

# Desert Queen The Extraordinary Life Of Gertrude Bell Adventurer Adviser To Kings Ally Of Lawrence Of Arabia

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**Tales from the Queen of the Desert** - Gertrude Bell 2015-02

A woman far ahead of her time, Gertrude gained a first from Oxford at a time when very few subjects were even open to women. She went on to take an active interest in politics before embarking on her one-woman travels across the Middle East. She chronicled her journeys through Iraq, Persia, Syria and beyond and her important diplomatic work, with characteristic wit and incisiveness.

**Eleanor and Hick** - Susan Quinn 2016-09-27

A warm, intimate account of the love between Eleanor Roosevelt and reporter Lorena Hickok—a relationship that, over more than three decades, transformed both women's lives and empowered them to play significant roles in one of the most tumultuous periods in American history. In 1932, as her husband assumed the presidency, Eleanor Roosevelt entered the claustrophobic, duty-bound existence of the First Lady with dread. By that time, she had put her deep

disappointment in her marriage behind her and developed an independent life—now threatened by the public role she would be forced to play. A lifeline came to her in the form of a feisty campaign reporter for the Associated Press: Lorena Hickok. Over the next thirty years, until Eleanor's death, the two women carried on an extraordinary relationship: They were, at different points, lovers, confidantes, professional advisors, and caring friends. They couldn't have been more different. Eleanor had been raised in one of the nation's most powerful political families and was introduced to society as a debutante before marrying her distant cousin, Franklin. Hick, as she was known, had grown up poor in rural South Dakota and worked as a servant girl after she escaped an abusive home, eventually becoming one of the most respected reporters at the AP. Her admiration drew the buttoned-up Eleanor out of her shell, and the two quickly fell in love. For the next thirteen

years, Hick had her own room at the White House, next door to the First Lady. These fiercely compassionate women inspired each other to right the wrongs of the turbulent era in which they lived. During the Depression, Hick reported from the nation's poorest areas for the WPA, and Eleanor used these reports to lobby her husband for New Deal programs. Hick encouraged Eleanor to turn their frequent letters into her popular and long-lasting syndicated column "My Day," and to befriend the female journalists who became her champions. When Eleanor's tenure as First Lady ended with FDR's death, Hick pushed her to continue to use her popularity for good—advice Eleanor took by leading the UN's postwar Human Rights Commission. At every turn, the bond these women shared was grounded in their determination to better their troubled world. Deeply researched and told with great warmth, Eleanor and Hick is a vivid portrait of love and a revealing look at how an

unlikely romance influenced some of the most consequential years in American history.

*Dreamers of the Day* - Mary Doria Russell 2008-03-11

A schoolteacher still reeling from the tragedies of the Great War and the influenza epidemic travels to the Middle East in this memorable and passionate novel "Marvelous . . . a stirring story of personal awakening set against the background of a crucial moment in modern history."—The Washington Post Agnes Shanklin, a forty-year-old schoolteacher from Ohio, has come into a modest inheritance that allows her to take the trip of a lifetime to Egypt and the Holy Land. Arriving at the Semiramis Hotel just as the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference convenes, she is freed for the first time from her mother's withering influence and finds herself being wooed by a handsome, mysterious German. At the same time, Agnes—with her plainspoken American opinions—is drawn into the company of Winston Churchill, T. E. Lawrence, and Lady

Gertrude Bell, who will, in the space of a few days, redraw the world map to create the modern Middle East. As they change history, Agnes too will find her own life transformed forever. With prose as graceful and effortless as a seductive float down the Nile, Mary Doria Russell illuminates the long, rich history of the Middle East with a story that brilliantly elucidates today's headlines.

**The Monstrous Regiment of Women** - S. Jansen 2002-10-17  
In *The Monstrous Regiment of Women*, Sharon Jansen explores the case for and against female rule by examining the arguments made by theorists from Sir John Fortescue (1461) through Bishop Bossuet (1680) interweaving their arguments with references to the most well-known early modern queens. The 'story' of early modern European political history looks very different if, instead of focusing on kings and their sons, we see successive generations of powerful women and the shifting political alliances of

the period from a very different, and revealing, perspective.

**Seraglio** - Janet Wallach 2003  
A fictional portrait of Aimée Dubucq, who was kidnapped at the age of thirteen and placed in a Turkish harem, traces her relationships with several powerful sultans and her place as an influential woman in the Ottoman Empire.

**Gertrude Bell** - Georgina Howell 2010-04-01  
A marvelous tale of an adventurous life of great historical import. She has been called the female Lawrence of Arabia, which, while not inaccurate, fails to give Gertrude Bell her due. She was at one time the most powerful woman in the British Empire: a nation builder, the driving force behind the creation of modern-day Iraq. Born in 1868 into a world of privilege, Bell turned her back on Victorian society, choosing to read history at Oxford and going on to become an archaeologist, spy, Arabist, linguist, author (of *Persian Pictures*, *The Desert and the Sown*, and many other

collections), poet, photographer, and legendary mountaineer (she took off her skirt and climbed the Alps in her underclothes). She traveled the globe several times, but her passion was the desert, where she traveled with only her guns and her servants. Her vast knowledge of the region made her indispensable to the Cairo Intelligence Office of the British government during World War I. She advised the Viceroy of India; then, as an army major, she traveled to the front lines in Mesopotamia. There, she supported the creation of an autonomous Arab nation for Iraq, promoting and manipulating the election of King Faisal to the throne and helping to draw the borders of the fledgling state. Gertrude Bell, vividly told and impeccably researched by Georgina Howell, is a richly compelling portrait of a woman who transcended the restrictions of her class and times, and in so doing, created a remarkable and enduring legacy. " ... there's never a dull moment in the peerless life of

this trailblazing character." - Kirkus Reviews  
Improbable Women - William Woods Cotterman 2013-10-22  
Zenobia was the third-century Syrian queen who rebelled against Roman rule. Before Emperor Aurelian prevailed against her forces, she had seized almost one-third of the Roman Empire. Today, her legend attracts thousands of visitors to her capital, Palmyra, one of the great ruined cities of the ancient world. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, during the time of Ottoman rule, travel to the Middle East was almost impossible for Westerners. That did not stop five daring women from abandoning their conventional lives and venturing into the heart of this inhospitable region. Improbable Women explores the lives of Hester Stanhope, Jane Digby, Isabel Burton, Gertrude Bell, and Freya Stark, narrating the story of each woman's pilgrimage to Palmyra to pay homage to the warrior queen. Although the women lived in different time periods,

ranging from the eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century, they all had middle- to upper-class British backgrounds and overcame great societal pressures to pursue their independence. Cotterman situates their lives against a backdrop of the Middle Eastern history that was the setting for their adventures. Divided into six sections, one devoted to Zenobia and one on each of the five women, *Improbable Women* is a fascinating glimpse into the experiences and characters of these intelligent, open-minded, and free-spirited explorers.

### **Ayn Rand and the World She Made** - Anne C. Heller

2009-10-27

Ayn Rand is best known as the author of the perennially bestselling novels *The Fountainhead* and *Atlas Shrugged*. Altogether, more than 12 million copies of the two novels have been sold in the United States. The books have attracted three generations of readers, shaped the foundation of the

Libertarian movement, and influenced White House economic policies throughout the Reagan years and beyond. A passionate advocate of laissez-faire capitalism and individual rights, Rand remains a powerful force in the political perceptions of Americans today. Yet twenty-five years after her death, her readers know little about her life. In this seminal biography, Anne C. Heller traces the controversial author's life from her childhood in Russia during the Bolshevik Revolution to her years as a screenwriter in Hollywood, the publication of her blockbuster novels, and the rise and fall of the cult that formed around her in the 1950s and 1960s. Throughout, Heller reveals previously unknown facts about Rand's history and looks at Rand with new research and a fresh perspective. Based on original research in Russia, dozens of interviews with Rand's acquaintances and former acolytes, and previously unexamined archives of tapes and letters, *AYN RAND AND THE WORLD SHE MADE* is a

comprehensive and eye-opening portrait of one of the most significant and improbable figures of the twentieth century.

### **The Pride of the Yankees -**

Richard Sandomir 2017-06-13

"I CONSIDER MYSELF THE LUCKIEST MAN ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH." On July 4, 1939, baseball great Lou Gehrig delivered what has been called "baseball's Gettysburg Address" at Yankee Stadium and gave a speech that included the phrase that would become legendary. He died two years later and his fiery widow, Eleanor, wanted nothing more than to keep his memory alive. With her forceful will, she and the irascible producer Samuel Goldwyn quickly agreed to make a film based on Gehrig's life, *The Pride of the Yankees*. Goldwyn didn't understand--or care about--baseball. For him this film was the emotional story of a quiet, modest hero who married a spirited woman who was the love of his life, and, after a storied career, gave a short speech that transformed

his legacy. With the world at war and soldiers dying on foreign soil, it was the kind of movie America needed. Using original scrips, letters, memos, and other rare documents, Richard Sandomir tells the behind-the-scenes story of how a classic was born. There was the so-called Scarlett O'Hara-like search to find the actor to play Gehrig; the stunning revelations Elanor made to the scriptwriter Paul Gallico about her life with Lou; the intensive training Cooper underwent to learn how to catch, throw, and hit a baseball for the first time; and the story of two now-legendary Hollywood actors in Gary Cooper and Teresa Wright whose nuanced performances endowed the Gehrigs with upstanding dignity and cemented the baseball icon's legend. Sandomir writes with great insight and aplomb, painting a fascinating portrait of a bygone Hollywood era, a mourning widow with a dream, and the shadow a legend cast on one of the greatest sports films of all time.

**Chanel** - Janet Wallach 1998  
Chronicles the life and career  
of the French designer,  
highlighting her innovative  
approach to design based on  
her knowledge of women and  
their clothing needs

ARAFAT: IN THE EYES OF  
THE BEHOLDER (INTERLOAN  
322185). -

Princess - Jean Sasson  
2011-12-31

In a land where Kings still rule,  
I am a Princess. You must know  
me only as Sultana, for I  
cannot reveal my true name for  
fear that harm will come to me  
and my family for what I am  
about to tell you. Think of a  
Saudi Arabian princess and  
what do you see? A woman  
glittering with jewels, living a  
life of unbelievable luxury. She  
has gold, palaces, swimming-  
pools, servants, designer  
dresses galore. But in reality  
she lives in a gilded cage. She  
has no freedom, no vote, no  
control over her own life, no  
value but as a bearer of sons.  
Hidden behind the veil, she is a  
prisoner, her jailers her father,  
her husband, her sons.

'Sultana' is a member of the  
Saudi royal family, closely  
related to the King. For the  
sake of her daughters, she  
decided that it was time for a  
woman in her position to speak  
out about the reality of life for  
women in her country,  
whatever their rank. She tells  
of her own life, from her  
turbulent childhood to her  
arranged marriage - a happy  
one, until her husband decided  
to take a second wife - and of  
the lives of her sisters, her  
friends and her servants. In  
contrast to the affection and  
easy camaraderie amongst the  
women, she relates a history of  
appalling oppression against  
them, everyday occurrences  
that in any other culture would  
be seen as shocking human  
rights violations: forced  
marriages, servants bullied into  
sex slavery, summary  
executions. Princess is a  
testimony to a woman of  
indomitable spirit and great  
courage. By speaking out,  
'Sultana' risked bringing the  
wrath of the Saudi  
establishment upon her head  
and upon the heads of her

children. For this reason, she told her story anonymously.

*Queen of the Desert* - Fergus Mason 2014-03-30

T.E. Lawrence is often credited with bringing diplomacy to the Middle East; in the shadows of every great man you will often find an even greater woman. In Lawrence's case, that woman's name was Gertrude Bell. In a time when women didn't go to school, Bell did; in a time when women didn't join the army, Bell secured a job at the Army Intelligence Headquarters in Cairo; she spoke Arabic, Persian, French and German. She knew the Middle Eastern terrain and culture better than almost any Westerner of her time. In a male driven world, Bell managed to become one of the greatest policy makers the world has ever known; without her, the Middle East might very well be a much different place, and her influence in the territory gave her the nickname "Queen of the Desert." This biography tells the extraordinary story of one of the most adventurous and fascinating women you will

ever encounter.

*Star of the Morning: The Extraordinary Life of Lady Hester Stanhope (Text Only)* -

Kirsten Ellis 2012-10-25

The dramatic story of Lady Hester Stanhope - a wilful beauty turned bohemian adventurer - who left England as a young woman, unashamedly enjoyed a string of lovers and established her own exotic fiefdom in the Lebanese mountains where she died in 1839.

**The Desert and the Sown** - Gertrude Lowthian Bell 1907

*A Museum in Baghdad* -

Hannah Khalil 2019-12-31

This is about my responsibility. Doing what is right. Being where I'm needed. I've started a job and I must finish it. I owe it to the people of Iraq. In 1926, the nation of Iraq is in its infancy, and British archaeologist Gertrude Bell is founding a museum in Baghdad. In 2006, Ghaliya Hussein is attempting to reopen the museum after looting during the war. Decades apart, these two

women share the same goals: to create a fresh sense of unity and nationhood, to make the world anew through the museum and its treasures. But in such unstable times, questions remain. Who is the museum for? Whose culture are we preserving? And why does it matter when people are dying? A story of treasured history, desperate choices and the remarkable Gertrude Bell. This edition of Hannah Khalil's epic new play was published to coincide with the world premiere at the RSC's *The Other Place* in 2019.

*Desert Queen* - Janet Wallach  
1999

Recounts the life of the adventurer who helped create the modern Middle East

*Desert Queen* - Janet Wallach  
2010-11-30

This "richly textured biography" (Chicago Tribune) inspired the mesmerizing documentary, *Letters from Baghdad*, soon to air on public television. Here is the story of Gertrude Bell, who explored, mapped, and excavated the Arab world throughout the

early twentieth century.

Recruited by British intelligence during World War I, she played a crucial role in obtaining the loyalty of Arab leaders, and her connections and information provided the brains to match T. E.

Lawrence's brawn. After the war, she played a major role in creating the modern Middle East and was, at the time, considered the most powerful woman in the British Empire.

In this masterful biography, Janet Wallach shows us the woman behind these achievements—a woman whose passion and defiant independence were at odds with the confined and custom-bound England she left behind. Too long eclipsed by Lawrence, Gertrude Bell emerges at last in her own right as a vital player on the stage of modern history, and as a woman whose life was both a heartbreaking story and a grand adventure.

*A Woman in Arabia* - Gertrude Bell  
2015-08-11

A portrait in her own words of the female Lawrence of Arabia, the subject of the PBS

documentary *Letters from Baghdad*, voiced by Tilda Swinton, and the major motion picture *Queen of the Desert*, starring Nicole Kidman, James Franco, Damian Lewis, and Robert Pattinson and directed by Werner Herzog. Gertrude Bell was leaning in 100 years before Sheryl Sandberg. One of the great woman adventurers of the twentieth century, she turned her back on Victorian society to study at Oxford and travel the world, and became the chief architect of British policy in the Middle East after World War I. Mountaineer, archaeologist, Arabist, writer, poet, linguist, and spy, she dedicated her life to championing the Arab cause and was instrumental in drawing the borders that define today's Middle East. As she wrote in one of her letters, "It's a bore being a woman when you are in Arabia." Forthright and spirited, opinionated and playful, and deeply instructive about the Arab world, this volume brings together Bell's letters, military dispatches, diary entries, and

travel writings to offer an intimate look at a woman who shaped nations. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,800 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators. *The Young T. E. Lawrence* - Anthony Sattin 2015-01-26 An intimate biography of the years that turned T. E. Lawrence into Lawrence of Arabia. Lawrence of Arabia's heroism during the Arab revolt and his disgust at the subsequent betrayal of the Arabs in the postwar negotiations have become the stuff of legend. But T. E. Lawrence's adventures in the Levant began long before the outbreak of war. This intimate

biography is the first to focus on Lawrence in his twenties, the untold story of the awkward archaeologist from Oxford who, on first visiting "The East," fell in love with Arab culture and found his life's mission. Few people realize that Lawrence's classic autobiography, *Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, was not the first book to carry that iconic title. Lawrence himself burned his original draft. Anthony Sattin here uncovers the story Lawrence wanted to conceal: the truth of his birth, his tortuous relationship with a dominant mother, his deep affection for an Arab boy, and the personal reasons that drove him from student to spy. Drawing on surviving letters, diaries, and accounts from close confidantes, Sattin brings a biographer's eye for detail and a travel writer's verve to Lawrence's extraordinary journeys through the region with which his name is forever connected. In a masterful parallel narrative, *The Young T. E. Lawrence* charts the maturation of the man and the

incipient countries he treasured, both coming of age at a time when the world's foundations were coming undone.

*The Hole in the Sheet* - Evelyn Kaye 1987

Describes the role of women in the various branches of Judaism, and recommends that changes be made to recognize the equality of the sexes in the modern world

*Churchill* - Martin Gilbert  
2014-06-05

"A richly textured and deeply moving portrait of greatness" (Los Angeles Times). In this masterful book, prize-winning historian and authorized Churchill biographer Martin Gilbert weaves together the research from his eight-volume biography of the elder statesman into one single volume, and includes new information unavailable at the time of the original work's publication. Spanning Churchill's youth, education, and early military career, his journalistic work, and the arc of his political leadership, *Churchill: A Life* details the

great man's indelible contribution to Britain's foreign policy and internal social reform. With eyewitness accounts and interviews with Churchill's contemporaries, including friends, family members, and career adversaries, it provides a revealing picture of the personal life, character, ambition, and drive of one of the world's most remarkable leaders. "A full and rounded examination of Churchill's life, both in its personal and political aspects . . . Gilbert describes the painful decade of Churchill's political exile (1929-1939) and shows how it strengthened him and prepared him for his role in the 'hour of supreme crisis' as Britain's wartime leader. A lucid, comprehensive and authoritative life of the man considered by many to have been the outstanding public figure of the 20th century." —Publishers Weekly "Mr. Gilbert's job was to bring alive before his readers a man of extraordinary genius and scarcely less extraordinary

destiny. He has done so triumphantly." —The New York Times Book Review  
Passionate Nomad - Jane Fletcher Geniesse 2010-07-21  
A New York Times Notable Book • Finalist for the PEN/Martha Albrand Award for First Nonfiction "Highly readable biography . . . The woman who emerges from these pages is a complex figure—heroic, driven . . . and entirely human."—Richard Bernstein, The New York Times  
Passionate Nomad captures the momentous life and times of Freya Stark with precision, compassion, and marvelous detail. Hailed by The Times of London as "the last of the Romantic Travellers" upon her death in 1993, Freya Stark combined unflappable bravery, formidable charm, fearsome intellect, and ferocious ambition to become the twentieth century's best-known woman traveler. Digging beneath the mythology, Geniesse uncovers a complex, controversial, and quixotic woman whose indomitable spirit was forged by

contradictions: a child of privilege, Stark grew up in near poverty; yearning for formal education, she was largely self-taught; longing for love, she consistently focused on the wrong men. Despite these hardships, Stark's astonishing career spanned more than sixty years, during which she produced twenty-two books that sealed her reputation as a consummate woman of letters. This edition includes a new Epilogue by the author that, citing newly discovered evidence, calls into question the circumstances of Stark's birth and adds new insight into this adventurous and lively personality. Praise for *Passionate Nomad*

"*Passionate Nomad* is a work of nonfiction that reads and sings with the drama and lilt of a fine novel. The story of Freya Stark is stunning, inspiring, sad, funny, unique, and moving. Jane Fletcher Geniesse tells it straight, but with a care for delicious detail and a sympathy for the characters that make this a truly special book."—Jim Lehrer "*Passionate Nomad*

supplies a fascinating individual thread in the tapestry of twentieth-century Middle Eastern history. . . . [Geniesse] has achieved, in the end, an admirable focus, at once critical and sympathetic. . . . For all Stark's unresolved contradictions, . . . her distinction as a latter-day woman of letters survives."—The New York Times Book Review  
"Compulsively readable . . . [Geniesse] has done a thorough job re-creating the life of a woman many consider to be the last of the great romantic travelers."—The Plain Dealer (Cleveland)

**The Places in Between** - Rory Stewart 2006

Traces the author's 2002 journey by foot across Afghanistan, during which he survived the harsh elements through the kindness of tribal elders, teen soldiers, Taliban commanders, and foreign-aid workers whose stories he collected along his way. By the author of *The Prince of the Marshes*. Original. 20,000 first printing.

**The Jersey Brothers** - Sally Mott Freeman 2017-05-09

"They are three brothers, all navy men, who end up coincidentally and extraordinarily at the epicenter of three of World War II's most crucial moments. Bill is tapped by Franklin D. Roosevelt to run the first Map Room in Washington. Benny is the gunnery and antiaircraft officer on the USS Enterprise, one of the only ships to escape Pearl Harbor and, by the end of 1942, the last aircraft carrier left in the Pacific to defend against the Japanese. Barton, the youngest, gets a plum commission in the Navy Supply Corps because his mother wants him out of harm's way. But this protection plan backfires when Barton is sent to the Philippines and listed as missing-in-action after a Japanese attack. Now it is up to Bill and Benny to rescue him. Based on ten years of research drawn from archives around the world, interviews with fellow shipmates and POWs, and letters half-forgotten in basements, *The Jersey*

*Brothers* whisks readers from America's front porches to Roosevelt's White House, from Pearl Harbor to Midway and Bataan, and from the Pacific battlefronts to the stately home of a fierce New Jersey mother. At its heart *The Jersey Brothers* is a family story, written by one of its own in intimate, novelistic detail. It is a remarkable tale of agony and triumph; of an ordinary young man who shows extraordinary courage as the enemy does everything short of killing him; and of brotherly love tested under the tortures of war."-- Jacket.

**Flaubert in Egypt** - Gustave Flaubert 1996-03-01

Flaubert's unforgettable memoirs of travels abroad At once a classic of travel literature and a penetrating portrait of a "sensibility on tour," *Flaubert in Egypt* wonderfully captures the young writer's impressions during his 1849 voyages. Using diaries, letters, travel notes, and the evidence of Flaubert's traveling companion, Maxime Du Camp, Francis Steegmuller

reconstructs his journey through the bazaars and brothels of Cairo and down the Nile to the Red Sea. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

**The Riviera Set: Glitz, Glamour, and the Hidden World of High Society** - Mary S. Lovell 2017-09-05

The author of the bestselling *The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford Family* brings her trademark brio and relish to the charming and fascinating world of the Château de l'Horizon on the French Riviera. The Riviera Set reveals the story of the group of people who lived, partied, bed-hopped

and politicked at the Château de l'Horizon near Cannes, over the course of forty years from the time when Coco Chanel made southern French tans fashionable in the twenties to the death of the playboy Prince Aly Khan in 1960. At the heart of dynamic group was the amazing Maxine Elliott, the daughter of a fisherman from Connecticut, who built the beautiful art deco Château and brought together the likes of Noel Coward, the Aga Khan, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and two very saucy courtesans, Doris Castlerosse and Daisy Fellowes, who set out to be dangerous distractions to Winston Churchill as he worked on his journalism and biographies during his 'wilderness years' in the thirties. After the War the story continued as the Château changed hands and Prince Aly Khan used it to entertain the Hollywood set, as well as launch his seduction of and eventual marriage to Rita Hayworth. Bringing a bygone era back to life, Mary Lovell cements her spot as one of our

top social historians in this captivating and evocative new book.

Desert Queen - Janet Wallach  
2015-11-12

The life of Gertrude Bell is now the subject of the major motion picture *Queen of the Desert*, starring Nicole Kidman, James Franco and Damian Lewis. Turning away from privileged Victorian Britain, Gertrude Bell explored, mapped and excavated the world of the Arabs, winning the trust of Arab sheiks and chieftains along the way. When the First World War erupted and the British needed the loyalty of Arab leaders, Gertrude Bell provided the intelligence for T.E. Lawrence's military activities. After the war, she played a major role in creating the modern Middle East, and was generally considered the most powerful woman in the British Empire. In this major reassessment of Bell's life, Janet Wallach reveals a woman whose achievements and independent spirit were especially remarkable for her times, and who brought the

same passion and intensity to her explorations as she did to her rich and romantic life.

**Queen of the Desert** - Georgina Howell 2015-01-15  
Archaeologist, spy, Arabist, linguist, author, poet, photographer, mountaineer and nation builder, Gertrude Bell was born in 1868 into a world of privilege and plenty, but she turned her back on all that for her passion for the Arab peoples, becoming the architect of the independent kingdom of Iraq and seeing its first king Faisal safely onto the throne in 1921. *Queen of the Desert* is her story, vividly told and impeccably researched, drawing on Gertrude's own writings, both published and unpublished. Previously published as *Daughter of the Desert*, this is a compelling portrait of a woman who transcended the restrictions of her class and age and in so doing created a remarkable and enduring legacy. 'What a great Oscar-laden biopic this will make ...the combination of epic scenes and personal drama makes Georgina

Howell's saga a winner' Daily Express'Howell sketches in the gradations of colour and emotion that have been lacking in hitherto monochrome accounts of Bell's life ...

Exemplary' Sunday

Times'Riveting ... few women have had a life more worth reading about.' Diana Athill, Literary Review

**Persian Pictures** - Gertrude Lowthian Bell 2005

"Here in the dust and the sunshine is an epitome of the living East, and standing unnoticed in a doorway, you will admit that you have not travelled in vain. But as the procession of people files past you, you will realize what a gulf lies between you. The East looks to itself; it knows nothing of the greater world of which you are a citizen, asks nothing of you and your civilization."This brilliant, vivid and impressionistic series of sketches, formed during her 1892 stay in Persia, is Gertrude Bell's first published work. Infused with a distinctive orientalism, "Persian Pictures" is an evocative, virtuosic

meditation, moving sinuously between Persia's heroic complex, mythical past and present decline; the public face of Tehran and the otherworldly "secret, mysterious life of the East;" the lives of its women; its enclosed, quasi-medieval gardens; from the bustling cities to the lonely wastelands of Khorasan. Bell's documentation of Muharram - the month of mourning for Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed - and Ramadan, display a mind finely attuned to the differences and similarities between Islam and Christianity, East and West. "Persian Pictures" is both travelog and meditation, an elegaic and beautifully observed account of a spellbinding land.Scholar, historian, linguist, archaeologist, photographer, secret service agent and traveller, Gertrude Bell (1868-1926) was a hugely significant figure. Her early travels were made in Europe and Persia; she made two round-the-world trips (1897-8 and 1902-3), while her

climbing exploits in the Alps from 1899-1904 earned her renown as a mountaineer. Like other British 'orientalists' of the early 20th century, she explored the Ottoman Empire during and after World War I and was hugely instrumental in the post-war reconfiguration of the Arab states in the Middle East. She was a prime mover in creating the new state of Iraq and establishing a constitutional monarchy there with a parliament, civil service and legal system; as Honorary Director of Antiquities in Iraq, she established the Iraq Museum in Baghdad.

*Passenger to Teheran* - Victoria Sackville-West 1926

*Victoria's Daughters* - Jerrold M. Packard 1999-12-23  
Explores the nineteenth-century world of a generation of royal women, the five daughters of Queen Victoria--Victoria, Alice, Helena, Louise, and Beatrice--and sheds light on their complex, frequently tragic, restricted lives. 10,000 first printing.

**Gertrude Bell and Iraq** -

Charles Tripp 2017-04-13

This is a major re-evaluation of the life and legacy of Gertrude Lowthian Bell (1868-1926), the renowned scholar, explorer, writer, archaeologist, and British civil servant. The book examines Gertrude Bell's role in shaping British policy in the Middle East in the first part of the 20th century, her views of the cultures and peoples of the region, and her unusual position as a woman occupying a senior position in the British imperial administration. It focuses particularly on her involvement in Iraq and the part she played in the establishment of the Iraqi monarchy and the Iraqi state. In addition, the book examines her interests in Iraq's ancient past. She was instrumental in drawing up Iraq's first Antiquities Law in 1922 and in the foundation of the Iraq Museum in 1923. Gertrude Bell refused to be constrained by the expectations of the day, and was able to succeed in a man's world of high politics and diplomacy. She remains a controversial figure, however,

especially in the context of the founding of the modern state of Iraq. Does she represent a more innocent age when the country was born out of the remnants of the Ottoman Empire, or does she personify the attitudes and decisions that have created today's divided Middle East? The volume's authors bring new insights to these questions.

**Beneath a Marble Sky** - John Shors 2013-05-17

In 1632, the Emperor of Hindustan, consumed by grief over the death of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, ordered the building of a grand mausoleum to symbolize the greatness of their love. Against scenes of unimaginable wealth and power, there were murderous sibling rivalries and cruel despotism. In *Beneath a Marble Sky*, Princess Jahanara tells the story of how the Taj Mahal came to be, and describes her own life as an agent in its creation and as a witness to the fateful events surrounding its completion. As a princess and a mother, a sister and a daughter, Jahanara

faces impossible choices and discovers the real meaning of her regal birthright.

**American Priestess** - Jane Fletcher Geniesse 2009-09-08

For generations, The American Colony Hotel in Jerusalem has been a well-known retreat for journalists, diplomats, pilgrims and spies. However, few know the story of Anna Spafford, the enigmatic evangelist who was instrumental in its founding. Branded heretics by Jerusalem's established Christian missionaries when they arrived in 1881, the Spaffords and their followers nevertheless won over Muslims and Jews with their philanthropy. But when her husband Horatio died, Anna assumed leadership, shocking even her adherents by abolishing marriage and establishing an uneasy dictatorship based on emotional blackmail and religious extremism. With a controversial heroine at its core, *American Priestess* provides a fascinating exploration of the seductive power of evangelicalism as well

as an intriguing history of an enduring landmark.

**The Richest Woman in America** - Janet Wallach  
2013-06-04

No woman in the Gilded Age made as much money as Hetty Green, America's first female tycoon. A strong woman who forged her own path, she was worth at least \$100 million by the end of her life in 1916—equal to about \$2.5 billion today. Green was mocked for her simple Quaker ways and her unfashionable frugality in an era of opulence and excess; the press even nicknamed her "The Witch of Wall Street." But those who knew her admired her wit and wisdom, and while financiers around her rose and fell as financial bubbles burst, she steadily amassed a fortune that supported businesses, churches, municipalities, and even the city of New York. Janet Wallach's engrossing biography reveals striking parallels between past financial crises and current recession woes, and speaks not only to history buffs but to today's

investors, who just might learn a thing or two from Hetty Green.

**The New Palestinians** - John Wallach 1994

Leap of Faith - Queen Noor (consort of Hussein, King of Jordan) 2003

Born into a distinguished Arab-American family and raised amid privilege, Lisa Halaby was in the first co-educational freshman class at Princeton, graduating in 1974 with a degree in architecture and urban planning. Then, in 1976, she was introduced, on an airport runway, to King Hussein of Jordan, a direct descendent of the prophet Muhammed. In less than two years, she was his wife, Noor al-Hussein, Queen of Jordan. With eloquence and candour, Noor talks frankly of the many challenges of her life as wife and partner to the monarch, providing both an intimate portrait of the late King Hussein and his quest for peace in the Middle East, and a moving account of the demands his public role as a

world statesman placed on the royal couple's private life. Sharing a personal perspective on the past three decades of world history, Leap of Faith highlights Queen Noor's views on Islam and the West; the challenges of rearing her family; her work as Queen and humanitarian activist; and her struggles to protect her husband as he slipped into the illness that would kill him in 1999. Her story is filled with recollections of the world's most powerful and interesting people: Queen Elisabeth, Jimmy Carter, Pierre Trudeau, Yassar Arafat and Anwar Sadat. In the wake of September 11, Noor reflects on the true message of Islam and the ongoing violence in the Middle East from her unique perspective with a deep and abiding understanding of Arab aspirations and history. Leap of Faith is refreshingly candid and clear-eyed, a true love story set against the turbulent politics of the last thirty years.

**Still Small Voices** - John Wallach 1990

Profiles of twelve Palestinians

and Israelis. Among them are Jewish fundamentalist Miriam Levinger, Islamic fundamentalist Sheikh Bassam Jarrar, the Issawi family of Palestinian guerrillas, Christian politician Hanna Siniora, and Rabbi Shlomo Riskin. The authors aim to show the reasons for each person's belief in the righteousness of his or her own cause.

**Faisal I of Iraq** - Ali A. Allawi 2014-03-11

DIVBorn in 1883, King Faisal I of Iraq was a seminal figure not only in the founding of the state of Iraq but also in the making of the modern Middle East. In all the tumult leading to the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire and the establishment of new Arab states, Faisal was a central player. His life traversed each of the important political, military, and intellectual developments of his times./div This comprehensive biography is the first to provide a fully rounded picture of Faisal the man and Faisal the monarch. Ali A. Allawi recounts the dramatic events of his subject's

life and provides a reassessment of his crucial role in developments in the pre- and post-World War I Middle East and of his lasting but underappreciated influence in the region even 80 years after his death. A battle-hardened military leader who, with the help of Lawrence of Arabia, organized the Arab Revolt against the Ottoman Empire; a leading representative of the Arab cause, alongside Gertrude

Bell, at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919; a founding father and king of the first independent state of Syria; the first king of Iraq—in his many roles Faisal overcame innumerable crises and opposing currents while striving to build the structures of a modern state. This book is the first to afford his contributions to Middle East history the attention they deserve.