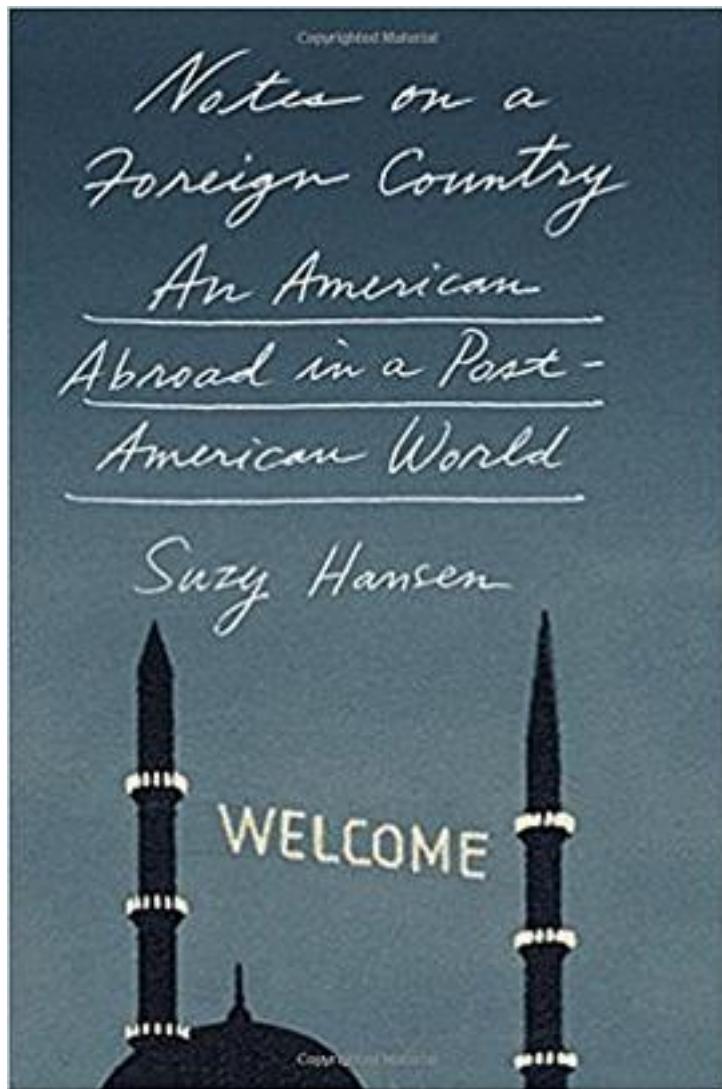


# Notes on a Foreign Country



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著者:Suzy Hansen

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"A deeply honest and brave portrait of an individual sensibility reckoning with her country's violent role in the world." —Hisham Matar, The New York Times Book Review

In the wake of the September 11 attacks and the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, Suzy Hansen, who grew up in an insular conservative town in New Jersey, was enjoying early success as a journalist for a high-profile New York newspaper. Increasingly, though, the disconnect between the chaos of world events and the response at home took on pressing urgency for her. Seeking to understand the Muslim world that had been reduced to scaremongering headlines, she moved to Istanbul.

Hansen arrived in Istanbul with romantic ideas about a mythical city perched between East and West, and with a naïve sense of the Islamic world beyond. Over the course of her many years of living in Turkey and traveling in Greece, Egypt, Afghanistan, and Iran, she learned a great deal about these countries and their cultures and histories and politics. But the greatest, most unsettling surprise would be what she learned about her own country—and herself, an American abroad in the era of American decline. It would take leaving her home to discover what she came to think of as the two Americas: the country and its people, and the experience of American power around the world. She came to understand that anti-Americanism is not a violent pathology. It is, Hansen writes, “a broken heart . . . A one-hundred-year-old relationship.”

Blending memoir, journalism, and history, and deeply attuned to the voices of those she met on her travels, *Notes on a Foreign Country* is a moving reflection on America’s place in the world. It is a powerful journey of self-discovery and revelation—a profound reckoning with what it means to be American in a moment of grave national and global turmoil.

作者介绍:

Suzy Hansen is contributing writer to The New York Times Magazine and has written for many other publications. In 2007, she was awarded a fellowship from the Institute of Current World Affairs to do research in Turkey. She currently lives in Istanbul. *Notes on a Foreign Country* is her first book.

目录:

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社会学

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## 评论

好希望国内有机会引进这本书，很罕有的美国白人自己站在异域的角度反思American Ignorance，共鸣很多，我想到的是自己的Cosmopolitan Ignorance，Han Chinese Ignorance等等

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感觉仅仅为了表达这个观点的话，不需要写288页这么长，里面重复的观点太多，引用别人太多。而且她应该有个因果叙述，就是她的一系列观点是怎么产生的，为啥形成了今天的一系列看法，她自己在土耳其的居住经历也没写太多，全是观点性的，美国不行，美国殖民，大家都讨厌美国。但为什么会是现在这样，历史背景是什么，国内思想界是怎么看待这个问题的，一系列的方面都没有触及，我觉得批判性的文本应该更有延展性。看到最后觉得有点无聊、作者太啰嗦。

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我读的一知半解。作者故事讲的很好，从美国白人的角度写了美国对中东的影响。抱着对那地区的好奇读完了这本书，也许以后会去读james baldwin。这个世界现在也各种矛盾，能够用爱理解别人，真的站在不一样的角度试图去理解才是解决方法。也是我们把复杂问题简单化，把生活过好的简单解决方案。

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跳过intro

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勉强读完第一部分，叙事不够，抒情泛滥，是、是，我们已经知道了你为自己生为美国人的无知自大痛心疾首，不需要隔几行就跳出来呐喊吧。实在看不下去。

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YLYK

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