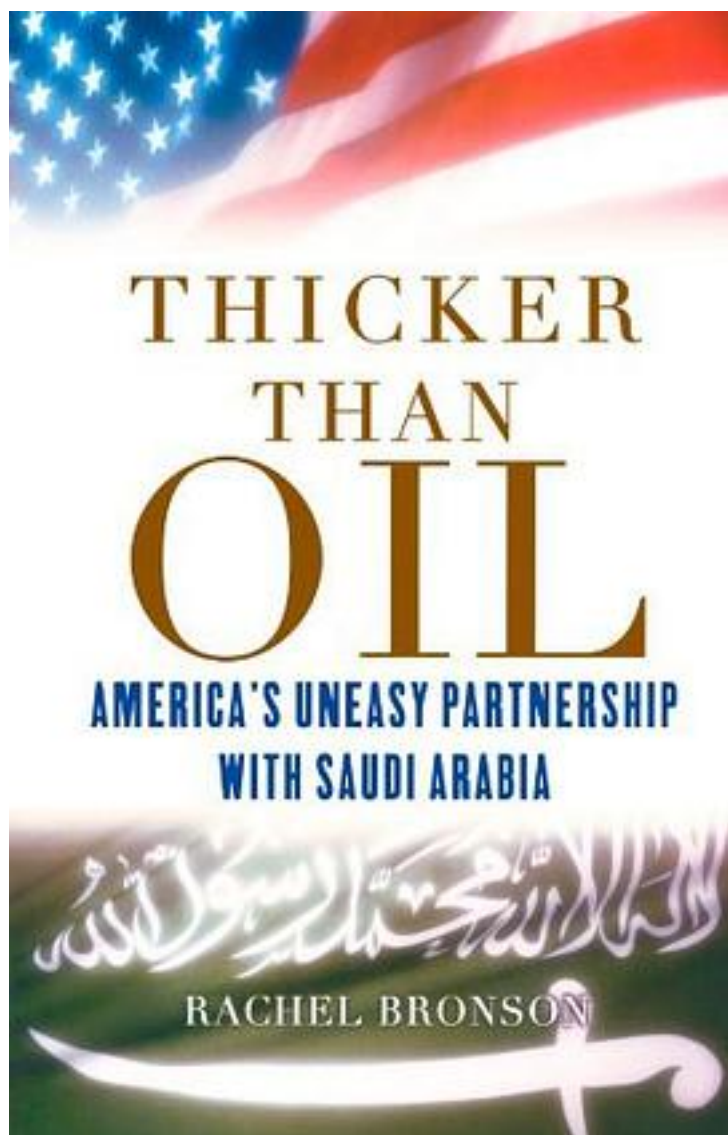


Thicker Than Oil



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著者:Rachel Bronson

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For fifty-five years, the United States and Saudi Arabia were solid partners. Then came the 9/11 attacks, which sorely tested that relationship. In *Thicker than Oil*, Rachel Bronson reveals why the partnership became so intimate and how the countries' shared interests sowed the seeds of today's most pressing problem-Islamic radicalism. Drawing on a wide range of archival material, declassified documents, and interviews with leading Saudi and American officials, and including many colourful stories of diplomatic adventures and misadventures, Bronson chronicles a history of close, and always controversial, contacts. She argues that contrary to popular belief the relationship was never simply about "oil for security." Saudi Arabia's geographic location and religiously motivated foreign policy figured prominently in American efforts to defeat "godless communism." From Africa to Afghanistan, Egypt to Nicaragua, the two worked to beat back Soviet expansion. But decisions made for hard-headed Cold War purposes left behind a legacy that today inflames the Middle East. Looking forward, Bronson outlines the challenges confronting the relationship. The Saudi government faces a zealous internal opposition bent on America's and Saudi Arabia's destruction. Yet from the perspective of both countries, the status quo is clearly unsustainable. "The most solid book to date on the vital relationship between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia, with important new historical material and a hard-headed look at our tough policy choices for the future." --Leslie H. Gelb, President Emeritus, The Council on Foreign Relations "The best sections of her impressively researched book explain the complexity and ambition of joint U.S.-Saudi undertakings against communist governments and guerrilla movements during the Cold War--not only in Afghanistan...but also in the Middle East, Africa and Central America." --Steve Coll, Washington Post Book World

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评论

自从1938年Damman-7号钻井汨汨冒出黑色黄金，沙漠里的老国王便迎来春天。石油、反苏、地理位置，三大支柱奠定美沙合作基础。此后，五次中东战争，三场石油禁运，关系起伏，亲疏不定。梳理两国关系也是回顾极端宗教发迹的绝好机会。如果说1929年，老国王打击ikhwan，确立了政治>宗教的政府管理理念，那么1979年后，就倒过来了...

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书评

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