



Paris Adrift

E.J. Swift

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The Time Machine meets *Midnight In Paris*

Determined to escape her old life, misfit and student geologist Hallie packs up her life in England and heads to Paris. She falls in with the eclectic expat community as a bartender at the notorious Millie's, located next to the Moulin Rouge.

Here she meets Gabriela, a bartender who guides her through this strange nocturnal world, and begins to find a new family. But Millie's is not all that it seems: a bird warns Hallie to get her feathers in order, a mysterious woman shows up claiming to be a chronometrist, and Gabriela is inexplicably unable to leave Paris.

Then Hallie discovers a time portal located in the keg room. Over the next nine months, irate customers will be the least of her concerns, as she navigates time-faring through the city's turbulent past and future, falling in love, and coming to terms with her own precarious sense of self.

Paris Adrift Details

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Author : E.J. Swift

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From Reader Review Paris Adrift for online ebook

? Silvia ? says

"Eloise, ma chérie, mon coeur, this lovely Anglaise here needs a tissue and a shot."

You know what makes me pettily put a book on hold, possibly permanently? Authors thinking they can have characters speak like in the quote above. If you're not going to do your research on how to write bilingual characters then why should I invest hours of my free time into reading your book?

Borja says

Novela de viajes en el tiempo bastante ligerita con buen rollo entre protagonista y secundarios. La trama tarda en explotar y lo hace un poco tarde por lo que hay que tener un poco de paciencia.

Kathy - Books & Munches says

The thing I liked best about Paris Adrift, is that it was a whole different kind of sci-fi than Illuminae and Gemina. Where I was lost in space before, now I was lost in time and the difference was so much fun! Starting in the twenty-first century, I hopped to eighteen century-France as well.

Our main character, Hallie, is a girl who really is looking for herself. She has demons in her past she tries to run from and cope with at the same time. Then ends up losing herself in time. I honestly have respect for her since she seemed to handle everything pretty well considering.

During Hallie's travels, she meets a couple of people and I loved those. I loved the relationships that bloomed between them and Hallie. I loved how we got to know their backgrounds, more about their lives and see what circumstances they were living in.

One thing that was a pity was my confusion. I started out confused, not really understanding what was going on. Hallie herself didn't even know what she had to do half the time and... I guess that left its mark on me as well? It got better over time but at other moments I still found myself confused again. It did take away from my reading experience and that was such a pity...

Something I knew up front, but had trouble with anyway is all the history! Now you can tell me "Kathy, come on. It's about time-travelling. How can you avoid the history?!" I know, I know! It isn't that I wanted to avoid it, but I did want it to be less... in my face? All the French history facts were flying way over my head. I can imagine this being a fun thing for people who actually know a thing or two about French history but to me...? Nope... Nope, nope, nope.

Even though I did like some of the characters, I still felt like they weren't fleshed out properly. Bland and

one-dimensional is probably the right way to describe them and it's such a pity. I would've enjoyed this story way more had this at least been executed better...

2,5 / 5, boo...

Kathy

Aoife says

3.5 stars.

I received a free digital copy of this book from the publishers/author via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Paris Adrift follows a young woman called Hallie making a new life for herself in Paris, France, and ends up figuring out that in particular places in the city, she's able to time travel. But the future of the world may depend on things Hallie can change in the past - she just has no idea.

This book is pretty strange, and at times complex and it's one that when I initially started it, I was afraid I may have had to DNF it but it actually completely gripped me and even though not everything made sense to me, I really enjoyed the ride it took me on.

I don't think will be a book for everyone but if you're a reader willing to take a chance on a twisting, strange tale with a science fiction element (aka time travel!) then I would say to give it a go. But also don't be too surprised if for the first quarter you have no idea what's going on.

I actually genuinely would have been able to read this book without the opening chapter showing a very horrible future, and people discussing incumbents, anomalies and time travel. It left me feeling really confused but once I was in Hallie's POV, I was able to follow the story and what was happening to her. I think Leon's connection with Hallie would have even been better if it was a surprise for us, the readers.

I liked the ending and how things wrapped up though I wasn't mad about Hallie and Leon's relationship because I felt no chemistry between the two of them. It kind of felt like the author put them together just because she should, and they didn't have enough real moments for me to really love them together. They always seemed more like close friends than two people in love to me.

I really enjoyed Hallie's time travel and would have liked more sections like when she traveled to 1875 and we could really see what she was doing. It felt like we got a good look at 1875, a simpler look at WW2 Paris and then pretty much nothing of her other time travel adventures. I would have liked more of them and less of Hallie's time in Millies.

I did really enjoy this book though and it's one I'd tentatively recommend to others with a warning to just give it a fair chance.

Deborah Obida says

Arc provided by netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

2.5 stars, I have to admit I was disappointed, I expected more from this book. The plot is amazing but I dislike the writing style. Most of the characters are bland and one dimensional, none could even muster any emotion in me. The book is diverse, it wasn't overly done, it was just perfect.

The plot is amazing, the time travelling was badly depicted and the whole anonmly descriptions was confusing. I love the staff of Millie's, just a group of people that need a break from life and found the perfect country and job to give them time. The romance was fast forwarded at first and it felt cheesy till like 80% of the book that the matter was fixed.

All in all this was an okay read for me, there is absolutely nothing special about the book, save the Paris setting.

Sara says

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

I've got mixed feelings about this one.

Paris Adrift follows student geologist Hallie who, fed up with her rather dull life, leaves England for the heady city life of Paris. Here, not far from the infamous Moulin Rouge, she finds a time portal that lets her glimpse Paris in all it's magnificent past and future.

It's the descriptions of Paris through the ages that really set this book apart. From this century, back down through time into a strange dystopian future and back again. It's very descriptive, and made me feel as if I was there with Hallie. The cast is also diverse, although I found they all really lacked any kind of emotional depth. The pace is all a bit all over the place too, and I struggled at times to get through it.

A mixed bag really.

Carrie says

Paris Adrift by E.J. Swift is a science fiction fantasy read that features time travel through various times in Paris. This one was a book that I had high hopes for when I saw the beautiful cover and learned that it would be about time traveling but unfortunately it fell a bit short for me.

The story started off seeming to be promising with a look at the future that had me salivating for some good old saving the world reading. But then we get introduced to Hallie as she's working in a bar and that is where things just sort of stalled out for me. I think really at that point my mind was the one going a bit adrift to be honest.

By the time the time traveling began in the story I was losing hope for falling in love with the book but I had hopes it would still catch my attention a bit more than it did. I think though that what I missed was some really good character building to get a better connection and a bit more happening than what I was finding. I suppose the best way to put it was I'm sure for some this will be a great read but it just wasn't what I expected it to be and not really my cup of tea in the end unfortunately.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>

Bradley says

What an utterly delightful time-travel/atmospheric tale of freedom, choice, and Paris.

I was struck by just how descriptive and easy the text flowed, but then I was sucked in to all the different time periods as I drifted through the theater of 1875, from catacombs to bohemians, from Moulin Rouge to Moulin Vert... all the way to 2017 with crowded bars and modern woes... to a dystopian and war-torn future of 2042 that includes time travelers and the ever dreaded and alluring Anomaly in the timestream.

There's a definite and dark cost to time travel, but sometimes the cost is worth it. Sometimes, we don't even know what we're paying for. Such is the problem of free will and choice.

Above all, this novel is a real delight to read. It's easy, it's immersive, and it's very easy to fall for and into the lives of these free-spirited people. Even more than that, it's very easy to fall in love with Paris. It evokes and succeeds in drawing out the beauty, the oppression, and the crazy desperation of the people who live and breathe the world... no matter the time.

For all this, I am quite pleased that it is also an easy read. Freedom shouldn't be oppressive. :)

I'm totally recommending this for all you free-spirits.

And thanks to Netgalley for the ARC!

Dana Kenedy (Dana and the Books) says

This review can also be found on my blog, Dana and the Books.

I was sold on this book the moment I saw the cover. It's magical, ethereal, straight up gorgeous.

And then I found out it was about time travel and I was *extra sold*. I don't even know how many times I've shouted into the void about my love for time travel, but I do know that I will never get tired of stumbling upon new time travel stories.

This isn't the sort of time travel book where there's a lot of sci-fi elements alongside the time hopping. There's no fancy time machine, no spaceships, no futuristic aliens. At times, it reads like a contemporary novel following Hallie's journey in Paris working at Millie's bar. But then, just like Hallie, you get ripped from the present and thrust into a new time, forced to navigate the era.

Each time period had a different vibe matching the atmosphere. Each one better than the one before it. And that first chapter. What a great opening!

However, I do wish we got to see more of the future from the first chapter where the world is literally ending. It felt so desperate and hopeless.

Hallie was a great choice for a main character. She lost her way in life and Paris (time travel and all) really

set her on the right track to finding herself.

Being set in Paris, there was of course French scattered throughout the book. It definitely made me work hard recalling my six years of mandatory Canadian French classes to work!

Overall: fantastic plot, fantastic characters, and fantastic time travel. *Paris Adrift* is a unique and worthy addition to the time travel genre!

Thanks so much to Rebellion Publishing for providing me with a review copy; and be sure to check out the other stops on the blog tour!

Book Links: [Book Depository](#) | [Amazon US](#) | [Amazon Canada](#) | [Amazon UK](#)

Gray says

'What we were feeds into the things that will become, and after the last memory of us has faded from the world, it is stone that remains to tell what stories it can.'

Imagine if you were able to visit Paris at different points in time. And what if your actions could change the future, either for the better or the worse...

The story opens with a glimpse of a dark dystopian future where survivors of a devastating war are discussing the possibilities of changing the past. Following this, we shift to the present-day where we are introduced to main character Hallie. She is a British university student spending a gap-year living and working in present-day Paris. As we get to know her via her friends and surroundings, a strange encounter with a Japanese woman changes Hallie's life.

Paris Adrift is a time-travel story which uses the setting of Paris as a focal point for the narrative. We visit the city at different points in time and it feels like a character itself, so important is it to the story. I enjoyed the snapshots of Paris through the ages but felt that they were a little too brief. I wanted to know more and would've liked the author to have spent more time in each period. The future-Paris she imagines is quite fascinating and could've made a great story by itself.

As a leading character, Hallie was a little underwhelming. I didn't really feel her, if you know what I mean. She didn't become anything more than generic for me, which was a shame. She wasn't badly written, she just failed to leap off the page and make me care what happened to her. There were hints of an interesting backstory that were never really expanded on.

Some of the supporting characters left more of an impression on me. The "chronometrist" was my favourite and was crying out for more story-time. She was creepy yet fascinating for it. Writing this review a few days after finishing the book, I've all but forgotten Hallie but the chronometrist is still with me. There's a sequel with her name on it just waiting to be written!

Paris Adrift contains some clever ideas including a rather unique way of looking at the addictive as well as dangerous nature of time travel. There are some lovely lyrical passages to be found in Swift's writing throughout the book. The two quotes I've included in this review really impressed me.

'Each touch leaves its trail of atoms. And houses harbor, too, the premonitions of things desired and things that are yet to come; the families we may create, the friends we may meet, the lovers whose bodies we may one day embrace.'

Last year, I read and enjoyed E.J. Swift's short story "The Jinn Hunter's Apprentice" in the collection *The Djinn Falls in Love & Other Stories*. So, I was really looking forward to this book. Unfortunately, it wasn't quite as good as I was hoping but it's still a well-written story with enough in it to keep you reading to the end.

Originally posted on Who's Dreaming Who?: <https://beginjapangrayman.wordpress.c...>

Acqua says

***Paris Adrift* is a fantasy book about the way small events can shape people, places, and the destiny of humanity itself.**

One of the main strengths of this book is the atmosphere. The descriptions of Paris through time - the crowded bars of 2017, the theaters of 1875, the alternate dystopian city of 2042 - are vivid and fascinating.

The main character is Hallie, a young woman who is on a gap year from her geology studies. She is running from her family, from her past, and in some way from herself, but at Millie's there's something awaiting for her: the staff will quickly become her new family, and in the keg room there's the anomaly - time travel.

Millie's, as it turns out, is a very special place.

All the characters and their friendships were memorable and well-developed. **Even the romance, which I didn't like for half of the novel, slowly grew on me.** By the end of the book, I loved Hallie and Léon.

Paris Adrift is also really diverse (a diverse ensemble cast!). The main character struggles with panic attacks, which I had never seen before in an adult fantasy novel; there are side characters who are Colombian and Algerian; there's a side f/f couple.

The only thing I didn't love was how some words like psychopath, schizophrenic and borderline were sometimes used in a disparaging way/to describe a character who was acting weird (and that's not what those words mean).

My favorite character was the mysterious chronometrist; she was unsettling in the best way.

This book does have its creepy moments - the anomaly isn't exactly a benevolent entity, and time-travel in the catacombs isn't a pleasant experience either.

Paris Adrift is a story that weaves together time travel and modern politics, exploring many relevant themes. Maybe it will feel dated sooner, but it also feels more real, more grounded.

I flew through this book. I always wanted to know what was going to happen; the short chapters helped. It's divided into nine parts, and this could have felt disjointed, but the transition was never awkward. **I never knew which direction the story would take next.**

I received an ARC (advanced reader copy) from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Elise (TheBookishActress) says

Soooooooooooo.... okay. I was sort of enjoying this book when it was in Paris, 2017. The aesthetic of the

place, the bars, the odd sense of creepiness or eerie occurrence - it was all great. But as soon as we got into the actual time travel moments.... Meh?

Unfortunately, I'm someone who reads mostly for either 1) decent character development or 2) good dramatic tension. And I just really didn't think this book had either. A fast paced plot is one thing, but without good dramatic tension or compelling characters, there's no need for the audience to keep reading. And even the actual plot is... not exactly fast-moving? I'm 42% in and nothing has happened.

I will say I liked the maybe-evil-maybe-losing-her-mind time traveler; she has a ton of potential as a character. But that's really not enough to keep me reading.

Staci Campbell says

Paris Adrift by E.J. Swift

3/5 ???

I was Paris Adrift, in return for my honest review. On behalf of NetGalley and the publisher (s).

Rebellion/Solaris publishing

Time traveling!!!! This book was at first slow, and confusing. When reading it pay attention closely to the writing. With the detail and flip flop of time it can get confusing.

It was a slow start but there is a lot of detail. From the past to the future your following the character through her journey through time.

Paris Adrift may seem overwhelming at times, and even maybe slow but trudge on and I'm sure you will love this amazing time-travel adventure.

It is set in Paris, at various timelines. Paris was supposed to save Hallie, make things better for her. As she works at the bar, with her friends, Hallie encounters a lot of things. One event in particular sticks in her mind. She somehow sees herself, walking through the bar! Of course, Hallie's realistic mind can not make sense of the anomaly.

(The anomalies can become confusing so pay attention.)

Hallow encounters a rather odd woman, who has chosen her to serve her. She introduced herself as, the Chronometrist. A cold, figure with a bird, no a falcon under her coat.

Can Hallie believe enough to help herself. She saw herself and knew it wasn't right, a dream just dream she tells herself.

We all know that time travel can change the course of events happening in the other time period. What will Hallie's travels cost her, or yet what will it cost Paris?

Political, and adventurous this time travel tale may just have you second guessing your own course!!

This book is coming, February 06, 2018!! Watch to get your copy or pre-order now!!

Emily Ross says

Thank you to the publishers for providing an ARC of this book through NetGalley.

I DNFed this book at 26%.

This book feels like it's going nowhere. It doesn't feel like it has a plot, and it's pretty boring. The descriptions are pretty good, and it does give a nice feel to the novel but that doesn't help with the boring characters. Even the main character isn't particularly great.

Sarah (thegirltheycalljones) says

Hum. I don't know what I was waiting for.

I should have known it wasn't the mind-blowing crazy fest the blurb was promising but hey, you never know?

Another book set in Paris. Another book where the french language is butchered.

I mean, okay but the least you can do when writing a book using another language is check said language to minimize the mistakes? It's not that hard. People can help. Or you know, the internet ? Some parts were supposed to be "bad french" I guess. But some weren't.

Those books are, for me, a very neat little circle of disappointment.

Anyway, I'm being a pain in the ass here, that's not even the real issue.

The real issue is that the characters are quite boring. Stuff happens but not really.

The only credit I can give is that the author knows what it's like to work in a bar. I did work in a bar and all this was quite accurate.

I quit reading around 20% because this book managed to achieve the feat of being messy and hard to follow while having near-to-zero action.

Adrift, indeed.
