

While Europe Slept Study Guide

While Europe Slept by Bruce Bawer

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Plot Summary

While Europe Slept is an intense book about how radical Islam is taking over Western Europe. The first part of the book is about the European thought before the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. Bawer moved to the Netherlands because he wanted to get away from the materialism of the United States. He wanted to experience new things, be part of the "civilized" and somewhat "superior" culture that was Europe, so he settled in the Netherlands. He was happy for a while, until he moved close to a Muslim enclave in Amsterdam and realized how ugly the suburbs of the famous city were and how segregated the people were from each other. This opened his eyes to the vast use and abuse of this very liberal city, and the most generous welfare nation in the world. This, his book, continues with his evaluation on this abuse and how it is going to be the death of the modern Europe that everyone knows if the European establishment does nothing to stop the invasion.

The second part of the book is about the post 9/11 world and how people thought about the U.S. after the attacks. Most Europeans thought that the attacks were well deserved, and that as Europeans they were distanced from the attacks. They believed it was an American problem and treated it mostly like a natural disaster instead of a war tactic. They sympathized with the terrorists, said they were standing up for their rights from being invaded by Israel and the U.S. consumption of oil. The civilized Europeans believed they could talk anything out, fix any problem with dialogue and that the U.S. needed to stop acting so barbaric in waging wars so easily. The European establishment condoned the invasion of Afghanistan and the invasion of Iraq. The main U.S. supporters were those from the Eastern European nations that still remembered being controlled by the Soviet Union and who knew the price of freedom. However, the post 9/11 scene only brought back good memories of the Soviets to those in Western Europe. They knew that Communism was built on strong moral values of equality and reminisced of the time when the world was balanced. They romanticized the Soviets, held them with dear nostalgia, and said it was a better world then, despite the fact that the Soviets wanted to take over all of Europe and condemn them to the fallacies of communist equity.

The third part of the book talks about Europe's all-out liberal resistance and how the radical Islamists were actively taking over. Children as young as five were acting out towards Christians, Jews, and other non-Muslims in the streets. They fought against practical school lessons like right angles and basic history. Jews were getting attacked on a daily basis, and school officials didn't do anything about the attacks. Journalists who dared speak against Muslim extremists were ostracized for voicing their opinions, for voicing the truth they had discovered. Bills were even proposed in some European nations to make it illegal to even talk badly about Islam to ensure that people didn't disturb the peace. Peace was the ultimate goal of Europe, but the peace they were living in was really just walking on eggshells to make sure they didn't wake the beast of radical Islam, which had laid its eggs in their country and would eat them at a moments notice. They sacrificed their freedoms, and would sacrifice their Jews again if only to keep the peace. Europe needs to wake up and fight to get control of their lives back.

They have fought historically for centuries, and it is a shame that they would want to give up now.



Part 1 pg 1-35

Part 1 pg 1-35 Summary and Analysis

While Europe Slept is an intense book about how radical Islam is taking over Western Europe. The author moved to Amsterdam for a change from the supposedly less-cultured America to a more urbane Europe. He enjoyed the change until he moved near a Muslim enclave and observed the severe abuse of welfare among the Muslim people. He believes this abuse of welfare may ruin Europe economically.

Bawer learns from a friend in the Netherlands that Muslim radicals are terrorizing and murdering any writer who writes negative information about the Muslim culture/religion. The Dutch government do not take these isolated incidents seriously until after 9-11. Part of the cultural difference between Americans and the Dutch, and other Europeans is that the Europeans tend to be relaxed and passive, compared the the Americans who are more judgmental about differences. The laid-back attitude seems to Bawer to bed a positive thing until he noticed the social effects of such passivity.

Radical, fundamental Muslims are taking advantage of Europe's liberality. Europeans assumed that any immigrants would eventually "melt" into the general culture of the country in which they settle, but this is not true of fundamental Muslims, who retain their restrictive ways of living. Religious leaders are vigilant to keep new Muslim immigrants on the Islam "straight and narrow." These leaders cultivate a us versus them belief, ensuring that all are closely watched to ensure conformity. Immigrant Muslims take advantage of the liberal social spending of the European community. Some who are actually European born have moved back to their native countries but continue to receive welfare monies. Those Muslims who live in Europe are constantly augmented by new immigrants from Arab countries, who re-infuse enthusiasm for strict Islamic beliefs.

Bawer searched for information about the Islamists in Netherlands, but found mostly praise about the compatibility of the two cultures living side by side. Bawer, however, is convinced that an eventual clash between Islamic fundamentalism and European liberalism is inevitable. He believes many of the Arab immigrants are actually Islamic fundamentalist, arrived to infiltrate and indoctrinate less radical Muslims. Many, according to Bawer, are terrorists.

Muslim immigrants are usually from poor, remote villages, which means they are more conservative and against Western values. Some became even more conservative once they got to Europe. One thing that these immigrants were good at was exploiting the Western welfare states' generosity. All they had to do was go into a government office, ask for money and walk out with cash in hand. Though native Europeans do not generally abuse the welfare system (again, according to Bawer), in Muslim countries, corruption is high and the goal is to grab everything that one can before it is gone; this corruption immigrates along with the new Muslim settlers. "In Denmark, Muslims make

up only five percent of the population, but receive forty percent of welfare outlays" and other countries are comparable to these figures.



Part 1 pp 35-51

Part 1 pp 35-51 Summary and Analysis

The narrator and his partner move to Oslo, Norway on April 1, 1999. The similarities between Norwegians and the Dutch were more than their differences, especially their need for political correctness. The Norwegians were also heavily populated with Muslims. The narrator encountered several incidences of Muslims acting in a prejudicial manner to homosexuals, even going so far as to attack the narrator physically. At the physical violence, the narrator took the matter to the police, who urged him to not press charges.

Young Islamics are taught that non-Muslims are infidels and do not deserve any respect, nor do their laws. An Islamic person who participates in Western culture brings dishonor to his family and religion and can be killed legitimately. Women are severely oppressed and are killed by male kinsmen if they are raped or even caught being too "loose." Gay bashing is also very rampant in the Muslim world. Two gay men were attacked by a group of Muslims (ironically during a "One World" ceremony) and the men who attacked the gay couple were given lenient sentences. The police are very limited to what they can do against immigrants, so most of the time they choose to do nothing. The longer the narrator lived in Europe, the more he understood this and that the view of multiculturalism was imposed on them by the media and the "establishment," which can never be questioned or challenged.

European politicians are greatly respected and listened to, unlike in the United States, where most assume a politician is at the least dishonest if not corrupt. The politicians make decisions in Europe with very little input from its constituents. Many of them idealize diversity to the point of subsidizing the Islamic community, regardless of the oppression against woman and non-conformers. Politicians who have tried to curb the abuse of the welfare system and change immigration laws are condemned as fascists or ignorant.

When the narrator moved to Norway, he was impressed with the amount of reading that the Norwegians do on a daily basis. However, the media in Norway, and much of Europe, is taught to shut out anything that is controversial to the European lifestyle. The reason the media is so one sided is because the government funds it, something that is unthinkable in America. Journalists don't argue with this method either because they see themselves as educators and there to teach people about the way that life is, not to get them to think about it themselves and draw their own conclusions. Europeans see government as head of the family and haven't diverged from this view because they view history as facts rather than something about which to be critically thoughtful. The narrator believes that listening to the government, while still having one's own separate beliefs has created a culture of ideological dualism.



Part 1 pp 51-75

Part 1 pp 51-75 Summary and Analysis

Immigration and integration have always been a point of disagreement in Europe. According to Bawer, though such countries as Norway and Sweden give lip-service to diversity among races, they do not assist new immigrants of non-white race to integrate into communities. The countries of Europe like the idea of diversity in theory, but practice subtle discrimination. They give welfare, and yet, in a way, solely handing out money hinders rather than helps integration of minorities. The European tolerance of differences in beliefs plus the lack of help in integrating into their new home, creates an environment of isolation for the Muslim community and allows the Islamic fundamentalism that immigrants brought with them, to continue in their new home.

In September of 2001, "non-Western immigrants" who are synonymous with Muslims committed 65% of rapes. Unni Wikan, a social anthropology professor at the University of Oslo, stated that the Muslim men should not be tried so harshly, and that the women were at fault because of the way they dress. They dress too provocatively, which makes the Muslim men rape them. She said, "Norwegian women must realize that we live in a multicultural society and adapt to it." This is the outdated idea that a woman "ask" to be raped because of their behavior or appearance, instead of holding men responsible for their choices.

Wikan says that the United States see immigrants as assets to be integrated into the culture; whereas, most Europeans see them as charity cases. Europeans do not want to see immigrants integrated and accepted as "real" Europeans. Norway has gone so far to "protect" its immigrants, that it turned down a proposal to stop "dumping" of children back to their parent's native countries for education. A number of cultural practices among Muslims would be legally punished if practiced by other groups in European countries. One of the most heinous is that of "honor" killing, when a woman (most of the time it is a woman) is killed for various reasons—usually the violation of some cultural more. Muslim women who go to abuse shelters are severely punished, often by death, if they return to their husbands. Unni Wikan says that it is part of their culture, and is the Muslim establishment that drives the killings. She feels sorry for parents and husbands who "have" to kill their beloved family members in order to retain their status in the community. It is the system that drives them, and not their own desire to kill their own.

One of the prime examples of Europeans "faintness of heart" when dealing with Muslim's is the story of Mullah Krekar. The mullah is an Iraqi Kurd that moved to Norway as a refugee in 1991. He founded the Islamic Vision, which is a radical Muslim group that is funded by the Norwegian government for being a religious organization. He was in Iraq during 9/11 and launched a guerrilla attack on Iraqi villages imposing a theocratic rule over them. At some point, he was portrayed as a loving father who was missing. People ate this story up and called for his protection when the U.S. and Jordan asked to have him extradited for being a terrorist. The Dutch, who had recently arrested him,



refused to release him to the U.S. or Jordan, and sent him to Norway where he was set free. Krekar called 9/11 "a gift from God" and openly praised Osama Bin Laden on the record. But the Norwegian justice system was compassionate toward him and even paid him 4,970 euros in compensation for having been imprisoned. That amount was bumped up to 45,000 euros the next year and his lawyer later announced plans to sue the government for malicious prosecution. Some elected officials tried to charge him to imprison or deport him, but there wasn't sufficient evidence and Norway's public prosecutor dropped all just as autobiography came out. His book called *In My Own Words* talked about his Islamic and Kurdish activities and openly praised the democracy that had been so kind to him, and at the same time "admitted his desire to overthrow it and institute sharia law," which is Islamic law. When Krekar would walk the streets, Norwegians who recognized him applauded him for speaking out against the U.S. and capitalism, while at the same time; fellow Kurds denounced him calling him a murderer.

How and why has Europe come to this point? Multiculturalism has not been successful in Europe to any degree. Large-scale migration to Europe started around thirty years ago and the European establishment has since "encouraged a romantic view of Muslim immigrants," stating that they are victims and that criticizing them is racist. Muslim identity to a European is their skin color, their food, and language, and not a set of beliefs about living and dying that go against Western ideals. Though the establishment does recognize their phenomena of wife beating, dumping, honor killing, sexual inequality, segregation and forced marriage, these are things that must be accepted in order to live "peacefully" in a multicultural society. Lin Silje Nilson is a historian who supports establishing a sharia court in Norway to protect minority rights. She says that the concept of "collective rights" is important and by having a sharia court it would ensure that minority rights, culture, and religious identities are protected.

The main problem in Europe is that Western Europe desperately needs immigrants because of their negative population growth and this is why they continue to let people into the country. The narrator states that they need to be more careful about who they let in, because simply letting bodies in doesn't mean that their nation will continue to grow the way they want. They are doing more harm than good by allowing immigrants in and not teaching them, or even asking them, to integrate. In essence they are just further erasing their own existences. They claim that they are being politically correct (PC), but this PC attitude is helping to educate well off Muslims into terrorists that could otherwise help the nation that they live in. But even if these well off educated Muslims wanted to be part of European society and stepped out of their Muslim boxes to try to live as good citizens, they are turned away when searching for employment. If a job opens up for a doctor or an educator, if a Muslim is exceedingly more qualified than ten of his or her European colleagues, the job will more likely go to a European. This extends to all immigrants, not just Muslims. One man named Lidio Dominguez searched for a job for two years with no success. Finally, he changed his name to Nils Myrland, and found a job within three weeks. In sum, Europeans don't really want outsiders to take part of their lives or traditions and they cling to their customs integration is next to impossible.



Part 2 pp 77-95

Part 2 pp 77-95 Summary and Analysis

On September 11th, 2001, the Narrator was in Oslo and turned the TV on in time to see the second plane hit the World Trade Center. He writes that he had never felt more American and being in Europe made him see that America and Europe were the heartland of democracy and both were at war with a common enemy that threatened the West. As the days went by, Europeans lashed out their sentiments against Americans, stating that they had brought the attacks upon themselves. Both individuals and governments blamed the attack on American imperialism. Most Eastern Europeans supported the United States invasion of Afghanistan, since their memories of communism were still vivid and they understood the need to fight for freedom.

Though some European countries supported Bush's invasion of Iraq, Norway stated that Bush was equal to Saddam. Europeans believed that Bush was just using the invasions to grab oil, and that 9/11 had been the perfect excuse to do so. Plus, they added that Bush was an Israeli puppet and was going in at Israel's command to destroy the Middle East.

The narrator writes that the European elite is so removed from the realities of international affairs, and so bothered by their irrelevance in them, that they were incapable of having any sympathy for the 9/11 tragedies. Someone in Norway created an e-mail petition called "Hello America!" The condescending message stated a plethora of random facts and American stereotypes including how Bush "leads a regime," ethnic people are oppressed and humiliated, and that Americans are prisoners in their own nation. The message thanks Americans for giving the world Abraham Lincoln, Jimmi Hendrix, Julia Roberts, Miles Davis, and a continuing list of pop culture classics, although they left an incredibly long list of other accomplishments by the U.S. and her people.

There is a clear difference between American and European thinking. Americans are practical and realistic about things; whereas, Europeans are more "sophisticated" about things meaning they hold onto ideas that have no connection to "observable reality." Europeans compare communism to American democracy, often citing communism as the better, more just, system. Once the Soviet Union failed, Americans believed that the Western Europeans would be relieved that they didn't have to worry about Soviet invasion. Instead, they said that the Soviet Union had its merits, especially by providing a balance of power against the U.S., and that the world would now succumb to U.S. capitalism. Europeans seem to be quick to insult Americans at every opportunity.

Americans really do believe in liberty for all, even far off strangers, and will fight to ensure the liberty of people everywhere. Defending freedom is a pure American view and it is something that Europeans can't understand. They accuse Americans of fighting only for economic reasons, and perhaps this is because they would only fight for

economic reasons. The main reason that France and Germany didn't help the U.S. in Iraq was because they had too much money invested in Iraq. Europeans see leaders like Saddam and Milosevic as a fact of life and that nothing should be done to rid the world of such people. This view of the world is sheer fatalism and a result of Europe's history of obeying kings, and dictators that spread tyranny throughout their nations, and throughout history.

Part 2 pp 96 - 111

Part 2 pp 96 - 111 Summary and Analysis

According to the author, the 68ers, Europe's version of the sixties generation shaped the political correctness that is the establishment today. They protested French's involvement in Viet Nam and then the United State's conflict there. The difference between these protesters and the American Vietnam protesters was that the Americans grew up. The French and the other 68'ers grew older but continued to protest and behave like teenagers and walking around with an imaginary "badge of honor."

It isn't hard to understand why Europeans want to avoid war at all costs—after all, both World Wars were fought on European soil. Contrary to Americans, Europeans want to ignore tyranny to prevent war. As a result, they have become the most politically correct people and believe in dialogue and philosophical conversation about issues, rather than face the reality of the post-9/11 world.

Ann Lindh was a Swedish minister for foreign affairs was the forerunner for trying to start dialogue with Arab countries, and the Lindh foundation was established to encourage European schools and universities to offer classes on the Arab world, culture, and languages. The Foundation also encourages the flow of Arab immigrants, yet there is no push to teach Arabs about tolerance of European ideals of democracy, tolerance, or gender equality. A writer named Bat Ye'Or warned that Europe was on its way to becoming an Arab colony. She argued that if Europe continues to accept Arab immigrants without helping or making them integrate the result will be the "preservation of the migrant's separateness, particularisms," and reason for them to maintain the legal ideals of their countries of origin.

The only reason that America cares about the "takeover" of Europe by Islamic fundamentalist is because the symbolic West is being threatened. The West that stands for democracy, human rights, individual determination, and religious freedom is being threatened. Despite all of this European confederation, and EU unity, most Europeans are indifferent to one another's cultures. They aren't really united at all, and often don't even know or want to know how to speak on another's' languages. Cultural walls are very high and they don't embrace even each other's pop culture as much as they do American pop culture.

Paris is becoming more of a Muslim city every day with 1.5 million of the 5 million Muslims in France residing within the city. They are mostly of North African descent and are called beurs. The younger beurs are an increasing challenge to French society because they don't see themselves as being subject to French laws and are the leaders in French crime. In some areas of France, even non-Muslim girls will wear veils to protect themselves from the beurs. Some believe France will be the first Western European nation that will reach a majority Muslim population and will have to succumb to sharia law.



part 2 pp 111-135

part 2 pp 111-135 Summary and Analysis

Johan Galtung is a Scandinavian man and known as the "father of the international peace studies movement. He has received numerous awards and honorary degrees and has held several jobs with international agencies. He is the one that introduced the idea that all international conflict can be settled through dialogue. He also believes that America's readiness to fight against tyranny makes it the biggest threat to world peace and the most dangerous terrorist. The narrator states that if "Galtung and company had their way, the world would be overrun by rogue regimes while democratic governments stood by, every now and then clearing their throats to respectfully request a meeting."

Why is Europe so anti America? One reason is because America is a liberal democracy that has succeeded against their social democracy. Also the American style economy is a danger in them because its success threatens their economy in that Europe's people may want to shift to American style economy. If Europe were to switch to an American style economy, then they might adopt other "American Conditions" which could be anything from obesity, worse traffic, longer working hours, less vacation, overpaid executives, painless births, and countless petty law suits. Anti-Americanism in Europe is so deep and intense that they often reminisce of the time when America wasn't so powerful. Europeans have developed a deep nostalgia for the "good old days of Soviet Communism," saying that it provided the perfect balance against the U.S.

After watching a May Day parade, Baum and his partner visit Berlin. Despite the fact that the German economy was growing, low population growth and high unemployment were rising. These two negative factors were common in nations that had welfare-state policies and these policies were holding back Germany and France from taking off as super nations. They needed to reform their economic policies, but believed that the American system was primitive and that there was only so much wealth to go around, and the U.S. held it. Western European nations believe that the best way to help the poor is by pouring in aid into their countries rather than through trade since they don't believe that wealth creates wealth. They view the idea that "wealth creates wealth" as a false "American Condition" fallacy. Olaf Gersemann, a German writer, tried to break the stereotypes that Europeans have towards Americans by writing a book called Cowboy Capitalism. He disproved myth after myth and showed that Europe's high-tax society was not superior to the American liberal democracy and that countries that have adopted the liberal democracy, like Britain and Ireland, have prospered.

German's want to stay away from American policies, especially military ones. The German government works hard to make sure that its people never forget the holocaust. Baum thinks that it is a mistake to take such a passive role, especially when radical Islamists are the modern world's Nazis. If the Germans have learned anything, they should fight against this threat, and not allow it to exist. Germans, and most Europeans, don't realize that freedom and prosperity are not the default condition of the

human species and that they need to fight against those that oppress freedom of others. Their passivity is not the best response to threats and it will be their demise.



Part 2 pp 136 - 152

Part 2 pp 136 - 152 Summary and Analysis

It still matters who is and who isn't a Jew in Europe, as a Jew is never seen as being a European. Some nations, like Denmark, embraced their Jews during the second World War, and stood up against the German Army who tried beating down doors to get their hands on the Jews. The Danish Jews were protected, as well as their homes and possessions, and returned home to their lives. However the Netherlands did not protect their Jews and their belongings because it is hard for a Dutch person to accept another non-ethnic Dutch native, as a Dutch. The Dutch still believe that "separate but equal" is a possible ideal, despite the fact that it doesn't work, as America has seen with its black and whites.

After World War II, Europeans felt guilty and shameful over what happened to the Jews. This kept their prejudices in check, though not for long. During the first uprising in 1983 between Israel and Palestine, the Jews were portrayed the Goliath against a Palestinian David. Europe treated Arafat, Palestine's most beloved leader, as a second Gandhi, despite all of the hate that he preached and all of his people that he impoverished while accepting European aid. Europe got past the fact that he "couldn't bring himself to stop sacrificing Palestinian children and murdering Jews." Yet, Europeans remain convinced that the Jews are the new Nazis that needed to be stopped.

Anti-Semitism in France is spreading like an epidemic. A Muslim assailant in Paris stabbed a Jewish boy to death yelling, "God is great," yet Paris officials didn't punish the man or make any special note that he was Muslim. The officials make it sound like the abuse and prejudice goes both ways, that the Jews do the same to the Muslims, yet this is not true. According to the author, European countries are using the Muslims to get rid of their Jews even though the Muslims are more of a threat and danger to them than anyone else. Many children endure Muslim abuse in school, and their principles do not protect them even when Jewish parents complain and worry about the safety of their children. There is also a common passivity amongst those that witness Muslim attacks on Jews. In Sweden people simply "shy away from conflict." European authorities believe that when a Muslim attacks a Jewish person, it is because of deep-rooted anger at Israel and it is completely understandable. Even after September 11th, Europe continued to believe that Islamic terrorism had nothing to do with them, and that the biggest threats to peace are America and Israel.



Part 3 153-188

Part 3 153-188 Summary and Analysis

On March 11th, 2004 terrorists attacked Madrid, Spain's capital. For four years Europeans thought that the attacks on the World Trade Center had nothing to do with them, and the attacks on Spain began to change that idea. Some people declared that the "Americans were right all along!" The terrorists that attacked Spain did so strategically by bombing a few days before the equivalent of their presidential elections. The terrorists wanted the people to vote for Zapatero and not for Aznar because Aznar was for the Iraq war and wouldn't pull the troops out. People showed up to vote in record number, and despite an extremely high personal preference for Aznar, Zapatero won and he pulled the Spanish troops out. The Spaniards were convinced, especially by the attacks, that Aznar was to blame for the bombings because he had gotten too close to George Bush. They thought that if they got rid of him, the terror would stop. The rest of Europe agreed with this idea and were soon back to their peaceful ways and back to being bullied by the fanatical Muslims.

A week after the elections in Spain, Israel assassinated Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, who was the founder of the terrorist group Hamas. While the media and the establishment condemned the action, many Europeans, including more than fifty percent of Norwegians supported it showing that the common people wanted to preserve their liberty and have their voices heard. Pim Fortuyn, born in 1948, was the leader of the anti-Islamization movement in Europe. After writing his book titled "Against the Islamization of our Culture" he was accused of racism. Yet he argued that it was not the Islamic race he was against, rather the ideology that is hostile to every other culture. He stated that integration had failed, and Muslim community leaders were teaching hate, and schools were getting more and more dangerous each day for non-Muslims. The Dutch government responded to its citizens by announcing that anyone who threatened the "peace" and tried to "conduct a cold war against Islam" would be prosecuted. The Dutch public was a little wiser than the government and came to the conclusion that "tolerance for intolerance is not tolerance at all." Pim took a stance against Muslim extremist harassment of all that was different from their ideology. Pim was assassinated for his views, but his policies were not forgotten after his death, rather they were defamed and used as an example that Europe had to remain passive.

After the Madrid bombings, the general population was worried, but the establishment continued as if it had been a natural disaster and not an attack. Denmark, however, was not following suit with other nations. After 9/11 Muslims in Denmark applauded the attacks, celebrating in the streets and calling on a holy war of Danish society as well. The Social Democrats had gained control of Denmark and Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen promised he would change immigration policies and invest in a solid integration packet. He was vilified by other Western European nations as a racist, but he stood his ground. He prohibited people from importing spouses and people could not marry until they were at least twenty-four, which gave women more chance to mature



and choose their own destiny (at least this was the theory). It did little to change the cultural practices of the Muslims and infringed upon Danish people's rights to marry who had chosen their own partners.

Though the Danes were taking steps in the right direction, its media and educated members of society were still big on censorship and walking the line of political correctness. Two journalists who fought against the norm, Helle Merete Brix and Lars Hedegaard, were condoned for the freedom they took to write about Islam by the Danish chapter of PEN (the writers association dedicated to world wide free speech). The two men wrote a book titled "In the House of War: Islam's Colonization of the West." PEN Denmark renounced the book and said it was against PEN's ideology of "understanding and mutual respect between nations and the idea of one humanity in one peaceful world." So PEN Denmark was about free speech, as long as it ignored the important issues in the world. PEN's blackballing of Brix and Hedegaard was astonishing and it ruined their careers and turned nine out of ten Danish journalists against them and their views. Hedegaard said that there had to be more to the story of why Danes are accepting the Muslim invasion besides being snobs and Brix added that Danes have historically bargained with their enemies. Denmark was almost destroyed in World War I and taken as an unimportant nation. After World War II the whole of Europe believed it was unimportant and was ashamed that it had let the Nazi's gain so much power. Even though Denmark had saved its Jews during WWII, it probably wouldn't do so now because of the Muslim influence in the nation. They would probably sacrifice their Jews in order to retain "peace" and not go against the Muslims. Europe had fallen victim to Nazism, and Communism, and now they were succumbing to Islamism through their inclination to appease and understand radical terror.



Part 3 pp189-208

Part 3 pp189-208 Summary and Analysis

After moving to Oslo, Baum made sure he kept up with Dutch issues since he believed that integration issues would take a turning point there before any other place. However, the Dutch approach to immigration and integration, was "do your thing and let me do mine" approach, which is ideologically different to the Muslim way where they ostracize non-Muslims and call them infidels.

Ayaan Hirsi Ali was a young Somalian woman living in the Netherlands. She spoke six languages with great ease and when she was living in a woman's shelter she translated among the center representatives and the asylum seekers. She gradually turned away from her Islamic views and was hired by the Labor Party for a think tank position to research the lives of Dutch Muslim women. She wanted to curb immigration, stop the Islamic schools, and work harder to protect women's lives. She knew that Social Democrats were big on protecting the weak, but the weakest people in the Netherlands were Muslim women, and the Social Democrats weren't protecting them because it was politically incorrect to do so. After death threats, Hirsi moved to the U.S. for a few years but returned to the Netherlands to accept a position with the Dutch parliament to continue her activism. She wrote a film called Submission, which was about "the plight of Muslim women." She worked closely with Theo Van Gogh who directed the film and Submission aired on Dutch TV. Weeks after the film debut, its director was butchered on an Amsterdam street. People blamed Van Gogh for his own murder saying that he was insensitive and had "magnificent disregard" for hurting the feelings of Muslims.

Eventually some states began dealing with immigration. Germany began to prohibit headscarves, forced marriage, and there were new immigration rules, which made immigrants take six hundred hours of German language courses and thirty hours of German culture classes. "Operation Sweepout" was a government venture to deport radical Islamists.



Part 3 pp 208-237

Part 3 pp 208-237 Summary and Analysis

Increasing alienation and violence was the major trend in Western Europe. In Britain Home Secretary David Plunkett proposed a bill that would make it illegal to "stir up religious hatred."

When the European Union tried to get its constitution out, the people showed up in large numbers to turn it down. In 2004, it had not been the first draft of the constitution and had not been the first time it was turned down by the first two nations, France and the Netherlands. The people didn't want to accept the terms of the constitution. They wanted change, they wanted freedom, not to fall into the idea of what a united Europe meant in the eyes of the establishment. The establishment's response was to continue trying with the constitution, to keep holding ballots, because maybe one day the outcome will be different. They basically told their people "keep voting until you give us the right answer."

On July 7th, 2005, London was attacked. Prime Minister Tony Blair had had enough. He approached his people in a fashion similar to President Bush and called the terrorists evil and he vowed to destroy them. Britain woke up. Western Europe was waking up. European Muslims, the ones who were against terrorism, that hated the way it defamed their religion and their culture, had to speak out in order to help. The West needs them to speak out, and help them understand how to combat the terrorists that hurt their image. Many people argue that America should just stand back and let the terrorists take over Western Europe because it "serve's 'em right" to have let things get so far. But freedom is the backbone of America, and it is a pride that American's want to share with everyone else. The Netherlands is the prime example of what is happening to the west. For centuries they fought against intruders, worked hard to protect their country from the sea with dykes and dams and worked hard to establish a social democracy with an impeccable welfare system to protect their own at the drop of a dime. Yet now "they'd turned a blind eye to the very peril that would destroy them."



Characters

Bruce Bawer

Bruce Bawer is the writer and narrator of the book, *While Europe Slept*. He is a gay conservative American who has written several books about social injustices and religious extremism. He moves to Europe because he wants to leave the U.S. behind for a while and live in the romanticized cities of Amsterdam and Oslo, though he is not ready for the social phenomena that he encounters. Him and his partner are harassed and attacked physically in an Amsterdam street and nobody comes to their aid. The police won't do anything against their assailants. This behavior is not only seen at the individual level, but at the government and national levels too, where radical Muslims are being given special immunity against normal laws so as not to offend them. Political correctness is what the author says it Europe's problem, and will be their demise if they do not change things up quickly. He travels to other countries examining their social and immigration laws and finds that they are all in the same situation, unable to integrate their immigrants, and unable to stop immigration. He does his best in this book to uncover issues that have been in the shadows since the end of the Cold War.

Radical Muslims

The radical Muslim is the main topic of discussion in this book. These people are traditionalists, fundamentalists, and usually from very rural towns from the Middle East, and Northern Africa. Because they are from rural places, they are very close minded, and are not willing to change their social views against the West. They believe that Westerners are infidels, not worthy of respect, yet they readily accept Western welfare while they help spread their culture of hate through their families, teaching young children to disrespect and warning them about integration. They bring their families to Western nations through family reunification programs and continue building their communities with fresh fundamentalists through forced marriages and wife fetching. Girls born in the Western states are sent back to their parents countries to be educated in fundamentalist schools to better control them. They are later made to marry someone from their town, a cousin preferably, and move back to the Western nation where the cycle continues. Radical Muslims, unlike non-radical Muslims are a danger to society, and the world.

European Establishment

The European establishment is a group of highly educated people who are trained to think for and about the different European nations. They are a civilized group who have evolved to think that war is unnecessary when dialogue can be practiced instead. The establishment has little regard for the common people and is superior to them, treating commoners more like children and they their teachers. The establishment believes



integration can't exist, but that mutual respect can and as long as immigrants are not offended, they can all live peacefully together.

Mullah Krekar

An Iraqi Kurd guerrilla leader. He emigrated from Iraq to Norway as a refugee and later brought over his wife and family members. He founded the Islamic Vision organization of radical Muslims.

Lin ilje Nilsen

A historian who supports establishing a sharia court in Norway to protect minority rights.

Dario Fo

An Italian Nobel Prize winner that stated the U.S. deserved being attacked on 9/11.

Anna Lindh

She is a Swedish minister for foreign affairs and was murdered in September 2003. She held several government offices and was chairman of the Council of the European Union. She was a strong critic against the U.S. and Israel, which she urged people to boycott at all costs. She worked hard to try to ally the Arab world with Europe and was a strong EU advocate. European countries were in love with her, naming streets and buildings after her.

Bat Ye'Or

A writer who warned that Europe will become an Arab colony if it doesn't wake up and face the Arab threat.

Johan Galtung

He is a Scandinavian man and known as the "father of the international peace studies movement.

Olaf Gersemann

A German writer who wrote *Cowboy Capitalism*. The book disproved German ideas about American capitalism and tried to steer the nation into adopting American economic policies.



Pim Fortuyn

The Dutch martyr and leader of the anti-Islamization movement. He believed that radical Muslims were aiming at toppling Western society and that the Netherlands and the rest of Western Europe needed to be more strict with immigration, integrate its immigrants through education policies, and put a stop to policies such as family reunification and forced marriages through emancipation. He was the leader of the Livable Netherlands party but was fired after being too vocal against Islam.

Anders Fogh Rasmussen

Prime Minister of Denmark after 9/11 promised he would change immigration policies and invest in a solid integration packet. He was vilified by other Western European nations as a racist, but he stood his ground.

Helle Merete Brix

A journalist who was ostracized by the Danish writing community for writing a revealing piece on radical Islam.

Lars Hedegaard

A journalist who was ostracized by the Danish writing community for writing a revealing piece on radical Islam.

Uni Wikan

A social anthropology professor and expert on Islamic societies from the University of Oslo. His belief is that immigrants be treated with respect and was asked to propose a government plan for imigrant families and for the rights of immigrant women and children.



Objects/Places

Oslo, Norway

One of the main European cities who was dealing with dangerous immigrants. Oslo had seen almost no immigration at all in its history as a nation, until the Cold War ended and suddenly they were receiving an influx of North Africans and Middle Easterners.

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The city known for its liberalism and freedom for its people to do almost whatever they want to do. It is a city that has had high immigration rates and its freedom is being compromised by its own philosophies on life. Radical Muslims take the freedom for granted, and have turned it around to use at their own advantage without honoring mutual respect of its original people.

Little Norway

An enclave of Norwegian born Pakistanis living in Pakistan.

Sharia law

The law that Muslims, especially fundamentalists, must adhere to in order to please Allah and be good Muslims.

Abu Gharaib Prison

A prison in Baghdad where a few American soldiers abused of the prisoners. It made international headlines, and damaged the reputation of American soldiers.

EAD

EU-Arab Dialogue. A branch of EU government that praises Arab culture and pushes for more understanding of the Arab world.

Potsdamer Platz

A square in Berlin that was the hub of international commerce and architectural inspiration. A prime example of democratic capitalism



London

The capital of Great Britain and the site of the July 7th, 2005 terrorist bombing. This act was what woke Britain up to take action against radical Islam.

Madrid

The capital of Spain and the site of the March 11th, train bombing. This was the first Islamic terrorist attack on Europe after 9/11. It was enough to change the outcome of the Spanish presidential elections.

PEN

A writers association based on freedom of expression and truth in reporting. The Danish chapter was anything but, and ostracized two journalists for writing about the sensitive subjects of religion and immigration.

Malmö

A town in Sweden with a population of 40% non-Swedes. Crime and rape is higher in this city than any other city and since 2004 robberies had gone up by 50% and child rape had doubles in just ten years.

Operation Sweep Out

Germany's attempt to integrate existing immigrants and put a stop to immigrant terrorists.



Themes

European Media

The bias of the European media is targeted towards portraying a Europe that is united in its thoughts of superiority and anti-Americanism. Throughout the book, Bawer gives examples of how the media takes events and manipulates them to be anti-America and anti-Semitic. It has even spun stories to show that honor killing done by Muslims is justified because of the turmoil in the Middle East. One has to wonder whether the media is actually making things worse in Europe by spinning stories so far out of the right and factual light. For instance, there was an incident in the Middle East that was completely fabricated, yet the European media treated it as fact, even after it was uncovered. They ignore real terrorism, and justify it with U.S. invasions stating that the Iraq war has killed just as many people as were killed in 9/11 if not more; so who is the bigger terrorist if not the one that has killed more people. They focus less on the fact that Saddam Hussein massacred his own people and more on the U.S. ousting him from power to liberate his people. Bawer believes that this dangerous spinning is allowing the Islamists to further infiltrate in European land and giving them too much slack. The only reason they are so widely accepted isn't because they integrate well, rather because they are anti-America and anti-Semitic; two traits that are purely European in action, yet never affirmed by theory.

Political Correctness

Bawer writes that the problem with Europe right now is their inability to take charge against failed integration and increased immigration from Muslim nations. The leaders of European nations believe they are being civilized and more evolved by wanting to introduce dialogue to immigrants and by watching to not offend anyone, or hurt feelings. This political correctness would work if it were accepted across the board and between cultures, but the radical Islamic culture has no place for political correctness, nor do they believe in it. Instead, they are using it as a tool against their new Western locales. They use it to their advantage to attack anyone who might offend them and their attempts to take over the Western nations that they live in, the radical Muslims at least. While Norwegian women are being told to cover up and be more conservative, and to learn how to live in a multicultural society to avoid being raped, immigrant children are being taught to spit at the feet of non-Muslims and threaten them at every opportunity. The political correctness is simply making it easier subjugate the Europeans.

Freedom

Freedom means completely different things in Europe and in America. America believes that freedom is never free, and that you have to fight for it and fight to protect it. Freedom in Europe means the freedom to live one's life as they please with no

intervention from anyone else and they are never to. Even though it is completely easy for Americans to physically turn their backs on Europe and make them fight out their problems on their own, this would be against American ideology. America doesn't like to watch and observe a nation being taken over by tyranny, even when the nation doesn't even acknowledge it. It isn't that hard to understand the European side however. They have endured centuries of attacks on their lands. The feudal systems, the Crusades, Inquisitions and the like have all called Europe home. They wanted to try a different approach, a more civilized approach other than barbaric attack. They wanted to talk their feelings out, dialogue was key. But while this would work between European nations, the radical Muslims are still attached to their home countries who don't believe in dialogue or anything other than following imam's who are linked to the preservation of their culture, and the defeat of infidels like Christians and Jews.

Style

Perspective

The book is written in the first person and is an account of Bawer's experience in Europe. He talks about how the Islamists are tearing apart the European nations, and the governments are not doing anything to stop an inevitable take-over of their country. His aim is to reveal what is happening in the social democracies, and how their very nature as governments are making it easier to be abused. Though he is conservative, his lifestyle is anything but which adds to his legitimacy as a reporter and a writer. He wants to get people to open their eyes to the problems in Europe. It feels like the audience would be the American population, just because he knows that a book such as his would not be picked up by European publishers, at least not mass marketed since European writers on this subject have been ostracized for thinking out of European establishment lines.

Tone

The tone is very harsh, revealing, and biased toward Bawer's own beliefs and experiences in Europe. He is clearly a right-wing conservative that is trying to get people to see what is happening in Europe. He often is frustrated at quotes and false bits of information that he reports to us from other European sources. He is very close to his work, very passionate and his experience in the U.S. with religious fundamentalists helps him explain and understand fundamentalists in other countries. The tone is abrasive and strikes the reader like a bat to the head. It is a wake up call to do something, to speak out about Europe and change romanticized views about the country and appreciate the way America has dealt with immigration and integration, though not at all perfect. The tone is an answer to many liberal books that have been written about this subject and to lessen the negative impact that those books have had on America.

Structure

The book is divided into three parts. The first part is about European thought before the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. There were already significant amounts of immigrants in Europe that were clearly anti-America, anti-West. When the 9/11 attacks occurred, it was obvious that there would be a problem trying to control these people, as they rejoiced in the streets. The problem of integration is clearly pointed out and is more of a cultural problem that can't fully be addressed through policy measures. The second part of the book is about Europe after the attacks. Europe believed that the attacks were justified and that America had it coming. The European establishment could justify just about anything that radical Islamists did based on their problem with Israel and U.S. domination. The third part of the book talks about

Europe's rude awakening when Madrid and London were attacked by Islamic terrorists and how some nations scattered to try to solve their integration issues. The book would have been more clear with focused chapters, or maybe two more parts separating main ideas. The author's ideas seemed to run into each other at times, though it was always clear what he was talking about and where he was going. In the end he summed everything up with the initial first paragraphs to give a concise look at what is happening in Europe.



Quotes

"No Muslim can accept secularism, freedom, and democracy. It is Allah alone to legislate how society shall be regulated." Chapter 1 pg. 16

" There's a big difference between a Muslim and an Islamist, just as big as the difference between a German and a Nazi. Chapter 1, pg. 27

""Two men were lying on the ground bleeding while "One World" was being sung two blocks further down. That day they lost their belief in the ideal of a multicultural society in which minorities act together in solidarity." Chapter 1, pg. 39

"Journalistic diversity in Europe is, then, largely illusory." chapter 1 pg. 48

"Western freedom is slavery; only within the confines of strict Muslim law and practice can Muslims find true freedom, in Europe or anywhere else." Chapter 1 pg. 68

"What a wonderful world it would if America were the greatest threat." Chapter 1, pg 86

" It was as if America were a doting parent and they were its spoiled children, treating it with disrespect even as they enjoyed the security of knowing that they were under its absolute protection and would never be allowed to come to harm." Chapter 2 pg. 88

"You reap what you sow, people!" Part 2 Pg. 104

"If Galtung and company had their way, the world would be overrun by rogue regimes while democratic governments stood by, every now and then clearing their throats to respectfully request a meeting."

"Europeans today think the conditions they live in are normal, and that they have always been that way." Part 2 pg. 132

" Freedom and prosperity aren't the default condition of the human species —and that when these things come under threat, a sanguine passivity isn't the best response." Part 2 pg. 132

"American's are supposed to be ignorant of history, Europeans drenched in it. A 2005 survey showed that half of Germans under age twenty-four don't know what the Holocaust was." Part 2 Pg. 151

"In Western Europe there is sympathy for dead Jews; its just the live ones that they cannot tolerate." Part 2, pg. 151

"Tolerance for intolerance is not tolerance at all." Part 3, pg. 166



" For telling a good and incisive religious joke, you should be praised. For telling a bad one, you should be ridiculed and reviled. The idea that you could be prosecuted for the teller of either is quite fantastic." Part 3, pp 212

" You stone your mothers, Whip your sisters, Mutilate your daughters, Behind the veil, But I want to be our friend." Part 3 pp. 216



Topics for Discussion

What events caused Western Europe to feel it was separate from the whole of the West? Why didn't Europe feel it was attached to the U.S. when the World Trade Center was attacked?

After the attacks on 9/11 in New York city, the attacks on 3/11 in Madrid, and the attacks on 7/7 in London, only a margin of people woke up and began recognizing that radical Islamists were to blame. Why were some still skeptical, treating the attacks like natural disasters and not planned destruction? Was it severe denial, ignorance, or arrogance?

The Netherlands, and Amsterdam in particular, is famous for its liberalism and freedom of life. Why then were radical Muslims so honed on destroying that city and country that ave them so much aid and help to live their lives the way they pleased?

Most of the ideas in the book are based on the European establishments views on immigration. What do you think the common European thinks about immigration? Do you think that they support or oppose the laws that their governments are passing or proposing? Would it differ from country to country?

Europeans are very comfortable with living in their own respective worlds and defining themselves by what they are and what they are not. This is part of the problem with integration, since they believe immigrants could never

Is Europe aiding the start of a second holocaust by allowing radical Muslims to threaten Jews, Christians, and non-Muslims the way they do?

Given the information in this book and the current state of world affairs, where do you think Europe is going?

How extreme is political correctness in the U.S.? Is it as important as in Europe?