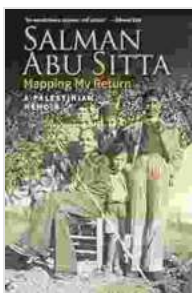


# Mapping My Return: A Palestinian Memoir

I was born in a refugee camp in Jordan, the child of Palestinian parents who had been forced to flee their homeland in 1948. I grew up in the camp, surrounded by the stories of my family and the other refugees. I learned about the Nakba, the "catastrophe" that had befallen the Palestinians, and I learned about the dream of return.



## Mapping My Return: A Palestinian Memoir

by Susan Goldenberg

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 17745 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 352 pages



As a child, I didn't fully understand the significance of these stories. I didn't understand what it meant to be a refugee, or what it meant to be Palestinian. But as I grew older, I began to piece together the fragments of my family's history, and I began to understand the pain and loss that they had endured.

I also began to understand the importance of the dream of return. For my family, return was not just a matter of going back to their homes in

Palestine. It was a matter of reclaiming their identity, their dignity, and their sense of belonging.

In 2005, I finally had the opportunity to visit Palestine for the first time. It was a surreal experience. I walked the streets of my family's village, and I saw the house where they had lived. I met my cousins and other relatives, and I listened to their stories. It was a powerful and emotional experience, and it helped me to connect with my Palestinian identity in a way that I never had before.

Since then, I have returned to Palestine many times. I have worked with Palestinian organizations, and I have met with Palestinian leaders. I have learned about the challenges that Palestinians face, and I have been inspired by their resilience and their determination to build a better future.

My journey to Palestine has been a long and complex one. It has been a journey of discovery, of learning, and of growth. It has been a journey of pain, but it has also been a journey of hope. I have learned that the dream of return is not just a dream. It is a right, and it is a right that must be realized.

My memoir, *Mapping My Return*, is a story of my journey to Palestine. It is a story of my family's history, of my own identity, and of the dream of return. It is a story of pain, but it is also a story of hope. I hope that my memoir will help to shed light on the Palestinian experience, and I hope that it will inspire others to work for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

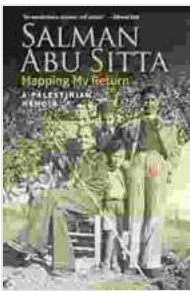
### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are the main themes of *Mapping My Return*?

2. How does the author's personal journey help to illuminate the Palestinian experience?
3. What is the significance of the dream of return for the author and for Palestinians in general?
4. What are the challenges that Palestinians face today?
5. What can be done to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East?

## Additional Resources

- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
- B'Tselem: The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
- Adalah: The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel



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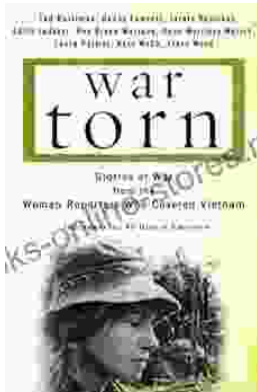
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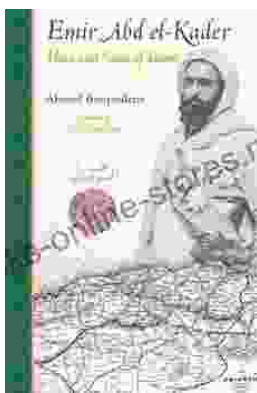
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