

## Saudi Match Point

FICTION by Paul Ulrich

This topical spy thriller captures the turmoil of the 'war on terror' and weaves agents of the Chinese Government into the plot, pulling the reader into a world of subterfuge and shifting alliances which may well mirror tomorrow's headlines.

The story: A young China expert at the US embassy in Riyadh learns a shocking secret – the Americans will use a hostage crisis as a pretext to invade the Saudi kingdom and seize control of its oilfields. Meanwhile, the daughter of a radical cleric is desperate to escape an arranged marriage. As she attempts to flee the country, her half-brother becomes embroiled in an Al-Qaeda plot to drive out the American infidels – a plan the newly assertive Chinese are determined to stop.

As the US and China compete for mastery of the Gulf, an American diplomat prepares to betray his country and a Saudi woman risks her life – but what price betrayal in a land ruled and divided by harsh Islamic law?



### Reviews

"What I liked most about *Saudi Match Point* is that readers will probably gain more of an understanding about the Middle East and the problems and vagaries associated with Islamic militancy from these entertaining pages than by wading through reams of copy and endless hours of network news bulletins offered daily by the international media." – *The Correspondent*

"Ulrich's story is clearly woven, possesses all the action of top spy thrillers, and maintains admirable consistency. Further, while the cast includes enough characters to confuse casual readers, the characters are instantly recognizable as the story transports us from location to location and culture to culture. Read this book for enjoyment, and you will take away a new understanding of some of the newest forces affecting the international scene today." – *Reserve Books*

"Drawing on years of experience overseas as a consultant, technician, foreign-aid worker and (self-admitted) government bureaucrat, author Paul Ulrich economically and effectively conveys the heady atmosphere and multicultural boiling pot of Saudi Arabia. He creates colorful characters about whom the reader comes to care, most especially a sheltered young woman whose plight, in a family that adheres to ultra-strict Wahabbi Muslim teachings, is heartbreaking. And he convincingly mixes real geopolitics into fictional situations."

– *Blogcritics Magazine*

(continued)

"In terms of geopolitical value for money, Paul Ulrich's new book *Saudi Match Point* has it all: Al-Qaeda, the Chinese government, oil wars, a high level US conspiracy, a hostage crisis and the battle between radical Islam and modern mores." – *Nury Vittachi*

### **About the Author**

During a varied 20-year career, Paul Ulrich has worked as an economic and policy consultant in nearly 60 countries, including China and places in the Middle East. He has degrees from Yale, Harvard and Stanford, and has studied Chinese and Arabic, among other languages. Before devoting himself full-time to writing, his jobs ranged from foreign-aid worker to government bureaucrat to multinational consultant and software entrepreneur. Paul is a patented inventor, with two high-tech US patents to his name.

### **Book Details**

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