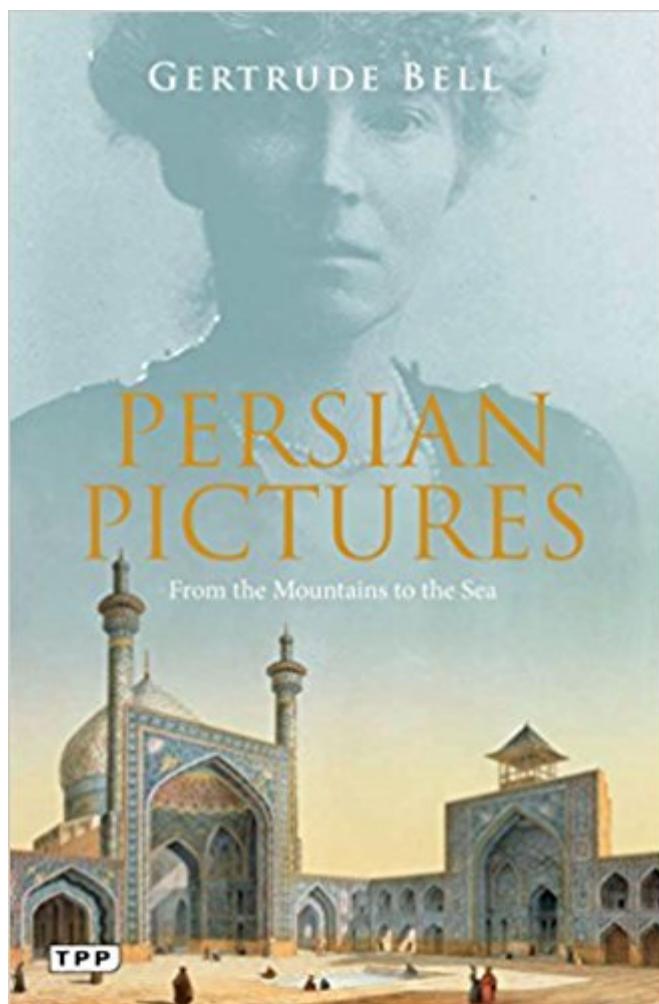


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Persian Pictures: From The Mountains To The Sea (Tauris Parke Paperbacks)



Synopsis

Celebrated writer Gertrude Bell shares her journeys through Persia and its inspiration on her life's work

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Her remarkable intellectual abilities and masculine demeanour make *Persian Pictures*, her first publication on an Eastern subject, all the more interesting." " Geoffrey Nash, author of *From Empire to Orient: Travellers to the Middle East*

"Here in the dust and the sunshine is an epitome of the living East, and standing unnoticed in a doorway, you will admit that you have not travelled in vain. But as the procession of people flies past you, you will realize what a gulf lies between you. The East looks to itself; it knows nothing of the greater world of which you are a citizen, asks nothing of you and your civilization." This brilliant, vivid and impressionistic series of sketches, formed during her 1892 stay in Persia, is Gertrude Bell's first published work. Infused with a distinctive orientalism, " *Persian Pictures*" is an evocative, virtuosic meditation, moving sinuously between Persia's heroic, complex, mythical past and its present decline; the public face of Tehran and the otherworldly 'secret, mysterious life of the East', the lives of its women, its enclosed, quasi-medieval gardens; from the bustling cities to the lonely wastelands of Khorasan. Bell's documentation of Muharram - the month of mourning for Imam Hussein, the grandson of the Prophet Mohammed - and Ramadan, display a mind finely attuned to

the differences and similarities between Islam and Christianity, East and West." Persian Pictures" is both travelogue and meditation, an elegiac and beautifully observed account of a spellbinding land.

Wonderful writing from an incredibly clever and brave lady.

This is a fascinating insight into gentler times in Iran and Istanbul. It captures the beauty of the culture. and Gertrude Bell's writing style conveys that gentle beauty . Her adventurous spirit is an inspiration

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