The horrific incidents of September 11, 2001 have resulted in a great rupture in Arab-American relations. Tremendous efforts have been made to heal the soured relations and bring them back to their normal status. Such efforts have been carried out not only by politicians and economists but also by writers: Arab-American writers and mainstream American writers alike. The aim of this paper is to investigate the way these writers responded to these unprecedented tragic events in American history and the role that their literary works have played in the endeavor to remap Arab-American relations. The main focus of the paper will be on such writers as Naomi Shihab Nye, Diana Abu-Jaber, Lisa Suheir Majaj (Arab-Americans) and John Updike and Richard Wilbur (American mainstream), among several others. The works of such writers re-examine Arab-American relations in terms of culture, identity and the crossing of boundaries in different ways though with ultimately similar objectives. In their endeavor to broaden and deepen our concepts of identity and multiculturalism, Arab-American writers have brought new meanings to questions of race, ethnicity and cultural identity which in turn are utilized for building bridges of understanding among the Arab nations and the United States. The views of the Arab minority writers are compared with those of mainstream American writers in order to shed light on the different approaches to the horrendous events of September 11. The paper will investigate how far these writers can be considered as saving or guiding writers who can impact public response whether inside or outside America. The ultimate aim is to show how literature how can make us think a bit differently and grow wiser when contemplating the relationship with the Other. In the words of Naomi Nye, "Poetry humanizes us in a way that news, or even religion, has a harder time doing".