



	<p><i>The Arab Americans</i>, by Randa A. Kayyali—This book is a very comprehensive and thorough introduction to the history and place of Arab Americans. It traces the waves of immigration, discusses the issue of classification, and highlights Arab culture and its impact on US society. In the book, Kayyali includes an introduction to Arab history and identity, including religious, particularly lifting up the role of Muslim and Christian Arab-Americans.</p>
	<p><i>How does it feel to be a problem? Being Young and Arab in America</i>, by Moustafa Bayoumi—In this book, Bayoumi tells the stories of several Arab-American youth and how they are treated post-9/11. Citing W.E.B. DuBois, he asks the question of race as it applies to Arab-Americans, both Muslim and Christian, in a very poignant analysis and personal recounting.</p>
	<p><i>This Muslim American Life</i>, by Moustafa Bayoumi—This collection of essays explores being Muslim in the US, focusing on the post-9/11 period, but not limited to it. Bayoumi is a clear writer, interjecting humor with serious historical, political, social, and cultural analysis. A main theme is the racialization of religion, particularly Islam, in the US. While not directly addressing issues of Arab Americans, this book makes clear the intersections, and complexities, of identities, both constructed and perceived.</p>
	<p><i>Patriot Acts: Narratives of Post-9/11 Injustice</i>, compiled and edited by Alia Malek—While not exclusively presenting stories of Arab-Americans, this book is an excellent documenting of the stories of almost 20 people who have experienced forms of injustice after 9/11. Arabs, Muslims, Sikhs, and others have been targeted, and this book will provoke much thought, surprise, and incredulity. Malek’s compilation reminds the reader that it is indeed real people who suffer as a result of racial and ethnic profiling. An online resource for teachers of middle and high school students is available online here: http://voiceofwitness.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/VOW-Korematsu-Booklet-for-Web.pdf. [Note: the publisher offers discounts on the book for non-profit organizations and educators.]</p>
	<p><i>Whitewashed: America’s Invisible Middle Eastern Minority</i>, by John Tehranian—This book is helpful in understanding issues of race and the question of Middle Eastern Americans, especially from a legal perspective. Tehranian, an Armenian from Iran, broadens the discussion beyond Arab-Americans (Iranians, Armenians, Turks, etc., in addition to the question of Muslims and Christians) in a useful way.</p>
	<p><i>Anti-Arab Racism in the USA</i>, by Steven Salaita—Not only about Arab-Americans, but about negative stereotypes and attitudes toward Arabs in the US context, Salaita has compiled a collection of essays that are challenging and well-argued. He discusses impressions of the Arab world in the US, the place of the Middle East in US academia, the debate about Zionism and racism, religious (particularly evangelical Christian) attitudes toward Middle Easterners, and the meanings of the Abu Gharib photographs and representations. Salaita’s writing is tight and logical.</p>



	<p><i>American Islamophobia</i>, by Khaled Beydoun—This book is written as a primer on the historical basis for contemporary Islamophobia, and Beydoun succeeds remarkably. The book is a helpful and clearly written reflection and research (legal, social, and political) that places current fear and bigotry toward Muslims in the US in the larger context of race relations and racism in this country. Interspersed with personal stories, the narrative goes back into the late 18th century, but brings the story up to current times.</p>
	<p><i>Brown Skin, White Masks</i>, by Hamid Dabashi—Following in the cultural critique footsteps of Fanon and Said, Dabashi writes on comprador intellectuals, especially those from the Muslim world who have come to serve the US road to war in Iraq and Afghanistan, during the George W. Bush administration. Fiercely critical of US designs on the world, and Israel’s occupation of Palestinian land and control of people, Dabashi singles out those who have contributed to rationalizations of these efforts.</p>
	<p><i>Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age</i>, by Amani al-Khatahtbeh—In this extremely intelligent memoir of growing up Muslim and Arab-American in New Jersey and Jordan, al-Khatahtbeh offers a clear and strong assertion of identity, even as she comes to terms with her own identity; and a rejection of stereotypes, bigotry, and discrimination that became especially common after 9/11/01, her own coming of age years. The reader will appreciate the struggles and the strength required to overcome them of someone who is automatically judged by appearance. Al-Khatahtbeh also recounts how her website, MuslimGirl.net, developed into a popular site of critical review.</p>
	<p><i>House of Stone</i>, by Anthony Shadid—This Lebanese-American journalist writes of his year-long leave from the <i>Washington Post</i> in which he returned to his family home in Marjayoun, Southern Lebanon, to rebuild the house left by previous generations who emigrated to the US. Told with attention to the story of his family, the people in the Lebanese town, and the people with whom he reconstructs the house, Shadid conveys the experience of emigration and the poignancy of recovering history—of family and of a region.</p>
	<p><i>Looking for Palestine</i>, by Najla Said—As a young girl growing up in the US, Ms. Said experienced the challenge of discovering identity. As a first generation Arab-American, she had to learn what it meant to internalize that identity and what it means in a US context. This memoir is profound and entertaining at the same time, as Najla discovers her own identity, and has to navigate being the daughter of prominent public intellectual Edward Said.</p>



	<p><i>A Country Called Amreeka</i>, by Alia Malek—A narrative history of Arab-Americans, as compiled by one. This book walks the reader through the various eras of Arab-American history in the US by focusing on the experience of an individual or family. The book weaves the stories in ways that are moving and informative, making this a very engaging and interesting read.</p>
	<p><i>Zeitoun</i>, by David Eggers—This quick read but gripping tale is the true story of an Arab-American and his experience in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Zeitoun is the family name of an immigrant to the US who settled with his Euro-American wife and family in New Orleans. A contractor, he remains in New Orleans during and after the storm, while his wife and daughters evacuate. His mission is to help as many as he can, and the book chronicles his day-to-day efforts...until he is arrested by the authorities.</p>
	<p><i>A Map of Home</i>, by Randa Jarrar—A complex, yet simple, story of growing up and of moving, of seeking home and finding it, then losing it. Jarrar’s novel is about identity and rootedness, relationships with parents and friends, and finding oneself in the midst of conflict.</p>