

# If This Be Treason: A Journey into the Heart of the American Jihad

In the aftermath of the September 11th attacks, the world was shocked by the realization that American citizens had played a role in the deadliest terrorist attack in history. Among those who were arrested and charged with aiding and abetting the hijackers was a young American woman named Amal Rifa.

Rifa's story is a complex and troubling one. She was born in the United States to Palestinian parents, and she grew up in a devout Muslim household. As a teenager, she became involved in radical Islamic groups, and she eventually traveled to Afghanistan to join the Taliban.



## If This Be Treason by Amal Rifa'i

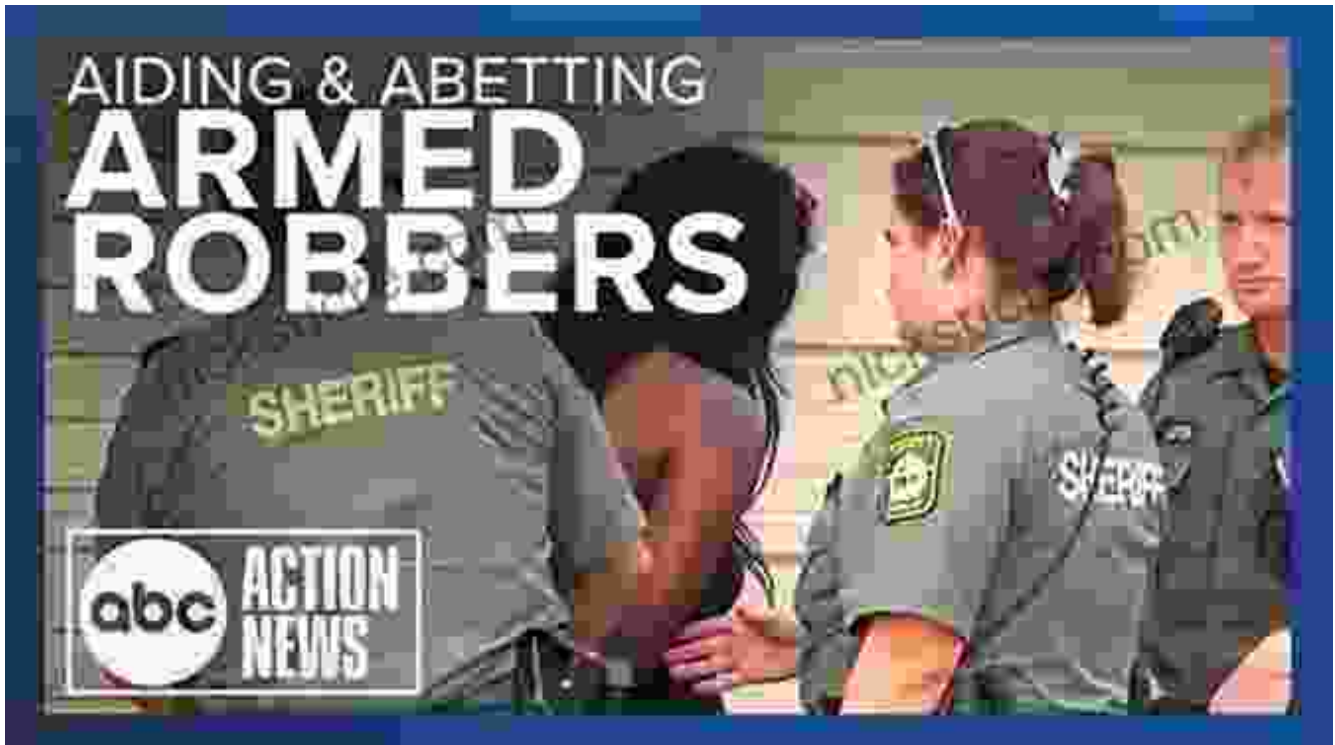
★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 571 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
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After the United States invaded Afghanistan, Rifa was captured and taken to Guantanamo Bay, where she was held for two years. She was eventually released without being charged, but she remains a controversial figure.

In her book, "If This Be Treason," Rifa tells her story in her own words. She describes her childhood, her involvement in radical Islamic groups, and her time in Guantanamo Bay. She also offers her insights into the motivations of the September 11th hijackers.

Rifa's book is a fascinating and disturbing read. It is a firsthand account of the American jihad, and it provides a unique perspective on one of the most important events in recent history.

## **Rifa's Childhood**

Amal Rifa was born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1981. Her parents were Palestinian immigrants, and they raised her in a devout Muslim household. Rifa describes her childhood as happy and loving, but she also says that she was always aware of the discrimination that Muslims faced in America.

As a teenager, Rifa became increasingly involved in her religion. She began wearing the hijab, and she started attending Islamic study groups. She also became involved in political activism, and she participated in protests against the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

Rifa's involvement in radical Islamic groups eventually led her to Afghanistan. In 1999, she traveled to the country to join the Taliban. She spent two years in Afghanistan, working as a nurse and a teacher. She also met her husband there, and they had a daughter together.



Amal Rifa with her husband and daughter

### **The September 11th Attacks**

On September 11th, 2001, Rifa was living in Kandahar, Afghanistan. She was eight months pregnant at the time. When she heard about the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, she was horrified.

Rifa says that she did not know about the attacks in advance, and that she was as shocked and saddened as anyone else. She also says that she does not condone the violence that took place on that day.

However, Rifa also says that she understands why the hijackers carried out the attacks. She says that they were motivated by anger and frustration over the United States' policies in the Middle East.

Rifa's comments have been controversial, but they are important to understand in order to get a full picture of her story. She is not a terrorist, but she is also not a supporter of the United States' foreign policy. She is a complex and troubled individual who has been shaped by her experiences.

## **Guantanamo Bay**

After the September 11th attacks, the United States invaded Afghanistan. Rifa and her family were captured by U.S. forces, and they were taken to Guantanamo Bay. Rifa was held at Guantanamo for two years, without being charged with a crime.

Rifa's time in Guantanamo was a difficult one. She was held in solitary confinement for long periods of time, and she was subjected to harsh interrogation techniques. She also suffered from health problems, and she was denied access to adequate medical care.

Rifa was eventually released from Guantanamo in 2004, without being charged with a crime. She returned to the United States, where she has been living quietly ever since.

Rifa's experience at Guantanamo is a reminder of the dark side of the War on Terror. The United States has held hundreds of people at Guantanamo without charge or trial, and many of them have been subjected to torture and other forms of abuse.

Rifa's story is a powerful indictment of the U.S. government's policies in the War on Terror. It is a story that should be heard by all Americans, so that we can learn from the mistakes of the past and ensure that such abuses never happen again.

Amal Rifa's story is a complex and troubling one. She is a young American woman who was drawn to radical Islam, and who eventually ended up in Guantanamo Bay. Her story is a reminder of the dangers of extremism, and of the importance of understanding the motivations of those who turn to violence.

Rifa's story is also a reminder of the dark side of the War on Terror. The United States has held hundreds of people at Guantanamo without charge or trial, and many of them have been subjected to torture and other forms of abuse. Rifa's story is a powerful indictment of the U.S. government's policies in the War on Terror. It is a story that should be heard by all Americans, so that we can learn from the mistakes of the past and ensure that such abuses never happen again.



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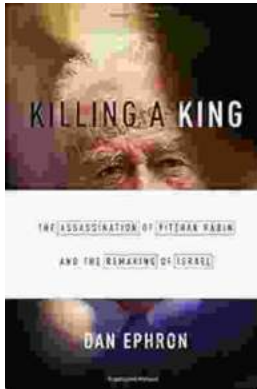
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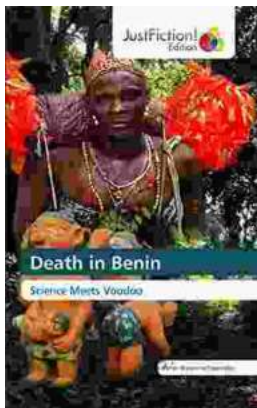
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