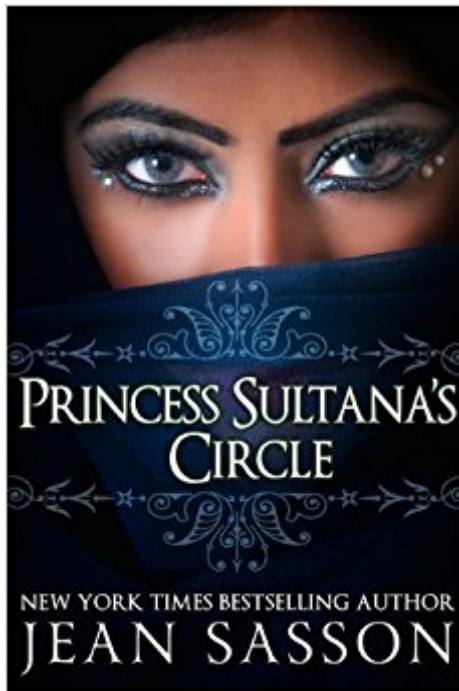




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Princess Sultana's Circle (Princess Trilogy)



Synopsis

The powerful true story of Sultana continues with PRINCESS SULTANA'S CIRCLE, the third book in Jean Sasson's internationally best selling Princess Trilogy. The forced marriage of Sultana's niece to a cruel and depraved older man, and Sultana's discovery of the harem of sex slaves kept by a royal cousin, make her more determined than ever to fight the oppression of women in Saudi Arabia. PRINCESS SULTANA'S CIRCLE paints a horrifying reality for women of the desert Kingdom. It is a haunting look at the danger of Saudi male dominance and the desperate lives of the women they rule. A New York Times bestseller, PRINCESS was named one of the 500 Great Books by Women since 1300. It was also an Alternate Selection of the Literary Guild and Doubleday Book Club and a Reader's Digest Selection. The complete Princess trilogy is also available as an ebook for the first time. For the 3-in-1 ebook, please visit: http://www..com/Complete-Princess-Trilogy-Daughters-ebook/dp/B00A3XIDOE/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1354645728&sr=1-1 PRAISE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER PRINCESS: "Absolutely riveting and profoundly sad..." --People magazine "A chilling story...a vivid account of an air-conditioned nightmare..." --Entertainment Weekly "Must-reading for anyone interested in human rights." --USA Today "Shocking...candid...sad, sobering, and compassionate..." --San Francisco Chronicle

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Customer Reviews

I greatly enjoyed all three of the Princess Sultana books, however I think the second two books could easily have been condensed into one. Although I respect and applaud Princess Sultana's fight against her male dominated society in defense of women, I found the incredibly lavish and wasteful lifestyles of the entire royal family to be almost as disturbing as their treatment of women. To hear the princess bemoan the fact that the royal family could eventually lose some of their enormous wealth and power to the possible democratization of their country after dropping \$500,000 on a single shopping spree at Bergdorf Goodman left me cold. As a Saudi woman, Princess Sultana was treated as a second class citizen and she shed light on the horrific conditions many Arabic women suffer. Yet as one who also enjoyed a life of supreme luxury due to her royal status, I think the princess was a bit myopic about the hardships that many people outside of her world of unearned privilege endure.

This is the third of three books dealing with the plight of Muslim women in Saudi Arabia specifically, and of Muslim women throughout the world. Princess Sultana's honest voice in speaking the truth of this situation is compelling, saddening, enlightening and frustrating. There is no clear way to assist in changing the underlying social and religious core of another society, no matter how much that assistance is needed. But it is compelling reading, and so educational. Of course, as this is narration out of real life, though it reads like a story, it really never winds up with a 'happy ending' the way a novel might, as it is still lived history. I have found her three books to be brilliant reads and kudos to Jean Sasson for bringing this important first person narrative to view.

This last book traces Princess Sultana's life through middle age and is a satisfying end to the trilogy. Lots of twists and turns throughout her life, and the patience shown by her husband (and sisters) as she deals with substance abuse and frustration, is outstanding. Perhaps I am being sexist, but her husband is loving and seemingly has the patience of Job. She has shown great courage when confronted with outright abuse by relatives against other women. You will have a different view of the lot of women in the Arab world after reading this series. Highly recommend and suggest reading all three books in the order written. Elizabeth Sasson is an excellent author; I am also reading some of her other books.

Jean Sasson writes a powerful true story of a women's life and her families trying to survive in a country controlled by men, because of their interpretation of their religion. Although there were some pretty horrific parts to this women's life, it gave you insight. Read this Trilogy only if you can keep an open mind of different cultures from your own.

Quite a fascinating Trilogy (read them all)! I passed these on to my brother as he has traveled in this region of the world and he's fascinating, as am I, with the stories of the women in the mideast. Frightening; sad; and such a curiosity. Great and fascinating trilogy!

The third and last book in the Trilogy! I read the first two books and was sad to read the third because I knew it was the last! I sincerely hope Sultana decides to write another - I'd snatch it up in a second. Sultana continues on with her life and gives us all kinds of information culturally about the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Sultana has three children and again - between her and her young adult children, they get into the funniest, laugh out loud, situations. Two of her children fight the system and learn to work around it - just like their mother. The third 'joins' the system and becomes somewhat of an advocate for the deplorable conditions set up for women (and men) within the Kingdom. Sultana writes with such honesty and candor that you can just feel her frustrations. Her marriage is unusual in that her husband allows her as much freedom as he can tolerate and obviously loves her very much. Sultana keeps fighting the 'veil' and allows readers to feel her quest of wanting to right so many wrongs. You won't regret reading this book and will walk away with new knowledge of what women go through in that country and great sympathy for Sultana as well as amazement over the great wealth of Princes and Princesses!

I've read the last 2 books concerning Princess Sultana and am currently reading the 3rd. What I am reading does not surprise me in the least. Where the faith is Islam, Christianity, or Judaism, men have always oppressed woman throughout history just in varying degrees and different forms. The book is sad but I believe that where there is wrong no good can come of the people/or government that is doing harm. Whether we as women see it in our lifetime or not evil cannot be allowed to go unchecked, otherwise why believe in God, the hereafter, heaven, and hell. I am against oppression of people period and in any form. I am American, black, and a woman. Though I would rather be here than anywhere else no country or people are without their problems. I don't believe that just because oppression of women in the U.S. or other countries are not to the degree as in the middle

eastern countries, it doesn't mean we are better than overall. Every book that I have read (religious) always has something in it that is an oppression of women. Each faith says they are the one, they are right, Just like the Bible, Quran, and Torah are written books I believe that man has included his interpretation of how they believe God would think or act to justify the most horrendous behavior. If I lived in a country that oppressed women to the degree that Saudia Arabia and other middle eastern countries, I would rather and would kill myself. I do not believe that God would want me to live being treated as if I was less than. Some may think this thinking is extreme but I don't believe I could live this way.

Insight into Middle East patriarchy, here within the Saudi royal family. Not terribly sophisticated and certainly not for anyone who already knows something about patriarchy.

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