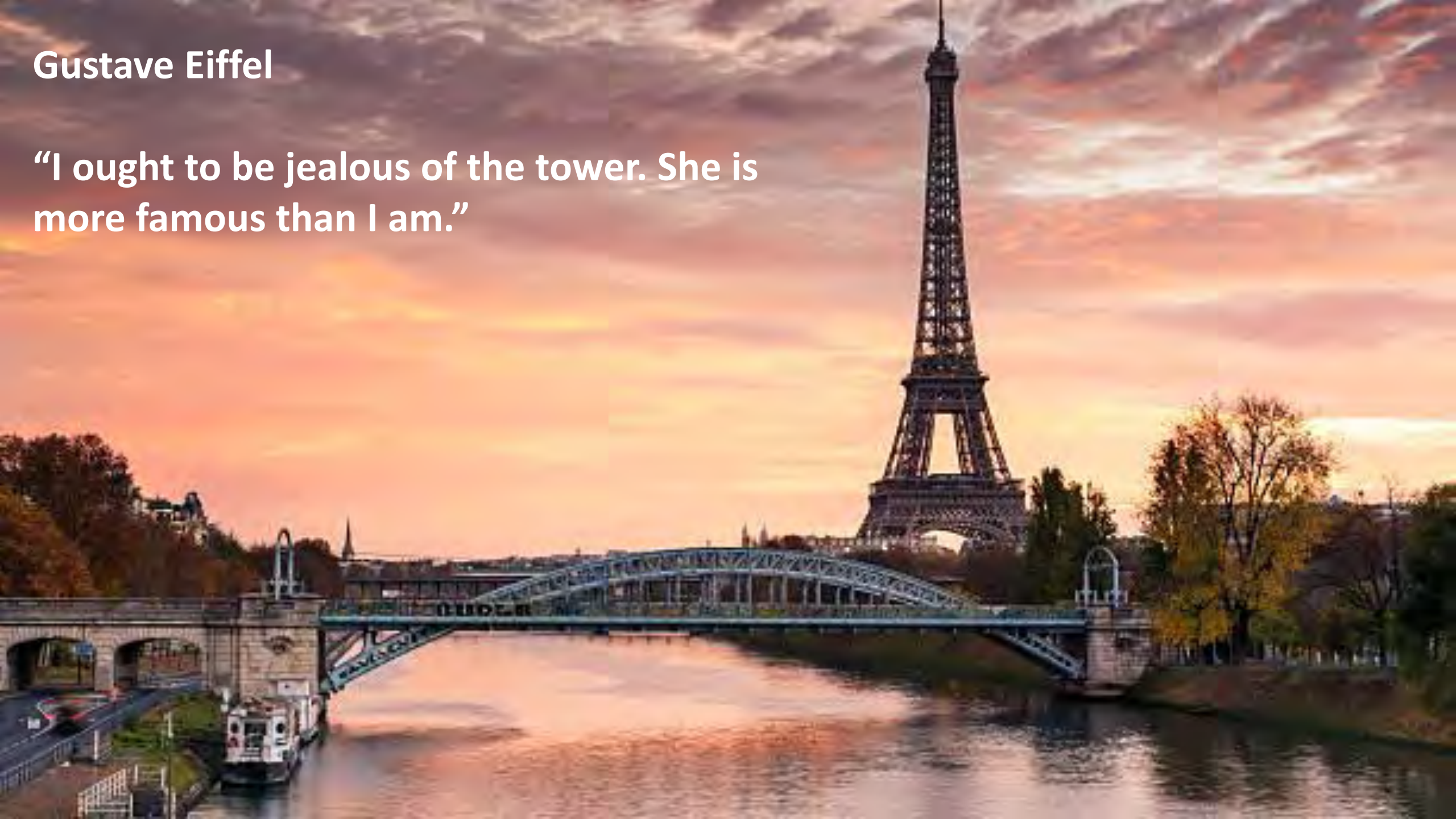


Francois Villon

“Good talkers are
only found in
Paris.”

Gustave Eiffel

“I ought to be jealous of the tower. She is more famous than I am.”



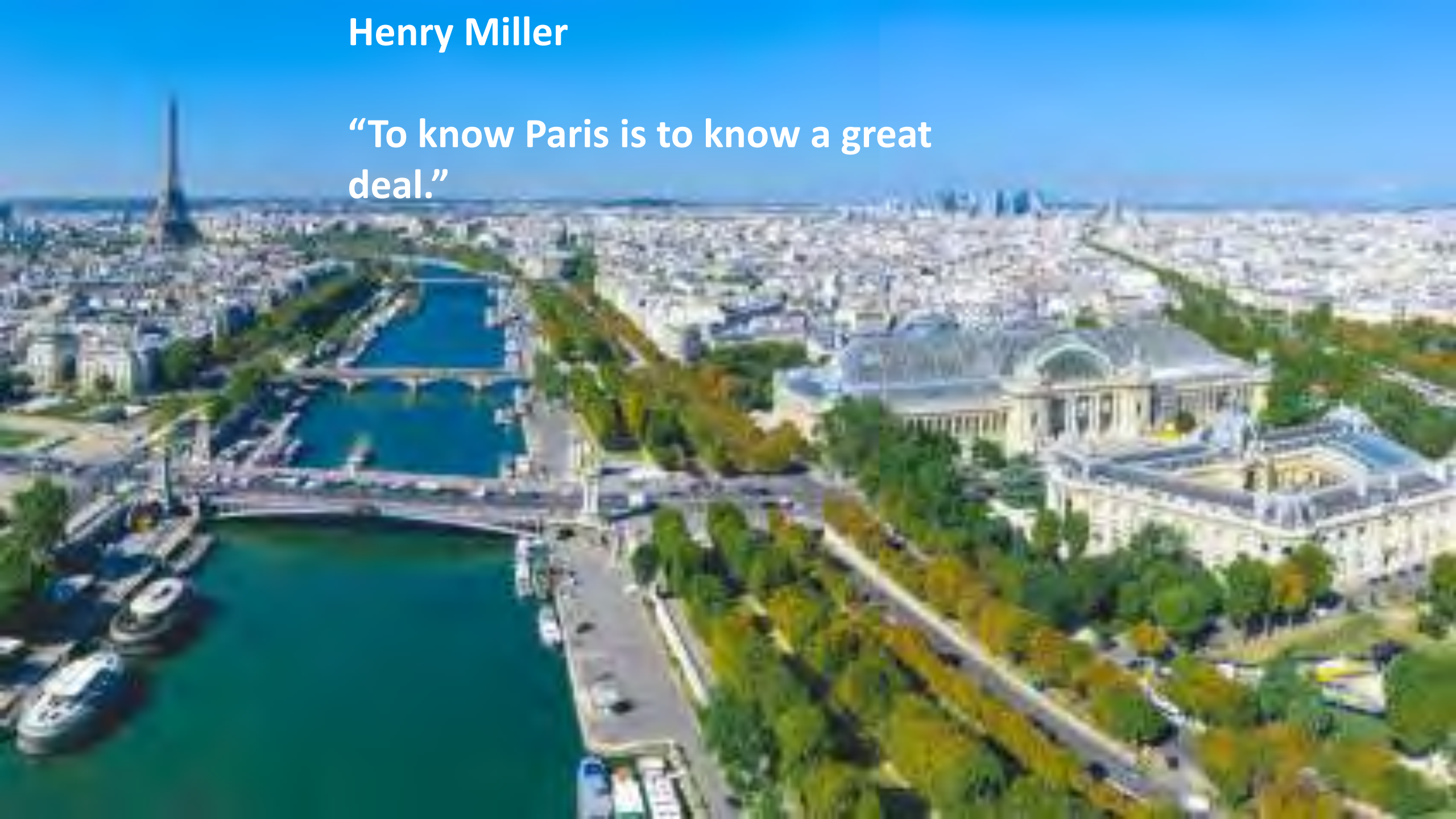
Henry Miller

“When spring comes to Paris the humblest mortal alive must feel that he dwells in paradise.”



Henry Miller

“To know Paris is to know a great deal.”



Jean Cocteau

“In Paris, everybody wants to be an actor; nobody is content to be a spectator.”





Kate Simon

“A final reminder. Whenever you are in Paris at twilight in the early summer, return to the Seine and watch the evening sky close slowly on a last strand of daylight fading quietly, like a sigh.”

Langston Hughes

**“Paris... There you can be whatever
you want to be. Totally yourself.”**





Lucia Van Der Post

“Paris is wrenchingly beautiful, and so are many of its people. If you use your eyes and take in everything, you can learn more about true style in a weekend than in a lifetime’s perusal of fashion magazines.”

Midnight in Paris

“I can never decide whether Paris is more beautiful by day or by night.”



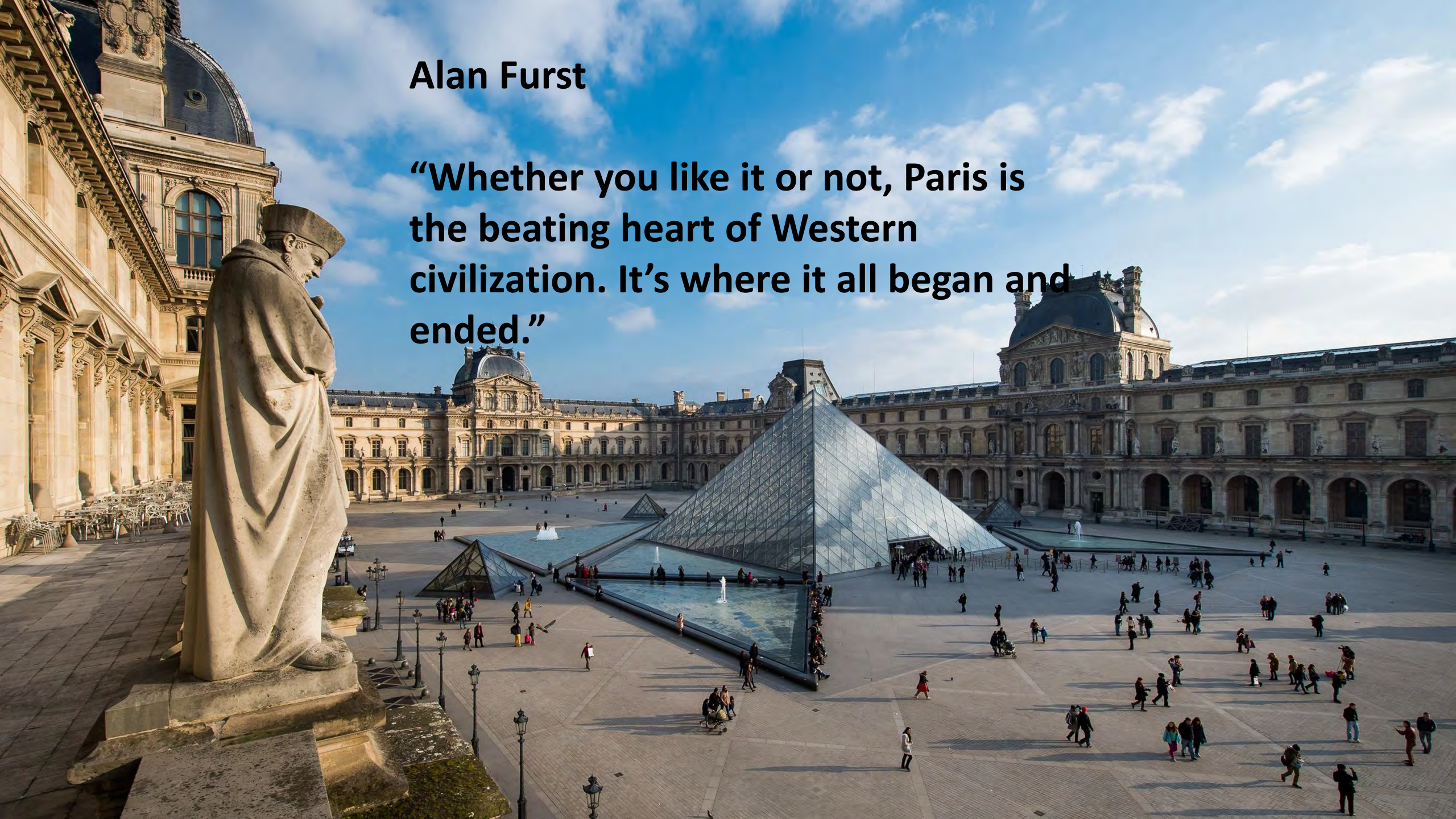
A wide-angle photograph of a Parisian riverbank. In the foreground, a paved promenade runs along the water's edge, with several people walking. A metal railing separates the path from the river. In the middle ground, a large stone bridge with multiple arches spans the river. The bridge has a green-painted metal structure. In the background, there are several historic buildings, including one with a prominent blue dome and another with a tall spire. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Thomas Jefferson

“A walk about Paris will provide lessons in history,
beauty and in the point of life.”

Alan Furst

“Whether you like it or not, Paris is the beating heart of Western civilization. It’s where it all began and ended.”



Victor Hugo

“To err is human. To loaf is Parisian.”



Vincent Van Gogh

“There is but one Paris, and however hard living may be here, and if it became worse and harder even—the French air clears up the brain and does good—a world of good.”



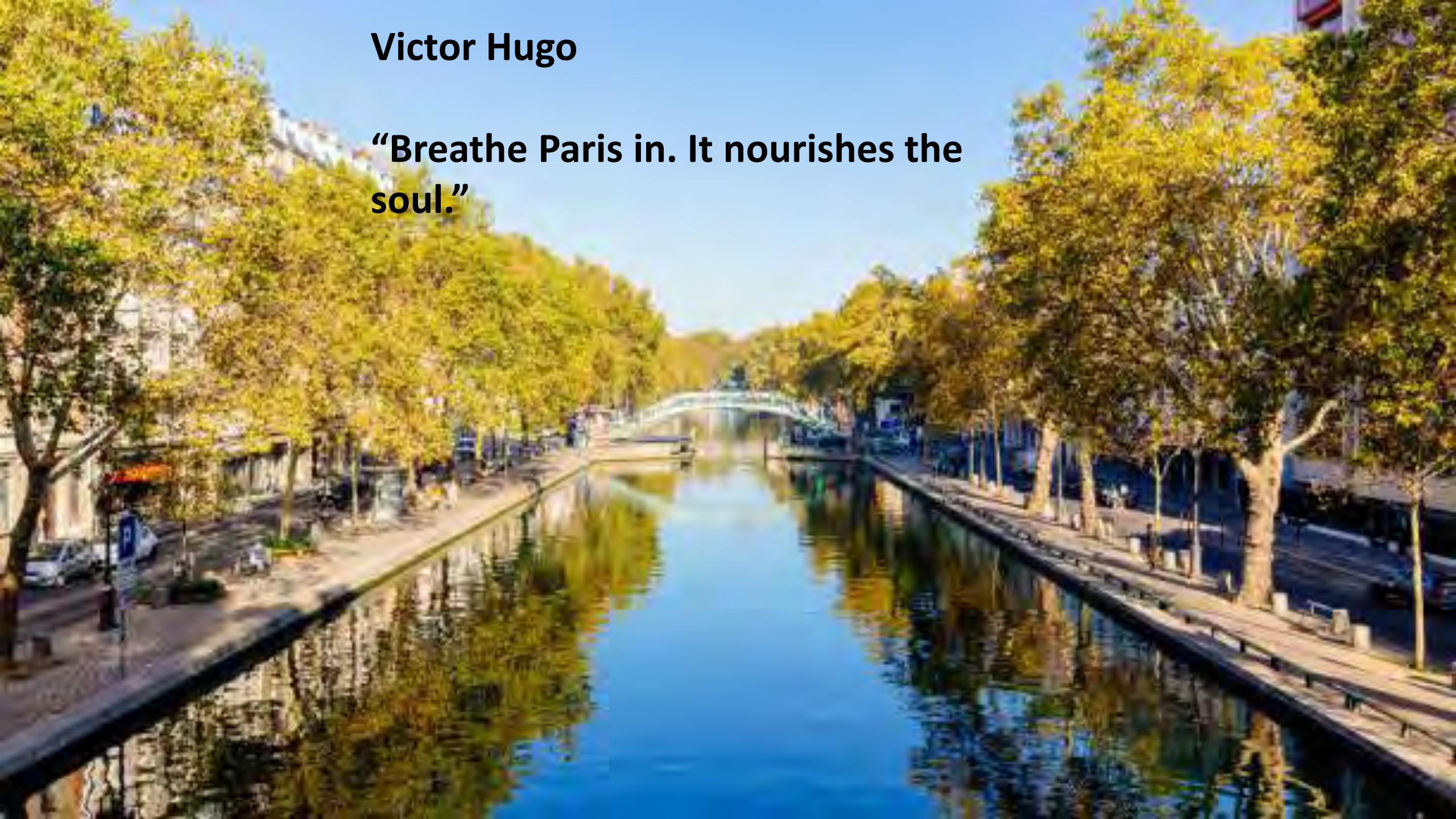
A romantic and atmospheric illustration of a Parisian street during a rainstorm. In the foreground, a woman in a dark blue dress stands with her back to the viewer, holding a vibrant red umbrella. The wet pavement reflects the ambient light. To the left, a classic Parisian building with balconies and a lit-up street lamp stands prominently. In the distance, the Eiffel Tower rises above the cityscape, partially obscured by a large tree with brilliant orange and red autumn foliage on the right. The overall mood is nostalgic and melancholic, perfectly complementing the quote by Willa Cather.

Willa Cather

“Paris is a hard place to leave, even when it rains incessantly and one coughs continually from the dampness.”

Victor Hugo

“Breathe Paris in. It nourishes the soul.”



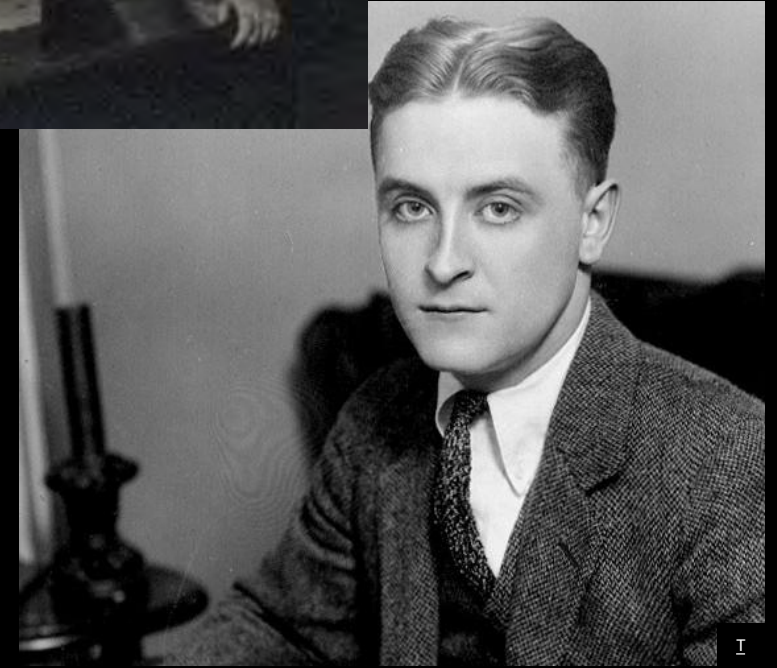
PARIS: The Golden Years



•
**Also
known
as...**



PARIS: The Lost Generation



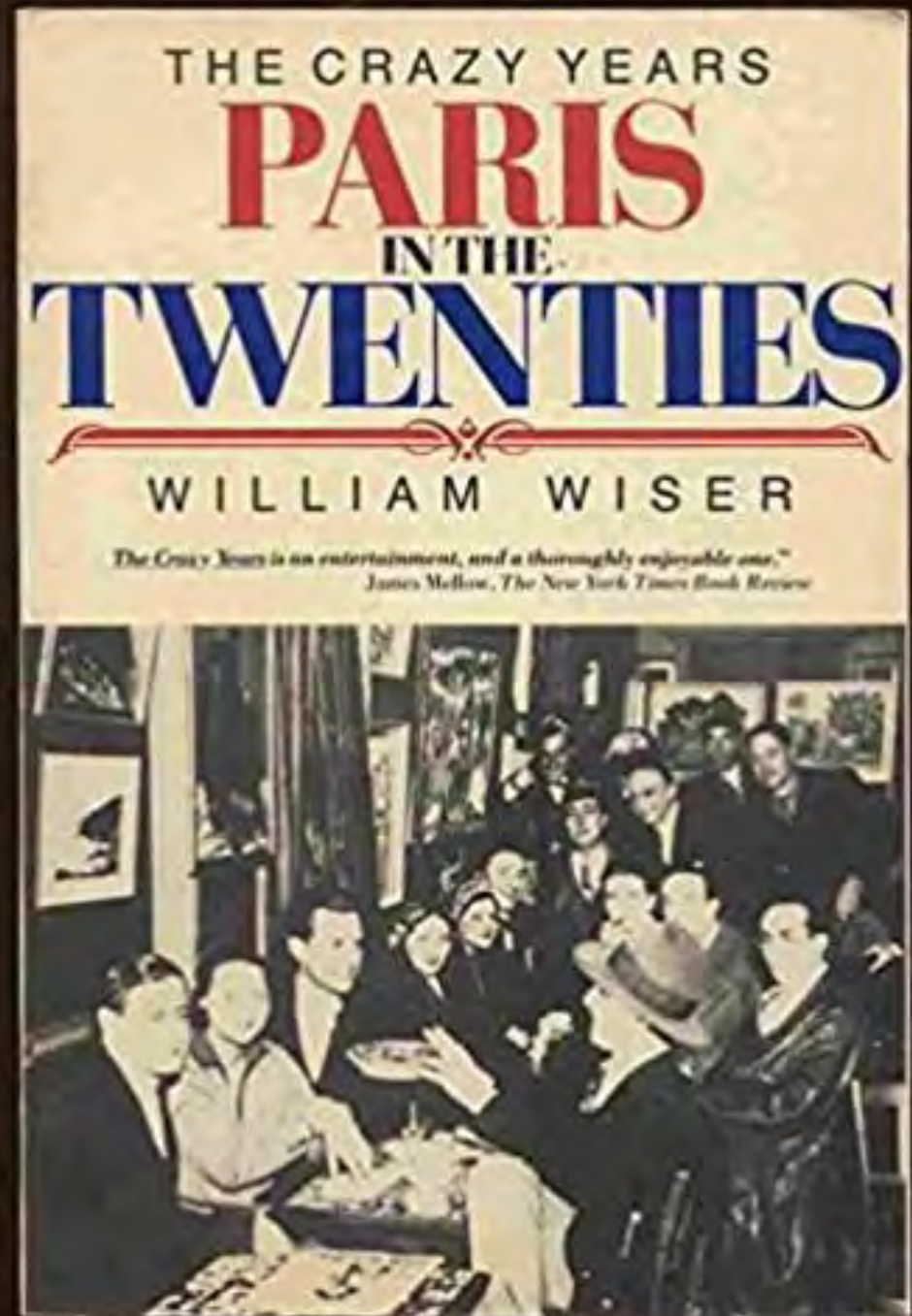
Babylon Revisited by F. Scott Fitzgerald:

- *I spoiled this city for myself. I didn't realize it, but the days came one after another, and then two years were gone, and everything was gone, and I was gone.*

Also known
as...



The Crazy Years



TOMMARYBETH@VERIZON.NET

- **I WILL PLACE THE SLIDES OF EACH CLASS ON OSHER'S WEBSITE AFTER EACH CLASS.**



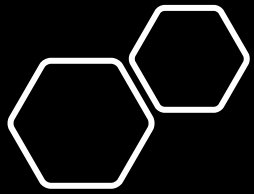
HOW TO ACCESS THE CLASS NOTES

Click on this link:

- <https://www.wm.edu/offices/auxiliary/osher/index.php>
- When that page appears, click on the link on the bottom:
- **LEARN MORE AND REGISTER**
- When the next page comes up, go to **“RESOURCES”** and click on **“Course Notes”**

Let's get started
with ...





Paris in the 1920s



ADDRESSING



MISCONCEPTIONS



—
If you ask some
people about
what happened in
Paris in the 20s,
they're liable to
say, "Huh!

Something
happened? I
didn't know."



Ask others and they might say, “A lot of Americans went to Paris in the 20s.”





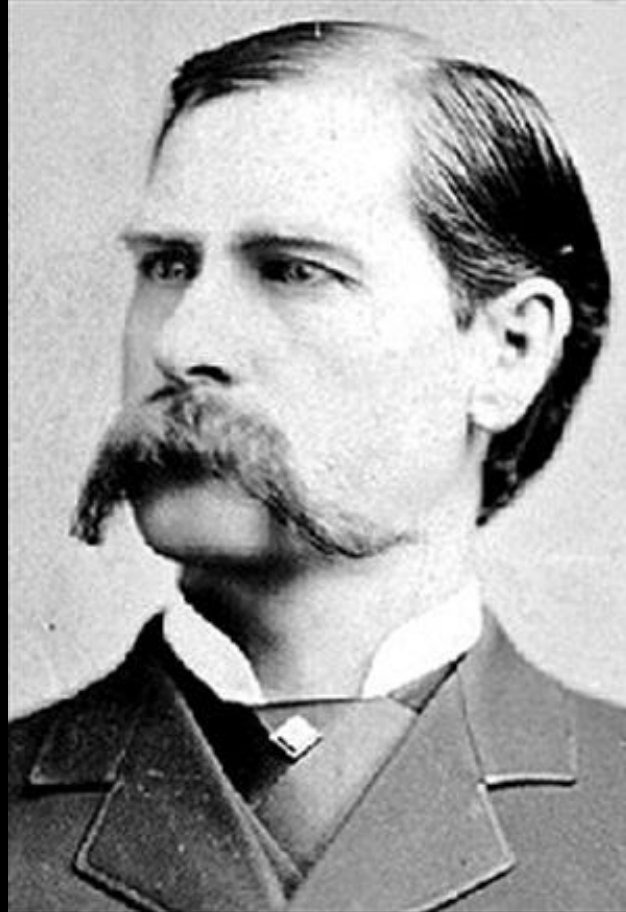
Still others might say, “1920s? Well, I think these two guys went there.”

In the immortal words of these other two guys,
“Who are those two guys” in that previous slide?



- **And speaking of Hemingway, let me make a point using two examples.**

First example (which will probably strike you as somewhat odd) is this man: Q: Who is he?



WYATT EARP

Frontier Marshal

STUART N. LAKE



Wyatt Earp (1848-1929)

-it is now considered "highly imaginative" and "largely fictional."

Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

- “History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.”





A Moveable Feast

SKETCHES OF THE AUTHOR'S LIFE
IN PARIS IN THE TWENTIES

ERNEST HEMINGWAY



And one more incomplete idea, viz., that Paris in the 1920s was one big party where men who would become famous did a lot of drinking and other things!

A poster for the musical 'An American in Paris'. The background is a deep blue night sky with a silhouette of the Eiffel Tower on the left. In the foreground, a man in a light blue shirt and a woman in a bright yellow dress are seen from behind, looking out over a Parisian landscape. The title 'An American in Paris' is written in a large, white, cursive font, with 'in' in smaller letters between 'American' and 'Paris'. Below the title, the words 'A New Musical' are written in a smaller, white, cursive font.

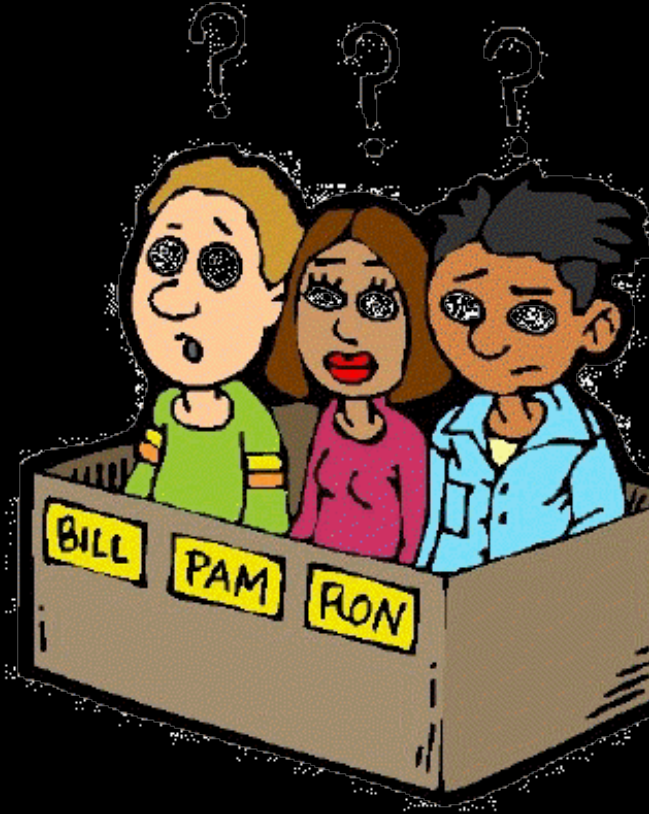
An American in Paris

A New Musical

One final error is to think that only Americans showed up in Paris in the 1920s.

From Wisner's "The Crazy Years: Paris in the Twenties":

- **The Germans** had twice failed to break through at the Marne for an invasion of Paris, but now a **peacetime invasion was taking place. Great colonies of the uprooted ---Russian emigres---** joined the returning soldiers swarming into the capital. **From America,** "the younger and footloose intellectuals went streaming up the longest gangplank in the world," as Malcolm Cowley visualized the "great migration into new prairies of the mind."



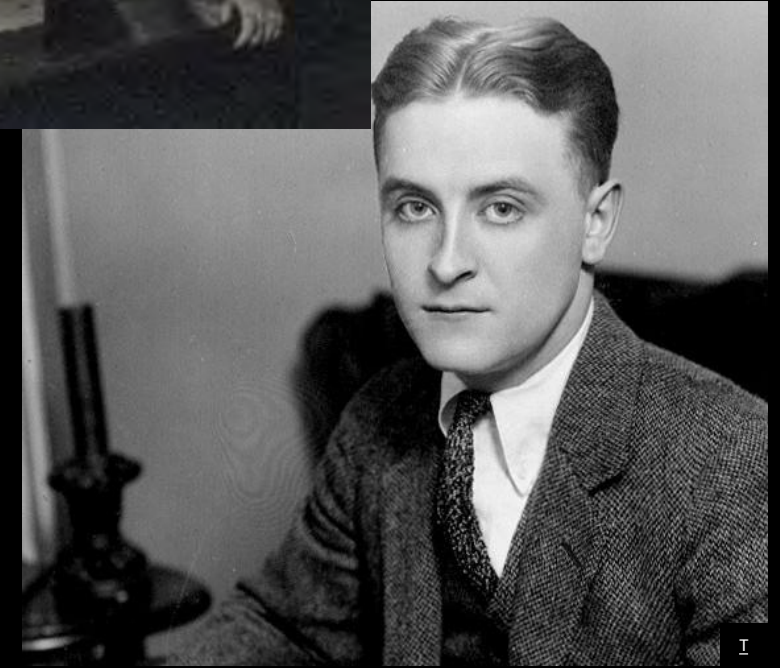
Let's have a
short quiz!





**Josephine Baker
(1906-1975)**

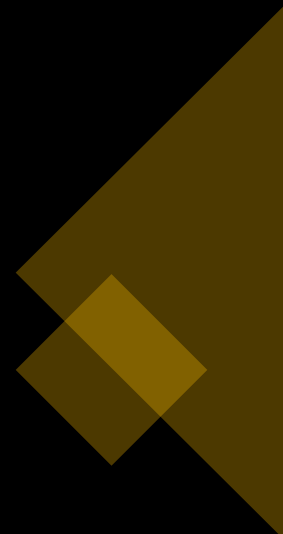
PARIS: The Lost Generation







Coco Chanel
(1883-1971)



STEREO
360 SOUND



COPLAND
conducts COPLAND

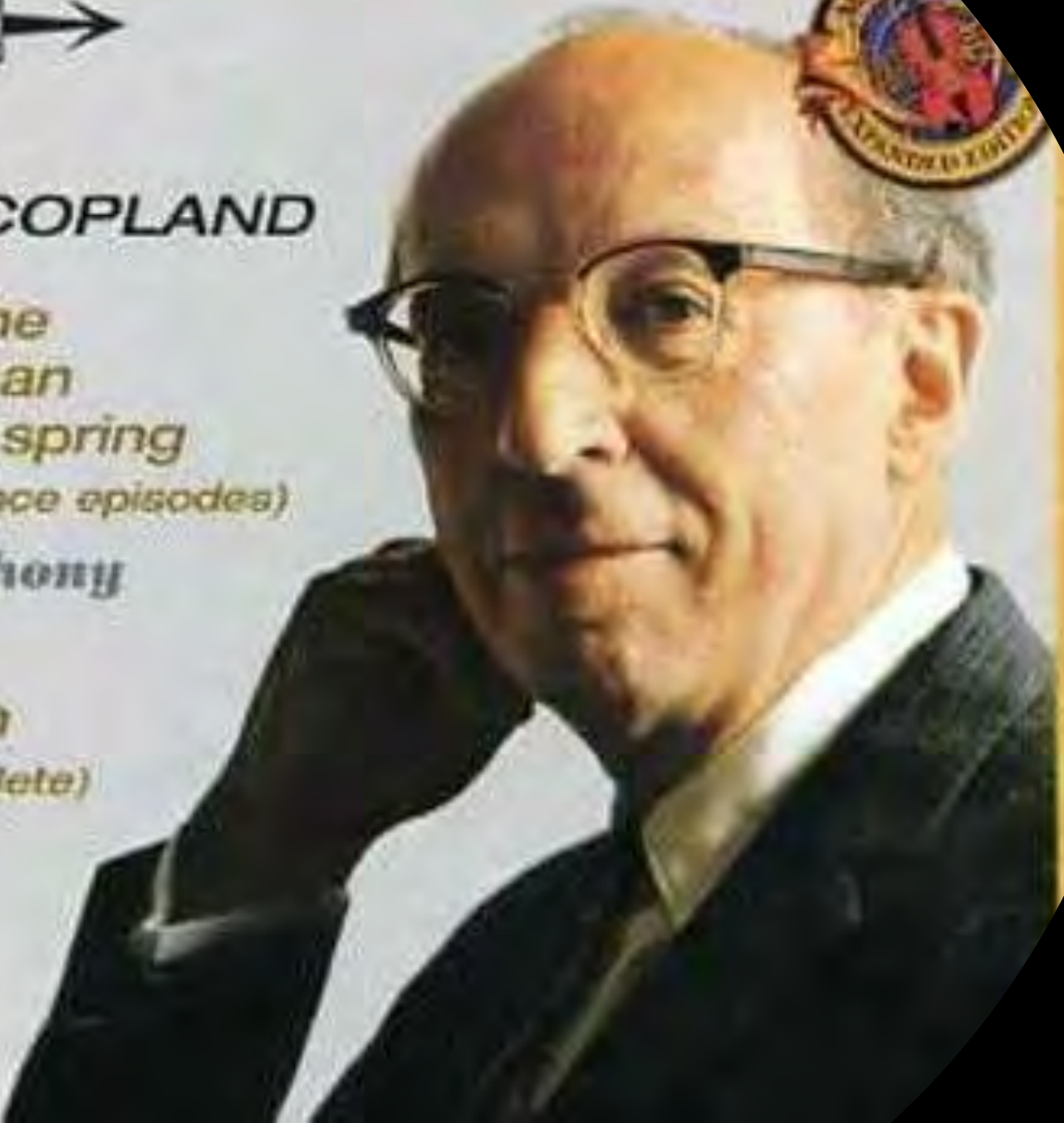
*fanfare for the
common man
appalachian spring
rodeo (four dance episodes)*

*london symphony
orchestra*

*old american
songs (complete)*

*william
warfield,
baritone*

*columbia
symphony*







**Cole Porter
(1891-1964)**







George
Gershwin
(1898-1937)
& Ira
Gershwin
(1896-1983)

Maurice Ravel to George Gershwin:

- "Why become a second-rate Ravel when you're already a first-rate Gershwin?"



Ernest Hemingway and Janet Flanner



Ernest Hemingway

- **Born Oak Park, Illinois, July 21, 1899**, the second of six children.
- Did not attend college but **worked for the Kansas City Star, the Toronto Star and Star Weekly.**
- Drove a **Red Cross ambulance in Italy during WW1.**
- **1921: As a foreign correspondent for the Toronto Star moved to Paris** with letter of introduction from Sherwood Anderson to Gertrude Stein.
- **1923:** published *In Our Time*, a collection of short stories.
- **1926:** published *The Sun Also Rises* and becomes a famous writer.
- **1928: moves to Key West, Florida.**



ULYSSES



James Joyce

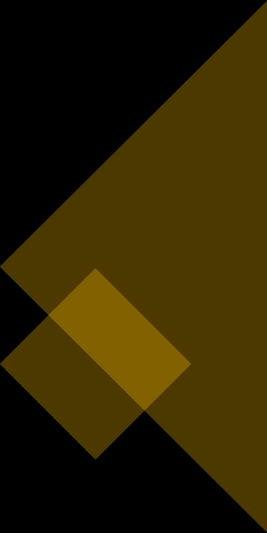
**James Joyce
(1882-1941)**

Joyce writing to Ezra Pound

- **“I heard and saw no more of the many lucky mortals who made my acquaintance here (Paris). I suspect that the pleasure my exhilarating company gave them will last for the rest of their natural existences.”**

James Joyce

- **“I, my eye, my needs and my troublesome book are always there. There is no feast or celebration or meeting of shareholders but at the fated hour I appear at the door in dubious habiliments, with impediments of baggage, a mute expectant family, a patch over one eye howling dismally for aid.”**





T. S. Eliot
(1888-1965)





Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)





Serge Prokofiev
(1891-1953)





Sergei
Diaghilev
(1872-
1929)
Founder
of the
*Ballets
Russes*

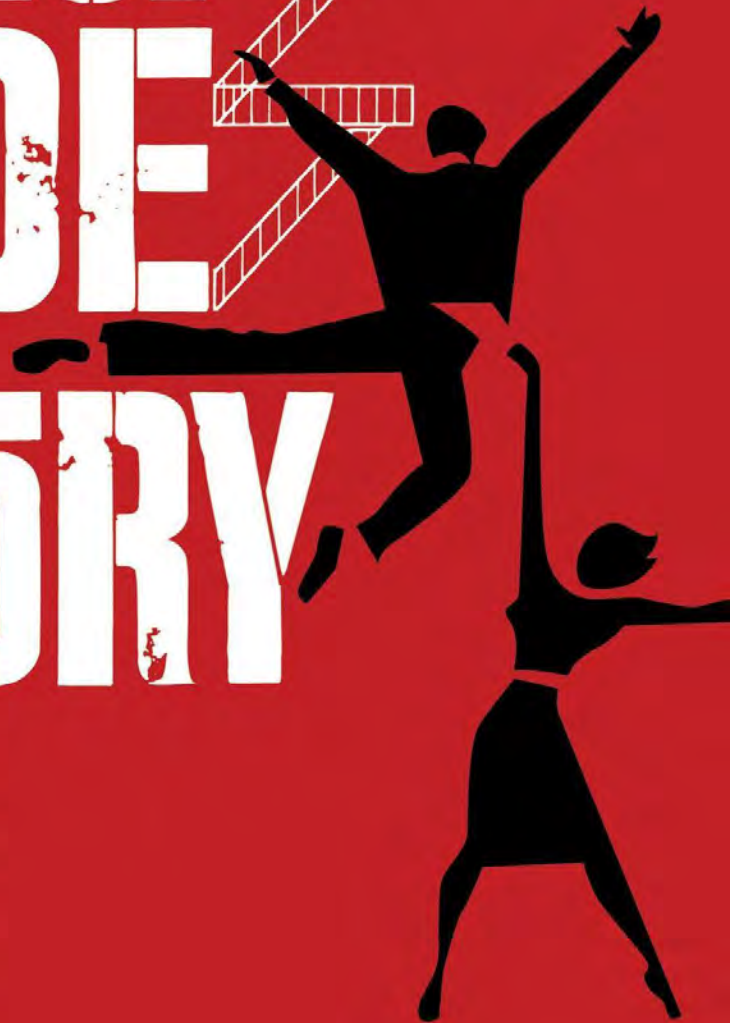
- In 1906 Diaghilev settled in Paris and began the biggest Russian-European multicultural project in history which became known as the "Russian Seasons" and "Ballets Russes" (Russian Ballet). In 1907, he produced the first series of concerts of Russian music in Paris. Sergei Rachmaninoff, Aleksandr Glazunov, Alexander Scriabin, and Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov conducted their own works, as well as the works of Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Aleksandr Borodin and Mikhail Glinka.

- Diaghilev's ability to link talented people with generous patrons was legendary. He made connections for Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse, as well, as other artists with important Russian art collectors,



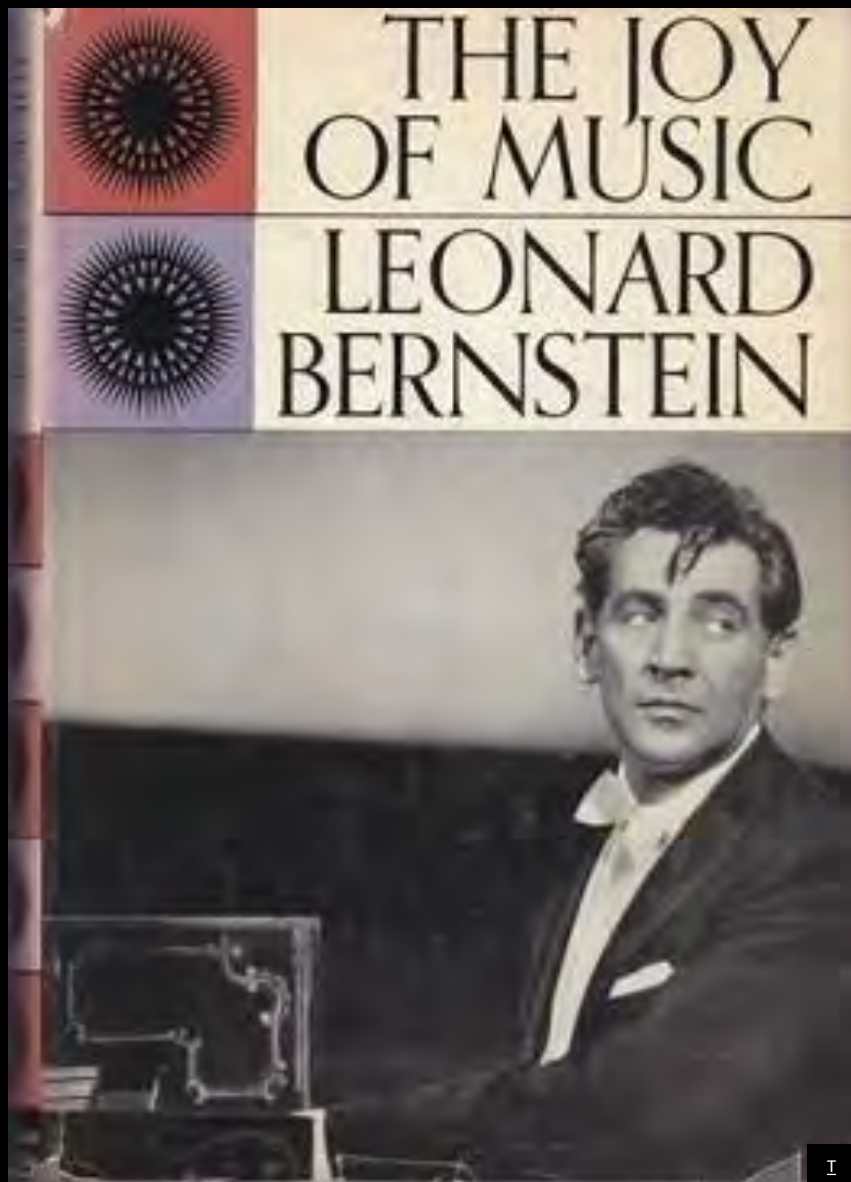
As the great
Lieutenant
Columbo
used to say,
“Just one
more thing.”

WEST SIDE STORY



WINNER OF 10
ACADEMY AWARDS
INCLUDING
BEST PICTURE
1961

When most people think of this, whom do they think of?



They most
likely think of
this man!



But WSS was the brainchild of a number of brilliant men: **Steven Sondheim** (lyricist), scriptwriter **Arthur Laurents**, producers **Hal Prince** and **Robert Griffith**, composer **Bernstein**, choreographer **Jerome Robbins**



Paris in the
20s is much
more than
Hemingway
and
Fitzgerald!

OUTLINE

- **1. Paris 1903** :The Coming of the Modern
- **2. Paris in the 1920s**: Why did the world come here?
- **3. Who came** to Paris in the 1920s and **what did they do?**

- 4. **Paris was a Woman**: The overlooked place of women in the 20s.
- 5. **The Parisian Salons**
- 6. **1927**: Things change
- 7. **1929**: Party over
- 8. **What happened** to these people?

WELCOME TO THE PARTY!



THE YEARS

WILLI

Art Deco

Josephine Baker

Leon Bakst Ballets Russes

Sylvia Beach **Nadia Boulanger**

Georges Braque Samuel Beckett Const

Constantin Brancusi **André Breton** Café du Dôme

Marc Chagall Coco Chanel **Colette** Aaron Copland La C

La Coupole **Hart Crane** E.E. Cummings **Nancy Cunard** Serge Di

Serge Diaghilev John Dos Passos **Marcel Duchamp** Isadora Duncan T.S.

T.S. Eliot F. Scott Fitzgerald Folies-Bergère **George Gershwin** Gordjeff Les Ha

Where we won't be doing this!



- **1. Paris 1903** :The
Coming of the
Modern

THE COMING OF THE MODERN — 1903

From:

*Paris: The
Luminous Years*

(Video)





Leo Stein (1872-1947) and Gertrude Stein
(1874-1946)

Gertrude Stein (February 3, 1874 – July 27, 1946)

- **1874: Born in Allegheny (Pittsburgh)**, PA, youngest of 5, family moves to Vienna and Paris, then settles in Oakland, CA.
- **Radcliffe College**, annex of Harvard. **Student of William James** who declared her his **“most brilliant woman student.”**
- **John Hopkins School of Medicine – 1897**. Has no interest in medicine, bored by it, fails a test in her fourth year and drops out.
- **At Hopkins, she is *sui generis***: dresses the way she likes. Goes her own way, annoys many of the male faculty.
- At Hopkins, she realizes that she is a lesbian.

- **Paris, 1903: Moves to Paris with her brother Leo.** They will live together until 1913. Adjacent to their apartment was the studio where they would amass one of the great modern art collections. This was more Leo than Gertrude. By early 1906, Leo and Gertrude Stein's studio had many paintings by Henri Manguin, Pierre Bonnard, Pablo Picasso, Paul Cézanne, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Honoré Daumier, Henri Matisse, and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

- **Alfred Barr Jr., the founding director of New York's Museum of Modern Art, said that between the years of 1905 and 1907, "[Leo] was possibly the most discerning connoisseur and collector of 20th-century painting in the world."**^[39]

Henry McBride (art critic for the New York Sun):

- “In proportion to its size and quality... [it is] just about **the most potent of any that I have ever heard of in history.**”
- McBride also observed that **Gertrude** **"collected geniuses rather than masterpieces. She recognized them a long way off."**

**Pablo
Picasso
(1881-1973)**





Picasso's painting of Stein (1905- 1906)

When she first saw it, she said, "But it doesn't resemble me." Picasso responded, "It will" and it did!



Georges Braque
(1882-1963)

L'Olivier près de l'Estaque (The Olive tree near l'Estaque)





Gertrude
Stein and
Alice B.
Toklas
(1877-1967)

- **1907: Meets Alice B. Toklas** who will become her life partner. They will maintain a monogamous relationship for the rest of their lives.

- Stein was always certain that writing was her metier and that she was a genius at it.

-

“It takes a lot of time being a genius, you have to sit around so much doing nothing.”

Stein on James Joyce:

- **“Joyce is a third rate Irish politician. The greatest living writer of the age is Gertrude Stein.”**

- **2. Paris in the 1920s:**
Why did the world
come here?

In the
1920s, the
world beat
a path to
Paris.
Why?



Here's why the Americans showed up!

- **Money:** The downward spiral of the French franc. On Jan. 1, 1920, the dollar stood at 26.76 francs – a single American greenback could purchase a month's supply of bread
- Most European economies were ruined by the war while the U.S. had flourished during 1914-18. As the Twenties began, **the United States was the leading industrial power.**
- “But **the outward aspect of Paris was unchanged:** the city smiled beguilingly at its visitors...” Wise, p. 29.

- **\$80 purchased tourist-class passage across the Atlantic.**

-

“A modest allowance from home would subsidize an American in Paris for what appeared to be forever...” Wiser, p.29

Remember this:

- **\$30,000.00 in 1927 is equal to \$486,898.41 in 2024.**

But there was one great other reason why
Americans showed up!

FREEDOM!



Blacks &
Whites
socializing
was not an
issue in Paris



**Nor women
with women**



**Nor women
with women**





Nor men with
men.



SUMMING UP

- **The French had no laws prohibiting or criminalizing drinking or homosexuality nor did the society as a whole have an issue with any of this.**

- So faced with the choice of staying in America where they couldn't legally drink **alcohol**, where social **contact between the races** was condemned and criminalized and where the same was true of any **sexual contact that wasn't between men and women** and finding that **the value of their money** allowed them to live very long and very well in Paris where many of these young people already had memories of Paris from the war, their response was....

- “Lafayette, nous sommes ici!”

- That is,

“Lafayette, we are here!”

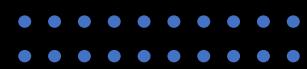


Story Time with Mr. Beat



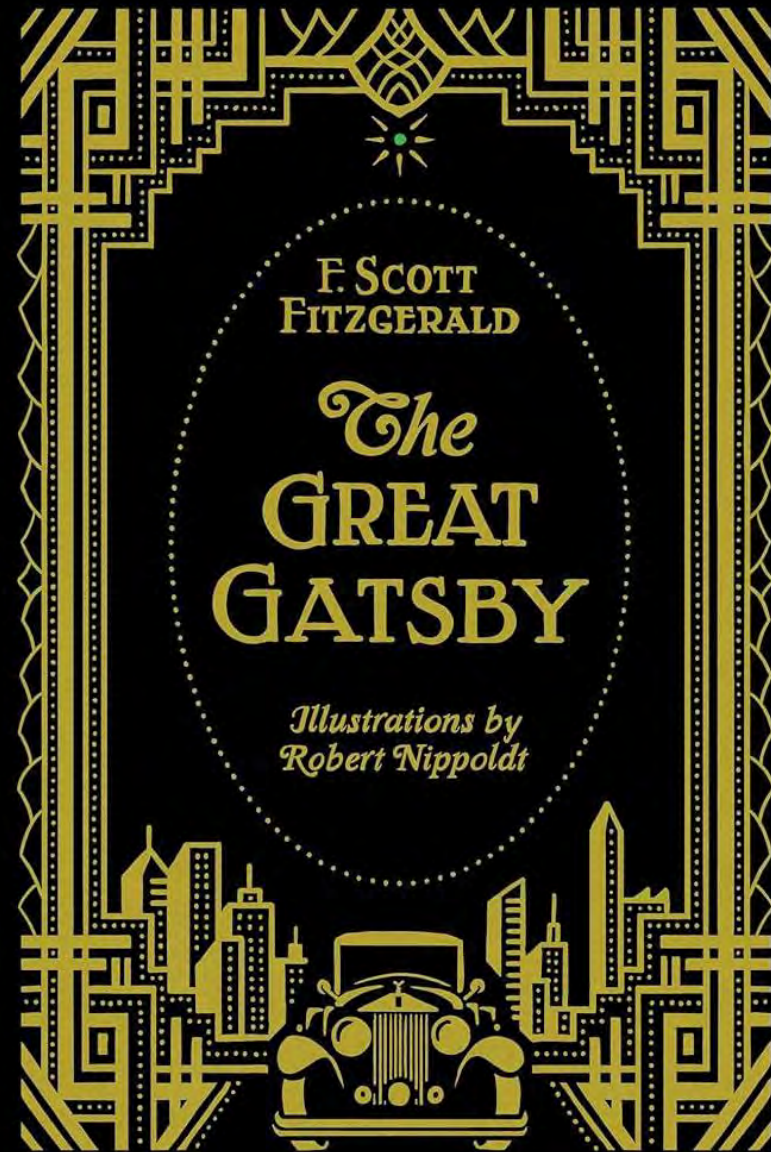
Paris in the Twenties: Writers, Artists, *et alii*

PF# 52214 23:59:10:02
www.PeriscopeFilm.com



MANY ARTISTS ALSO SHOWED UP





F. Scott Fitzgerald

- In the spring of 1925, the Fitzgeralds made their second attempt to live in France. *The Great Gatsby* had just been published to excellent reviews but poor sales. Fitzgerald was attempting to **on**, as he put it, “practically nothing.” The “practically nothing” amounted to \$7000 a year. In today’s money \$126,120.40
- This would be their “**summer of 1000 parties and no work.**”

- James Joyce after meeting F. Scott Fitzgerald for the first time:

- **“That young man must be mad.”**

- (Fitzgerald had offered to jump from a window to demonstrate his sincerity in swearing his obedience to Joyce’s genius.)



Diaghilev

“I am a charlatan first of all but a charlatan with style. In the second place I am a great charmer; and thirdly, I have no end of cheek.”

Neither musician, nor dancer, nor painter, nor businessman, Diaghilev managed to be all of these, a genius in bringing all the arts together on stage, and in business substituting charm for money.” p.88, Wiser



• Sergei Diaghilev
after Picasso tried
to make one of
Diaghilev's Russian
dancers his latest
conquest:

• **“With Russian
girls, you have
to marry them”**

• Note: Picasso did
marry her!



- **3. Paris was a Woman:**
The overlooked place
of women in the 20s.

PARIS Was a WOMAN



PORTRAITS FROM THE LEFT BANK

ANDREA WEISS

- **This growing body of work on the Paris of the 1920s and 30s calls into question the myths and clichés which have become enshrined in the popular imagination, fueled by the many accounts of American male expatriates...which emphasize the bars and brothels, inhabited by the macho, hard-drinking artists.**
- **The twin emphases on drinking and sexual exploits dominate the image we now have of Paris in the 1920s. Yet the women's experience of both these "freedoms" was very different. Weiss, p.18**

Paris was a Woman



Sylvia Beach
(1887-1962)

From *James Joyce* by Edna O'Brien

- Her bookshop *Shakespeare and Company* ...was salon, post office, lending library and impromptu bank for a clutch of American writers but it was Joyce whom she coveted for her literary galaxy.
p.119

Hemingway on Sylvia Beach

- “No one that I ever knew was nicer to me.”



Plaque on the outside wall of Shakespeare and Company



The world famous book store!





- **Video: Sylvia Beach Interview**



**Adrienne
Monnier
(1892-1955)**



*La Maison
des Amis
des Livres
(Monnier's
bookstore,
across the
street from
Shakespeare
and Company)*



**Gertrude
Stein (1874-
1946)**

What's the origin of the famous phrase "The Lost Generation"

- At one of the garages where Gertrude Stein's car was being serviced, she heard a French mechanic refer to his hopeless apprentice as one of ***une generation perdue***. Men, he explained, became civilized between 18 and 20, but the war generation missed the civilizing period. Stein later applied the term to those twenty-year olds like **Hemingway** whose characters were altered and whose outlook was shadowed when the natural order of their lives was interrupted by war. Interestingly, another writer with Stein on that occasion, was present when Stein labeled his generation lost but he remembered the French phrase as ***une generation fichue***, which means "ruined."

- Hemingway trusted Gertrude Stein's judgment on literary matters; he submitted his manuscripts to both Stein and Ezra Pound separately.
- "Ezra was right half the time and when he was wrong he was so wrong you were never in doubt about it. Gertrude was always right."



Janet Flanner (1892-1978) – From 1925 until 1975 she was the *New Yorker* magazine's Paris correspondent writing under the name "Genet."

CHANEL



**Coco Chanel
(1883-1971)**

- “ It was soon evident that Chanel was not only a gifted originator of design, but a business woman of insight and inspiration: if she wanted to establish her own *maison de couture (couture house)* – *pourquoi pas (why not)*? The shrewd peasant side of her character, and her worldly dealings with men, gave Coco Chanel an outsized respect for the power of money...**she would create a name and a fortune of her own.**”

Wiser, p. 74

- “While still designing hats for her boutique, she observed one evening a theater audience of women as elaborately costumed as the Moliere characters on stage, and murmured a prophecy and a promise to Capel (Note: The love of her life but, nonetheless, one of the two wealthy lovers part of her *menage-a-trois* at the time.) :

- “That can’t last. I’m going to dress them simply, and in black.” Wiser,
p.71

Coco Chanel

- **“No one saw more clearly than Coco Chanel that women had emerged from the foyer into the larger world of independence and possibility -- she had done so herself.” p. 74, Wisner**

4: The Parisian Salons

- **A salon is a gathering of people held by an inspiring host. During the gathering they amuse one another and increase their knowledge through conversation**

Gertrude Stein
and Alice B. Toklas



Gertrude Stein (February 3, 1874 – July 27, 1946)

- was an **American novelist, poet, playwright, and art collector**. Born in the Allegheny West neighborhood of Pittsburgh and raised in Oakland, California, Stein **moved to Paris in 1903**, and made France her home for the remainder of her life. **She hosted a Paris salon**, where the leading figures of modernism in literature and art, such as Pablo **Picasso**, Ernest **Hemingway**, F. **Scott Fitzgerald**, Sinclair **Lewis**, Ezra **Pound**, Sherwood **Anderson** and Henri **Matisse**, would meet.

Paris is a Woman: Gertrude Stein



- **The gatherings in the Stein home "brought together confluences of talent and thinking that would help define modernism in literature and art." Dedicated attendees included Pablo Picasso, Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Sinclair Lewis, Ezra Pound, Gavin Williamson, Thornton Wilder, Sherwood Anderson, Francis Cyril Rose, Bob Brown, René Crevel, Élisabeth de Gramont, Francis Picabia, Claribel Cone, Mildred Aldrich, Jane Peterson, Carl Van Vechten and Henri Matisse.^[1] Saturday evenings had been set as the fixed day and time for formal congregation so Stein could work at her writing uninterrupted by impromptu visitors.**

GERTRUDE STEIN

1874-1946

ÉCRIVAIN AMÉRICAIN

Vécut ici avec son frère LÉO STEIN
puis avec ALICE B. TOKLAS
elle y reçut de nombreux
artistes et écrivains
- de 1903 à 1938

Mid-Twenties

- **By this time, Stein was finally being taken seriously as a writer.** Homage was being paid to her by the literati of England and America. The mockery over her lines was fainter although she was still called
- **“The Mother Goose of Montparnasse.”** In 1925 her book *The Making of Americans*, was published, the first serious effort to bring her work to the reading public.

WRITINGS

- Stein is the author of one of the earliest coming out stories, "Q.E.D." (published in 1950 as *Things as They Are*), written in 1903 and suppressed by the author. The story, written during travels after leaving college, is based on a three-person romantic affair in which she became involved while studying at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.

- In 1933, Stein published a quasi-memoir of her Paris years, *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*, written in the voice of Alice B. Toklas, her life partner. The book became a literary **bestseller** and vaulted Stein from the relative obscurity of the cult-literature scene into the limelight of mainstream attention.^[2] **Two quotes from her works have become widely known: "Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose,"^[3] and "there is no there there",** with the latter often taken to be a reference to her childhood home of Oakland.

1933

Although popular with the American public, Stein received considerable backlash from individuals portrayed in her book, for e.g., Matisse and Braque.

- **In October 1934, Stein arrived in America after a 30-year absence.** Disembarking from the ocean liner in New York, she encountered a throng of reporters. Front-page articles on Stein appeared in almost every New York City newspaper. As she rode through Manhattan to her hotel, she was able to get a sense of the publicity that would hallmark her US tour. An electric sign in Times Square announced to all that "**Gertrude Stein Has Arrived.**"

- In Washington, D.C. Stein was invited to have tea with Eleanor Roosevelt and in Hollywood with **Charlie Chaplin**.

Gertrude Stein on Ezra Pound

- Stein found Pound impossible to know so she said of him:

“He was a village explainer. Excellent if you were a village, if you were not, not.”

Winnaretta Singer
–The Princesse de Polignac
(1865-1943)

FONDATION SINGER-POLIGNAC
CREEE LE 25 MARS 1928
PAR LA PRINCESSE EDMOND DE POLIGNAC
NEE WINNARETTA SINGER
1865 - 1943



Winnaretta Singer – *The Princesse de Polignac*



Natalie Barney (1876-1972)





Natalie Barney to Gabriele d'Annunzio, one of her platonic male friends:

- **“You are interested in women only from the waist down, while my interest in men is only from the neck up.” Wiser, p. 112**



Harry (1898-1929) and Caresse ("Polly") Crosby(1891-1970)

- **Harry's Code:**
- Never regret,
- Never compromise,
- Be in all things extravagant

Son of one of the richest banking families in New England,

Served in the U.S. Ambulance Corps, narrowly escaped with his life.

Profoundly affected by his experience, **vows to live life on his own terms**

Numbered among his friends some of the most famous individuals of the early 20th century, including **Salvador Dalí**, **Ernest Hemingway**, and **Henri Cartier-Bresson**. founded the **Black Sun Press**. It was the first to publish works by several struggling authors who later became famous, including **James Joyce**, **Kay Boyle**, **Ernest Hemingway**, **Hart Crane**, **D. H. Lawrence**, and **René Crevel**.

Crosby **died in 1929** as part of a murder–suicide or suicide pact.

Gerald (1888-1964)
and Sara Murphy
(1883-1975)



Smithsonian
CHANNEL 

- The port cities of Nice and Cannes had once been winter resorts. In the twenties, they became a summer paradise. Coco Chanel, Picasso, Cole Porter and others began to show up.



Sara Murphy:

- “It wasn’t parties that made it such a gay time. There was such **affection** between everybody. You loved your friends and wanted to see them every day, and usually you did see them every day. It was like a great fair and **everybody was so young.**”



Villa America

- **The Murphys staked out a seaside sanctuary they called Villa America on the cap d'Antibes.** The Cote d'Azur had become a **kind of overnight suburb of the Parisian social scene,** now that the Murphys had transferred their hospitality to the Mediterranean shore.



alamy - 2AWRNE

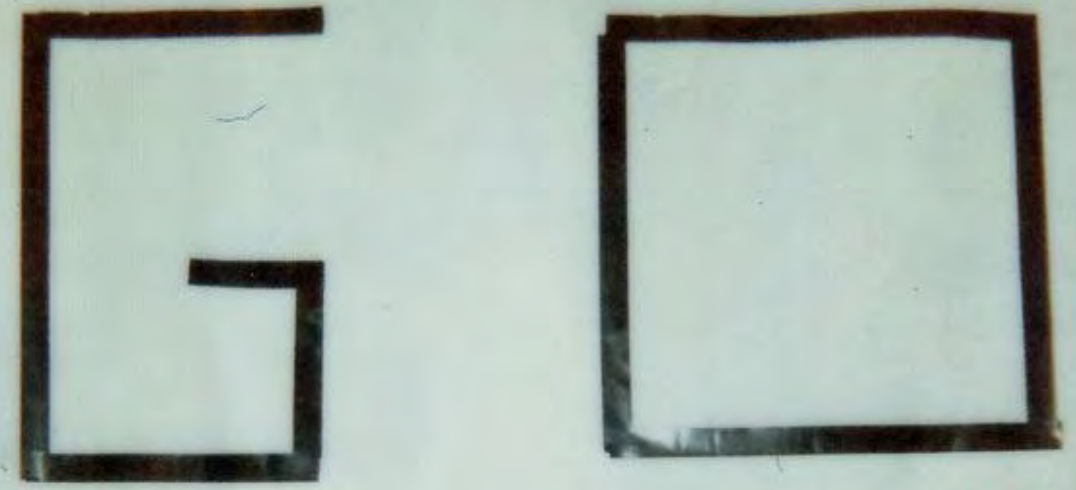
- 6. **1927**: Things change

Ben Franklin

- **“Guests, like fish, begin to stink after three days.”**
-



THANK YOU



HOME.

- **And after 6 years...?**

The Mood of '27

- American Chamber of Commerce: **In 1927** an estimated **15,000 American residents in Paris**. Since many Americans didn't register with the police, the official estimate is closer to **40,000**.
- The American presence was everywhere as more and more transatlantic liners disgorged **more and more tourists** on the French shores. (Think Venice in the summertime!)

According to F. Scott Fitzgerald:

- These latecomers were a different species from those who had arrived at the beginning of the decade.
- “With each new shipment of Americans spewed up by the boom **the quality fell off**. Towards the end there was **something sinister about the crazy boatloads.**”
- Fitzgerald himself did little to enhance the reputation of Americans.

- **Fitzgerald, drunk, once kicked a tray out of the hands of a woman offering trinkets for sale. When his disgusted friends complained, he responded: “But I gave her a hundred francs.”**

According to Wisner in “The Crazy Years:”

- **Americans would never realize how the French secretly felt about them. The childlike behavior and unconscious waste exhibited by visitors from the US was abhorrent to their old-world hosts.**
- **British author Clive Bell explained the gap between the French and the Americans this way: “Some Americans had French mistresses, but very few had French friends.” p.183**

AN OUTRAGE THAT UNITED THE FRENCH!

- **America demanded that France pay its war debt.** The average Frenchman this seemed absurd: in the midst of the gravest financial crisis, France was being dunned for funds borrowed from a rich wartime ally. The French president was obliged to go to Washington to plead poverty.
- **The French press referred to Uncle Sam as Uncle Shylock!**

- France was hard up in 1927 and **Americans were made welcome in Paris while the dollars flowed.** But the **rest of France was brooding and resentful.** Sentiment about the Great War had so dissipated by '27 that **arriving Americans no longer toured the battlegrounds** where family members had fought and died but made a beeline for Maxim's, the Café de la Paix and the Folies-Bergere.

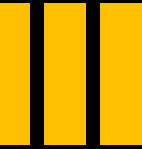
Most Americans did not at first recognize the signs of growing anti-Yankee sentiment but there were signs...

- **The poet E.E. Cummings** was arrested on the streets.
- The **surliness** of service employees.
- **Americans were booed** on the streets when overheard speaking English.
- The newspaper Le Matin was forced by an angry mob to **take down the American flag** displayed on the front of the building.
- **A tourist bus was stoned** by local residents when it passed through Montmartre.

E.E. Cummings (1894-1962)

“Un americain qui
pisse.”

“Quoi? Encore un
pisseur americain?”



SIDNEY BECHET

•(1897-1959)



CONCLUSION

- **The Great War was seven years in the past**, the memory of American doughboys had faded.

- **However,**
- **All the French needed was a single certified American hero** and their anti-Americanism would fade overnight!



- **“This clear-eyed, clean-living example of American manhood did much to obliterate the image of frivolity and debauch created by the café set.” Wiser, p.189**

The French-American love affair lasted just under three months then...

Sacco and Venzetti. The news of their execution set off in Paris the most alarming riots of the decade. Mobs wandered from café to café where Americans gathered and either beat them up or insulted them.

- Expatriate colonies in Montmartre and Montparnasse needed the police to protect them from the mobs.
- One telling incident that showed the depth of anti-Americanism at that moment was ...



The Death and Burial of Isadora Duncan (1877/78 – 1927)



There were only 5 carriages in her funeral. None of her French friends walked behind the coffin.



- Yet Isadora had been a strong friend to France: raising money for the French at the start of WW1, giving up her chateau to serve as a hospital for French wounded. The French government ignored her death and burial.

1929: Party Over

“It was a useless silly life,” the writer Harold Stearns who had arrived in Paris in 1921 declared of his Paris sojourn after going home in 1929,

“and I have missed it every day since.”

From Wiser's THE CRAZY YEARS:

- **“The parties had become frenetic affairs, as if a last-of-the-wine fete could stave off a hangover.” p.207**

“The great good place of every expatriate’s dream was becoming a casualty ward.” p.208

October 1929: The Market Crashes

- **Effect: Many of the expatriate colonies in France were no longer solvent.** Many Americans who had been dependent on remittances joined the queue at the American Embassy for emergency funds to return home. The cafes and hotels of Montparnasse emptied out.
- **Americans in the 20s had driven the price of French art to incredible levels. Now there were few buyers.**

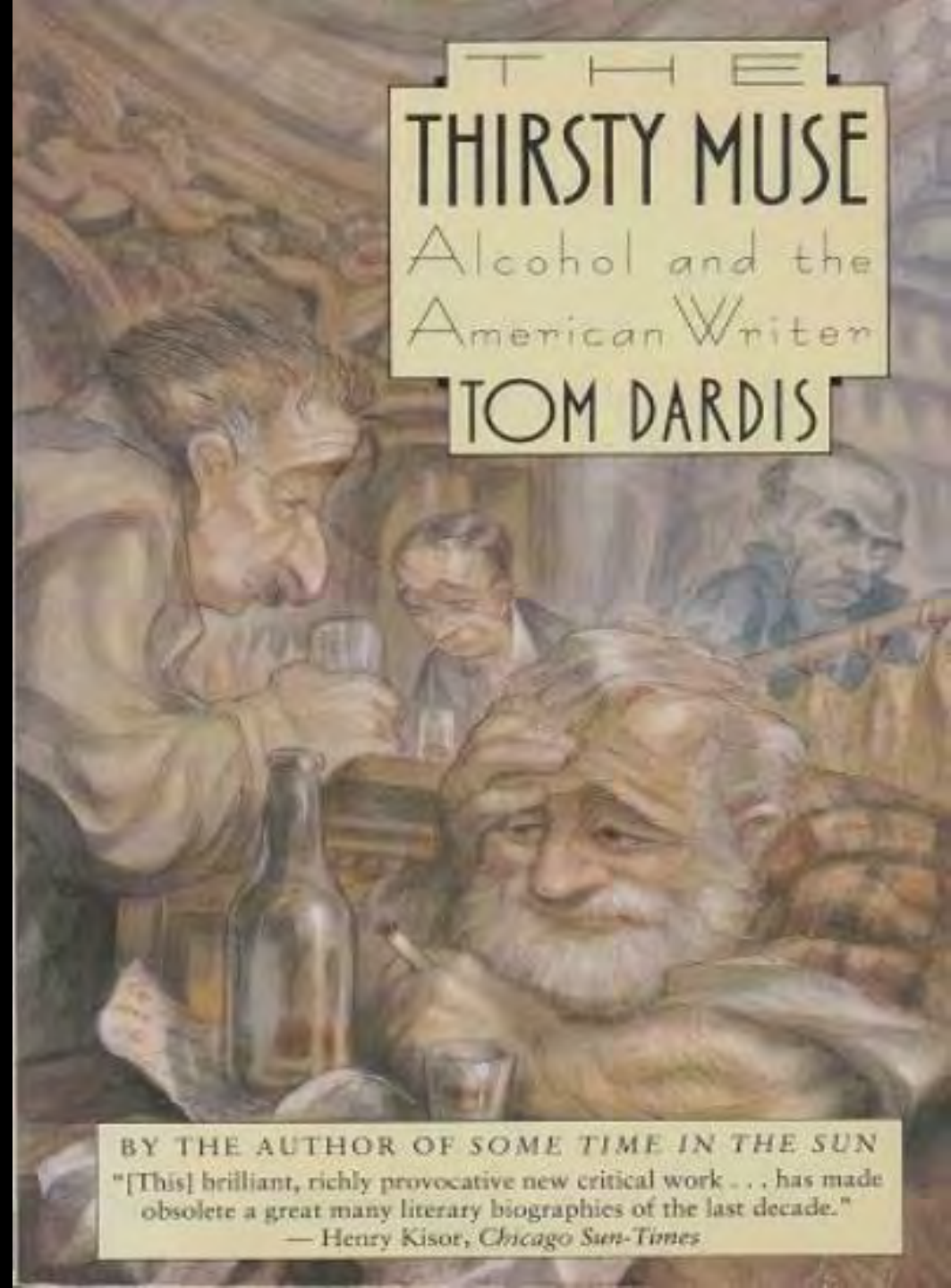
Mid-July, 1929 - Harry Crosby cables his father:

- PLEASE SELL \$10,000 WORTH OF STOCK. WE HAVE DECIDED TO LIVE A MAD AND EXTRAVAGANT LIFE

However the men left, the women stayed!

- “Unlike **the vast majority of male expatriates** who packed up and **repatriated** from whence they came as rapidly as the pound or dollar fell against the franc, **Gertrude Stein, Sylvia Beach, Janet Flanner, Natalie Barney and most of the other expatriate women remained in France.** They had no desire to leave and no place other than Paris that they could call home.”
- *Paris was a Woman*, p. 216

ALCOHOLISM: Fitzgerald and Hemingway



THE
THIRSTY MUSE
Alcohol and the
American Writer
TOM DARDIS

BY THE AUTHOR OF *SOME TIME IN THE SUN*
"[This] brilliant, richly provocative new critical work . . . has made
obsolete a great many literary biographies of the last decade."
— Henry Kisor, *Chicago Sun-Times*

Fitzgerald:

- **Trouble with alcohol from the start** of their marriage.
- At the beginning, very **little capacity** to handle alcohol for both.
- One drink for him = 5 or 6 for Hemingway.
- **Incessant drinking**; Zelda's capacity increases more than his.
- Zelda jealous of his work – **"She lived for parties."**
- As time passes, **his drinking increases; refuses to admit he has a problem.**
- In the 30s, **hospitalizations** on occasion.
- Alcohol steadily **destroying his body**



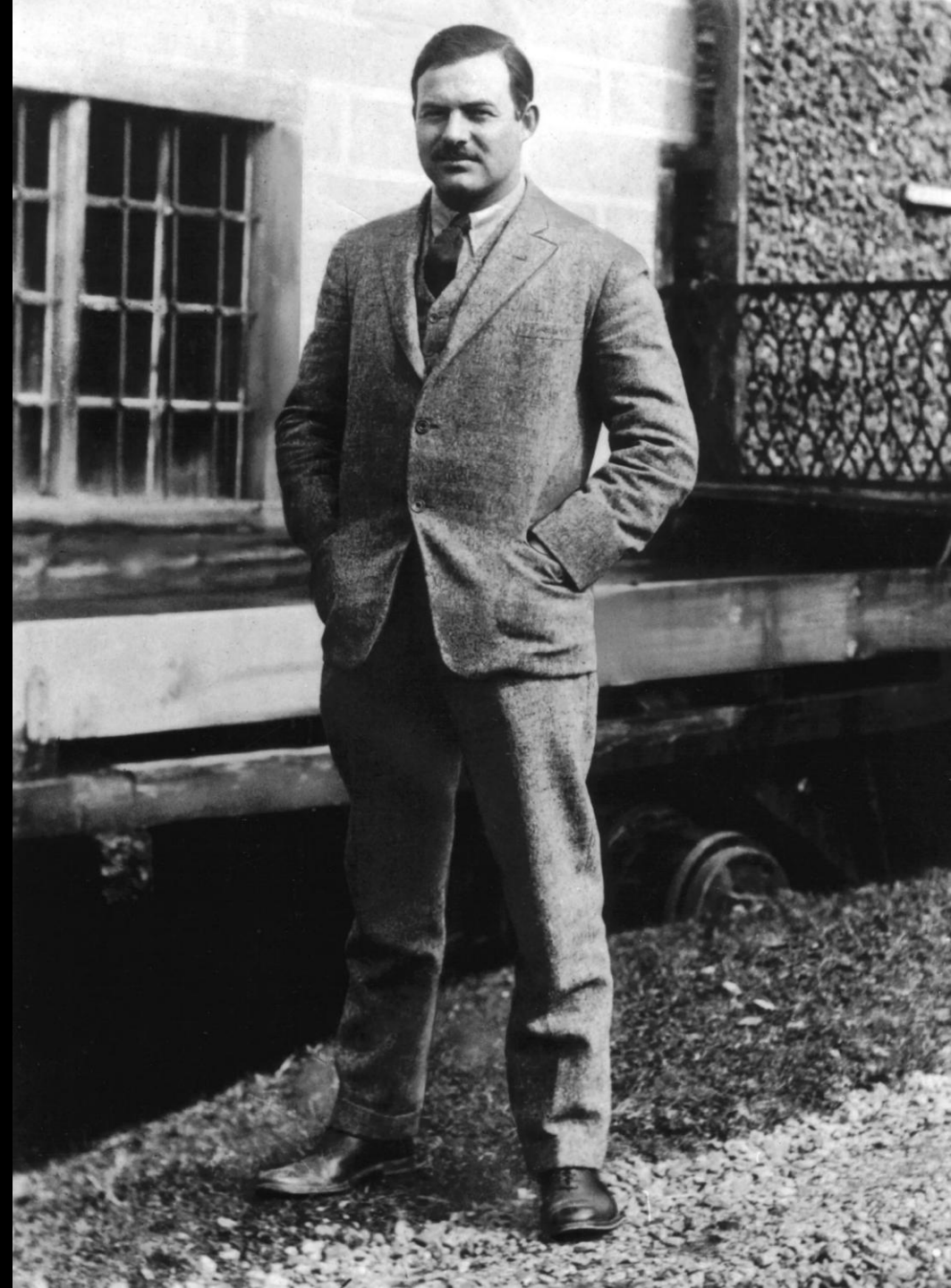
- Like Hemingway, compares himself to other writers who are alcoholics so he can prove to himself that he isn't one.
- -----
- **1930: Zelda, confined to the Prangins Psychiatric Clinic in Switzerland, writes Scott an 8,000 word letter** describing how alcohol had run through the ten years of their marriage leading to her mental breakdown and his despair over ever writing anything worthwhile again: **“You were constantly drunk.”** (The Thirsty Muse, p. 113)

1930s

- Fitzgerald **worked in Hollywood as a screenwriter** and despite his alcoholism, he turned out work. He had many bills to pay off and new bills to pay: his daughter's schooling and his wife's ongoing hospitalization.
- In the late 30s, he **fell in love with Sheila Graham** later to become a famous gossip columnist. Graham insisted that he try to stop drinking. He did but had relapses. On Dec. 21, 1940 he was with Graham in her apartment awaiting his doctor – he'd had 2 heart attacks – when he suffered a final and **fatal attack**.

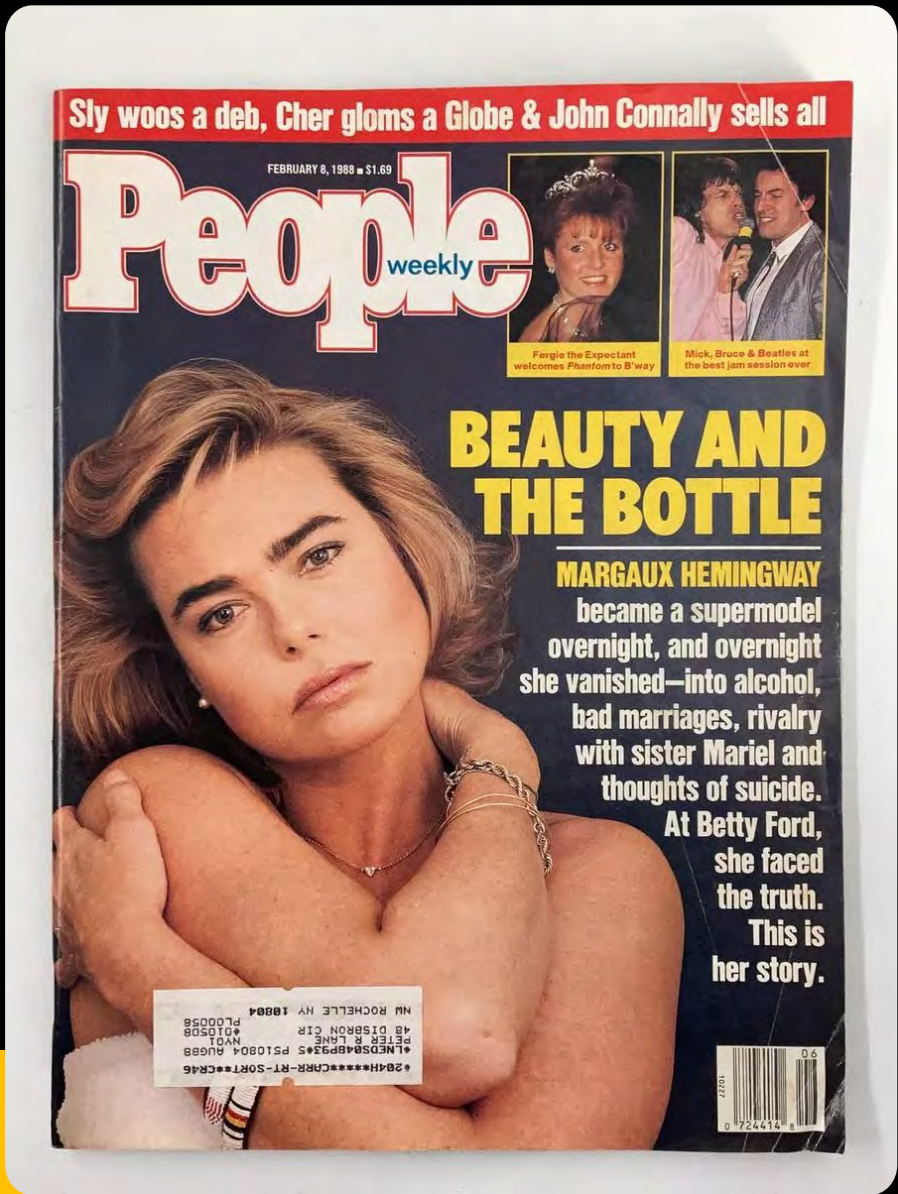
Hemingway – “I’m no rummy.”

- **Never regarded himself as an alcoholic.**
- Learned to **drink early in life** and regarded the immense amount of alcohol he would drink as part of his overall appetite for life!
- **Regarded Joyce, Fitzgerald, and Faulkner as “rummies.”**
- In his 20s, he was able to consume **immense amounts of alcohol and became competitive** about his drinking.
- **His writing deteriorated** around the same as Fitzgerald’s and Faulkner’s.





- In his 20s he was physically very active --- boxing, tennis -- and felt this burned off the alcohol but he never realized his youth was a factor.
- Drank every day well into his 40s before his body began to show the damage.
- 1928: the first of a series of self-inflicted accidents.
- Lifelong depression from adolescence; then insomnia. Medicated with alcohol.
- Continued to be interested in Fitzgerald's drinking and blamed Zelda.



- Clinical depression ran in his family:
- **Father's suicide – 1928**; two of his **sisters** and his only **brother** committed suicide; two of his three **sons** hospitalized for emotional problems and given shock treatments; **granddaughter Margaux committed suicide.**

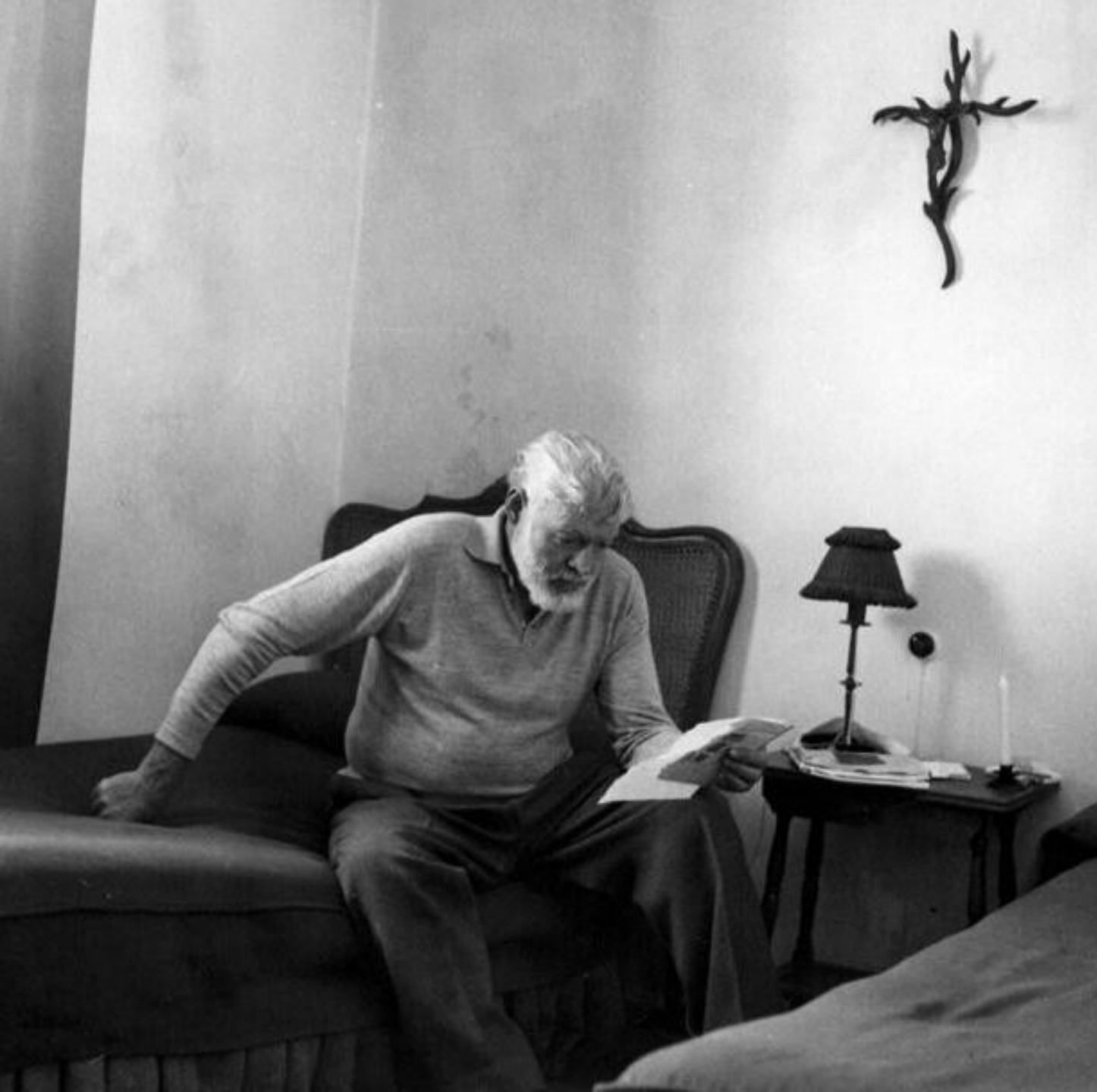
- **1945**: a number of health problems --- brain concussions, blinding headaches, insomnia --- leads to a 90% reduction in his drinking. It doesn't last.
- **Late 40s**: complete fascination with the drinking habits of others; complete blindness about his own.
- **1949**: *New Yorker* profile – “Portrait of Hemingway” by Lillian Ross.
- **1950**: *Across the River and Into the Trees* – his worst book, filled with scenes of eating and drinking alcohol.



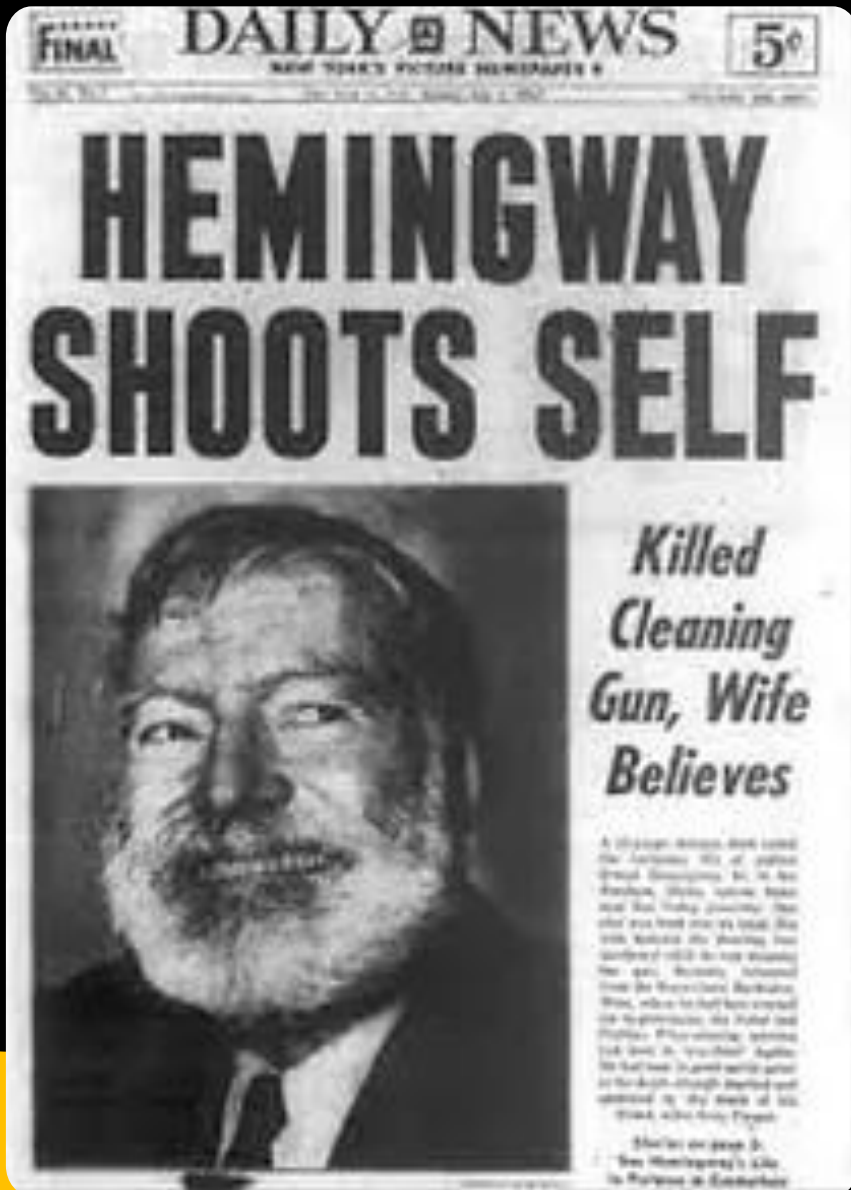
Ernest Hemingway
after the 2nd Airplane Crash
at the Masindi Hotel

Late 40s forward: Physical health declines

- Weight soars to **256 pounds**, 50 pounds overweight.
- **1954: January – 2 plane crashes** in Africa within 2 days of one another: liver, spleen, kidney damage; 2 cracked vertebrae, paralysis of the sphincter muscle, 3rd degree burns. Most serious: skull fracture.
- **1956: Blood pressure is 215/125. Total cholesterol is 380.**
- Now **drinking alcohol from rising to going to bed.**



- **1959: Now 60** , returns to Spain and resumes huge amounts of **alcohol nonstop**. His behavior becomes more and more **erratic**.
- **1960: Mayo clinic patient** because of concern about his mental health. He is not treated for alcoholism and is allowed 1 liter of wine per day.
- Receives **at least a dozen electroconvulsive shocks** in late fall of '60 and early spring of '61. Committed in spring because of his **second suicide attempt**. **Weight drops to 155, looks 20 years older, virtually unrecognizable**.
- He realizes he has **lost his ability to write**.



- **July 2, 1961: kills self** in his home by firing both triggers of his shotgun, three weeks short of his 62nd birthday.

- **And now we come
to ...**

- **Le Fin (The End) ...
but maybe not...**



Janet Flanner on Gertrude Stein's Salon

PF# 52214 23:59:10:02
www.PeriscopeFilm.com

- I am only one, only one, only one. Only one being, one at the same time. Not two, not three, only one. Only one life to live, only sixty minutes in an hour. Only one pair of eyes, only one brain. Only one being. Being only one, having only one pair of eyes, having only one time, having only one life, I cannot read your MS. Three or four times. Not even one time. Only one look, only one look is enough. Hardly one copy would sell here, hardly one.
- Many thanks. I am returning the manuscript by registered post. Only one manuscript by one post.

F. Scott Fitzgerald



In mid-July, 1929, drunk on sherry cobbler, he sent a cable to his father, who was not pleased by it:

**Please sell \$10,000 worth of
stock.**

**We have decided to live a wild
and extravagant life.**

The Famous Final Words (?) of Gertrude Stein: July 27, 1946 in Neuilly-sur-Seine, France

- 1st Version: As she entered surgery for stomach cancer, Stein asked Toklas: “What is the answer?”
- Toklas replied: “There is no answer.”
- Stein then said her final words” “Then there is no question.”
- Maybe...

- 2nd Version from Toklas in '46:

-

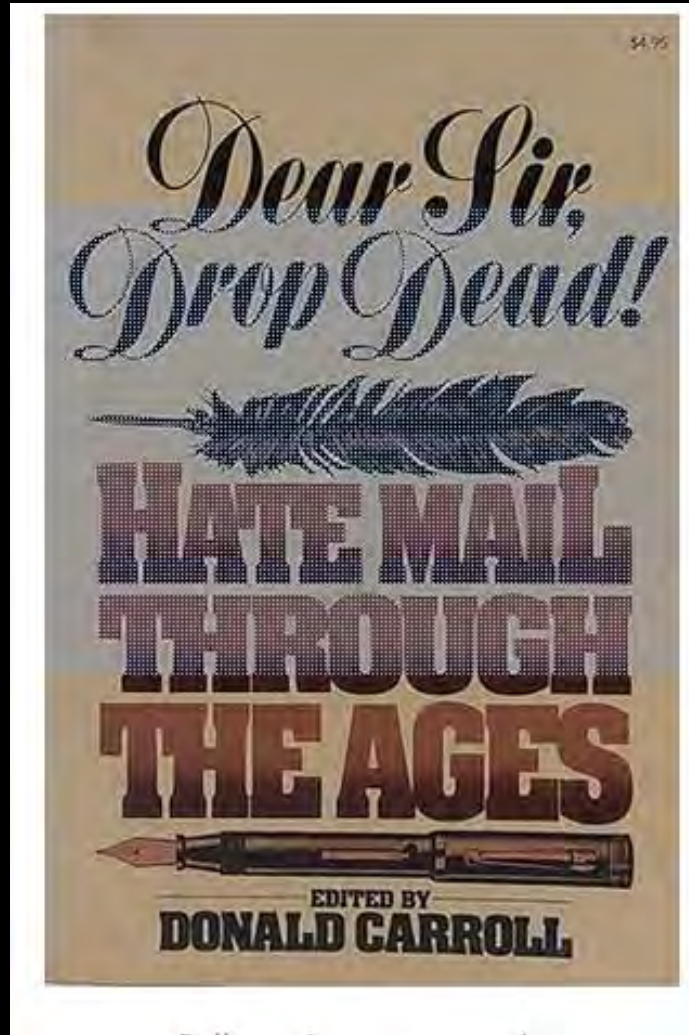
Stein: to Toklas: “What is the answer?”

- Toklas doesn't answer so Stein then asks: “What is the question?”

- 3rd Version from Toklas in 1956:

- She said upon waking from a sleep--What is the question. And I didn't answer thinking she was not completely awakened. Then she said again--What is the question and before I could speak she went on--
If there is no question then there is no answer.

- **And then there is the famous Shelly Berman version which goes like this...**



From: *Dear Sir, Drop Dead: Hate Mail Through the Ages* , edited by D. Carroll

- To Gertrude Stein from a London publisher to whom she had submitted an unpublished work and who had remained steadfastly unimpressed by her repetitive prose technique (...a rose is a rose is a rose...):

**• I am only one, only one,
only one. Only one being,
one at the same time. Not
two, not three, only one.
Only one life to live, only
sixty minutes in an hour.
Only one pair of eyes, only
one brain. Only one being.**



• Being only one, having only one pair of eyes, having only one time, having only one life, I cannot read your MS. Three or four times. Not even one time. Only one look, only one look is enough. Hardly one copy would sell here, hardly one.



• **Many thanks. I am returning the manuscript by registered post. Only one manuscript by one post.**

