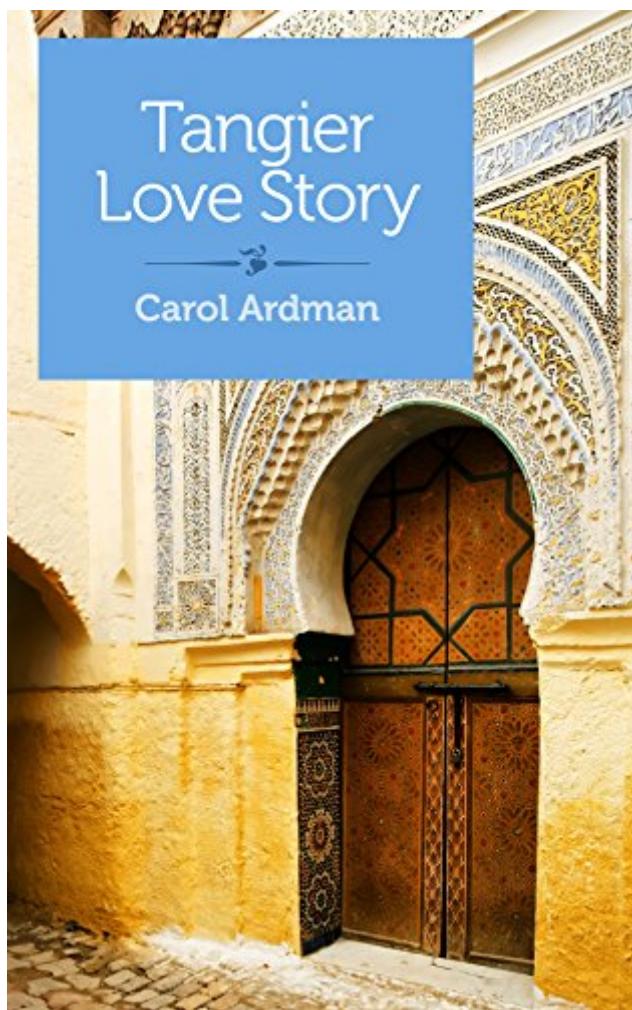


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Tangier Love Story: Jane Bowles, Paul Bowles, And Me (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

Carol Ardman traveled to Tangier in 1970 to tend her broken heart and she hoped to find Jane Bowles, whose writing had literally saved her. Instead she found Paul Bowles at a time when he was as lonely and searching as she was. The two began an unconventional love affair that roiled Tangier's incestuous expat community and transformed Ardman's life. Her sumptuously detailed portrait of their relationship is as intimate and as satisfying as it gets. Jane and Paul Bowles were at the center of the no-holds-barred expatriate community in Tangier, Morocco, for decades, and they helped define an artistic milieu that included Truman Capote, Gertrude Stein, Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs, and Tennessee Williams. Bisexual yet devoted to one another, the Bowleses ignited the imaginations of many, including the young aspiring writer Ardman. Carol Ardman informed her parents in a letter at age five that she intended to become a writer. After graduating from the University of Michigan, she went to New York, supporting herself as a waitress in Greenwich Village, then writing for fan magazines and assisting the blind labor columnist Victor Riesel with research and ghostwriting his Saturday syndicated newspaper columns. Ardman has contributed to the New York Times, the NY Daily News, the Journal of Commerce, Ms. magazine, the Book of Knowledge, and other publications, and her fiction has appeared in Pequod and other literary journals. She is the coauthor with Loren Fishman, MD, of four self-help books for people with medical issues, and she has blogged for medical experts on the Huffington Post. She is currently at work on another memoir and a novel. This is a short e-book published by Shebooks--high quality fiction, memoir, and journalism for women, by women. For more information, visit <http://shebooks.net>.

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Customer Reviews

An exotic locale, a famous and controversial literary couple, an unfamiliar culture, unconventional and sometimes murky relationships, the perspective of future wisdom acquired through transformative experience — these are the elements that shape Carol Ardman's Tangier Love Story: Jane Bowles, Paul Bowles, and Me. Ardman relates a specific event from her youth with such authenticity and elegantly clear prose that we are drawn into her tale of a place in time. Her backward look into the mirror of her youth becomes our own. To read this story is to "know then what we know now" — in the place and time we might have sought had we had Ms. Ardman's courage, innocent recklessness and sense of adventure. Plan to read this tale in a single sitting because, like eating potato chips, you will not be able to stop. As with potato chips, the effect of this story will remain with you for a very long time..

I love books that take me places, and since I've never traveled to Tangier this was new territory for me. Carol's details really put me in the heart of it all, and I loved taking the journey along with her during another time and place in her life. It's a wonderful short read and I highly recommend this book for anyone who likes to travel vicariously to places that are not necessarily on your bucket list but that still have appeal. Her storyline as a writer wanting to meet another writer is charming and takes such an interesting turn - really held me captive, and I was able to read it in one dreamy sitting.

Engaging memoirBy Avid ReaderTangier Love Story gives a fascinating glimpse into the lives of Paul and Jane Bowles, as well as into the unconventional culture of ex-patriots in Tangier. The city itself comes alive in all its mystery and color. Ardman's interest in Jane Bowles led her to go on a vacation to Morocco to meet her. In place of Jane who was ill and unreachable, she

found herself immersed in Paulâ€™s literary and sexual life. The story was completely engaging to me. I read it without pause on a plane ride and felt I was traveling with the author to a past that gained complexity in recollection.

A singularly narcissistic, self-aggrandising little book. The thing which most put me off about it was the fact that this entitled young American who ends up living with Paul Bowles after Jane's death has spats with the artist, author and friend of Paul Bowles' Mohammed Mrabet who she all but dismisses as an illiterate brute in this account, with no recognition of his achievements as a creative individual in his own right. To her he's just a Moroccan. That's to say nothing of the self-pitying tone of being a scorned divorcee which is cloying.

I confess that I came to this with false expectations, expecting something with more detail and depth. What I got was essentially an extended magazine article that was an interesting enough read but left me wishing for fewer generalities and more exploration.

I felt like I was sitting at a cafe in Tangier over a glass of wine while the author shared her story with me. During my travels over many years, especially to Europe, I've had the good fortune to meet many interesting and fascinating people. I love hearing and soaking up their stories. This was very well written and the author captured a slice of her life in a concise and informative way. It's obvious Bowles had an impact on her life. And I loved how she finished her story with a follow up as to where her path then took her.

Another outstanding publication by Shebooks. Excellent editing, outstanding writing. This was such a wonderful story. It is such a compelling story about a young woman's coming of age, but it rings so true for my generation. Many of us found ourselves in the same way that men have for hundreds of years. By traveling to exotic locations, finding unconventional love (but not marriage), and most importantly finding our vocation (in this case, as a writer--thank goodness for all of us readers).

This was an interesting story about people, truth be told, I knew nothing about. Now off to research Paul and Jane.

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