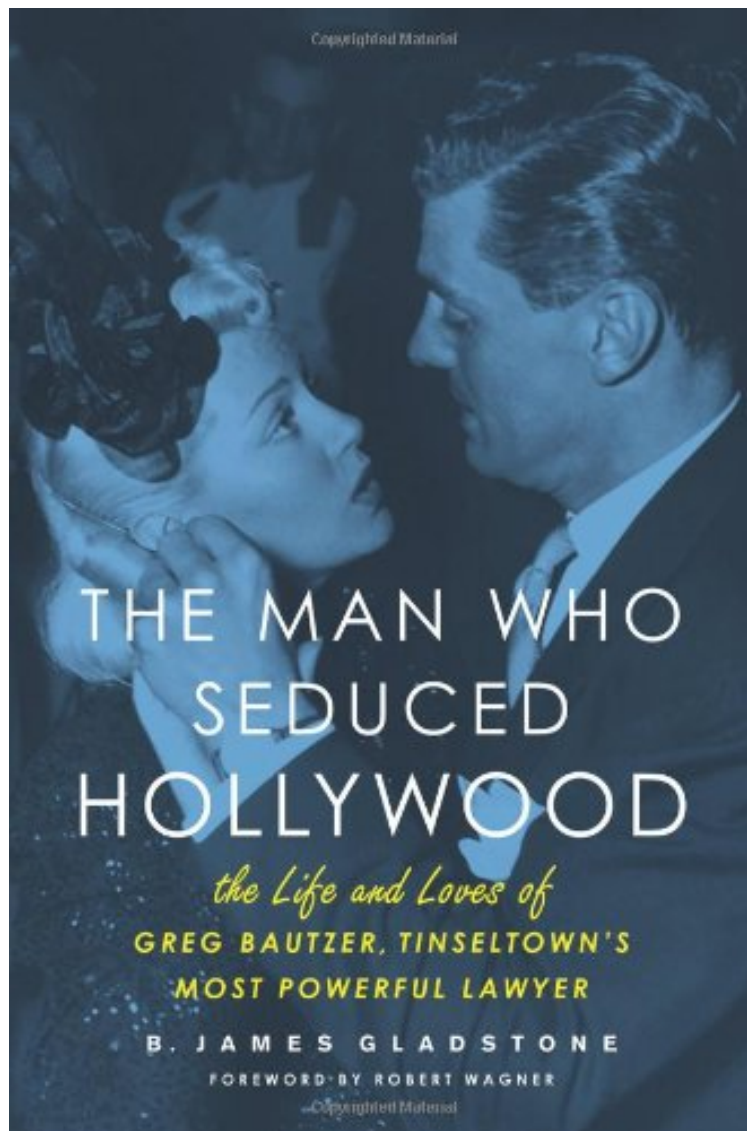


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The Man Who Seduced Hollywood: The Life and Loves of Greg Bautzer, Tinseltown's Most Powerful Lawyer

B. James Gladstone

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B. James Gladstone : The Man Who Seduced Hollywood: The Life and Loves of Greg Bautzer, Tinseltown's Most Powerful Lawyer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Man Who Seduced Hollywood: The Life and Loves of Greg Bautzer, Tinseltown's Most Powerful Lawyer:

53 of 54 people found the following review helpful. A must for anyone interested in behind-the-scenes Hollywood History By R. Gale Actually, this might better be described as a Behind Behind-The-Scenes Hollywood history. We know about the men who ran the studios, but we don't know much about the men who advised them. This book provides a fascinating look at someone with whom I was unfamiliar, but who had his hand in an amazing number of high profile deals, and had another appendage in an amazing number of gorgeous movie stars. This was a man who screwed a lot of his female clients and they thoroughly enjoyed it! The book covers deal making, divorces, organized crime in Hollywood, and Howard Hughes (among other things), and is full of juicy and often unbelievable anecdotes involving Humphrey Bogart, Frank Sinatra, Joan Crawford, Ingrid Bergman and Bugsy Siegel, to name just a few. Business will never be done this way again, and this gives us a compelling look at the way it was. Highly recommended! 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Kind of disappointed... By C Bryce Not as good as some of the reviews, for me. I have read a lot of Golden Age-era books, so I knew who Bautzer was. But as well as being a bio, this book goes into far too much detail about complicated business deals with Howard Hughes, Kurt Kervorkian, and others. Large segments of the book are given to these dealings, which are boring in a biography, and also mini-bios for every new person introduced to the narrative, even though most were celebrities whose bios are well known. So, a lot of waster words, for my taste. Also a lot of stories and rumors, much repeated, about various stars and studio owners, which may or may not be true, but are found in many books. If this book was whittled down to just a bio about GB, it would be much shorter. Lots of repetition, i.e. paragraphs about important and well-known he was. Also too much detail about his war efforts, even though he seemed to spend much of WWII enjoying himself. Yes, he was THE attorney for much of Hollywood, and yes, he certainly dated a lot of actresses. Those things I already knew coming into the book. The only parts new to me really were his early life and his marriage. Also I took with big grains of salt what some of his women said about him, years later, i.e. Ginger Rogers. claiming how badly he wanted to marry her. He notoriously avoided marriage for the most part, during his years on the rise, much preferring being single and was never faithful to any of his women, not even Lana. If he wanted to marry Ginger, or others, no doubt he would have, since most of the actresses he dated married numerous times... what was more? If you don't know his story and manage not to glaze over all of the business deals, it is not a bad book. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A brilliant lawyer - a creepy alcoholic - capable of cruelty to his wife and child By For Truth In Advertising I just finished this book, and it rings with a hollow feeling for the man. Greg Bautzer was fixated on 3 things: bedding down as great many Hollywood stars as he could; constantly getting bigger clients; and had a cold-blooded psychotic obsession with winning. It's interesting to see that justice or fairness are never mentioned in this book, neither in reminiscences of Bautzer or even the author. You come away from this biography with no sympathy for Bautzer (unless you're a fantasizing lawyer). Indeed, he was a brilliant attorney - along with being an alcoholic in denial - often drunk, getting into a rages fights (complete with memory blackouts the next day). For all his genius in the courtroom, amazingly - he had no understanding of the psychology of children, and could be terribly unfeeling to his own son. And along the way, he was sometimes callously cruel to his wives. I came away from this book for a distaste for the man.

Open any movie magazine from the 1930s, 40s, or 50s and you'll find a picture of attorney Greg Bautzer with a beautiful starlet. Columnists dubbed him Hollywood Bachelor Number One, and for good reason. His long-term relationships and momentary conquests were a who's who of leading ladies, including Joan Crawford, Lana Turner, Ginger Rogers, Ava Gardner, Rita Hayworth, Jane Wyman, Dorothy Lamour, Ann Sothern, Greer Garson, Merle Oberon, and Peggy Lee, to name just a few. Yet Bautzer was more than a Hollywood Don Juan. As a lawyer, he represented nearly every major star of his era, as well as the richest man in the world, Howard Hughes, for whom he served as adviser, confidant, and best friend. He also handled Hughes' shadier deals, including writing checks for a harem of kept women and quashing potentially embarrassing tell-all biographies. In Hollywood history, no other lawyer has achieved the movie starlike fame and glamour that Bautzer enjoyed. *The Man Who Seduced Hollywood* tells, for the first time, the amazing story of a self-made man who for fifty years used his irresistible charm and prodigious legal talent to dominate the courtrooms, boardrooms, and bedrooms of Hollywood. In addition to new stories about Hughes, this biography contains countless anecdotes about Bautzer's other well-known clients and friends including Joan Crawford, Frank Sinatra, Ingrid Bergman, Rock Hudson, Bugsy Siegel, Robert Evans, Kirk Kerkorian and many more of the twentieth century's biggest stars.

From Booklist Greg Bautzer was freshly graduated from law school in 1936, when he decided he wanted to become a Hollywood celebrity lawyer (at a time when there weren't four or five celebrity attorneys for every actual celebrity). He did it, too, almost immediately forging a profitable relationship with Twentieth Century Fox chairman Joe Schenk. As Gladstone tells it in this unusual take on Hollywood's golden age, Bautzer cultivated an image as a dashing, eligible bachelor, an image designed to gain him maximum exposure in the high-flying circles where he hoped to find clients. The strategy worked, as over the years, he numbered some of show business' biggest players among his clients, not to mention the world's most famous recluse, Howard Hughes. Bautzer got so big that he is widely considered to have

single-handedly masterminded Kirk Kerkorians hostile takeover of MGM in the late 1960s. In his time, he was as famous, as widely photographed, and as talked about as many big-name celebrities. This is a very good book about a very famous man who is now, sadly, almost entirely forgotten. --David Pitt