

Morton Rhue

Dschihad Online

JIHAD ONLINE

256 pp	Hardcover
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Age	Young Adults

Sociopolitical Thriller about radicalization of young citizens via the internet

CONTENT

Khalil was born in America. He is American. And yet he feels he's not allowed to dream the same dream as other Americans. He's liked and respected at school, and dates a popular girl, but in the outside world he is sometimes called names and discriminated against. And while opportunities for success after high school exist for all, he finds his future is bleak. When his parents have to move back to their home country to assist the family they've left behind, he feels even more lost. That's when his older brother begins sharing radical ideas that are not in line with the faith in which Khalil has been raised.

American Terrorist poses the question: What can bring someone to the brink? Is it a belief system that has been corrupted by some to meet a radical ideology? Or is it the United States itself, a country which claims inclusion while alienating so many—and whose government is so concerned with security that it stretches the definition of entrapment?

Several books and movies have been made about jihadism and how young people are becoming radicalized via the Internet. "Jihad Online", which was inspired by the terrorist attack during the 2013 Boston Marathon, critically examines the role and responsibilities of US foreign policy in the radicalization of young citizens.

In addition to the key question of personal responsibility, the book also addresses the propaganda on both sides (propaganda against the West as well as propaganda against Muslims in the US).

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Like its precursor novel THE WAVE, "Jihad Online" is an appeal to the human capacity for self-critique and a plea for people to form their own opinions.

While the German edition of "Jihad Online" got excellent reviews from such major German newspapers as DIE ZEIT and SÜDDEUSCHTE ZEITUNG, the American publisher, confronted with violent reactions to the book's announcement, decided not to publish the original English edition...

THE AUTHOR

Todd Strasser alias Morton Rhue was born in New York City. After studying literature he earned his keep in part as a street musician in Europe before becoming a journalist. Today he devotes almost all his time to writing, as well as holding readings and workshops in schools. Strasser has written more than 100 novels, mostly for teenagers and young readers. His books have won numerous regional, national, and international prizes, including the American Library Association's Best Book for Teens (4 times) and the ALA Notable Book Award. His work has been translated into many languages.

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