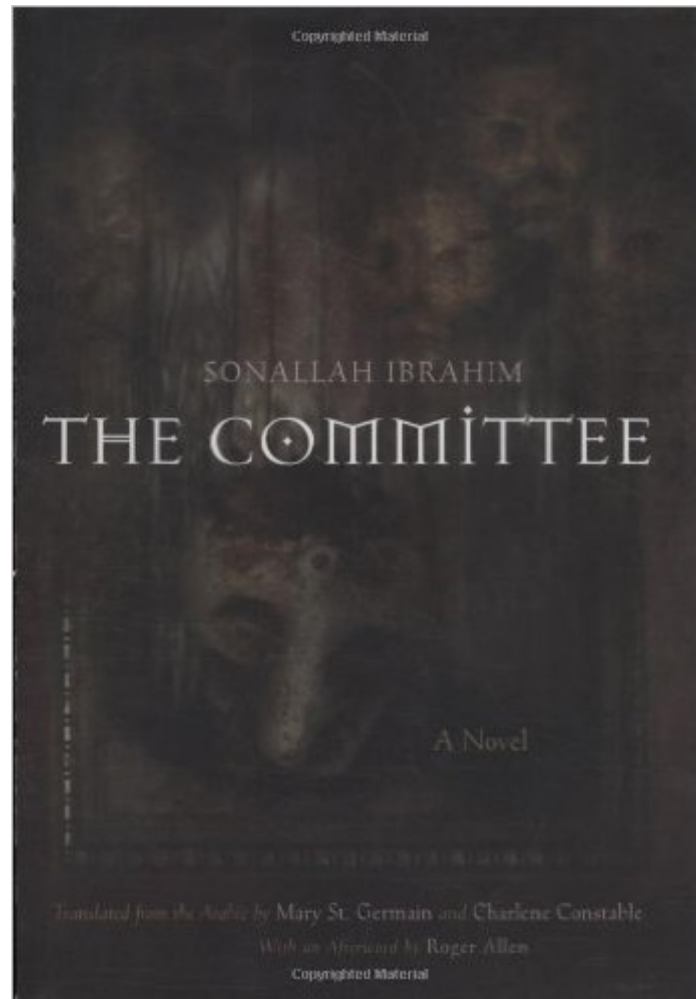


The book was found

The Committee: A Novel (Middle East Literature In Translation)



Synopsis

Writing in a symbolic and minimalist style, author Sonallah Ibrahim has been called the Egyptian Kafka. This wry take on Kafka's *The Trial* revolves around its narrator's attempts to petition successfully the elusive ruling body of his country, known simply as the committee.

Book Information

Series: Middle East Literature In Translation

Hardcover: 166 pages

Publisher: Syracuse University Press; 1 edition (November 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0815607261

ISBN-13: 978-0815607267

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 7.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #151,302 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > African](#) #49 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > Middle Eastern](#) #11421 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary](#)

Customer Reviews

"The Committee", by Sun Allah Ibrahim joins the work of writers including Franz Kafka, Albert Camus, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. The comparison that is most easily drawn is to Kafka's, "The Trial". While this may be the easiest parallel to draw it suggests this is just a variation on a theme and that would be a disservice to this book and the author. The unnamed narrator first petitions a committee. This group is made of members we are told virtually nothing about. Our narrator only makes vague references to what a positive decision from this committee would mean to him. Whatever his goal, it must be of great value for during his first audience he is not only queried on his knowledge, his is degraded, pointlessly degraded. The similarities to other writings remain in regard to arbitrary and absolute authority; together with the perversions of thought and justice they produce. Unlike, "The Trial", there is no evidence he stands accused of anything on his initial hearing. The committee after a long delay sets for him yet another task, and when they learn of how he proceeds despite the blockades put before him, the group visits him, with a single member remaining. This shadow is the same individual who so crudely humiliated him before. The treatment again begins with the total invasion of everything that is held private for the individual, with the result

that our narrator commits a crime, comes once again before the committee, and receives a surreal sentence. Throughout this fairly brief work the narrator in his appearances before the group, and in his private thoughts often expounds on his theories with seemingly bizarre examples.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Committee: A Novel (Middle East Literature In Translation) The Sheltered Quarter: A Tale of a Boyhood in Mecca (Modern Middle East Literature in Translation) Greater Middle East Region: Including Afghanistan, Pakistan, Libya and Turkey (Hammond Greater Middle East Region Map) Harley Loco: A Memoir of Hard Living, Hair, and Post-Punk, from the Middle East to the Lower East Side The Itty Bitty Kitty Committee: The Ultimate Guide to All Things Kitten A Basic Guide to Decathlon (Official U.S. Olympic Committee Sports) Dear Committee Members The Olympic Experience in Your School Grades K-3 (United States Olympic Committee Curriculum Series) The Confessions: (Vol. I/1) Revised, (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century) (The Works of Saint Augustine: A Translation for the 21st Century, Vol. 1) Translation-mediated Communication in a Digital World: Facing the Challenges of Globalization and Localization (Topics in Translation) Lancelot-Grail: 2. The Story of Merlin: The Old French Arthurian Vulgate and Post-Vulgate in Translation (Lancelot-Grail: The Old French Arthurian Vulgate and Post-Vulgate in Translation) Romans: Grace and Glory (The Passion Translation): The Passion Translation East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon (Works in Translation) The Middle Length Discourses of the Buddha: A Translation of the Majjhima Nikaya (Teachings of the Buddha) The General Prologue & The Physician's Tale: In Middle English & In Modern Verse Translation Words of My Perfect Teacher: A Complete Translation of a Classic Introduction to Tibetan Buddhism (Sacred Literature) The Transnational Mosque: Architecture and Historical Memory in the Contemporary Middle East (Islamic Civilization and Muslim Networks) The Muslim Brotherhood: The History of the Middle East's Most Influential Islamist Group A Concise History of the Middle East, Ninth Edition King's Counsel: A Memoir of War, Espionage, and Diplomacy in the Middle East

[Dmca](#)