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'A list of exceptional writers' THE GUARDIAN

'An outstanding independent house ... always a superb source of books from and about the Arab world' THE INDEPENDENT

'Saqi plays an invaluable role in making available pioneering, specialist and often controversial books that large publishers refuse to go near' THE TIMES

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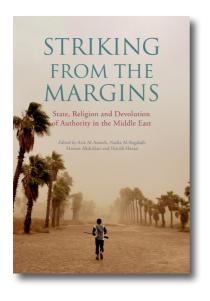
SAQI

Saqi is a leading independent publisher of trade and academic books on the Middle East and North Africa. Publishing in a wide range of fields, from history and gender studies, to art and literature, Saqi is the go-to place for conversations on the region's most pressing issues, and to discover its rich cultural heritage. Some of our bestsellers include *The Crusades Through Arab Eyes* by Amin Maalouf, *Beyond the Veil* by Fatema Mernissi and *The Arabic Alphabet* by Nick Awde and Putros Samano.

Striking from the Margins

State, Religion and Devolution of Authority in the Middle East

Edited by Aziz Al-Azmeh, Nadia Al-Bagdadi, Harout Akdedian and Harith Hasan



Politics / Society March 2021 £35 368pp Paperback Original Royal ISBN 978 0 86356 139 9 eISBN 978 0 86356 500 7 Territories: World This timely volume offers a new approach to the study of the volatile social and political landscapes in the Middle East

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Arab world has undergone a series of radical transformations. One of the most significant is the resurgence of activist and puritanical forms of religion presenting as viable alternatives to existing social, cultural and political practices. The rise in sectarianism and violence in the name of religion has left scholars searching for adequate conceptual tools that might generate a clearer insight into these interconnected conflicts.

In Striking from the Margins, leading authorities in their field propose new analytical frameworks to facilitate greater understanding of the fragmentation and devolution of the state in the Arab world. Challenging the revival of well-worn theories in cultural and post-colonial studies, they provide novel contributions on issues ranging from military formations, political violence in urban and rural settings, transregional war economies, the crystallisation of sectbased authorities and the restructuring of tribal networks

Aziz Al-Azmeh is Professor Emeritus and Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of History at the Central European University (CEU), Hungary. **Nadia Al-Bagdadi** is Professor of History and Director of the Institute of Advanced Study at CEU.

We Wrote in Symbols

Love and Lust by Arab Women Writers Edited by Selma Dabbagh

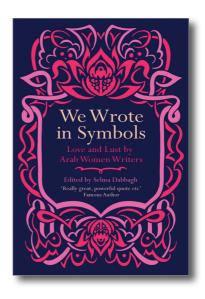
This ground-breaking collection celebrates the sensual works of 75 writers, who articulate their own desires with artistry and skill

We Wrote in Symbols brings together over three thousand years of writing, from award-winning authors such as Hanan al-Shaykh, Leïla Slimani and Ahdaf Soueif, to emerging writers published here in English for the first time.

Their stories and poems range from forbidden missives, sexual awakenings and the raptures of loving unions. Here underground Parisian bars and unmade beds await. From a masked rendezvous in a Spanish circus to a taste of love over the internet, there is no such thing as a typical sexual encounter, as this exhilarating anthology shows.

Conveying with quiet power the complexities and intrigues of desire, this intimate collection invites you to share their characters' most private moments and wildest fantasies.

'Fierce, captivating, revolutionary. A dazzling collection that will win hearts and change minds.' Elif Shafak



Literature
April 2021
£14.99
320pp
Paperback Original Demy
ISBN 978 0 86356 397 3
eISBN 978 0 78056 495 6
Territories: World

Selma Dabbagh is a British Palestinian writer of fiction whose debut novel *Out of It* (Bloomsbury) was a *Guardian* Book of the Year. Dabbagh's BBC R4 play *The Brick* was nominated for the Imison Award, and her writing has been published in *Granta* and *Wasafiri*, and translated into several languages.

Midnight in Cairo

The Female Stars of Egypt's Roaring '20s Raphael Cormack



History / Culture and Society
May 2021
£20
352pp
Hardback Royal
16 b&w photographs
ISBN 978 0 86356 313 3
eISBN 978 0 86356 338 6
Territories: World ex North America

The thrilling story of Egypt's interwar nightlife and entertainment industry told through the lives of its most pioneering women

1920s Cairo: singers were pressing hit records, dramatic troupes were springing up and cabarets were packed – a counterculture was on the rise. In bars, hash-dens and music halls, people of all backgrounds came together as a passionate group of artists captivated Egyptian society.

Of these performers, Cairo's biggest stars were female, and they asserted themselves on the stage like never before. Two of the most famous troupes were run by women; Badia Masabni's dancehall became the hottest nightspot in town; and legendary singer Oum Kalthoum first rose to fame. It is these women, who knew both the opportunities and prejudices that this world offered, who best reveal this cosmopolitan and raucous city's secrets.

Introducing an eccentric cast of characters, *Midnight in Cairo* brings to life a world of revolutionary ideas and provocative art. It is a story of modern Cairo as we have never heard it before.

Raphael Cormack is the editor of *The Book of Cairo* and the co-editor of *The Book of Khartoum*. His writing on Arabic literature, culture and history has appeared in the *London Review of Books, Prospect, TLS* and *Apollo Magazine*, among others.



'Beguiling and original' Marina Warner 'Fascinating ... a must-read' Alaa Al Aswany 'A book full of surprises' Ahdaf Soueif

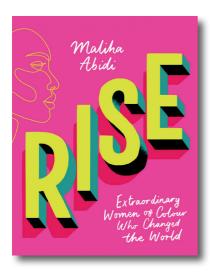
'Utterly unique ...
these entertainers were true
feminists who defied the societal
norms of their time. This is an
inspiring gem of a book.'
Hanan Al Shaykh

'Packed with pizzazz and fizzing with naughtiness ...
Cormack puts the leading ladies of Egyptian nightlife back where they belong: centre stage.'

Justin Marozzi

Rise

Extraordinary Women of Colour Who Changed the World Maliha Abidi



Gift Book/Women in History July 2021 £20 216pp Hardback 240 x 175 mm 100 colour illustrations ISBN 978 0 86356 137 5 eISBN 978 0 86356 167 2 Territories: World A beautifully illustrated, inspirational celebration of women of colour from around the world

Rise celebrates the true stories of over 100 women of colour who achieved the extraordinary. From the woman who built the first university in the world to the Emirate's leading racing driver, these writers, activists, dancers, mountaineers, mathematicians and educators achieved greatness thanks to their ingenuity, courage and determination, often in the face of seemingly insurmountable hurdles

Accompanied by striking portraits, these female icons are celebrated front and centre. Ranging from personal heroes to household names from more than fifty countries, prepare to be awed and inspired by these unparalleled women who have changed the world. *Rise* is a global message of hope and empowerment for generations to come.

'An incredibly inspiring artist' Glamour UK

'Exquisite paintings' Metro

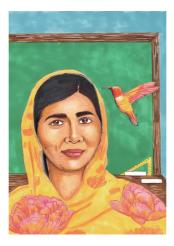
Maliha Abidi is an artist and illustrator of Pakistani origin. She has worked with renowned organisations such as the United Nations, Adobe, Rebel Girls and Peace Corporation, and has been featured in the BBC, Good Morning America and Malala Fund. Her acclaimed debut, *Pakistan for Women*, celebrated fifty extraordinary Pakistani women.













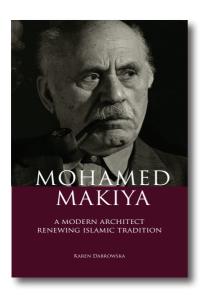






Mohamed Makiya

A Modern Architect Renewing Islamic Tradition Karen Dabrowska



Biography / Iraq
July 2021
£20
272pp
Hardback Demy
30 colour illustrations
ISBN 978 0 86356 416 1
eISBN 978 0 86356 481 9
Territories: World

A fascinating biography of one of the Middle East's greatest architects whose life story is intrinsically connected to that of Iraq

'Makiya was Baghdad and Baghdad was Makiya.' These words sum up the life of one of the Middle East's most famous architects, whose career spanned seven decades and included projects in more than ten countries. Mohamed Makiya was a master of incorporating traditional styles into modern architecture, whose work metamorphised Abbasid forms into modern architecture. For Makiya, the continuity of tradition as a 'living dimension' was the justification for his work.

Makiya was also revered as a teacher who inspired hundreds of students of architecture in Iraq, where he set up the first Department of Architecture in Baghdad University in 1959. Makiya was also a promoter of Iraqi art, which he displayed at his Kufa Gallery in London that had been set up to build a bridge between the East and the West

This compelling biography reveals the life of a visionary who achieved remarkable feats in Iraq and whose philosophy and humanity crossed all borders and cultures.

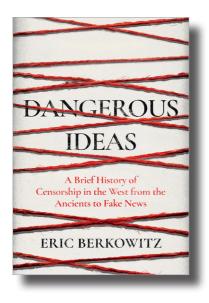
Karen Dabrowska is a journalist, writer and currently the development officer for the Sudanese National Council. She was previously the editor of *New Horizon* magazine, and the London correspondent for the Jana News Agency. Her other publications include *Iraq: The Ancient Sites* and *Iraq Bradt Travel Guide*.

The Westbourne Press

Publishing thoughtful and entertaining works of non-fiction, this imprint travels around the world, offering engaging, intellectual enquiries into the leading issues of our time. Alongside launching Dangerous Ideas: A Brief History of Censorship in the West by bestselling author Eric Berkowitz, this year we also welcome three new authors. From Joelle Taylor's mind-blowing, electric poetry and Lyn Innes's extraordinary family history, to magic historian Ian Keable's fascinating insight into eighteenth-century hoaxes, these books are guaranteed to inspire and spark ideas.

Dangerous Ideas

A Brief History of Censorship in the West, from the Ancients to Fake News Eric Berkowitz



History

June 2021 £20 384pp Hardback Royal ISBN 978 1 908906 42 7 eISBN 978 1 908906 45 8 Territories: World ex. North America

A fascinating and thought-provoking history of censorship, filled with jaw-dropping, illuminating facts

The urge to censor is as old as the urge to speak. In this compelling account, Eric Berkowitz reveals why and how humanity has, from the beginning, sought to silence itself. Ranging from the absurd – such as Henry VIII's decree of death for anyone who 'imagined' his demise – to claims by American slave owners that abolitionist literature should be supressed because it hurt their feelings, Berkowitz takes the reader on an unruly ride through history, highlighting the use of censorship to reinforce class, race and gender privilege and guard against offence.

Elucidating phrases like 'fake news' and 'hate speech', *Dangerous Ideas* exposes the dangers of erasing history, how censorship has shaped our modern society and what forms it is taking today – and to what disturbing effects.

'A magnificent book, original in its scope' Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean, University of California

'A hugely entertaining and important book'
Nadine Strossen, former president of the ACLU

Eric Berkowitz is a lawyer and journalist. He has published investigative pieces in the *New York Times* and *LA Times*, and his other works *include Sex and Punishment: 4000 Years of Judging Desire*. Berkowitz maintains a public interest law practice where he represents victims of sexual violence seeking asylum in the US.

C+NTO

And Other Poems

Joelle Taylor

Electrifying collection exploring the underground lesbian culture by a pioneer of the British spoken word scene

The female body is a political space. C+NTO enters the private lives of characters from the butch counterculture, telling the inside story of the protests these women led to reclaim their bodies as their own – for self-expression and against hatred. History, magic, rebellion, party and sermon vibrate through Joelle Taylor's cantos, which celebrate these 90s' underground communities.

Taylor writes into the silence surrounding masculine women and shows how personal narrative can become a political act. Part-memoir and part-conjecture, she explores sexuality and gender in poetry that is lyrical, expansive, imagistic, epic and intimate. C+NTO is a love poem, a riot, a late night and an honouring.

'Taylor's poetry roars and soars and conjures up the most extraordinary images to express the unsayable, the shocking and ultimately the great compassion she feels for women.'

Bernardine Evaristo

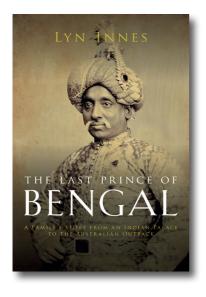
C+nto and other Poems Joelle Taylor

Poetry / LGBTQ+
June 2021
£10.99
96pp
Paperback Original Bformat
ISBN 978 1 908906 48 9
eISBN 978 1 908906 49 6
Territories: World

Joelle Taylor is an award-winning poet, playwright and author. She founded SLAMbassadors, the UK's youth slam championships, is a Fellow of the RSA and the host and co-curator of Out-Spoken, the UK's premier poetry and music club, currently resident at the Southbank Centre.

The Last Prince of Bengal

A Family's Journey from an Indian Palace to the Australian Outback Lyn Innes



Social History / Biography August 2021 £20 256pp Hardback Royal 35 b&w illustrations ISBN 978 1 908906 46 5 eISBN 978 1 908906 47 2 Territories: World The extraordinary story of a royal family's fall from power, exposing the prejudices at the heart of British rule in India

The Nawab Nazim was born into one of India's most powerful royal families, whose kingdom was three times the size of Great Britain. However, in 1880, the British authorities forced him to abdicate and permanently abolished his titles. The Nawab's change in fortune marked the end of an era in India and left his secret English family abandoned.

The Last Prince of Bengal tells the true story of the Nawab Nazim, his wife and their descendants, as they sought by turns to befriend, settle in and eventually escape Britain. From glamourous receptions with Queen Victoria to a scandalous Muslim marriage with an English chambermaid, Lyn Innes recounts her family's extraordinary journey from royalty to relative anonymity, visiting the extremes of British rule in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

'Lyn Innes explores her ancestors' history in moving detail, capturing the tragic story of the dethroned princes of Bengal.' Shrabani Basu, author of *Victoria and Abdul*

Lyn Innes is Emeritus Professor of Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Kent. She is the author of numerous works exploring African, Australian, Indian, Irish and Black British writing, including *A History of Black and South Asian Writing in Britain*.

The Century of Deception

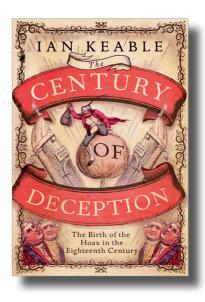
The Birth of the Hoax in the Eighteenth Century

Ian Keable

'Fake news', 'going viral' and 'social media' may be modern terms, but as this entertaining book shows, these concepts have been with us for centuries

In 1749, a newspaper advertisement appeared declaring that a man would climb inside a bottle on the stage of a London theatre. Although the crowds turned up in their hundreds to witness the trick, the performer didn't. Over the following decades, elaborate jokes and fanciful tales would continue to bamboozle people across England.

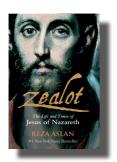
In *The Century of Deception*, magician and magic historian Ian Keable tells the engrossing stories of these eighteenth-century hoaxes and those who were duped by them. The English public were hoodwinked time and time again, swallowing whole tales of rapping ghosts, a woman who gave birth to rabbits, a levitating Frenchman in a Chinese Temple and outrageous astrological predictions. Not only were the hoaxes widely influential, drawing in celebrities such as Samuel Johnson, Benjamin Franklin and Jonathan Swift, but they also inflamed concerns about 'English credulity'.



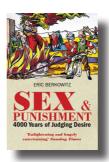
British History/Magic

September 2021 £20 320pp Hardback Royal 28 b&w illustrations ISBN 978 1 908906 44 1 elSBN 978 1 908906 45 8 Territories: World ex. North America

Ian Keable is a professional magician who has won several awards for his unique brand of comedy magic. He has made numerous appearances on television and has presented programmes for BBC Radio. His publications include *Stand-Up: A Professional Guide to Comedy Magic* and *Charles Dickens Magician: Conjuring in Life, Letters and Literature.*



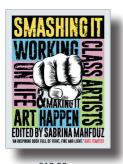
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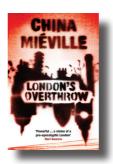
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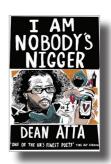
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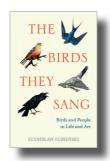
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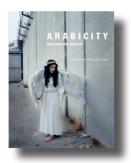


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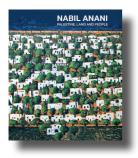
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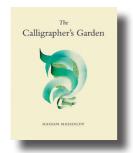
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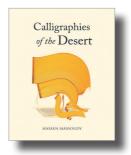
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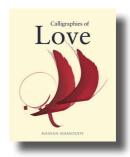
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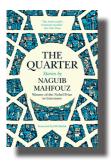


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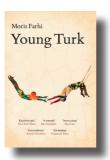


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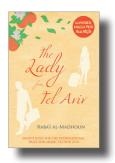
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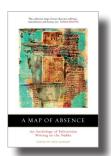


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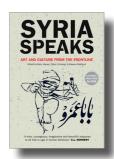
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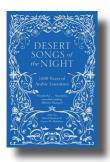
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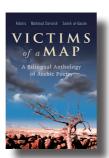
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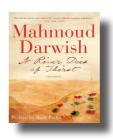
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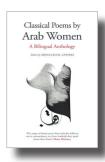
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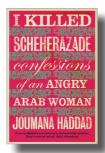
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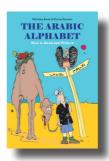
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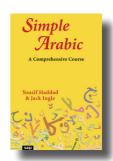
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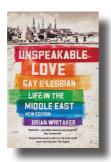


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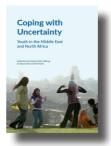
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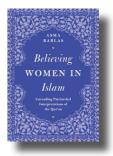




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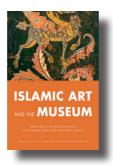
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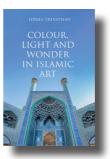
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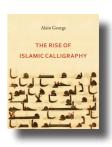
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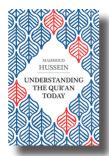
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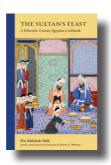
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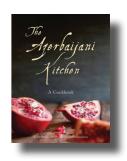
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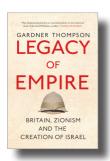


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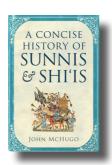


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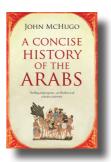
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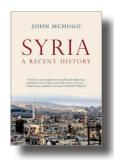
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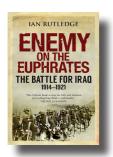
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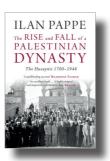
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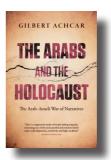
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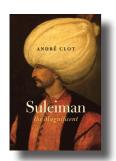
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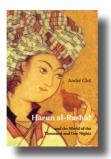
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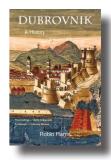
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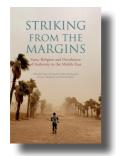
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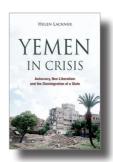
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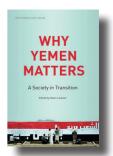
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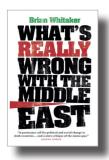
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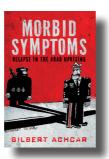
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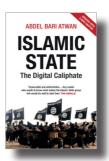
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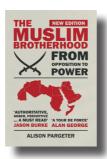
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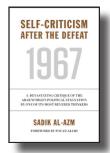
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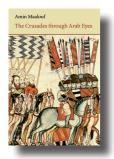


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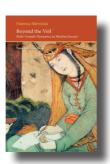


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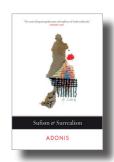
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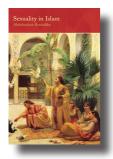
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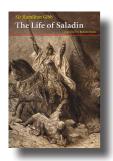
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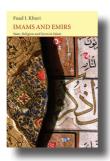
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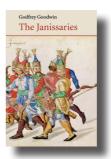
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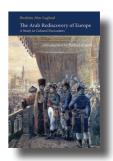
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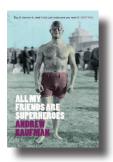
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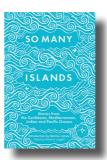
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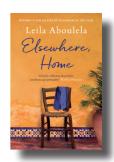
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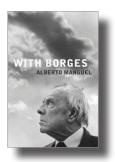
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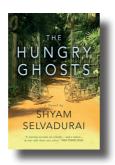
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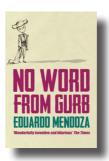
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