

Fallout: The Hiroshima Coverup by Lesley Blume

Discuss your answers to the following questions.

1. Did you read the book Hiroshima by John Hersey? If so, what was your reaction? Compare and contrast it to The Hiroshima Cover-Up.
2. Author Lesley Blume said “I wanted to find a narrative that would help remind Americans how crucial independent journalism is, and how deadly and widespread the consequences would be without it.” Do you think she succeeded?
3. Do you think people today suffer from “atrocities” fatigue? (Afghanistan, Haiti, dictators, floods, hurricanes, etc.) Contrast this with people reading about the bombing of Japan after WW2.
4. In your opinion, can books serve as a deterrent against future use of nuclear weapons?
5. Were you intrigued by Blume’s investigative efforts?
6. Was this book more about war/bombings or journalism or something else?
7. Were you surprised by Blume’s description of post WW2 censorship? Are there any lessons from that time that are relevant today?
8. How can we support local and/or independent journalism?

Discussion Questions by Judy Cenkus