

Imagining the Turkish House



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'Houses can become poetic expressions of longing for a lost past, voices of a lived present, and dreams of an ideal future.' Carel Bertram discovered this truth when she went to Turkey in the 1990s and began asking people about their memories of "the Turkish house." The fondness and nostalgia with which people recalled the distinctive wooden houses that were once ubiquitous throughout the Ottoman Empire made her realize that "the Turkish house" carries rich symbolic meaning. In this delightfully readable book, Bertram considers representations of the Turkish house in literature, art, and architecture to understand why the idea of the house has become such a potent signifier of Turkish identity. Bertram's exploration of the Turkish house shows how this feature of Ottoman culture took on symbolic meaning in the Turkish imagination as Turkey became more Westernized and secular in the early decades of the twentieth century. She shows how artists, writers, and architects all drew on the memory of the Turkish house as a space where changing notions of spirituality, modernity, and identity - as well as the social roles of women and the family - could be

approached, contested, revised, or embraced during this period of tumultuous change.

作者介绍:

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目录: Acknowledgments
Introduction. Welcome to the House
Chapter 1. Bringing the Turkish House into Focus
Chapter 2. The House Takes on the Weight of Historical Consciousness
Chapter 3. How Fiction Positioned the Turkish House on a Memory Chain of Values
Chapter 4. How Literature Is Spiritual Space, and How the Heart Is Superior to the Mind
Chapter 5. The New Turkish Landscape and the Desire to Remember
The Cast of Characters
Notes
Bibliography
Index
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标签

评论

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