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## Crossing Borders: Love Between Women in Medieval French and Arabic Literatures (Hardback)

By Sahar Amer

University of Pennsylvania Press, United States, 2008.

Hardback. Book Condition: New. 231 x 157 mm. Language:

English . Brand New Book. Given Christianity's valuation of

celibacy and its persistent association of sexuality with the Fall

and of women with sin, Western medieval attitudes toward the

erotic could not help but be vexed. In contrast, eroticism is

explicitly celebrated in a large number of theological, scientific,

and literary texts of the medieval Arab Islamicate tradition,

where sexuality was positioned at the very heart of religious

piety. In Crossing Borders, Sahar Amer turns to the rich body

of Arabic sexological writings to focus, in particular, on their

open attitude toward erotic love between women. By

juxtaposing these Arabic texts with French works, she reveals a

medieval French literary discourse on same-sex desire and

sexual practices that has gone all but unnoticed. The Arabic

tradition on eroticism breaks through into French literary

writings on gender and sexuality in often surprising ways, she

argues, and she demonstrates how strategies of gender

representation deployed in Arabic texts came to be models to

imitate, contest, subvert, and at times censor in the West. Amer's

analysis reveals Western literary representations of gender in

the Middle...



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### Reviews

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-- Prof. Edgar Kshlerin

*It is easy in study safer to comprehend. It can be writter in basic phrases and never confusing. It is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding, once you begin to read the book.*

-- Emmitt Harber