



POL Literary Agency

Fiction Rights Guide

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Pol Literary & Translation Agency

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Pol Literary Agency & Translation

POL is a full–service agency founded in 2005 in Tehran and in 2019 in Istanbul. Our primary focus is on promoting Persian and Turkish books globally and identifying suitable titles for the Iranian and Turkish book markets to translate and publish in collaboration with our partner publishing houses. Presently, POL manages the rights of more than 60 authors and titles of publishers to sell their rights.

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Ebrahim Younesi (1926–2012/ Baneh)

Ebrahim Younesi is a contemporary Iranian writer known for his fiction, particularly novels. He has translated works by authors like Charles Dickens and Fyodor Dostoevsky and wrote *Principles of Storytelling**, which examines narrative poetics in 12 novel-like sections. His realistic works focus on social issues and offer insights for anthropological and sociological studies, often emphasizing the existence and rights of individuals. *My Mother Has Cried Twice*, *"The Stranger's Cemetery,"* *"A Winter without Spring,"* *"Dada Shirin,"* *"Welcome,"* and *"Pray for Arman"* are some of the books he has written during his career. In 1957, Dr. Brahim was awarded an award from Tehran University for his translation of Charles Dickens's *Great Dreams*.

Garden blooming

Nadia is a Christian girl living in a quaint village near the bustling city of Tabriz, nestled within the rich landscapes of Azerbaijan. She resides in a modest home with her father, mother, and two brothers, Jani and Albert. The family's primary source of income is a lush fruit garden that they have cultivated over the years, providing them with a steady supply of fresh produce and a semblance of stability. Despite the challenges of rural life, they experience very few sorrows, instead finding joy in their close-knit family relationships.

Nadia's father is a deeply compassionate man known for his gentle spirit and hardworking nature. He dedicates long hours to tending the garden, ensuring it thrives and remains a cornerstone of their livelihood. In contrast, Nadia's mother often appears absent-minded, her attention primarily focused on her sons, who navigate life with a carefree attitude. Jani and Albert, having left school several years ago, are mainly unengaged in productive work, knowing little beyond the basics of becoming apprentices for local drivers. Despite this, their mother dotes on them, often overlooking the responsibilities of adulthood. Amidst this family dynamic, Nadia finds solace and affection primarily from her father, whose kind heart and support provide her with a strong sense of stability.

Years ago, after the dissolution of the Azerbaijan Democratic Sect, tensions between Muslims and Christians escalated in their village. During this tumultuous period, it is rumored that Christians fell victim to robberies perpetrated by some members of the Muslim community. Disturbingly, witnesses reported that even the village headman, a Christian himself, was involved in these heinous acts against his people. In response to the growing unrest, the government stepped in, aiming to assist the victims and address their grievances with a focus on restoring peace.

Within this charged atmosphere, a young Muslim officer, handsome and well-mannered, arrives at Nadia's home to investigate the complaints and address the ongoing issues in their community. Though he is just in his early twenties, he carries himself with a maturity that sets him apart. He immediately establishes a bond with Nadia's kind father, who appreciates the officer's dedication to justice and his sincere desire to help the community.

At their first meeting, Nadia is only ten, yet the young officer finds himself deeply infatuated with her gentle nature. As the years pass and he is transferred to the city, they are separated by distance, but the emotional connection they formed does not fade. Instead, it grows more substantial across the years, defined by their shared memories and the warmth of their initial friendship.



Publisher: Mo'in Pubs.,

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages:280

ISBN:9789647603256

While «The Garden Blooms» presents itself as a romantic novel, it intricately weaves together the political, social, and religious complexities that shape the lives of its characters. In intertwined with the broader struggles of her community, Nadia's journey explores not only the sweetness of young love but also the challenging realities that define their existence in a divided world.

My mother cried twice

Shirooyeh is the son of a border village near Kurdistan, where his father, Rashid Khan, serves as an elder, and his mother, Gulzar, is a noble woman. The village is overseen by a border post, whose officers, with Rashid Khan's approval, occasionally exploit the village's resources and dignity. Shirooyeh and his mother oppose Rashid Khan's actions, ultimately leading to his execution. Following his father's death, Shirooyeh and his mother begin a period of migration and house-to-house exchanges, highlighting the novel's central themes.

The primary issue in «My Mother Cried Twice» revolves around confronting the alien world and identity: who are we and the outsiders? The story addresses the escalating tensions among different ethnicities over the past century. In a new city, Shirooyeh meets people who speak a different dialect, but rather than feeling fear or pain, both he and his mother find joy in these encounters. However, Shirooyeh no longer feels the same sense of belonging or security upon returning to his village. The narrative develops Shirooyeh's character well, culminating in a surprising and uplifting ending. The novel chronicles the struggles of a family in a poverty-stricken border village, focusing on the young Kurdish man who, after losing his father, lives with his mother. The outpost controls their lives, and soldiers and officers treat them poorly. Forced to leave his homeland, Shirooyeh's journey involves understanding and coexisting with others, which is the book's central theme.

Ebrahim Younesi skillfully addresses the social issues of his city and homeland within a structured narrative, creating a compelling and realistic portrayal of a Kurdish teenager's life. The novel critically examines social issues in Iranian culture while exploring Shirooyeh's relationship with the «other.» Understanding the «other» from the perspective of an exile as an independent «self,» along with the dynamics of confrontation and interaction, forms the core of this work. The text is characterized by its strong, fluent, and cohesive writing, showcasing the author's talent.

مادر دوبار گریست



ابراهیم یونسی

Publisher: Negah Pubs.,

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 359

ISBN: 9786222674335

War of Shadows and One More Story

In «War of Shadows» the story unfolds in the rich cultural backdrop of Iranian Kurdistan, where a man of noble feudal lineage marries the daughter of an esteemed aristocratic family of khans. As he navigates the intricacies of his marriage and the expectations of his social class, he begins a dramatic ascent to power within the feudal hierarchy. However, this rise is marred by corruption and moral decay. The man becomes entangled in a web of illicit relationships with various maidservants he brings into his home, betraying his wife's trust and tarnishing his reputation.

As the narrative progresses, the consequences of his actions come back to haunt him. The children of one of the women he has wronged grow increasingly resentful and, fueled by a desire for vengeance, devise a plan to confront him. This tension culminates in a gripping climax that highlights the destructive nature of power and betrayal.

In a contrasting story titled «Fears and People,» the author delves into the darker aspects of human nature, provocatively asserting that humans possess a more savage instinct than that of bears. This story challenges readers to reflect on the primal behaviors that often lurk beneath the surface of civilized society, prompting a deeper exploration of the human condition and our capacity for both good and evil.



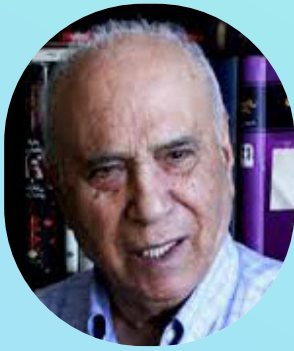
Publisher: Mo'in Pubs.,

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 147

ISBN: 9789641650027

Throughout «War of Shadows,» readers witness the complex dynamics of a feudal family as they face the consequences of their ambitions, ultimately leading to their tragic downfall.



Ali Mohammad Afghani (1925–Kermanshah)

Ali Mohammad Afghani graduated from military college but was imprisoned due to his political activities. While in prison, he wrote his first book, *Lady Ahou's Husband*, a novel that critiques polygamy. Afghani has authored numerous other works and cites Jack London and John Steinbeck as inspirations for his writing.

Afghani is recognized as a pivotal novelist in Iranian literature during the 1940s and 1950s. Critics categorize his works as socially conscious, often incorporating social and political commentary. He distinguishes his style from naturalism by integrating social elements into his realistic approach, making his writings prime examples of this literary style. Afghani's stories frequently highlight the struggles and hardships faced by marginalized groups, focusing on the lives of workers, rural farmers, and women. Additionally, he emphasizes the use of popular language and Persian prose in his works.

Madam Ahous Husband

Seyed Miran is the leader of the bakers' guild and a respected man who lives a peaceful life with his wife, Ahu Khanum. He has earned a lot of honor and respect from the people. One day, while serving a customer named Homa, she shared that she had recently separated from her husband. Homa gradually opens up to Seyed Miran, who is attracted to her beauty and youth. Eventually, he marries her and brings her home to Ahu Khanum.

The story is about Ahu Khanum, a traditional, headstrong, and oppressed woman living in a patriarchal society. Her position in the home is threatened by the arrival of a rebellious and modern woman in Homa. The book powerfully portrays the realities that women from lower strata of society face and also condemns polygamy. Ali Mohammad Afghani's precise setting, delicate characterization, and powerful writing have made *Shohar Aho Khanum* one of Persian literature's most popular contemporary books.

Ahu Khanom's Husband is a captivating novel that offers a vivid portrayal of Iranian society and culture during a period of social change. The story revolves around the character of Ahou Khanom, whose life is shaped by the patriarchal norms and expectations of her time. Through Ahou Khanom's experiences and interactions with the world around her, Afghani explores themes of gender, identity, and the struggle for self-determination. The title, "Ahou Khanom's Husband," suggests a reversal of traditional gender roles, hinting at the novel's subversive exploration of power dynamics within marriage and society. As Ahou Khanom navigates the challenges and obstacles confronting her, she emerges as a resilient and independent-minded woman who refuses to conform to societal expectations.

This novel follows the adventures of Seyed Miran Sarabi, the head of the bakers' guild, who has two wives. He is described as religious, honorable, kind-hearted, modest, polite, calm, and considerate. Despite his good qualities, he falls in love with Piraneh Siri. His dedication to his work begins to negatively impact his family, his first wife, and his lover, his second wife. His increasing infatuation leads him into a downward spiral of lust. The interactions and conflicts between his wives, Aho and Hema, form the story's central focus.

The story closely examines the complex lives of women in the lower classes of society during that time in Iran. The novel strongly condemns polygamy and explores family relationships and the associated emotional challenges. This book won the award for the best story of the year.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 800

ISBN: 9789643511104

Year of Publishing: 2023/38th Edition

• **Adapted into a movie in (1968–Iran)**

• **English text is available.**

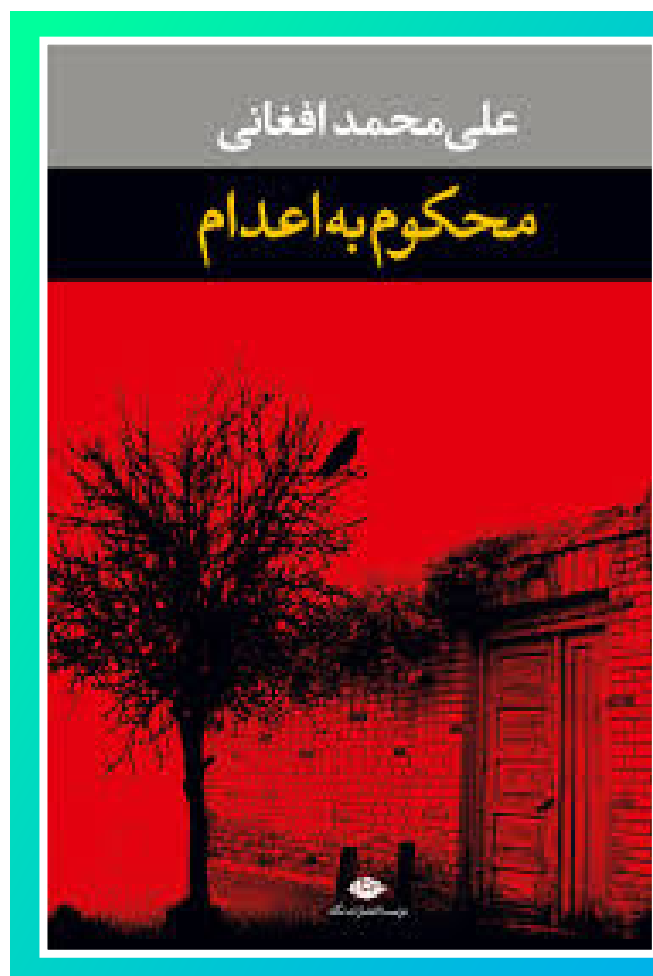
Sentenced To Death

In the oppressive atmosphere of the prison, the night guards often find themselves struggling to keep their eyes open at their posts. This weariness, coupled with their growing disbelief, leads them to disturb the prisoners' rest, causing a cacophony of noise that echoes through the damp corridors. These guards, their faces marred by the scars of violence accrued over years of duty, begin to see themselves as omnipotent figures, wielding the power of life and death over the vulnerable souls locked within the cells. Their perception of authority becomes particularly palpable when they witness a group of shackled prisoners tied together at the end of a heavy chain, evoking the image of «water slipping through the hands of Yazid.» Among these guards is Khorram, known to his colleagues as Najaf. Tasked with the midnight patrol, he strides through the semi-darkness, a flashlight piercing the gloom to expose what lurks within. The sharp clatter of his spiked shoes reverberates eerily along the dreary corridor, bridging the silence of the night with a heavy, unsettling rhythm. His labored breaths, deep and rhythmical like the chugging of a locomotive, startle the inmates awake from their restless slumber.

As the dark, damp air hangs heavily, the prison feels like a forgotten battlefield, littered with lifeless forms of bodies sprawled across the floor. Celled doors swing open, adding to the disarray as Constable Najaf's disruptive presence draws every weary soul back to a state of alertness. This collection of haunting narratives comprises five short stories: «Condemned to Death,» «Alive in the Grave,» «High Above,» «A Pleasure Trip» and «A Good Season of the Year.» Central to this story is Zaki, whose life unfolds like a tragic tapestry, revealing the stark realities faced by those trapped in the dark clutches of the prison system. Another pivotal character is Braga, labeled a murderer for the death of a seemingly insignificant man, yet seen as innocent by his fellow inmates. The stories of these characters lay bare the flaws of the judicial system and the suffocating weight of oppressive laws, illuminating the bleak atmosphere of their era. This book draws striking parallels to «The Husband of Ahu Khanum,» firmly establishing itself as a significant work of realism.

Ali Mohammad Afghani employs his trademark style in this poignant collection—rich with vivid realism and immersive settings. «Sentenced to Death» recounts the harrowing tale of an individual courageously standing up against cruelty and tyranny, a defiance that ultimately leads to his murder. Upon his incarceration, he encounters a diverse array of inmates, each sharing their unique and harrowing experiences that contribute to his understanding of injustice. The themes within this narrative examine the nature of rights and justice, the failings of the judicial system, and the existential struggle of humanity against societal oppression.

In the evocative short story «Sentenced To Death» Afghani confronts the grim reality of execution with unflinching honesty. The narrative unfolds from a third-person perspective, maintaining a neutral tone while vividly capturing the prison's brooding ambiance. It delineates its shadows and stark reality with precision and depth.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 215

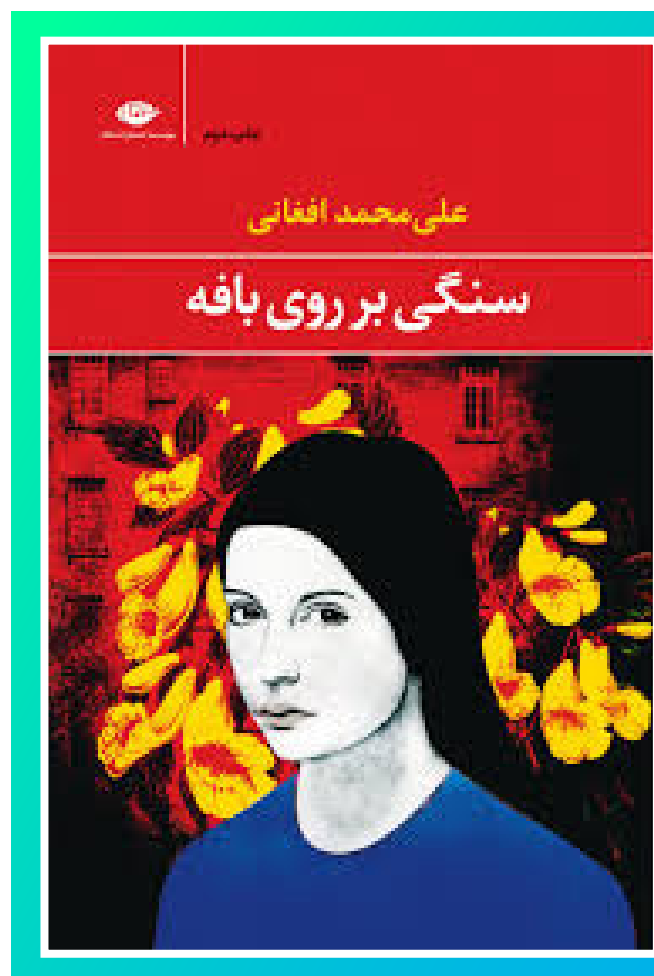
Year of Publishing: 2023/6th Edition

ISBN: 9789643511777

A stone on a bunch of plants

The book weaves a poignant tale of love between two characters, Jeiran and Mushtaq, with Mushtaq as the introspective narrator. A miller's son, Mushtaq, has been nurtured in an environment steeped in tradition, where he has always been led to believe that his fate is intertwined with the mill worker's daughter. From his formative years, the shadow of this impending marriage looms over him, creating a turbulent inner conflict that pits societal pressure against the stirrings of unexpected love in his heart. Jeiran, the vibrant heroine of this narrative, embarks on a journey that defies the conventional limits imposed on her. With the singular aim of finding a husband, she takes to the streets in a carriage, also selling cinema tickets—a symbol of her determination to carve out her own space in a world that seeks to box her in. Breaking free from the constraints of her patriarchal society, Jeiran boldly takes the initiative to rally community support; she traverses her neighborhood, collecting signatures that reflect her desire to improve her surroundings. Her quest leads her to engage with local officials, passionately advocating for a cleaner environment, replacing the oppressive mound of garbage outside her home with a vibrant array of flowers.

Set against a rich tapestry of social issues, this narrative unfolds within a deeply conservative town, highlighting the struggles faced by women in the lower echelons of Iranian society. Jeiran's quest is not merely for a suitor but an assertion of her right to challenge the traditional roles that confine women behind closed doors. As she embarks on this unconventional mission, she confronts societal disdain and becomes a symbol of controversy, navigating the turbulent waters of judgment accompanying her bold choices. Her beauty, which should be an asset, ironically transforms into a poignant burden, complicating her journey. Following the death of her father, Jeiran is thrust into a whirlwind of responsibility, forcing her to confront decisions she had previously evaded. The story, rich with emotional depth and intricate relationships, invites readers to explore profound themes of humanity, resilience, and the relentless pursuit of dreams. Through vivid illustrations of poverty, beauty, love, and the intricate web of connections among simple-hearted individuals, the author paints a picture of a girl whose beauty shines tenderly despite the struggles around her that often blind others to its brilliance.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 160

Year of Publishing: 2023/4th Edition

Cousin Parvin

“Isn’t it true that children and adolescents are more influenced by the actions, behavior, morals, and customs of adults than by anyone else, often imitating them?”

Kermanshah, known as the city of heroes, made us feel like heroes in our homes or neighborhoods. Even though I was no more than twelve years old and in the fifth grade of elementary school, I often found myself at the end of the line when we prayed in the morning before heading to class. My peers recognized me as a hero, and I had two younger siblings who would come to our room at night before or after dinner to wrestle with each other. I would say, «Come, let me show you the technique,» or the «lem.»

Now, where did I learn these techniques? And how did I manage to impress the little ones with such joy? Only God knows.”

The book unfolds the captivating journey of a boy who shares his life experiences. It began in Kermanshah, a vibrant city where I lived with my supportive parents, who tirelessly encouraged me to study diligently. They hoped I would one day grow into a responsible and valuable member of society. Our home was spacious and bustling, with several rooms we rented out to others. Among those who shared our living space were my two lively cousins, Abdul and Mamli, who, along with their parents, sought shelter with us. Though they often looked up to me for guidance, it was clear that a deep friendship blossomed between us.

One sunny afternoon, as Abdul and Mamli strolled near a quaint little shop, their attention was caught by a charming canary flitting about in its cage. Their delight was abruptly interrupted when the gruff shopkeeper seized them by the wrists, accusing them of stealing figs and dates. The injustice of the accusation angered me deeply, for I knew their innocent hearts. Driven to protect my friends, I hatched a plan to confront the shopkeeper. With a bold decision, I entered the shop and engaged the owner in conversation, creating a distraction. Meanwhile, Abdul and Mamli quietly emptied two sacks of his juicy figs into the nearby stream, where the water glistened under the sun. Once our little scheme was complete, we hurried back home, our hearts racing with excitement and thrill.

On another occasion, I heard whispers that the Qarachi gypsies had set up a vibrant tent city near the bustling Alamshan caravanserai. My cousins, brimming with enthusiasm, urged me to join them on an adventure to visit one of my relatives nearby. Despite their eagerness, the weight of impending exams loomed over me, preventing my escape from home. Still, after much coaxing and playful insistence from Abdul and Mamli, I finally caved to their requests. As I approached the lively caravanserai, my eyes scanned the crowd, and amidst the bustling atmosphere, I spotted Reza, the son of Parvin’s cousin. The air was thick with excitement and the promise of new encounters, and I was ready to dive into the unfolding adventure.



Publisher: Javidan Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 176

Year of Publishing: 2023/38th Edition

Turnip Is a Paradisal Fruit

In a dilapidated house that had stood for over thirty years, Barat Ali, a skilled lamp maker, resided with his wife, Narges, and their beloved child, Abedin. The couple had taken in a vegetable seller from Mashhad named Anbar, who had three lively children of her own, renting out two cramped rooms to them. The relationship between the two women was fraught with tension, marked by jealousy and rivalry. Yet, despite this animosity, Anbar held a deep affection for Abedin, cherishing him as if he were her flesh and blood.

This warmth turned to turmoil when Abedin fell ill with a cold, prompting Anbar to prepare a warm dish of turnips, believing the hearty vegetables would aid in his recovery. Tragically, after consuming the turnips, Abedin's condition worsened; he developed a relentless fever and acromegaly, a condition that caused his limbs to grow abnormally large. In the community, whispers circulated, but no one could diagnose or remedy his plight except for Gul-Anbar, the elderly wife of a neighbor whose ominous intuition began to spiral into paranoia.

Gul-Anbar became convinced that Abedin's affliction was directly linked to the turnips Anbar had prepared, leading to an escalating dread that her family could face legal repercussions. Her unease transformed into a heavy weight on her conscience, intensifying as Abedin's condition persisted without hope of a cure. She was entangled in a brief, intense affair with a young neighbor in this turmoil. This relationship offered momentary escape but ultimately unraveled her sanity, plunging her into madness.

Throughout this poignant narrative, the author paints a vivid picture of a society steeped in ignorance and superstition, where altruism and compassion have vanished into thin air. Instead of rallying around the sick child and his distressed family, the locals perpetuate a narrative of blame and ostracism, branding Abedin as a madman who deserves to be restrained or cast away. Afghani intricately weaves a tale that details the strange and unsettling physiological changes in Abedin's body while reflecting on life's stark, often harsh realities. He masterfully illustrates that a lack of understanding leads people to resort to superstition and irrationality. In their blind ignorance, they foster beliefs that their home is cursed due to Abedin's illness, with the turnip serving as a powerful symbol of the deep-rooted corruption in society that twists human values and compassion.

The novel «Turnip, Fruit of Paradise» offers a straightforward narrative that eschews complex storytelling techniques or a distinct narrative voice. Yet, this simplicity reveals a remarkable strength, particularly in its vivid characterization. The character of Gul-Anbar emerges as a striking example of this depth. Her psychological deterioration is laid bare through meticulously crafted details. As a child, she endured the catastrophic Buyin-Zahra earthquake, losing her entire family and being trapped under the rubble for an excruciating time. In the aftermath, a kind-hearted middle-aged man took her under his wing in Tehran, eventually marrying her just days before the birth of her first son. This poignant backstory adds layers to her character, making her journey all the more tragic and compelling.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 175

Year of Publishing: 2023/20th Edition

ISBN: 9789643511784



Mohammadreza Bayrami (1957–Ardabil)

Mohammadreza Bayrami is a prominent Iranian author known for his memoirs, fiction, and war novels. With around 50 works, he has received numerous national awards and is recognized as one of Iran's top five authors by the Authors' Association in Iran. His books have been translated into German, English, and Arabic. Bayrami's writing is characterized by tender feelings, vivid imagery, and a unique blend of art and imagination, creating a beautiful and engaging experience for readers.

Selected Awards and Recognitions:

- Islamic Republic of Iran's Book of the Year Award,
- Golden Bear Award and Blue Cobra Award from Switzerland,

The Tales of Sabalan Trilogy

The Mountain Called Me

This poignant tale follows the life of a young boy named Jalal, set against the breathtaking backdrop of the snow-blanketed mountainous village of Sabalan Heights. As winter envelops the landscape, Jalal grapples with the profound challenges that arise after the untimely death of his father, who succumbed to a prolonged illness. The family's financial struggles cast a long shadow over Jalal's life, compelling him to shoulder the heavy burden of responsibility at such a tender age. In his quest to support his loved ones, Jalal is thrust into the harsh realities of adulthood far too soon, his childhood dreams overshadowed by the relentless demands of survival. Despite his tireless work ethic, he often questions the worth of his efforts, feeling like he is caught in a cycle of futility.

During a particularly grueling day, while clearing the thick layers of snow to make a path for his family, Jalal becomes ill. In the midst of his labors, he accidentally cuts his hand while preparing fodder for their livestock—a painful reminder of the precariousness of his situation. Each hardship he endures molds his character, revealing a resilience and determination that lie beneath the surface. This profoundly moving narrative is the first volume of the «Sabalan Stories Collection,» a series that has garnered numerous domestically and internationally accolades. It celebrates the strength of the human spirit in the face of adversity.



Subject: Fiction (Novel),

Publisher: Soore Mehr Pubs.,

ISBN: 9786007132364

No. of Pages: 118,

* Right Sold USA (Mazda Publications)

* English text is available.

The Tales of Sabalan Trilogy

At the Edge of Cliff

The relentless grip of winter, shrouded in heavy snowfall, has cast a long shadow over Jalal, his family, and their isolated mountain village. The once-vibrant landscape is white, and frigid winds howl through the narrow streets. The villagers face grim hardships as their livestock succumb to the bitter cold, dwindling numbers a stark reminder of nature's ferocity. Amidst this harsh reality, a lone wolf roams the outskirts of the village, its eyes a haunting mixture of desperation and hunger. Once thick and lustrous, its fur appears ragged, revealing the toll the biting cold has taken. The wolf, driven by an instinctual need to hunt, makes several cautious advances toward the sheep grazing in the nearby fields, only to be thwarted time and again by the vigilant shepherd and his loyal sheepdog, whose fierce protectiveness serves as a barrier between the predator and its intended prey.

Undeterred, the wolf shadows the herd as they return to the village, its mind racing with thoughts of the warm, snug sheep stable that looms ahead. As darkness cloaks the landscape, the wolf's resolve only deepens. It stealthily scales the stable's roof, its sharp claws sinking into the icy surface, but the entrance eludes it. With a restless spirit, the wolf paces back and forth atop the roof, its breath visible in the frigid air, while its mind races to devise a way to breach the walls of the sheep's sanctuary, driven by an insatiable hunger that gnaws at its very core.



Subject: Fiction (Novel),

Publisher: Soore Mehr Pubs.,

ISBN: 9786007132364

No. of Pages:96,

* Right Sold USA (Mazda Publications)

* English text is available.

The Tales of Sabalan Trilogy

In the Country-house

Winter's cold grip has finally released its hold, and Jalal can hardly contain his excitement at the thought of the upcoming holidays. He dreams of returning to his village, where the simplicity of pastoral life intertwines with the thrill of adventure and the lurking dangers of the wild. Each passing day heightens his anticipation, filling him with restless energy as he counts down to when he can roam the sun-drenched fields and verdant hills with his family.

As the season unfolds, a colorful caravan of migrant tribes arrives, weaving their way across the landscape like a vibrant tapestry. Eager to experience the journey, Jalal joins them, and together, they venture into the beauty of the untamed countryside. Each turn in the road reveals breathtaking vistas, the rolling hills bathed in the golden light of dawn, vibrant wildflowers carpeting the meadows, and the gentle sounds of nature enveloping them.

During their explorations, they stumble upon a secluded pasture where a sparkling fountain glistens under the sun's warm embrace. Here, a mystery awaits: beside the fountain lies an enigmatic footprint, its outline sharp against the soft earth. The group gathers around, curiosity piqued, as they ponder the identity of the creature that visits under the cover of darkness, leaving its mark and wreaking havoc among the grazing herds. After a careful inspection, they reach a consensus, the footprint is unmistakably that of a horse. The realization sends a thrill through Jalal; encountering such a magnificent creature draws him deeper into the allure of the wild, igniting a sense of wonder about the adventures ahead. Determined to find the horse, they lie in wait for several nights. Jalal, who has not forgotten about «Qashqa,» feels anxious and wonders if this horse could be his. They set a trap to catch the horse, but it manages to escape.



Subject: Fiction (Novel),

Publisher: Soore Mehr Pubs.,

ISBN: 9786007132364

No. of Pages: 138,

*** Right Sold USA (Mazda Publications)**

*** English text is available.**



Bozorg Alavi (1904–Tehran)

Bozorg Alavi was a realist writer, politician, modernist journalist, and professor of the Persian language. He lived in Germany for over forty years during the second half of the 20th century, where he worked as a translator, critic, and dictionary writer. Alavi is considered one of the founding figures of modern Iranian fiction. His work displays romantic tendencies rooted in the Iranian spirit and features a prose style with aesthetic resonance. Alavi had a strong inclination towards innovation in his storytelling. In most of his works, the narrative begins after the main event has already occurred, requiring the narrator to reconstruct the events of the story.

Her Eyes

Her Eyes is the story of Farangis, a member of the Iranian upper class whose life of leisure has left her without employable skills. Despairing, she enrolls in a Parisian art school, only to discover that she is severely lacking as a painter. She returns to Iran to participate in the political activities of Ostad Makan, Iran's greatest painter.

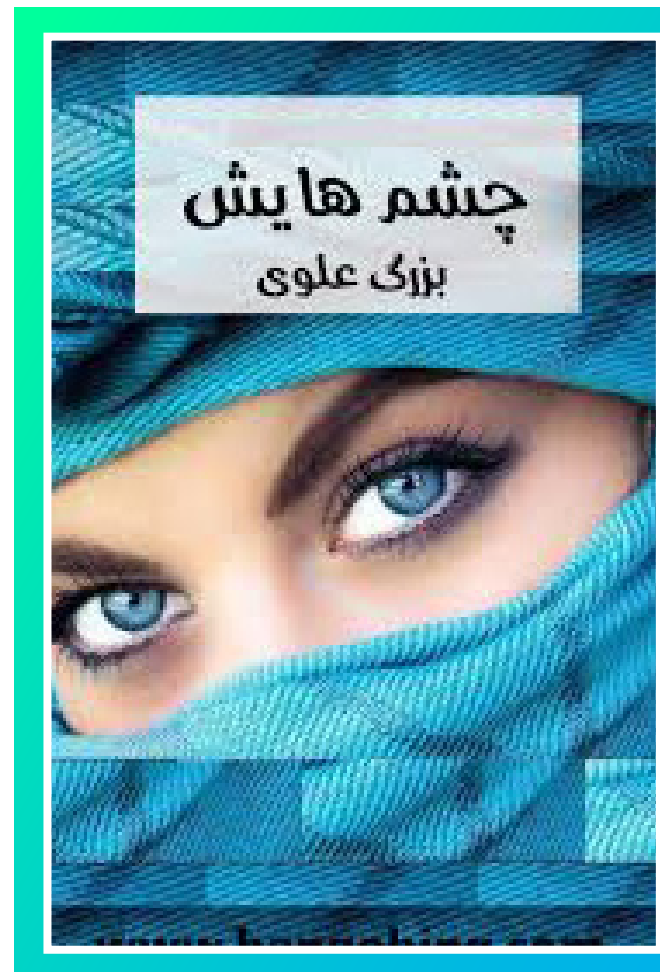
This captivating book chronicles the journey of Mr. Nazim, a passionate admirer of the renowned painter Makan. Driven by love and an insatiable curiosity, he embarks on a quest to uncover the truth behind Makan's mysterious and suspicious death during exile. As Nazim delves deep into the enigma, he becomes convinced that a significant clue lies within one of Makan's evocative paintings, «*Her Eyes*.» This artwork features a striking model whose identity is intricately woven with the artist. In his pursuit of answers, Nazim takes on the role of director at a prestigious painting school dedicated to showcasing Makan's masterpieces. Here, among the vibrant colors and poignant expressions of the canvases, he seeks to unravel the mystery surrounding the artist's untimely demise. As his investigation unfolds, Nazim encounters a woman named Farangis, whose presence proves crucial in revealing the secrets that have long shrouded Makan's life and death. The story unfolds with a rich tapestry of emotion, art, and the relentless search for truth, inviting readers to explore the depths of love and loss intertwined in the pursuit of understanding an artist's legacy.

Many scholars recognize *Her Eyes* as Bozorg Alavi's finest novel. This most popular of Alavi's books, translated into English for the first time, presents a realistic picture of 20th-century Iran in the throes of rapid, forced modernization. *Her Eyes* is structured similarly to a framed painting, with a frame story within which the main story is narrated. The narrator of the frame story is the assistant principal of an art college, who tries to unravel the secrets that surround the life of Makan, and the mystery that emanates from the eyes of the woman and strikes him most. He does not rest until he meets the owner of the eyes, Farangis, an educated woman of an aristocratic background. When relating the story of her life and her relation with Makan, Farangis talks about her passionate love for the Master, her involvement in underground political movements to please him, and her eventual acceptance of a long-standing proposal from the head of the Shah's police to save Makan's life.

Her Eyes is also praised as a coherently depicted love story of psychological insight and oblique political protest, devoid of clichés and ideological platitudes. The smooth infusion of romanticism, psychoanalysis, and ideology into simple, economical, and, at the same time, poetical language, hitherto unfamiliar to Persian writers, may be considered among Alavi's lasting contributions to thematic diversity in modern Persian literature.

• English text is available

• Right sold to Turkey (Fabula Pubs.)



Publisher: Negah Publication

No. of Pages: 269

Subject: short stories

Year of Publishing: 2023/53th Edition

The Suitcase

“On a Sunday morning in July, the air in Berlin felt dark and stifling. I was tossing and turning in bed from the intense heat, drenched in sweat. But I couldn't bring myself to get up. The smoke from the factories mixed with fog from the forest, and the particles that seeped into my room through the window seemed to weigh down on me physically and mentally. At that time, I was studying in Berlin, and my landlord had already placed my tea on the table, but I had no motivation to get out of bed.

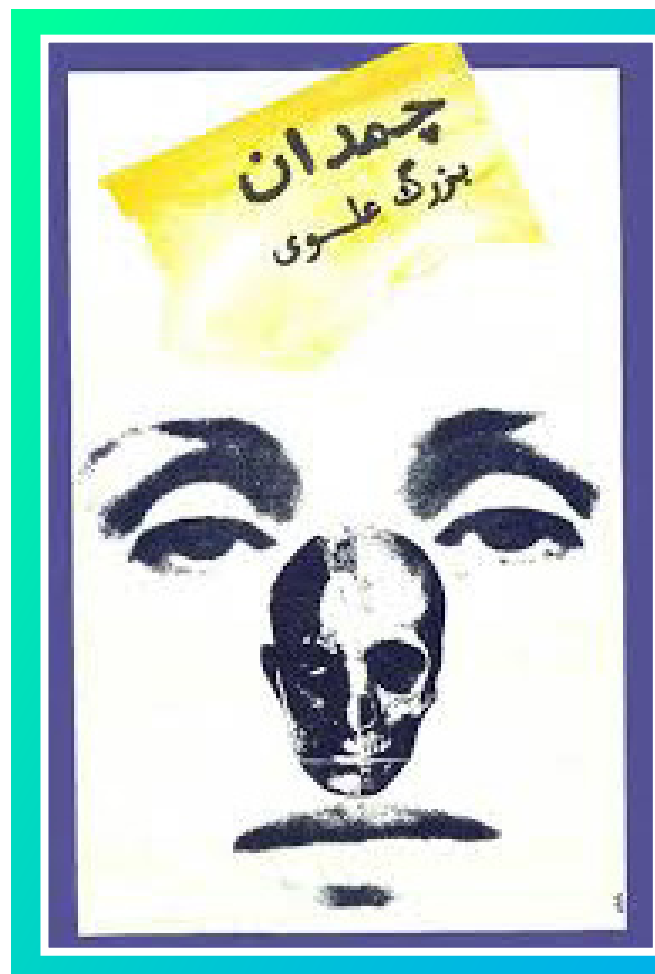
He had called out a couple of times from behind the door: «Sir, your father wants to speak with you on the phone.» But I didn't respond. When nine o'clock arrived, someone knocked on my door and hurried into my room. Initially, I thought it was just the landlord, but then I heard my father's voice. I jumped out of bed and greeted him.

He settled into a comfortable chair next to the room, took out his gold cigarette case, lit a cigarette, and said, «Why is your room so messy? Why don't you put these books away? Look at this: soap, pens, combs, ties, cigarette holders, headbands, photos—all piled up.»

This mesmerizing collection showcases seven intricately woven short stories, each with its unique flavor: «The Suitcase,» «The Sacrifice,» «The Bride of a Thousand Groomsmen,» «The History of My Room,» «The Lead Soldier,» «The Chic Dressed,» and «The Dance of Death.» Renowned author Bozorg Alavi masterfully constructs rich narratives that explore the depths of human emotion and the complexities of character conflicts. His storytelling style is compelling and evocative, elevating the work to meet the highest international standards.

Among these tales, «The Suitcase» is a pioneering example of short fiction in Iranian literature. Its nuanced portrayal of characters grappling with their innermost thoughts and feelings captivates readers. Through their journeys, we witness their triumphs and setbacks in love and haunting memories that linger like shadows. Each story is carefully crafted, bursting with unexpected twists and endings that leave a lasting impression, inviting readers to reflect on the intricacies of the human experience.

«The Suitcase,» Bozorg Alavi's debut short story collection, features simple yet fluent prose, thought-provoking scenes, and beautiful descriptions that captivate readers. Through these stories, Alavi reflects popular culture and portrays individuals' struggles and failures.



Publisher: Negah Publication

No. of Pages: 176

Subject: short stories

Year of Publishing: 2023/12th Edition

ISBN: 978-964-673-613-9

*** English text is available.**

Mirza

The collection «Mirza» by Bozorg Alavi is a poignant compilation of six compelling short stories that delve into the complexities of human experience and emotion:

– «Water»: This poignant tale follows a compassionate man who embarks on a heartfelt mission to bring life-saving water to a dying stranger, highlighting themes of empathy and human connection in moments of desperation.

– «Mirza»: At the heart of this narrative is an individual dedicated to helping political refugees reconnect with their families abroad. Through this character's journey, Alavi vividly portrays the profound emotional struggles faced by immigrants who may appear to have left their homeland by choice yet are often propelled by urgency and the weight of their circumstances.

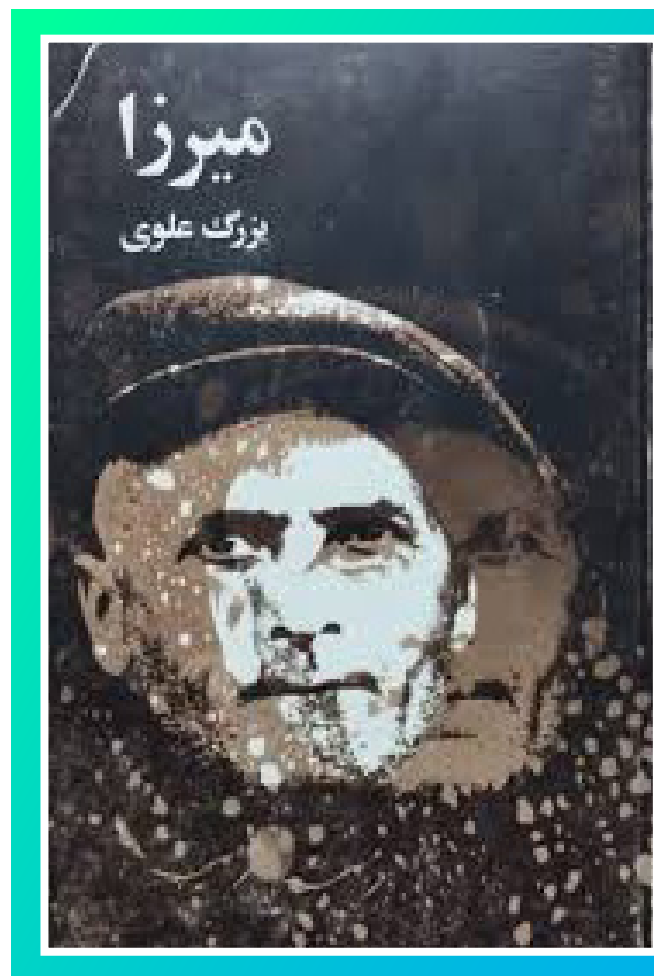
– «Ahsan Al-Qesses»: In this introspective story, the author delves deep into the multifaceted emotions of regret experienced by the brothers of Prophet Joseph (AS). Their reflections on past actions are a powerful exploration of guilt and the yearning for redemption.

«Homeless» recounts the transformative journey of a young girl who comes to realize the importance of self-reliance. After marrying into wealth, she decides to forge her path, ultimately seeking independence and personal fulfillment.

– «Alone» centers on the heartfelt correspondence between a political prisoner and his daughter, painting a vivid picture of longing, hope, and the enduring bonds of family amidst challenging circumstances.

– «Cholera»: In this gripping tale, a ruthless individual is depicted as he skillfully alters his appearance daily in pursuit of personal gain. This transformation is a metaphor for the moral ambiguities in the quest for success and power.

The stories in «Mirza» are succinct yet incredibly captivating, crafted with a clear and inviting style that immerses readers in a variety of richly imagined worlds. Each tale delves into distinct and intriguing themes, offering unique insights and experiences. Although there is no overarching narrative that ties the stories together, Alavi's distinctive voice and cohesive writing style weave a thread of continuity throughout the collection, leaving readers with a profound and lasting impression that lingers well after the final page.



Publisher: Negah Publication

No. of Pages: 192

Subject: short stories

Year of Publishing: 2023/12th Edition

ISBN: 978-964-3512163



Jalal al-e-Ahmad (1923–1969)

Seyyed Jalal al-e-Ahmad was a prominent Iranian novelist, short-story writer, translator, philosopher, socio-political critic, and sociologist. Known as one of the earliest contemporary Iranian ethnographers, he gained respect for his writing but also had to work as a school teacher, a common struggle for writers of his time.

His published works, totaling over twenty volumes, include travel journals, translations, essays, and fiction, which have significantly impacted Iranian literature. al-e-Ahmad's writing style was conversational, often addressing cultural, social, and political issues through symbolic representations and sarcasm. He was noted for his honest exploration of complex subjects, regardless of potential consequences from authorities.

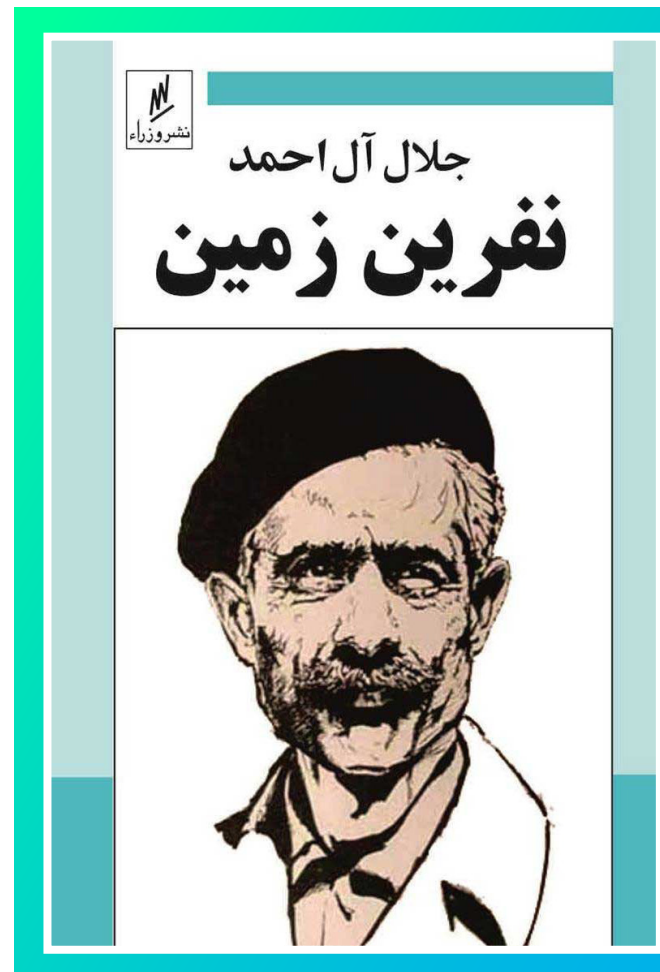
The Cursing the Land

In this story, a teacher named Al Ahmed is assigned to educate in a secluded village. He documents the progress and events in the town, capturing everything he witnesses, hears, and encounters during his nine-month residency through daily written entries. His notes conclude when he is transferred to another village.

In «The Curse of the Earth,» the author frequently compares rural and urban life, highlighting that the main difference between the city and the village lies in our relationship with the land. The narrative combines a structured outline with realistic elements, featuring compelling scenes and sometimes fragmented imagery. Although the story's language is somewhat archaic, it follows the style of contemporary European literature. This fiction work explores a teacher's challenges in a rural village. Beyond merely a literary piece, «Curse of the Land» is a social document. In this significant work, Al-e Ahmad aims to provide a social analysis of his era and warns readers about the detrimental effects of modernity. In this captivating story, a dedicated teacher named Al Ahmed is assigned to a remote and secluded village, a place untouched by the rapid changes of the outside world. With a keen eye and an open heart, he meticulously documents the progress and day-to-day happenings within the community. His observations, filled with vivid details of the life around him, capture every moment he witnesses, hears, and encounters throughout his enriching nine-month residency. His reflections come to a close when he receives orders to transfer to another village, leaving behind a tapestry of experiences.

In «The Curse of the Earth,» the author artfully juxtaposes the contrasting worlds of rural and urban life. He delves into the core of this disparity, asserting that the fundamental difference between city living and village existence lies in our relationship with the land beneath our feet. This narrative weaves a structured outline with elements of realism, crafting compelling and deeply evocative scenes while occasionally presenting fragmented imagery that enhances the story's emotional impact. Despite its somewhat archaic language, the work resonates with the essence of contemporary European literature.

This fictional masterpiece explores a teacher's myriad challenges in a rural village—where traditions, simplicity, and the rhythm of nature prevail—and serves as a poignant social document. Through his richly woven prose, Al-e Ahmad seeks to provide a penetrating social analysis of his era, cautioning readers about the far-reaching and often devastating consequences of modernity that loom over the simplicity of village life.



Publisher: Majid Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 248

ISBN: 978-6007987148

The School Principal

«The School Principal» is a novel that sharply critiques Iran's education system. It presents a unique social commentary through the principal's character, who tries to remain indifferent but ultimately finds it impossible. Despite this struggle, he forms no close relationships with anyone in the story. The children come across as largely faceless, and even the teachers and school staff are enigmatic figures. Their personal lives are primarily unknown; the principal often wonders where the children go after school and what kinds of homes they return to, but he can hardly imagine it.

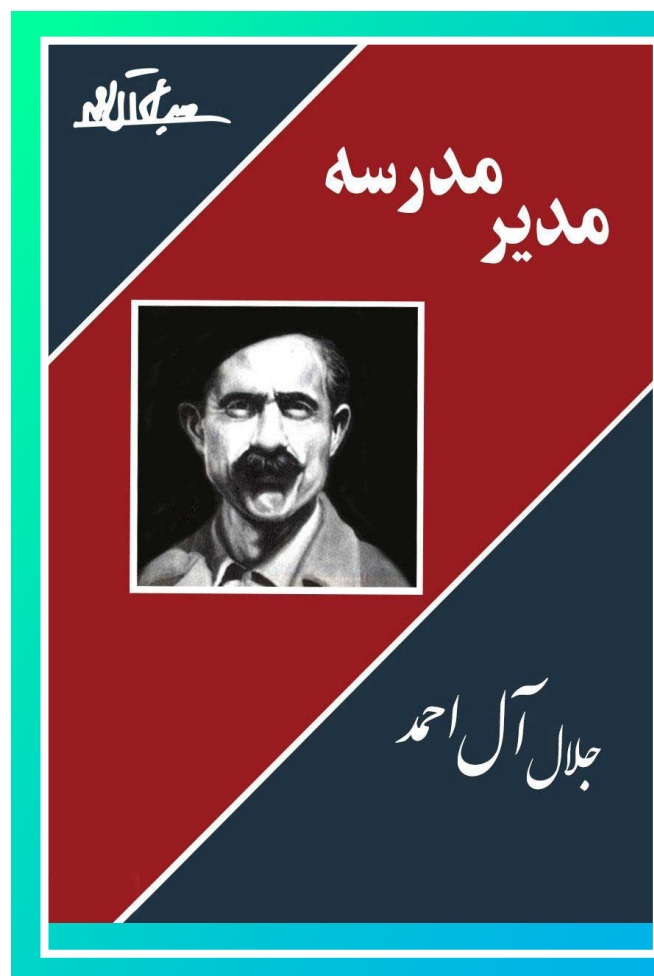
The principal himself is also a mystery: although he is married, we gain little insight into his domestic life or relationship with his wife. While he observes society's ills, he recognizes that finding solutions is challenging. Necessities, like running water, may not be attainable long, and bribery can influence many aspects of life. Additionally, the pervasive impact of religion cannot be overlooked.

The society Al-e Ahmad depicts is in a state of radical transformation as Iran moves rapidly yet awkwardly toward modernization in the late 1950s. «The School Principal» is a compelling novel that offers a profound critique of Iran's education system, revealing its complexities and challenges. Set against the backdrop of late-1950s Iran, the story unfolds through the eyes of a principal who grapples with his emotions and obligations. Although he strives for an air of indifference in his role, he cannot help but become increasingly aware of the struggles surrounding him.

The schoolchildren are portrayed as largely faceless, mere shadows in the principal's world. Their individuality is lost amid the harsh realities of their lives, leaving the principal to ponder their existence beyond the school gates. He often finds himself reflecting on where these children go at day's end, what kinds of homes await them, and the circumstances they must return to, yet he cannot fully fathom the depth of their experiences. The principal himself is a figure shrouded in mystery. Married yet virtually unexamined, his domestic life remains closed, and his relationship with his wife is barely touched upon. This lack of insight underscores his isolation, mirroring the broader disconnection felt throughout the educational landscape.

As he navigates the complexities of his role, the principal is acutely aware of the societal ills that plague his community. He recognizes the difficulty of enacting meaningful change in a context where even necessities, such as running water, remain out of reach. The influence of bribery pervades the system, complicating any efforts for reform, while the shadow of religious customs looms large over daily life.

Al-e Ahmad skillfully illustrates a society on the brink of radical transformation, caught between tradition and the tumultuous winds of modernization. This transition unfolds awkwardly, presenting a rich tapestry of struggle, hope, and the quest for identity in an era of change.



Publisher: Majid Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 112

ISBN: 978-9644530777

The Superfluous Woman

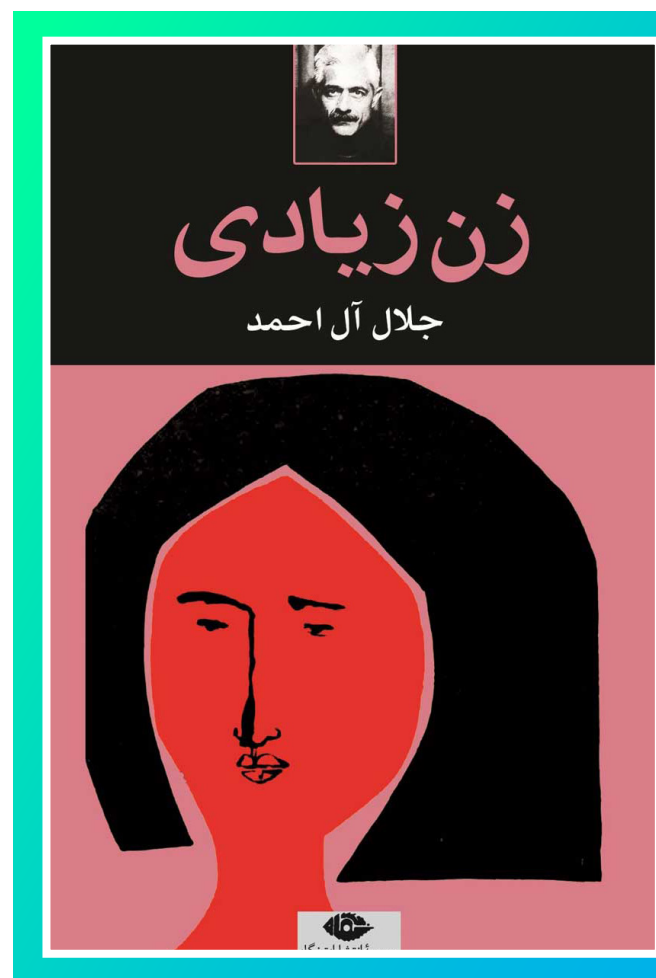
“The Superfluous Woman” is a collection of stories exploring women’s challenges in traditional Iranian society. This book, written by Jalal Al Ahmad, consists of nine short stories depicting women’s struggles and thoughts living in a patriarchal society. One of the most significant works in the collection is the titular story «The Superfluous Woman,» which highlights the experiences of both men and women who lack prominent positions in society.

The stories are set in a world of ignorance and superstition, causing both genders to suffer equally. Jalal Al Ahmad critiques traditional roles, thoughts, and behaviors associated with women and focuses on women’s lives and inner thoughts within this societal context.

With simple yet captivating prose, Jalal Al Ahmad immerses the reader in his narrative and introduces them to relatable characters. A unique feature of his stories is their timelessness; the themes and character experiences can resonate across different eras. The characters he portrays can be found in our families and communities today. While many women have ventured into writing, the author’s critiques of traditional behaviors and societal norms remain relevant even in contemporary society. “The Superfluous Woman” is a compelling collection of stories that delve deep into women’s challenges in traditional Iranian society. Authored by the insightful Jalal Al Ahmad, this book comprises nine poignant short stories, each intricately portraying women’s struggles, aspirations, and inner lives navigating a patriarchal landscape. At the heart of the collection lies the powerful story «The Superfluous Woman,» which vividly illustrates the experiences of both men and women sidelined in a society that often overlooks their contributions.

Set against a backdrop infused with ignorance and superstition, the narratives reveal the shared suffering of both genders, highlighting the pervasive impact of societal constraints. Jalal Al Ahmad’s sharp critique of conventional roles, thoughts, and behaviors surrounding women is woven throughout the text, prompting readers to reflect on the limitations imposed by tradition. Through his simple yet eloquent prose, Jalal Al Ahmad invites readers to immerse themselves in his richly drawn world, filled with characters that resonate deeply and evoke empathy. The remarkable aspect of his storytelling lies in its timelessness; the themes he addresses and the experiences of his characters transcend specific eras, making them relevant to readers across generations. The women he depicts could easily inhabit our families and communities, reflecting universal truths about the female experience.

While many women have made significant strides in the literary field, the issues Jalal Al Ahmad addresses regarding traditional behaviors and societal norms continue to echo in contemporary discourse, reminding us of the enduring relevance of his work. The collection serves as both a mirror and a window, allowing readers to explore the intricate lives of women and recognize the ongoing struggle for identity and agency in a complex world.



Publisher: Majid Pubs.

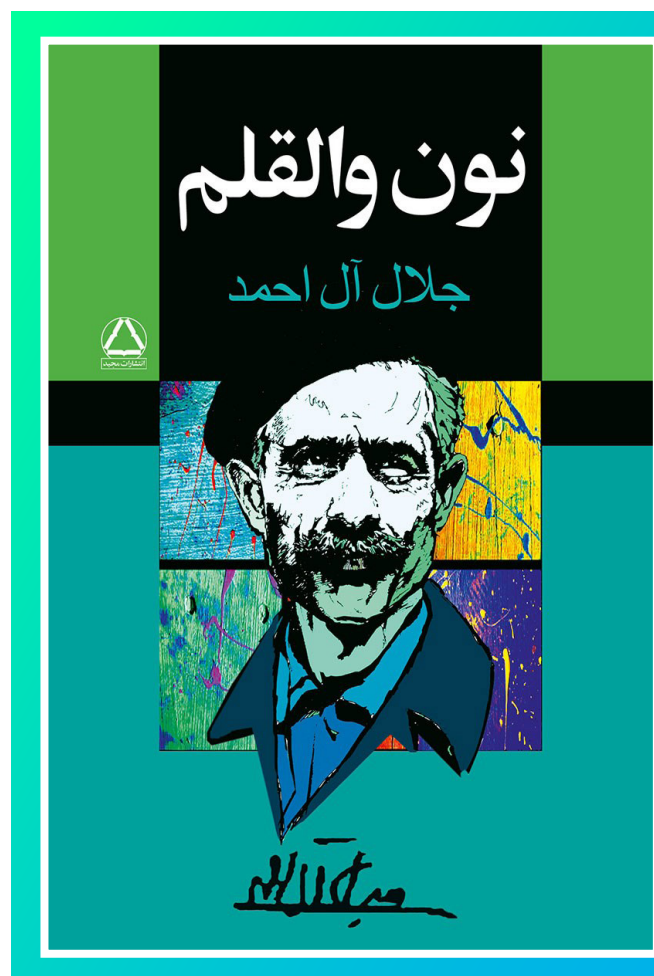
Subject: Short Stories

Pages: 176

ISBN: 978-9644530791

The Letter N and the Pen

The power dynamics between Shīʿi and Sunni factions, which are central to the storyline, represent historical occurrences and recurring themes in the nation's narrative, as illustrated by their relevance to contemporary events in Iran. While the religious nuances may pose challenges for readers unfamiliar with Persian culture, the fundamental elements of the narrative remain accessible. "By the Pen" chronicles the experiences of two scribes, Mirza Asadollah and Mirza Abdozzaki, who become involved in the tumultuous events of their time. As a sect known as the Calenders rises to authority, the nation is engulfed in chaos, prompting the flight of His Royal Majesty and the court while the Calenders assume control. "The Letter N and the Pen" is a richly woven historical novel that intricately blends symbolic elements that reflect the complex landscape of Iranian politics. The narrative delves into ancient power struggles, illuminating the formidable challenges of ruling with justice and integrity. Departing from the realistic techniques Al-e Ahmad typically employs in his contemporary works, he skillfully crafts this allegorical narrative, which serves as a profound commentary on the intricacies of modern Iran. Set against the backdrop of two transformative historical periods, "By the Pen" closely aligns with the reign of the illustrious Safavid Shah Abbas the Great (1587–1629) and the tumultuous rise and fall of Mohammad Mosaddeq (1882–1967). The novel artfully intertwines these distinct eras, reflecting the enduring political and religious conflicts that have shaped the fabric of Iranian society over the centuries. The intense power struggles between the Shīʿi and Sunni factions are central to the storyline, which resonates beyond mere historical events to embody recurring themes in the nation's ongoing narrative. These struggles serve as poignant reminders of the complex relationship between faith and politics, further highlighted by their unsettling parallels to recent occurrences in Iran. Although the intricate religious dynamics may prove challenging for readers not well-acquainted with Persian culture, the fundamental essence of the narrative remains clear and engaging. "By the Pen" chronicles the compelling journeys of two scribes, Mirza Asadollah and Mirza Abdozzaki, who are ensnared in the chaotic events around them. As a sect known as the Calenders rises to prominence, the country is plunged into turmoil, prompting His Royal Majesty's and the court's dramatic flight. The Calenders assert their control in this power vacuum, further complicating the already turbulent political landscape.



Publisher: Majid Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 200

ISBN: 978-6007987155

A Stone on a Grave

«Sangi bar Guri» [A Stone on a Grave] is a profoundly reflective work by Jalal Al-e Ahmad, a distinguished Iranian essayist, fiction writer, and intellectually engaged figure in social and political discourse. This text presents an intimate exploration of Al-e Ahmad's struggle with his inability to have children, revealing the intricate and often tumultuous landscape of his psyche.

In this poignant narrative, Al-e Ahmad grapples with the societal expectation that procreation is essential for continuing one's name and legacy. He draws a compelling parallel between this expectation and the significance of a gravestone, which symbolizes one's existence and memory after death. Through his introspective inquiry, he seeks to affirm and understand his condition of childlessness, allowing readers to glimpse the depths of his inner self—dimensions that reveal vulnerabilities and emotional truths he may not have wished to disclose.

Adding a profound layer to this exploration, the volume includes an evocative in-memorial essay by Simin Daneshvar, a celebrated writer and Al-e Ahmad's beloved spouse. Her reflections honor his legacy and enrich the narrative with her unique perspectives on their shared life and the impact of his thoughts and struggles. These elements create a multifaceted portrayal of identity, masculinity, and the societal constructs surrounding fatherhood.



Publisher: Jamedara Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 96

ISBN: 9782000043881



Mohammadali Jamalzadeh (1892–1997)

Mohammadali Jamalzadeh was a significant Iranian intellectual and a pioneer of modern Persian prose fiction, especially in the short story genre. Jamalzadeh published novels, short stories, political and social essays, scholarly research articles, literary reviews and criticism, and autobiographical and biographical essays. Educated by Jesuits in Beirut, he obtained a law degree from the University of Dijon in France before returning to Iran in 1915. He later moved to Berlin, where he joined Iranian nationalists opposing foreign intervention and contributed to the periodical Kava. Much of his writing occurred during and after World War II, including the satirical novel «Dar al-majanin» (1942; “The Madhouse”) and «Qultashan-i davan» (1946; “The Custodian of the Divan”). Important works also include «Rah-yi ab-namah» (1940; “The Story of the Water Channel”) and his memoir «Sar a tah-e yak karbas» (1955; “The Beginning and End of a Web”). Jamalzadeh translated many literary works into Persian and authored various historical and sociopolitical tracts.

Once upon the world

This book is recognized as the first modern Persian short story collection and consists of six short stories. It set the course for the first generation of fiction writers in Iran and established Jamalzadeh as a prominent literary figure. The first story, titled «Persian is Sweet,» depicts an encounter in a prison between an ordinary provincial Iranian and two stylized representatives of his country. One is a religious, pompous cleric, and the other is a Western-educated modernist who has just returned from Europe. This clever and extremely funny story includes exquisite parodies of both the Eurocentric perspective and the modes of speaking Persian used by the religious establishment.

In the story «Persian is Sweet,» the narrator, an Iranian returning home after five years of hardship, is inexplicably imprisoned as a foreigner. His cellmates represent different social classes: a young Farsi man engrossed in a book and a sheik who speaks in Arabic. When a young villager is thrown in, he asks why he is imprisoned, but his speech is filled with complicated foreign terms. He can only communicate with the narrator in sweet Persian.

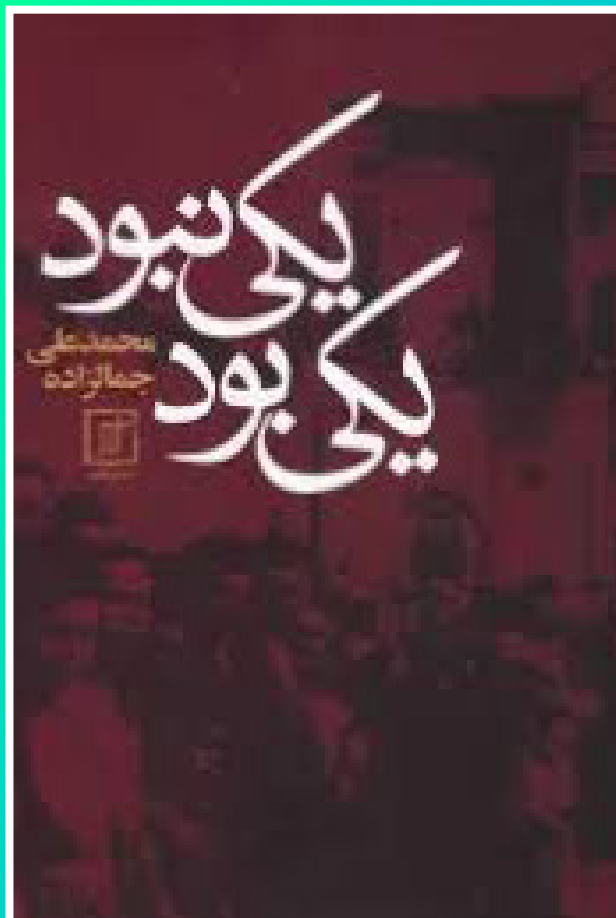
The story «Political Man» centers on Jafar Hallaj, a simple man whose wife urges him to enter politics. During a public gathering, he speaks passionately and, alongside ordinary citizens, goes to parliament, where an uneducated electorate surprisingly elects him.

The narrative exposes the darker aspects of politics, mainly when one of the parliament representatives offers Hallaj a bribe. While initially refusing to maintain his image, he secretly accepts the bribe, highlighting the moral challenges he encounters in his new role.

The story «Friendship of Aunt Khorsa» is set during the Russian occupation of northwest Iran. The narrator goes to Kermanshah with companions, including Habibollah, a warm-hearted coffee shop apprentice who saves a wounded Russian Cossack—however, the Cossacks plot to kill Habibollah for his money.

«The Heartache of Mullah Qurban Ali» follows an ordinary man who becomes a prayer reader. He falls in love with a neighbor's daughter and, after her death, reads prayers at her bedside. Tempted, he pushes aside her blanket to kiss her, only to be caught by patrols and imprisoned.

In the story «Bile Dig Bile Cheghandar,» the Iranian narrator meets a foreign diplomat who, having advised key ministries in Iran, shares his memories amid the country's political turmoil. With a mix of satire and bitter humor, the diplomat critiques various traits of Iranians. However, when discussing cultural and religious customs, he uses a tone of ignorance to soften his criticisms. It is the story of a soldier who is a freeloader and scoundrel, lacking identity and relying on others for support. Unable to reintegrate into society, he grows frustrated with his life as a perpetual guest and ultimately takes his own life.



Publisher: Bibliotheca Persica

Subject: Short Stories

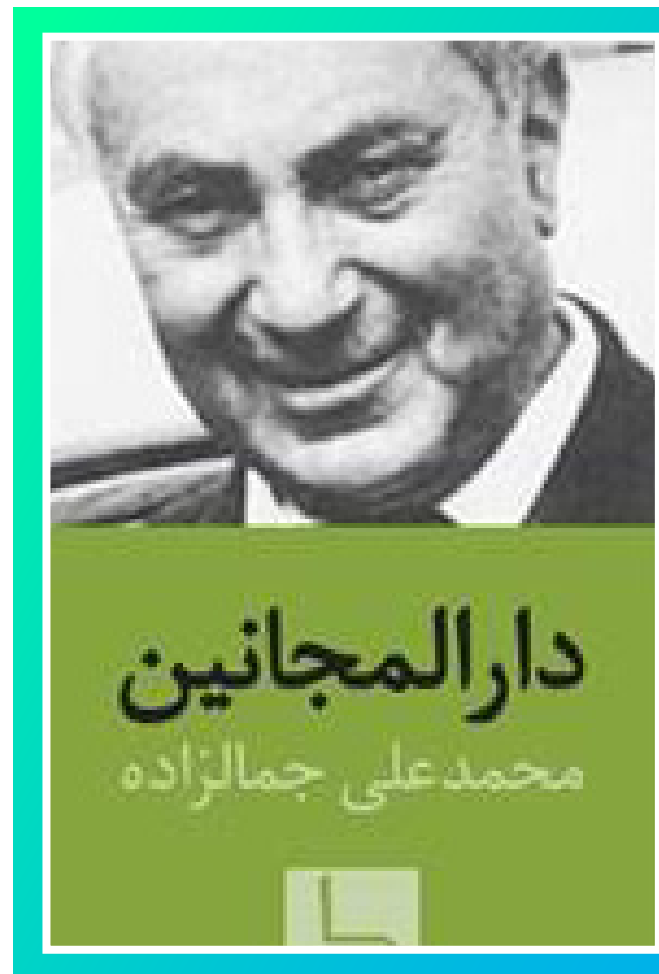
Pages: 108

Lunatic Asylum

The book presents an engaging story set in a madhouse, where various interesting characters, each with their philosophies, habits, and quirks, are confined. While highlighting the peculiarities of these characters, the author also critiques the societal conditions that lead sensitive individuals to seek refuge in an asylum instead of living freely. However, this critical commentary is secondary to the novel's main appeal, which lies in its droll humor.

The allusions in the text are evident, and the author's affection and respect for the late Sadeq Hedayat are palpable. Additionally, the book includes a thoughtful selection of quotations from classical Persian poetry that explore themes of wisdom and insanity. The book unfolds an engaging narrative set within the confines of a madhouse, a unique establishment where a colorful array of characters resides. Each individual in this eclectic group brings his distinct philosophy, habits, and idiosyncrasies, weaving a rich tapestry of human experience. As the author deftly illuminates the quirks and abnormalities that define these characters, he simultaneously casts a critical eye on the societal conditions that lead sensitive souls to prefer the security of an asylum over the chaos of the outside world.

Yet, it is this critical perspective that serves as a backdrop to the story; the true heart of the novel lies in its delightful droll humor, which propels the narrative and captivates the reader. The allusions woven throughout the text are clear and poignant, reflecting the author's deep admiration and respect for the late Sadeq Hedayat, a notable figure in Persian literature. Furthermore, the book is enriched by a carefully curated selection of quotations from classical Persian poetry, exploring the intricate themes of wisdom and insanity, which resonate beautifully with the characters' struggles.



Publisher: Marefet Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 282

Throughout «War of Shadows,» readers

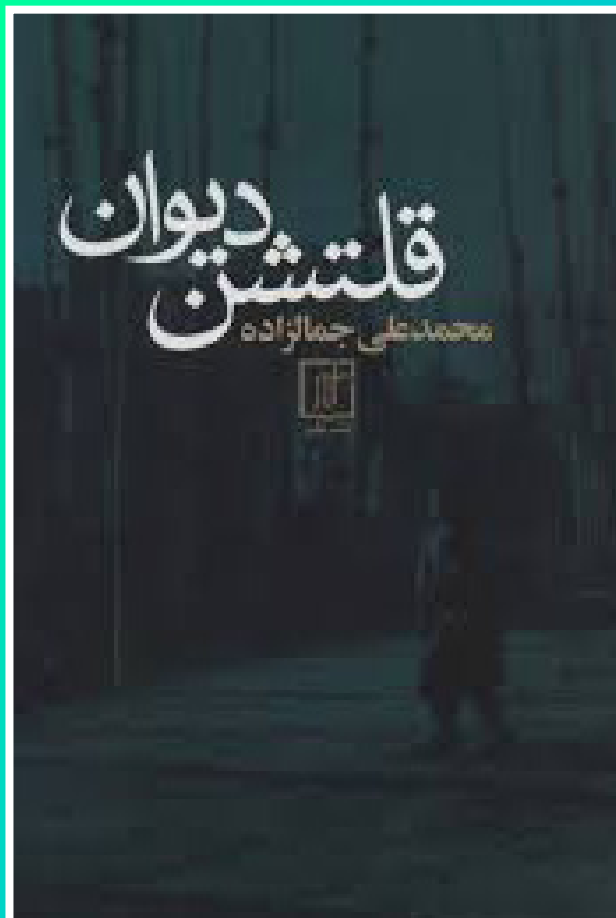
Qoltašan Divan

The novel «Qoltašan Divan» explores the timeless struggle between good and evil. It begins with a vivid description of a narrow street in Tehran, reflecting the lives of many similar neighborhoods and their residents across the country. The narrative focuses on two key inhabitants of this street: the hero, Haji Shaikh, and the villain, Qoltašan Divan.

Haji Shaikh is a wholesale dealer in tea and sugar, known for his virtuous character and strong sense of patriotism. He has earned a good reputation among the townsfolk and has even served as a deputy in the first Majles (parliament). In contrast, Qoltašan Divan is a cunning and ruthless opportunist, willing to go to any lengths to fulfill his selfish ambitions. After his initial attempt to exploit Haji Shaikh's good name fails—when he tries to marry his compromised daughter to the son of the elderly Hajji—Qoltašan becomes embittered by Haji's rejection and plots his revenge. The story unfolds during the turmoil of the First World War, which severely impacts Haji's trade and financial stability. Qoltašan resurfaces, requesting a significant shipment of sugar. As months go by, a severe shortage of provisions forces the townspeople to turn to Haji, knowing he has a stock of sugar in his store. However, he cannot sell the goods because the actual owner refuses to come forward. Consequently, Haji is cursed and scorned, labeled a vicious hoarder. He ultimately dies in grief and misery, unable to defend his innocence.

In stark contrast, Qoltašan Divan profits from the situation, establishing an orphanage and hosting an extravagant party for ministers and dignitaries in his newly built lavish home. At the height of his success, he dies peacefully in his sleep from a stroke. The newspapers celebrate his death on their front pages, praising his supposed benevolence and contributions to culture. He is remembered as a great man, and dignitaries mourn him as a significant national loss.

Like many of the author's other novels, this novel's primary characters belong to the middle class. The narrative skillfully portrays their ideas, ambitions, personal dilemmas, and the tragedy of an honest man caught in an unbalanced society.

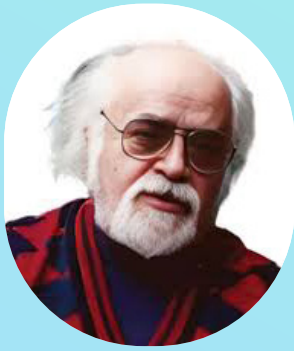


Publisher: Elm Pubs.

Subject: Novel

Pages: 241

Throughout «War of Shadows,» readers



Sadegh Chubak (1916–1998)

Sadegh Chubak was a prominent Iranian author known for his intricate short fiction, drama, and novels, making him a leading figure in 20th-century literature. His short stories, often compared to Persian miniature paintings, focus on the darker aspects of society and the lives of marginalized individuals facing injustice. Chubak deeply sympathized with their struggles and emphasized the need to combat corruption. He revolutionized narrative technique by intricately capturing colloquial speech in his characters' dialogues, introducing vivid portrayals of various marginalized figures, such as vagrants and prostitutes. Despite his significant impact on later writers, Chubak remains unparalleled in accurately conveying spoken Persian.

Tangsir

The book vividly portrays the valiant efforts of the fighters hailing from Dagestan, a region steeped in rich cultural heritage within Iran. Zar-Mohammad, a passionate and determined protagonist, is at the heart of the narrative. Frustrated by the pervasive social injustices that plague his community, he resolves to defy the corrupt systems that dominate his life and fight against the wrongs that burden his people.

Zar-Mohammad, a savvy trader, amasses considerable wealth through his various business ventures, dreaming of a brighter future for himself and those around him. However, his aspirations come crashing down when he falls victim to the deceitful machinations of the local governor, who swindles him out of his hard-earned fortune. This betrayal and the agonizing delay in seeking justice leave Zar-Mohammad disheartened and enraged.

Determined to reclaim his sense of honor and restore fairness, he takes up arms. The narrative follows his transformation from a businessman to a relentless avenger as he methodically tracks down and eliminates those who betrayed him, one enemy at a time. Each confrontation is infused with tension, showcasing his righteous fury and the heavy toll such a path exacts on his soul.

Zar Mohammad takes justice into his own hands and fights social iniquities. Zar Mohammad has earned a considerable sum of money and embarks on trading but is ripped out of his money by the governor. Bitterly despaired by the delay or absence of justice, he takes a gun and kills his enemies one by one. After the frauds are killed, the villagers dub him Shir Mohammad. The theme of justice and revenge fills the entire ambiance of the novel. Once the law is too slow to give justice to the ones who deserve it, anarchy will prevail, and people will decide their fate and exercise justice in the light of their definition of the concept.

After enduring countless hardships, Shir Mohammad finally breaks free from the oppressive grasp of the law that has pursued him relentlessly. Meanwhile, Chubak mourns deeply for the rampant social injustices and the willful ignorance displayed by those in power who are meant to uphold justice. As Shir Mohammad's journey unfolds, his quest transforms into a messianic mission, igniting a spark of hope among his fellow villagers. They begin to see him not just as an ordinary man but as a beacon of liberation, someone destined to rescue them from the clutches of tyranny that have long held them captive.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 234

ISBN: 978-964-351-162-3

Year of Publishing: 2023/9th Edition

*** Adapted into a movie in (1973–Iran)**

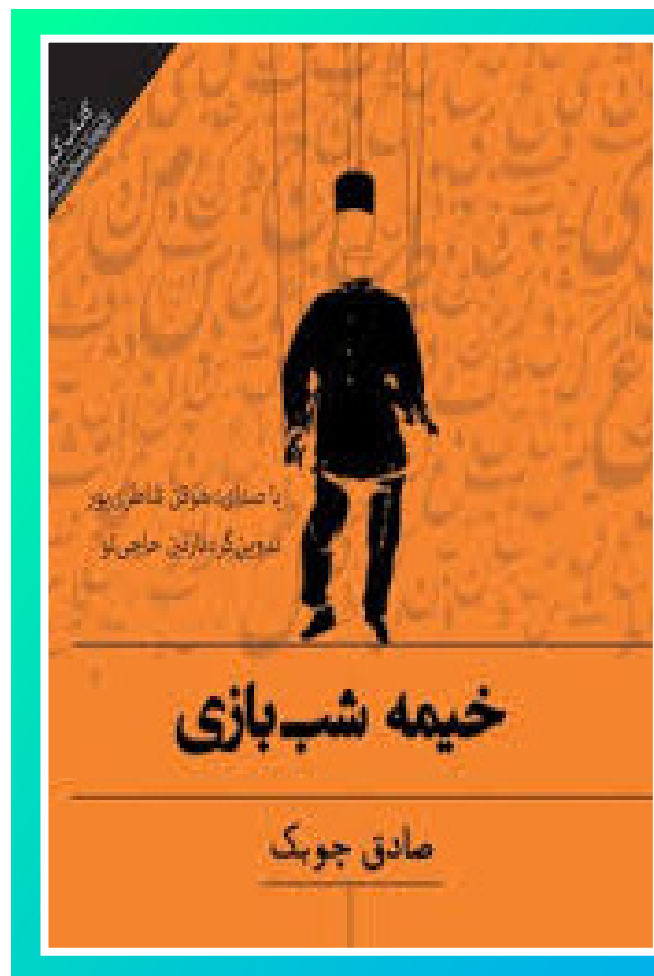
***Whole English text is available.**

The Puppet Show

Sadeq Chubak's ascent to literary acclaim was notably marked by the debut of his pivotal short story collection, *keyma-šab-bazi* (The Puppet Show). This collection comprises eleven compelling narratives that delve into the often harsh and unforgiving aspects of life in Iran. Upon its release, it sparked a robust variety of reactions from critics and readers. Many praised Chubak for his unvarnished and courageous depiction of the darker facets of existence, highlighting his extraordinary ability to craft vivid descriptions and adept narrative techniques. This ability to portray life with such raw intensity demonstrated Chubak's unique voice within the Iranian literary landscape. However, the collection was not without its detractors, as some critics described it as exemplifying "pestilential naturalism." They argued that the stories fell short of a true reflection of Iranian society, suggesting that the work limited itself to the bleakest aspects of life.

The characters within Chubak's stories are often robustly drawn from the lower strata of society, presenting a challenge to the prevailing cultural norms and conventions through their stark authenticity. Chubak meticulously employs colloquial Persian, imbuing each character with distinct voices that resonate with ordinary Iranians' everyday experiences and struggles. This careful attention to language brings his characters to life and enhances the immediacy of the unfolding events. The sparse background details serve a strategic purpose, urging readers to immerse themselves in the narrative without the comfort of a guiding moral framework. This approach compels them to confront the unembellished realities depicted within the text.

In the collection's inaugural tale, several central themes emerge that Chubak would later expand upon in his subsequent works. The story introduces us to Odra, a young woman who fervently prays for a devoted husband within the sacred confines of a shrine, reflecting a personal and culturally significant desire. Her hopeful aspirations are met with a stark and poignant disappointment; in a heartrending final scene, she attempts to garner the attention of a kerosene peddler, a man already burdened with three wives. This interaction presents a sharp departure from the conventional portrayal of women in much of Persian literature, where female characters are often depicted as virtuous young girls grappling with the pangs of unreciprocated love. Instead, Chubak deftly portrays Odra as a fully realized woman imbued with authentic sexual desires and needs. Her religious fervor at the shrine morphs into an unmistakable yearning for the revered figure resting within its walls, showcasing the depth of her character. This audacious representation challenges entrenched norms and paves the way for a more nuanced understanding of women's lives within a rapidly evolving societal context. Through Odra's story, Chubak critiques societal expectations and invites readers to reconsider their perceptions of femininity and desire in Iran.



Publisher: Jamedaran Publication

No. of Pages: 136

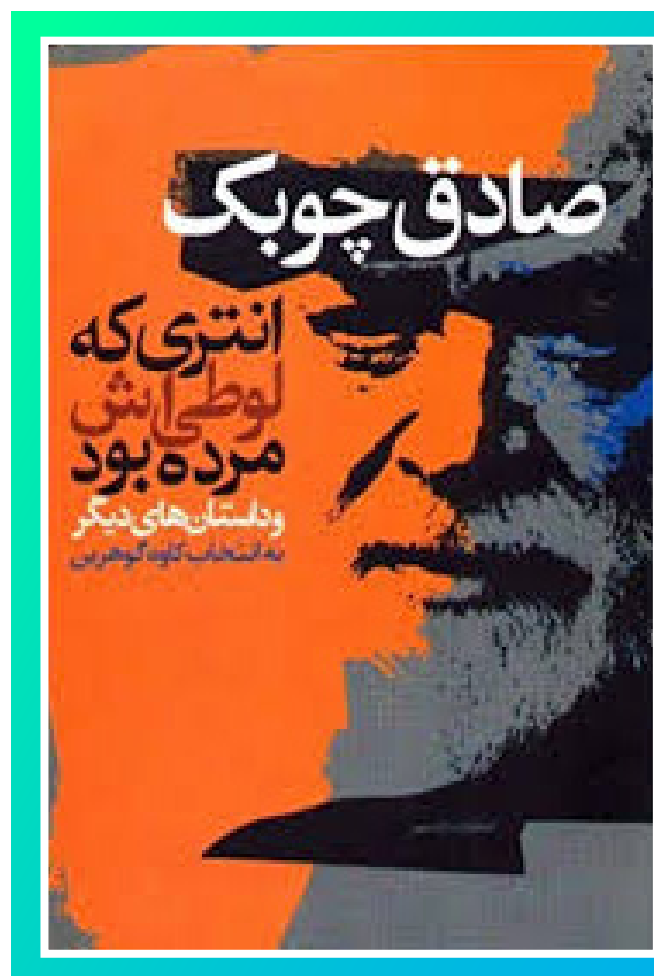
ISBN: 9782000692799

Year of Publishing: 2023/8th Edition

The Baboon Whose Buffoon Was Dead

«The Baboon Whose Buffoon Was Dead» is a compelling collection that features three thought-provoking stories alongside a captivating one-act play. In this work, Chubak delves into profound themes such as the essence of freedom and the complex dynamics between the oppressor and the oppressed—conveying these ideas through the lens of a domesticated primate. The tale follows a baboon who, after the death of his master, manages to uproot the cruel spike that has tethered him, allowing him to escape into the wild. Nevertheless, the chain remains a suffocating reminder, clinging to his neck as if it were part of his very being, ultimately compelling him to return to the confines of captivity. The narrative has garnered acclaim for its deep psychological insights into human nature, exploring themes of fear, need, and dependency. It serves as a poignant metaphor for the entrenched social relations prevalent in Iran.

In a similarly evocative tone, the story “Cage” paints a vivid portrait of a group of chickens haplessly crammed into a squalid, filth-ridden cage belonging to a street vendor. Their existence is overshadowed by the ever-looming specter of death, which descends upon them sporadically in the form of a hand that mercilessly selects one for a grisly fate. For these unfortunate birds, death represents the sole escape from their grim reality. This narrative is Chubak’s allegorical reflection on the human condition within a relentless world rife with war, destruction, and brutality. Another striking tale, “Why Was the Sea Stormy,” weaves a tragic love story between a truck driver and a prostitute. Through their intertwining lives, Chubak dramatizes a profoundly ingrained belief popular in Southern Iran: that casting an illegitimate child into the unforgiving sea can incite its tumultuous storms. This poignant motif recurs throughout his stories, highlighting the intertwining fates and tragedies that pervade the lives of his characters.



Publisher: Badraghe Publication

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 120

ISBN: 9789643320911

Year of Publishing: 2023/12th Edition

The Last Offering

«The Last Offering» delves into the psyche of a young intellectual, a man burdened with the urgency to shield others from the captivating yet deceptive allure of a religious performer and storyteller. Driven by a growing sense of dread, he embarks on a mission to thwart the performer's influence. Yet, his attempts flounder as he fails in a desperate bid to destroy the storyteller's mesmerizing canvas screen, which serves as both a shield and a gateway to enchantment.

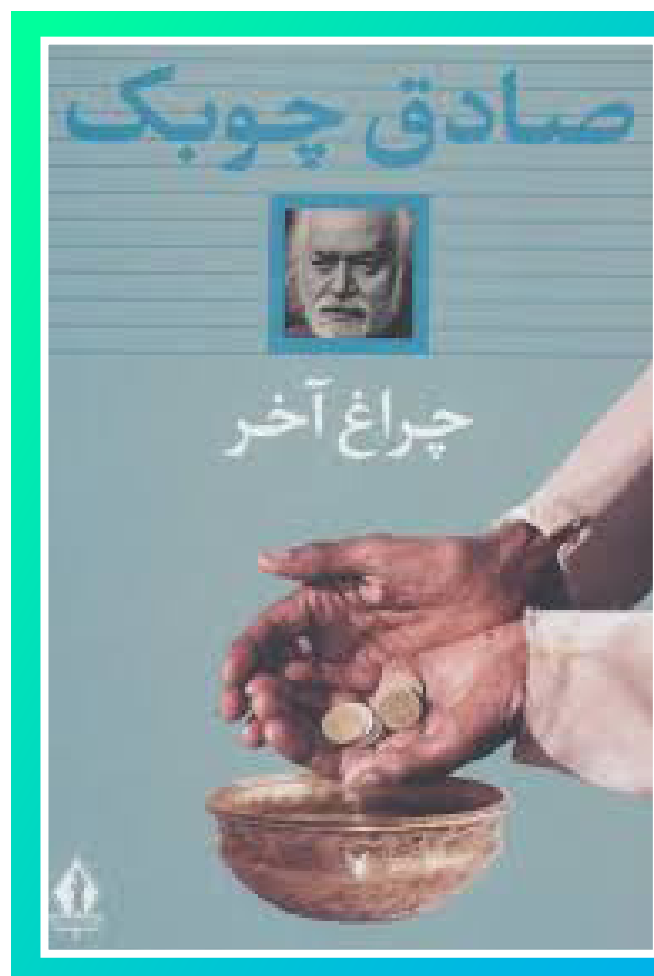
In «The Hub Cap Thief,» we encounter a young boy caught in the act of pilfering a hubcap, his misdeed unfolding amidst a chorus of voices commenting on the scene. Much like the narrative in «Justice,» the story captures the whispers and judgments of onlookers, each voice adding layers to the unfolding drama. One astute critic observes that Chubak possesses a keen eye for the minutiae of human experience, comparable to a camera lens that has 'zoomed' in on particular snapshots of life. This critic further notes how Chubak's deliberate use of short, clipped sentences evokes black and white film's stark and striking imagery. He suggests that the narrative's colloquial yet poetic language truly resonates when read aloud, allowing the rhythm of the words to breathe and take flight.

In a similar vein, «Pigeon Fancier» unfolds the story of a street-savvy pigeon fancier, a man with an innate connection to the streets, who unexpectedly finds himself falling for a young woman whose path crosses his in an intriguing twist of fate.

«The Kitten Whose Eyes Had Not Opened» is a meticulous exercise in descriptive writing. It vividly portrays an ordinary moment that becomes extraordinary through the narrator's keen observations.

«The Wooden Horse,» often hailed as the crowning achievement of the collection, unfolds from the perspective of a young French woman grappling with the complexities of her life. After six years of marriage and three years spent living in Iran, her Iranian husband chooses to marry a cousin, a betrayal that compels her to act. Determined to shield her son from the painful truth of his father's identity, she makes the heart-wrenching decision to leave Iran, seeking a new life away from the haunting shadows of her past.

Lastly, «Friend» weaves a poignant narrative of betrayal, exploring the emotional landscape of a narrator who finds himself reeling from his French wife's treachery. The intimacy of their shared life is turned into a tapestry of hurt and deception.



Publisher: Badreghe Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 136

ISBN: 978-964-332-090-4

Year of Publishing: 2023/8th Edition



Ibrahim Hassanbeigi (1957/Gorgan)

Ibrahim Hassanbeigi is a prominent Iranian writer with over 30 years of experience, having authored over 80 novels. His books are translated into several languages, including English, Arabic, and Russian. His travels around Iran allowed him to collect drafts for his later stories.

Simple narrative themes of the society characterize Hassanbeigi's books. He has published 85 novels, adult short story collections, and children and young adult books, popular sellers among teenagers and young adults. His books have been translated into English, Arabic, Turkish, Russian, Chinese, Turkmen, and Azeri.

Gongs are Ringing

From that moment on, the priest believes there must be a connection between this book and the message of the Prophet Jesus (PBUH). As he continues to safeguard the book, he decides to delve deeper into the story of its main character, Ali (as). A young Tajik man approaches a priest with a proposition: he has a mysterious book that he claims dates back 1,400 years. Intrigued yet skeptical, the priest borrows the book for a closer inspection, questioning how such an ancient artifact might even exist. However, tragedy strikes when the Tajik man is brutally murdered by two Russian youths who covet the book for themselves. Shocked by the loss, the priest soon realizes the true significance of the book he had dismissed.

As the investigation unfolds, it reveals that the first portion of the book bears the distinctive handwriting of a man named Amroas. His writings, inscribed on fragile ancient Egyptian papyrus, recount a war known as Safein and describe notable figures, including Moavie and Ali. While the priest is initially drawn to the historical context, his world dramatically shifts one fateful night. As he immerses himself in the text, he experiences an otherworldly vision—or perhaps a vivid dream—where the Prophet Jesus (PBUH) appears before him, cradling a tiny baby in his arms.

With a gentle smile, Jesus entrusts the baby to the priest's care, imploring him to nurture it well. This extraordinary encounter leaves the priest with a profound sense of purpose, leading him to believe that the book holds a deeper connection to the teachings of the Prophet Jesus (PBUH). Determined to uncover its mysteries, the priest explores the life and significance of the book's central figure, Ali (as), eager to understand the intertwining of their destinies.

The novel Gongs Are Ringing focuses on religious and historical themes during Imam Ali's rule (as). It presents a non-linear narrative that leans more towards an analytical-historical approach. The events within the story come together like pieces of a puzzle, forming the overall structure of the narrative.

One of the book's notable features is the adventure, which serves as a platform for revisiting its historical narrative. The presence of multiple authors in the historical account allows for various perspectives, including conflicting viewpoints, which engages the reader and adds depth to the storytelling.

The author aims to depict the concept of Islamic governance through the lens of Ali (as), utilizing a stream-of-consciousness technique and frequent flashbacks. «Gongs Are Ringing» results from genuine intention, artistic dedication, and historical accuracy, making it a worthwhile option for study.



Publisher: Ahd-e Mana Pubs.,

Subject: Fiction (Novel),

No. of Pages: 152,

ISBN: 9786009819911

- * English text is available.
- * Copy right was sold in England (Candle& Fog Publications)
- * The Book of the Year (2011).

Muhammad

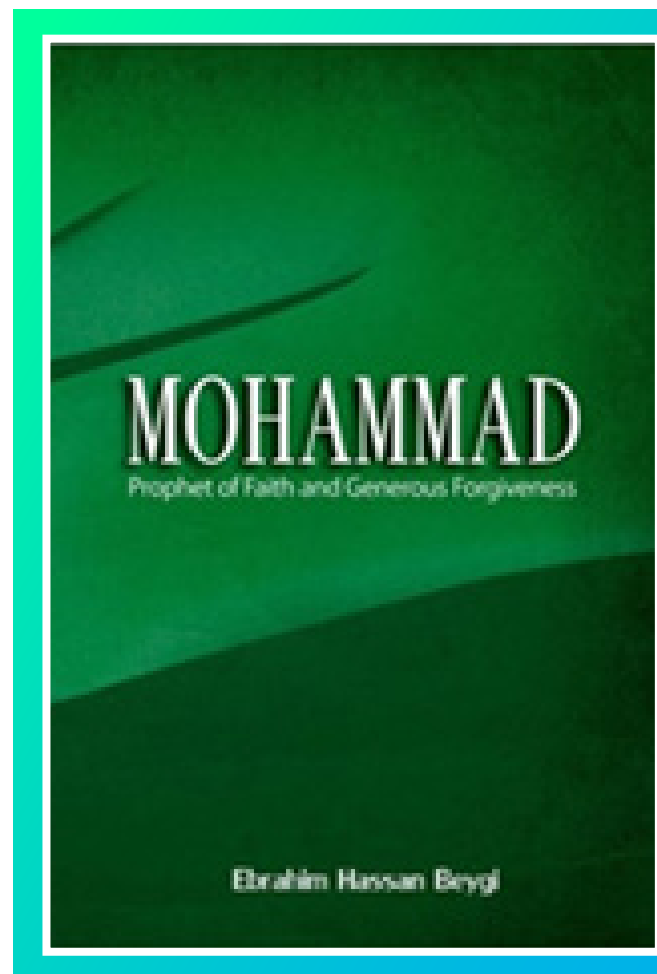
In a time steeped in intrigue and conflict, a Jewish man, serving as an agent for his esteemed master linked to the powerful Committee of the Supreme Council of the Jews, embarks on a perilous mission to the sacred city of Mecca. His task is not merely one of observation but a covert operation aimed at gathering intelligence on a notable Arab figure emerging from a tribe known for their idol worship. This man, a charismatic preacher, claims to follow the path of Ibrahim Khalil, invoking a sense of divine lineage.

Driven by orders that reflect both desperation and determination, the Jewish agent is entrusted with a daunting responsibility: to curtail the burgeoning influence of this new prophet, Muhammad (PBUH). The stakes of his mission are alarmingly high; should he deem it necessary, he is to consider even the extreme assassination option. Suppose that route proves too perilous or morally unacceptable. In that case, he must instead seek to undermine Muhammad's (PBUH) burgeoning faith, enlisting the aid of allies in Yasreb to foster discord and division.

As the agent weaves through the palpable tension of his surroundings, he diligently composes verbal reports to relay back to his superior. Ten painstaking years slip by, and he navigates a landscape with challenges. Despite the agent's cunning and the hostile sentiments that brew among certain factions of the Muslim community, he finds himself thwarted at every turn. The tenacity of the Prophet (PBUH) and his devoted companions emerges as an unyielding force, responding to each scheme against them with wisdom and solidarity.

Ultimately, the agent faces a profound personal crisis after a decade of fruitless plotting and the deepening conflict within himself. He forsakes his wife and child, unable to reconcile his mission's demands with the ties that bind him to his family. Defeated, he returns to his homeland, embodying the very essence of an impossible task made clear through the steadfast unity of Muhammad (PBUH) and his followers, who stand resolute against the tides of manipulation and division.

This narrative, rich with historical and religious significance, unfolds captivating and thought-provoking. The author skillfully layers the story with complexity, intertwining beliefs, and cultural nuances seamlessly. The language employed is simple and elegant, imbuing the tale with a unique charm that resonates with readers. The progression of the plot is linear, yet every character is brought to life through their actions, dialogues, and the very essence of their being. Rather than relying on tedious exposition, the author paints vivid portraits of each character, allowing their true natures to surface naturally, thus deepening the story's emotional impact.



Subject: Fiction (Novel),

Publisher: Madresse Pubs.,

No. of Pages:322,

ISBN:9789642667673

- * English text is available.
- * The Copyright was sold in England,2013: Candle & Fog Publications.
- * The Copyright was sold in Turkey,2013: Ma'na Publications.
- * Reprinted 10 times in Iran.
- * Honored in Iranian Literary Festivals: Jalal Alahmad Prize (2013), Golden Pen Prize(2014)



Gholam-Hossein Saedi (1936-Tabriz)

Gholam-Hossein Saedi was a prolific Iranian writer who published over forty books. His works span various fiction genres, including drama (often under the pen name Gohar Morad or Gowhar Murad, according to Library of Congress transliteration), novels, screenplays, and short stories. He also contributed to non-fiction, particularly cultural criticism, travel literature, and ethnography.

Overall, Saedi's settings evoke a strong sense of place that enhances his stories' psychological and social dynamics. The setting in Gholam Hossein Saedi's works plays a crucial role in shaping the narrative and themes.

Fear and Trembling

The book is a collection of six stories.

First story: Salem Ahmad, a resident of Abadi, encounters a stranger in his home whom he believes to be a higher power. He internalizes his fear and anxiety, burdening himself as he interacts with the people of Abadi.

Second story: In the second story, a stranger claiming to be a prayer writer disrupts the community's daily routine, offering a presence that stands apart from their usual sorrows.

Third story: The third story follows a woman who, after giving birth, is said to have become the very essence of air. In this tale, an unusual event disrupts the routine of her imaginary village. Defying the villagers' beliefs, the woman's wife takes her husband to a distant, expensive doctor. Despite enduring this difficulty, he ultimately confronts a witch and a sorcerer who prove powerless to help him.

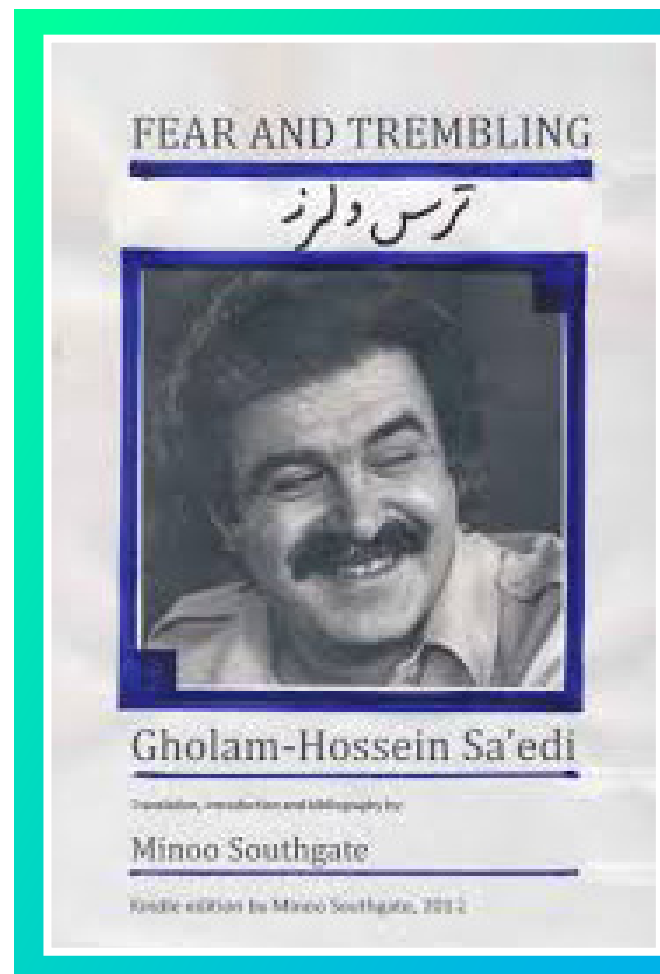
Fourth story: The fourth story explores the fear that arises from uncertainty. Villagers discover a silent child on the beach and bring him to the village, but the child's refusal to speak unnerves the residents.

Fifth story: This story is about a mysterious child who instills fear in others. Found by villagers in the surrounding deserts, his origins and intentions remain unknown.

Sixth Story: In this story, the villagers form relationships with strangers that go beyond fear and awe. When a foreign ship docks at the port, the villagers gradually rely on it. Having lived in poverty, they suddenly experience an influx of blessings and wealth tied to the presence of these newcomers. Their real fear arises when they risk losing this newfound fortune as the strangers prepare to leave the village.

The book is a collection of interconnected stories set in a haunting and impoverished village near the Persian Gulf. The narratives focus on the lives of the villagers, exploring themes of fear and anxiety and confronting unfamiliar and terrifying situations. The characters experience shared fears and supernatural elements, emphasizing their environment's psychological and social struggles.

The story unfolds in and around a primitive village, where each episode is imbued with deep symbolism and allegory. The harsh, unwelcoming environment of the Gulf exudes an air of foreboding; the sea roars ominously, the sky looms heavy with gloom, and the sun and moon cast shadows that whisper impending doom. Within this stark landscape, elusive fears quietly intrude upon the villagers' lives, threatening their delicate sense of peace and safety. Despite its remote setting and allegorical nuances, the novel resonates with the pressing issues of contemporary Iranian politics.



Subject: Short Stories

Ibex Publishers

No. of Pages: 198,

No. of Edition 28,

ISBN 9789643514211

The Mourners of Bayal

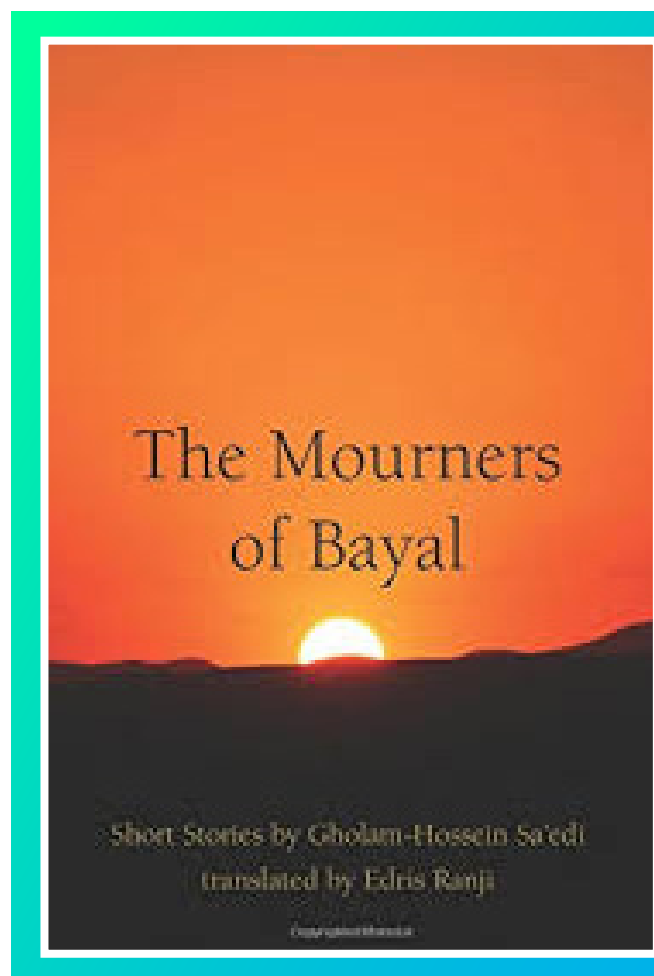
The Book of Mourners of the Bayal is a collection of eight interconnected stories that reflect the constant miseries faced by the villagers of Bayal.

The book presents a mesmerizing collection of short stories crafted by a prolific writer celebrated for their impactful contributions to drama and fiction. Entitled «Qessa,» this collection intricately weaves together eight interconnected narratives that unfold like a single, sprawling novel. Set against the backdrop of the fictional village of Bayal, each story plunges deep into the chilling realities faced by its inhabitants—grappling with the relentless specters of death, disease, drought, and famine that cast a long shadow over their lives.

One of the tales, «The Mourners of Bayal,» emerges as a poignant allegory, capturing the rich tapestry of rural Iranian beliefs, hopes, and struggles in the turbulent landscape of the early 1970s. This collection is heralded as one of the pioneering instances of magical realism, predating the iconic works of celebrated authors like José Saramago and Gabriel García Márquez.

The fourth story has gained substantial recognition among the eight narratives, inspiring the beloved film «The Cow.» In this heartrending tale, Mahdi Hassan's life intertwines with his treasured cow, symbolizing his very being and livelihood. However, devastation looms when he is compelled to leave for a time, leading to the tragic death of the cow. Overcome with despair, his wife faces the agonizing challenge of delivering the shattering news to him while the paralyzed townspeople are gripped by their fears of confronting the unfolding tragedy.

As Mahdi slowly uncovers the painful truth about his cow's demise, he spirals into a tormenting madness, his sense of self—becoming increasingly entwined with that of the beloved animal he lost. The townsfolk, yearning to assist, find their efforts rendered futile against the depth of Mahdi's sorrow. In a profoundly melancholy denouement, Mahdi's journey culminates in tragedy as he succumbs to despair on his way to a regional hospital. This heart-wrenching conclusion leaves an indelible mark on the village, resonating with themes of loss and isolation that permeate the entire collection, inviting readers to reflect on the connections between life, love, and the fragility of existence.



Publisher: Ibox Publishers

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 208

ISBN:9789643514181

Year of Publishing:2023/23th Edition

•Adapted into a popular movie (1969–Iran).

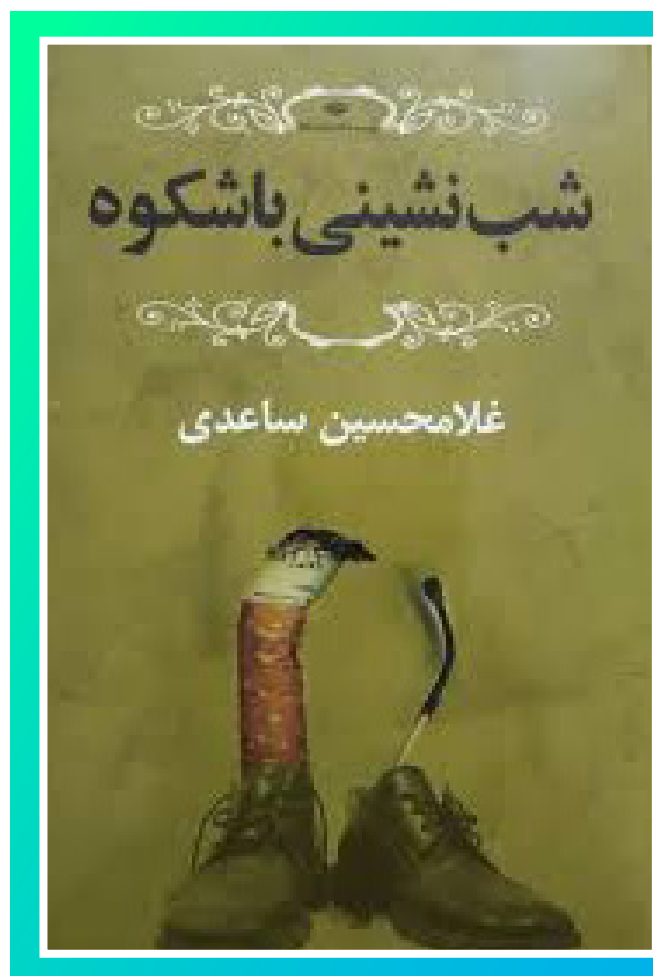
* English text is available

An Exquisite Evening

«An Exquisite Evening» is an evocative collection of twelve short stories that intricately explore the lives and social challenges of the working class. Each narrative offers a poignant glimpse into the human experience, revealing ordinary people's struggles, dreams, and realities. The stories include:

1. An Exquisite Evening: A heartfelt ceremony honors the retirees of a long-standing company, blending nostalgia and gratitude in an ambiance thick with memories.
2. Umbrella: An unassuming employee loses his cherished umbrella while shopping after a grueling day at work, setting off a cascade of thoughts about loss and the burdens of daily life.
3. Introduction Ceremony: Newly appointed department heads stand before their teams, promising innovative changes and hope for the future, shrouded in skepticism and aspiration.
4. My Father's Dreams: An employee grapples with the suffocating weight of corporate life, haunted by intense nightmares that reflect deep-seated fears and the relentless pursuit of success.
5. An Incident for the Sake of Children: Employees engage in a lively debate as they passionately discuss their children's beauty and intelligence, illuminating the joys and anxieties of parenthood.
6. When It Was Noon: A dedicated teacher battles through the agony of a stomach ulcer, determined to impart knowledge while wrestling with unwelcome physical pain.
7. The Inspector: A meticulous supervisor, both anxious and hopeful, prepares for an impending visit from an inspector, embodying the pressures of maintaining standards in a challenging environment.
8. The Circle in the Past: Deep within the Department of the Dead, a man wishes to hire a relative, suggesting a yearning for connection amidst the finality of life.
9. Fateful Fate: Colleagues discuss how specific experiences can either constrict or enlarge the contours of one's world, revealing the complexities of perception.
10. Resignation Letter: An overworked employee, shattered by the loss of his wife, finds himself unraveling and succumbing to madness, a tragic reflection of grief and burnout.
11. The Housewives' Joke: An employee with a fervent passion for antiques navigates the tensions between personal interests and societal expectations, bringing a touch of humor amidst the struggle.
12. Farewell Party: The city witnesses its first farewell ceremony in which the manager has not passed away, which crystallizes the uncommon and the profound amid everyday life.

In «An Exquisite Evening,» the author employs a richly woven storytelling style that intricately blends the realms of the living and the departed, creating an eerie, haunting atmosphere. The characters' journeys unveil their everyday worries and societal challenges, where humor frequently fails to mask the bitterness lurking beneath the surface.



Publisher: Negah Publishers

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 126

ISBN:9789643514419

Year of Publishing:2023/14th Edition

Trash Can

Ali is a teenage boy living in a bustling city, where he and his father face the harsh realities of life. Their struggle often takes them to the streets, where they beg for whatever small change they can gather. One fateful day, while sitting and hoping for a kind soul to help them, they unexpectedly come across a man who buys and sells meat. In a moment of desperation to find a way to make ends meet, Ali decides to take his ailing father to a blood donation center, believing that selling their blood might offer a glimmer of hope. Ali is fortunate enough to donate his blood, but his father, weakened by illness, is unable to do so. Following the suggestion of the meat broker they met earlier, they enter a hospital that will irrevocably change their lives. As Ali navigates the bustling corridors of the hospital, he gradually builds connections with the staff and patients, immersing himself in an environment that begins to reshape his identity. What starts as a simple quest for survival evolves into a transformative journey that leads Ali down a dark path of crime. He falls hopelessly in love with a girl named Zahra, intertwining his heart with his escalating involvement in illegal activities. He resorts to stealing food from the hospital, luring vulnerable individuals to sell their blood, and acting as an informant for security agents, plunging deeper into a destructive lifestyle he refers to as «trash-making».

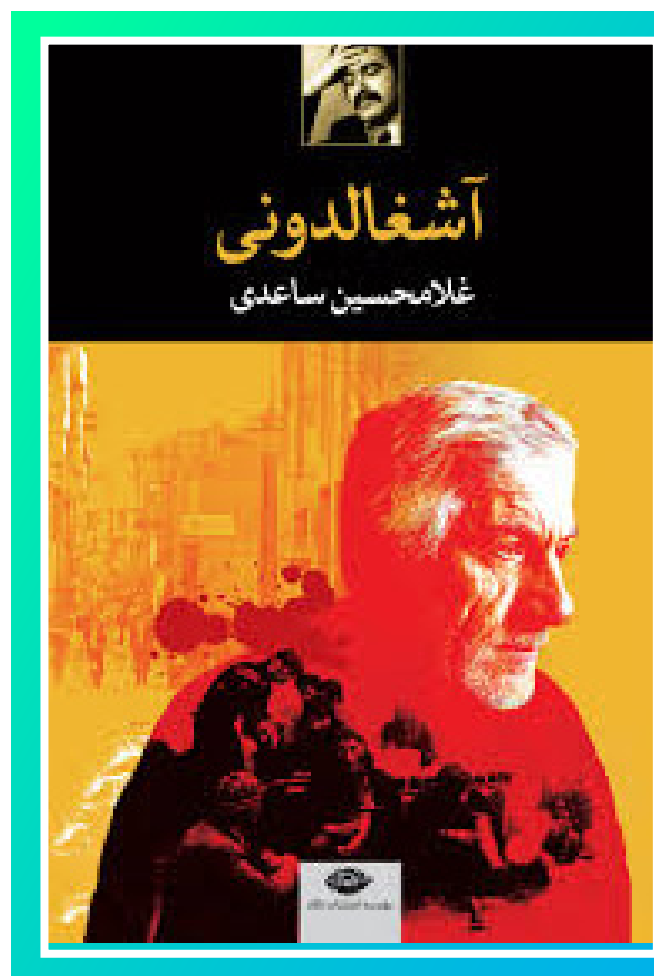
Ali's descent into criminality is not driven by malice; rather, he is a product of his environment. The concept of «trash-making» serves as a powerful metaphor for the struggle to survive in a society that often appears indifferent to human suffering. The hospital represents a microcosm of the city, reflecting the broader cultural and economic challenges faced by many in Iranian society—where the fight for survival frequently leads individuals to act against their better nature.

This collection features three haunting short stories narrated from a first-person perspective:

«Zanbourek Khaneh» is a poignant tale about an old man burdened by the struggles of his three unfortunate daughters, a sick woman, and a young worker's son who becomes an unexpected guest in their modest home at the old man's urging.

«Shadow to Shadow» revolves around a man living as a lodger in a woman's house. His life takes a surprising turn when he inadvertently discovers ways to acquire wealth.

– «Trash Can»: This moving narrative follows a teenage boy and his homeless father who, after a life-altering incident, begin living near a hospital and gradually become intertwined with the rhythms of daily life. The author skillfully captures a bitter and dark atmosphere, vividly illustrating the profound effects of economic and cultural poverty on urban and rural communities. The language throughout the stories is raw and colloquial, characterized by short, impactful sentences that reflect the cultural dynamics of society. Through evocative language and expressions, the author invites readers to immerse themselves in the stark realities of the time and lifestyle, conveyed through poignant words, humor, and literary references that resonate deeply within the narrative.



Publisher: Nil Publishers

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 103

ISBN: 9786003763555

Year of Publishing: 2023/14th Edition

Nameless fears

The book «Nameless Fears» presents a compelling collection of six short stories: «Two Brothers,» «The Book of Happiness,» «The Beggar,» «The Ash-Dwellers,» «Fever,» and «Peace in the Presence of Others.»

– In «Two Brothers,» the narrative explores the contrasting lives of two siblings who share a home. One brother embodies hard work and diligence, striving to make a meaningful life, while the other is mired in sloppiness and aimlessness, creating a poignant tension between duty and despair.

– «Happiness» unfolds the tale of an elderly man living a seemingly content life with his much younger wife. Their tranquil existence is disrupted when a single man moves in as their tenant, injecting chaos into their peaceful routine and leading to unexpected revelations.

– «The Beggar» paints a heart-wrenching picture of an old woman who, bereft of friends and support, is driven to the streets to beg for survival. Her plight encapsulates the profound loneliness faced by those abandoned by society.

– «The Ash-Dwellers» tells the story of a man who escapes from the beggar's house, seeking refuge with his uncle. There, he finds a temporary sense of purpose as he works to print prayers for the very beggars he once knew, highlighting the cycle of desperation and the search for redemption.

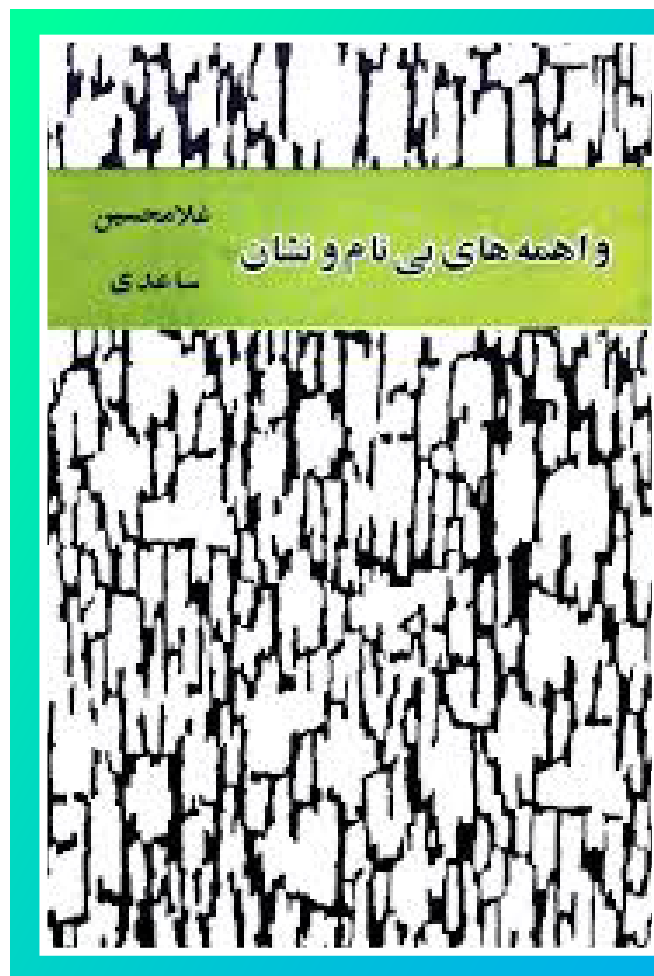
– In «Fever,» we meet a boy who rises one morning with an invigorating sense of optimism, envisioning that the day ahead will be extraordinary. He excitedly calls his friends, humorously suggesting that he feels so electrified he might even consider suicide. This ironic twist underscores the complex interplay of joy and despair in youth.

– «Peace in the Presence of Others» introduces us to a young woman married to an elderly colonel with two daughters close to her age. As Manijeh finds herself in their company, the three women forge a deep and unexpected bond, navigating the intricacies of family dynamics and friendship.

This collection is one of Gholamhossein Saedi's most cohesive works, skillfully crafted in form and thematic content. It explores the lives of marginalized individuals who face deep, nameless existential fears that haunt their every thought. Although each story is independent, they share a raw and realistic style that resonates with the struggles of real life. Surreal elements punctuate the narratives, driven by the characters' illusions, inner turmoil, and emotional distress, creating a sense of unsettling urgency throughout the stories. A pervasive feeling of death, despair, and suspense looms over each tale. Furthermore, despite the characters' varied social backgrounds, their shared experiences of loneliness, fear, and pain create a profound collective resonance.

In 1972, Nasser Taqvaei expertly adapted the intricate story «Peace in the Presence of Others» into a film, vividly bringing its poignant themes to life on screen.

•Adapted into a popular movie (1972–Iran).



Publisher: Nil Publishers

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 236

ISBN:9789647049092

Year of Publishing:2023/11th Edition

The Happy Misfortunate Ones

The book is a captivating collection of ten short stories, each weaving its unique tale:

– «The Happy Misfortunate Ones»: This poignant story centers on a troubled poet who languidly sits in a bustling café, enveloped in a haze of boredom and longing as he waits for the arrival of his elusive lover, his thoughts swirling with despair and nostalgia.

– «Iskander and Salamander in a Tornado»: On a sun-drenched balcony, Iskander and Salamander engage in a lively yet philosophical conversation. Their dialogue takes a dark turn when Salamander utters a fateful remark, setting off a chain of events that will irrevocably alter their lives.

– «Grey Barracks»: The serene, idyllic life of a couple living in the vast, silent desert is shattered by the jarring construction of a grey military barrack looming ominously next to their home, transforming their peaceful existence into one filled with anxiety and intrusion

– «Party»: A seemingly ordinary day becomes extraordinary when a teacher unexpectedly receives an old friend at his door. This leads to a rekindling of memories and emotions that flow between them like nostalgia-laden melodies.

«Saturday Began»: Each Saturday, a young writer sits in restless anticipation, his heart racing with hope and longing as he awaits the arrival of his lover. The tension is palpable, and the mixture of dread and excitement fills the air.

– «Black Wagon»: A shadowy mystery unfolds as a SAVAK agent delves into a peculiar case filled with suspicion and intrigue, compelling him to navigate a web of deception and danger lurking in the shadows.

«Game Over»: In a comical yet desperate bid for survival, Hassani and his friends concoct a series of inventive schemes, hoping to shield him from his father's wrath. This creates a light-hearted but heartfelt atmosphere of camaraderie.

– «The House Must Be Clean»: The tranquility of a honeymoon by the sea is abruptly disrupted when a young couple encounters a bizarre and surreal event that challenges their understanding of reality and tests the bonds of their newly formed love.

The book «The Happy Misfortunate Ones» is an enchanting collection of thought-provoking short stories, each reflecting the author's distinctive narrative style. The stories intertwine the fantastical with the every day, creating a rich tapestry where imagination collides with reality. The author masterfully crafts engaging atmospheres that draw the reader in, seamlessly transforming the unconventional elements of each tale into an experience that feels relatable and profoundly human. Each story sheds light on the lives of outcasts and individuals grappling with their identities, blurring the boundaries between fantasy and reality in a world of uncertainty and complexity.



Publisher: Nil Publishers

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 272

ISBN:978964354426

Year of Publishing:2023/6th Edition



Esmail Fassih (1935–Tehran)

Esmail Fassih, an Iranian novelist with a background in English literature, left Iran in 1956 and settled in Bozeman, Montana. With twenty-one novels and five short story collections, he is a significant figure in contemporary Persian fiction, chronicling Iran's turbulent history over more than four decades.

Fassih's books have captivated a diverse audience with their engaging tone and narrative while adhering to traditional storytelling standards. It is fair to say that Fassih and his novels have successfully bridged the gap between intellectual and popular literature. He has a remarkable ability to convey complex concepts and philosophical ideas in a way that resonates with the general public. Despite the challenges inherent in novel writing, Fassih strives to captivate readers through compelling, often romantic storytelling while avoiding superficiality. He infuses a unique charm into his narratives by crafting sometimes extraordinary settings.

Soraya in a Coma(Sorya Dar Aghma)

The narrator of this novel is Jalal Aryan, who works for the Iranian National Oil Company. He had been stationed in Abadan when the Iraqi forces invaded. At that time, he was in the hospital recovering from a stroke, which prevented him from fighting. Throughout the book, we revisit scenes from his time in Abadan, which are bleak and reminiscent of Stalingrad, similar to the depictions found in works like «Les Bienveillantes» (The Kindly Ones) and «Жизнь и судьба» (Life and Fate). While in Abadan, Jalal receives news that his niece, Sorraya, has been involved in an accident and is badly injured. Soraya is the only child of his divorced sister, Farangi, who has been studying in Paris. Farangi cannot leave the country, but as an oil company employee, Jalal can.

The narrative details Jalal's journey as he leaves his position with the government to travel to Paris. He is smuggled out of Abadan, under siege, and then embarks on a long bus journey to Istanbul. The border crossing is particularly complicated, with easier access on the Iranian than on the Turkish side. Interestingly, the Iranians on the bus band together and help one another. During the journey, Jalal meets a man who can assist him with his tickets for the flight from Istanbul to Paris.

According to the book's introduction, Soraya symbolizes Iran—dissociated from the world and unresponsive to external stimuli. Many express concern for her, yet those concerns do not impact her condition. The central question remains: will she recover? Jalal faces his struggles as he continues to deal with heart issues stemming from his stroke. This book effectively portrays the experiences of Iranian exiles, who often engage in trivial pursuits while pretending that the chaos in Iran does not exist and believe that their lives in Paris somehow hold the same significance as they did back home.

Jalal likely represents the reasonable man—and perhaps the author himself—observing, with a mix of detachment and cynicism, the world of exiles around him while also worrying about Iran and Soraya. It is a poignant exploration of exile, death, and how people cope with their realities. Esmail Fassih takes readers on a journey from war-torn Iran of the 1980s to the lives of exiled Iranians in Paris, all while his niece Soraya lies in a coma on a hospital bed after a near-fatal accident. The author skillfully navigates this paradoxical tale using satire and humor.



Publisher: Negah Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 368

ISBN: 978-9647390774

Year of Publishing: 2023/25th Edition

- * Full English Language is available.
- * Right sold in English, French, and Arabic languages.

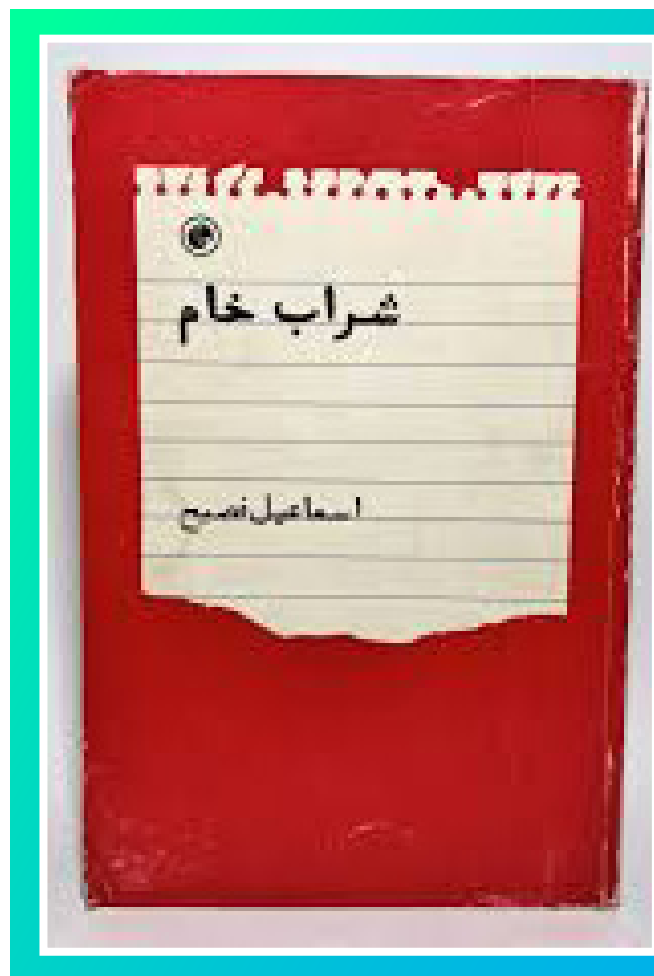
Raw wine

«Raw Wine» marks Esmail Fasih's debut novel. It is a compelling work that has garnered remarkable acclaim from readers and found its way to the silver screen through an adaptation featuring the talented Davood Rashidi. The narrative revolves around a poignant tale centered on a young man named Jalal Arian, who returns to Iran from America, driven by a sense of duty to care for his ailing brother, Yousef.

Yousef, confined to a hospital bed, is a complex character. He embodies a perfectionist's ethos while simultaneously resigning himself to the inevitable fate of death. His longing for heaven casts a shadow over the narrative, contrasting sharply with Jalal's more grounded approach to life. Jalal's perspective is refreshingly balanced; he navigates the emotional terrain of his existence without extreme hope or despair. Instead, he embraces a philosophy of patience, understanding that life must go on, even in the face of hardship.

The story is enriched by the character of Nasser Tajad, a man who grapples with profound existential despair, convinced that life is inherently meaningless. The dialogues between Jalal and Nasser are particularly captivating, serving as a rich exploration of contrasting worldviews and the human condition. Jalal's family provides additional layers to the narrative, including his sister, Francis, who resides in the country's southern regions. Circumstances compel her to journey southward, intertwining her fate with the family's struggles.

Another significant plot thread involves Mahin, a vulnerable employee burdened by an unexpected pregnancy. Her tragic resignation culminates in a heartbreaking suicide on a train, an event that profoundly affects Jalal. In the wake of this tragedy, he adopts the role of a detective, diligently unearthing the layers of truth surrounding Mahin's untimely death. Esmail Fasih's writing is smooth and captivating, weaving a narrative that transports readers to the fraught period leading up to the Iranian revolution. The author skillfully navigates complex and sensitive themes, creating a rich tapestry of human emotions and societal issues that resonate deeply within the story's heart. «Raw Wine» is a tale of personal struggle and a profound exploration of life, loss, and the quest for meaning amidst chaos.



Publisher: ZehnAviz Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 368

ISBN: 978-9647390583

Year of Publishing: 2023/17th Edition

Bitter end

«Bitter End» is a novel by Esmail Fasih that tells the story of a man who unexpectedly encounters an old love during a business trip to London. This sudden meeting stirs up intense emotions and chaotic thoughts within him. Fasih's writing is marked by intense and precise descriptions, which positions «Talkh Kam» among the few Iranian novels known for their detailed storytelling.

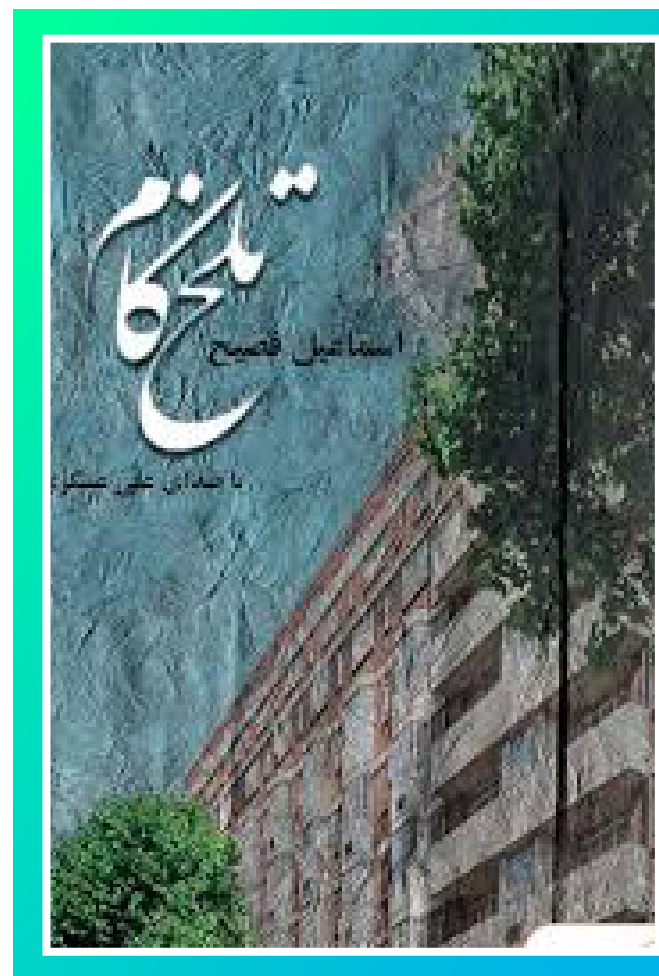
The protagonist, who comes from a middle-class background, succeeds through hard work and determination. After completing his education in America, he secures a good job as an employee at an oil company. During a business mission to procure a product for the company, he travels to London after a series of flights. However, once in London, he faces unexpected events that shape the captivating narrative of «Bitter Mouth.»

With Bitter End, Ismail Fasih has made a significant contribution to Persian literature. His writing style appears simple at first glance but reveals more profound layers of complexity, compelling readers to keep turning the pages until they reach the end.

«Bitter End,» the final novel published by Fasih, unfolds through the voice of Jalal Arian, who embarks on a vital journey to London during the tumultuous first year of the Islamic Revolution, just on the brink of the Iran-Iraq War. His mission is to procure sophisticated computerized equipment for the language laboratory at his college, a task laden with significance amidst the chaos surrounding him.

As Jalal navigates the bustling streets of London, he stumbles upon an extraordinary figure: a 91-year-old retired Zoroastrian professor residing in a gated assisted-living facility in a quiet suburb south of the city. This professor, once a revered academic at Oxford, is unveiled as Javid Firuzpur, the beloved protagonist of «Dastan-e Javid» (Javid's Story). This novel graced the literary scene in Tehran in 1980. His story was later translated into Arabic by Salim aAbd al-Amir aamdand under the title «Qessa-ye Jawid» in Cairo in 2000.

As Jalal interacts with the aged professor, he witnesses the profound complexities of old age. The once-vibrant intellectual now gradually declines, often veering between fleeting moments of sharp clarity, deep immersion in the sacred prayers of the Avestan language, and prolonged stretches of near-comatose silence. The contrast between the professor's brilliant past and his current frailty paints a poignant portrait of a man caught between the echoes of his former life and the shadows of his present reality.



Publisher: ZehnAviz Publication

No. of Pages: 148

Subject: Novel

ISBN: 978-9646005211

Year of Publishing: 2023/5th Edition

A Letter to the World

The narrative elegantly weaves the story of an American woman whose life becomes intricately linked to the haunting echoes of Jalal Arian's past. This connection ultimately ties his fate to the tumultuous landscape of Iran, marked by the persistent shadows of conflict and war. Through a masterful blend of prose, Fasih pays homage to his loyal readers, skillfully crafting subtle yet poignant threads that unite his literary works, leaving those who embark on this evocative journey with lasting impressions.

Set against the vibrant backdrop of America, Jalal Arian's path crosses with Angela, a young woman filled with deep sentiment and a romantic spirit. Captivated by the allure of Iran, her heart passionately beats for the land, leading her to pursue her dreams of teaching there as a professor after her studies conclude. In this foreign realm, love blossoms between her and Abbas Tohidian, a devoted young man whose kind heart draws her in. However, their love story is overshadowed by disapproval from Abbas's traditional and devout family, who struggle to accept Angela's presence in their lives.

As the ominous winds of war begin to howl through the nation, tragedy strikes with brutal force—Abbas is lost to the conflict, leaving Angela shattered and aching in the wake of his absence, while also being separated from their only son, Mahdi. In the depths of their grief, Abbas's family takes charge of the child, effectively severing the fragile bonds that tie Angela to her son. In the face of escalating violence during the Iran–Iraq War, her resolve hardens; she embarks on a courageous return to Iran, fueled by an urgent hope to reclaim her child.

This tale unfolds like an intimate letter addressed to the world, rich with longing and a palpable sense of urgency. Lurking in the shadows of the narrative is a loaded gun—an ominous symbol of unresolved emotions and the bitter turmoil of separation. Angela's journey becomes a vivid portrait of a woman grappling with profound loss while navigating the turbulent waters of pain and desire. Through her eyes, we are invited to witness the silent struggles and unvoiced yearnings that shape her existence, all set against the complex tapestry of love, conflict, and the relentless quest for belonging.



Publisher: Iran Publication

No. of Pages: 268

Subject: Novel

ISBN: 978-96466929028



Bahram Sadeghi (1937–85/Isfahan)

Bahram Sadeghi developed a passion for writing stories at a young age. He contributed to various magazines and took part in literary circles. His first story, «Tomorrow is Coming,» was published in 1956. For his literary achievements, he received the Forough Farrokhzad Literary Award.

Sadeghi's well-known books include Stronghold & Unloaded Flask and Heaven.

Unloaded Flask & Stronghold

This book presents a captivating collection of over twenty short stories, the title artfully derived from one of the intriguing narratives nestled within its pages. Each story stands apart, showcasing the author's distinct voice and storytelling prowess.

In «The Call to Evening,» readers follow a young man's journey consumed by an infatuation for Sheikh Baha'i, a character shrouded in mystery and allure. Meanwhile, «The Seven Bloody Braids» draws on rich mythological elements to explore a tight-knit community that ultimately turns its back on a once-revered savior, unraveling themes of gratitude and betrayal. Among the compelling titles in this anthology are «Mr. Direct,» «The Chains,» «Mr. Writer is a Novice,» «A Play in Two Acts,» «A Blood Dream,» and «A Sad Song for a Moonless Night.»

The author masterfully weaves a tapestry of smooth, intimate narratives interlaced with sharp satirical tones, conveying profound themes without arrogance or prescriptiveness. The characters come to life through their birth certificates—figures such as Mr. Cambyses, Ms. Sakineh, and the young Aristotle, whose identities are intriguingly presented without alluding to marriage or death. The omniscient narrator then paints a vivid picture of a single day in each character's life, skillfully interconnecting their experiences across two interconnected generations.

The narrator frequently interjects, adding depth to the storytelling and creating a lively dialogue with the reader as the plot unfolds. The author delves into complex social and psychological issues that resonate across generations through rich humor and poignant language. Notable themes include Basmeh's embrace of modernity, the superficial transformations in human and family relationships, pervasive dishonesty among individuals, and profound loneliness and despair. These themes illuminate the concerns that captivated Bahram Sadeghi, the author, reflecting a sharp observational lens on the human experience.



Publisher: Niloofar Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 125

ISBN: 978-6227720297

Year of Publishing: 2023/4th Edition

Heaven

The story begins with a genie entering the body and soul of Mr. Movadt, who is enjoying time in the garden with three friends: an overweight man, a young secretary, and an unknown companion. Following this incident, they decide to visit Dr. Hatem at the suggestion of the mysterious friend. Dr. Hatem, a young man with the wisdom of an elder, skillfully manages to expel the genie as if he is already experienced in this procedure. During their appointment, Dr. Hatem introduces the young secretary and the overweight man to his renowned ampoules. Like other residents of the city, they eagerly agree to receive injections that are said to enhance longevity and sexual desire, unaware that Dr. Hatem is the devil in disguise and that his ampoules are deadly. Up to this point, the reader assumes Mr. Movadt is the main character. However, it soon becomes clear that Dr. Hatem and another character named M.L., who has willingly chosen to amputate the last limb of his body and has been living in Dr. Hatem's house for 13 days, are the actual central figures of the story. The book Malkoot is a surreal tale that blends classic and modern Iranian themes, exploring concepts of death and philosophy. The author, a former doctor, introduces Dr. Hatem, an unusual physician whose body exists in youth and decay. He treats patients until 1 AM, has no children, and harbors a fascination with death. He quickly disposes of his wives and servants by turning them into soap—his neighbor, known as «M.L.,» visits annually to remove a part of his body. This narrative draws on various works related to death, from «Faust» to «Macbeth,» and features characters such as «Anonymous,» «Fat Man,» «Mr. Movadet,» «Shokoeh,» and «Saqi.» The story unfolds through interconnected events that reflect the anxieties of modern Iranian life, addressing issues such as failed intellectualism, depressed employees, unfaithful spouses, and obsessive parents. It challenges readers to confront themes of death and nothingness while reflecting on their own moral beliefs.



Publisher: Niloofar Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 125

ISBN: 978-6227720297

Year of Publishing: 2023/4th Edition



Hushang Golshiri (1938–2000/Isfahan)

Hushang Golshiri is an Iranian fiction writer, critic, and editor. He was one of the first Iranian writers to use modern literary techniques, and is recognized as one of the most influential writers of Persian prose of the 20th century. Across more than three decades, Hushang Golshiri produced some of the finest novels and short stories in recent Iranian history. His most famous novel, *Prince Ehtejab*, became an internationally acclaimed film. He became one of the first Iranian writers to apply modern literary techniques in his books and to depict the demise of the Iranian aristocracy. His style, storytelling ability, and command of the Persian language and classical literature attracted general readers and the literary elite. Yet Golshiri never allowed anger to turn his literary work into sloganeering. He had a strong sense of humor and kept his spirits up. He was awarded Germany's Erich Maria Remarque prize for fighting oppression and promoting democracy and human rights.

Prince Ehtejab

In the mid-1920s, Iran is portrayed through the lens of a decaying provincial town, where an aging house stands as a dilapidated relic of a past era. Within this crumbling abode, the last surviving member of a once-mighty dynasty lies in the grip of tuberculosis, his days slipping away like sand through his fingers. The old prince, once a figure of power and authority, now reels in and out of consciousness, haunted by the specters of his ancestry. In the dim light of his faded surroundings, he becomes enmeshed in vivid recollections, reliving the turbulent histories of his predecessors—episodes steeped in a mixture of grandeur and brutality.

He recalls a macabre epoch marked by tyranny, where the misguided whims of rulers led to grotesque punishments; men met their fates encased in plaster, while children faced the unspeakable for mere academic failures. As the prince grapples with these jarring memories, the portraits of his long-dead relatives loom ominously around him, their lifeless eyes seemingly watching his every move, their once vibrant visages now reduced to ghostly reminders of a lost nobility. These memories swirl around in his fractured mind, transient apparitions that flicker to life, only to dissolve like fog as the next haunting memory emerges, causing a tremor in the silence of the room.

Amidst this sea of recollection lurks the most harrowing memory, the recollection of his wife, Farrokhnessa. Her vibrant and tempestuous spirit used to challenge him relentlessly, echoing the fierce legacies of his grandfather and great-grandfather. Her taunts and bitter insistence drove him to seek solace in the arms of their servant, Fakhri, a choice that spiraled into a web of betrayal and sorrow, ultimately leading to Farrokhnessa's premature demise.

This poignant narrative's author captures the essence of the prince's anguish, a man ensnared by the relentless chains of memory, burdened by the oppressive weight of a dehumanizing past. The text weaves together echoes from a distant history, poignant reflections on strained relationships, and the inner workings of a tormented mind. Fragments crafted in the style of Qajar travelogues interplay with the narrative, enriching it with a kaleidoscopic depth, blurring the edges, and immersing the reader in a twilight realm awash with doubt and uncertainty. Eventually, this compelling tale was adapted into a film, seamlessly uniting the realms of literature and cinema. The author's minimalist prose, characterized by an economy of imagery and an exquisitely meticulous crafting of language, is the hallmark of this evocative work. «The Prince Ehtejab,» while initially penned in a different language, later found its voice in translations by Alain Rabe-Grey into French and James Buchan into English.



Publisher: Narineh Publication

Subject: Novel

No. of Pages: 118

ISBN: 978-0099468394

Year of Publishing: 2023/20th Edition

- **Adapted into a movie.**
- **English and French texts are available.**

Dark hand, light hand

The book *Dark Hand, Bright Hand* features six short stories:

Dark Hand, Bright Hand: The story follows Rahmat Hajipour, who visits a village with his friend Kateb to collect local stories and rituals. While Kateb returns to the city, Rahmat marries a noblewoman and stays. The villagers believe an animal disturbs the graves at night, but Rahmat discovers that his wife, Mahdokht, is responsible. This story draws inspiration from «The Judge's Daughter.»

– **Naqash Baghani:** Amid a missile attack on Tehran, a family seeks refuge in the village of Baghani. The family includes a storyteller, his wife, their two children, the children's uncle, an engineer, and his painter wife, Mehri. They arrive at midnight and find watercolor paintings in their hut that eerily resemble scenes they had just witnessed. Disturbed, they decide to return to Tehran early. The narrator revisits Baghani and meets the painter.

– **Naqshbandan:** This story depicts a narrator who emigrates to Europe with his wife, Shirin, and their children. After divorcing Shirin, he returns to Iran while she and the children remain in Europe, eventually forgetting Persian. The story reflects on their fragmented life memories in Europe and Iran.

– **The Enemy of Dark Nights:** The narrator recounts a tragic tale of a man who poisons his wife upon sending her to her in-laws, resulting in the deaths of himself and his children. When the wife returns home, she finds her family dead. The narrator, who plays board games with a one-handed neighbor, later checks on the family and realizes they are all asleep, as evidenced by a clear mirror.

– **The House of the Bright:** A writer in exile commits suicide after burning his works, paralleling the fate of Sadegh Hedayat.

– **The Big Bang:** An older man, unable to walk, dreams of dancing. He spreads a rumor about a couple dancing in Vanak Square, hoping to revive the city's lost joy of music and dance. The rumor spreads rapidly, and he dreams of making the impossible possible.

Houshang is a prolific writer known for expressing complex thoughts in simple language. Behind his clear and understandable words lie special and profound symbols that a researcher can uncover to appreciate the author's expansive vision. Among his insightful and symbolic stories is «The Dark Hand, The Bright Hand.» In this work, Houshang, with the profound mindset of an idealist writer, employs Western writing techniques, drawing inspiration from «The Sword Wound» by Jorge Luis Borges and the framework of «The Judge's Daughter» by Ghazi Tanokhi, the author of «Faraj After Severity.» Through these influences, he symbolically and strategically conveys profound and significant concepts relevant to his society. This essay analyzes and explores the impact of «The Judge's Daughter» from «Faraj After Severity» and «The Sword Wound» by Jorge Luis Borges on Houshang Golshiri's «The Dark Hand, The Bright Hand.»



Publisher: Nillofar Publication

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 160

ISBN: 9789644481564

*** Adaptation of the movie «I Want to Dance».**

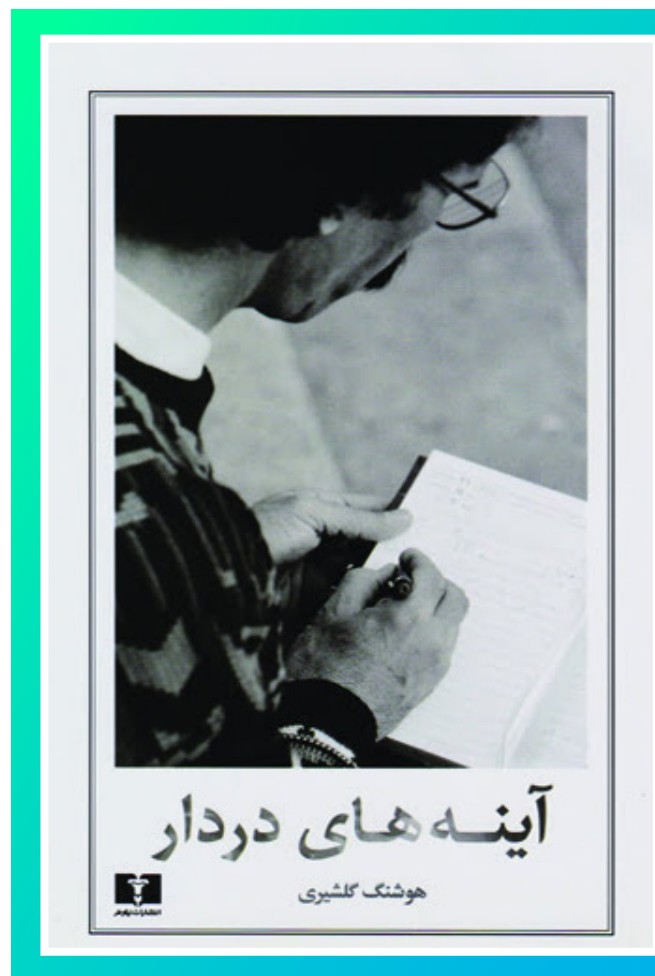
Mirrors with Cover Doors

«Mirrors with Cover Doors» portrays Iranian intellectuals forced into exile, following Ibrahim as he travels from country to country, presenting his unfinished stories and unpublished works to audiences and Iranian immigrants. This novel serves as a travelogue, exploring both the past and the cultural depths of the characters. Golshiri skillfully employs narrative techniques that vividly depict their experiences. The story examines the cultural contrasts between Iran and Europe and reflects on the challenges of writing political fiction. It raises questions about the necessity of being in one's homeland to write about it, pondering whether loyalty requires physical presence or if a writer can capture their homeland's essence from a global vantage point, such as Paris.

In «Mirrors with Cover Doors,» Houshang Golshiri weaves a rich, multifaceted narrative that immerses readers in the thoughts and emotions of its characters. The novel features a story within a story, presenting multiple parallel narratives, and its fluid writing style classifies it as a modern literary work. Ibrahim, a middle-aged writer, travels to Europe to attend a gathering of culture-loving Iranians and share his poetry, articles, and stories. During his readings, he discovers notes from an unknown person who seems to know him well. These notes, written in Nastaliq script on small paper adorned with images of clouds and wind, implicitly criticize Ibrahim for depicting the sender in a story without their consent. The sender encourages him to reach out, but he initially misses the call. On a second attempt, he learns that the sender is Sanam, a childhood friend with whom he once shared a youthful romance. Sanam begins to accompany Ibrahim to his readings, and they engage in deep discussions about the themes introduced in his work at famous Parisian cafes and at her suburban home.

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Publisher: Nillofar Publication

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 158

ISBN: 9789644481062



ATRA AND THE CURSED NECKLACE IN JINN'S LAND

Atra and the Cursed Necklace in the Land of the Jinn is a novel inspired by the author's imagination and the historical ambiance of an ancient Iranian city, spanning multiple eras and the country's old capital. The story, though titled after the jinn, does not involve the supernatural or fantastical creatures outside of scriptural references.

The jinn, as described in religious texts like the Quran and Torah, are invisible beings created by God from fire, distinct from humans, who are made from dust and have a much shorter lifespan. According to scripture, jinn can live for over three thousand years and, upon death, vanish like smoke. The Quran devotes an entire chapter to the jinn, stating that both humans and jinn were created to serve God and that wrongdoers among them will be cast into Hell together on the Day of Resurrection.

The Torah identifies Solomon as the prophet with the greatest connection to the jinn, granting him authority over them, animals, and the wind. Some jinn reportedly served in Solomon's court, with one even acting as his vizier, and they are credited with retrieving precious pearls from the sea or distant planets for his palace.

Few humans are believed to have encountered these mysterious beings, though ancient art sometimes depicts them. Despite scriptural mentions and rare human testimonies, the specifics of jinn life remain unknown; it is even speculated that they may be more advanced than humans or comparable to what we now call extraterrestrials. Ultimately, their true nature is known only to God.



Author: Fakhroldin Moosavi Hashemi

Publisher: Ana Pol Publication House/ 2020

Subject: Fiction (Novel)

No. of Pages: 285 /Paperback

ISBN: 9786229659556

• English text is available



Amin Bardjeste is an Iranian author, translator, and copyright agent. A graduate of The London School of Journalism's Novel Writing program, he also studied English Translation and Education Administration in Iran. *The Silver Orchestra* is his fifth book and debut novel in English.

Silver Orchestra

The Silver Orchestra, a clandestine organization of Nazi descendants, built Kristal Hochburg, a secret underground city intended as a new Germania. They've mastered human cloning and bioweapon production. When Adam Keramat, a musically gifted student in Rome, returns to his Italian village for the summer, mysterious invitations from the Orchestra arrive. His grandfather, the village mayor, vanishes, and Adam's search leads him to the Orchestra's heart, where he discovers his grandfather is imprisoned for betraying them. More shockingly, Adam learns he's been a lifelong subject of the Orchestra's observation, his unique musical talent the key to a monumental genetic engineering experiment.

The story involves Adam Keramat, a music genius studying in Rome, who encounters the Silver Orchestra during a summer trip to his Italian village. It appears to be a mysterious encounter.

Silver Orch is primarily classified as a fiction novel. It combines elements of mystery and drama, exploring themes of music, personal growth, and the supernatural. The narrative delves into the protagonist's journey and his encounters with the enigmatic Silver Orchestra, which adds a layer of intrigue to the story.

While in the village, he discovers a hidden and mysterious group known as the Silver Orchestra. This ensemble is unlike any other; it is composed of unusual musicians who play hauntingly beautiful music that captures the essence of both joy and sorrow. As Adam interacts with the members of the orchestra, he learns more about their backgrounds, struggles, and the enchanting music they create together.

The narrative explores themes of identity, belonging, and the power of music to connect people across time and space. As Adam delves into the secrets of the Silver Orchestra, he confronts his own insecurities and aspirations, leading to a deeper understanding of himself and his art. The book intertwines elements of magic realism, cultural heritage, and the transformative power of art, making it a rich, emotional journey for both Adam and the readers.



Author: Amin Barjasteh

Publisher: Shabahang Publications

Subject: fiction novel

Pages: 261

ISBN: 9786001301025

- **The English text is available.**
- **Right sold in the USA (Author House)**



Abolfazl Haji Mohammadi (1986/Gorgan–Iran)

is an emerging novelist whose second book aims for a global audience through imaginative and fantastical narratives featuring characters unbound by specific locales. He currently resides in his hometown of Gorgan, Golestan Province, where he is compiling the second volume of this work.

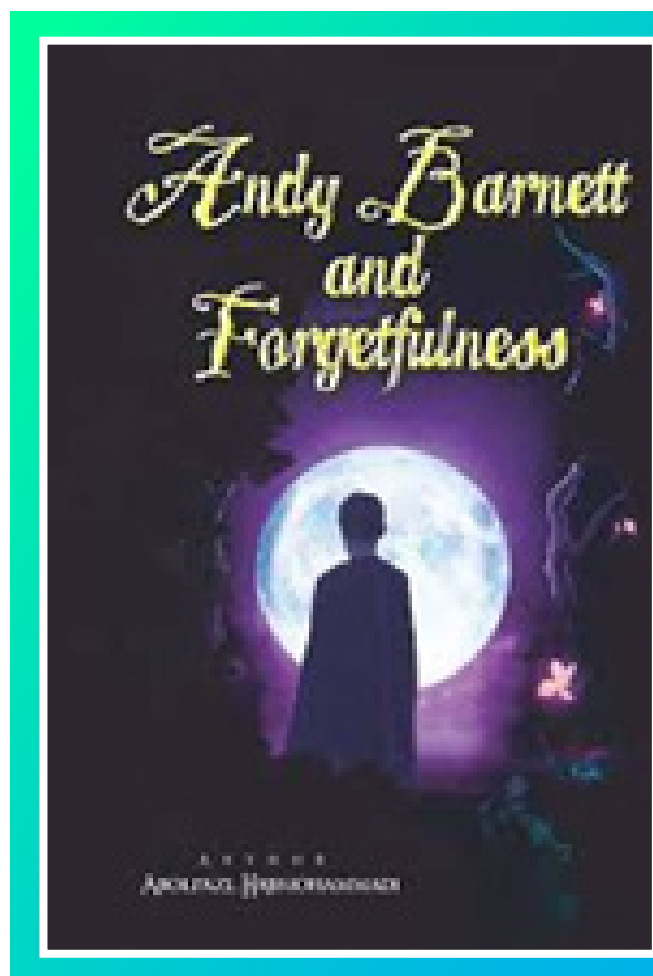
Andy Barnett and Forgetfulness

During a stormy night in a mysterious cemetery house, a wizard dwarf from a parallel world arrives. Sitting among the rain-soaked trees, he uses his magic to sense the creation of a mysterious chamber and detects the presence of a demonic creature. Investigating its source, he grows suspicious of Andy's presence in the cemetery house. Realizing the evil is after the same boy, the dwarf casts a powerful spell to make Andy forget everything, erasing all his extraordinary abilities. With Andy's memory lost, the demonic force leaves the graveyard.

Now, Andy cannot recall much of his life before age twelve, but he begins to hear unsettling, unfamiliar cries that frighten him. After several days of fear and confusion, he meets a wizard who invites him to the world of wizards, promising relief from the haunting voices. Andy, along with three peers, trains to enter Magic School. However, his presence brings strange and supernatural events to his group. When the friends inadvertently enter a forbidden place, they are tried in a wizard court and, as punishment, sent to a forest cottage for training under a strict witch. In the large forest house inhabited by demons, they encounter the demon school and embark on various adventures.

Eventually, the spell wears off and Andy regains his memory, confronting terrifying truths. His unique abilities make him famous, drawing the attention of magical newspapers and the concern of the wizard who first guided him. Afraid that evil wizards will pursue Andy again, the wizard takes him back to the cemetery to reunite with the dwarf. To evade their enemies, Andy and the dwarf journey to a parallel world.

This story invites readers into new realms of imagination, following Andy Barnett, a boy who can communicate with the dead. His rare gift makes him a target of evil wizards, who use a spell to bring Andy and his father to the forest cemetery. Unaware of the magic involved, Andy's father remains suspicious of their circumstances from the start.



Author: Abolfazl Hajimuhammadi

Subject: Fiction (Novel)

Publisher: Self-publisher

Date of Publishing: 2018

No. of Pages: 287

Size: 14×21

ISBN: 978622000122290

• **English text of the book is available.**



Fatameh Zahiri is a young Iranian author who creates stories for children and teenagers. She is known for her contributions to contemporary Persian literature. She has created engaging stories and narratives aimed at young readers, focusing on themes that resonate with children. Her works often cater to teenagers, exploring topics relevant to youth, personal growth, and social issues. Her versatility as a writer allows her to reach diverse audiences while addressing important themes and ideas.

Besides *The Cranes' Song*, she has written several other works:

1. «Sang-e Rood» (Stone of the River) – A novel exploring themes of love and loss.
2. «Gole Zard» (Yellow Flower) – A collection of poems reflecting on nature and human emotions.
3. «Dariush & Darya» – A children's book conveying moral lessons through storytelling.
4. «Khan dard» (The House of Pain) – A short story collection dealing with social issues and human struggles.

The Cranes' Song

The book is a collection of short stories and comprises 22 stories that narrate the innocent lives and bittersweet moments of 22 teenagers. The book explores themes related to adolescence and the experiences of young people. The book deeply explores the struggles and experiences of teenagers as they navigate the complexities of young adulthood. The characters often confront their identities, wishes, and societal expectations. Many stories highlight the significance of friendships and the bonds that form during adolescence. The narratives showcase the joy and challenges of these relationships, emphasizing their impact on personal growth.

In the first story, «Shahtoot,» Zahra and her father are on their way to the shrine of Hazrat Ruqayyah. When her father steps away briefly, the exhausted Zahra falls asleep and has a strange dream in which their neighbor's son is martyred and the shrine's dolls come to life. Upon waking, she sees her father with a gun, heading to the shrine of Hazrat Zaynab—an event that alters her destiny. The rest of the stories in the book also lead the reader through unexpected adventures. The book aims to connect with teenagers through her writing, showing them they are not alone in the world.

Critics often highlight Zahiri's ability to depict the authentic lives and emotions of teenagers, reflecting their struggles and aspirations in a relatable way. The stories are praised for their emotional depth, capturing the bittersweet nuances of adolescence. Readers often resonate with the characters' experiences, finding them both heartwarming and poignant.



Author: Fatemeh Zahiri

Publisher: AnaPol Press

Subject: Short Stories

Pages: 124

ISBN: 97862229781081



Masoumeh Kazemi (1990– Mashhad) is a writer of Afghan descent based in Germany. Raised in Iran, she developed a passion for writing in her teens, often turning to the page amid her daily responsibilities. Writing became her primary form of expression. She has since written numerous short stories and poems, though only her novel «Sophia» has been published. She is currently working on a new novel in the socio-political genre, a field in which she is both passionate and well-read. Masoumeh believes that a writer must first be a devoted reader. Her work is driven by a desire for justice and fairness, shaped by her experiences with war and displacement. As a member of a generation marked by conflict, her writing is inextricably linked to her own life and identity.

Sophia

Sophia is one of the three main characters in the story. Her painful journey into illegal immigration, along with her husband, reflects the reality faced by thousands of Afghans enduring decades of turmoil. The novel blends romance and social commentary, unfolding across two timelines: a dramatic present and a fictionalized past. Baran, the protagonist in the present, is the older Sophia from the past timeline. After spending 20 years in Germany, Baran—a forty-eight-year-old battling brain cancer—spends her final days in a nursing home. Her only joy is her adopted son, Ahura, a physician working at the same hospital where Baran is admitted. Ahura, whom Baran raised after his mother Mahrokh's death, is unaware of a significant secret in his life. Mandegar, Ahura's girlfriend, is a nurse, and his complicated relationship with her often reminds Baran of her past. After arriving in Germany and being released from a mental institution, Baran began writing memoirs that provide the narrative for the novel's fictional timeline.

The Afghan civil war and the rise of the Taliban in 1996 sparked a new wave of mass exile. Sophia and her husband Pamiir's escape from Kabul with their two children mirrors the suffering of countless Afghans. The novel "Sophia" chronicles these tragedies with raw realism.

Mahrokh's unfulfilled love not only deepens the narrative but also gives voice to the struggles of many young women trapped by oppressive traditions. Her life story is detailed in the fictional timeline. The novel is structured in three chapters, told from multiple perspectives, and employs literary techniques such as stream of consciousness, dialogue, and narrative markers. The story's two main timelines—the dramatic present and the fictionalized past—are interspersed with brief flashbacks to earlier events.



Author: Masoumeh Kazemi

Publisher: AnaPol Pubs. /2022

Subject: Fiction (novel)

Number of pages: 188

ISBN: 9783864330643

*** Rights sold in Germany (Gardoon Pubs.)**

*** Full English text is available**



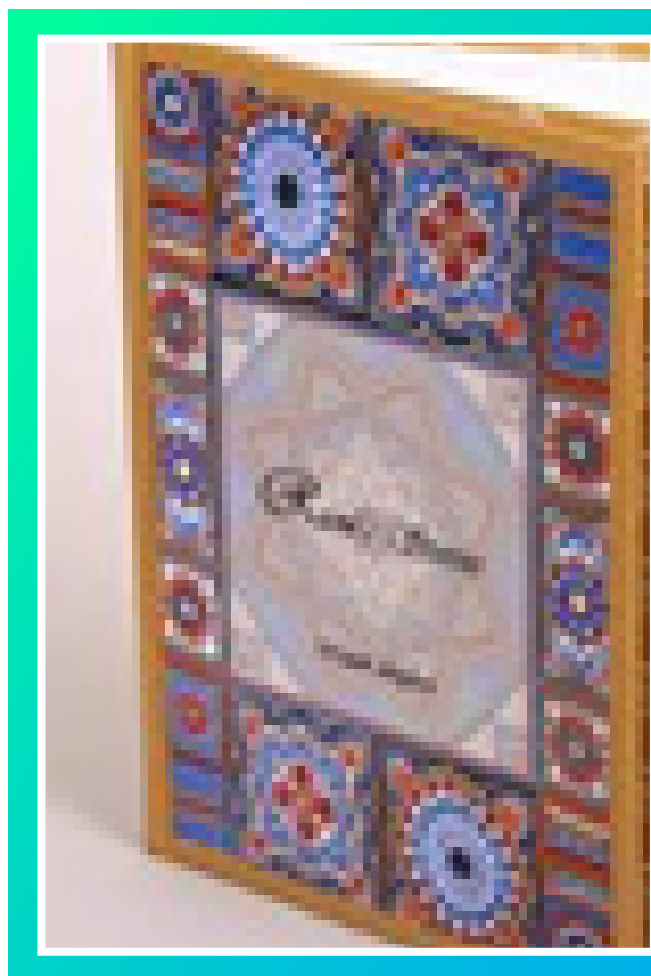
Nahid Abghari (1952, Mashhad), a prominent Iranian scholar in Mevlana studies and the humanities, has dedicated her career to introducing Rumi and his works to both Iranian and international audiences. Her publications, including «Story of the Masnavi» (Qessehaye Rumi), offer interpretations and adaptations of Rumi's stories, highlighting their symbolic and metaphorical dimensions. Through her writings, Abghari makes Rumi's poetry more accessible while emphasizing its spiritual and philosophical themes, particularly those related to mysticism and self-discovery.

The Stories in Rumi

Like many mystic scholars, Mawlana Jalal ad-din Rumi used stories to convey his profound philosophy, forging an emotional connection between the reader and the characters to make his teachings accessible and engaging. His Masnavi, an exceptional cultural masterpiece of 25,600 couplets in six volumes, contains around 270 stories, parables, and anecdotes. Despite this diversity, Rumi explains that the Masnavi ultimately tells one story: the story of Creation and the soul's yearning to return to its divine origin and achieve lasting happiness. In a time when spirituality is often overlooked, Rumi's teachings on mystical unity remain essential.

This book presents 102 stories from Rumi's Masnavi in clear, flowing language. The author weaves original verses into the narratives and offers insightful explanations of their deeper meanings, enhancing the book's value. With a perceptive understanding of Rumi's stories, the author highlights the poet's mystical insights and the universal longing for reunion with the divine. Each story not only reflects Rumi's spiritual perspective but also conveys a unique message about the path to mystical fulfillment. Nahid Abghari's «Rumi's Stories» is a book that introduces readers to the profound concepts of Persian poetry by exploring the life and works of the Iranian mystic and poet Rumi. The book features popular tales such as «Angel of Death» and «Moses and the Shepherd.» It is designed to help readers understand the deep meaning behind Rumi's poems. It aims to introduce Rumi to a wider audience through accessible explanations of his work and life.

Nahid Abghari explains Rumi's concepts in «Rumi's Stories» through a combination of storytelling, commentary, and contextual analysis. After each story, she often provides interpretations that delve into the underlying philosophical and spiritual meanings. This helps readers grasp the complexities of Rumi's thoughts on love, spirituality, and the human experience. Abghari provides background on the historical and cultural context of Rumi's life (13th-century Persia) to help readers appreciate the poet's work in its original environment, making it more relatable and meaningful. She connects the stories to Rumi's poetry, highlighting specific verses or themes that resonate with the stories, thus illustrating how the tales reflect the broader messages in his poetic works. Each story is accompanied by reflections on its lessons, encouraging readers to apply Rumi's insights to their own lives. This practical approach makes Rumi's wisdom accessible to modern audiences. Abghari effectively bridges the gap between Rumi's mystical insights and contemporary readers, allowing them to engage with his teachings on a deeper level.



Author: Nahid Abghari

Translator: Majid Jafari Aghdam

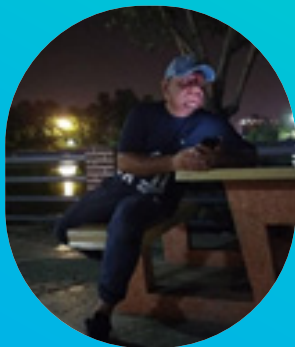
Publisher: Bang-e Ney Pubs.

Year of publishing: 2016/third edition

No. of Pages: 250

ISBN: 978-6009461042

• **The English text is available.**

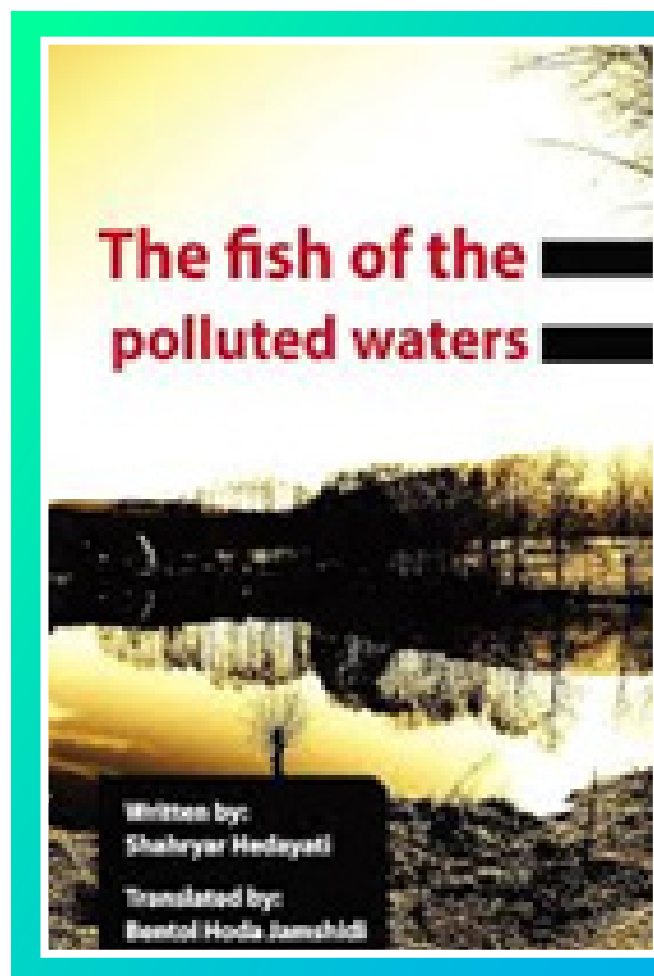


The Fish of the Polluted Waters

Farshad Khodaei is about to marry a Japanese woman. As he gazes into the mirror, memories surface of his childhood friend Morteza, also an illegal immigrant, who lost his legs and fell into a coma after an accident. Farshad's connection to his future wife began during this difficult time. Hiroku, his Japanese wife, converts to Islam, moves to Iran, and becomes pregnant. To give birth, they travel to Japan, but their relationship unravels amid Farshad's addiction and life's hardships. They separate, with their child staying with Hiroku in Japan. Years later, Farshad, isolated and self-destructive, finds some purpose in acting and theater and seeks a return to normalcy with his friends' support. He eventually reconnects with his now 25-year-old daughter, Ayaneh, through Facebook.

The book offers several notable features, such as:

1. Comprehensive insights into social psychology;
2. Exploration of war's destructive effects and PTSD;
3. A view of Japan in the late twentieth century through an immigrant's eyes;
4. A comparative study of Iranian and Japanese cultures;
5. Examination of contemporary Iran's social and historical events;
6. Philosophical reflections on humanity's place in civilization;
7. Introductions to tourist attractions in both Iran and Japan;
8. Philosophical critiques of modernity and postmodernism.



Author: Shahriar Hedayati

Subject: Fiction (novel)

Publisher: Nouroozi publishing House

Year of Publishing: 2020

No. of Pages: 130

ISBN: 9786220206

• **English and Arabic texts are available**



Inn

In the late 1980s or early 1990s, in a Middle Eastern desert, a boy who has fled his traumatic past working at a brick factory, where his parents had abandoned him, escapes with his stepbrother, an outcast, and finds refuge in an old inn, a relic of the Silk Road. The childless innkeeper sees the boy as a sign of hope, considering him a son and heir.

At the inn, the boy encounters a new world and diverse people: Parishan, a mystical dervish; Faraz, an unlucky outcast; and a disabled storyteller. Severed from his family's cruelty and driven by curiosity, the boy embarks on a profound spiritual adventure. He begins adapting to life at the inn, but the arrival of a mysterious, charismatic stranger, whose visit is no coincidence and is connected to the boy, upends everything.

Set against a backdrop of societal upheaval, disease outbreaks, and collapsing traditional values, the inn becomes a haven for contemplation and solitude. Each character, with a shadowy past, seeks truth and peace, forging their paths. The story's fragmented beginning flows into a unified narrative as the characters pursue a concealed, profound truth.

The Inn is the first part of a trilogy: a standalone yet intricately connected novel that is both simple and complex, dark and bright, a tragicomedy.

Alongside the protagonist, readers embark on a challenging journey, confronted by questions about its worth and the possibility of never finding the final answer. Part of the resolution lies within the story; the rest, in the reader's mind. The novel is marked by eloquent and engaging storytelling.



Author: Sadegh Sarouy

Subject: Fiction (Short Stories),

Publisher: Nahl Pubs.,

No. of Pages:90

• **English text is available.**



Stefan Boucher (1947– Denmark) is drawn to stories because they offer ordinary people extraordinary experiences. Through them, we explore time, space, and alternate realities, gain new perspectives on our world, and inhabit diverse lives. We witness triumphs and failures, and as a writer, I get to participate in all of it – a profoundly satisfying endeavor.

Stairway to Heaven

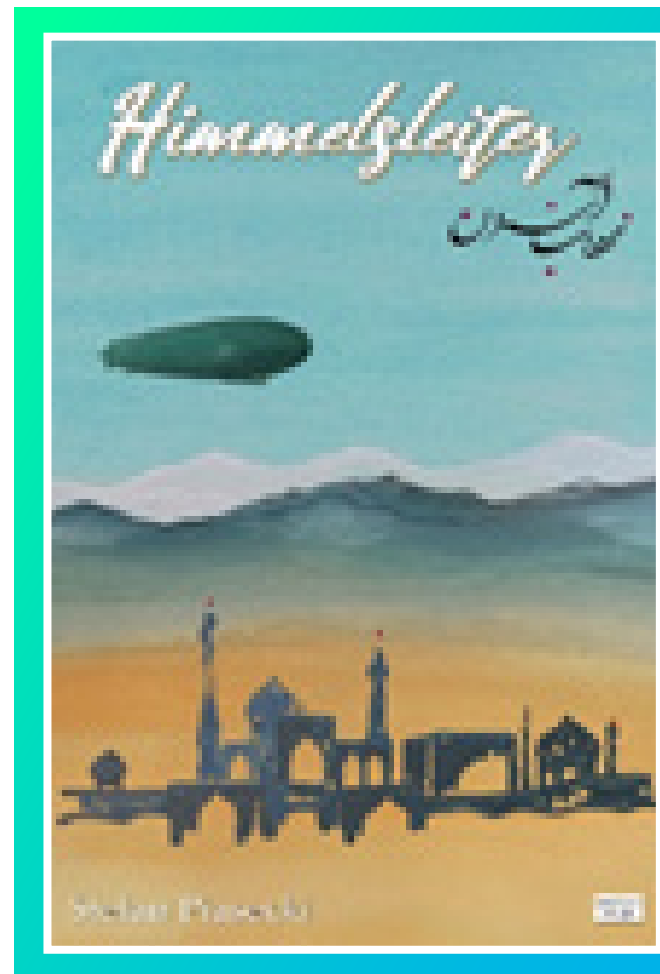
On the eve of the 1929 global economic crisis, Potsdam entrepreneur Theodor Simon and Zeppelin-Werke, with support from the German Foreign Office, sought to overcome Germany's economic isolation by establishing an air trade base in Persia. Their plan centered on using the new LZ 128 «Schahnameh» airship to trade Indian silks, despite competition from British airships R100 and R101. The Shah of Persia backed the German initiative. Engineer Wilhelm Darburg was secretly dispatched to Tehran to ensure a successful promotional visit by the LZ 127 «Graf Zeppelin» during its world tour, despite an impending dust storm, and insisted on a landing.

In Persia, Darburg enters a modernizing society where a diverse cast of Western adventurers—spies, artists, and traders like Maren Grande and Elena Reason—compete for cinematic influence. The stranded writer Byron Alvarado awaits funds, and the mysterious Mason Ruby reappears unexpectedly. Connecting them all is Mahpareh, a Persian medium whose spiritual powers unsettle the traditional order.

«Ladder to Heaven,» by the author of «Little Woman in the Moon,» offers an authentic portrayal of Persia at the dawn of Reza Shah's rule, capturing a society in swift transition from the Middle Ages.

Set in 1929 Tehran amid the early days of passenger aviation between Europe and Asia, the novel vividly reconstructs the era through careful archival research. It explores not only technological advancements but also the intersecting lives of international figures in this burgeoning field. With atmospheric storytelling, precise detail, and rich settings, «Ladder to Heaven» immerses readers in this pivotal historical moment.

The novel weaves Persian culture and a touch of the supernatural into its plot, appealing to historical fiction fans and general readers alike. It skillfully blends fact and fiction, showcasing Persian traditions and their connection to German history. With suspense and humor, the book brings a vanished world to life, accurately integrating technology, aviation, and setting for a sensitive, entertaining, and informative read.



Author: Prof. Stefan Piasecki

Publisher: Parsine Pubs.,

Subject: Novel,

pages: 385

- **The whole English text is available**
- **Right sold in Germany (Neobooks Pubs.)**

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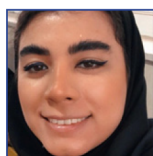
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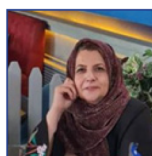
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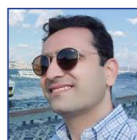


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