



SAQI
2026

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www.saqibooks.com

WELCOME TO SAQI'S 2026 catalogue. For over four decades, Saqi has championed bold, vital voices from the Middle East, Africa and beyond. We remain committed to a global community of readers, writers, artists and publishers who believe, as we do, that literature is both a gift and a responsibility – to each other and to the world we inhabit.

This year, our books confront urgent questions of memory, belonging, power and resistance, inviting us to look anew at the world, and our place within it.

Palestine is at the heart of this season. Hala Alyan's moving memoir *I'll Tell You When I'm Home* traces her intimate journey through the crises of motherhood, loss and identity, inextricably entwined with her Palestinian heritage. *Love is Resistance* gathers 77 posters by leading international artists and performers – a striking visual testament of solidarity, with all proceeds donated to the Ajyal Foundation.

Sinan Antoon's breathtaking novel *Notes From a Lost Country* explores memory and trauma through the lives of two Iraqis navigating exile in America. In *The Blood Between Us*, Robin Yassin-Kassab captures a pivotal moment in Syria's history as it struggles to emerge from six decades of dictatorship.

We turn to the roots of racism in Andrew S. Curran's groundbreaking *The Race Makers*, which shows how Enlightenment thinkers gave slavery a new 'scientific' legitimacy, turning prejudice into ideology. In *Where the Earth Meets the Sky*, a pioneering conservation biologist captures the stark beauty and fragility of Antarctica, revealing how climate change is transforming one of Earth's last great wildernesses.

In 2025, Saqi was proud to become the first independent publisher chosen for The Reading Agency's *Quick Reads* programme. Eleven thousand copies of Leila Aboulela's novella *A New Year* reached libraries, shelters, hospitals and prisons across the UK – a reminder that books can travel where they are needed most. The year closed in celebration as Aboulela received the PEN Pinter Prize, awarded for her fierce intellectual determination to define the truth of our lives and societies.

Thank you for reading, for sharing, and for keeping the spirit of inquiry alive.

Lynn Gaspard
Publisher

SAQI

Founded in 1983 from the pioneering Al Saqi Bookshop, Saqi amplifies bold, original voices from the Middle East, Africa and beyond. Drawn from classical Arabic poetry, the name *Saqi* evokes the cupbearer, a symbol of knowledge, spirit and generosity. It embodies our mission: to publish literature that challenges dominant narratives, fosters cultural understanding and sparks vital conversations.



Limited Edition / Art

October 2025

£70

180pp

Paperback Original 380x270mm

77 colour illustrations / English & Arabic

ISBN 978-1-84925-122-8

Territories: World

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE
 Brian Eno, Massive Attack, 5 Turner
 Prize winners (Jeremy Deller, 2004;
 Lawrence Abu Hamdan, 2019; Tai
 Shani, 2019; Jesse Darling, 2023; Jasleen
 Kaur, 2024); 1 Turner Prize nominee,
 1 Golden Lion winner.



NEXT READ

**Archiving Gaza
 in the Present**

978-1-84925-097-9

£25.00

Love Is Resistance

77 Tear-Out Posters for Palestine

Edited by Aya Mousawi

Foreword by Ahmed Shihab-Eldin

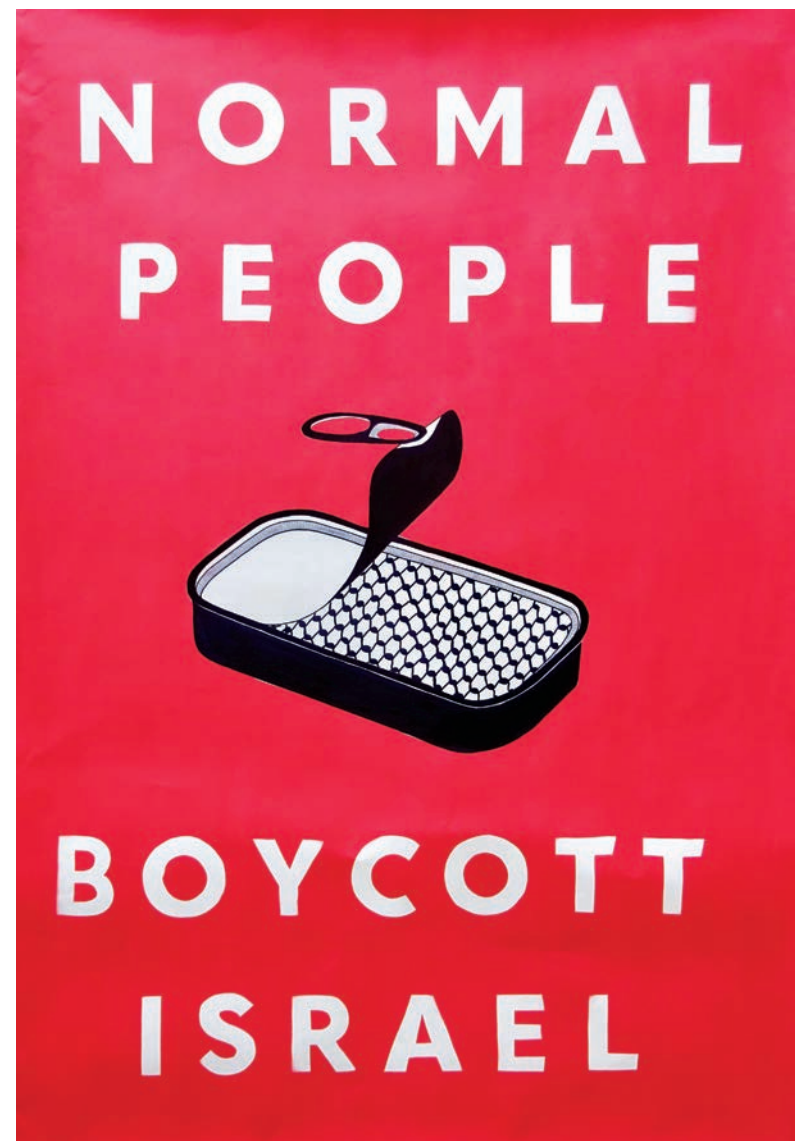
*A beautiful, collectible, limited edition
 book of posters in solidarity with Palestine*

Love is Resistance is a collection of 77 commissioned posters by artists, musicians, writers, designers, filmmakers, actors, digital creators and voices from across the world standing in solidarity with Palestine. Each poster tells its own story – recalling iconic figures, pivotal moments, poems and personal acts of remembrance – and bears witness to grief while insisting on life, justice and liberation.

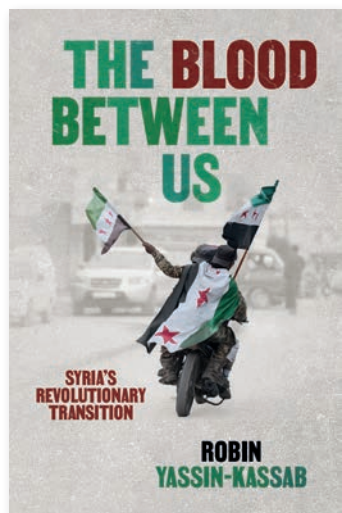
The posters can be torn out, framed and hung, taken to peaceful protests or kept together as an archive. This art book also includes a double-sided fold-out sticker insert, a signed set of Kyle Goen's iconic GAZA Love stamps and three posters drawn by children in Gaza, collected by the Ajyal Foundation.

Bold, heartbreaking and defiantly hopeful, *Love is Resistance* is a tribute to Palestinian resilience and a tool for global solidarity. This is art as resistance and solidarity in action.

All proceeds donated to the Ajyal Foundation, providing long-term rehabilitation for children in Gaza and urgent support to displaced communities since October 2023



© Protest Stencil, 2021. Protest Stencil installed this poster at London bus stop advertisement spaces in solidarity with Sally Rooney following her decision to not sell translation rights to an Israeli publisher for her book *Normal People*.



The Blood Between Us

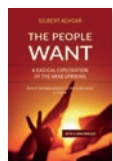
Syria's Revolutionary Transition

Robin Yassin-Kassab

Syria at the tipping point – between freedom, fracture and the fight for a future

Current Affairs / History
June 2026
£20
288pp
Hardback Royal
ISBN 978-1-84925-106-8
Territories: World

ROBIN YASSIN-KASSAB is a noted British Syrian writer and journalist. He has been commenting on the Syrian Revolution and war since 2011 with by-lines in *The Guardian*, *Foreign Policy* and *Newsweek*. He is the author, with Leila al-Shami, of the critically acclaimed *Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War* (shortlisted for the Folio Prize) and a novel, *The Road to Damascus*.



NEXT READ

The People Want
978-0-86356-477-2
£16.99

In just eleven blistering days, a rebel offensive shattered one of the world's most entrenched regimes, ending six decades of Baathist rule and the Assad family's grip on Syria. The speed of the collapse stunned observers – yet it was no sudden fall, but the climax of a revolution years in the making, born of repression and resistance.

The liberation brought celebrations and freedoms unseen for generations. But the cost was staggering, the wounds still raw. As Syrians face an uncertain future, urgent questions remain: Will justice and reconciliation prevail, or will division, grievance and foreign interventions reignite the cycle of violence?

Blending analysis, reportage and personal testimony, *The Blood Between Us* captures a pivotal turning point in Syria's history. Robin Yassin-Kassab offers a textured portrait of a nation on the cusp, facing both immense risk and revolutionary promise.

A Passage to Europe

The Astonishing Travels of an Indian Prince in the Age of Revolutions

Rahul Markovits

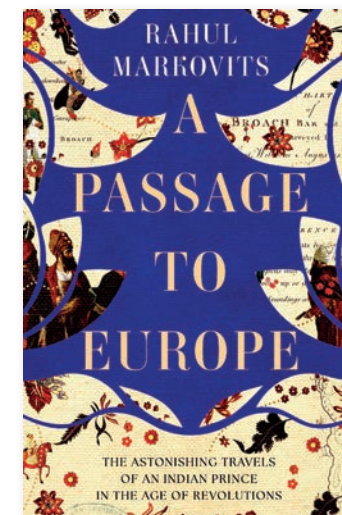
From Gujarat to Constantinople, Paris to London – the true story of a prince, a spy and a mystery

What was an Indian prince doing in the retinue of a French envoy at Constantinople in 1796? When Sultan Selim III, struck by the unusual sight of a fellow Muslim in a French cortège, asked how this prince had come to be there, Ahmad Khan began to tell him his extraordinary story.

A Passage to Europe traces Ahmad Khan's journey from Gujarat to Constantinople, revolutionary France, London and back again. His voyage began with the annexation of Broach by the East India Company. Twenty years later, he reached London to seek redress. The British government paid his expenses, but although his tale was true, Khan was not the man he claimed to be. Branded a spy, he was arrested, and then simply vanished.

Following the elusive paper trail, Rahul Markovits brings to life the astonishing odyssey of this unlikely traveller, revealing a story of empire, intrigue and deception at the dawn of the modern age.

'Outstanding ... impressively original in its approach.' **Polly O'Hanlon**



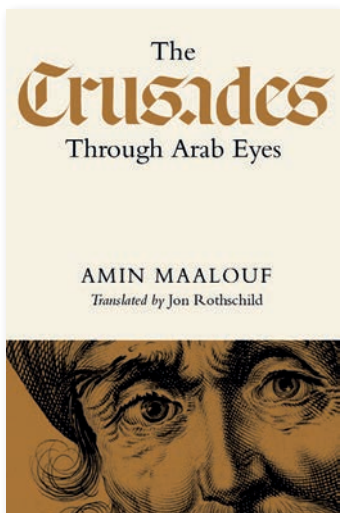
History
May 2026
£25
352pp
Hardback Royal
20 b&w illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-095-5
Territories: World exc. India

RAHUL MARKOVITS is Associate Professor in early modern history at the École normale supérieure, Paris. His work focuses on transnational cultural exchange during the 18th century. He was awarded the 2012 Baluze Prize in European history and won the Walker Cowen Memorial Prize 2016. He is based in Paris.



NEXT READ

The Last Prince of Bengal
978-1-90890-651-9
£10.99



History

September 2026

£18.99

296pp

Hardback Royal

ISBN 978-1-84925-119-8

Territories: World ex. North America

AMIN MAALOUF is an award-winning French Lebanese novelist, essayist and memoirist. His novels have been translated into more than fifty languages and include *The Rock of Tanios*, which won France's most prestigious literary award, the Prix Goncourt. Maalouf is a member of the Académie française and in 2010 was awarded the Prince of Asturias Award for Literature for his entire oeuvre.



NEXT READ

An Imam in Paris

978-0-86356-407-9

£21.99

The Crusades Through Arab Eyes

Amin Maalouf

Translated from French by Jon Rothschild

A new luxury gift edition celebrating forty years of a landmark classic – a work that reshaped our view of history

In August 1099, Abu Saad al-Harawi, a judge from Damascus, stormed into the Caliph's court in Baghdad, condemning its luxury while Muslims in Syria and Palestine were slaughtered by the Frankish invaders. With this charged scene, Amin Maalouf opens his exhilarating narrative history of two centuries of war that, nearly a millennium later, still cast their shadow on Arab-Western relations.

The Crusaders' first major triumph came with the sack of Jerusalem in 1099. After two days of carnage, not a single Muslim was left alive within the city walls. Yet it would take another fifty years before the Arab East mounted a united resistance.

Maalouf recounts in gripping detail the fall of city after city: Antioch, betrayed from within; Tripoli, besieged and stripped of its priceless library; Ma'arra, where the Franj committed unspeakable atrocities. Against this devastation, he sketches vivid portraits of the Arabs who rose in response: Nur al-Din, the 'Saint-King' who forged the first united defence of Muslim nations, and Saladin, the reluctant leader who would ultimately reclaim Jerusalem.

'Well-researched
... highly readable'

The Guardian

'An inspiring story ...
warmly recommended'

Times Literary Supplement

'Outstanding ... a story
and historical discussion
rolled into one'

*Washington Post
on Middle East Affairs*



A Brief Introduction to Arabic Medicine

Ghada Karmi

Brief Introductions series

A concise guide to the foundation and legacy of medicine in the Arab world

Medicine
October 2026
£9.99
128pp
Bformat Paperback
ISBN 978-1-84925-125-9

GHADA KARMI is a prominent Palestinian activist, academic and writer, born in Jerusalem in 1939 and forced into exile during the 1948 Nakba. She trained as a doctor and has a PhD in the history of Arabic medicine. Karmi's influential writing includes her memoirs, *In Search of Fatima* and *Return*.

Since the ninth century, Arab physicians have played a transformative role in the development of medicine, refining the healing traditions inherited from ancient Mesopotamia and beyond. Over a millennium ago, Arab saydalīyāt (pharmacies) were stocked with camphor, cloves, myrrh, syrups, juleps and rosewater. Herbal remedies flourished across the Middle East, and ingredients such as basil, oregano, thyme, fennel, anise, liquorice, coriander, rosemary, nutmeg and cinnamon travelled through Arab hands to European tables.

Arab doctors were pioneers in diagnosing and treating some of antiquity's most devastating diseases, including the plague, as well as conditions that continue to afflict us today – from mental health disorders to psychosomatic illnesses.

In this illuminating introduction, Ghada Karmi explores the remarkable achievements of Arab medicine and its enduring influence on medical practice around the world.



NEXT READ

An Brief Introduction to Astronomy in the Middle East
978-0-86356-428-4
£9.99

A Brief Introduction to Palestinian Literature

Atef Alshaer

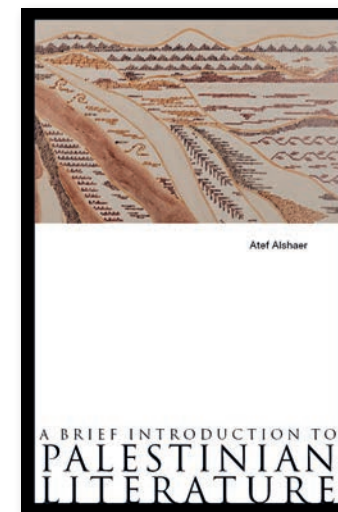
Brief Introductions series

From resistance to remembrance: an introduction to Palestinian literature in the last century

Born in the upheavals of colonial rule and national dispossession, Palestinian literature has long been a vital expression of identity, resilience and imagination. From the earliest anti-colonial writings under the British Mandate to the urgent voices that emerged after the Nakba of 1948 and Naksa of 1967, Palestinian writers have forged a body of work that speaks powerfully to both local struggles and global audiences.

This book offers an accessible introduction to Palestinian literature, tracing its evolution across key historical moments and exploring how it has navigated themes of resistance, exile, loss and hope. It also considers the shifting landscape of post-resistance literature in the wake of the Oslo Accords and the rise of new sensibilities in contemporary writing.

Engaging and wide-ranging, it reveals how Palestinian literature has been central to shaping cultural identity and sustaining collective memory, while increasingly capturing the attention of readers around the world.



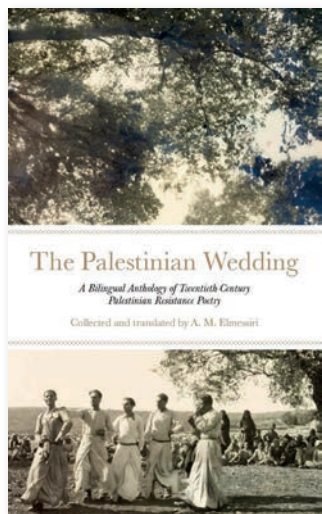
Literature/Palestine
October 2026
£9.99
128pp
Bformat Paperback
ISBN 978-1-84925-120-4

ATEF ALSHAER is a lecturer in Arabic Studies at the University of Westminster. He is the author of several publications in the fields of language, literature and politics, including *Poetry and Politics in the Modern Arab World*, *The Hizbullah Phenomenon: Politics and Communication* (with Dina Matar and Lina Khatib), *Love and Poetry in the Middle East* (editor) and *A Map of Absence*.



NEXT READ

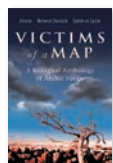
A River Dies of Thirst
978-0-86356-061-3
£12.99



Poetry

March 2026
£16.99
272pp
Paperback Original Demy
ISBN 978-1-84925-116-7
Territories: World

A.M. ELMESSIRI was an Egyptian writer and political organiser. Elmessiri had an MA in English and comparative literature from Columbia University and a PhD from Rutgers University. He was Professor at Ain Shams University, King Saud University, Kuwait University and at the International Islamic University in Malaysia. His oeuvre includes over fifty books and numerous articles.



NEXT READ

Victims of a Map
978-0-86356-524-3
£11.99

The Palestinian Wedding

Palestinian Resistance Poetry in the Twentieth Century – A Bilingual Reader

A.M Elmessiri (ed.)

From Darwish to Zayyad: the enduring spirit of Palestinian verse

Poetry is Palestine's most cherished art form – a way to voice resistance and preserve cultural memory. This powerful bilingual anthology captures a century of both celebration and struggle.

The twenty-one poets gathered here span a remarkable range: from the lyrical rhetoric of Tawfiq Zayyad to the cosmic imagery of Walid al-Halis; from the romantic cadences of Salma al-Jayyusi to the profound sense of belonging in Mahmoud Darwish. Together, their work embodies the enduring spirit of a people who once all called Palestine home.

Edited and introduced by the literary scholar A.M. Elmessiri, *The Palestinian Wedding* is arranged around six resonant themes: revolution, war, elegy, belonging, resistance and steadfastness.

'It is very important to see all these poems together ... we learn a great deal about Palestine.' *Banipal*

Gibran – The Prophet and the Garden

Kahlil Gibran

A centenary luxury gift edition of the timeless masterpiece The Prophet and its sequel

'If in the twilight of memory we should meet once more, we shall speak again together and you shall sing to me a deeper song.' Kahlil Gibran

Kahlil Gibran remains one of the most enduring voices in modern spiritual literature. His lyrical meditations on love, loss, joy, work and the human condition have touched millions across cultures and faiths.

For the first time, this beautifully bound edition brings together his two most celebrated works: *The Prophet* – a masterpiece that defined modern spiritual writing – and its sequel, *The Garden of the Prophet*, completed just before his death.

Together, these works form a profound meditation on life's deepest questions and invite readers into a world of enduring beauty and truth.

'The Prophet, and the man behind it, freed the poet in me.' *Rupi Kaur*



Fiction

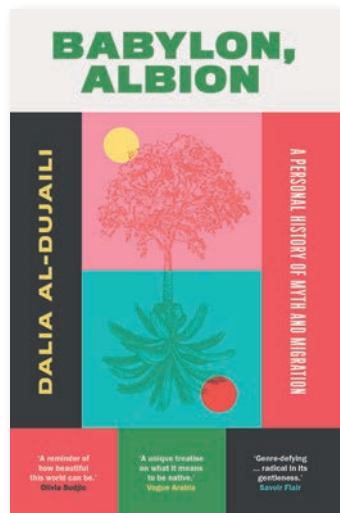
September 2026
£20
224pp
Hardback 150 x 200 mm
12 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-104-4
Territories: World

KAHLIL GIBRAN (1883–1931) was a Lebanese philosophical essayist, novelist, poet and artist. He is the third best-selling poet of all time, behind Shakespeare and Laozi. Considered a literary and political rebel, his romantic style was at the heart of a renaissance in modern Arabic literature. He wrote in both Arabic and English and his work has been translated into over 100 languages.



NEXT READ

Classical Poems by Arab Women
978-0-86356-934-0
£12.99



Nature / Memoir
July 2026
£9.99
192pp
Paperback Bformat
ISBN 978-1-84925-111-2
Territories: World

DALIA AL-DUJAILI is an Iraqi British writer, editor and producer based in London. She tells stories from the SWANA region and diaspora, and reports on community-led stories from the margins for *The Guardian*, *Huck*, *The New Arab* and more.



NEXT READ

I'll Tell You When I'm Home
978-1-84925-115-0
£9.99

Babylon, Albion

A Personal History of Myth and Migration

Dalia Al-Dujaili

An exquisite debut on migration and identity, from an exciting, young writer

Whoever said nature is still has not borne witness to the migration of the seasons.

In this lyrical enquiry, Dalia Al-Dujaili considers what it means to belong in your land. She traces the rich heritage of the earth beneath our feet and the wildlife that call it home – from the oak tree and date palm to fairytale creatures, such as dragons, unicorns and the ancient Lamassu. Weaving together Arab and Islamic mythology with the English and Christian pastoral, Al-Dujaili unmasks the communal lush, familiar and, at times, dark places we share.

A love song to Britain, Iraq and the body of earth we hold in common, *Babylon, Albion* is a compelling re-imagining of what it means to be native.

‘An impassioned love letter ... a lush, lyrical reminder that our cultural, ancestral and ecological roots are never static.’ *Dazed*

I'll Tell You When I'm Home

A Memoir

Hala Alyan

Hala Alyan, the acclaimed Palestinian American poet and novelist, offers a moving memoir of motherhood through surrogacy

At first, Hala's baby is the size of a poppyseed. Then a grain of rice, then a lime. After years of trying for a baby, Hala watches from afar as her daughter grows in the body of another woman, in another country.

Hala is not just awaiting news from the surrogate. She also holds her breath as Palestine and Lebanon, her estranged homelands, are under fire. She remembers family stories of grandmothers mapping their lives through a tangle of borders; of eradicated villages, invading armies and places of refuge that proved only temporary; of men who left, women who stayed, and the legacies passed down from one to another.

Stunningly lyrical and unflinchingly honest, *I'll Tell You When I'm Home* is a powerful story of unravelling and becoming, of homelands lost and reimagined, and of the intimate ways we learn to make a life when the ground beneath us shifts.

‘Questioning and lyrical’ *The Guardian*



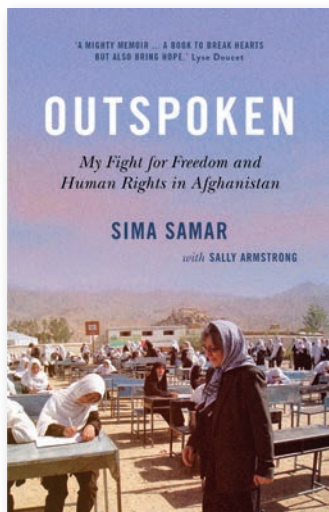
Memoir
October 2026
£9.99
272pp
Bformat Paperback
ISBN 978-1-84925-115-0
Territories: World ex. North America

HALA ALYAN is a Palestinian American writer and poet. Her novels include *The Arsonists' City* and *Salt Houses*, which was winner of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the Arab American Book Award. Her work has been published by *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Guardian* and *Guernica*, among others.



NEXT READ

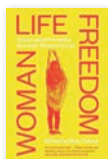
Babylon, Albion
978-1-84925-111-2
£9.99



Memoir / Biography

August 2026
£14.99
352pp
Paperback Demy
26 b&w photographs
ISBN 978-1-84925-114-3
Territories: World ex. North America

SIMA SAMAR is a globally renowned women's and human rights activist and doctor from Afghanistan. Samar served as Minister of Women's Affairs of Afghanistan and as Chair of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission. She was also formerly a member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement. Samar is currently a visiting scholar at Tufts.



NEXT READ

Woman Life Freedom
978-0-86356-972-2
£14.99

Outspoken

My Fight for Freedom and Human Rights in Afghanistan

Sima Samar
with **Sally Armstrong**

Shortlisted for the Moore Prize 2024

Sima Samar's powerful story: Afghan doctor, reformer and tireless champion of women

Sima Samar has been fighting for equality and justice all her life. Born into a polygamous family, she learned early that girls had inferior status and had to agree to an arranged marriage to go to university. By the time she was in medical school, she was both a mother and a revolutionary. Samar's work as a doctor for those most desperate for help – namely women in far flung, mountainous regions – put her in grave personal danger. After her husband was disappeared by the pro-Russian regime, she faced a choice: accept the injustices she saw around her or fight for a better Afghanistan.

Despite numerous death threats and decades of catastrophic warfare, Samar has worked tirelessly for the dream she is convinced is achievable: justice and human rights for all citizens of Afghanistan.

In this poignant and inspiring memoir – the first inside story of Afghanistan by a woman – Samar provides an unparalleled view of her country's past, present and extremely fragile future.

'A mighty memoir ... A book to break hearts but also bring hope' **Lyse Doucet**

Notes From a Lost Country

Sinan Antoon

Translated from Arabic

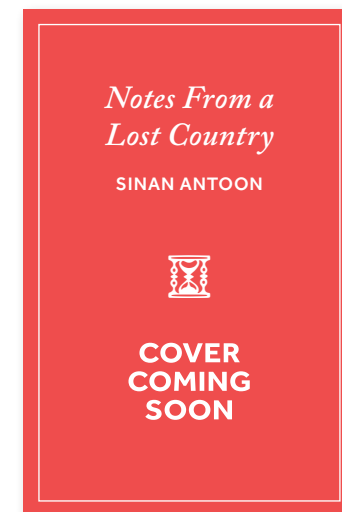
An achingly beautiful novel of memory and renewal, following two Iraqi men rebuilding their lives after the Gulf War

Sami, a retired doctor, lives with his son and grandchildren in Brooklyn. But Sami keeps losing his way. Every day he sinks deeper into dementia and old memories of life in Iraq before the war.

Omar arrives in the US with a fake identity and no friends or family. Having run away from the Iraqi army, he has been branded a deserter and his ear brutally cut off. Omar carries this mark of shame with him and refuses to talk about the past. He dreams of getting his ear, and his dignity, back.

When their paths cross at least one of them knows that they have met before – if only he could remember where. Exploring the aftermath of war and how the past haunts new beginnings, *Notes from a Lost Country* creates a moving portrait of life in exile.

'Sinan Antoon is one of the great fiction writers of our time' **Alberto Manguel**



Fiction

April 2026
£14.99
288pp
Hardback Demy
ISBN 978-1-84925-123-5
Territories: World ex. North America

SINAN ANTOON is a writer, translator and associate professor of Arabic literature at NYU. Antoon is the author of several poetry collections and five novels including *The Corpse Washer*, which won The Arabic Literature Prize 2017 and the World Arab Institute-Lagardère (France).



NEXT READ

Wild Thorns
978-0-86356-986-9
£9.99



Fiction
March 2026
£9.99
384pp
Paperback Bformat
ISBN 978-1-84925-113-6
Territories: World ex. North America

MAI AL-NAKIB is Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Kuwait University. Her short story collection, *The Hidden Light of Objects*, won the Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award.



NEXT READ

The Hidden Light of Objects
978-1-84925-085-6
£9.99

An Unlasting Home

A Novel

Mai Al-Nakib

A spellbinding family history, where one woman unravels what went wrong for her and her country

Sara, a philosophy professor at Kuwait University, has long had an uneasy relationship with her homeland. But after her mother's death, inertia keeps her there – until she is accused of blasphemy and faces the threat of execution. As she awaits trial, Sara is forced to reckon with her place in the world and the women who shaped her.

Her grandmothers' lives span privilege and poverty: Yasmine, who married the son of a Pasha and soon regretted it, and Lulwa, swept from hardship into the wealth of an Indian merchant's household. Then there are her two mothers: Noura, restless for America, and Maria, the devoted ayah who leaves her own children behind in Pune to raise Sara and her brother.

A sweeping saga, *An Unlasting Home* captures the tragedies and triumphs of three generations of Arab women in one unforgettable tale.

'Passionate and skilful. Every detail lands perfectly and leaves the reader altered.' **A.L. Kennedy**

'So fresh and unsettling it will enchant you from the first page and linger for days after ... an epic family saga' **Los Angeles Review of Books**

The Gaza Kitchen

A Palestinian Culinary Journey

Laila El-Haddad and Maggie Schmitt

Winner of the Gourmand Best Arab Cuisine Cookbook Award – a sumptuous tribute to Gaza's cuisine

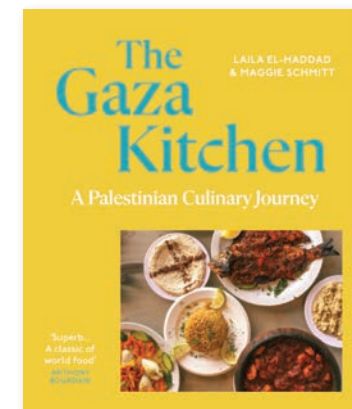
The cuisine of Gaza is a vibrant reflection of its rich heritage, blending bold flavours, fresh ingredients and time-honoured techniques. Spicy stews, tangy dips, fragrant fish and honey-soaked desserts embody a culinary tradition shaped by history and sustained through adversity. Each dish tells the story of a people whose connection to their land and culture endures despite immense challenges.

The Gaza Kitchen brings this cuisine to life with more than one hundred recipes collected first-hand. Featuring in-kitchen interviews and photographs of cooks, farmers and merchants at work, it offers a rare portrait of everyday Gazan life.

This award-winning cookbook, now in a sumptuous new edition, stands as both a celebration of Palestinian identity and a testament to resilience.

'A superb cookbook ... A classic of world food'
Anthony Bourdain

'Inspiring to read, to cook, and to eat'
Yotam Ottolenghi and Sami Tamimi



Cookery / Palestine
July 2026
£25
336pp
Paperback Original w/ flaps 254 x 215mm
200 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-093-1
Territories: World ex. North America

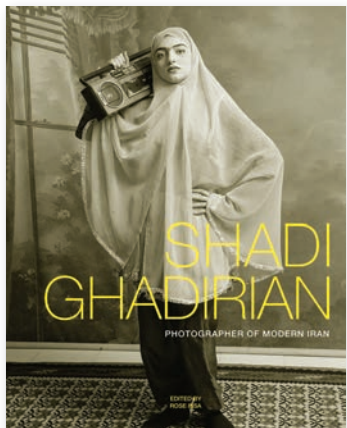
LAILA EL-HADDAD is a Palestinian writer, journalist and social activist. She has written for the *Washington Post* and was formerly Al Jazeera English's Gaza correspondent.

MAGGIE SCHMITT is a writer, researcher, translator, educator and social activist.



NEXT READ

Lebanese Cuisine
978-0-86356-377-5
£25



Shadi Ghadirian

Photographer of Modern Iran

Edited by Rose Issa

Foreword by Marta Weiss

Subversive and striking photographs by one of Iran's foremost female photographers

Art and Photography

November 2026

£25

128pp

Paperback 200 x 250 mm

100 colour illustrations

ISBN 978-1-84925-102-0

Territories: World

ROSE ISSA is a curator, writer and publisher who has championed visual art and film from the Middle East and North Africa for more than forty years. She is the editor of *Chant Avedissian: Cairo Stencils*, *Arabicity: Contemporary Arab Art*, *Signs of Our Times: From Calligraphy to Calligraffiti*, *Malibeh Afnan: Familiar Faces*, and *Parastou Forouhar: Art, Life and Death in Iran*.



NEXT READ

Contemporary Iranian Art

978-0-86356-979-1

£25.00

Shadi Ghadirian is one of Iran's leading contemporary photographers. Born in Tehran in 1974, she rose to prominence in the late 1990s and has since become a defining voice of her generation.

Shaped by the restrictions of post-revolutionary Iran, Ghadirian's work probes the boundaries of freedom and expression, reflecting a collective yearning for liberty and colour. This new monograph traces her evolution – from the stillness of *Untitled Qajar* to the digitally manipulated *Ctrl+Alt+Del* – as she navigates the tensions between public and private, tradition and modernity, documentary and fiction.

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'The pictures, if not actually revolutionary, are definitely subversive.' *The Times*



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ANDREW S. CURRAN is the William Armstrong Professor of Humanities at Wesleyan University. His writing has appeared in *The New York Review of Books*, *New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *Newsweek*, *TIME*, *Paris Review*, *El País* and *The Wall Street Journal*. Curran is the author and editor of five books, including *Diderot and the Art of Thinking Freely*, and, with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *Who's Black and Why?*.



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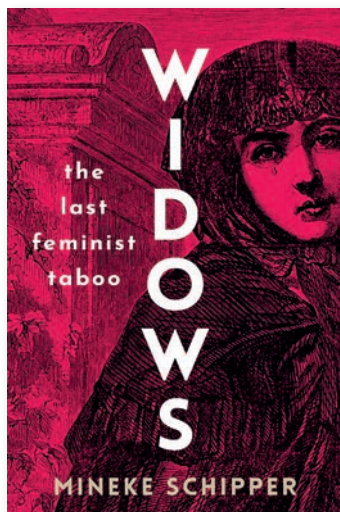
In the early eighteenth century, Christianity began to lose its hold on the story of humankind. Yet centuries of xenophobia, religious intolerance and emerging biological ideas did not simply disappear – they were reworked by secular thinkers seeking to redefine what it meant to be human. By century's end, naturalists and philosophers had divided humankind into racial categories using methods associated with the Enlightenment era.

In *The Race Makers*, award-winning biographer and Enlightenment specialist Andrew S. Curran traces the emergence of race through thirteen pivotal figures, including Louis XIV, Buffon, Linnaeus, Voltaire, Hume, Adam Smith, Kant and Jefferson. From the gilded halls of Versailles to the slave plantations of the Caribbean, and from the court of the Mughal Empire to the drawing rooms of Monticello, Curran reveals how the Enlightenment's pursuit of knowledge became entangled with systems of empire and oppression, offering a bold reappraisal of the era's most famous luminaries.

“IN AUGUST 2022, activists mounted their final attack on Voltaire's statue, splashing another thick layer of red paint on the increasingly degraded monument. Shortly after this last incident, the Paris government announced that Drivier's artwork would be removed for repair and reconditioning before being returned to its rightful place. Four years later, the same administrative office released a statement explaining that the monument was now too fragile and would be replaced with an exact replica cast in resin. This plasticised Voltaire, which is more resistant to both Paris's weather and militants, now sits atop the original pedestal.

The downward spiral of Voltaire's statues in this neighbourhood – from bronze, to marble, to a mixture of fiberglass, epoxy, and stone – has paralleled both the writer's and the Enlightenment's legacy over the past two decades. At a recent international history conference in Rome attended by over a thousand people, a double session was provocatively titled: 'Should we burn Voltaire?' The French philosopher and writer is not alone in suffering such scrutiny. David Hume, Immanuel Kant, and Thomas Jefferson, along with a number of other writers and political figures from the era, are also being re-evaluated in light of their influential writings on race.

For many people, castigating these one-time heroes of the Enlightenment has been an act of liberation, a symbolic reckoning with a generation of men whose ideas and writing were tied to colonialism, slavery, or racism. Yet as satisfying as such retribution may feel, this act leaves a number of pressing questions unanswered. The first of these is: Why? Why did this generation of thinkers come to hold such racist views in the first place? And how and why did these ideas come into being during the eighteenth century, more than two centuries after the transatlantic slave trade had begun? Such properly historical questions point to an even deeper quandary: why did so many Enlightenment-era champions of tolerance and civil liberties work so hard to limit these supposedly universal birthrights to Europeans? This book, the first biography-driven history of race, seeks to answer these questions.”



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MINEKE SCHIPPER is a cultural historian and writer. She is the author of seven critically acclaimed works. Schipper currently serves as Emeritus Professor of Intercultural Literary Studies at the University of Leiden.



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In Japanese, the word for widow – a woman who has outlived her husband – literally translates as ‘she who has not yet died.’ For millennia, widows have lived on the margins of society: banished to the wilderness, silenced, and shrouded in black or white. Across cultures, laws and local customs have maligned them as witches, dependants or objects of pity.

In some traditions, widows are expected to remarry within the husband’s family, or even – in extreme cases – commit self-immolation – expectations not placed on men. Yet widowhood has also brought unexpected freedoms: financial, social and sexual autonomy denied to married women. In medieval Europe, widows owned property and ran businesses; in India’s Maratha courts, they wielded political influence long before married women could.

Drawing on sources from Ancient Egypt and Greece to Africa, the Americas and beyond, cultural historian Mineke Schipper explores widowhood as both oppression and liberation. *Widows* reveals one of feminism’s last great taboos, and the story of women the world has long refused to see.

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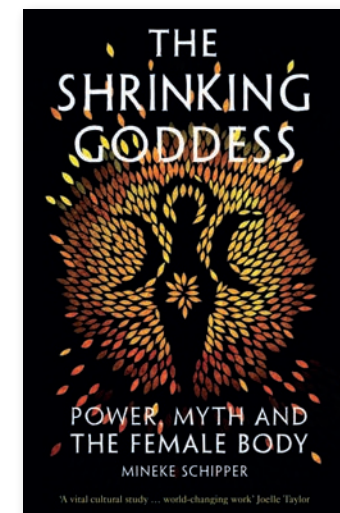
Wild and strange stories have been told about the female body since antiquity. While tales of poisoned hymens and witches with multiple breasts circulated, the first creation figure, Mother Earth, fell out of popular culture. Ranging from the empowering to the absurd, ancient myths about women’s bodies have not only survived into the twenty-first century but continue to influence modern discourse.

The Shrinking Goddess brings together myths about the female form and traces subsequent male efforts to ‘tame’ it. Mineke Schipper reclaims the female body as a source of power, exploring how women’s bodies have been represented around the world, from the demon daughter of New Mexico with a toothed vagina, to the Japanese supermarkets and European festivals where ‘breast puddings’ are considered delicacies.

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‘Fascinating ... the evidence Schipper marshals is convincing and often remarkable’

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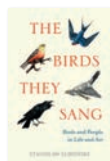
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LOUISE K. BLIGHT is a conservation biologist and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Victoria's School of Environmental Studies. She has authored more than fifty scientific publications, and serves as the co-chair of the birds specialist group of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, the expert national body that assesses threatened species.



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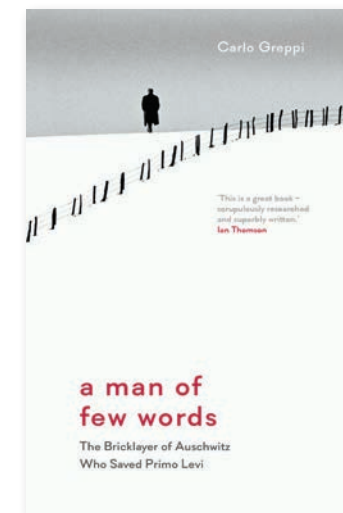
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'Nobody knows how much I owe that man,' Primo Levi said of the bricklayer who saved his life at Auschwitz-Birkenau. For six months, Lorenzo Perrone risked his own life to smuggle food, letters and clothing to prisoners. Without Perrone, Levi could not have survived and the world would have been deprived of his writing.

In *A Man of Few Words*, Carlo Greppi pieces together the life of Perrone, a near destitute labourer with little formal education. Despite their stark differences, Levi and Perrone's friendship continued until Perrone's tragic death. Levi never forgot Perrone. He tried persistently to preserve the memory of this man of few words who had saved his life, but who left few traces of his own behind.

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CARLO GREPPI is an award-winning historian. He is the author of fourteen books, including *Un uomo di poche parole (A Man of Few Words)*, which has been translated into six languages and has sold more than 20,000 copies in Italy.



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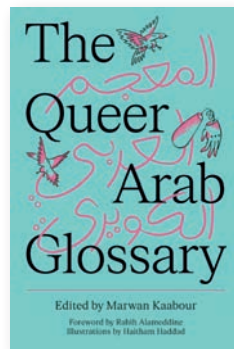
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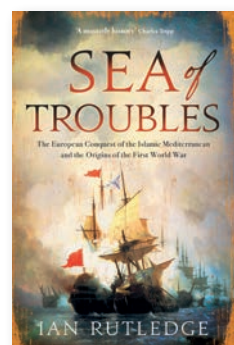
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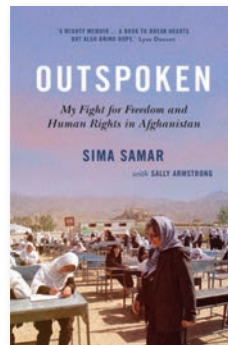
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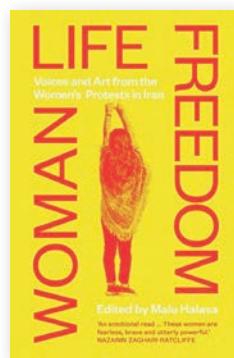
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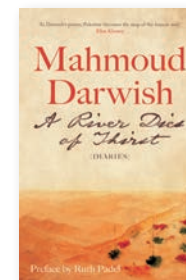
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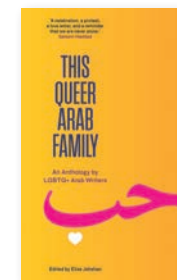
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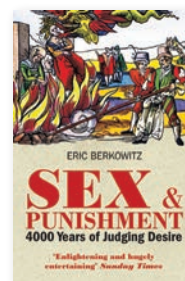
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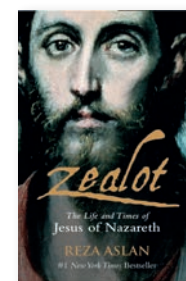
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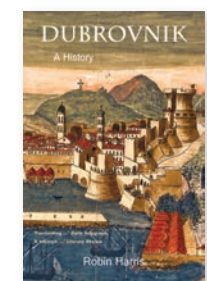
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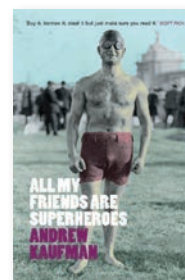
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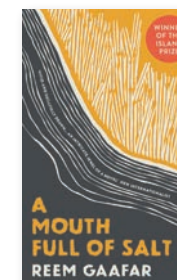
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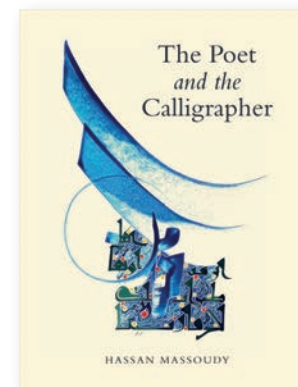
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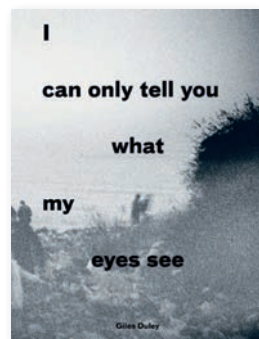
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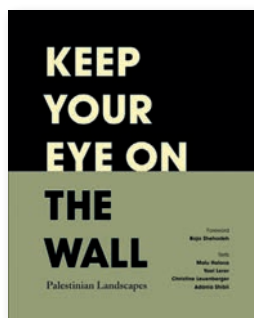


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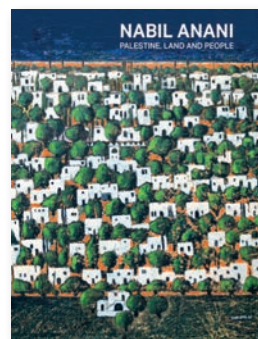
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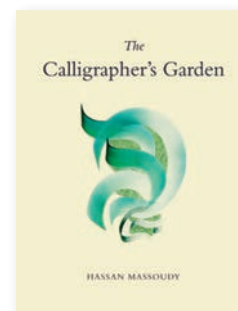
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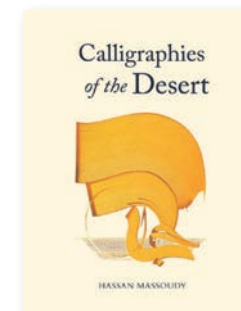
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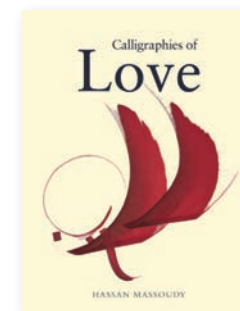
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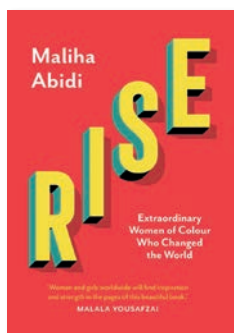
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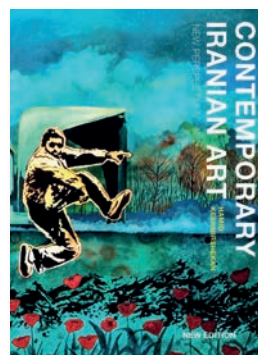
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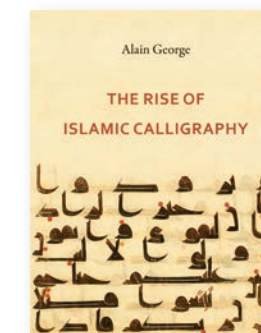
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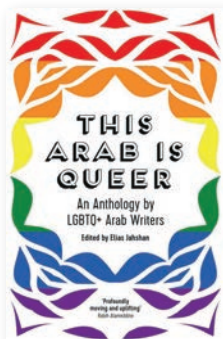
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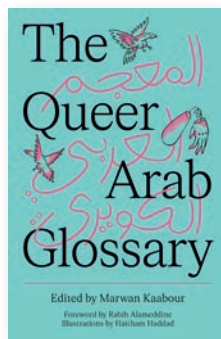
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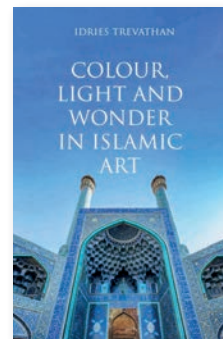
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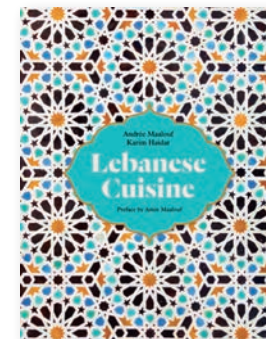
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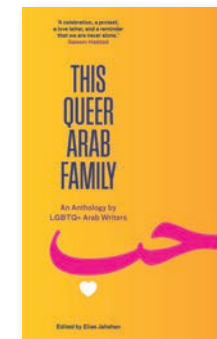
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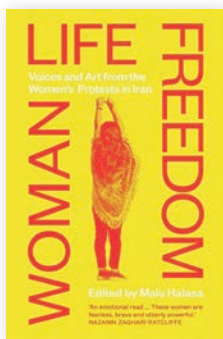
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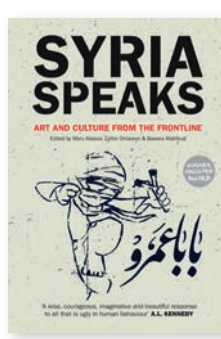
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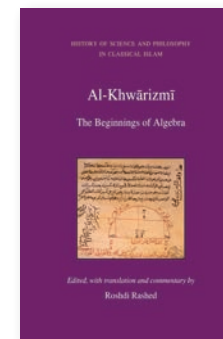
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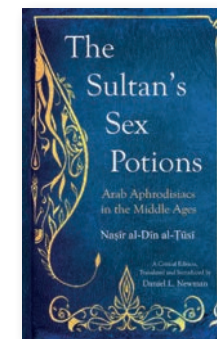
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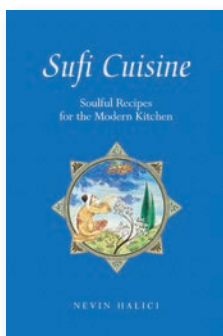
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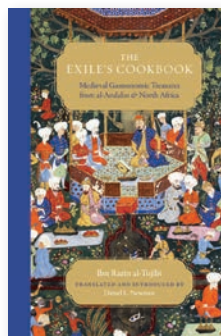
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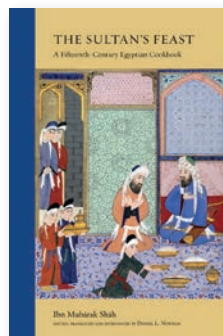
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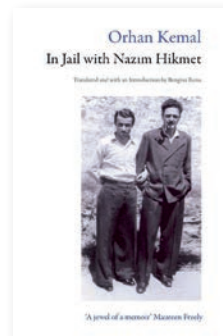
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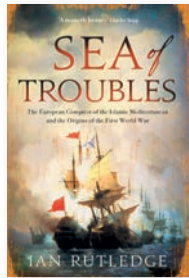
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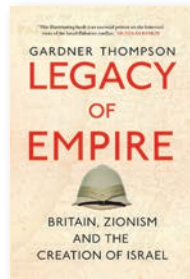
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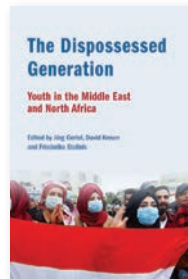
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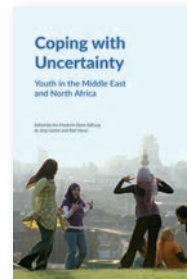
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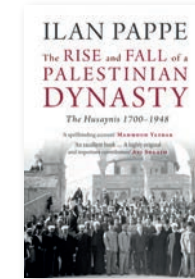
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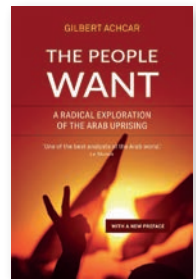
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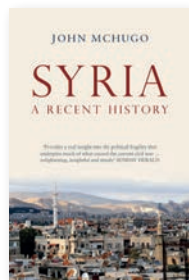
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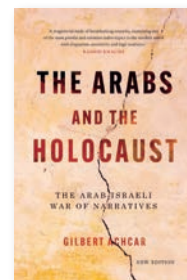
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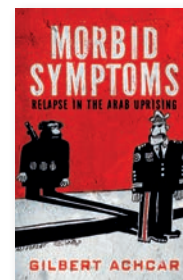
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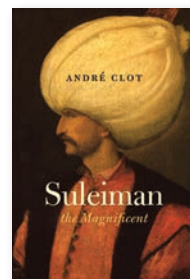
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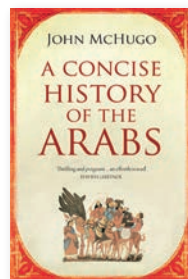
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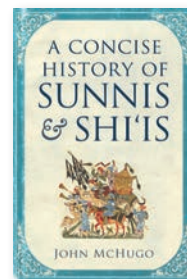
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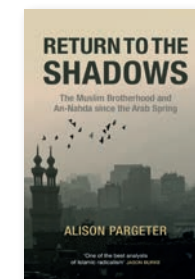
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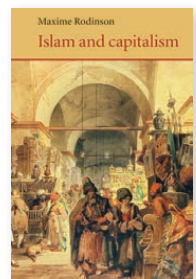
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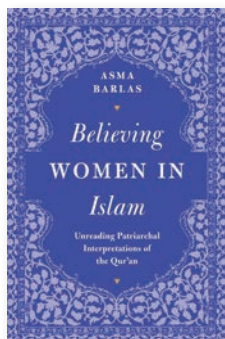
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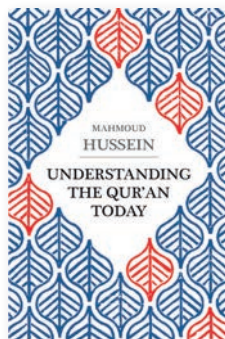
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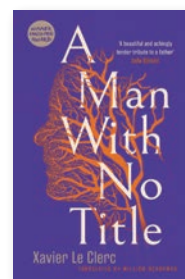
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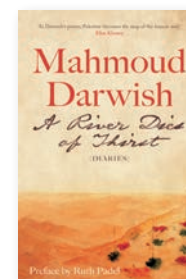
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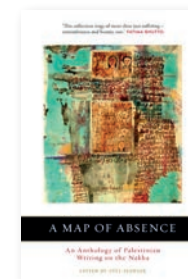
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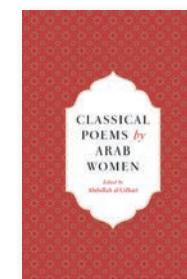
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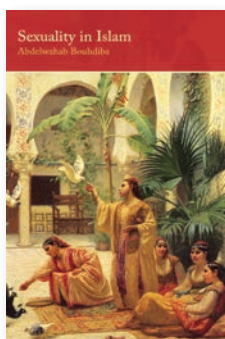
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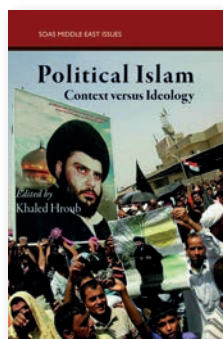
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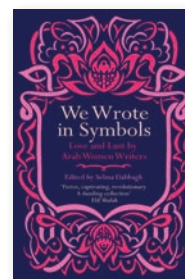
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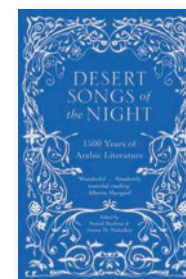
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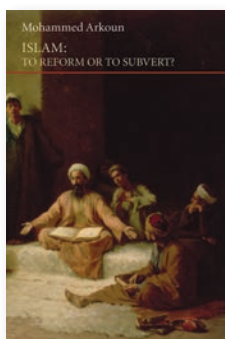
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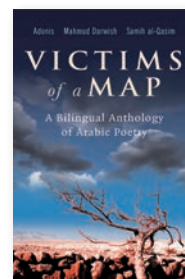
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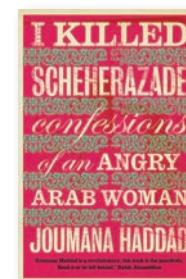
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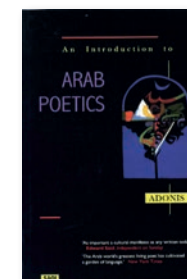
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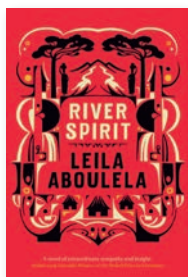
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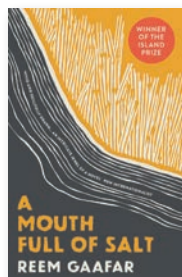
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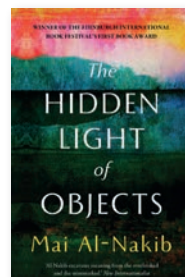
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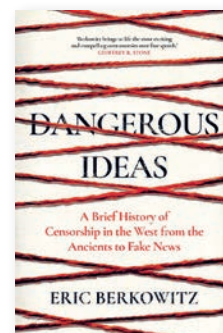
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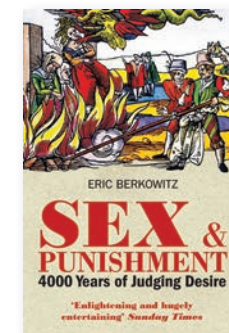
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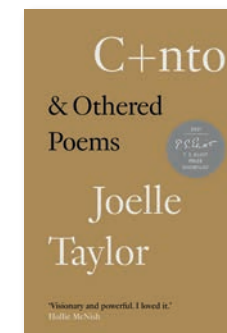
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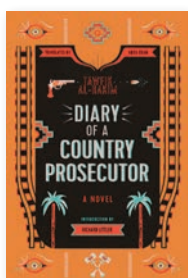
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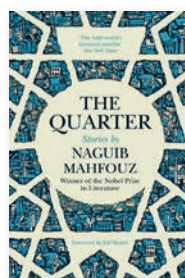
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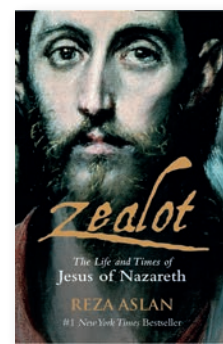
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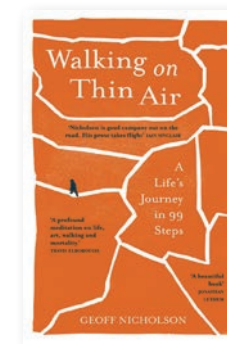
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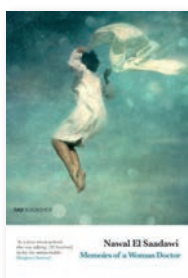
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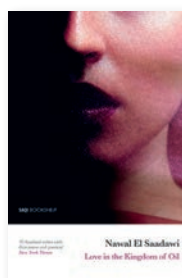
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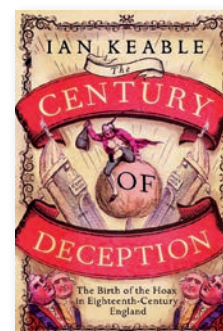
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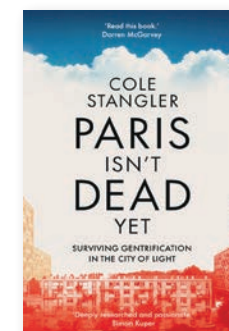
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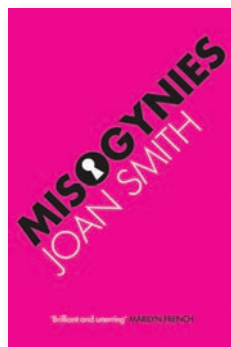
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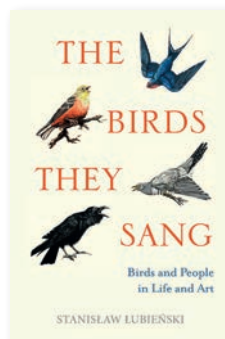
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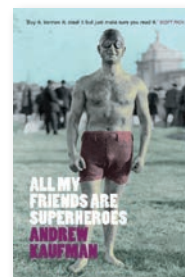
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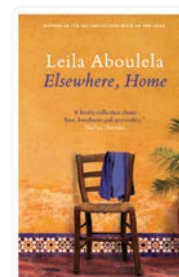
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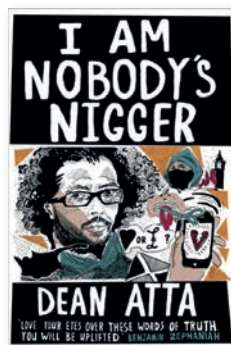
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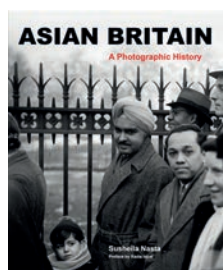
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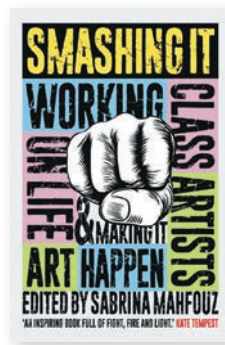
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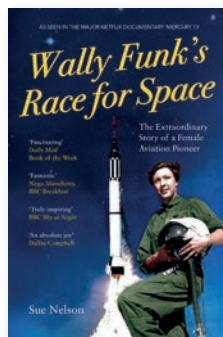
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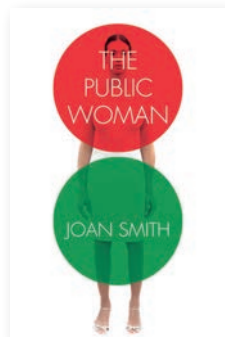
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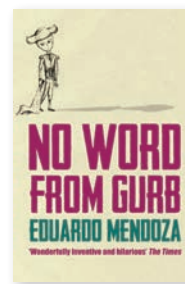
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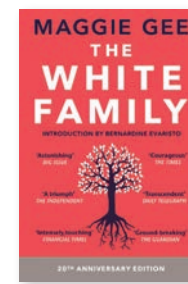
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