



The image of the female body and identity construction between alterity and alteration

A sociocritical study of *Ṭiflat al-samā'* by Samar Yazbek

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Abstract: This analysis of *Ṭiflat as-samā'* studies the female body as a symbolic site of power and a battleground for freedom. The author examines Alaouite and Sunni female identities through a corporeity that is a “source” of conflict both with the self and with the other. The Yazbekian body acts as a vehicle for a discourse that betrays social malaise and personal discontent. Sociocultural and religious stigmas are etched onto the female body, which is judged, fixed, idealized, and fantasized.

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