

# American Chick In Saudi Arabia Jean Sasson

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## Everything Is Haram Penguin

An Immigrant Love-Hate Story of What it Means to Be American You know that feeling of being at the wrong end of the table? Like you ’ re at a party but all the good stuff is happening out of earshot (#FOMO)? That ’ s life—especially for an immigrant. What happens when a shy, awkward Arab girl with a weird name and an unfortunate propensity toward facial hair is uprooted from her comfortable (albeit fascist-regimed) homeland of Iraq and thrust into the cold, alien town of Columbus, Ohio—with its Egg McMuffins, Barbie dolls, and kids playing doctor everywhere you turned? This is Ayser Salman ’ s story. First comes Emigration, then Naturalization, and finally Assimilation—trying to fit in among her blonde-haired, blue-eyed counterparts, and always feeling left out. On her journey to Americanhood, Ayser sees more naked butts at pre-kindergarten daycare that she would like, breaks one of her parents ’ rules ( “ Thou shalt not participate as an actor in the school musical where a male cast member rests his head in thy lap ” ), and other things good Muslim Arab girls are not supposed to do. And, after the 9/11 attacks, she experiences the isolation of being a Muslim in her own country. It takes hours of therapy, fifty-five rounds of electrolysis, and some ill-advised romantic dalliances for Ayser to grow into a modern Arab American woman who embraces her cultural differences. Part memoir and part how-not-to guide, The Wrong End of the Table is everything you wanted to know about Arabs but were afraid to ask, with chapters such as “ Tattoos and Other National Security Risks, ” “ You Can ’ t Blame Everything on Your Period; Sometimes You ’ re Going to Be a Crazy Bitch: and Other Advice from Mom, ” and even an open letter to Trump. This is the story of every American outsider on a path to find themselves in a country of beautiful diversity.

## War and American Women Oxford University Press

As the western world’s most wanted terrorist, Osama bin Laden has fought to keep his personal life a mystery – loyalty and fear keeping those who know him from speaking out – until now. For the first time, two of Osama’s closest family members, his first wife Najwa and their fourth son Omar, go behind the headlines to reveal the truth about the character and life of a man feared and revered around the globe. In gripping detail, they recount the drama, tensions, and everyday activities of the man they knew as a husband and father. Married at fifteen, Najwa describes the transformation of the quiet, serious young man she fell in love with into an authoritarian husband and stern father, an entrepreneur, and – finally – the leader of a complex international terrorist network. Uprooted from a life of extraordinary luxury and privilege in Saudi Arabia, they suddenly found themselves living life on the run, fleeing from country to country under assumed names and fake passports. Omar describes how he and his siblings were brought up in remote ranches and fortified Afghani mountain camps, handling Kalashnikovs and learning desert survival skills. Their eventual escape from Afghanistan would come just days before the terrible events of 9/11 changed the world forever. With unprecedented access and exclusive family photographs, Jean Sasson, author of the bestselling Princess, presents the story that we were never meant to hear.

It's Not What You Think Bedford Square Publishers  
Bestselling author Jean Sasson tells the dramatic true story of a young woman caught up in Saddam Hussein's genocide of the Kurdish people of Iraq. One morning Joanna, a young bride living in the Kurdish mountains of Iraq, was surprised to see dead birds drop silently out of the clear sky. They were followed by sinister canisters falling to the ground, bringing fear and death. It was 1987, and Saddam Hussein had ordered his cousin 'Chemical Ali' to bombard Joanna's village, Bergalou, with chemical weapons. Temporarily blinded in the attack, Joanna was rescued by her husband, a Kurdish freedom fighter. After being caught in another bombardment and left for dead in the rubble, they managed to flee over the mountains in a harrowing escape. Now living in the UK and working for British Airways, Joanna has told the story of her eventful life to Jean Sasson, the bestselling chronicler of oppressed women's lives in the Princess trilogy and Mayada. Love in a Torn Land is published while the world watches the trial of the notorious 'Chemical Ali', Saddam Hussein's most bloodthirsty henchman, for crimes including the genocide of the Kurdish people.

**What Happened to the Bennetts** Random House  
Offering fascinating stories of triumphs and heartbreak, this long-awaited new book by Jean Sasson and Saudi Princess 'Sultana', reveals what it means to be a Saudi woman today. When Jean Sasson's book "Princess: Life Behind the Veil" in Saudi Arabia was published, it became an immediate international bestseller. It sold to 43 countries and spent 13 weeks on "The New York Times" bestseller list. Now, in this long-awaited, compelling new book, Sasson and the Princess 'Sultana' return to tell the world what it means to be a Saudi woman today. Through advances in education and with access to work, Saudi women are breaking through the barriers; they are becoming doctors, social workers, business owners and are even managing to push at the boundaries of public life. Major steps forward have, undoubtedly, been made. But this is not the whole story. Sadly, despite changes in the law, all too often legal loopholes leave women exposed to terrible suppression, abuse and crimes of psychological and physical violence. For many, the struggle for basic human rights continues. This fascinating insight will include personal stories of triumph and heartbreak, as told to Princess 'Sultana', her eldest daughter, and author Jean Sasson. Each of these stories will offer the reader a glimpse into different aspects of Saudi society, including the lives of the Princess, her daughter and other members of the Al-Saud Royal family."

**A Us Feminist in Saudi Arabia: 1980-1982** Liza Dawson Associates  
From the author of Threading My Prayer Rug, an eye-opening view of life in Saudi Arabia. It's Not What You Think is a wry, incisive account of working in Saudi Arabia that offers insight into that insular patriarchal society, what is so attractive to expatriates living there, and what was contradictory or confining about it for a

naturalized American who is a woman and a Muslim. A hospital executive in New Jersey, Sabeeha relocated with her oncologist husband to Riyadh, the most conservative city in the country, intending to remain two years. They ended up staying for six. Her book takes the reader on a journey of discovery that mirrors her own. Offered an influential position at Riyadh's most prestigious hospital, she first has to obtain her husband's permission to work. In public spaces, she quickly encounters the morality police but also learns the freedom of the abaya. Salesmen staff the lingerie department. Women in Riyadh do not work in public places, yet they hold positions of authority within corporate culture; and outside Riyadh, she discovers that women-owned-and-operated businesses flourish, and Bedouin women could drive in the desert decades before Riyadh's ban was relaxed. Through Sabeeha's eyes, we see how Saudi and Western expat cultures coexist within the boundaries of "don't ask, don't tell," how traditions define the identity of the Saudi nation, and how to discern what is "culturally appropriate" versus what is required legally. As she dons pilgrim's garb, we join her on the hajj, to discover the intensity and spiritual high of the devout.

Saudi Arabia John Wiley & Sons

A powerful indictment of women's lives behind the veil within the royal family of Saudi Arabia. The princess turns the spotlight on her two teenage daughters, Maha and Amani.

**Princess** Simon and Schuster

In *Princess*, readers were shocked by Sultana's revelations about life in Saudi Arabia's royal family. Royal women live as virtual prisoners, surrounded by unimaginable wealth and luxury, privileged beyond belief, and yet subject to every whim of their husbands, fathers, and even their sons. Daughters of Arabia featured Sultana's teenage daughters, determined to rebel but in very different ways. And now, in *Desert Royal*, Sultana's fight for women's rights in a repressive, fundamentalist Islamic society, has an extra sense of urgency. The threat of world terrorism, the gathering strength of religious leaders and the discontent of impoverished Saudis are threatening to topple the comfortable world Sultana has known. But an extended family 'camping' trip in the desert brings Sultana and her relatives face to face with their nomadic roots, and nourishes her will to carry on the fight for women's rights in all Muslim countries. This updated edition contains an all-new chapter as well as a letter from Sultana herself, encouraging all women to take up the struggle for freedom for their abused sisters throughout the world.

**Daughters Of Arabia** iUniverse

Everything is Haram is the story of what happens when an independent American woman is thrust into a culture where women are subjugated by men, religion, ancient traditions and even their own peers. Haram means forbidden in Arabic, and there is

no shortage of things that fall under this distinction. Running in public is haram, dating is haram: and mingling with men who aren't your husband, brother, father, uncle or son can land you in jail or worse. Dogs are haram, so is eyebrow plucking. Tribal mandates, strict Wahhabi edicts and monstrous sandstorms: all apocalyptic over Western senses. Yasmina, a non-religious feminist, moves Saudi to help grow an English program, hoping to have a positive impact on university women. She builds a relationship with these young women who are hidden from the world. Yasmina engages in many haram activities, some willingly and others unknowingly, until the unthinkable happens....over and over again.

Princess Garnet & Ithaca Press

This fascinating book is the first volume in a projected cultural history of the United States, from the earliest English settlements to our own time. It is a history of American folkways as they have changed through time, and it argues a thesis about the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins. While most people in the United States today have no British ancestors, they have assimilated regional cultures which were created by British colonists, even while preserving ethnic identities at the same time. In this sense, nearly all Americans are "Albion's Seed," no matter what their ethnicity may be. The concluding section of this remarkable book explores the ways that regional cultures have continued to dominate national politics from 1789 to 1988, and still help to shape attitudes toward education, government, gender, and violence, on which differences between American regions are greater than between European nations.

**Princess Sultana's Circle** IGI Global

When Jean Sasson's book *Princess: Life Behind the Veil* in Saudi Arabia was published, it became an immediate international bestseller. It sold to 43 countries and spent 13 weeks on The New York Times bestseller list. Now, in this long-awaited, compelling new book, Sasson and the Princess 'Sultana' return to tell the world what it means to be a Saudi woman today. Through advances in education and with access to work, Saudi women are breaking through the barriers; they are becoming doctors, social workers, business owners and are even managing to push at the boundaries of public life. Major steps forward have, undoubtedly, been made. But this is not the whole story. Sadly, despite changes in the law, all too often legal loopholes leave women exposed to terrible suppression, abuse and crimes of psychological and physical violence. For many, the struggle for basic human rights continues. This fascinating insight will include personal stories of triumph and heartbreak, as told to Princess 'Sultana', her eldest daughter, and author Jean Sasson. Each of these stories will offer the reader a glimpse into different aspects of Saudi society, including the lives of the Princess, her daughter and other members of the Al-Saud Royal family.

*Brownies and Kalashnikovs* CreateSpace

Discusses the people, geography, language, religion, customs, lifestyles, and culture of Saudi Arabia.

The Burning Veil Henry Holt Books For Young Readers  
The book describes the experiences of a single American woman teaching in a university in Saudi Arabia between 1980 and 1982, just as the Islamic world was experiencing a reversal of previously achieved steps toward women's rights. The loosening of restrictions on women which had occurred during the 1970s was overturned when the fear of the rulers was heightened after the attempted take-over of the Grand Mosque in Mecca. The author takes us there with her while the Epilogue brings us up to today in Saudi Arabia.

*Love In A Torn Land* Simon and Schuster  
An American woman shares her journey from living in Cabrini Green in Chicago, Illinois, to meeting her Saudi Arabian spouse at Vincennes University and venturing off to live in Saudi Arabia for thirteen years. Tina enjoys sharing her unique story with friends and those who want to ask questions about her unique life. The story begins with life in Cabrini Green, moving to Indiana, and eventually Saudi Arabia. Enjoy the journey. Each chapter will take you on my journey through my childhood from Cabrini Green to life in Saudi Arabia and how I met my husband and our journey together. Sit back and relax and read on.

*Ester's Child* William Morrow  
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.

*Sun, Sand and Single* Tafelberg  
"Cay Garcia was given only a few hours to pack up her belongings and leave Riyadh for good. She had dared to confront her employer, a young Saudi princess, about the treatment of her staff. In Behind palace walls, she shares the intrigues of Riyadh's expat community and exposes the nasty underbelly of the extravagant

lives of Saudi Arabian royalty"--Back cover.  
Queens of the Kingdom Random House  
"Leaving America" is book 1 in the series, "Memoirs of an American in Arabia". These memoirs are the true life story of Addison Ireland, the thirteenth child in a family of fourteen who was raised in the Seattle suburbs by Irish-Catholic parents. Addison is suddenly faced with tough life decisions at just nineteen years old, when her parents decide she and her brothers should move out of the house so that they can downsize and simplify their lives. It was also her parents attempt at forcing Addison to give up on marrying her Arabic boyfriend and move on in life. Addison thinks about the choices she has; the decision to either marry her Saudi Arabian boyfriend or find somewhere to live and make a new life for herself. Upset and crying, she leaves her parents house and drives to her friends seeking advice, only to get attacked and brutally raped by several men at her friend's apartment. Traumatized and in pain, Addison is dumped in front front of her parents home where her childhood friend, Bryce, rushes to her side to console her and let her know that he wants to protect her and be with her. Unfortunately, Addison's traumatic experience has caused her to repress any memory of that night. Addison's true story leads us down her long road of adversity as she ultimately decides to get married and move away to live in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; heading down what she hopes is a yellow brick road to a better life. Unfortunately, her yellow brick road turns blue at many times during her life married to a Saudi man. She overcomes situations no woman should ever have to face alone. Addison takes us into a world rarely seen by Americans and even clears up many of the misconceptions about Saudi Arabia. It's the sincere wish of the author that other women who have faced similar circumstances: sexual assault, divorce, oppression, abuse, etc. will find some inspiration in these memoirs and just know that we are stronger than we think we are. We can get through hardships and forge ahead to success if we put our minds to it and have faith.

Driving by Starlight Simon and Schuster  
The Aramco flight from New York bounced to a halt on the Dhahran airstrip. Nancy Gray joined the press of bleary-eyed passengers struggling down the ramp toward the arrivals hall. Gasping for breath in the 122-degree heat and blinded by the glare of the sun on the desert sands, she wondered why she'd accepted employment in Saudi Arabia in the first place. The chance to explore the "storied" Middle East and the promise of a fat paycheck to finance her ambitious travel agenda had won her over. Her contract guaranteed her salary, but her rosy vision of a Middle East decorated with well-mannered

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camels, Moorish palaces, and swaying palm trees required a reset even before she cleared Immigration and Customs. Meanwhile, beneath a paper-thin layer of surface calm, Saudi Arabia and its neighbors were navigating through turning points in their own history. Traditional versus modern lifestyles, religious/ethnic tensions, unresolved refugee problems, the role of foreign business interests in the Middle East, and post-colonial issues in the region were becoming as divisive then as they are now. Intent on absorbing as much as she could about current issues in the region and their historical roots, and armed only with a smattering of mostly self-taught Arabic, Nancy Gray took advantage of every spare moment for travel, while keeping up with her Aramco job, teaching piano, and operating a catering business. Follow her as she visits sites of historical interest, learns the unique features of oil-camp-expat life, teaches Arab women to operate treadle sewing machines, makes Arab friends, interviews and learns from refugees, bargains in the suqs, and even figures out how to make flambe dishes in bone-dry Saudi Arabia.

*Albion's Seed* Random House

From #1 bestselling author Lisa Scottoline comes a pulse-pounding new novel. Your family has been attacked. Now you have to choose between law... and justice. Jason Bennett is a suburban dad whose life takes a horrific turn. He is driving his family home when a pickup truck begins tailgating them. Suddenly two men jump from the pickup and pull guns on Jason, demanding the car. A horrific flash of violence changes his life forever. Later that awful night, Jason and his family receive a visit from the FBI. The agents tell them that the carjackers were members of a dangerous drug-trafficking organization – and now Jason and his family are in their crosshairs. The agents advise the Bennetts to enter the witness protection program. But WITSEC was not designed to protect law-abiding families. Trapped in an unfamiliar life, the Bennetts begin to fall apart at the seams. Then Jason learns a shocking truth and realizes that he has to take matters into his own hands. Sometimes justice is a one-man show.

**And Tango Makes Three** Garnet Publishing

The heartwarming true story of two penguins who create a nontraditional family. At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own.

**Princess More Tears to Cry** Doubleday UK

Describes the brutal reality of women living in Saudi Arabia and the continuing attempts of Princess Sultana to fight oppression and establish human rights.