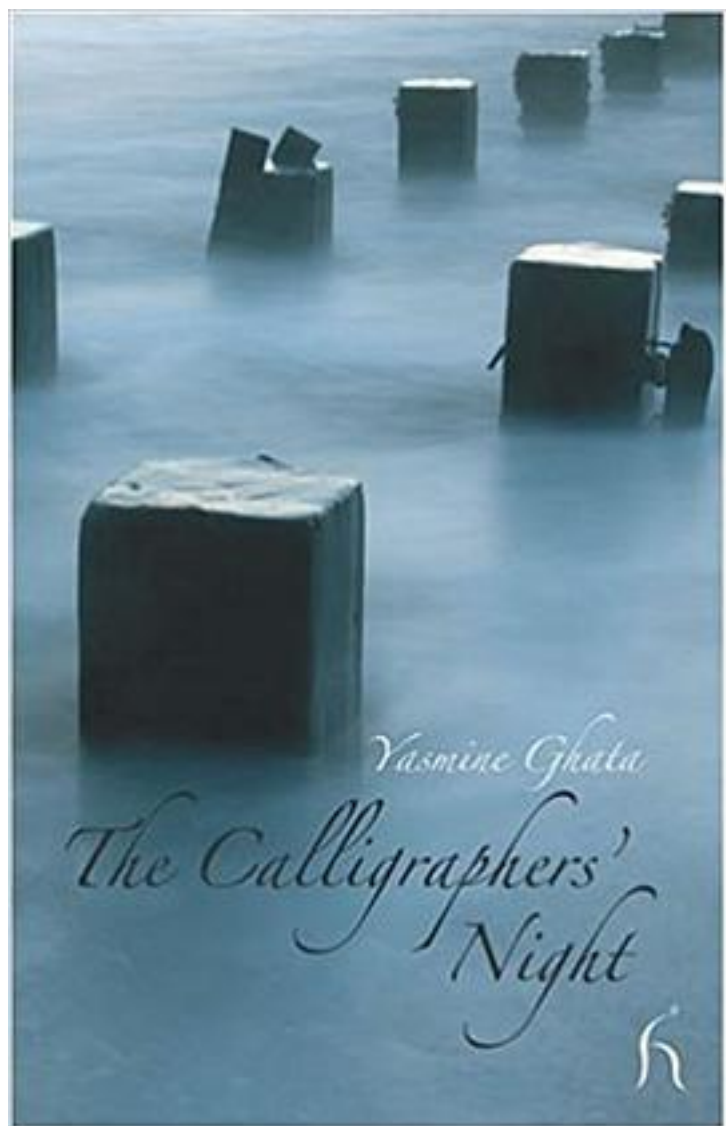


The Calligrapher's Night



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It's 1923, and the young Rikkat is being brought up in the belief that her entire life will be devoted to the art of calligraphy. That same year, Ataturk's republic breaks away from the venerable Islamic tradition and progressively abolishes the Arabic language and scripts in favor of a modified version of the Latin alphabet. Once the sacred ministers of Allah and Sultans, calligraphers are now being marginalized and their schools closed. The resulting suicide of Rikkat's mentor can only reinforce her spite for the new regime and her love for the ancient art she has been taught since her childhood. Inspired by the life of the author's grandmother, this is a breathtaking excursion into the mysteries of life, time, death, and writing as an art. Blending elements of magical realism with a vivid description of Turkey at a turning point in its history, Yasmine Ghata's wonderfully evocative work is a classic and inspired debut novel, which was awarded the Laureat de la Bourse de la Decouverte 2004.

作者介绍:

目录:

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