

Supplemental Reading

- ***My Sister, Guard Your Veil: My Brother, Guard Your Eyes: Uncensored Iranian Voices*** by Lila Azam Zanganeh.
A collection of works showcasing a variety of indigenous and ex-pat Iranian voices ranging from best selling authors to an Oscar nominated actress. Subjects covered include politics, women's rights, sex, art, racism, poetic culture, and Iran's underground nightlife.
- ***My Life as a Traitor*** by Zarah Ghahramani
As a 20-year-old University student in Tehran, Ghahramani was arrested, spent time in prison, and was subsequently convicted for crimes, including writing and speaking against the government. This is a compelling coming-of-age story in which the author examines her beliefs and emotions while she tells of a country in turmoil.
- ***Caspian Rain*** by Gina Barkhordar Nahai *fiction*
Spanning the late 1950s to early 1980s Iran, this novel illuminates police brutality under the Shah as well as the multiple ways Jews and Muslims intersected in Iranian society. Both a riveting family drama and compelling historical fiction, it offers a fascinating glimpse into Persian life prior to the 1979 insurgency.
- ***Prisoner of Tehran*** by Marina Nemat
Nemat tells of her harrowing experiences as a 16-year-old Iranian girl at the start of the revolution. In 1983, Marina Nemat, 16, who lived in Tehran, was arrested and sentenced to death for political crimes. Her only salvation from the firing squad was to marry a guard who fell in love with her, but insisted she convert to Islam, threatening to harm her family and friends unless she did. While her life was spared, Ali's home became her jail.
- ***Iran Awakening: A memoir of Revolution and Hope*** by Shirin Ebadi
Ebadi, the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, was part of the most liberated generation in Iran. She became the first woman judge in Iran, only to be forced out after the 1979 revolution. In this simply narrated memoir, she describes how she loyally remained in Iran as many members of the elite fled and how her experiences motivated her to struggle harder for justice and civil rights.
- ***Rage Against the Veil: The Courageous Life and Death of an Islamic Dissident*** by Parvin Darabi
The surviving sister and nephew of Iranian feminist and physician Dr. Homa Darabi recounts the story of her life, her struggle to challenge state-sponsored violence against women and children, and her ultimate self-immolation in a crowded square in Tehran in 1994.
- ***Modern Iran: Roots and Results of Revolution*** by Nikki R. Keddie
Keddie, a professor of History at UCLA, updates her classic *Roots of Revolution* to include insightful commentary on Iran's nuclear and foreign policy and its relations with the UN and the USA.
- ***Lipstick Jihad: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America and American in Iran*** by Azadeh Moaveni
Moaveni tells of being a young Californian secretly enthralled by the country her parents left during the Islamic Revolution. As an adult, she travels to Iran wanting to love it and determined to give it a chance. She quickly adapts to certain regulations, but struggles to except many others (and ultimately cannot). This is an excellent introduction to the country's recent history and the Islamic Revolution.

- ***Dakhmeh*** by Naveed Noori *fiction*
Intertwining a third-person narration with journal entries, Noori tells the tale of an Iranian-born American who returns to spend the rest of his life in Iran years after the revolution of 1979. He attempts to come to terms with the new Iran which is very different from the one he remembers as a child.
- ***Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books*** by Azar Nafisi
After leaving Iran to attend university, Nafisi returned to become a teacher in Tehran. After resigning from the school because of its repressive atmosphere, she formed a group with some of her best female students, and they began a secret study of Western literature. The meetings quickly became an outlet for political and personal debate, as the women shared stories of love, marriage and persecution under the Iranian government.
- ***Stories by Iranian Women Since the Revolution*** by Sorava Paknazar Sullivan (trnsl.) *fiction*
A collection of stories put forth by women who were affected by the revolution.