

# THE Markaz Review

Welcome to TMR 3, Newsletter 7 • November 2020



The Racism & Identity Issue

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# Hello Subscriber First Name!

The Markaz Review is pleased to bring you this special issue that looks at issues of racism and identity, from the USA and Europe to the Middle East and North Africa:

**Centerpiece: [Raja Shehadeh, \*The Road to Jerusalem, Then and Now\*](#)**

The bittersweet geographical memories of a sharp 16-year old Palestinian, interwoven with the desperate anger of his 69-year old self confronting the reality of Palestine under what feels like a permanent Israeli occupation.

**Review: [An American in Istanbul Between Muslim and Christian Worlds](#)**

Anne-Marie O'Connor reviews *A Recipe for Daphne*, the debut novel by Nektaria Anastasiadou set in Istanbul's venerable Rum community.

**Interview: [Ayad Akhtar, author of \*Homeland Elegies\*, on Capitalism, Literature and the U.S. Decline](#)**

A candid video conversation with TMR's editor, Jordan Elgrably.

**Essay: [Khawla Ksiksi on Tunisia's Systemic Racism](#)**

Arab/Muslim countries of the Middle East and North Africa have largely failed to fight racism and discrimination against Black people.

**Essay: [Are Iranians—Restricted by the Trump-Era Muslim Ban—White?](#)**

Rebecca Allamey writes about Neda Maghbouleh's *The Limits of Whiteness* as she makes the case for the new, radical idea that a white American immigrant group has the transformative power to become brown.

**Report: [Why is Arabic Provoking Such Controversy in France?](#)**

Melissa Chemam takes us inside the French brouhaha over Arabic and radical Islam.

**Column: [I Am the Hyphen](#)**

In a search for meaning and self-adventure, writer Sarah Mills meanders through her multiple identities, while mulling Maalouf, Darwish et al.

**Review: [Isabel Wilkerson on Race & Caste in 21st Century America](#)**

"It's impossible not to think about race in relation to the United States these days," writes Paris correspondent Monique El-Faizy in this review of Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste*.

**Column: [Find the Others: On Becoming An Arab Writer in English](#)**

A journey with Rewa Zeinati, the founding editor of [Sukoon](#).

**Review: [Is White Feminism the De Facto Weapon of White Supremacy?](#)**

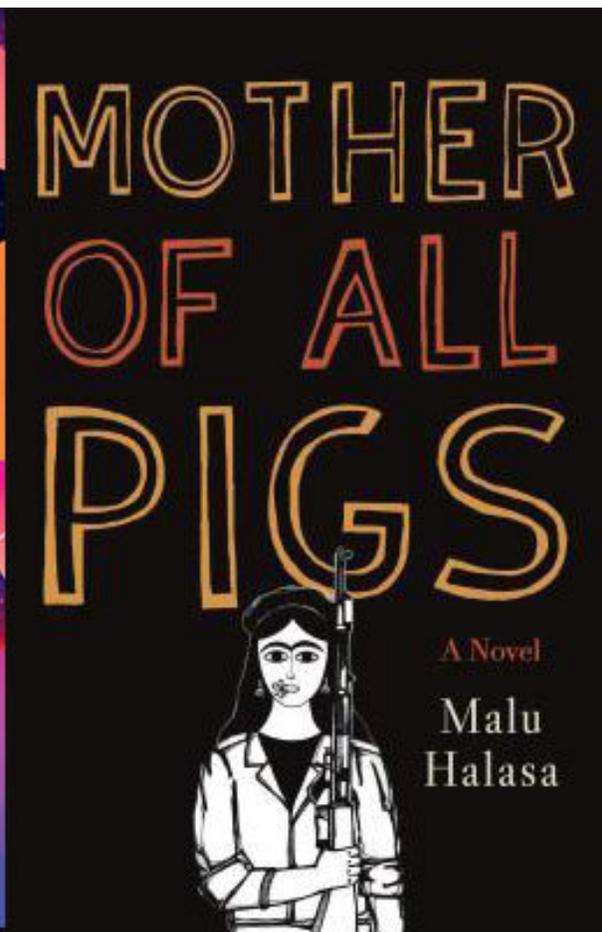
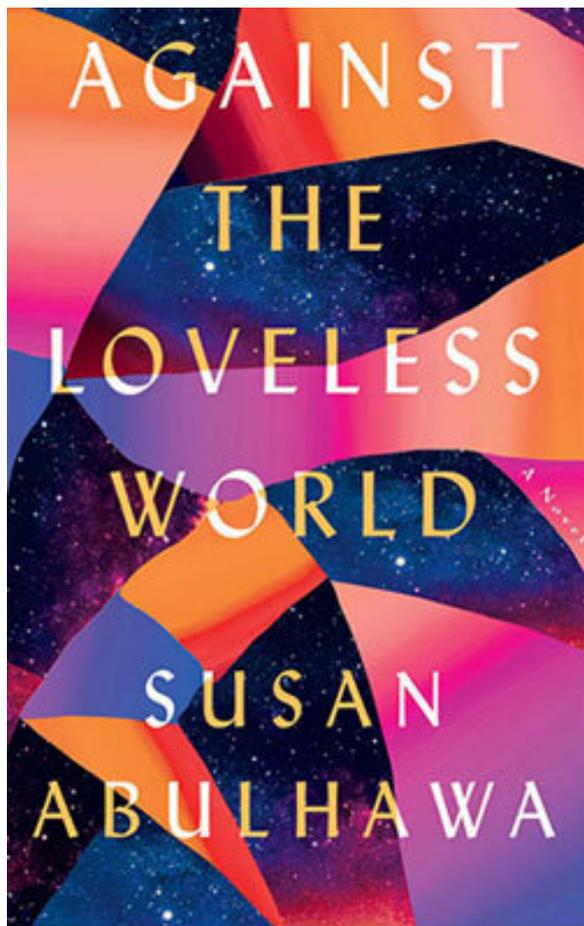
Rana Asfour reviews Ruby Hamad's *White Tears/Brown Scars* by Ruby Hamad—"an explosive book of history and cultural criticism."

TMR 3 features new writing and ideas in the spirit of the late Levantine Cultural Center/The Markaz. If you like what you read, please post your comments at the bottom of each story and share with your friends. Thanks for reading, and above all, [please support The Markaz Review here](#) with a year-end gift. We ask for your contributions now to be able to bring you TMR in 20121.—**Jordan Elgrably, Editor**

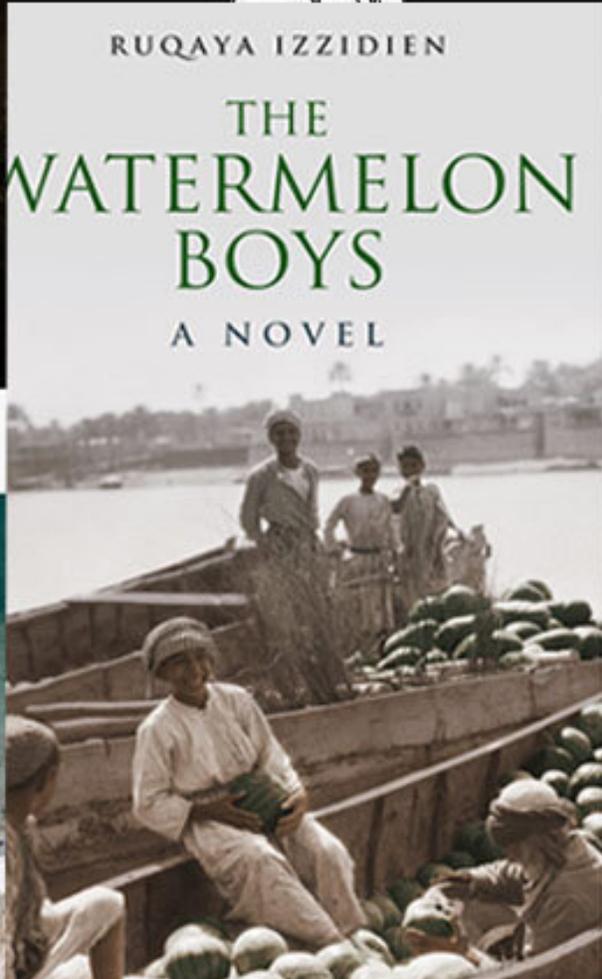
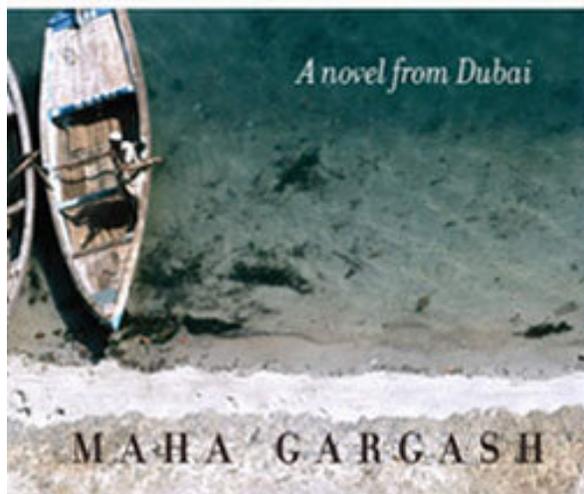
**[The Racism & Identity Issue](#)**

Read TMR 3 [here](#).

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## The Sand Fish



## TMR BookGroup Will Choose One of the Above:

Most recently the BookGroup, open to all, read and discussed Ayad Akhtar's *Homeland Elegies*. This week readers will select one of the above four novel choices, from [Susan Abulhawa](#), [Malu Halasa](#), [Ruqaya Izzidien](#) or [Maha Gargash](#) and discuss it on Dec. 13th or 20th. [Go here](#) or to join the group, send an email to [books@themarkaz.org](mailto:books@themarkaz.org).

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### TMR 5 Call for Submissions

**The theme for our Jan 2021 issue** (deadline 12/18 but query first) is WATER is our worldwide shared resource...Yet with climate change comes drought & rising sea levels. We at @TheMarkazReview seek queries for 'water' stories—literary, creative, environmental pieces, for our Jan. issue. Query the [editor@themarkaz.org](mailto:editor@themarkaz.org).

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