The Inside Story of the Turkish Harem

A Mixture of Luxury and Slavery

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(From a report by A. M. Lee)

INTRODUCTION

The harem, the innermost sanctum of the Turkish palace, is that part of the palace reserved for the sultan and his concubines. It is here that the sultan spends his leisure hours, free from the cares of state and the demands of court life. The harem is a world apart, with its own rules and regulations, and is considered sacred by the Ottoman Turks.

The harem consists of a rectangular room in the center of which is a fountain. This fountain is surrounded by beautiful gardens and is the focal point of the harem. The walls of the harem are lined with mirrors, and the ceiling is decorated with fine white tiles. The harem is supplied with water from a large well located in the center of the room.

The harem is divided into several sections, each with its own function. One section is reserved for the sultan's private quarters, while another is used for the storage of food and clothing. The harem also contains a library, a school, and a mosque.

The harem is a world of luxury and beauty, but it is also a world of slavery. The women who live in the harem are completely at the mercy of the sultan and his concubines. They are not allowed to leave the harem without the sultan's permission, and they are not allowed to marry or have children.

The harem is a place of fascination and mystery, and it is a place that continues to attract the attention of scholars and historians. The harem is a place that is both luxurious and terrifying, and it is a place that continues to be a source of wonder and mystery.