

## Barman: Ping-Pong, Pathos, and Passing the Bar

Alex Wellen

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#3652521 in Books 2003-09-16 2003-09-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.52 x 1.08 x 6.37l, #File Name: 1400048915320 pages | File size: 76.Mb

**Alex Wellen : Barman: Ping-Pong, Pathos, and Passing the Bar** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Barman: Ping-Pong, Pathos, and Passing the Bar:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Do not read if anywhere near taking the bar!By margieebelf you are a neurotic 3L fast approaching the bar like me, this is NOT a good choice for leisurely reading! Heck, if you are at any stage in law school, pre-bar experience, this is probably not a good choice. It will freak you out. Like crippling, must hide the book out of my sight NOW fear! There are detailed descriptions of how many hours a day he spent

between BarBri and individual studying. There are detailed descriptions of the actual essay questions and how he approached them. We all know the bar will be tough and I found out that reading pages and pages of someone else's experience was not a healthy choice for my mental well-being. Maybe when I have passed the bar, I can pick this book up and chuckle about that rough patch in my life, but right now... I'm not mentally stable enough to handle that!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. DifferentBy joemanLike other reviewers have said he does bitch about his law school ranking throughout the entire book. Stating the rank of everyone he meets law school gets annoying. Other than that it is a very good book. I have read several books that are very similar to this... law school, law firm.... but the main focus in *BARMAN* was... the bar exam (if you couldn't tell) which is rarely in other similar books, so its nice to see that part of the story. GOOD BOOK.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Trust me.By J. A. ThomasThis book is positively mesmerizing. I think that you will find it to be quite difficult to put down once you begin to read it. Alex Wellen has a very down-to-earth writing style and his words have the effect of drawing you seamlessly into his story. Anyone who has ever struggled through the challenges and self-doubt that are the stepping stones to achieving a hard-earned goal will find common ground with this story -- and that accounts for most of us. Wellen has blended passion, humor, and angst into his story, and I suspect that the harmony which he achieves in this eclectic mixture of emotions is no less the product of his skillful writing as it is a reflection of his own true self. This is one of those rare books which finds you rushing to get to the conclusion but a little sad when you finally reach it because you find that you have become attached to the characters. I highly recommend it.

Alex Wellen is an excited, ambitious, and overwhelmed twenty-something law student trying to integrate into one of the most powerful and promise-filled cities in the world New York. As he moves from graduating student to licensed lawyer the second most important nine months he ever spent gestating Alex fantasizes about the glitzy, high-powered lifestyle of a Manhattan attorney. He imagines hobnobbing with the elite, eating at the best restaurants, and being a guest at the most coveted social events but in this city of overachievers, he is reminded every step of the way that he did not go to Harvard. Can he overcome the professions snobbery by wearing overpriced ties from Barneys, seat-filling at the VH1 fashion awards, cavorting with B-list celebrities, and throwing TriBeCa loft parties? Is it enough for him to look and play the part? Along the way, we meet his fellow sufferers in the dread-inducing bar exam cram courses, his girlfriends and roommate, the law firm recruiters interested in hiring him (and those who aren't), and the new associates who work with him at a high-profile law firm, some of whom, the odds are, won't pass the bar. Savvy and entertaining, Wellen's story is *The Paper Chase* meets *Sex and the City* a career memoir for anyone who has discovered his or her life's goal, yet must overcome tremendous obstacles to attain it. *Barman* is an honest, revealing, and hilarious portrait of a lawyer as a young man.

From Booklist We enter Wellen's fascinating life when he's a second-year law-school student, in the middle of a grueling round of interviews for a summer associate position--a coveted post granted to only a select few, where struggling students burn the midnight hours for some big law firm the summer before their last year in exchange for a taste of a real associate's salary. Wellen had his share of not-so-great interviews but managed to land a good gig nonetheless, in spite of his being from a "Tier-2" school (an unfortunate designation resulting from the famous--or infamous, depending on your perspective-- U.S. News World Report law-school ranking system). Wellen suffered through the summer and his final year of law school and, bam, the real battle began as he prepared for the New York bar exam. With wit and deserved irreverence, Wellen equates this nine-month ordeal with human gestation, even dividing it into three trimesters (taking the bar, waiting for the results, and being a licensed attorney). His portrayal of these unsure days is right on, evoking the turmoil and thrill all at once. Mary Frances Wilkens Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved From the Inside Flap Alex Wellen is an excited, ambitious, and overwhelmed twenty-something law student trying to integrate into one of the most powerful and promise-filled cities in the world New York. As he moves from graduating student to licensed lawyer the second most important nine months he ever spent "gestating" Alex fantasizes about the glitzy, high-powered lifestyle of a Manhattan attorney. He imagines hobnobbing with the elite, eating at the best restaurants, and being a guest at the most coveted social events but in this city of overachievers, he is reminded every step of the way that he did not go to Harvard. Can he overcome the profession's snobbery by wearing overpriced ties from Barneys, seat-filling at the VH1 fashion awards, cavorting with B-list celebrities, and throwing TriBeCa loft parties? Is it enough for him to look and play the part? Along the way, we meet his fellow sufferers in the dread-inducing bar exam cram courses, his girlfriends and roommate, the law firm recruiters interested in hiring him (and those who aren't), and the new associates who work with him at a high-profile law firm, some of whom, the odds are, won't pass the bar. Savvy and entertaining, Wellen's story is *The Paper Chase* meets *Sex and the City* a career memoir for anyone who has discovered his or her life's goal, yet must overcome tremendous obstacles to attain it. *Barman* is an honest, revealing, and hilarious portrait of a lawyer as a young man. About the Author ALEX WELLEN co-created, executive-produced, and co-hosted the award-winning high-tech crime newsmagazine program *CyberCrime* on the TechTV cable television network. His columns, breaking news stories, and contributions appear in print and on radio and television, including NBC News, ABC News, CNN, and

MSNBC. He is currently an independent producer and freelance writer living in San Francisco. Visit his website at [www.alexwellen.com](http://www.alexwellen.com).