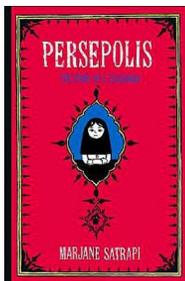


Books by the Stack



Persepolis: The Story of Childhood by Marjane Satrapi

Marjane Satrapi's memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. In powerful black-and-white comic strip images, Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq. The intelligent and outspoken only child of committed Marxists and the great-granddaughter of one of Iran's last emperors, Marjane bears witness to a childhood uniquely entwined with the history of her country. .

Why you'll like it: Heartbreaking. Captivating. Brilliant. Humorous.

About the Author: Author Marjane Satrapi was born in Iran, and grew up in Tehran. She has studied in Vienna and Strasbourg, and currently lives in Paris. Along with *Persepolis*, she is also the author of several children's books.

Questions for Discussion

1. From the beginning, it is clear that Marjane has a unique relationship with her parents and grandmother. How do they influence her and her relationship with the changing Iranian society?
2. What changes do the new fundamentalist government make in Iran? Her family enjoys having parties and drinking--what precautions do they take, and why do they continue despite the danger of being found out? Why do people seek to keep their regular routines even in dangerous times?
3. Why does American pop culture have such an influence on Marjane and kids her age? Why are she and her family willing to take such risks to have tapes, posters, and jean jackets?
4. What effect does the Iran-Iraq war have on daily life in Tehran? How do people, including Marjane's parents, act differently?
5. At one point, Marjane's own street is bombed. Have you ever come home to a major crisis or disaster like she did? How did it change you?
6. Even when she is very young, Marjane is outspoken at all times. How does this help her and hurt her in the new Iran? What decision does it lead her parents to make?

(Questions issued by FreeLibrary)

