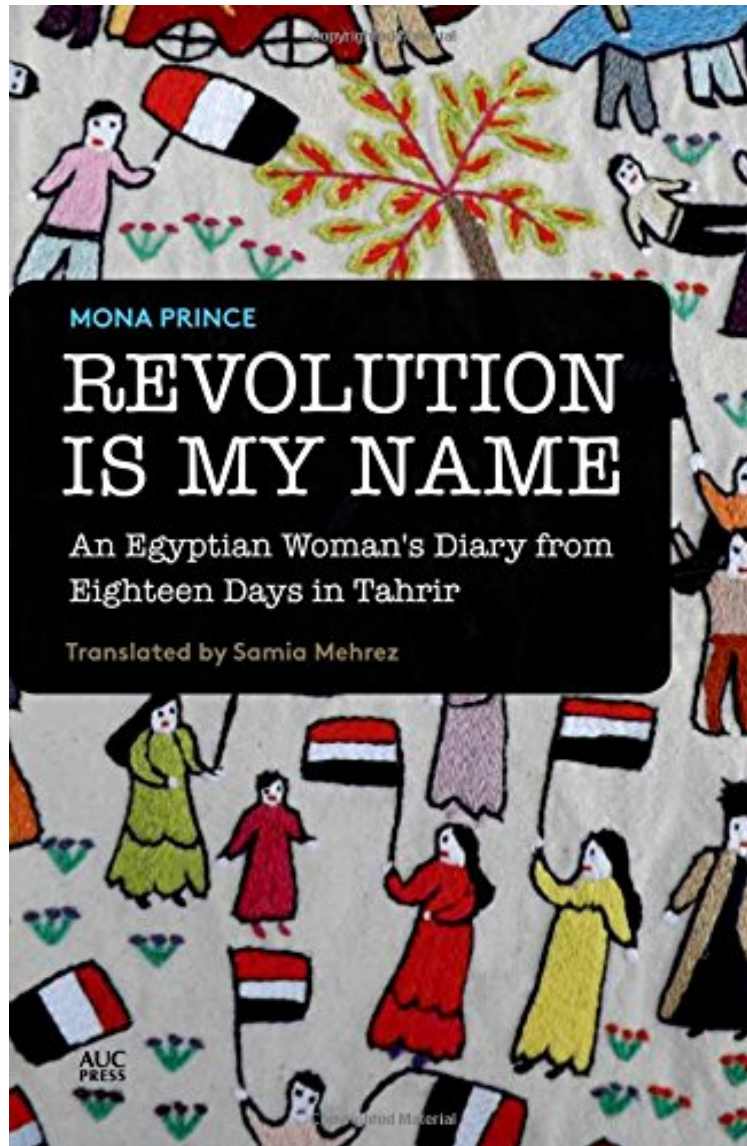


(Download free pdf) Revolution Is My Name: An Egyptian Woman's Diary from Eighteen Days in Tahrir

Revolution Is My Name: An Egyptian Woman's Diary from Eighteen Days in Tahrir

Mona Prince, Samia Mehrez

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Mona Prince, Samia Mehrez : Revolution Is My Name: An Egyptian Woman's Diary from Eighteen Days in Tahrir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Revolution Is My Name: An Egyptian Woman's Diary from Eighteen Days in Tahrir:

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Customer Often times when we read of revolutions, our minds are clouded with images of "great men". This book was certainly refreshing to see the revolution through the eyes of a woman who is certainly of the times. In it, we are exposed to cultural norms that become foggy once harsh realities are brought into question. Its definitely worth the read, which I paired with a theoretical study of sexual tendencies after being placed in juxtaposition with wartime nuances.

A writer, a university professor, a woman: this is the insightful and humorous description of one hesitant revolutionary's experiences through the eighteen days of the Egyptian uprising that led to the fall of President Hosni Mubarak in January/February 2011. Juggling humor and horror, hope and fear, certitude and anxiety, Prince immerses us in each day's unexpected and inconclusive details, as she meets other writers and intellectuals involved in the demonstrations. Mixing the political and the personal, the public and the private, she exposes both her family's conservative politics and her own classist prejudices against other sectors of Egyptian society, all of whom teach her lasting transformative lessons. There are moving descriptions of the brutal violence of the security forces against demonstrators, the daily battles of resistance, and the author's own abduction and beating at the hands of the police, but she also paints scenes of exceptional solidarity, perseverance, and humanity, while weaving in conversations with fellow demonstrators, new-found friends, and street children, as well as police conscripts and officers. She describes her fears for her sister, who disappears on the day of the infamous Battle of the Camel, their decision to join the sit-in, cooking for the protesters, singing and dancing in the cold to sustain energy during the long nights, and sleeping by the army tanks to stop them from moving in. *Revolution Is My Name* is a testimony not only of women's participation in the Egyptian uprising and their courage in confronting constrictive gender divides at home and on the street but equally of the important contribution of women writers as chroniclers of the momentous events of January and February 2011.

"For thinking about how the collective memory of revolution is being created right now, even as the revolution regains its steam, there is no better place to start than with Mona Prince's remarkable memoir of the 25 January Uprising. *Revolution is My Name* (Ismi Thawra) tells the story of revolution as it unfolds over eighteen days. It is a literary memoir in the best sense of the word. By this, I mean that it expresses and reflects on, rather than documents a set of lived experiences. Moreover, it is not merely a story about the unfolding of a revolution as told by a participant who was there. Arguably, the more important story is about the character of the narrator developing as an evolving, complicated revolutionary."--Elliott Colla, *Jadaliyya*"Prince's prose is experientially unsettling and yet irrationally jovial, much like the iconic eighteen days she so vividly helps us relive. As revolution drifts further into individual and communal memory, Prince's retelling will remain a stubborn testament to the moments of hopeful triumph over the status quo."--Adel Iskandar, scholar of Arab Studies, Georgetown University, Washington DC" This book offers a first rate discussion of all the important issues with which Egypt and Egyptians of different classes, genders, generations, ethnic groups, and political orientations continue to struggle. It encourages its readers to stay tuned to see what the Egyptian revolution, and those funny and unpredictable Egyptians, will eventually deliver."--Mervat F. Hatem, Professor of Political Science, Howard University, Washington DC" *Revolution is My Name* is a beautifully written, detailed text, bringing together Facebook statuses, discussions on the streets, at home, and with friends, life on a daily basis in Tahrir, conversations with military and police soldiers, and much more. A must read for anyone interested in the experiential level of the revolution."--Atef Said, Visiting scholar and lecturer in Sociology, the University of Illinois at Chicago" A unique contribution . . . by an observant and intelligent woman writer with an understanding of ordinary people."--Banipal About the Author Mona Prince was born in Cairo in 1970. She is associate professor of English Literature at Suez Canal University in Egypt. She has published novels (including *So You May See*, AUC Press, 2011) and short stories in Arabic, and has translated both poetry and short stories. In 2012, she nominated herself for the Egyptian presidency in the run-up to the country's first ever democratic presidential elections. Samia Mehrez is professor of Arabic literature in the Department of Arab and Islamic Civilization and director of the Center for Translation Studies at the American University in Cairo. She is the author of *The Literary Atlas of Cairo* (AUC Press, 2010) and *The Literary Life of Cairo* (AUC Press, 2011), and editor of *Translating Egypt's Revolution: The Language of Tahrir* (AUC Press, 2012).