



Daughters of Arabia: Princess

By Jean Sasson

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Readers of Princess Sultana's extraordinary biography *Princess* were gripped by her powerful indictment of women's lives behind the veil within the royal family of Saudi Arabia. They were every bit as fascinated by the sequel, *Daughters of Arabia*. Here, the princess turns the spotlight on her two daughters, Maha and Amani, both teenagers. Surrounded by untold opulence and luxury from the day they were born, but stifled by the unbearably restrictive lifestyle imposed on them, they reacted in equally desperate ways. Their dramatic and shocking stories, together with many more which concern other members of Princess Sultana's huge family, are set against a rich backdrop of Saudi Arabian culture and social mores which she depicts with equal colour and authenticity. We learn, for example, of the fascinating ritual of the world-famous annual pilgrimage to Makkah as we accompany the princess and her family to this holiest of cities. Throughout, however, she never tires of her quest to expose the injustices which her society levels against women. In her courageous campaign to improve the lot of her own daughters of Arabia, Princess Sultana once more strikes a chord amongst all women who are lucky enough to have the freedom to speak out for themselves.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Sasson's sequel to *Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil* is another page-turner related by "Princess Sultana." A member of the royal family of Saudi Arabia, Sultana now is married to a progressive prince, but this privileged status does not protect her or her two daughters from the country's repressive laws against women. Though a devout Muslim, Sultana believes the entrenched male power structure has perverted religious doctrine to justify veiling women and depriving them of basic civil liberties. The lack of opportunity to forge equal relationships with men before and after marriage, Sultana argues, is why one of her daughters became fanatically religious and the other suffered a mental breakdown. This eye-opening account is limited to life among the royals rather than a critique of Saudi Arabian society, although Sultana describes the brutal custom of female circumcision practiced by the poor.

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From Library Journal

In this sequel to the popular *Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia* (LJ 7/92), Sultana continues her shocking and amazing story into the next generation. Feeling that men are generally at the root of female grief, she argues that it is the duty of the discontented like herself to seek change so that her children's generation will have some relief from the oppression that stifles Saudi women's lives today. The book is more than that—it gives insight into the lives of royalty and the views of those who can be religious while flaunting the strict Sunni rules against alcohol and temporary marriage. This book charms the heart and should be a popular item for general collections.

--*Louise Leonard, Univ. of Florida Libs., Gainesville*

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From [Booklist](#)

In a country where women are still essentially bought or bartered, the princess (real name withheld) is justifiably fearful when the family realizes she is the subject of the 1992 exposé, *Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia*. If this book has a thesis, it is a line the princess uses to describe the troubles her own daughters are going through as they try to assert themselves in the male-dominated society: "When normal is forbidden, people fall into the abnormal." With religious police watching over their morals, one wonders just how more "abnormal" these people and their country can be. The answer: quite a bit. This book, both fascinating and depressing, shows that women are much less than second-class citizens in Saudi society. *Brian McCombie*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Billy Reynolds:

The knowledge that you get from *Daughters of Arabia: Princess* is the more deep you rooting the information that hide inside words the more you get interested in reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to know but *Daughters of Arabia: Princess* giving you thrill feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in selected way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. This book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. That makes it easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend

you for having this kind of Daughters of Arabia: Princess instantly.

Jill Barks:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun in your case. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent the whole day to reading a reserve. The book Daughters of Arabia: Princess it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

Ian Coghlan:

This Daughters of Arabia: Princess is great book for you because the content that is certainly full of information for you who else always deal with world and get to make decision every minute. This specific book reveal it information accurately using great plan word or we can point out no rambling sentences inside. So if you are read the idea hurriedly you can have whole info in it. Doesn't mean it only offers you straight forward sentences but difficult core information with attractive delivering sentences. Having Daughters of Arabia: Princess in your hand like keeping the world in your arm, details in it is not ridiculous just one. We can say that no book that offer you world within ten or fifteen moment right but this e-book already do that. So , this is certainly good reading book. Hey Mr. and Mrs. hectic do you still doubt that?

Timothy Quintero:

Some people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a e-book. They are directly felt that when they get a half parts of the book. You can choose typically the book Daughters of Arabia: Princess to make your own reading is interesting. Your personal skill of reading skill is developing when you like reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to see it and mingle the feeling about book and studying especially. It is to be very first opinion for you to like to start a book and study it. Beside that the reserve Daughters of Arabia: Princess can to be your new friend when you're experience alone and confuse using what must you're doing of their time.

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