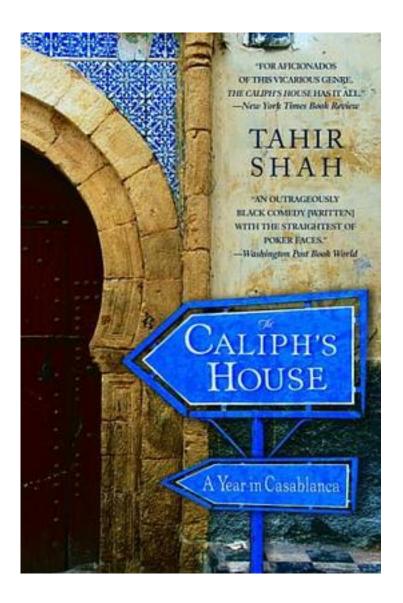
The Caliph's House



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著者:Tahir Shah

出版者:Bantam

出版时间:2006-12-26

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780553383102

In the tradition of A Year in Provence and Under the Tuscan Sun, acclaimed English travel writer Tahir Shah shares a highly entertaining account of making an exotic dream come true. By turns hilarious and harrowing, here is the story of his family's move from the gray skies of London to the sun-drenched city of Casablanca, where Islamic tradition and African folklore converge—and nothing is as easy as it seems…

Inspired by the Moroccan vacations of his childhood, Tahir Shah dreamed of making a home in that astonishing country. At age thirty-six he got his chance. Investing what money he and his wife, Rachana, had, Tahir packed up his growing family and bought Dar Khalifa, a crumbling ruin of a mansion by the sea in Casablanca that once belonged to the city's caliph, or spiritual leader.

With its lush grounds, cool, secluded courtyards, and relaxed pace, life at Dar Khalifa seems sure to fulfill Tahir's fantasy–until he discovers that in many ways he is farther from home than he imagined. For in Morocco an empty house is thought to attract jinns, invisible spirits unique to the Islamic world. The ardent belief in their presence greatly hampers sleep and renovation plans, but that is just the beginning. From elaborate exorcism rituals involving sacrificial goats to dealing with gangster neighbors intent on stealing their property, the Shahs must cope with a new culture and all that comes with it.

Endlessly enthralling, The Caliph's House charts a year in the life of one family who takes a tremendous gamble. As we follow Tahir on his travels throughout the kingdom, from Tangier to Marrakech to the Sahara, we discover a world of fierce contrasts that any true adventurer would be thrilled to call home.

From the Hardcover edition.

作者介绍:

塔希尔·沙阿,记者、纪录片制作人和作家。出身阿富汗名门,从小在摩洛哥长大,成年后在英国求学,兼具东西方文化背景。目前为止已经出书十余本并拍摄有若干部纪录片,他还经常在多种期刊杂志上发表文章和学术论文并为《华盛顿邮报》等报纸撰写书评。他的作品已经被翻译成十四种语言。《哈里发的神殿》被美国《时代周刊》评选为年度十佳图书之一并被英国BBC第四广播电台的《每周一书》栏目选用。

沙阿是积极搭建"东西方桥梁"的倡导者。9/11事件后沙阿投入大量时间和精力致力于构建"文化之桥"并推动这一运动的发展。

沙阿一家至今依然平静而满足地生活在卡萨布兰卡。

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标签

英文
non-fiction
河书
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评论
《时代周刊》评选为年度十佳书之一,BBC第四广播电台的《每周一书》
Around the renovation of a house and the trace of a grandpa, an exotic (not that exotic to Chinese though) world is gradually revealed. Lots of fun in reading it.
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书评
自从彼得·梅尔的畅销书《普罗旺斯的一年》(A Year in Provence)问世至今已有20余年了,但是以"某处的一年"为标题的小说却没有呈现 冷却的迹象。毕竟,将普罗旺斯、马拉喀什或者托斯卡尼一年的美妙时光在短短的两周

深度游,文化

时间一览无余,这种诱惑又有几个人可以抵挡的呢?美妙...

丽·褒曼主演的一部同名好莱...

卡萨布兰卡,对于中国的文艺青年和知识分子,可能有一种神秘的诱惑力。不只是因为它是北非古国摩洛哥最大的城市,濒临大西洋的地理位置,使得西风东送,让古老的非洲文化与欧洲现代文明交汇于此。更主要的是,它的魅力很大程度上来自于鲍嘉和英格

1953年出版的A Year In Marrakech,2006年出版的The Caliph's House,两位英国作家分别记录了自己在摩洛哥一年的生活。相隔半个多世纪,这两个英国人眼里的摩洛哥依然有很多相似之处。他们都对这里人的懒散狡黠无可奈何,也都喜欢某些不同干西方世界的东西,更原始,也可能更真...

上学的时候为了提高英语水平跟上sarah的语速,我听了好一阵子BBC4,《每周一书》这个栏目印象尤其深刻,因为大部分都听不懂= =很长一段时间我误以为它是个广播剧节目,还非常疑惑为什么剧情都连不上? 其实塔希尔这个人我从来没听说过,所以看前一部分的时候心里非常惊讶:作...

这本书是了解摩洛哥特别是卡萨布兰卡的好素材。从作者描绘的日常里,迎面而来的是巨大文化差异带来的痛苦与心酸,而一旦开始适应,这个神秘伊斯兰国家带来的惊奇与欣喜也刚刚开始。

看完这本书,很想再找作者的其他书来看,因为他说,他要把摩洛哥写在他的书里,给全世界的人看...

对于卡萨布兰卡的印象,源于电影《北非谍影》,和那首英文歌《Casablanca》。 在我的想象中,被称为法国殖民地皇冠上的明珠的卡萨布兰卡是一个浪漫的地方。所以 ,在书店看到这本书的副标题《卡萨布兰卡的365天》后,毫不犹豫地拿了起来,付钱 带回家。 花了大约3天的时间把这本...

同事推荐的一本书,一开始读起来,以为是嘴里说着厌倦城市生活,却像文艺青年一样,以此为文字的梗,而生活依旧的文。读到后来,作者勇敢的出走伦敦,真是让人羡慕,当然,他也真是有经济实力,以自己的实际情况比较,大城市偶还没有机会厌倦,怎么逃离。回到文章,对摩洛哥没...

步朝霞/文 "我想离开潮湿的英国,逃往一座大宅子。那儿有拱门和柱廊,芳香的雪松大门高耸入云,院子深处有花园、马厩和喷泉,果园里有各种各样的果树,还有好多好多间屋子。早上,炫目的阳光透过窗帘照进卧室,满屋金黄,大黄蜂在杜鹃花丛中飞来飞去,小巷中香气袭…

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