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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Illustrations -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction What Is Veiling? -- PART I. ISLAM, POLITICS, AND VEILING -- Introduction -- 1. Understanding Veiling in Islamic Sacred Texts -- 2. What Do Progressive Muslims Say about Veiling? -- 3. Politics and Sociocultural Practices of Veiling -- PART II. VEILING IN EURO-AMERICAN SOCIETIES -- Introduction -- 4. Veils, Harems, and the Mission to Civilize -- 5. Veiling in Western Europe Today -- 6. Veiling in the United States of America Today -- PART III. VEILING IN THE WORLD AND WORDS OF WOMEN -- Introduction -- 7. Veiling and Feminism -- 8. Islamic Fashion, Beauty Pageants, and Muslim Dolls -- 9. Veiling through the Arts -- Epilogue -- Glossary. Terms Referring to Veiling -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	An engaging introduction to one of the most visible, controversial and least understood emblems of Islam Listen to Sahar Amer discuss misconceptions of the veil on World News Radio (Australia)The Islamic veil in all its forms – from the headscarf to the full body garment – is one of the most visible signs of Islam as a religion. It is also one of its most controversial and misunderstood traditions among both Muslims and non-Muslims. In an environment of increasing conservatism in both Euro-American and Muslim-majority societies, in a world where a

woman's right to wear the headscarf has become a touchstone for issues of all sorts, and at a time when racial and religious profiling has become commonplace, it is our political and social responsibility to gain a deeper understanding of veiling. This concise, easy-to-read and even-handed introduction is organised around three main topics: the historical, religious and cultural background; contemporary debates about the veil; and the varied, shifting meanings the veil has had for Muslim women over the past century.

**Key Features:** Explains the role of veiling in the religious, cultural, political and social lives of Muslims past and present  
Looks at the meaning and practice of veiling in Europe, the Middle East and the USA  
Gives a wider perspective on the veil, leading to a more nuanced understanding of Muslim women and Islam in general  
Presents the necessary background to more informed discussions over national and foreign policy"

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