

Arabic Literature Discussion Group

The Arabic Literature Discussion Group meets at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of most months. Discussions are held in the Boulder Creek Meeting Room, 1st floor of the Main Library, 11th & Arapahoe in downtown Boulder unless **otherwise noted**. For more information, please contact Kirsten Wood at Klwoodklw@aol.com, or Ghada Kanafani Elturk, Outreach Librarian at 303-441-4941 or elturkg@boulder.lib.co.us.

2013 Schedule

November 4, 2013 *Grandfather's Tale* by Ulfat Idilbi [Note: Meeting is in the North Training Room]

October 7, 2013 *Munira's Bottle* by Yousef al-Mohaimeed [Note: Meeting is in the North Training Room]

September 9, 2013 *Azazeel* by Youssef Ziedan

August 5, 2013 *The Watchers* by Tahar Djaout

July 8, 2013 *Anatomy of a Disappearance* by Hisham Matar

June 3, 2013 *Arabic Short Stories* translated by Denys Johnson-Davies with an introduction by Roger Allen
[Note: See http://www.sackett.net/arabic_lit_flyer.htm for which stories to read.]

May 6, 2013 *Married to Another Man: Israel's Dilemma in Palestine* by Dr. Ghada Karmi

April 1, 2013 *The Star of Algiers* by Aziz Chouaki

March 4, 2013 *The Anchor Book of Modern Arabic Fiction* translated by Denys Johnson-Davies
[Note: See http://www.sackett.net/arabic_lit_flyer.htm for which stories to read.]

February 4, 2013 *Lebanese Blonde* by Joseph Geha

January 7, 2013 *Modern Syrian Short Stories* translated by Michel Azrak

2012

December 3, 2012 *Whatever Happened to Antara* by Walid Ikhlassi

November 5, 2012 *The Last Summer of Reason* by Tahar Djaout

October 1, 2012 Excerpts from [Banipal](#), Magazine of Modern Arab Literature. From #24 (Autumn 2005): Short stories by Huzamah Habayeb, Haifa Bitar, and Jamila Omairah. Excerpts from novels by Mahdi Haydar, Venus Khoury-Ghata, and Hanan al-Shaykh. From #22 (Spring 2005): Excerpt from Najata Barakat's [The Busload of Good People](#). From #20 (Summer 2004): Excerpt from Zainab Hifni's novel [No More Tears](#). From #19 (Spring 2004): Lutfiyya al-Dulaimi, "What the Storytellers Did not Tell", Latifa Baqa "Bad Soup", Ghalia Kabbani "Dreams of a Well-Bred Girl".

September 10, 2012 *Rama and The Dragon* by Edwar al-Kharrat

August 6, 2012 *Katrina in Five Worlds* by Kathy Saade Kenny

July 2, 2012 *Granada* by Radwa Ashour

June 4, 2012 *Children Of The New World* by Assia Djebar

May 7, 2012 *Return to Dar al-Basha* by Hassan Nasr

April 2, 2012 *The Road From Damascus* by Robin Yassin Kassab

March 5, 2012 *Mornings in Jenin* by Susan Abulhawa

There is a reading guide at <http://www.sackett.net/AbulhawaJeninGuide.pdf>.

February 6, 2012 *The Long Way Back* by Fuad al-Takarli

January 2, 2012 *In the country of men* by Hisham Matar

2011

December 5, 2011 *A Dog With No Tail* by Hamdi Abu Golayyel

November 7, 2011 *A World I Loved: The Story of an Arab Woman* by Wadad Makdisi Cortas

October 3, 2011 *Zaat* by Sonallah Ibrahim

September 12, 2011 *Borrowed Time* by Hassan Daoud

August 1, 2011 Arab American Authors, selections from *Banipal 38 - Magazine of Modern Arab Literature*

July 11, 2011 *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal el-Saadawi

June 6, 2011 *Voices of change : short stories by Saudi Arabian women writers* edited and translated by Abubaker Bagader, Ava M. Heinrichsdorff, Deborah S. Akers

May 2, 2011 *Food for Our Grandmothers: Writings by Arab-American and Arab-Canadian Feminists* edited by Joanna Kadi

April 4, 2011 Feature Film: *Nasser 56*

March 7, 2011 *Mahmoud Darwish, Exile's Poet: Critical Essays* edited by Hala Khamis Nassar and Najat Rhaman

February 7, 2011 *Love Letters: The Love Letters of Khalil Gibran to May Ziadah* translated and edited by Salma Haffar al-Kuzbari and Suheir Bushrui

January 3, 2011 *The Qadi and the Fortune Teller* by Nabil Saleh

2010

December 6, 2010 Documentary: *Mahmoud Darwish: As The Land Is The Language*, by director Simone Bitton

November 1, 2010 *The Arabs: A History* by Eugene Rogan, Chapters 12, 13, 14, and Epilogue

October 4, 2010 *My Days in Mecca* by Ahmad Suba'i

September 13, 2010 *The Arabs: A History* by Eugene Rogan, Chapters 2, 5, 9, 10, and 11

August 2, 2010 *A Balcony over the Fakihani* by Liyana Badr

July 12, 2010 *Memory for Forgetfulness* by Mahmoud Darwish

June 7, 2010 *Cities of Salt* by Abd al-Rahaman Munif

May 3, 2010 *Story of Zahra* by Hanan al-Shaykh

April 5, 2010 *Wolves of the Crescent Moon* by Yousef al-Mohaimeed

March 1, 2010 *Zubaida's Window: A Novel of Iraqi Exile* by Iqbal al-Qazwini

February 1, 2010 *Lebanon, Lebanon* edited by Anna Wilson

January 4, 2010 *Desiring Arabs* by Joseph Massad

2009

December 7, 2009 *Wedding Night* by Yusuf Abu Rayya

November 2, 2009 *Voices Revealed: Arab women novelists, 1898-2000* by Bouthaina Shaaban

October 5, 2009 *The Repudiation* by Rachid Boudjedra

September 14, 2009 *The Image, the Icon, and the Covenant* by Sahar Khalifeh

August 3, 2009 *The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf* by Mohja Kahf

July 13, 2009 *Leaves of Narcissus* by Somaya Ramadan

June 1, 2009 *Poems from Guantánamo: The Detainees Speak* edited by Marc Falkoff

May 4, 2009 *The Wedding of Zein and other Stories* by Tayeb Saleh

April 6, 2009 *Muhammad: A Novel* by Driss Chraïbi

March 2, 2009 *Palestinian Walks* by Raja Shehadeh

February 2, 2009 *A Last Glass of Tea and Other Stories* by Mohammed el Bisatie

January 5, 2009 *The Hakawati* by Rabih Alameddine

2008

December 1, 2008 *Let It Be Morning* by Sayed Kashua

November 3, 2008 *Absent* by Betool Khedairi

October 6, 2008 *My Grandmother's Cactus: Stories by Egyptian Women*. Edited by Marilyn Booth

September 8, 2008 *Dinarzad's Children: An Anthology of Contemporary Arab American Fiction*. Edited by Pauline Kaldas & Khaled Mattawa

August 4, 2008 *The Tongue's Blood Does Not Run Dry* by Assia Djebar

July 7, 2008 *Homes of the Heart: A Ramallah Chronicle* by Farouq Wadi

June 2, 2008 *Leaving Beirut* by Mai Ghousseub

May 5, 2008 *In the House of Silence*. Edited by Fadia Faqir

April 7, 2008 *The Loved Ones* by Alia Mamdouh

March 3, 2008 *The Anchor Book of Modern Arabic Fiction* by Denys Johnson-Davies

February 4, 2008 *West of the Jordan* by Laila Halaby

January 7, 2008 *Oranges in the Sun: Short Stories from the Arabian Gulf*, edited by Akers and Bagader

2007

November 5, 2007 *The Yacoubian Building*, by Alaa al-Aswany. Translated by Humphrey Davies

October 1, 2007 *A Beggar at Damascus Gate*, Yasmin Zahran. 157 pages.

September 10, 2007 *Dancing Arabs*, by Sayed Kashua (Qashu). Translated by Miriam Shlesinger

August 6, 2007 *Arab History and Culture*

July 2, 2007 *Open House*, by Nabil Saleh. 208 pages.

June 4, 2007 *Beneath a Sky of Porphyry*, by Aicha Lemsine. Translated by Dorothy S. Blair. 256 pages.

May 7, 2007 *Teta, Mother and Me: Three Generations of Arab Women*, by Jean Said Makdisi. 384 pages.

April 2, 2007 Two short stories by Ghida Sinno (author attendance at discussion)

March 5, 2007 *Arab Women between Defiance and Restraint*. Edited by Suha Sabbagh. 267 pages.

February 5, 2007 *Chased by the Dogs* (Film) (based on Mahfouz's *The Thief & the Dogs*)

January 8, 2007 *Echoes of an Autobiography*, by Naguib Mahfouz. Translated by Denys Johnson-Davies

2006

November 6, 2006 *Seen and Heard: A Century of Arab Women in Literature & Culture*, by Mona Mikhail

October 2, 2006 *The Gardens of Light*, by Amin Maalouf

September 11, 2006 *Sharon and My Mother-in-law*, by Suad al-Amiry

August 7, 2006 *The Bleeding of the Stone*, by Ibrahim al-Koni

July 3, 2006 *Nightingale's Prayer*, film based on a novel by Taha Hussein

June 5, 2006 *My Jerusalem: Essays, Reminiscences & Poems*, edited by Salma Khadra Jayyusi

May 1, 2006 *Fragments of Memory: A Story of a Syrian Family*, by Syrian author Hanna Mina

April 3, 2006 *Short Arabic Plays: An Anthology*, edited by Salma Khadra Jayyusi

March 6, 2006 *Naphtalene: A Novel of Baghdad*, by Iraqi author Alia Mamdouh

February 6, 2006 *A Distant View of a Minaret*, by Egyptian author Alifa Rifaat

January 2, 2006 The life, essays, and poems by Saif al-Rahbi

2005

November 7, 2005 Alifa Rifaat *Distant View of a Minaret*

October 3, 2005 Hoda (Huda) Barakat *The Tiller of Waters*

September 12, 2005 Sahar Khalifeh *Wild Thorns*

August 1, 2005 Buthaina al-Nasiri *Final Night*

July 11, 2005 Naguib Mahfouz *Palace of Desire*

June 6, 2005 Leila Abouzeid *The Last Chapter*

May 2, 2005 Maram al-Massri *A Red Cherry on a White-tiled Floor*

April 4, 2005 Hanan al-Shaykh *I Sweep the Sun off Rooftops*

March 7, 2005 Latifa al-Zayyat *The Open Door*

February 7, 2005 Nuha al-Radi *Baghdad Diaries*

January 3, 2005 Mourid Barghouthi *I Saw Ramallah*

2004

November 1, 2004 Hanan Ashrawi *This Side of Peace: A Personal Account*

October 4, 2004 Naguib Mahfouz *Children of the Alley*

September 13, 2004 Ahlam Mosteghanemi *Memory in the Flesh* (sequel is *Chaos of the Senses*)

July 5, 2004 Fathy Ghanem *The Man Who Lost His Shadow*

June 7, 2004 Diana Abu-Jaber *Crescent*

May 3, 2004 Mohammed Dib *The Savage Night*

April 5, 2004 Saadi Youssef *Without an Alphabet, Without a Face: Selected Poems* The first hour will be dedicated to the viewing of the video Mahmoud Darwish by Simone Bitton

March 1, 2004 Rashid al-Daif *Dear Mr. Kawabata*

February 2, 2004 Abdelkader Benali *Wedding by the Sea*

January 5, 2004 Anton Shammas *Arabesques*

2003

November 3, 2003 Tawfiq al-Hakim *Return of the Spirit*

October 6, 2003 Mourid Barghouti *I Saw Ramallah*

September 8, 2003 Anton Shammas *Arabesques*

August 4, 2003 Elmaz Abinader *Children of the Roojme: A Family's Journey From Lebanon*

July 7, 2003 Elias Khoury *Gates of the City*

June 2, 2003 Ahdhaf Soueif *Map of Love*

May 5, 2003 Leila Ahmed *A Border Passage: From Cairo to America -- A Woman's Journey*

April 7, 2003 Amin Maalouf *The Crusades Through Arab Eyes*

March 3, 2003 Kathryn Abdul-Baki *Ghost Songs: A Palestinian Love Story*

February 3, 2003 Fatima Mernissi *Scheherazade Goes West*

2002

November 4, 2002 Leila Aboulela *The Translator*

October 7, 2002 Mohammad Abdul-Wali, Abubaker Bagader and Deborah Akers *They Die Strangers*

September 9, 2002 Edward Said *Reflections on Exile and other Essays*

August 5, 2002 Taher Ben Jelloun *Sacred Night*

July 1, 2002 Leila Abouzeid, Elizabeth Fernea *Return to Childhood: The Memoir of a Modern Moroccan Woman*

June 3, 2002 Muhammad Shukri *For Bread Alone*

May 6, 2002 Abd al-Rahaman Munif *Endings*

April 1, 2002 Denys Johnson-Davies *Under Naked Sky: Short Stories from the Arab World*

March 4, 2002 Leila Sebbar *Silence on the Shores*

February 4, 2002 Rachid al-Daif, Nirvana Tanoukhi, Anton Shammas *Passage to Dusk*

2001

November 5, 2001 Mohamed Berrada *The Game of Forgetting*

October 1, 2001 Ramzi Salti *Native Informant: Six Tales of Defiance from the Arab World*

September 10, 2001 Mustapha Tlili *Lion Mountain*

June 4, 2001 Ghassan Kanafani *Palestine's Children: Returning to Haifa and Other Stories*

May 7, 2001 Ghassan Kanafani *Palestine's Children: Returning to Haifa and Other Stories*

April 2, 2001 Khalil Hawi *Naked in Exile*

March 5, 2001 Abdul Rahman Munif *Story of a City*

February 5, 2001 Samar Attar *House on Arnus Square*

January 8, 2001 Assia Djebar *So Vast the Prison*

2000

November 6, 2000 Jabra I. Jabra *Hunters in a Narrow Street*

October 2, 2000 Kathryn K. Abdul-Baki *Tower of Dreams*

September 11, 2000 Abd al-Rahman Munif *Story of a City - A Childhood in Amman*

June 5, 2000 Salwa Bakr *The Golden Chariot*
May 1, 2000 Ibrahim Nasrallah *Prairies of Fever*
April 3, 2000 Hoda Barakat *The Stone of Laughter*
March 6, 2000 Zayd Mutee' Dammaj *The Hostage*
February 7, 2000 Yahya Yakhl *A Lake Beyond the Wind*
January 10, 2000 Naguib Mahfouz *Wedding Song*

1999

November 1, 1999 Ghada Samman *Beirut '75*
October 4, 1999 Merzak Allouache *Bab el-Oued*
September 13, 1999 Kathryn Abdul-Baki *Fields of Fig and Olive*
July 12, 1999 Hanan al-Shaykh *Story of Zahra*
June 7, 1999 Tawfiq al-Hakim *Return of the Spirit*
May 3, 1999 Fadia Faqir *Pillars of Salt*
April 12, 1999 Ulfat Idilbi Sabriya *Damascus Bitter Sweet*
March 1, 1999 Leila Abouzeid *Year of the Elephant: A Moroccan Woman's Journey Toward Independence*
February 1, 1999 Etel Adnan Sitt *Marie Rose*

1998

November 9, 1998 Naguib Mahfouz *Palace Walk*
November 2, 1998 Khaled Mattawa Ismailia *Eclipse: Poems*
October 5, 1998 Edward Said *Culture and Imperialism*
September 14, 1998 Mahmoud Darwish *Memory for Forgetfulness*
June 1, 1998 Driss Chraibi *Mother Comes of Age*
May 4, 1998 Yusuf Awwad *Death in Beirut*
April 13, 1998 Ava Heinrichsdorff (ed) *Short Stories by Saudi Arabian Women Writers*
March 2, 1998 Brick Oussaid *Mountains Forgotten by God: the Story of a Moroccan Berber Family*
February 2, 1998 Samar Attar *Lina: Portrait of a Damascene Girl*

January 5, 1998 Tayeb Salih *Season of Migration to the North*

1997

December 1, 1997 Jabra Ibrahim *The Ship*

November 3, 1997 Bahaa Taher *Aunt Safiyya and the Monastery*

October 6, 1997 Diana Abu-Jaber *Arabian Jazz*

September 8, 1997 Tayeb Salih *Seasons of Migration to the North*

August 4, 1997 Halim Barakat *Six Days*

July 9, 1997 Yusuf Idris *The Sinners*

June 11, 1997 Ghassan Kanafani *Men in the Sun*

May 5, 1997 Sahar Khalifeh *Wild Thorns*

April 7, 1997 Hanan al-Shaykh *Beirut Blues*

March 3, 1997 Abdelrahman Munif *Cities of Salt*

February 3, 1997 Fatima Mernissi *Dreams of Trespass: Tales of a Harem Girlhood*

January 6, 1997 Amin Maalouf *Samarkand*

1996

November 4, 1996 Naguib Mahfouz *Adrift on the Nile*

October 7, 1996 Hanan al-Shaykh *The Persian Carpet* (The group's first meeting)

To see Discussion Group Founder Ghada's favorites from this list (through November of 2009):

<http://www.sackett.net/FavoritesGhada.htm>.

Here are some favorites from reading group member Celeste:

<http://www.sackett.net/FavoritesCeleste.htm>.

Here are some favorites from reading group member Bill: <http://www.sackett.net/FavoritesBillArab.htm>.

For short summaries of the books on the current schedule: http://www.sackett.net/arabic_lit_flyer.htm.

For more info go to the 'Book & Discussion Groups' tab on: <http://research.boulderlibrary.org/readingroom>.

This is http://www.sackett.net/arabic_lit.htm, last updated December 3, 2012.