Foreward

Published by

Gay Bar: The Fabulous, True Story of a Daring Woman and Her Boys in the 1950s.
University of Wisconsin Press, 2010.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/1177.

For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/1177
This is how it happened. Over a year ago I had dinner with my friends Faye and Barro. After an imaginative feast we sat in the den talking ceramics, listening to records and discussing events in my bar.

Faye said, ‘You should write a book.’

I grinned at her. ‘Me? Write a book?’

The suggestion stayed with me. After much thought I mapped a course. I bought a tape recorder and talked my ideas into it. I engaged a ghost writer and we were in BIG production! When I received the manuscript I was very unhappy. The writer had not shown my attitude, which is the most important part. So I scrapped the whole book as she had written it, and started from scratch.

I am the first to say that this is not a smoothly constructed volume, but what I tell is true. For obvious reasons, I have substituted names in every case.

If this book helps any parent to understand his boy and if any gay boy sees himself more clearly because of what I have written, then this book has a reason for existing.

Helen P. Branson

Hollywood, California
June 1957