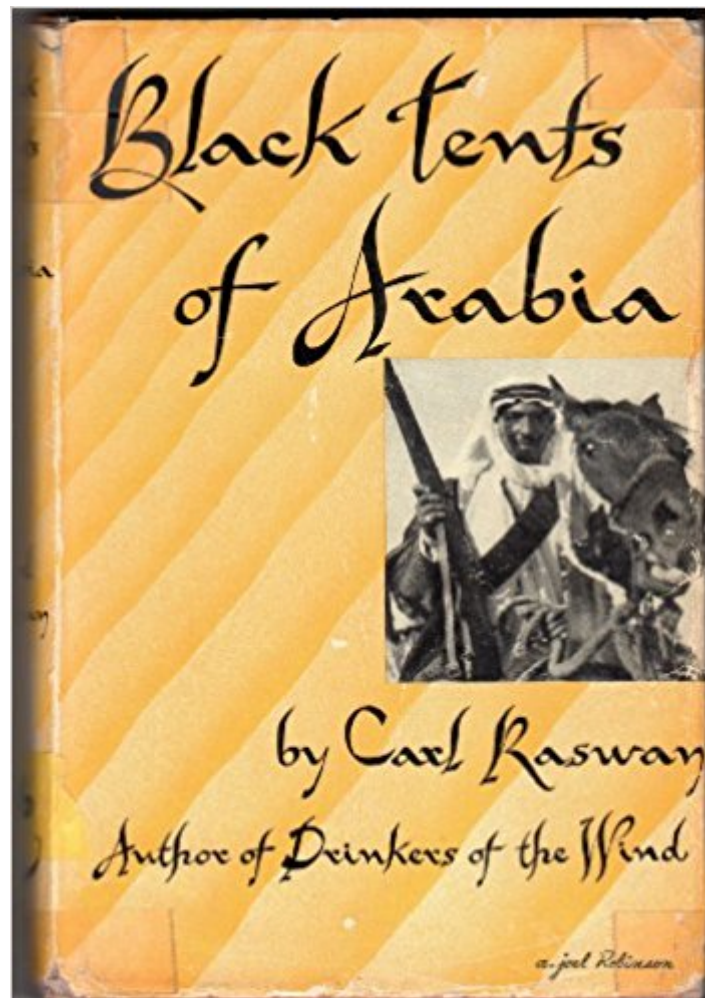




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Black Tents Of Arabia (My Life Among The Bedouins)



Book Information

Hardcover

Publisher: Creative Age Press; Reissued edition (January 1, 1947)

ASIN: B000OKAH54

Package Dimensions: 8.5 x 5.7 x 1.1 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I really enjoyed this book!

Highly recommended if you are interested in past Arabic life and culture which is now lost to money, power and oil. The author had some wonderfully authentic experiences that are lost to this world and time. Read "City of Salt" after reading this book!

The Black Tents of Arabia, by Carl Reinhard Raswan. No contemporary Arabian horse fancier had more first-hand involvement with the Bedouins and high-adventures with desertbred horses and few individuals in history have generated more printed words about them. Black Tents is a chronicle of his periodic escapades, (which spanned a total of twenty-six years) migrating, hunting, raiding, feasting, and starving amidst the Ruwala tribe. Certainly, no modern writer better captured the essence of the vanishing nomadic Arab culture in such nostalgic and wistful terms. Among the many interesting segments found in the book is an account of the only known meteorite shower to have caused human casualties. First published in 1935, at least four reprints have greatly enhanced the folklore of the breed. Reviewed by Andrew K. Steen, Author and Historian of the Arabian Horse and the Exploration of Arabia

The author was a German soldier in WWI who lived with the Bedouin for 22 years after the war. His initial attraction was his love of Arabian horses, but he eventually acquired the language and customs of the Ruwala tribe. Incredibly violent scenes are described in great detail as he rides in raiding parties and fights gun battles with other tribes. One compelling scene describes the sound of

bullets smacking into the chest of his best friend. The food scenes are also not for the faint of heart; you may not want to know what they do with the contents of a dead camel's stomach. There is also much in the book that makes one admire the laws of the desert and the nomadic customs that have evolved. This is not a scientific book or an anthropological text, but it should be of extreme interest to any one who seriously studies these people. My interest in oriental rugs caused me to pick it up at a local junk store, and I found it thoroughly engrossing.

interestingly this version did not contain portions of an earlier edition, which was very disappointing, as I had particularly purchased it for the contents I hoped it would contain! not sure how to overcome this, probably unable to. definitely a shame, however the rest of the book was as remembered and a good read.

I like it. It's a quirky book, written long ago, but it gives a lot of insight into the Arabian horse and the Bedouins. It's not really a book that would have a large following, but for those interested in the history of Arabians, and understand the significance of Carl Raswan, it's a good read.

This is an expanded edition of the book first published in 1935, in which the author re-counts his desert experiences in pursuit of knowledge of the Arabian horse. He later used what he learned to become a principal agent in building up the breed in the United States and Europe in the 20th century. Traveling in the Arabian Peninsula shortly before the founding of Saudi Arabia in 1932, Raswan was renowned among the tribes for his deep respect of Bedouin ways, especially horsemanship and horse breeding. Born in Dresden in 1893, he emigrated to the United States in 1921, where he assisted in the historic Davenport importation and with the establishment of the country's earliest Arabian stud farms. This edition contains 100 pages of photographs. DD

Good snap shot of a culture after the turn of the century.

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