



AFGHAN-GERMAN VISUAL ARTIST & WRITER

MOSHTARI HILAL



Moshtari Hilal, an Afghan-born author and artist who lives in Germany, has written a touching, intimate, and highly political book. Dense body hair, crooked teeth, and big noses: Hilal uses a broad cultural lens to question norms of appearance—ostensibly her own, but in fact everyone's. She writes about beauty salons in Kabul as a backdrop to the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, Darwin's theory of evolution, Kim Kardashian, and a utopian place in the shadow of her nose. With a profound mix of essay, poetry, her own drawings, and cultural and social history of the body, Hilal explores notions of repulsion and attraction, taking the reader into the most personal of realms to put self-image to the test.

Why are we afraid of ugliness?

<https://newvesselpress.com/books/ugliness/>

Artist Talk and Reading: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 12:30 pm, Fine Arts 400

10:30am: Coffee Meet and Greet

Joe Brown Hall Lobby (in German)

11:30am: Conversation with International Students

Joe Brown Hall Lobby

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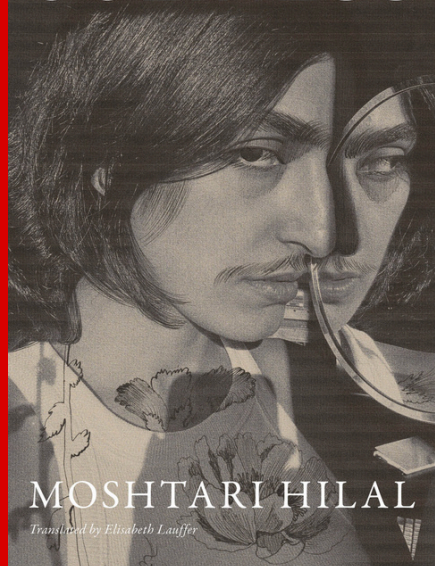
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UGLINESS



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Translated by Elizabeth Lauffer