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## Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War

*Robin Yassin-Kassab, Leila Al-Shami*

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**BURNING  
COUNTRY**

SYRIANS  
IN  
REVOLUTION  
AND WAR

ROBIN YASSIN-KASSAB  
and LEILA AL-SHAMI

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**Robin Yassin-Kassab, Leila Al-Shami : Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War:

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SeifterGreat book. I taught college courses on Syrian history, society and civilization several years ago, and I feel that this book provided an excellent, though stark and horrifying, narrative on the chaos enveloping Syria since 2011. I recommend this book for anyone wanting to make sense of what has and is happening in Syria. This book arrived in the mail in time, and in perfect shape. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Andy of MinnesotaExtraordinarily well written, accessible and inspiring. A must-read for all serious about understanding Syria today. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Informative and heartbreakingBy Kindle CustomerIt took me a long time to read this, because there was a lot of information and it wasn't something I could read in long sittings. It was clearly written and well organized, and absolutely fulfilled my goal in reading it to become more informed about the Syrian refugee crisis and it's causes.

In 2011, many Syrians took to the streets of Damascus to demand the overthrow of the government of Bashar al-Assad. Today, much of Syria has become a warzone and many worry that the country is on the brink of collapse. *Burning Country* explores the complicated reality of life in present-day Syria with unprecedented detail and sophistication, drawing on new first-hand testimonies from opposition fighters, exiles lost in an archipelago of refugee camps, and courageous human rights activists. Yassin-Kassab and Al-Shami expertly interweave these stories with an incisive analysis of the militarization of the uprising, the rise of the Islamists and sectarian warfare, and the role of Syria's government in exacerbating the brutalization of the conflict. Through these accounts and a broad range of secondary source material, the authors persuasively argue that the international community has failed in its stated commitments to support the Syrian opposition movements. Covering ISIS and Islamism, regional geopolitics, new grassroots revolutionary organizations, and the worst refugee crisis since World War Two, *Burning Country* is a vivid and groundbreaking look at a modern-day political and humanitarian nightmare.

"?Those in search of perspective on Syria's devastation should turn to *Burning Country*, by the reporter Yassin-Kassab and the activist al-Shami. Their book offers a knowledgeable, empathetic, morally lucid account of the revolt against the Assad regime and an explanation of why—to the horror of many of its supporters—it became a civil war. *Burning Country* avoids the easy indulgence of indignation; instead, it elicits the voices of many different Syrians involved in the uprising, acknowledging their suffering as well as their courage, intelligence, and humanity, while explaining the terrible choices that have been forced on them."