

Superman is an Arab: On God, marriage, macho men and other disastrous inventions

By Joumana Haddad

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This is not a manifesto against men in general. Nor is it a manifesto against Arab men in particular. It is, however, a howl in the face of a particular species of men: the macho species, Supermen, as they like to envision themselves. But Superman is a lie. In this explosive sequel to I Killed Scheherazade, Joumana Haddad examines the patriarchal system that continues to dominate in the Arab world and beyond. From monotheist religions and the concept of marriage to institutionalised machismo and widespread double standards, Haddad reflects upon the vital need for a new masculinity in these times of revolution and change in the Middle East. 'The revolution and its backlash are not just being fought in the streets, squares and elections across the Middle East, but also on the faces and bodies of millions of Arab women and their sisters across the world. Haddad speaks for all of us. It's time to listen.' Bidisha 'One of the most intelligent, talented and courageous young Arab poets and intellectuals today' Mahmoud Darwish 'The Germain Greer of Lebanon' Independent.

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Editorial Review

Review
'A blast of fresh, fiery air - Haddad has produced a vital, topical must-read for all sexes, races and cultures. Her book is a timely and completely unique addition to the commentary surrounding misogynist oppression, religion, politics and social freedom which have ignited commentators, activists and politicians around the world. The revolution and its backlash are not just being fought in the streets, squares and elections across the Middle East, but also on the faces and bodies of millions of Arab women and their sisters across the world. Haddad speaks for all of us. It's time to listen.' Bidisha 'Joumana Haddad, a Lebanese poet and journalist, has written a bold and often very funny polemic on patriarchy in the Arab world.' Lucy Popescu, The Independent

About the Author
Joumana Haddad is an award-winning poet, literary translator, publisher and journalist. In 2008 she launched the Arab world's first erotic cultural magazine, Jasad (Body), which made headlines around the world. Haddad was selected as one of the Beirut39 authors in 2009. I Killed Scheherazade: Confessions of an Angry Arab Woman was critically acclaimed and translated into thirteen languages. She lives in Beirut with her two sons.

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