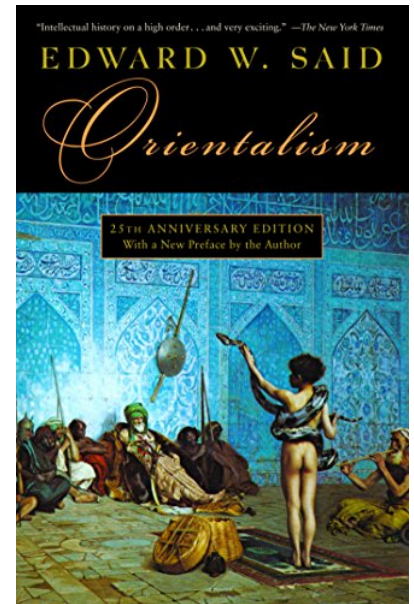


Orientalism Book Summary (PDF) by Edward W. Said

Ready to learn the most important takeaways from Orientalism in less than two minutes? Keep reading!



Why This Book Matters:

Orientalism aims to examine how Western civilization thinks, feels, and acts toward Eastern civilization.

The Big Takeaways:

- 1. Western images painted the entirety of the East based on a tiny portion of it.**
 1. If These images, though outdated, offensive, and inaccurate, continue to circulate in Western ads.
- 2. Expansion in both economics and politics fueled inaccurate images of the East being passed off by Orientalists (scholars claiming to have vast knowledge of the Orient).**
 1. If the East is rambunctious and erotic, the West appears more elite.
- 3. Orientalism was controlled by those who had financial stakes and governmental ties.**

1. Some people tried to make it seem like they had some inside knowledge of the Orient just to put themselves in a favorable position.
4. **The picture Orientalists painted of the Orient were false.**
 1. The ideas of the Orient were painted one way and experienced in another, forcing Orientalists to reexamine what they once believed as truth.
5. **Orientalism is still alive in the US.**
 1. Several characteristics point out the existence of Orientalism within the United States today.

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