

Let Me Tell You Where I've Been: New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora (Hardcover)

Persis M. Karim (Editor)

Editorial Reviews

Book Description

Until recently, Iranian literature had overwhelmingly been the domain of men. But things have changed. The new hybrid culture of Iranian Americans has given way to a uniquely feminine literary voice. LET ME TELL YOU WHERE I'VE BEEN is an extensive collection of the poetry, fiction, and nonfiction of women whose lives have been shaped by history, exile, and immigration. They represent an emerging multicultural generation of female sensibility and eloquence. You will not find flat predictable images here. Rather, these women write beyond the boundaries of place and instead inhabit a space somewhere between language and literature.

Featuring over one hundred selections (two-thirds of which have never been published before) from over fifty contributors—including such well-known writers as Gelareh Asayesh, Tara Bahrapour, Firoozeh Dumas, and Roya Hakakian—the collection represents a substantial cross section of this unique multicultural community. Divided into six parts, the book's themes of exile, family, resistance, love, and gender come together in the end. They create a conversation about Iran, Iranian culture, the Persian and English languages and the dual identities of its authors as represented and expressed in the West. Readers can share in the discovery of the wisdom and beauty of these woman and simultaneously witness them harnessing a power that is unmistakably their own.

From the Inside Flap

"This is a surprising collection. . . . Persis Karim has located a community of sensitive and articulate cultural observers and mapped that explosion of creativity for us."—Michael Beard, coeditor of MIDDLE EASTERN LITERATURES and author of NAGUIB MAHFOUZ: FROM REGIONAL FAME TO GLOBAL RECOGNITION

"[These writings] command our attention, not only for the range of their subject matter and literary artistry, but for representing a multiplicity of voices, the newest patch in this quilt of American culture. They are allegories of our enriched nation. . . . the real thing." —Zohreh T. Sullivan, author of EXILED MEMORIES: STORIES OF IRANIAN DIASPORA

"In these tender and no-so-tender pages you'll find the barely tellable story of what really happened to dreams deferred. Through the vivid, sometimes spellbinding accounts they provide, these gifted writers speak powerfully to the subject of displacement." —Al Young, from the Foreword

Product Details

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