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**LETTERS TO A YOUNG MUSLIM—WRITTEN BY UAE AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA OMAR SAIF  
GHOBASH—TO BE PUBLISHED SIMULTANEOUSLY BY PICADOR USA AND PICADOR UK,  
JANUARY 2017**

NEW YORK, April 7, 2016 – **LETTERS TO A YOUNG MUSLIM** by United Arab Emirates Ambassador to Russia Omar Saif Ghobash will see simultaneous transatlantic publication January 3, 2017. The book, being edited by Karen Wolny of St. Martin's Press, will be published in hardcover in the U.S. by Picador USA, Picador UK and Rowohlt in Germany. An indispensable book for our time, **LETTERS TO A YOUNG MUSLIM** will be a bold, personal narrative exploring what it means to be a Muslim in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Omar Saif Ghobash was born in 1971 in the United Arab Emirates to an Arab father and a Russian mother. After a traumatizing experience losing his father to a violent attack in 1977, when he was only six years old, Ghobash began to realize the severe violence that surrounded him in the Arab world. This book is the result of the personal exploration Ghobash went through in the years after his father's death, but is written from the vantage point as the father of two growing sons.

Ambassador Ghobash brings wide-ranging experience and a fascinating perspective to bear in this, his first book. He studied law at Oxford and math at the University of London; he sponsors the Saif Ghobash–Banipal Prize for Arabic Literary Translation and is one of the founders of the International Prize for Arabic Fiction in collaboration with the Booker Prize in London; a citizen of the world, he speaks 5 languages. He is uniquely capable of writing this necessary book, in which he reflects on what it means to be a Muslim today and offers thought-provoking advice for navigating an evolving global landscape. As Ambassador Ghobash sees it, the new generation of Muslims is tomorrow's leadership, and yet many are vulnerable to taking the violent shortcut to paradise and ignoring the traditions and foundations of

Islam. The vital question, Ghobash argues, is how moderate Muslims will unite and find a voice that is true to Islam while actively and productively engaging in the modern world. Written loosely as informal letters to his two sons, from his perspective both as a father and as an experienced diplomat, **LETTERS TO A YOUNG MUSLIM** will be a short and highly-readable manifesto that tackles a vital problem in search for a better tomorrow.

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