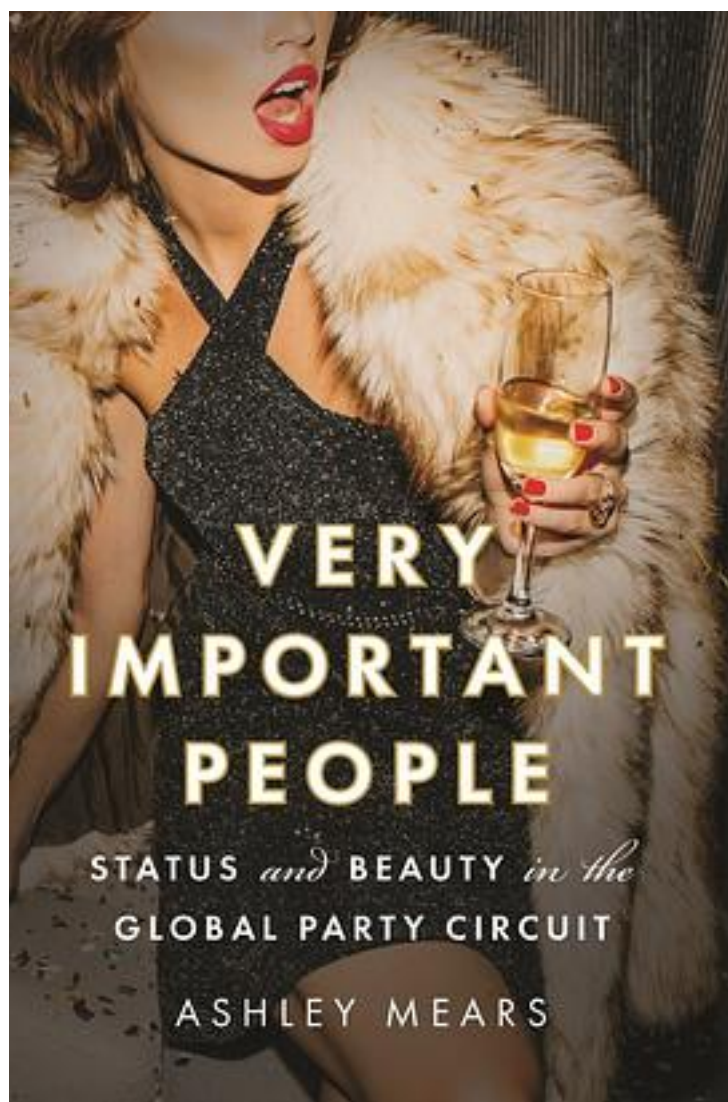


# Very Important People



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著者:Ashley Mears

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Million-dollar birthday parties, megayachts on the French Riviera, and \$40,000 bottles of champagne. In today's New Gilded Age, the world's moneyed classes have taken conspicuous consumption to new extremes. In *Very Important People*, sociologist, author, and former fashion model Ashley Mears takes readers inside the exclusive global nightclub and party circuit—from New York City and the Hamptons to Miami and Saint-Tropez—to reveal the intricate economy of beauty, status, and money that lies behind these spectacular displays of wealth and leisure.

Mears spent eighteen months in this world of “models and bottles” to write this captivating, sometimes funny, sometimes heartbreaking narrative. She describes how clubs and restaurants pay promoters to recruit beautiful young women to their venues in order to attract men and get them to spend huge sums in the ritual of bottle service. These “girls” enhance the status of the men and enrich club owners, exchanging their bodily capital for as little as free drinks and a chance to party with men who are rich or aspire to be. Though they are priceless assets in the party circuit, these women are regarded as worthless as long-term relationship prospects, and their bodies are constantly assessed against men's money.

A story of extreme gender inequality in a seductive world, *Very Important People* unveils troubling realities behind moneyed leisure in an age of record economic disparity.

作者介绍:

Ashley Mears is associate professor in the Department of Sociology and in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Boston University. She is the author of *Pricing Beauty: The Making of a Fashion Model*. Her writings have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Elle*, and other publications. She lives in Boston.

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标签

社会学

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社交

女性研究

女人

Sociology

美国

Mears

## 评论

为了带去“优质”的girls而各显神通的皮条客；在精心诱导下疯狂消费的富豪；被各方利用却也乐在其中的party girls；一起做一场清醒又糊涂的梦。

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莫名想到《华尔街之狼》，一场又一场喧嚣华丽的梦。

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与其说是在写very important people，不如说是在写『酒吧老板跟酒吧pimp的视角跟生活』

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看了三分之一 一件事大概不同角度讲了八百多遍 (我知道他们开很多香槟!!!! Just move on please)同时在看也是包含田野调查的seduction 笔记就比较多样还带概括分析 更有意思一点 这本读不读完完看心情..

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Conspicuous consumption is not an inherent trait of the rich, but produced by promoters, club owners, and importantly, girls' careful orchestration. Relational work and gender labor makes lavish elite parties go around, while the pleasure of leisure mystifies the labor process and solicits consent to the exploitation of such labor. Mears的文笔实在是太优美了。

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## 书评

全美最美社会学家Ashley Mears又出书了，之前我写过一篇[日志放]了几张照片给读者们撸。现在Ashley已经三十好几，到了女人的黄金年龄看起来更好撸了。Ashley这个新作Very Important People (VIP)讲的还是模特的故事，但是这次的主角其实已经悄悄转换成夜店策划(promoter)，类似...

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