

# woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi

**\*\*Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi: A Powerful Tale of Resistance and Identity\*\***

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi** stands as one of the most compelling and provocative novels in modern Arabic literature. This groundbreaking work dives deep into the life of Firdaus, a woman who confronts the oppressive structures of patriarchy, colonialism, and social injustice in Egypt. Nawal El Saadawi, a renowned feminist writer, psychiatrist, and activist, crafts a narrative that is as much a critique of societal norms as it is a poignant exploration of one woman's quest for autonomy and dignity. If you're curious about feminist literature, Middle Eastern narratives, or stories of resilience, this novel offers profound insights that resonate across cultures and time.

## Understanding the Context of Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi

Nawal El Saadawi wrote *\*Woman at Point Zero\** after her experience working as a psychiatrist in a women's prison in Egypt. The novel is based on the true story of a woman she met there, Firdaus, who was sentenced to death for killing a man. This real-life inspiration fuels the authenticity and raw emotional power of the book.

## Historical and Cultural Background

To fully appreciate *\*Woman at Point Zero\**, it's important to understand the socio-political environment in which it was written. Egypt in the mid-20th century was a place where women's rights were severely restricted, and patriarchal traditions dominated every aspect of life. The novel highlights issues such as:

- Gender inequality and systemic oppression
- The intersection of class and gender struggles
- The limited opportunities for women in education and work
- The impact of colonial legacies on societal structures

El Saadawi's work is a direct challenge to the silence imposed on women's narratives in this context, offering a voice to those marginalized by their gender and social status.

## The Narrative and Themes in Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi

The story follows Firdaus, a woman who recounts her life story from prison, where she awaits execution. Through her narrative, El Saadawi explores themes of power, control, freedom, and identity.

# Firdaus: The Protagonist's Journey

Firdaus's life is marked by abuse, exploitation, and betrayal, but also by moments of courage and self-discovery. From her abusive childhood to her experiences with prostitution, marriage, and ultimately murder, Firdaus embodies the struggle of many women trapped in oppressive systems. Her refusal to submit to her abusers and her ultimate act of violence can be seen as a radical assertion of agency.

## Key Themes Explored in the Novel

- **Patriarchy and Female Oppression:** The novel vividly portrays how patriarchal authority controls women's bodies and choices, from family to society at large.
- **Freedom and Resistance:** Firdaus's narrative is a search for freedom—freedom from violence, exploitation, and social constraints.
- **Identity and Self-Worth:** Firdaus's journey reveals the complexities of identity for women who are marginalized and silenced.
- **Sexuality and Power Dynamics:** The book challenges traditional views on female sexuality, exposing how it is manipulated and controlled.
- **Justice and Revenge:** The novel raises tough questions about what justice means for women who have been wronged by society.

## Why *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi Remains Relevant Today

Despite being published in the 1970s, *Woman at Point Zero* continues to resonate with readers around the world and remains a staple in feminist literature. Its relevance stems from its universal themes and the ongoing struggles for women's rights globally.

## The Impact on Feminist and Postcolonial Literature

El Saadawi's novel is often studied alongside other feminist works because it:

- Breaks taboos around female sexuality and violence
- Highlights the intersectionality of gender, class, and colonial histories
- Inspires conversations about women's autonomy in both Western and non-Western contexts

## Educational and Social Influence

*Woman at Point Zero* is frequently included in university courses on gender studies, Middle Eastern literature, and human rights. Its vivid storytelling fosters empathy and understanding, making it a powerful tool for raising awareness about women's oppression and resilience.

# Exploring the Writing Style and Narrative Technique

Nawal El Saadawi's writing in *\*Woman at Point Zero\** is both direct and poetic, combining the stark realities of Firdaus's life with profound philosophical reflections.

## First-Person Narrative and Emotional Intensity

The use of first-person narration allows readers to connect deeply with Firdaus's inner world, experiencing her pain, anger, and hope firsthand. This intimate perspective is crucial in humanizing a character who might otherwise be dismissed as merely a criminal.

## Symbolism and Imagery

El Saadawi uses powerful imagery to convey themes of entrapment and liberation. For example:

- Prison as a metaphor for societal constraints
- The desert landscape symbolizing isolation and harshness
- Light and darkness to reflect moments of clarity and despair

These literary devices enhance the novel's emotional impact and thematic depth.

## How to Approach Reading *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi

For readers new to this novel or feminist literature, approaching *\*Woman at Point Zero\** with an open mind and some background knowledge can enrich the experience.

## Tips for Engaging with the Novel

- **\*\*Understand the Historical Context:\*\*** Familiarize yourself with the socio-political landscape of Egypt during the time of the novel's setting.
- **\*\*Reflect on Intersectionality:\*\*** Consider how Firdaus's gender, class, and cultural background shape her experiences.
- **\*\*Engage with Critical Perspectives:\*\*** Reading scholarly articles or feminist critiques can add layers of understanding.
- **\*\*Discuss and Share:\*\*** Joining book clubs or discussion groups focused on feminist literature can deepen your appreciation.
- **\*\*Pay Attention to Language:\*\*** Notice how El Saadawi's prose style conveys emotion and meaning beyond the plot.

## Complementary Reading Suggestions

If *\*Woman at Point Zero\** sparks your interest, you might also explore other works by Nawal El Saadawi, such as *\*The Hidden Face of Eve\**, or feminist classics like *\*Persepolis\** by Marjane Satrapi and *\*The Color Purple\** by Alice Walker to broaden your perspective on women's narratives across cultures.

## The Legacy of Nawal El Saadawi and *Woman at Point Zero*

Nawal El Saadawi's influence extends far beyond her novels. As a pioneering feminist voice, her activism has challenged norms and inspired generations.

### El Saadawi's Role as a Feminist Icon

She has been an outspoken advocate for women's rights in the Arab world, often facing censorship and persecution for her views. *\*Woman at Point Zero\** encapsulates her commitment to revealing uncomfortable truths and pushing for social change.

### The Novel's Enduring Power

Decades after its publication, *\*Woman at Point Zero\** continues to empower readers, especially women, by illustrating the strength found in reclaiming one's voice and resisting oppression. It stands as a testament to the transformative power of storytelling in the fight for justice and equality.

Reading *\*woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi\** is not just an exploration of one woman's tragic life—it is an invitation to question deeply ingrained social structures and to recognize the courage it takes to confront them. Whether you are a student, a feminist, or simply a lover of literature, this novel offers a powerful lens through which to view the complexities of gender and power.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the central theme of 'Woman at Point Zero' by Nawal El Saadawi?

The central theme of 'Woman at Point Zero' is the oppression and struggle of women in a patriarchal society, highlighting issues such as gender inequality, violence against women, and the quest for freedom and dignity.

## Who is the protagonist in 'Woman at Point Zero' and what is her significance?

The protagonist is Firdaus, a woman who narrates her life story from prison before her execution. Her significance lies in her transformation from a victim of abuse to a woman who asserts her autonomy and challenges societal norms.

## How does Nawal El Saadawi address the issue of female empowerment in the novel?

Nawal El Saadawi addresses female empowerment by portraying Firdaus's journey towards self-awareness and resistance against oppression, ultimately depicting her refusal to be controlled by men or society, symbolizing a broader feminist awakening.

## What role does the setting play in 'Woman at Point Zero'?

The setting, primarily Egypt in a repressive society, plays a crucial role in illustrating the systemic injustices faced by women, emphasizing the cultural and social constraints that Firdaus must navigate and resist.

## Why is 'Woman at Point Zero' considered a feminist classic?

It is considered a feminist classic because it boldly exposes the brutal realities of women's lives under patriarchy, challenges traditional gender roles, and inspires discourse on women's rights and liberation on a global scale.

## Additional Resources

**\*\*Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi: A Profound Exploration of Gender, Power, and Resistance\*\***

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi** stands as a seminal work in contemporary feminist literature, offering an unflinching portrayal of female oppression within a patriarchal society. Originally published in Arabic in 1975 and later translated into multiple languages, this novel has gained international acclaim for its raw narrative and socio-political critique. The story centers on Firdaus, a woman condemned to death in an Egyptian prison, whose life unfolds as a powerful testimony against systemic injustice and gender-based violence. This article examines the thematic depth, narrative style, and enduring relevance of *\*Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi\**, revealing why it remains a critical text in gender studies and world literature.

## In-depth Analysis of Woman at Point Zero by Nawal El Saadawi

Nawal El Saadawi, an Egyptian psychiatrist, feminist, and writer, uses *\*Woman at Point Zero\** not only to tell a story but to challenge deeply entrenched social norms. The novel is based on a real-life

encounter she had with a female prisoner named Firdaus during her time working in Qanatir Prison. This foundation in reality lends the narrative a stark authenticity, making Firdaus's struggles emblematic of broader systemic issues faced by women in conservative societies.

The narrative structure employs a first-person retrospective account, allowing readers an intimate glimpse into Firdaus's psyche. This perspective reveals layers of trauma, resilience, and eventual rebellion. The story charts Firdaus's journey from childhood through adulthood, highlighting the cyclical nature of female subjugation and the limited avenues available for empowerment. Through Firdaus, El Saadawi critiques institutions such as family, education, and marriage, exposing how they often perpetuate women's oppression rather than alleviate it.

## **Thematic Exploration: Gender and Power Dynamics**

At the heart of *\*Woman at Point Zero\** by Nawal El Saadawi lies a penetrating examination of gender and power. Firdaus's life is marked by encounters with men who wield control through violence, economic dominance, or social authority. The novel exposes how patriarchal power structures entrench women's dependency and silence dissent. In Firdaus's case, her ultimate act of killing a man who exploited her becomes a radical assertion of agency, albeit one that leads to her demise.

El Saadawi's portrayal of Firdaus challenges traditional narratives of female victimhood by emphasizing autonomy and self-awareness. Firdaus's reflections on her life reveal a growing consciousness of the mechanisms that oppress her, culminating in a rejection of societal expectations. This nuanced representation distinguishes the novel from more conventional feminist literature by intertwining personal rebellion with social critique.

## **Socio-cultural Context and Its Influence**

Understanding the socio-cultural backdrop is essential to fully grasp the significance of *\*Woman at Point Zero\**. Set in mid-20th century Egypt, the novel reflects a period rife with political upheaval, social conservatism, and emerging feminist consciousness. El Saadawi's own activism and experiences as a female doctor in a male-dominated society inform her incisive portrayal of gender injustice.

The novel also sheds light on how economic factors exacerbate women's vulnerability. Firdaus's descent into prostitution, for example, is not merely a moral failing but a consequence of systemic poverty and lack of opportunities. This realistic depiction challenges readers to reconsider simplistic judgments and recognize the complex interplay between socio-economic status and gender oppression.

## **Literary Style and Narrative Techniques**

Nawal El Saadawi's writing in *\*Woman at Point Zero\** is marked by clarity, emotional intensity, and a measured pace that reflects the protagonist's psychological evolution. The language is straightforward yet evocative, avoiding ornate prose to maintain the immediacy of Firdaus's voice. This stylistic choice reinforces the novel's journalistic roots, as it reads almost like a case study or

testimonial.

The novel's pacing is deliberate, with a focus on key life events that shape Firdaus's identity. Flashbacks and introspective passages are interwoven to build a comprehensive portrait of her struggles and resistance. This narrative approach invites readers to engage critically with the material rather than passively consume a linear story.

## Comparative Perspectives Within Feminist Literature

Comparatively, *\*Woman at Point Zero\** shares thematic parallels with other feminist classics such as Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *\*The Yellow Wallpaper\** and Toni Morrison's *\*Beloved\**. Like these works, El Saadawi's novel interrogates the intersection of gender, power, and identity within oppressive contexts. However, its unique contribution lies in its setting within the Arab world, offering a perspective often underrepresented in global feminist discourse.

Unlike Western feminist narratives that sometimes focus on individual liberation within liberal frameworks, *\*Woman at Point Zero\** foregrounds structural critique, emphasizing how societal institutions systematically marginalize women. This global dimension enhances the novel's relevance and positions it as a vital text in cross-cultural feminist studies.

## Pros and Cons of the Novel's Approach

- **Pros:**

- Authentic voice grounded in real-life experience;
- Powerful critique of patriarchal institutions;
- Accessible prose that balances emotional depth with clarity;
- Raises awareness about gender-based violence and social injustice;
- Encourages readers to question cultural norms and power dynamics.

- **Cons:**

- Some readers may find the narrative bleak or unrelenting in its portrayal of suffering;
- The novel's political context may require background knowledge for full comprehension;
- Limited exploration of male characters' perspectives, which might restrict a holistic view of social dynamics.

# Impact and Legacy of *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi

The enduring impact of *Woman at Point Zero* is evident in its continued presence in academic curricula and feminist activism worldwide. It has been translated into dozens of languages, inspiring adaptations in theater and film. The novel's contribution to highlighting gender inequality in the Arab world has made it an essential reference for scholars of Middle Eastern studies and human rights advocates.

Moreover, the novel's bold confrontation of taboo subjects such as female genital mutilation, sexual abuse, and systemic violence has sparked dialogue in societies where such issues are often silenced. In this way, *Woman at Point Zero* transcends literary boundaries to become a catalyst for social change.

The novel's protagonist, Firdaus, has become a symbol of resistance and self-determination for many women facing similar struggles globally. Her story encourages readers to reflect on the intersections of personal trauma and political oppression, underscoring the necessity of both individual courage and collective action.

In sum, *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi remains a vital work that challenges and expands our understanding of gender, power, and resilience. Its narrative power and socio-political critique ensure its continued relevance in discussions on feminism and human rights worldwide.

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**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: *Woman at Point Zero*** Nawal El Saadawi, 2007-06 All the men I did get to know, every single man of them, has filled me with but one desire: to lift my hand and bring it smashing down on his face. But because I am a woman I have never had the courage to lift my hand. And because I am a prostitute, I hid my fear under layers of make-up. --Excerpt This is a new edition of the best-selling novel with a specially commissioned new Foreword by Miriam Cooke.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: *Woman at Point Zero*** Nawāl Sa'dāwī, 1983 So begins Firdaus' story, leading to her grimy Cairo prison cell, where she welcomes her death sentence as a relief from her pain and suffering. Born to a peasant family in the Egyptian countryside, Firdaus suffers a childhood of cruelty and neglect. Her passion for education is ignored by her family, and on leaving school she is forced to marry a much older man. Following her escapes



from violent relationships, she finally meets Sharifa who tells her that 'A man does not know a woman's value ... the higher you price yourself the more he will realise what you are really worth' and leads her into a life of prostitution. Desperate and alone, she takes drastic action. -- Publisher description.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** Postcolonial Representations Françoise Lionnet, 2018-07-05 Passionate allegiances to competing theoretical camps have stifled dialogue among today's literary critics, asserts Françoise Lionnet. Discussing a number of postcolonial narratives by women from a variety of ethnic and cultural backgrounds, she offers a comparative feminist approach that can provide common ground for debates on such issues as multiculturalism, universalism, and relativism. Lionnet uses the concept of *métissage*, or cultural mixing, in her readings of a rich array of Francophone and Anglophone texts—by Michelle Cliff from Jamaica, Suzanne Dracius-Pinalie from Martinique, Ananda Devi from Mauritius, Maryse Conde and Myriam Warner-Vieyra from Guadeloupe, Gayl Jones from the United States, Bessie Head from Botswana, Nawal El Saadawi from Egypt, and Leila Sebbar from Algeria and France. Focusing on themes of exile and displacement and on narrative treatments of culturally sanctioned excision, polygamy, and murder, Lionnet examines the psychological and social mechanisms that allow individuals to negotiate conflicting cultural influences. In her view, these writers reject the opposition between self and other and base their self-portrayals on a *métissage* of forms and influences. Lionnet's perspective has much to offer critics and theorists, whether they are interested in First or Third World contexts, American or French critical perspectives, essentialist or poststructuralist epistemologies.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *Contemporary Arab Women Writers* Anastasia Valassopoulos, 2008-03-10 This book engages with contemporary Arab women writers from Egypt, Palestine, Lebanon and Algeria. In spite of Edward Said's groundbreaking reappraisal of the uneven relationship between the West and the Arab world in *Orientalism*, there has been little postcolonial criticism of Arab writing. Anastasia Valassopoulos raises the profile of Arab women writers by examining how they negotiate contexts and experiences that have come to be identified with postcoloniality such as the preoccupation with Western feminism, political conflict and war, the social effects of non-conformity and female empowerment, and the negotiation of influential cultural discourses such as orientalism. *Contemporary Arab Women Writers* revitalizes theoretical concepts associated with feminism, gender studies and cultural studies, and explores how art history, popular culture, translation studies, psychoanalysis and news media all offer productive ways to associate with Arab women's writing that work beyond a limiting socio-historical context. Discussing the writings of authors including Ahdaf Soueif, Nawal El Saadawi, Leila Sebbar, Liana Badr and Hanan Al-Shaykh, this book represents a new direction in postcolonial literary criticism that transcends constrictive monothematic approaches.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** Juju Fission Chikwenye Okonjo Ogunyemi, 2007 Women, especially leaders, holding tête-à-têtes with men to address political impasses have been recognized as shrewd, double headed, or witchlike distinctions that link them with juju or extraordinary, survivalist powers. *Juju Fission: Women's Alternative Fictions from the Sahara, the Kalahari, and the Oases In-Between* is a theoretical and analytical book on African women writers that focuses on seven representative novels from different parts of Africa: Bessie Head's *Maru* (South Africa/Botswana); Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero* (Egypt); Ama Ata Aidoo's *Our Sister Killjoy*; or *Reflections from a Black-Eyed Squint and Changes* (Ghana); Assia Djebar's *A Sister to Scheherazade* (Algeria); Calixthe Beyala's *The Sun Hath Looked Upon Me* (Cameroon); and Yvonne Vera's *Nehanda* (Zimbabwe). In her analysis, Chikwenye Okonjo Ogunyemi demonstrates how women are viewed and how they operate in critical times. Ogunyemi explains how the heritage is passed on, in spite of dire situations emanating from colonialism, postcolonialism, ethnicism, sexism, and grinding poverty. An important contribution to many fields, *Juju Fission* is excellent background material for courses on African studies, women's studies, African Diaspora studies, black studies, global studies, and general literature studies.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *Expressions of the Body* Charlotte Baker, 2009 This book contributes to a growing corpus of writing on the body, bringing new perspectives to this fascinating and topical subject. Feminist, psychoanalytic and queer readings, among others, have demonstrated the extent of the functions and roles fulfilled by the body, as well as the number of critical perspectives it can serve. However, by and large, African representations of the body have been overlooked. This coherent volume brings together essays on the portrayal of the body in African art, film, literature, photography and theatre. The book includes thematically linked contributions which explore issues of power and representation, and reflects current trends in the study of the body and more broadly within the field of African Studies.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *African Memoirs and Cultural Representations* Toyin Falola, 2023-02-14 Traditions and cultures represent a set of persisting or prevailing beliefs, social practices, oral, linguistic, and values that define an individual's way of life. In other words, in memoir writing, the emphasis is often to propagate a unilateral need or embrace of self-identity. However, the dominant narrative and method of analysis in this study holds the notion and privileges that tradition and cultures imbibed by memoirists are sometimes subverted, refashioned, or reworked due to the strand of experiences or realities they encounter in different spaces as their narration develops. Thus, memoirists embrace indifference and open-mindedness, which is also greatly explored in the context of autobiography.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Linguistics and Culture (ICLC-4 2023)** Muhammad Hasyim, 2024-05-22 This is an open access book. Research and teaching activities in the fields of language, literature and culture are still being carried out even during the Covid -19 era that hit the world. It is undeniable that the results of research and learning of language, literature and culture at this time were a bit hindered because most activities were carried out from home. During the Covid-19 period, which started in early 2020, practically more activities were done at home. Likewise, institutions during the Covid-19 era were carried out online. For example, the Language Agency continues to carry out activities, but it is carried out online, such as online webinars that contribute to the wider community in accordance with the duties and functions of the Language Agency, carried out using a hybrid method or completely online. Various events are packaged creatively and innovatively to produce a new spirit in speaking. Research and teaching of language, literature and culture during the Covid-19 period resulted in many amazing innovations and creativity in line with technological developments. Covid-19 has inspired many in research on language, literature and culture. In the field of language, you can see research on the language used in Covid-19, such as said cases of suspected respiratory tract infection, ODP (People Under Monitoring), confirmed cases (a person who is late known to be infected with Covid-19, etc. That's the content -Content on YouTube about the use of language is a hot object of research to research. In terms of culture, the Government is making various efforts to break the chain of the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic in a massive and systematic manner. Covid-19 is not only a deadly virus, but has a domino effect that is also terrible. One of the policies used by the government in preventing and controlling the spread of Covid-19 is implementing the Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) policy As an investment, culture also requires strategies and enablers so that it is able to achieve the target of the happiness and welfare of the Indonesian people. This strategy is implemented through providing for a diversity of cultural expressions, developing cultural practices, utilizing cultural promotion objects, accelerating institutional reform, and increasing the government's role as a facilitator. Teaching issues, especially teaching methods of language, literature and culture, need to be highlighted in terms of IT-based innovation and creativity after Covid-19. How especially teaching methods in applying the material. Research on learning methods has also been carried out a lot, especially methods that focus on students entering the new normal era or the new era after Covid-19 with innovative research and learning of language, literature and culture. It is interesting to reveal a major event, namely the 3rd International Conference on Linguistics and Cultural Studies sponsored by the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University, Makassar.

### **woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Feminism, Literature and Rape Narratives**

Sorcha Gunne, Zoe Brigley Thompson, 2012-08-06 The essays in this volume discuss narrative strategies employed by international writers when dealing with rape and sexual violence, whether in fiction, poetry, memoir, or drama. In developing these new feminist readings of rape narratives, the contributors aim to incorporate arguments about trauma and resistance in order to establish new dimensions of healing. This book makes a vital contribution to the fields of literary studies and feminism, since while other volumes have focused on retroactive portrayals of rape in literature, to date none has focused entirely on the subversive work that is being done to retheorize sexual violence. Split into four sections, the volume considers sexual violence from a number of different angles. 'Subverting the Story' considers how the characters of the victim and rapist might be subverted in narratives of sexual violence. In 'Metaphors for Resistance,' the essays explore how writers approach the subject of rape obliquely using metaphors to represent their suffering and pain. The controversy of not speaking about sexual violence is the focus of 'The Protest of Silence,' while 'The Question of the Visual' considers the problems of making sexual violence visible in the poetic image, in film and on stage. These four sections cover an impressive range of world writing which includes curriculum staples like Toni Morrison, Sarah Kane, Sandra Cisneros, Yvonne Vera, and Sharon Olds.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Womb City** Tlotlo Tsamaase, 2024-12-24 This genre-bending Africanfuturist horror novel blends *The Handmaid's Tale* with *Get Out* in an adrenaline-packed, cyberpunk body-hopping ghost story exploring motherhood, memory, and a woman's right to her own body. Nelah seems to have it all: fame, wealth, and a long-awaited daughter growing in a government lab. But, trapped in a loveless marriage to a policeman who uses a microchip to monitor her every move, Nelah's perfect life is precarious. After a drug-fueled evening culminates in an eerie car accident, Nelah commits a desperate crime and buries the body, daring to hope that she can keep one last secret. The truth claws its way into Nelah's life from the grave. As the ghost of her victim viciously hunts down the people Nelah holds dear, she is thrust into a race against the clock: in order to save any of her remaining loved ones, Nelah must unravel the political conspiracy her victim was on the verge of exposing—or risk losing everyone. Set in a cruel futuristic surveillance state where bodies are a government-issued resource, this harrowing story is a twisty, nail-biting commentary on power, monstrosity, and bodily autonomy. In sickeningly evocative prose, *Womb City* interrogates how patriarchy pits women against each other as unwitting collaborators in their own oppression. In this devastatingly timely debut novel, acclaimed short fiction writer Tlotlo Tsamaase brings a searing intelligence and Botswana's cultural sensibility to the question: just how far must a woman go to bring the whole system crashing down?

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning and Advanced Education (ICOLAE 2022)** Mauly Halwat Hikmat, Yasir Sidiq, Naufal Ishartono, Yunus Sulistyono, Patmisari, Susiati, 2023-08-29 This is an open access book. The COVID-19 pandemic in the last two years has influenced how educational system works. Online learning became the primal policy taken by all institutions in the world to lower the risk of the virus spread. Despite the drawbacks of the online learning, teachers and students were accustomed with the distant learning through web meetings, Learning Management Systems (LMS) and other online learning platforms. In that time, topics under digital learning and education 5.0 were the main stakes in academic disseminations. This year some institutions start to conduct their teaching and learning process classically as before the pandemic, others are still continuing online and not few are in hybrid. This leaves a question: what learning reform should be made in post-pandemic era? This conference invites researchers, experts, teachers and students to discuss the coping solutions of the question. It is important for them to contribute to the understanding of re-imagining online education for better futures, innovative learning design, new skills for living and working in new times, global challenge of education, learning and teaching with blended learning, flipped learning, integrating life skills for students in the curriculum, developing educators for the future distance learning, humanities learning in the digital era, assessment and measurement in education,

challenges and transformations in education, technology in teaching and learning, new learning and teaching models. Not limited to these, scholars may add another interesting topic related to learning reform in post-pandemic era to present.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *The Hidden Face of Eve* Nawal El Saadawi, Nawāl Sa'dāwī, 2007-06 This powerful account of the oppression of women in the Muslim world remains as shocking today as when it was first published, more than a quarter of a century ago. Nawal El Saadawi writes out of a powerful sense of the violence and injustice which permeated her society. Her experiences working as a doctor in villages around Egypt, witnessing prostitution, honour killings and sexual abuse, including female circumcision, drove her to give voice to this suffering. She goes on to explore the causes of the situation through a discussion of the historical role of Arab women in religion and literature. Saadawi argues that the veil, polygamy and legal inequality are incompatible with the essence of Islam or any human faith. This edition, complete with a new foreword, lays claim to *The Hidden Face of Eve's* status as a classic of modern Arab writing.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: North-south Linkages and Connections in Continental and Diaspora African Literatures** African Literature Association. Meeting, 2005 This volume collects some of the best lectures at the African Literature Association's 25th annual conference held in 1999. The conference brought together for the first time a large number of scholars, creative writers and artists from Northern Africa and their counterparts from Sub-Saharan Africa. The conference and this collection highlight the inspiring and stimulating dialogue between two literary and cultural areas that have often been artificially compartmentalised. The essays draw surprising connections and illustrate the breadth and dynamism of African literature.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *The Oxford Handbook of Virginia Woolf* Anne E. Fernald, 2021 A Handbook on Woolf's achievements as an innovative novelist and pioneering feminist theorist. It studies her life, her works, her relationships with other writers, her professional career, and themes in her work including among others feminism, sexuality, education, and class.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Encyclopedia of Feminist Literature** Mary Ellen Snodgrass, 2014-05-14 An accessible one-volume encyclopedia, this addition to the Literary Movements series is a comprehensive reference guide to the history and development of feminist literature, from early fairy tales to works by great women writers of today. Hundred

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *African Women Narrating Identity* Rose A. Sackeyfio, 2023-08-08 This book examines the complexities of women's lives in Africa and the transnational spaces of Europe and North America through the literary works of key African women writers. Using a postcolonial analytical framework, the book highlights the commonalities of African women's identities and experiences across national, ethnic, linguistic, and religious boundaries in Africa and in western settings. It collates the multi-regional narratives of key African women writers who convey how women's lives are shaped by social, economic, and political factors at home and abroad. It also illustrates the intersection of ethnicity, class, and gender that flows through all the texts examined. Unlike existing works that explore African women's fiction, this book uncovers the transformation from postcolonial themes of nationhood to global modalities of post-independence writing through the lens of gender. The book engages with feminist expression through broad themes including religion, war and ethnic conflict, women's status in society, tradition and modernity and local and global tensions. A unique approach to literary criticism of Anglophone African women's writing, this book will be of interest to scholars and students in the field of African Literature, African Studies, Women's Literature, Postcolonial Literature, Cultural and Ethnic Studies and Migration and Diaspora Studies.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi:** *Conscience of the Nation* Richard Jacquemond, 2008 Artfully combining social and literary history, this unique study explores the dual loyalties of contemporary Egyptian authors from the 1952 Revolution to the present day. Egypt's writers have long had an elevated idea of their social mission, considering themselves 'the conscience of the nation.' At the same time, modern Egyptian writers work under the liberal conception of the writer borrowed from the European model. As a result, each Egyptian writer treads the tightrope between

authority and freedom, social commitment and artistic license, loyalty to the state and to personal expression, in an ongoing quest for an elusive literary ideal. With these fundamentals in mind, Conscience of the Nation examines Egyptian literary production over the past fifty years, surveying works by established writers, as well as those of dozens of other authors who are celebrated in Egypt but whose writings are largely unknown to the foreign reader. Novelists and poets, scriptwriters and playwrights, critics and journalists all have battled with and tried to resolve the tensions inherent in the conflicting forces of self and society.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Mothers and Daughters in Arab Women's Literature** Dalya Abudi, 2010-11-11 This study explores the mother-daughter relationship as the most fundamental and most intimate female relationship and as the cornerstone of Arab family life. Drawing on autobiographical and semifictional works by women writers from across the Arab world, the study offers a first-hand account of how Arab women view and experience this primary bond. The author uses both early and contemporary writings of Arab women to illuminate the traditional and evolving nature of mother-daughter relationships in Arab families and how these family dynamics reflect and influence modern Arab life. The compelling narratives demystify the institutions of family and motherhood and show the potential of mothers and daughters to transform the patriarchal family and thus the fabric of Arab society. A groundbreaking work that fills a void in cross-cultural studies, it is of interest to scholars and students of Middle Eastern studies, women's studies, and family studies.

**woman at point zero by nawal el saadawi: Women's Activism in the Islamic Republic of Iran** Samira Ghoreishi, 2021-03-21 Through an intersectional feminist re-reading of the Habermasian theoretical framework, this book analyses how women's activism has developed and operated in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Chapters look at three key areas of women's activism in Iran: how women deliberately engaged with media activism despite the government's controlling and repressive policies; women's involvement in civil society organisations, institutions and communities, and cooperation through multilevel activism; and women's activism in the political sphere and its connection with media and civil society activism despite the theocratic system. Drawing upon interviews, analyses of journal and newspaper articles and documentary/non-documentary films, as well as personal experiences, observations and communications, the book examines to what extent Iranian women's rights' groups and activists have collaborated not only with each other but with other social groups and activists to help facilitate the formation of a pluralist civil society capable of engaging in deliberative processes of democratic reform. This book will be of interest to scholars in Gender Studies and Middle Eastern Studies, particularly those who study women's and other social movements in Iran.

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