

THE AFFAIR

This novel is the story of Tywalyne, a beautiful young woman who falls in love with an older man. They circle around each other, then fall into bed—but many forces tear them apart. Both are from an educated stratum of Moroccan society—though his family and business pursuits remain obscure to both Tywalyne and the reader. He is attractive, brutal, weak at times. She is questioning, confused by the fury of their encounters—though she clearly perceives his egotism.

A kind of tragedy—but not a classical, Greek one. A harrowing introspection, but also an allegory, as the author has said, of “the eternal,” and “the impossible.”

Among the many works of the author, *The Affair* appeared, more than twenty years ago, under a pseudonym. It was thought to be the first published erotic novel (but be careful—it is much more than that) by a woman from a predominantly Muslim country. It now appears in El Khayat’s own country, rather than in France—and under her own distinguished name.

Rita (Ghita) El Khayat is a giant among Moroccan feminists and artists. She is constantly in demand on panels and as a keynote speaker, as her YouTube presence attests. Her work as a psychiatrist, an advocate for women and for their traditional strong role in Berber culture, has made her a national heroine.

Peter Thompson is a poet and novelist, and Chevalier (Ordre des Palmes). He edited *Ezra: An Online Journal of Translation*, and has translated Abdellatif Laâbi, Abdelkébir Khatibi, Nassira Azzouz, Abdelkader Djemâi, Véronique Tadjo, Nabile Farès and Léon-Paul Fargue.

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12,50 €



Rita El Khayat

The Affair



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Novel

Edited and translated by Peter Thompson

L'Harmattan



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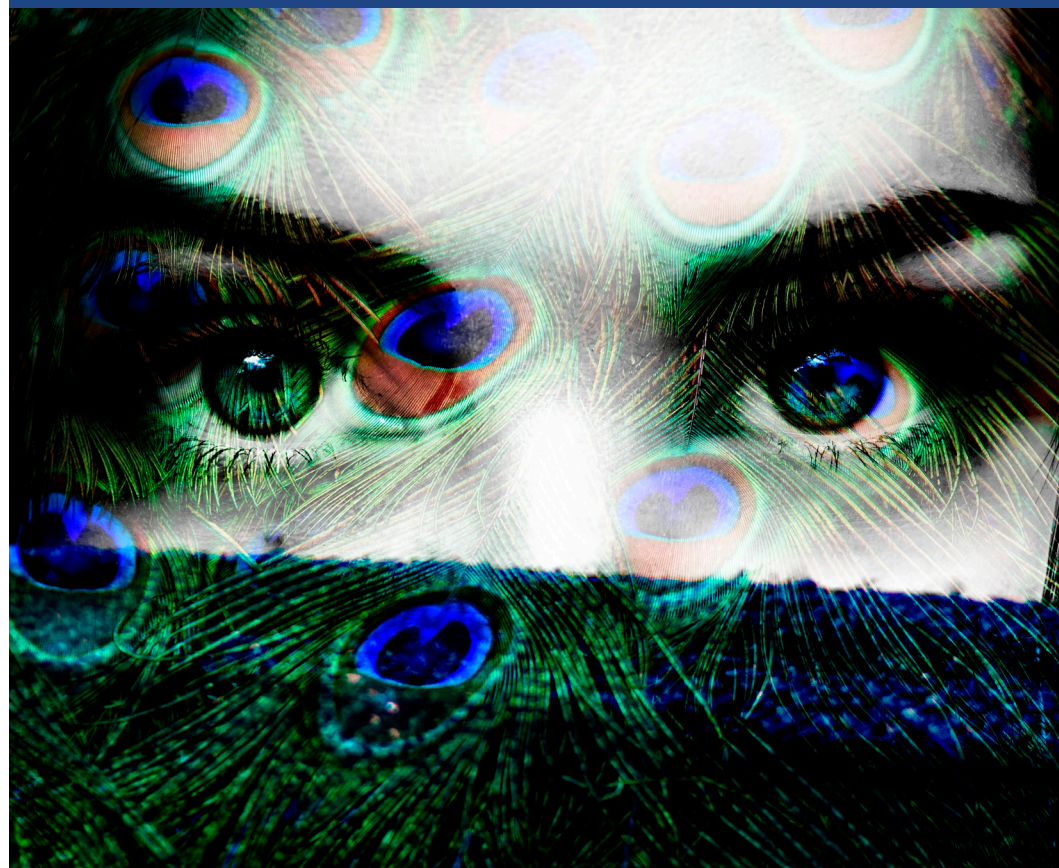
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