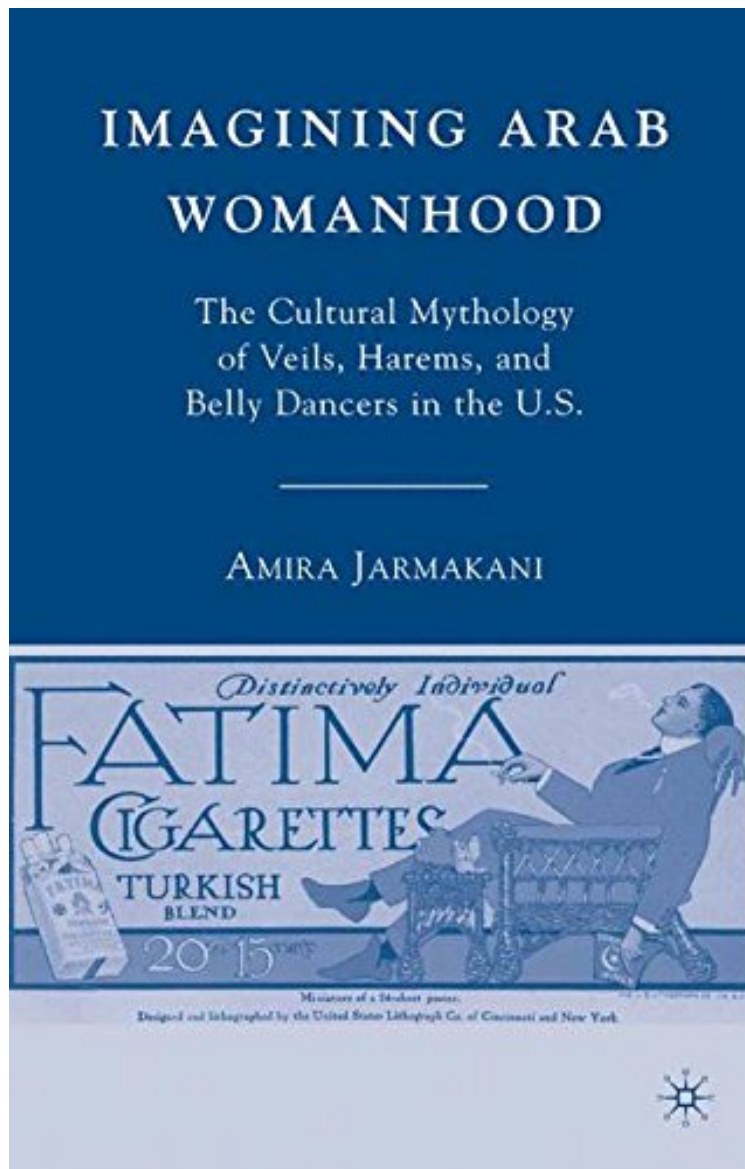


(Ebook pdf) *Imagining Arab Womanhood: The Cultural Mythology of Veils, Harems, and Belly Dancers in the U.S.*

Imagining Arab Womanhood: The Cultural Mythology of Veils, Harems, and Belly Dancers in the U.S.

A. Jarmakani

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#7219481 in Books 2015-10-09 2015-10-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.50 x .57 x 5.511, .65 #File Name: 1349372579236 pages | File size: 50.Mb

A. Jarmakani : Imagining Arab Womanhood: The Cultural Mythology of Veils, Harems, and Belly Dancers in the U.S. before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Imagining Arab Womanhood: The Cultural Mythology of Veils, Harems, and Belly Dancers in the U.S.*:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Inaccessible to the average reader
By Raskolnikov
I was very excited when I first saw this book. It has an interesting premise (to examine US/orientalist images of Arab women in the 20th century) and does what it sets out to do in a well-researched, academic fashion. Jarmakani details such things as cigarette ads and belly dancers at the Chicago World's fair with an eye to demonstrating how the US has shaped these fantastical narratives of the east to serve their purposes. It could have been so fascinating. But here's my problem -this book is so steeped in post-colonial, gender studies jargon that it is painful and difficult to wade through. It reads like a PhD dissertation that was made into a book with little editing, catering to a very small audience of other ivory tower academics all familiar with the same lingo. With sentences 6-8 lines long and frequent phrases such as "gender liberation", "mapping women's bodies" and fragmenting them, and tiresome references to Foucault (seriously, can we move past him now please?), this text is, unfortunately, not for the average reader. I'm sure it would be useful for those well-versed in post-colonial and gender studies jargon, but what good is that if the average intelligent reader, who WANTS to read and be educated about this stuff, finds it tedious to slog through? Unfortunately, it doesn't much help the cause, and only turns people away from these important discussions and topics.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Contribution
By Dena/Daniel Bugel-Shunra
I agree with the points made by Raskolnikov, and would wish that even PhD theses would use less jargon. That said, it is a pertinent subject with important insights, and everyone capable of dealing with this kind of lingo should read it. I look forward to a second edition - or a sequel - written for a wider public, perhaps with an eye to persuading people who don't think along similar lines anyway...

A fascinating demonstration of how U.S. representations of veils, harems, and belly dancers have operated as nostalgic and exotic symbols to help rationalize dominant U.S. narratives about power and progress.

'This is an outstanding, truly innovative, and very timely project that explores predominant images of Arab women in U.S. popular culture.' - Nadine Naber, Program in American Culture and Department of Women's Studies, University of Michigan, USA
About the Author
AMIRA JARMAKANI is Assistant Professor in the Women's Studies Institute at Georgia State University, USA.