

MOHAMED CHOUKRI

# FOR BREAD ALONE



Translated from the Arabic  
with an Introduction by  
PAUL BOWLES

Saqi Books

# For Bread Alone By Paul Bowles Mohamed Choukri

**Samia Mehrez**



## **For Bread Alone By Paul Bowles Mohamed Choukri:**

*For Bread Alone* Mohamed Choukri, 2012-02-13 Driven by famine from their home in the Rif Mohamed's family walks to Tangier in search of a better life But things are no better there Eight of Mohamed's siblings die of malnutrition and neglect and one is killed by his father in a fit of rage On moving to another province Mohamed learns how to charm and steal and discovers the joys of drugs sex and alcohol Proud insolent and afraid of no one he returns to Tangier where he is caught up in the violence of the 1952 independence riots It is here during a short spell in a filthy Moroccan jail that a fellow inmate kindles Mohamed's life altering love of literature A true document of human desperation shattering in its impact Tennessee Williams Its unrelenting realism has produced a masterpiece In Choukri's African Islamic coastal cities the nightmares are of fathers killing children and the agony of hunger Choukri's memories take him from famine in the Rif to Tangier and Oran a world of crime paid for sex and of living poor It is an urban pain where every day the alleys swallow me up and spew me out A book to read cherish and remember and to show us again why we need books as well as bread Morning Star An extraordinarily vivid uncensored immediacy Using only undemonstrative prose and asking for no special sympathy Choukri conveys the experience of struggling to survive in a harsh world of dusty streets and unforgiving sunlight Guardian Five stars Achingly elegant Choukri's irrepressible ultimately indomitable spirit is most touching and human Independent Richly descriptive and engaging an honest and vivid account Definitely an enjoyable and worthwhile read Socialist Review A cult classic Choukri's text has become a staple on the syllabi of modern Arabic comparative literature and post colonial studies programs Daily Star The most poetic exploration of that world of vice coffee conversation and intrigue One of the most widely read modernist novels in the Arab world Outsideleft com

**An Analysis of the protagonist's journeys in Mohamed Choukri's "For Bread Alone"** Sophie Duhnkrack, 2010-01-13 Thesis M A from the year 2009 in the subject Orientalism Sinology Arabistic grade 90 Ben Gurion University course Arabic Literature language English abstract In 1973 the English translation *For Bread Alone* of Mohamed Choukri's *Al Khubz Al Hafi* was published This first part of Choukri's extraordinary autobiography is written in a very simplistic style which Paul Bowles the translator of *For Bread Alone* also described as a technique Choukri's narration is the work of an illiterate who has not yet learned to classify what goes into his memory 5 The novel illustrates the protagonist's struggle to survive under exceptionally difficult circumstances namely extreme poverty and violence Indeed Mohamed Choukri states that all my life has been a response to one challenge after the other The novel is constructed as a *rihla* journey both an earlier external one of physical movement and a later one which this paper will describe as internal First this paper will explore the external journey which leads the protagonist Mohamed to different cities and places and it will analyze the language structure and content which express this travel this first journey is dominated by his family whose relationship with Mohamed is also central to this study Furthermore it will examine the transition from this journey to the internal one by means of the content and the structure of the text The internal *rihla* which prevails in the

second part of the novel and which the paper will address by means of the text's language and content obviously is not separate from the external journey since the story is about the development of one and the same person. The second journey that describes his existence as a teenager replaces the first physical one lived as a child. However, this paper will divide the two *rihlas* in order to carve out its differences and to show Mohamed's development which eventually leads to his emancipation through literacy. Finally, the paper will address some personal impressions and remarks on the novel.

Samia Mehrez, 2010-01-01 A look at some of the raging debates in the arts in Egypt

**Reading Mohamed Choukri's Narratives**

Jonas Elbousty, Roger Allen, 2024-07-15 Reading Mohamed Choukri's Narratives presents an intricate exploration into the life and literary universe of Mohamed Choukri, a towering figure in 20th-century Moroccan literature. Known primarily for his groundbreaking autobiographical work *al Khubz al f For Bread Alone*, Choukri's literary influence extends well beyond this single work. This book seeks to cast a light on his broader body of work, examining the cultural, societal, and personal influences that shaped his unique storytelling style. Through a deep analysis of his narratives, this text aims to unfold how Choukri portrayed the harsh realities he and others encountered, giving voice to the marginalized individuals and communities in Morocco.

*For Bread Alone* Muhammad Shukri, 1987 Choukri's classic and moving work which has already been translated into more than ten languages speaks for an entire generation of North Africans. Born in the Rif, Choukri moved with his family to Tangier at a time of great famine. His childhood was spent in abject poverty; eight of his brothers and sisters died of malnutrition or neglect. During his adolescence, described here with its attendant erotic escapades, Choukri worked for a time as a servant to a French family. He then returned to Tangier where he experienced the violence of the 1952 independence riots. At the age of 20 and still illiterate, he took the decision to learn to read and write classical Arabic, a decision which transformed his life. After mastering the language, he became a teacher and writer, finally being awarded the chair of Arabic Literature at Ibn Batuta College in Tangier.

**An Analysis of the Protagonist's Journeys in Mohamed Choukri's "For Bread Alone"** Sophie Duhnkrack, 2010 Thesis M.A. from the year 2009 in the subject Orientalism Sinology Arabistic grade 90 Ben Gurion University course Arabic Literature language English abstract

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**The Routledge Handbook of International Beat Literature** A. Robert Lee, 2018-05-16 Beat literature Have not the great canonical names long grown familiar Ginsberg Kerouac Burroughs Likewise the frontline texts still controversial in some quarters assume their place in modern American literary history On the Road serves as Homeric journey epic Howl amounts to Beat anthem confessional outcry against materialism and war Naked Lunch with its dark satiric laughter envisions a dystopian world of power and word virus But if these are all essentially America centered Beat has also had quite other literary exhalations and which invite far more than mere reception study These are voices from across the Americas of Canada and Mexico the Anglophone world of England Scotland or Australia the Europe of France or Italy and from the Mediterranean of Greece and the Maghreb and from Scandinavia and Russia together with the Asia of Japan and China This anthology of essays maps relevant other kinds of Beat voice names texts The scope is hemispheric Atlantic and Pacific West and East It gives recognition to the Beat inscribed in languages other than English and reflective of different cultural histories Likewise the majority of contributors come from origins or affiliations beyond the US whether in a different English or languages spanning Spanish Danish Turkish Greek or Chinese The aim is to recognize an enlarged Beat literary map its creative internationalism

**Egypt's Culture Wars** Samia Mehrez, 2008-04 This ground breaking work presents original research on cultural politics and battles in Egypt at the turn of the twenty first century It deconstructs the boundaries between high and low culture drawing on conceptual tools in cultural studies translation studies and gender studies to analyze debates in the fields of literature cinema mass media and the plastic arts Anchored in the Egyptian historical and social contexts and inspired by the influential work of Pierre Bourdieu it rigorously places these debates and battles within the larger framework of a set of questions about the relationship between the cultural and political fields in Egypt

*Paul Bowles* Gena Caponi-Tabery, 1998 Twayne s United States Authors English Authors and World Authors Series present concise critical introductions to great writers and their works Devoted to critical interpretation and discussion of an author s work each study takes account of major literary trends and important scholarly contributions and provides new critical insights with an original point of view An Authors Series volume addresses readers ranging from advanced high school students to university professors The book suggests to the informed reader new ways of considering a writer s work Each volume features A critical interpretive study and explication of the author s works A brief biography of the author An

accessible chronology outlining the life the work and relevant historical context Aids for further study complete notes and references a selected annotated bibliography and an index A readable style presented in a manageable length

**Paul Bowles, 1910-1999** University of Delaware. Library. Special Collections,2000

**Paul Bowles** Lawrence Delbert Stewart,1974 Paul Bowles met Gertrude Stein in 1931 and became one of her most distinguished prot g s She directed him toward prose description and to Tangier where he has lived for twenty five years There is no doubt that the exotic mysterious Morocco has exerted an influence on Bowles who has earned a distinguished reputation for compelling works of fiction revealing a profound understanding of the Moslem world Stewart s book on Bowles the first on this subject derives extensively from un published letters of Gertrude Stein and others from interviews with Bowles and from the novelist s unpublished notebook material

*Paul Bowles : Staticity & Terror* Eric Mottram,1976

**Paul Bowles Photographs** Paul Bowles,Simon Bischoff,1994 Fotografier fra Marokko taget af forfatteren Paul Bowles f 1910 disse giver en visuel oplevelse af temaer fra forfatterskabet

*Paul Bowles at 80* University of Delaware. Library,1990

*Paul Bowles* Wayne Pounds,1985 This study shows how Paul Bowles work diagnoses the ills of Western civilization by dramatizing the encounter of its representatives with less technologically advanced societies The confrontation between civilized and primitive and Bowles concern with extreme states of consciousness link him with Edgar Allan Poe Wayne Pounds applies R D Laing s model of the divided self to Bowles novels stories and autobiography to illuminate Bowles preoccupation with the troubled nature of family life Schizophrenia in the work of the novelist appears as a revolutionary refusal of the totalization of modern life

2005,□□□□ □□□□ □□□□ □□□□

**The Paul Bowles Reader** Paul Bowles,2000 Communication plays a central part in the increasing global interconnectedness of contemporary societies nations and economies In this book Cees J Hamelink examines the political processes and decisions which determine the global communication environment Mass communication telecommunication data traffic intellectual property and communication technology have all been regulated by agreements within the international community Examining negotiation processes and their outcomes the author offers an analysis of the global politics of communication and its implications for specific nations areas and communities Underlying the analysis is a fundamental concern with communication as an issue of human rights which raises the question Do the standards agreed on world communication address the interests of ordinary people in their everyday lives

*Paul Bowles* Allen Hibbard,1993 This author gives a pointed inspection of Paul Bowles short stories including interviews letters prefaces and other biographical materials that span over ten years and closing with a collection of public commentaries on his writings

**Contemporary Novelists** Noelle Watson,1991 Contains entries for each author with a biography a list of separately published books and an essay

**Reference Guide to American Literature** Thomas Riggs,2000 Concise discussions of the lives and principal works of American writers thinkers and cultural figures written by subject experts

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