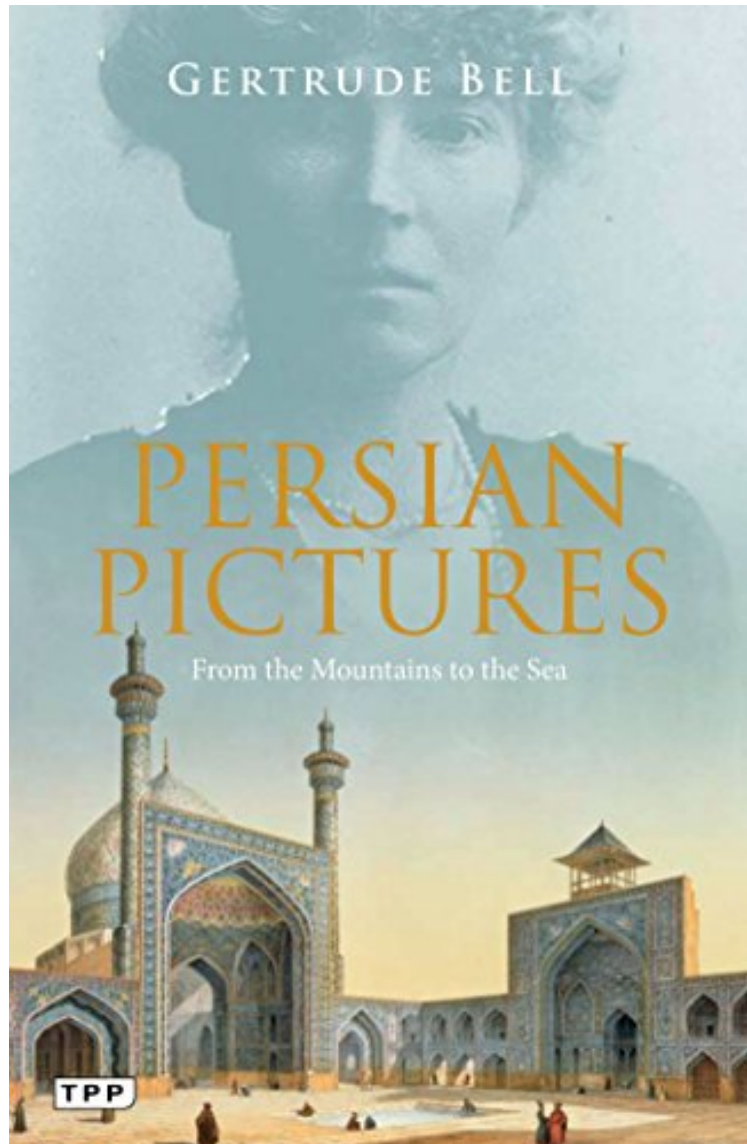


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Persian Pictures: From the Mountains to the Sea (Tauris Parke Paperbacks)

Gertrude Bell

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Gertrude Bell : Persian Pictures: From the Mountains to the Sea (Tauris Parke Paperbacks) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Persian Pictures: From the Mountains to the Sea (Tauris Parke Paperbacks):

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

"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*
From the Back Cover "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.
About the Author Gertrude Bell, CBE (1868-1926) was a writer, traveler, political officer, archaeologist, and spy who traveled extensively throughout Syria, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, and Arabia. Along with T.E. Lawrence, Bell helped establish the Hashemite dynasties in what is today Jordan as well as in Iraq. She played a major role in establishing and helping administer the modern state of Iraq, using the perspective gained from her travels and relations with tribal leaders in the Middle East.