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**U.S. BORN DAUGHTER OF IRANIAN IMMIGRANTS
NAVIGATES COMPLEX QUESTIONS ABOUT
MARRIAGE, MOTHERHOOD, TRADITION, & THE UNIVERSAL LONGING FOR HOME
IN IRANIAN AMERICAN AUTHOR SUSANNE PARI'S
POWERFUL NEW NOVEL SET IN PRE-9/11 AMERICA**

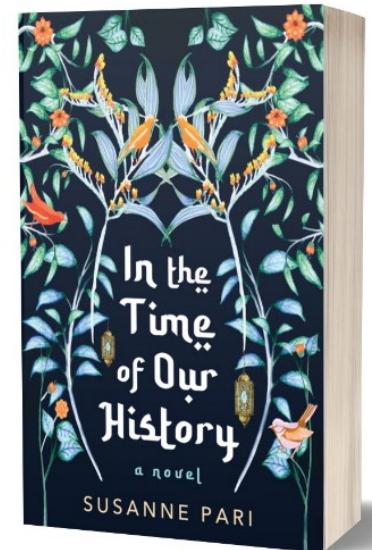
IN THE TIME OF OUR HISTORY by Susanne Pari, on sale January 3, 2023

Early Praise for *IN THE TIME OF OUR HISTORY* by Susanne Pari

"This jewel of a novel is a universal tale that naturally leads to self-reflection and conversations about the changing relationship between mothers and daughters, and the choices we make, good and bad, early in life and late, which determine our identity." —**Amy Tan**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Joy Luck Club*

"There is so much wisdom and love in this irresistible and assured novel. Susanne Pari understands the complex and flawed thing that is family, and carves right into the center of the human heart." — **Meg Waite Clayton**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Postmistress of Paris*

"For years, I've been waiting to read a novel that captures Iranian Americans in all their complexity. Susanne Pari's *In the Time of Our History* is that masterful gem. More than that, it is a beautifully refined tale of the conflicts, secrets, tragedies, and revelations that many immigrants and their American-born children must live through in order to preserve the fragile fabric of family in the diaspora." —**Anita Amirrezvani**, author of *The Blood of Flowers* and *Equal of the Sun*



PublishersLunch
Buzz Books

Inspired by her own family's experiences after the 1979 Islamic Revolution, author and journalist Susanne Pari's first novel in two decades, ***IN THE TIME OF OUR HISTORY***, explores the entangled lives within an Iranian American family split between San Francisco and New Jersey in the late-1990s. It's an intimate yet universal story about the tensions between family and duty, tradition and identity, expectations and desires, as a woman reluctantly travels to her parents' New Jersey home to honor her sister's One Year – the Persian tradition of marking the first anniversary of someone's death.

The Jahanis are a family shaped by three forces: the parents' clenched grip on tradition in wake of their exile from Iran, the women's deference to or defiance of their tyrannical family patriarch, and the tragic accident that forces them to reconcile their already tenuous bonds. But ***IN THE TIME OF OUR HISTORY*** is about more than a family confronted by grief. It's more than a portrait of Iranian American culture, the immigrant experience, and generational culture clashes.

It's a story about home and the roles of women within it – mother, daughter, sister, wife, aunt – the different paths to becoming each, and what happens when we release cultural expectations around these roles.

ABOUT THE BOOK

This sweeping, multigenerational saga transports readers into the world of the Jahani family, Iranian immigrants grappling with the future of their traditions as an American-born daughter steps outside her expected role, shaking loose their foundations—and their secrets—in a novel that poses larger questions about the meaning of marriage, motherhood, and starting anew even as we long for the place we once called home . . .

Twelve months after her younger sister Anahita's death, Mitra Jahani reluctantly returns to her parents' home in suburban New Jersey to observe the Iranian custom of "The One Year." Ana is always in Mitra's heart, though they chose very different paths. While Ana, sweet and dutiful, bowed to their domineering father's demands and married, Mitra rebelled, and was banished.

Caught in the middle is their mother, Shireen, torn between her fierce love for her surviving daughter and her loyalty to her husband. Yet his callousness even amid shattering loss has compelled her to rethink her own decades of submission. And when Mitra is suddenly forced to confront hard truths about her sister's life, and the secrets each of them hid to protect others, mother and daughter reach a new understanding—and forge an unexpected path forward.

Alive with the tensions, sacrifices, and joys that thrum within the heart of every family, *In the Time of Our History* is also laced with the richness of ancient and modern Persian culture and politics, in a tale that is both timeless and profoundly relevant.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Susanne Pari is an Iranian American novelist, journalist, essayist, and book reviewer. Born in New Jersey to an Iranian father and an American mother, she grew up both in the United States and Iran until the 1979 Islamic Revolution forced her family into permanent exile. Her first novel, *The Fortune Catcher* has been translated into six languages and her non-fiction writing has appeared in *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Boston Globe*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *National Public Radio*, and *Medium*. A former Program Director for Book Expo, she is a member of the National Book Critics Circle, the Author's Guild, the San Francisco Writers' Grotto, and the Castro Writers' Cooperative, she serves on the board of the Lakota Children's Enrichment Writing Project and is an alumna of the Hedgebrook Writing Residency. She blogs occasionally for the Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies and divides her time between Northern California and New York.

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IN THE TIME OF OUR HISTORY
by Susanne Pari

John Scognamiglio Books, an imprint of Kensington Publishing

On Sale: January 3, 2023 / Fiction / Trade Paperback
\$16.95 (\$22.95 CAN) / 978-1-4967-3926-1

Book Setting: **Late 1990s, San Francisco/New Jersey**
Author Residence: Atherton, CA

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