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Mother India
A Novel
Tova Reich

Cloth $24.95 978-0-8156-1106-6
Ebook 978-0-8156-5454-4

6 x 9, 256 pages
OCTOBER 2018

Follows three generations of Jewish women seeking transformation in India.

Praise for Tova Reich . . .
"Reich’s comic vision gives the last word to life . . . a rapturous celebration.”
—The New York Times Book Review

"Undeniably funny . . . Reich has the writer’s sure touch, eye, ear, sensibility.”
—The Washington Post

Literary, lyrical, and cuttingly satiric, Mother India is a brilliantly original novel about Jews who go to India to find transformation and eternal release from the sufferings of life. Narrated in luminous prose by Meena, a Jewish American lesbian who has claimed India as her home, the novel is vividly populated by the darkly comic universe of three generations of women along with other family members, as well as by the Indians whose world they seek to penetrate. There is Meena’s religiously observant mother, Ma, whose desire to remove herself from the wheel of life plays out in a Faulknerian funeral procession and cremation on the banks of the holy river Ganges; Meena’s daughter, Maya, a misunderstood child coming of age in an emotionally treacherous household; her ex-wife, Geeta, a privileged and hedonistic Indian woman who enters their world with devastating consequences; Meena’s twin brother, Shmelke, a charismatic rabbi turned guru and international fugitive; and the Indian servant, Manika, whose loyalty to the family both sustains and shackles them.

Identifying with the humanity of its characters, the reader is drawn into a vast, tragicomic, and fascinating epic, Homeric in scope, drama, discovery, and surprise. Universal yet intimate, brutal yet tender, satiric yet sympathetic, Mother India evokes reactions—intellectual, emotional, visceral—that are complex, even contradictory, containing the might and bite that our current cultural hubris and self-involvement deserve. In Mother India, Reich offers us her most poignant and astonishing novel to date.

Tova Reich is the author of several novels, including My Holocaust and One Hundred Philistine Foreskins. Her stories have appeared in Atlantic Monthly, Harper’s, AGNI, Conjunctions, and elsewhere. In 1996, she won the National Magazine Award for her story "The Lost Girl." She lives outside Washington, DC.
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—Alice Randel Pfeiffer, director
Television Finales
FROM HOWDY DOODY TO GIRLS
Edited by Douglas L. Howard and David Bianculli

Hardcover $70.00s 978-0-8156-3604-5  Ebook 978-0-8156-5447-6
Paper $39.95 978-0-8156-1105-9
7 x 10, 504 pages, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Television and Popular Culture
OCTOBER 2018

A must-read survey covering the most unforgettable TV finales of the last eight decades.

“This book is about much more than television finales; it shows us how the final episode illuminates the entire series. David Bianculli’s work is historically informed, showing his mastery of the subject. With contributors representing some of the leading lights in television studies and impressive contributions by new scholars as well, the approximately seventy essays span the scope of television.”
—Rhonda V. Wilcox, author of Reading Joss Whedon

Today more than ever, series finales have become cultural touchstones that feed watercooler fodder and Twitter storms among a committed community of viewers. While the final episodes of The Fugitive and M*A*S*H continue to rank among the highest-rated broadcasts, more recent shows draw legions of binge-watching fans. Given the importance of finales to viewers and critics alike, Howard and Bianculli along with the other contributors explore these endings and what they mean to the audience, both in terms of their sense of narrative and as episodes that epitomize an entire show. Bringing together a veritable “who’s who” of television scholars, journalists, and media experts, including Robert Thompson, Martha Nochimson, Gary Edgerton, David Hinckley, Kim Akass, and Joanne Morreale, the book offers commentary on some of the most compelling and often controversial final episodes in television history. Each chapter is devoted to a separate finale, providing readers with a comprehensive survey of these watershed moments. Gathering a unique international lineup of journalists and media scholars, the book also offers readers an intriguing variety of critical voices and perspectives.

Douglas L. Howard is academic chair of the English Department on the Ammerman Campus at Suffolk County Community College. He is the editor of Dexter: Investigating Cutting Edge Television and a coeditor of The Essential Sopranos Reader.

David Bianculli has been a TV critic since 1975, currently runs the website TVWorthWatching.com, and serves as guest host for NPR’s Fresh Air. He is the author of The Platinum Age of Television: From I Love Lucy to The Walking Dead, How TV Became Terrific.

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Samir Naqqash
Translated from the Arabic by Sadok Masliyah

Paper $34.95 978-0-8156-1108-0  
Ebook 978-0-8156-5461-2
6 x 9, 384 pages, glossary  
Series: Middle East Literature in Translation

OCTOBER 2018

A multilayered novel following the intimate lives of Jewish and Muslim residents of an apartment complex in 1940s Baghdad.

Samir Naqqash’s stirring novel Tenants and Cobwebs nostaligically commemorates the lost culture of an ancient Iraqi Jewish minority living amidst a majority Muslim population in 1940s Baghdad. The plot unfolds during a time of great turmoil: the rise of Iraqi nationalism and anti-Jewish sentiment fueled by Nazi propaganda; the Farûd, a bloody pogrom carried out against Jewish residents of Baghdad in 1941; and the founding of Israel in 1948. These pivotal events profoundly affected Muslim-Jewish relationships, forever changing the nature of the Jewish experience in Iraq and eventually leading to a mass exodus of Iraqi Jews to Israel in 1951.

Tenants and Cobwebs deftly narrates the lives of Jewish characters who refuse to leave Baghdad despite these tumultuous times as well as those who are compelled to leave but nonetheless cling to the life they know. While the Jewish residents appear to live peacefully and harmoniously in the same Baghdad apartment complex as their Muslim neighbors, Naqqash gives voice to their conflicting thoughts and feelings, revealing the deepening tensions between the two groups. His innovative use of Baghdadi Jewish and Muslim dialects captures the complex and nuanced emotions of his characters. Masliyah’s skillful translation gives English-language readers access to one of the most imaginative and ambitious Middle Eastern authors of the twentieth century.

Samir Naqqash (1938-2004) was a Jewish Iraqi novelist, short-story writer, and playwright who emigrated from Iraq at the age of thirteen. Naqqash wrote in Arabic despite living most of his life in Israel. In 2004, he received the Israeli Prime Ministerial Award for Arabic Fiction.

Sadok Masliyah was assistant professor of Arabic and Hebrew at several American universities and the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. He has published studies on Arabic literature, Iraqi folklore, and spoken dialects, including his most recent book, The Formation of Quadrilateral Verbs in Iraqi Dialects.

“A rare work of fiction in terms of language, history, and contemporary politics of pluralistic cultures. Written in Arabic by a speaker of Hebrew, among other languages, chronicling a period of utmost significance for the region, and demonstrating the will to coexist under harsh circumstances, the work is a valuable source of knowledge and entertainment.”

—Shakir Mustafa, editor of Contemporary Iraqi Fiction
A Cloudy Day on the Western Shore

Mohamed al-Mansi Qandil
Translated from the Arabic by Barbara Romaine

Paper $34.95 978-0-8156-1109-7
Ebook 978-0-8156-5462-9

6 x 9, 400 pages

Series: Middle East Literature in Translation

OCTOBER 2018

Combining allegory with magical realism, this epic novel takes readers on a journey through Egyptian history.

“This is an extremely well-crafted and indeed often erudite work of fiction.”

—Roger Allen, author of The Arabic Novel: An Historical and Critical Introduction

Shortlisted for the Arabic Booker Prize in 2010, this finely constructed epic traces the turbulent life of Aisha, an Egyptian girl raised in a Christian convent beyond the reach of a predatory uncle. With her English education, Aisha crosses paths with Lord Cromer, British consul-general of Egypt, and famed archaeologist Howard Carter, with whom she will trek to locate Tutankhamen’s tomb. Fate briefly favors Aisha when she falls in love with the Egyptian sculptor Mahmoud Mukhtar, until events conspire to move her life along a darker path.

Part allegory, part magical realism, this novel is threaded with aspects of Egyptian antiquity, including semihistorical accounts of the excavations of ancient Egyptian relics and the tortured jealousies that accompanied them. A deftly written journey through momentous occasions in world history, A Cloudy Day on the Western Shore explores questions of Egypt’s identity and history, and the implications—for better or worse—of European exploitation of the treasures of pharaonic civilization. Novelist Qandil skillfully allows readers to encounter complex questions of colonialism, gender, and sectarianism—all through the symbolic lens of an unlikely Egyptian heroine.

Award-winning Egyptian novelist Mohamed al-Mansi Qandil was born in the Nile delta. He went to medical school and worked as a country doctor before beginning to write fiction. He has published several novels, short-story collections, and children’s books, and now lives in Canada.

Barbara Romaine has translated a number of novels by Radwa Ashour, as well as Bahaa’ Taher’s Aunt Safiyya and the Monastery. In 2011, her translation of Spectres was runner-up for the Saif Ghobash Banipal Prize. She has taught Arabic at several universities for over twenty years.
**Shohola Falls**

A NOVEL

Michael Pearson

**Paper $17.95** 978-0-8156-0787-8

6 x 9, 214 pages

**AUGUST 2018**

Part mystery, part bildungsroman, part love story, Pearson’s novel will captivate Twain fans and all readers in search of adventure.

“Pearson is at his best when evoking the desperation and longing of teenage love, and this appealing blend of road novel, historical novel, and coming-of-age tale makes a nice addition to the many books that wrestle with the ghost of Mark Twain.”—Booklist

“Of the numerous writings on the life and career of Mark Twain, Pearson’s enjoyable debut is one with a refreshingly unique viewpoint. Bringing to life both his young hero and the historical figures in the book with equal skill, Pearson has created a memorable modern-day story with evocative echoes of the past.”—Book Page

“Michael Pearson roams back and forth between fact and fantasy, city and country, the troubled 1960s and the days of Mark Twain in this intricate adventure of a youth in confrontation with society and self.”—Louis D. Rubin Jr., author of The Edge of the Swamp: A Study in the Literature and Society of the Old South

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**Daniel**

DIALOGUES ON REALIZATION

Martin Buber

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5 x 8, 112 pages

**SEPTEMBER 2018**

One of the earliest works by the influential Jewish philosopher Martin Buber.

“A thoroughly satisfying aesthetic experience, of great literary and philosophical worth and its publication in English is an important event. Highly recommended.”—Library Journal

“A profound and inimitable work of great poetic beauty. Daniel reveals to us another side, as yet all but unknown, of the genius of Martin Buber.”—Mircea Eliade, author of The Sacred and the Profane

Better than any other single work, Daniel enables us to understand the significance of the transition Buber made from his early mysticism to the philosophy of dialogue. The book is written in the form of five dialogues, in each of which Daniel and his friends explore a crucial philosophical problem—the nature of interconnection of unity, creativity, action, form, and realization as these illuminate the relations of man to God and the world. Daniel occupies a central position in Buber’s life work.
“During his prolific and magisterial career, the Jewish artist Samuel Bak has drawn profoundly on his experience as a Holocaust survivor to assess the damage done by that catastrophe and to weigh how best to live in what Gary A. Phillips aptly calls ‘the atrocity universe.’ Brilliantly interpreted by Phillips, the paintings cataloged in Just Is are emblematic of Bak’s challenging struggle with that dilemma.”

—John K. Roth, professor of philosophy and religion, Claremont McKenna College

“Samuel Bak’s Just Is paintings offer dramatic visual insight into one of the essential dilemmas of our time: how to reconcile mankind’s hope for a better future with the spectacle of a ruined culture and its people that continues to cast its shadow over us from the past.”

—Lawrence L. Langer, Professor of English Emeritus, Simmons College

In this series of paintings and drawings, Lady Just Is appears in varying conditions, poses, and garbs juxtaposed with familiar biblical and secular symbols of covenant in states of ruination: faded and cobbled rainbows, disintegrating Mosaic tablets of law, unblinking and stony eyes, sagging and unkempt blindfolds, defunct and imbalanced scales. Presiding over a landscape of devastation, these images are a graphic reminder of the precariousness of justice, and how justice loses its agency when it turns a blind eye to, or even becomes actively complicit in, the worst injustices. But they are also a hopeful contravention against the emotional and physical wreckage, a reminder that the restoration of the world, tikkun olam, is possible through the gathering and reassembly of the shards. Lady Just Is, shown to us through the hand of the artist, seeks to engage the viewer in a new moral law that stands squarely amid, not above or removed from, the destruction.

Samuel Bak has had numerous exhibitions in major museums, galleries, and universities throughout Europe, Israel, and the United States. Since 1993, he has resided with his wife, Josée, in the Boston area. Bak has been the subject of numerous articles, scholarly works, and books, including Between Worlds. He was the recipient of the 2002 German Herkomer Cultural Prize.

Gary A. Phillips is the Edgar H. Evans Professor of Religion and Dean of the College Emeritus at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He has published numerous edited and coedited volumes, including Icon of Loss: The Haunting Child of Samuel Bak with Danna Nolan Fewell.
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Boyle’s luminous poems are intimate portraits of confined and unsung lives, furnished with a sensuous exactness. The outcast Hermione, mourning her lost children, is cheered by the “blushing crimson tips” appearing in her winter garden. Birds are significant reminders of life, color, and wry defiance in these self-assured poems of hard-won sustenance.

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This debut novel by a fresh and vibrant voice in Irish crime writing explores the seamy underbelly of current-day Dublin, with a strong, gritty, and wry female protagonist. Murder and intrigue, memorable characters, and dear old dirty Dublin are brought to life vividly in an extraordinary mix of humor and tragedy.

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Gerry Boland  
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**JULY 2018**

Sixteen stories, sixteen intriguing situations, and a fascinating cast of characters populate *The Far Side of Happiness*, Boland’s debut short fiction collection. An unemployed man, living alone, experiences a brief epiphany until his fragile optimism is shattered by a freak accident. A seemingly straightforward story about a marriage in trouble conceals a devastating and unexpected deceit, revealed in its final lines. An Irish bachelor living in Paris has his life of entitlement turned upside down by two simultaneous, though unrelated, events. An environmentalist brings her naïve idealism to a rural community but hopelessly misreads the town’s mood.

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The essays in this collection focus on aspects of parenthood and childhood in Ireland from the 1700s to the 1950s. They provide new insights into parent-child relations in the past and pursue new areas of research, including the family life of Theobald Wolfe Tone; childhood in the country house in Munster; the treatment of Irish mothers sent to the State Inebriate Reformatory, Ennis; and a detailed study of the BCG vaccination campaign to combat childhood tuberculosis in the twentieth century. These essays highlight the complex role played by parents and other adults in the emotional, educational, cultural, social, spiritual, and physical well-being of children.

**Ambassador Extraordinaire**  
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Margaret Mac Curtain  
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This fascinating study explores the career of Ireland’s first modern diplomat, Daniel O’Daly. Born in Kilsarkan, County Kerry, in 1595, he became a significant figure in seventeenth-century ecclesiastical and political life at a time when Ireland’s relationship with Europe was both considerable and subtle. He was an historian, founder of an Irish college and a convent in Portugal, confessor and advisor to queens and kings, and a prime mover in both the Stuart Restoration of Charles II and the Portuguese Restoration. Shortly before he died in 1662, he was nominated as bishop-elect of Coimbra, Portugal.
1994—Best-selling title of all time with over 42,000 copies sold

1943—The first volume published

1967—Received the Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History

1981—Translated into eight languages and considered a classic among Middle East scholars

2009—Winner of the Adirondack Book of the Year Award for Non-Fiction

2016—Winner of the Translation Award from the J. I. Segal Committee and the Canadian Jewish Literary Award
Rural Indigenousness
A HISTORY OF IROQUOIAN AND ALGONQUIAN PEOPLES OF THE ADIRONDACKS

Melissa Otis

Hardcover $70.00L 978-0-8156-3596-3
Ebook 978-0-8156-5453-7
Paper $39.95s 978-0-8156-3600-7

6 x 9, 416 pages, 7 black-and-white illustrations, 1 map, appendix, bibliography, index
Series: The Iroquois and Their Neighbors
OCTOBER 2018

Explores Indigenous and settler societal interaction in the Adirondacks over la longue durée.

"A passionate, comprehensive, much-needed affirmation of the ongoing and ancient presence of Native people in the Adirondacks."
—Douglas M. George-Kanentiio, author of Iroquois Culture and Commentary

The Adirondacks have been an Indigenous homeland for millennia, and the presence of Native people in the region was obvious but not well documented by Europeans, who did not venture into the interior between the seventeenth and early nineteenth centuries. Yet, by the late nineteenth century, historians had scarcely any record of their long-lasting and vibrant existence in the area. With Rural Indigenousness, Otis shines a light on the rich history of Algonquian and Iroquoian people, offering the first comprehensive study of the relationship between Native Americans and the Adirondacks. While Otis focuses on the nineteenth century, she extends her analysis to periods before and after this era, revealing both the continuity and change that characterize the relationship over time. Otis argues that the landscape was much more than a mere hunting ground for Native residents; rather, it a “location of exchange,” a space of interaction where the land was woven into the fabric of their lives as an essential source of refuge and survival. Drawing upon archival research, material culture, and oral histories, Otis examines the nature of Indigenous populations living in predominantly Euroamerican communities to identify the ways in which some maintained their distinct identity while also making selective adaptations exemplifying the concept of “survivance.” In doing so, Rural Indigenousness develops a new conversation in the field of Native American studies that expands our understanding of urban and rural indigeneity.

Melissa Otis holds a PhD in history of education from the University of Toronto.

“Otis has done an excellent job of crafting this narrative. This book promises to make a splash in Native American studies.”
—Jon Parmenter, author of The Edge of the Woods: Iroquoia, 1534–1701

“Otis’s book fills one of the most gaping holes in the study of the Adirondacks and vanquishes the ‘Indians never lived here’ meme for all time. It is a rich and readable account not only of Native people in the Adirondacks historically, but more specifically during the period of invisibility and assimilation between the War of Independence and the dawn of the “high steel” age. . . . It is timely, overdue and will be the standard work for decades.”
—Christopher Shaw, former editor of Adirondack Life and author of Sacred Monkey River
Women of Faith and Religious Identity in Fin-de-Siècle France

Emily Machen

Hardcover $55.00L 978-0-8156-3609-0  
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Series: Religion and Politics

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Considers the critical role women played in shaping France’s religious identity.

“She original study in its bringing together of Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish women and its consideration of how women used their roles within their respective religions to further their position inside and outside of their faith communities. . . . The topic is especially relevant today because of the current debates in France regarding women’s status in Islam.”

—Sarah A. Curtis, professor of history, San Francisco State University

In this unique study, Machen explores a moment of intense religious upheaval and transformation in France between 1880 and 1920. In these pre–World War I years, a powerful Catholic community was pitted against equally powerful anticlerical members of the French Third Republic. During this time, women became increasingly involved in faith-based organizations, engaging in social and political action both to expand women’s rights and to ensure that religion remained part of the public debate about France’s identity. By representing their faith communities as modern, progressive, and in some cases democratic, women positioned themselves to help guide a modernizing France.

Women of Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish faiths also reshaped the narrative of female power within the French nation and within their own religious groups. Their activism provided them with social, religious, and political influence unattainable through any other French institutions, enabling them in turn to push France toward becoming a more democratic, equitable society.  

Machen’s timely examination of the critical role women played in shaping the nation’s religious identity helps to illuminate contemporary issues in France as Muslim communities respond to civic pressure to secularize and as the country debates the role of women in Islam.

Emily Machen is associate professor of history at the University of Northern Iowa.
The Plays of Margaret Drabble
A Critical Edition

Edited by José Francisco Fernández

Hardcover $55.00L 978-0-8156-3605-2
Ebook 978-0-8156-5456-8
Paper $19.95s 978-0-8156-3611-3

6 x 9, 160 pages, bibliography, index

OCTOBER 2018

Two plays by acclaimed British novelist Margaret Drabble.

“Even after several decades of close investigation, the role played by women writers in the theatre and television of the 1960s remains frustratingly hidden. This timely book, gathering together two previously unavailable plays by one of the most significant female novelists of the late twentieth century, helps to fill the gap.”

—David Pattie, University of Birmingham

Award-winning British novelist Margaret Drabble is renowned for her fiction, stories that gave voice to the new woman of the 1960s and continue to illuminate the conflicting roles of women in the twenty-first century. Drabble’s long affiliation with the theatrical world also inspired her to experiment with the dramatic form. She wrote two plays—one for television, Laura (1964), and one for the stage, Bird of Paradise (1969). Fernández’s penetrating new critical edition makes both plays available for the first time, giving Drabble fans a new vantage point from which to understand her work. In Laura and Bird of Paradise, Drabble mines the familiar territory of social class, domestic life, and questions of destiny, which have been the hallmark of her writing. As in her novels, both plays reveal a deep curiosity about the world and a piercing commentary on the social issues of her time. The volume’s introduction and accompanying critical essays give valuable insight into the plays’ historical and social context, and explore the artistic solutions that an accomplished author of fiction found when writing for the stage. Offering a fascinating complement to Drabble’s prodigious oeuvre, this volume also provides a glimpse into a specific period in English letters, one that shaped an influential generation of writers.

Margaret Drabble is the author of The Dark Flood Rises, The Seven Sisters, The Peppered Moth, and The Needle’s Eye, among other novels. For her contributions to contemporary English literature, she was made a Dame of the British Empire in 2008.

José Francisco Fernández is a lecturer at the University of Almería in Spain. He is the editor of a collection of short stories by Margaret Drabble, A Day in the Life of a Smiling Woman: Complete Short Stories.

Praise for Margaret Drabble . . .

“Gorgeous writing . . . [Drabble’s] flawed and oh-so-human characters appall and enthrall.”

—Boston Globe

“As meticulous as Jane Austen, and as deadly as Evelyn Waugh.”

—Los Angeles Times
Making the New Middle East
POLITICS, CULTURE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS
Edited by Valerie J. Hoffman

Hardcover $80.00  978-0-8156-3606-9
Ebook  978-0-8156-5457-5
Paper $45.00s  978-0-8156-3612-0

6 x 9, 480 pages, 1 black-and-white illustration, 3 maps, 8 tables, notes, bibliography, index
Series: Contemporary Issues in the Middle East
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—John Voll, coauthor of Islam and Democracy after the Arab Spring

Demands for freedom, justice, and dignity have animated protests and revolutions across the Middle East in recent years, from the Iranian Green Movement and the Arab Spring uprisings to Turkey’s March for Justice and the ongoing struggle in Palestine. Although expectations raised by the Arab Spring were largely disappointed and protests that toppled entrenched rulers unleashed vicious counterrevolutionary forces, there is no doubt that the landscape of the Middle East has changed. Drawing from diverse disciplines, this volume offers critical perspectives on these changes, covering politics, religion, gender dynamics, human rights, media, literature, and music. What ultimately has changed in “the new Middle East”? Who are the actors pushing the direction of change? How are aspirations for change being expressed through media and the arts? With extensive analysis and thoughtful reflection, this book gives readers an in-depth portrayal of a modernizing Middle East.

Valerie J. Hoffman is professor and head of the Department of Religion at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. She is the author of The Essentials of Ibâdi Islam.
“Political Muslims represents a significant work insofar as it provides an important and valuable alternative portrait of socially and politically engaged Muslim youth mobilizing their religious identity and particular interpretations of religion in ways that allow them to pursue political agendas.”

—Peter Mandaville, professor of international affairs, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University

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Edited by Tahir Abbas and Sadek Hamid

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NOVEMBER 2018

An interdisciplinary collection of the best international scholarship on Muslim youth.

In the last few decades, the media, academics, and the general public have put considerable focus on Muslim culture and politics around the world. Specifically, the rising population of young Muslims has generated concerns about religious radicalism, Islamism, and conflicts in multicultural societies. Few studies, however, have been devoted to how a new generation of Muslims is reshaping society in positive ways. In Political Muslims, Abbas and Hamid provide a new perspective on Muslim youth, presenting them as agents of creative social change and as active participants in cultural and community organizations to practice resistance and to negotiate change.

In a series of case studies that cross the globe, contributors capture the experiences of being young and Muslim in ten countries—the United States, Canada, Britain, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kashmir, and Indonesia. They examine urban youth from various socio-economic backgrounds, addressing issues that range from hybrid identities and student activism to the strategic use of music and social media. With diverse disciplinary and methodological approaches, Political Muslims gives readers a nuanced and authentic understanding of the everyday social, economic, and political realities of young people.

Tahir Abbas is a visiting senior fellow in the Department of Government at the London School of Economics and a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute in London. He is the author of Contemporary Turkey in Conflict: Ethnicity, Islam, and Politics.

Sadek Hamid is a senior research assistant at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies. He is the author of Young British Muslims: Between Rhetoric and Realities.
Captain America, Masculinity, and Violence
THE EVOLUTION OF A NATIONAL ICON

J. Richard Stevens

6 x 9, 416 pages, notes, works cited, index
Series: Television and Popular Culture
AUGUST 2018

Reveals how the comic book hero has evolved to maintain relevance to America’s fluctuating ideas of masculinity and patriotism.

“Stevens uses Captain America’s shifting identity to relate the story of [Marvel’s] tumultuous journey over the course of six decades, and he presents his examination in a clear and concise fashion that will appeal to communication and pop culture scholars, historians, and even comic book fans longing for an in-depth analysis of Marvel Comics.”—Popular Culture Studies Journal

“Stevens sketches an intriguing history that follows Captain America from his violent, nationalistic beginnings as a crusader against first Nazis and then Communists through his evolution into a liberal crusader in the 1970s, a hyper-commercialized leader in the 1980s, and a superficial icon in the 1990s.”—Choice

Black Male Frames
AFRICAN AMERICANS IN A CENTURY OF HOLLYWOOD CINEMA, 1903–2003

Roland Leander Williams Jr.

6 x 9, 224 pages, 9 black-and-white illustrations, bibliography, index
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Charts the development and shifting popularity of two stereotypes of black masculinity in popular American film.

“Black Male Frames provides lay readers, students, and scholars with a thought-provoking examination of how commercial film, history, and politics remain interconnected and makes a commendable contribution to Syracuse University Press’s Television and Popular Culture series.”—Journal of American Culture

“He discusses the rich history of the black experience, from the arrival of the first blacks in North America (in Jamestown) to the election of the first black US president and ways this history coincides with the emergence of these black male representations.”—Choice
Pretty Liar

TELEVISION, LANGUAGE, AND GENDER IN WARTIME LEBA NON

Natalie Khazaal

Hardcover $70.00 978-0-8156-3595-6
Ebook 978-0-8156-5451-3
Paper $39.95 978-0-8156-3599-4

6 x 9, 336 pages, 13 black-and-white illustrations, notes, bibliography, index
SEPTEMBER 2018

Traces the roots of the watershed transformation of Arab television legitimacy.

“This is a fine work and will be a substantive contribution to literature on Lebanon and on media in the region.”
—Andrea Stanton, associate professor of Islamic studies, University of Denver

How did a new, irresistible brand of television emerge from the Lebanese Civil War (1975–91) to conquer the Arab region in the satellite era? What role did seductive news anchors, cool language teachers, superheroes, and gossip magazines play in negotiating a modern relationship between television and audiences? How did the government lose its television monopoly to sectarian militias? Pretty Liar explores the rise of language and gender politics in Lebanese television during the Civil War of 1975–91. Khazaal tells the untold story of the coevolution of Lebanese television and its audience, and the ways in which the war influenced that transformation. Khazaal analyzes news, entertainment, and educational shows from Télé Liban and LBC, novels, periodicals, and popular culture to explain how controversies over language and gender became a referendum on television’s relevance. Based on empirical data, Khazaal shows how television became a site for politics and political resistance, feminism, and the cradle for postwar Lebanon. Pretty Liar challenges the narrow focus on present-day satellite television and social media, offering the first account of how broadcast television transformed media’s legitimacy in the Arab world. This groundbreaking book shows how the history of television in Lebanon is a history not merely of corporate technology but of a people and their continuing demand for responsive media, especially during times of civil unrest.

Natalie Khazaal is assistant professor of international studies and Arab culture at Texas A&M University. She studies the role of the media in representations of minorities, as well as the role of language and literature in generating media representations.

“Pretty Liar: Television, Language, and Gender in Wartime Lebanon is an original, accessible, and welcome contribution to the scant literature on Lebanese television. . . . It is an auspicious reminder that Arab media studies has moved into a new phase, away from general introductions to the field and towards an excavation of rich and specific genealogies.”
—Marwan M. Kraidy, author of The Naked Blogger of Cairo: Creative Insurgency in the Arab World
Ottoman Rule of Law and the Modern Political Trial

THE YILDIZ CASE

Avi Rubin

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Explores the passage of Ottoman law into the modern era.

“A tour de force of socio-legal history of the late Ottoman Empire. Rubin leads the reader into a breathtaking journey through the history and historiography of one of the most serious political crises in late Ottoman history, the Yildiz Trial (1881), turning it into a thrilling micro-history.”

—Iris Agmon, author of Family and Court: Legal Culture and Modernity in Late Ottoman Palestine

In 1876, a recently dethroned sultan, Abdülaziz, was found dead in his chambers, the veins in his arm slashed. Five years later, a group of Ottoman senior officials stood a criminal trial and were found guilty for complicity in his murder. Among the defendants was the world-famous statesman former Grand Vizier and reformer Ahmed Midhat Paşa, a political foe of the autocratic sultan Abdülhamit II, who succeeded Abdülaziz and ruled the empire for thirty-three years.

The alleged murder of the former sultan and the trial that ensued were political dramas that captivated audiences both domestically and internationally. The high-profile personalities involved, the international politics at stake, and the intense newspaper coverage all rendered the trial an historic event, but the question of whether the sultan was murdered or committed suicide remains a mystery that continues to be relevant in Turkey today. Drawing upon a wide range of narrative and archival sources, Rubin explores the famous yet understudied trial and its representations in contemporary public discourse and subsequent historiography. Through the reconstruction and analysis of various aspects of the trial, Rubin identifies the emergence of a new culture of legalism that sustained the first modern political trial in the history of the Middle East.

Avi Rubin is senior lecturer in the Department of Middle East Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He is the author of Ottoman Nizamiye Courts: Law and Modernity.
Why Alliances Fail

ISLAMIST AND LEFTIST COALITIONS IN NORTH AFRICA

Matt Buehler

How authoritarian regimes manipulate rural politics to shatter coalitions between two of the fiercest opponents of their rule, Islamists and leftists.

“Theoretically informed, empirically nuanced, and based on years of field work, this book is a model for political scientists engaged in comparative, multi-country studies.”

—Bruce Maddy-Weitzman, Tel Aviv University

Since 2011, the Arab world has seen a number of autocrats, including leaders from Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and Yemen, fall from power. Yet, in the wake of these political upheavals, only one state, Tunisia, transitioned successfully from authoritarianism to democracy. Opposition parties forged a durable and long-term alliance there, which supported democratization. Similar pacts failed in Morocco and Mauritania, however. In Why Alliances Fail, Buehler explores the circumstances under which stable, enduring alliances are built to contest authoritarian regimes, marshaling evidence from coalitions between North Africa’s Islamists and leftists. Buehler draws on nearly two years of Arabic fieldwork interviews, original statistics, and archival research, including interviews with the first Islamist prime minister in Moroccan history, Abdelilah Benkirane. Introducing a theory of alliance durability, Buehler explains how the nature of an opposition party’s social base shapes the robustness of alliances it builds with other parties. He also examines the social origins of authoritarian regimes, concluding that those regimes that successfully harnessed the social forces of rural isolation and clientelism were most effective at resisting the pressure for democracy that opposition parties exerted. With fresh insight and compelling arguments, Why Alliances Fail carries vital implications for understanding the mechanisms driving authoritarian persistence in the Arab world and beyond.

Matt Buehler is a Global Security Fellow at the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy and an assistant professor of political science at the University of Tennessee.
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Family, Ideology, and Law in Nineteenth- and Early Twentieth-Century Egypt

Kenneth M. Cuno


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Series: Gender and Globalization

AUGUST 2018

Winner of the 2015 Albert Hourani Book Award

“A must-read not only for historians of the modern Middle East, but for historians of family law and life more generally.”—American Historical Review

“Modernizing Marriage is likely to be the definitive history of marriage in Egypt for a very long time.”—Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies

“[Cuno’s] careful research and thoughtful analysis make Modernizing Marriage not only an essential read for scholars of Egyptian legal history and Egyptian women but also instructive for those exploring questions about the law, family, and global flows of influence in other times and places.”—Journal of Social History

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NOVEMBER 2018

Examines Palestinian women’s activism from the Oslo Agreement through the Second Intifada.

“An innovative contribution to two sets of literature that have, until now, not been discussed together: first, women and nationalist movements; and, second, women and Islamist movements.”—Nicola Pratt, coeditor of Women and War in the Middle East

Jad traces the transformation of the Palestinian women’s movement from the 1930s to the post-Oslo period and through the Second Intifada to examine the often-fraught relationship between women and nationalism in Palestine. Offering one of the first intensive studies of Islamist women’s activism, Jad also explores the impact of emerging feminist NGOs in depoliticizing the secular Palestinian women’s movement. Studying these two developments together illuminates the nature of women’s engagement in the Palestinian space, challenging myths of gender roles “immutability” under Islam and the supposed “modernizing” benefits of Western-style activism.

Islah Jad is associate professor in the Cultural Studies Department and the Institute for Women’s Studies at Birzeit University in Palestine.
Irish Questions and Jewish Questions
Crossovers in Culture
Edited by Aidan Beatty and Dan O’Brien

Hardcover $65.00L 978-0-8156-3561-1
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Paper $34.95s 978-0-8156-3579-6

A collection of essays exploring the comparative history of Irish and Jewish identity.

The Irish and the Jews are two of the classic outliers of modern Europe. Both struggled with their lack of formal political sovereignty in the nineteenth-century. Simultaneously European and not European, both endured a bifurcated status, perceived as racially inferior and yet also seen as a natural part of the European landscape. Both sought to deal with their subaltern status through nationalism; both had a tangled, ambiguous, and sometimes violent relationship with Britain and the British Empire; and both sought to revive ancient languages as part of their drive to create a new identity. The career of Irish politician Robert Briscoe and the travails of Leopold Bloom are just two examples of the delicate balancing of Irish and Jewish identities in the first half of the twentieth century.

Irish Questions and Jewish Questions explores these shared histories, covering several centuries of the Jewish experience in Ireland, as well as events in Israel–Palestine and North America. The authors examine the leading figures of both national movements to reveal how each had an active interest in the successes, and failures, of the other. Bringing together leading and emerging scholars from the fields of Irish studies and Jewish studies, this volume captures the most recent scholarship on their comparative history with nuance and remarkable insight.

Aidan Beatty has held fellowships at Concordia University and Trinity College Dublin and now teaches at Wayne State University. His first book, Masculinity and Power in Irish Nationalism, was awarded the American Conference for Irish Studies’ Prize for Best Book in History and Social Sciences.

Dan O’Brien is currently an Irish Research Council postdoctoral fellow at University College Dublin. He holds a PhD from University College Cork.

“Beatty’s and O’Brien’s comprehensive collection corrects and amplifies our understanding of the historically significant relationship between the Irish and Jews, one that has been largely governed by the linking analogy of the title, but, as these critics show, with insufficient nuance. These impressive essays represent in divergent ways what Stephen Watt describes in his contribution as the ‘multi-disciplinary bristle of a nascent Irish-Jewish studies.’”

—Marilyn Reizbaum, Bowdoin College

“Boldly revisionist—challenging and deconstructing the notion that Ireland was friendly to Jews, the authors offer a more nuanced and complex image of the ambiguous and often unsettling relationship between Irish and Jews.”

—Eugenio Biagini, coeditor of The Cambridge Social History of Ireland since 1740
Between Persecution and Participation

Biography of a Bookkeeper at J. A. Topf & Söhne

Annegret Schüle and Tobias Sowade
Translated from the German by Penny Milbouer

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5½ x 8, 160 pages, 13 black-and-white illustrations, 1 table, notes, bibliography
Series: Modern Jewish History

OCTOBER 2018

A story of the impossible choices of vulnerable individuals living under the Third Reich and the blurred boundaries between victim, bystander, and accomplice.

This is the story of a crushingly ordinary man who had the misfortune to live in the first two-thirds of the twentieth century. The son of a baptized Jewish father and a Protestant mother, Willy Wiemokli (1908–1983) was declared a half-Jew by the laws of the Third Reich, and because of this, he and his father were briefly interned in Buchenwald. Although his father was eventually executed in Auschwitz in 1943, Willy went on to become an accountant for J. A. Topf & Söhne, the manufacturer of the ovens used in the death of his father as well as thousands of others in concentration camps. Persecuted by the Nazis, he also participated, minimally, in the Nazi-led genocide. This paradox and Willy’s liminal status gives his fascinating biography historical significance, adding a new dimension to our understanding of what the Nazi race policies meant to ordinary Germans. In this brief telling of an otherwise average man’s life, Schüle and Sowade reveal how inefficient race laws were given primacy over the efficiency of production. Based solely on archival records, Willy’s story gives insight into the muddled and impossible choices of vulnerable individuals living under the Third Reich and the blurred boundaries between victim, bystander, and accomplice.

Annegret Schüle is the curator of the memorial Topf & Sons—Builders of the Auschwitz Ovens Place of Remembrance.

Tobias Sowade is a research assistant and lecturer of German history.

Penny Milbouer has translated several publications, including Michael Wieck’s A Childhood under Hitler and Stalin: Memoirs of a “Certified Jew.”
Paul Celan
THE ROMANIAN DIMENSION

Petre Solomon
Translated from the Romanian by Emanuela Tegla
With an Introduction by J. M. Coetzee

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Series: Judaic Traditions in Literature, Music, and Art

An intimate portrait of Paul Celan’s early years, enriching our understanding of the poet’s life and work.

“For those already interested in Celan who don’t know Romanian, this book offers a perspective that is thoughtful and even intimate at times.”
—Maria Bucur, author of Heroes and Victims: Remembering War in Twentieth-Century Romania

Solomon wanted to contribute what he could to understanding the enigma that is Paul Celan—where he came from, how he survived the immediate post-war years, what were his interests, who were his friends, what were the issues that animated and haunted him—he has much to say on this account and he says it with remarkable clarity and humanity. . . . Anyone with an interest in Paul Celan would benefit from the approach taken by Solomon.”
—Adrian Del Caro, author of The Early Poetry of Paul Celan: In the Beginning Was the Word

“Solomon’s important and thought-provoking study, with its exploration in particular of the hitherto little researched Romanian dimension post-1945, places challenging emphasis on the significance of historical and autobiographical context as key to a proper understanding of Celan’s work even where it may seem bafflingly hermetic.”
—Ian Wallace, emeritus professor of German, University of Bath

In the immediate aftermath of World War II, Paul Celan moved to Bucharest, where he spent more than two years working as a translator at Carta Rusa publishing house. During that time he was introduced to poet and translator Petre Solomon and began a close friendship that would endure many years, despite the distances that separated them and the turbulent times in which they lived. In this poignant memoir, Solomon recalls the experiences he shared with Celan and captures the ways in which Bucharest profoundly influenced Celan’s evolution as a poet. He recounts the publication of the famous “Todesfuge” for the first time in the Romanian magazine Agora and his fertile connection with the Romanian surrealist movement. Through Solomon’s vivid recollection and various letters Celan sent to friends, readers also get an intimate glimpse of Celan’s personality, one characterized by a joyful appreciation of friendship and a subtle sense of humor. Translated from the original, Tegla’s edition makes this remarkable memoir available to a much-deserved wider audience for the first time.

Petre Solomon (1923-1991) was a Jewish Romanian poet and translator. He wrote several volumes of poetry and translated major works by Shakespeare, Byron, Balzac, Melville, and many others. In 1981, he was awarded the Writers’ Union Prize for Translation.

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With a compelling narrative and fresh analysis, Tobin examines Shaw’s thirteen-year tenure, his administrative style, and many of the issues the university faced as it transitioned into the twenty-first century: the diversification of its student body and faculty, women in sports, competitive pressure on its intercollegiate teams, and the relevance of higher education in the modern world.

Tobin describes how Shaw led the university through a risky and unconventional renewal, deliberately restraining enrollment growth to strengthen the university and making the Board of Trustees a stronger organization and fund-raising entity. After he stepped down as chancellor, Shaw and his wife, Mary Ann, continued their efforts to improve and shape Central New York in profound and lasting ways, all of which Tobin explores in this fascinating volume.

As a journalist for twenty-five years in Upstate New York, **David T. Tobin** has won numerous state and local awards.

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Edited by Alecea Ritter Standlee

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Distributed for the Graduate School Press of Syracuse University

**MAY 2018**

Explores the challenges of first-generation students and faculty and offers practical tools for navigating the halls of the academy.

One of the most significant achievements in US higher education during the latter half of the twentieth century was the increasing access enjoyed by historically marginalized populations, including women, people of color, and the poor and working class. With this achievement, however, has come a growing population of first-generation students, including first-generation graduate students and faculty members, who struggle at times to navigate unfamiliar territory. This book offers insight into the challenges of first-generation status, as well as practical tools for navigating the halls of the academy for both academics and their institutional allies.

**Alecea Ritter Standlee** is assistant professor of sociology at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.
In the Alley of the Friend

ON THE POETRY OF HAFEZ

Shahrokh Meskoob
Translated from the Persian by M. R. Ghanoonparvar

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Series: Middle East Literature in Translation

Meditation on the works of Persian lyric poet Hafez.

“One of those rare books that gives profound insight into a very different culture.”—Geoffrey Squires, translator of Hafez: Translations and Interpretations of the Ghazals

The celebrated and beloved fourteenth-century Persian poet Hafez continues to play an essential role in the lives of Iranians today. For centuries, scholars have studied his work, exploring both his life and his deeply moving poetry of love, spirituality, and protest. Yet, Shahrokh Meskoob is one of the first scholars to take an innovative approach to Hafez’s poetry. Meskoob goes beyond a linguistic and rhetorical analysis of Hafez’s poetry in the Divan to access the interior thoughts of the poet and summon his spirit in the process of understanding Hafez’s mysticism.

Shahrokh Meskoob (1924–2005) was a translator, writer, scholar, and one of the most influential public intellectuals in Iran. He published translations of Sophocles’s Antigone and Oedipus Rex, and Steinbeck’s Grapes of Wrath.

M. R. Ghanoonparvar is professor emeritus of Persian and comparative literature at the University of Texas at Austin.

Unveiling Men

MODERN MASCULINITIES IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY IRAN

Wendy DeSouza

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For years, Iranian academics, writers, and scholars have equated national development and progress with the reform of men’s sexual behavior. Modern intellectuals repudiated native sexuality in Iran, just as their European counterparts in France and Germany did, arguing that transforming male identity was essential to the recovery of the nation.

DeSouza offers an alternate narrative of modern Iranian masculinity as an attempt to redraw social hierarchies among men. Moving beyond rigid portrayals of Islamic patriarchy and female oppression, she analyzes debates about manhood and maleness in early twentieth-century Iran, particularly around questions of race and sexuality. DeSouza presents the larger implications of Pahlavi hegemonic masculinity in creating racialized male subjects and “productive” sexualities. In addition, she explores a cross-pollination with Europe, identifying how the “East” shaped visions of European male identity.

Wendy DeSouza is PARSA CF visiting lecturer in Iranian studies in the Middle East and South Asia Studies Program at University of California, Davis.
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