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Emails from Young Saudi Females: A Postmodernist Reading of the English-Language Edition of *Girls of Riyadh*

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Abstract

Contemporary Saudi literature vibrantly reflects the spirit of postmodernism, engaging with the rapid and multifaceted transformations reshaping Saudi society with the advent of the Kingdom's Vision 2030. Central themes such as social change, identity crises, the evolving role of young women, and the tension between tradition and modernity lie at the heart of recent Saudi narratives. *Girls of Riyadh* (2005) by Rajaa Alsanea provides fertile ground for such analysis, particularly through its use of emails as a narrative device. This study examines the English-language edition of the novel, treating it as a significant work of translated Anglophone literature. By analysing its postmodern techniques, this article situates the novel within postmodern Anglophone fiction while foregrounding its distinct Saudi cultural origins. The analysis is organized into four thematic waves, each highlighting a key dimension of Saudi female agency, identity construction, and socio-emotional struggle. These waves place the novel's techniques within broader global literary movements, such as feminist epistolarity, digital narration, and global postmodernism, demonstrating how the work participates in and contributes to English literary scholarship. Closely aligned with the transformative goals of Vision 2030, this study reflects the evolving Saudi cultural landscape and opens new horizons for exploring the intersection

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Abstract

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