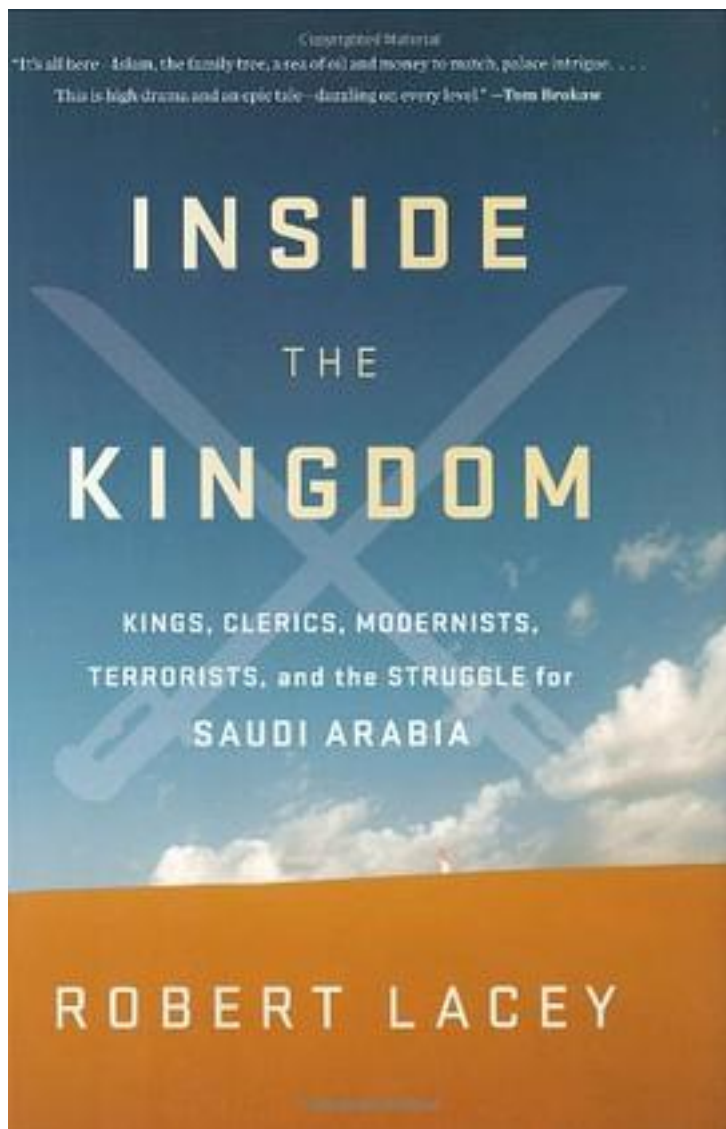


# Inside the Kingdom



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著者:Robert Lacey

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What happened in the Middle East's oil-rich powerhouse- while we weren't looking

Saudi Arabia is a country defined by paradox. It is a modern state driven by contemporary technology and possessed of vast oil deposits, yet its powerful religious establishment would have its customs and practices rolled back a thousand years to match those of the prophet Muhammad.

With *Inside the Kingdom*, journalist and bestselling author Robert Lacey has given us one of the most penetrating and insightful looks at Saudi Arabia ever produced. While living for years among the nation's princes and paupers, its clerics and progressives, Lacey endeavored to find out how the consequences of the 1970s oil boom produced a society at war with itself. Filled with stories that trace a path through the Persian Gulf War and the events of 9/11 to the oilmarket convulsions of today, *Inside the Kingdom* gives us a modern history of the Saudis in their own words, revealing a people attempting to reconcile life under religious law with the demands of a rapidly changing world. Their struggle will have powerful reverberations around the globe, and this rich work provides a penetrating look at a country no one can afford to ignore.

作者介绍:

Robert Lacey is the coauthor of *The Year 1000* and the author of such bestselling books as *Majesty*, *The Kingdom*, and *The Queen Mother's Century*. He lives in London.

目录:

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## 评论

写作上觉得比前一本还要上瘾，读的停不下来。有可能是因为作者写80年开始的历史，萨拉菲的兴起这点上我觉得写的还不够完整，沙特一代人的迷茫并不是石油带来的，只能说石油财富让这种迷茫的表现方式与周边国家不一样，去殖民化的路上阿拉伯人在用各种各样的方式寻找“我是谁”的答案，有钱人能用钱让自己的声音更响一点。另外一点，没有沙特家族，真的就没有沙特这个国家。英法当年扶持的政府都倒了【Trucial States有点特殊，不过他们是local rulers】，沙特和波斯湾酋长国在20世纪后半页相对的长治久安，确实是因为他们是当地人民选择的统治者。不管外人如何批判沙特家族腐败专权，借用埃及友人的一句话：“不是法老统治埃及，是埃及人造就了法老”。历史如此千回百转，只能说是神的意志了。allahu akbar

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1979-2009年间的沙特。以对沙特各界人士的采访为基础，揭示了沙特王室与恐怖主义，宗教极端主义的关系，也展现出沙特在现代化进程中的纠结和挣扎。不过作者笔下的沙特实在是不正常到让人难以理解，书中那些事情又有多大的代表性呢？

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