

Abir Al-Sahlani
UNYIELDING



‘Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.’

These three words make Abir Al-Sahlani instantly famous across the globe. Her speech in the European Parliament against far-right populism is shared and liked millions of times. Her energy is thrilling, her courage contagious. Abir is a role model, especially for young women. She embodies what has long been missing in politics: lived experience, diversity and integrity.

Abir Al-Sahlani was born in 1976 in Basra, Iraq. As a small child she had to flee Saddam Hussein’s regime with her family. She lived in exile for fourteen years in Bulgaria, Syria and in Yemen. She experienced bitter poverty and sexual violence. At fifteen she goes to Sweden on her own, where she gradually builds a life for herself.

After the fall of Saddam Hussein she returns to Iraq in 2003 to participate in the emerging democratic movement. She founds a party, stands as a candidate and is the only woman to appear on election posters. Soon she has to sleep with a Kalashnikov beside her bed. Following death threats she decides to go back to Sweden.

There she becomes a member of the Swedish parliament, then a European MP in Brussels and Strasbourg. She fights for the initiative ‘My Voice, My Choice’, expedites a paradigm shift in sexual criminal law, and opposes the growing radical right with a determination that is unmatched.

Abir has had an extraordinary life. Her view behind the scenes of politics is unique too: her struggles, doubts and decisions, and time and again the question of how much of herself she has to give up to conform – and finally her decision to stop doing this. Her story shows how women can change political spaces if they stop adapting to the rules of an old power structure. We meet not only the eloquent politician, but also the girl who survived war and sexual violence – and who doubted her own self-worth. Today she is even more determined not to be ‘accommodating’.

From refugee child to senior politician: *Unyielding* is the story of a woman who, as a result of her experiences, developed an impressive strength and political stance. It is also a book about power, visibility and the freedom to trust your own voice.

- 240 pp. approx., co-written with the renowned journalist Judith Poppe
- Ms. May 2027
- The author is available for events



Abir Al-Sahlani was born on May 18, 1976, in Basra, Iraq. When she was still a toddler, her parents were forced to flee the country. At the age of 15, after a fourteen-year odyssey marked by uncertainty and violence, she arrived in Sweden alone. There, she studied at MidSweden University in Sundsvall before earning a master's degree in computer technology from Stockholm University in 2002.

Following the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime, Al-Sahlani returned to Iraq in 2003 and spent the next four years working to support the country's democratic development. She served as a liaison officer for the Governing Council of Baghdad and helped promote the establishment of a youth parliament. During this period, she also founded a center dedicated to advancing democracy in Iraq.

After receiving death threats, she returned to Sweden in 2006. A year later, she joined the Center Party. She served as a member in the Swedish Riksdag from 2010 to 2014 and was re-elected to parliament in 2019. That same year, she was elected to the European Parliament, where she became a member of the Renew Europe group.

In the European Parliament, Al-Sahlani has emerged as a prominent advocate for women's rights, democracy, equality, and human dignity. She played a key role in advancing the "My Voice, My Choice" initiative, and has been a leading voice in calls for EU-wide legislation to combat sexual violence.

She lives in Stockholm with her husband and their three children.

In 2026, Al-Sahlani was honored with the "World Woman Hero Award" by the World Woman Foundation for her tireless commitment to human rights, democratic values, and gender equality.

Abir Al-Sahlani on Instagram: [@abiralsahlani](https://www.instagram.com/abiralsahlani)
<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/iaa1oo6GO08>
<https://vogueadria.com/abir-al-sahlani-intervju/>

<https://www.feminists.co/discover/abirsahlani>

Kirsty Bell
MOTHER'S MOTHER

All silences are the same, and each silence contains anything you can imagine.
Anne Enright

Beginning with a peony bush passed down through the women in her family, Kirsty Bell's *Mother's Mother* is a many-layered narrative of maternal inheritance, tracing the faint yet persistent currents that flow between present and past.

Bell reconstructs the lives of her grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother to uncover a history shaped by poverty, social mobility and upheaval, and by the landscapes they inhabit: the Scottish Lowlands and the ever-present River Tay.

Personal narrative is deftly interwoven with strands of social history, archival material and literary voices – including Mary Shelley and Muriel Spark – into a richly textured account of recurring patterns across generations: the limitations imposed on women, the regulation of their bodies, and the silencing of their voices.

Written in fluid, limpid prose that reaches towards the collective, this is a deeply moving meditation on the near-impossible task of recovering past lives while asking what, of them, endures within us.

- About 210 pp., Ms.
- World English: Fitzcarraldo Editions



Kirsty Bell is a British writer and art critic living in Berlin. She is the author of *The Undercurrents. A Story of Berlin* (Fitzcarraldo Editions, 2022) and *The Artist's House* (Sternberg Press, 2012). Her acclaimed art criticism and essays have been widely published in international art magazines, artists' books and exhibition catalogues for institutions including the PS1, MOMA and the Whitney Museum in New York, mumok in Vienna and Museum Ludwig in Cologne.

Her recent publication *The Undercurrents. A Story of Berlin*, a hybrid narrative of memoir, cultural history and literary biography, was published in 2022 by Fitzcarraldo Editions (UK), The Other Press (US), Errata Naturae (Spain), EDT (Italy) and Kanon Verlag (Germany).

Ulinka Rublack
AGNES DÜRER
And the Renaissance of Women

She was nineteen when, in 1494, her parents married her to Albrecht Dürer, an ambitious young man from the prosperous artisan class. Agnes came from a respected Nuremberg merchant family and brought a substantial dowry to the marriage. Thirty-four years later, she was the widow of the most celebrated German artist of his age.

Between these two moments lies an extraordinary woman's life.

Agnes sold Dürer's prints at markets and fairs, ran the household and the family business while her husband was away for months at a time. She cared for family and apprentices, survived the plague, managed the finances, welcomed patrons and supported her husband's rise from craftsman to artist. She also accompanied Dürer on his great journey to the Netherlands.

She lived through a world in upheaval: the revolution in book and printmaking, new trade routes and exotic goods, the German Peasants' War and the Reformation as well as the profound social changes that accompanied them.

Drawing on contemporary sources, including the Dürers' correspondence, award-winning historian Ulinka Rublack traces Agnes Dürer's life in vivid narrative. In doing so, she challenges the clichéd image that has long defined Agnes. She reveals her as a confident businesswoman and trusted wife with a strong sense of her own agency – and as a woman who had to navigate a world undergoing radical transformation. The result is both an intimate portrait of a Renaissance woman and an artist's marriage, and a fascinating new perspective on Albrecht Dürer's work and legacy, which Agnes helped shape profoundly.

- About 160 pp. + ill.
- Ms Sept. 2027, 500th anniversary of Albrecht Dürer's death in 2028



Ulinka Rublack is Professor of Early Modern European History at St John's College, University of Cambridge, and has published widely on early modern European history as well as approaches to history. She has edited, most recently, the *Oxford Concise Companion to History* (Oxford University Press, 2011), and *The Oxford Handbook of the Protestant Reformations* (Oxford University Press, 2016). Her monographs include *Reformation Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), *The Crimes of Women in Early Modern German* (Oxford University Press, 1999), and *Dressing Up: Cultural Identity in Renaissance Europe* (Oxford University Press, 2010), which won the Roland H. Bainton Prize.

Hamza Abu Howidy SEASHELLS AT THE SHORES OF GAZA

I criticize Hamas. I criticize Israel. Sometimes I feel like the loneliest Palestinian in the world. Hamza Abu Howidy

Raised in Gaza amidst religious extremism and indoctrination, Hamza Howidy's yearning for freedom put him on a collision course with Hamas. In 2019, he co-organized protests against their rule and paid the price: imprisonment, torture, and forced exile.

Now 27, he is a vital voice from the Palestinian exile community, refusing to be co-opted in a world defined by polarization. His story defies easy labels, chronicling a journey from indoctrinated youth to a peace activist who mourns victims on all sides. By courageously condemning the violence and corruption of Hamas while also challenging Israeli attacks on civilians, he champions empathy as an act of resistance.

His memoir, *Seashells at the Shores of Gaza*, serves as a powerful bridge. It is a rare testament to the cost of speaking truth to power that forces readers to confront the complex humanity behind the headlines and offers an urgent plea for a democratic, peaceful future.



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- 240 pp.
 - Germany: S. Fischer Verlag, Russia: Corpus Books, Israel: The Schocken Publishing House
 - Translation rights: Elisa.Diallo@fischerverlage.de



Hamza Howidy, born in Gaza in 1997, is a Palestinian journalist and activist living in exile. As part of the "We Want to Live" protest movement, he was arrested and tortured before fleeing to Germany in 2023. He now works as a free-lance writer and commentator, known for his non-violent, pragmatic approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, criticizing both Hamas and the Israeli occupation. His work has been published in *taz*, *Times of Israel*, *Newsweek*, and *AsiaNews*, and he has spoken at the Bundestag and various conferences.

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