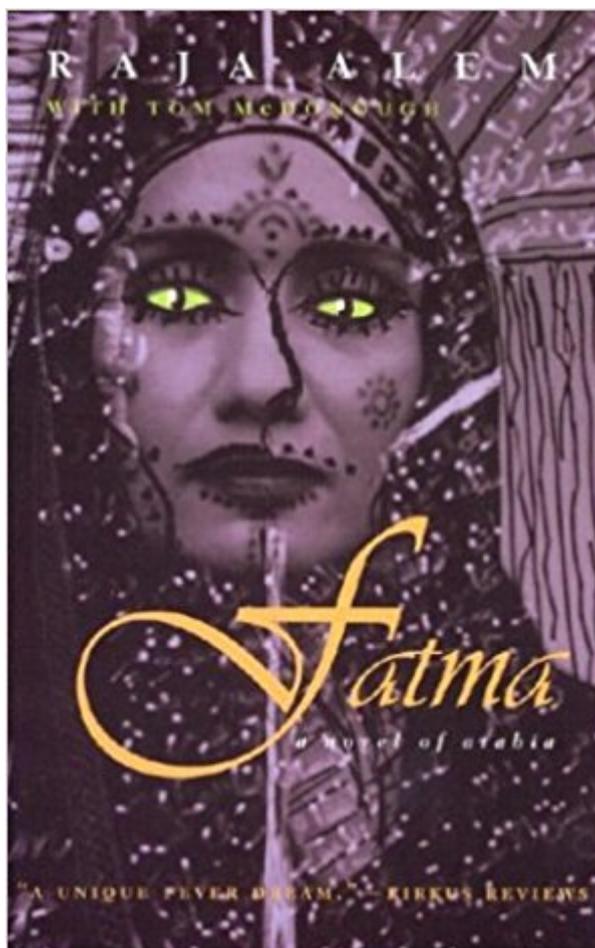


The book was found

Fatma: A Novel Of Arabia (Middle East Literature In Translation)



Synopsis

The story of one woman's passionate odyssey and sophisticated fantasy of Arabia, ancient and modern.

Book Information

Series: Middle East Literature In Translation

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Syracuse University Press; 1 edition (February 1, 2005)

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

These two writers are a fabulous team. Alem's story takes you on a mind-stretching visit inside a culture that I have far less understand of than I wish. The story of Fatma fascinates, and evokes all kinds of questions. The strange world she lives in, as well as the relationship she develops with the snakes make for an adventure unlike any I have read before. Although significant sections of the book are about a mixture of mysterious and mystical events, it takes the reader into another way of seeing inside a life of one who wants the truth, and can follow where her experiences take her. She lives between two worlds; worlds unlike what most of us have experienced or can fathom.

So I'm kind of...sort of...obsessed with middle eastern and indian literature. It's a guilty pleasure that I love to indulge in weekly. That being said, the cover alone of Raja Alem's "Fatima..." enticed me. The more I looked at it, the more I needed to know what lie between those pages. I was captivated by the writing and I just couldn't put it down. And when the story was over, I combed the net searching for any other books translated in English by Ms. Alem.

Fatma is a very different book; it is fascinating reading and at the same time, you don't know if the

character you inhabit as you read is mentally deficient in some way, mentally ill, fantasizing to escape intolerable conditions . . . or what? There are times she seems rational and lucid, and other times . . . not. It is fascinating and absorbing.

I love historical fiction and was looking for something new and middle eastern. This book was a little to strange for me.

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