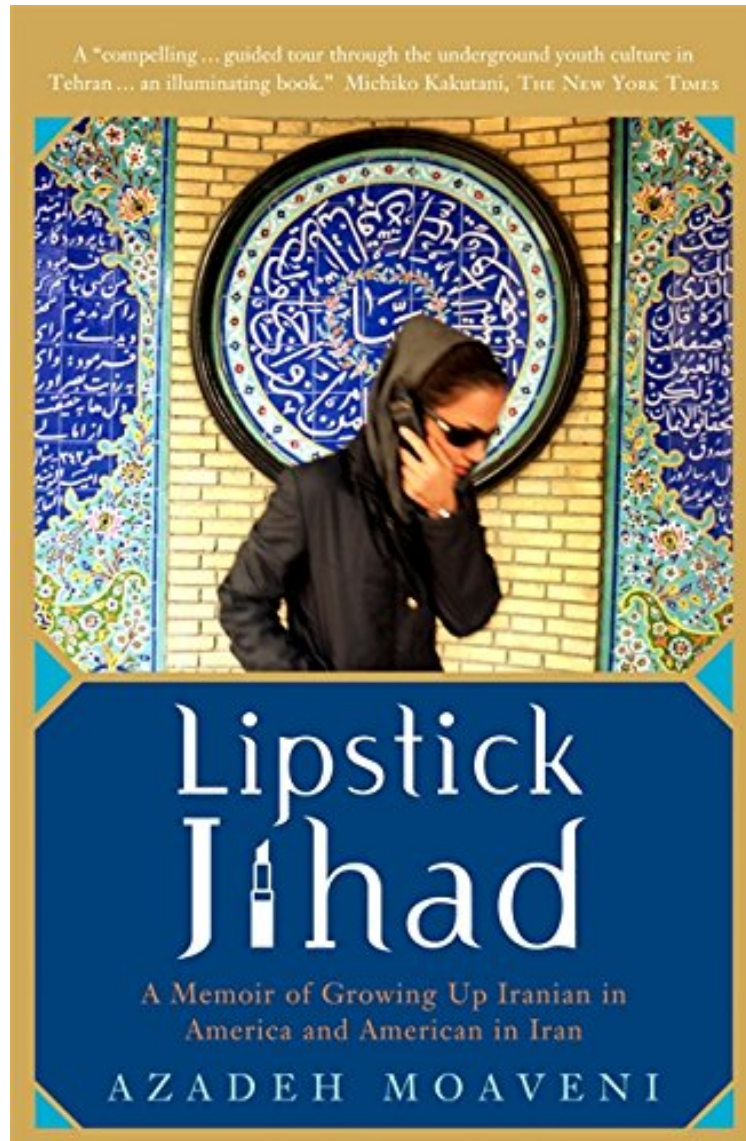


[Mobile pdf] Lipstick Jihad: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America and American in Iran

Lipstick Jihad: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America and American in Iran

Azadeh Moaveni

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Azadeh Moaveni : Lipstick Jihad: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America and American in Iran before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lipstick Jihad: A Memoir of Growing up Iranian in America and American in Iran:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderul bookBy J. StaffordAzadeh Moaveni is a likable young woman who never felt at "home" in America because of her Iranian heritage. She felt compelled to return to the

country of her parents, who immigrated to America due to political turmoil at the end of the Shah's reign. Azadeh was thrilled by her parents' tales of a beautiful country and customs of old. When she moved to Iran as a reporter for Time magazine, she found that she was more American than she thought. This is a wonderful personal story, woven with intricately detailed Iranian history. Azadeh can write like nobody's business, she is highly educated and her attention to detail is thorough. I loved this story and adore this writer, she is a wonderful story teller and hope she continues to write more in the future. Read *Honeymoon in Tehran* after this book as they are written in order of her experiences. I happened to be listening to Rosie radio on Sirius and Janette Barber mentioned what a great read these two books are, so I ordered them and agree. We in America hear only of the horrible government in Iran, not of the ordinary people who try to maintain a normal life with a brutal government. I highly recommend this to anyone who has a desire to understand the middle east, just a little bit more. Fantastic book. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Superb insider look at what led to the recent election uproar in Iran. By Thomas H. Kavelin. As a Persian-speaking American who learned Persian in college and spent nine months in pre-revolutionary Iran, and am now married to an Iranian, I found Moaveni's book rang true on so many levels...it's the best take I've seen so far on the Iranian diaspora experience in the US, while her descriptions of life as an Iranian-American in Teheran are vivid and brilliantly crafted. So much of the heroism, tragedy and extraordinary cultural contrasts in Iran that we have witnessed on television and the Internet in recent months (2009) takes on whole new dimensions and a great deal more clarity with Moaveni's lucid revelations. I can't wait to read *HONEYMOON IN TEHRAN*. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Luscious Lipstick Jihad. By Julie E. Strickland. I read Moaveni's follow-up book to this one, *Honeymoon in Tehran*, before reading *Lipstick Jihad*. I was a huge fan and curious to read her "prequel". It was lots of fun to go vicariously experience her first impressions of Tehran and the experiences of her life that lead up to her first move there, especially already knowing what was to happen later in her tale. She is a beautiful and entertaining writer, infusing her account of modern Iranian culture with many on-the-ground, profoundly relate-able accounts. I left the book feeling inspired as a fellow journalist, and wishing I could go for coffee with Moaveni the next time she's in town!

As far back as she can remember, Azadeh Moaveni has felt at odds with her tangled identity as an Iranian-American. In suburban America, Azadeh lived in two worlds. At home, she was the daughter of the Iranian exile community, serving tea, clinging to tradition, and dreaming of Tehran. Outside, she was a California girl who practiced yoga and listened to Madonna. For years, she ignored the tense standoff between her two cultures. But college magnified the clash between Iran and America, and after graduating, she moved to Iran as a journalist. This is the story of her search for identity, between two cultures cleaved apart by a violent history. It is also the story of Iran, a restive land lost in the twilight of its revolution. Moaveni's homecoming falls in the heady days of the country's reform movement, when young people demonstrated in the streets and shouted for the Islamic regime to end. In these tumultuous times, she struggles to build a life in a dark country, wholly unlike the luminous, saffron and turquoise-tinted Iran of her imagination. As she leads us through the drug-soaked, underground parties of Tehran, into the hedonistic lives of young people desperate for change, Moaveni paints a rare portrait of Iran's rebellious next generation. The landscape of her Tehran ski slopes, fashion shows, malls and cafes is populated by a cast of young people whose exuberance and despair brings the modern reality of Iran to vivid life.

From Publishers Weekly. Time reporter Moaveni, the American-born child of Iranian exiles, spent two years (2000-2001) working in Tehran. Although she reports on the overall tumult and repression felt by Iranians between the 1999 pro-democracy student demonstrations and the 2002 "Axis of Evil" declaration, the book's dominant story is more intimate. Moaveni was on a personal search "to figure out my relationship" to Iran. Neither her adolescent ethnic identity conundrums nor her idyllic memories of a childhood visit prepared her for the realities she confronted as she navigated Iran, learning its rules, restrictions and taboos and how to evade and even exploit them like a local. Because she was a journalist, the shadowy, unnerving presence of an Iranian intelligence agent/interrogator hovered continually ("it would be useful if we saw your work before publication," he told her). Readers also get intimate glimpses of domestic life: Moaveni lived among family and depicts clandestine partying, women's gyms and the popularity of cosmetic surgery. Eventually, Moaveni became "more at home than [her mother] was" in Iran, and a visit to the U.S. showed how Moaveni, who now lives in Beirut, had grown unaccustomed to American life, "where my Iranian instincts served no purpose." *Lipstick Jihad* is a catchy title, but its flippancy does a disservice to Moaveni's nuanced narrative. Agent, Diana Finch. (Mar.) Forecast: This work, as well as Afschineh Latifi's *Even After All This Time*, reviewed above, joins the recent explosion of memoirs by women about living in Iran, and could be displayed alongside Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*, Roya Hakakian's *Journey from the Land of No* and Azar Nafisi's *Reading Lolita in Tehran*. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From School Library Journal. Adult/High School. Moaveni went to Tehran to report for Time to find out both the truth about Iran and, she hoped, her "authentic self." One of the strongest memoirs written about being trapped between two countries, the book begins with the author as a young Californian who told friends she was "Persian." Secretly enthralled by the country her parents left during the Islamic Revolution, she wanted to love Iran and determined to

give it a chance. She quickly adapted to not smoking or smiling in public. She learned how dating boys and girls seen together on the street are subject to being beaten by the police. During her time in Iran, certain regulations relaxed: veils and roopooshes became available in an array of colors. Citizens pulled off the occasional wild party in the street. There were things she could not accept when a friend of hers was caught with a bottle of wine and fined 30 lashes. The author writes well about the aftermath of 9/11 feeling "suspect" in the U.S. and tensing under the weight of President Bush's naming Iran as part of an "Axis of Evil." She includes many stories about Iranians with varying situations and perspectives. Her book is an excellent introduction to the country's recent history and the Islamic Revolution. It makes fine reading both for those who will identify with the author and for those who are curious about how teens in very different countries negotiate their lives. Emily Lloyd, Stephen J. Betze Library, Georgetown, DE Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist After growing up in suburban California, where she never felt fully comfortable, Moaveni moved in 2000 to Iran, the land her parents had fled. Although she spent her childhood aching to live in Tehran, the place she discovers is nothing like she imagined--and, indeed, not what most of us imagine, either. She describes a sprawling city choked by smog and traffic; people "preoccupied by sex in the manner of dieters constantly thinking about food"; and, of course, the volunteer Morality Police, whose brazen cruelty has to be read about to be believed. Moaveni has captured Tehran's youth, the "student demonstrators" often in the news, in both their worldliness and their ignorance. And although much of the writing tells more than it shows, Moaveni is riveting when she works her way into a scene--capturing, for instance, the horror of a girl who must not react when the Morality Police beat her boyfriend lest they find out she is breaking shariah by dating. Not quite Persepolis without the pictures, but good stuff all the same. John Green Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved