



FORTHCOMING IN JULY 2008

THE VEIL

Women Writers on Its History, Lore, and Politics

EDITED BY JENNIFER HEATH

“The book brilliantly illuminates the universality of the veil....[It] should be compulsory reading for policy-makers all over the world. Anyone interested in the human condition....can profit from this scholarly yet jargon-free book.” —Shyamala A. Narayan, Jamia Millia Islamia University

“A refreshingly three-dimensional portrait of the veil in history and in our contemporary world. This collection of essays turns the veil into a mirror, reflecting back upon us our own presumptions and prejudices. You will learn something about yourself in these pages.”

—Asifa Quraishi

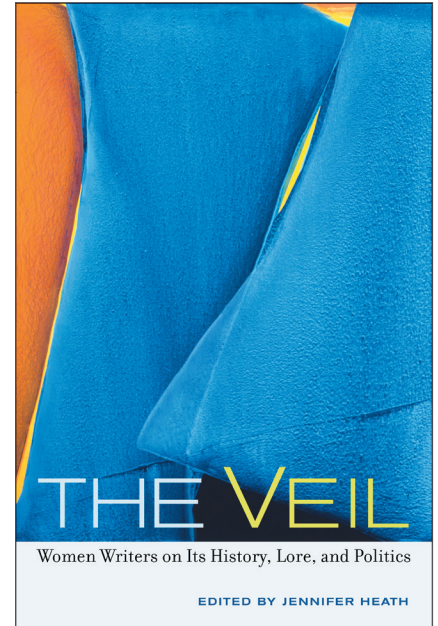
Veiling—of women, of men, and of sacred places and objects—has existed in countless cultures and religions from time immemorial. Today, veiling is a globally polarizing issue, a locus for the struggle between Islam and the West and between contemporary and traditional interpretations of Islam. This book explores and examines the cultures, politics, and histories of veiling. Twenty-one gifted writers and scholars here elucidate, challenge, and/or praise the practice of veiling. Expertly organized and introduced by Jennifer Heath, this book brings together a multiplicity of thought and experience to make readily accessible a difficult and controversial subject.

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Jennifer Heath is the author of seven books of fiction and nonfiction, including *The Scimitar and the Veil: Extraordinary Women of Islam*, and her writing has appeared in numerous anthologies. She has traveled extensively throughout the Muslim world and is the founder of Seeds for Afghanistan Relief Organization Midwife Training and Infant Care program, now International Midwife Assistance.

FORTHCOMING IN JULY 2008
320 pages, 6 x 9", 35 b/w photographs, 10 line illustrations
\$55.00 cloth 978-0-520-25040-6
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