



***Illustrated and Children and Young Adults' Titles***  
***2018***

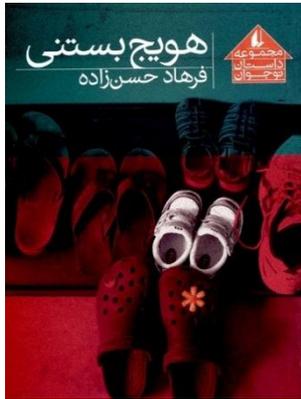
CONTACT:

Tell: +9821 66413367

Fax: +9821 66414285

[sameen@ofoqco.com](mailto:sameen@ofoqco.com)

[www.ofoqco.com](http://www.ofoqco.com)



**Carrot Ice-cream (Short Story Collection)**

**Written by: Farhad Hassanzadeh**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2014**

**Age Group: +12**

**ISBN: 9786003530539**

**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**Pages: 128**

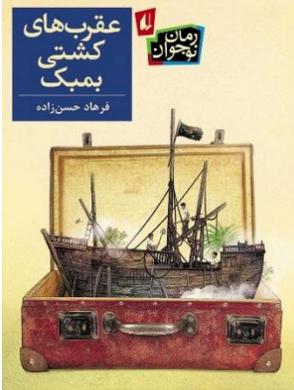
The stories of this title are all based in the modern environment of today's city and have entangled with young adults' lives. These six stories are mainly realistic ones with delicate tracks of humor. Some of the characters and their dialogues can also be interesting for adults and this could add to the values of the book, for younger adults always like to read adults' literature. On the other hand, there are clear evidence of author's fascination with adolescents' language and slangs. This alone can attract a wide range of audience for this book. Moreover, Farhad Hassanzadeh is among very prolific and well-known Iranian authors for children and young adults. His books have been translated in many countries around the world, and he has won many national literary awards so far. It's worth mentioning that parallel stories in each of the six chapters of the book have prominent roles in inspiring creativity and delicacy in younger readers.

*I walked out of the white smoke that had encircled me like clouds in the sky. With trembling hands and feet I entered the laundry store. I swallowed a handful of saliva in my mouth. "Excuse me, sir?" I said. The man behind the counter turned towards me. He looked at me with a big question mark. I had to continue with what I had to say, before another bowl of saliva gathered in my mouth.*

- *I... a few days ago... I mean on Monday... maybe it was Sunday... Perhaps... no, it definitely was on Monday... I brought my father's suits here. But you were not here. It was a young man.*
- *Are you telling me that I'm old?*

*The man was the same age as my father. I looked at him precisely and tried to make it better: "no, God Forbid. I mean he was nice and smiley."*

- *Are you saying I'm grumpy?*



**Scorpions of the Ship Bambak (Novel)**

**Written by: Farhad Hasanzadeh**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2015**

**Age Group: +12**

**ISBN: 978-964-369-594-1**

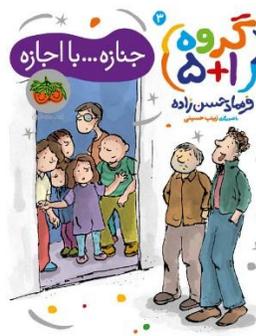
**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**Pages: 202**

Set in southern part of Iran, by the Arvand River, the novel is narrated by its protagonist, Khaloo, who has some conversations with the author, too. He identifies himself with Huckleberry Finn. This Iranian Finn is experiencing two adventures at the same time: Keeping a suitcase filled with banned political books (during the beginning of the Islamic Revolution), and, falling in love right in the middle of the turmoil. He is a member of the Scorpio gang, all the others also belong to poor and marginal groups, living outside a big city. When Khaloo gets attracted to the daughter of a wealthy family, the author finds the opportunity for treating the clash between two separated and disparate classes through the innocent love of the two youngsters.

"I was on the way to Bambak. There was no place like Bambak .As I mentioned before, Bambak was our hang-out. A cozy place, whose owner was serving his sentence—condemned for homicide or betrayal. He had got life sentence.

It seemed to me, beforehand, the term "life sentence "was the name of a horrific prison. But sometimes after, it was in the movie that I got to know— by seeing and hearing — the meaning of life sentence: Serving a life time in prison, Until the last breath. Until the final creed. So, that is how Bambak became ours, or how we became its owner. I mean, we thought when he'd got life sentence, then never ever he does find a chance to look for it. Besides, some unprincipled thieves had taken away its engine, and generator, and all that was precious. In other words we were owners of a stripped down boat, anchored by an abandoned pier, forever. What relieved us was the fact that nobody would pass by the pier and the surroundings. What would hold people back from it was the marshy terrain. After each flow, all the lands— near and far— became inundated and then, maybe some small fishing boat would pass by."



## G5+1

Written by: Farhad Hassanzadeh

Illustrated by: Zainab Hosseini

Publisher: Ofoq

Publication Date: 2016

Age Group: +10

ISBN: 9786003532960, 9786003532977, 9786003532984, 9786003532991

Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm

Pages: 64, 64, 72, 72

(Series for Children)

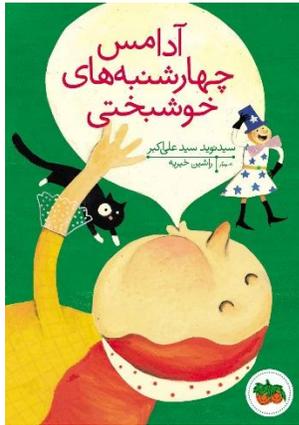
- 1- The Troublesome Birthday Party
- 2- The Man Who Found Himself
- 3- Corpse... Unauthorized
- 4- Biz... Biz... Business

P5+1 is the latest work by Farhad Hassanzadeh, who is among the most well-known authors for children and young adults in Iran. He has numerous works with national and international acclaim, such as *Goodnight Commander*. In this collection of short novels for younger readers, there are stories about friendship, unity, sense of humor, curiosity, and of course, lots of fun. In recent years, short novellas for children at the early years of primary school have been celebrated around the world. Many critics, school teachers, and parents believe such books will help them to raise book-loving children and adolescents. G5+1 is one of few Iranian series, with interesting characters, whose relationships and friendships are full of unexpected adventures and life-lessons. One of the most prominent features of the series is its fluent narrative and the smart use of language. Therefore, translating of this series would not cause any damage to its authenticity. The stories revolve around 5 kids (and the plus one, is one of the boys' younger sister) who are neighbors in an apartment, and they face various stories, such as an unwanted birthday, burglary in their building, a strange man, and funny enough, running a house business in order to have enough money to buy out their school.

Everybody knows 5 plus 1 equals 6, oh, but not here.

Here 5 plus 1 equals storm, typhoon, earthquake, clamor, cheer, glee, and one hundred other things!





**Lucky Wednesdays' Gum**  
**Written by: Navid Seyed Ali Akbar**  
**Illustrated by: Rashin Kheirieh**  
**Publisher: Ofoq**  
**Publication Date: 2015**  
**Age Group: Pre-school**  
**ISBN: 9786003531499**  
**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**  
**Pages:24**

*English translation is available.*

This is a beautifully woven tale of magic, optimism, and the contrast between children's and adults' worlds. The protagonist of the title is a little girl, who is not rich, does not live with her parents, her best friends are city cats, and not everyone is kind to her. The contrasting view between how she sees the world and how others do, has created such a unique tale of fantasy. The girl finds a pack of gum, which brings luck only in Wednesdays. She embarks upon the path to find out what day of the week it is, and encounters three grown-ups, busy with their mundane problems. None of them pays much attention to her question, but she uses her wishes to give them what they need.

Suddenly, she realized that today is Wednesday, and that she has used all her wishes, given to her by the magical gum, on others without even knowing it.

But she is not sad or disappointed, she goes to sleep, thinking about another tomorrow, and the simple life she has for her own.

When we all imagine the possibility of granting our wishes, we, as humble as we might be, think of wild wishes and cannot get enough of it. But the main message of this title, unlike any other, is the simplicity of life and the intricacy of coincidence. Reading it, with its delicate illustrations, and very fluent language and narrative, can offer a different experience for children around the world.



### ***I Was A Deer***

**Written by: Ahmad Akbarpour**

**Illustrated by: Narges Mohammadi**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2016**

**Age Group: Pre-school, primary school**

**ISBN: 9786003532397**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages:**

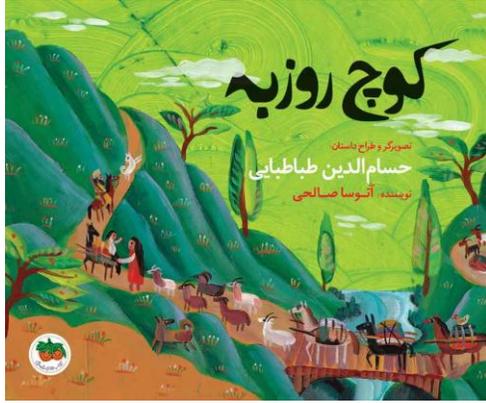
*English translation is available.*

Winner of three international awards in 2009 and 2014 (First prize of Korean Illustration awards, Illustration Contest of Portugal, and Sharjeh's Illustrated Book of the Year), *I Was A Deer* is the story of hunters and prey; a concept as old as first hunters and gatherers on the face of the Earth. The author tells the tale of a deer, hunted during the hunting games of a king. The illustrations masterfully depict the ups and down of life as a wild deer in the meadows. Nowadays, there are many disputes over the poaching of wild animals, and this story can bring about the right discourse for children, for it is narrated from the point of view of a wounded deer. In *I Was A Deer*, after we read and see the beautiful life of wild deer, there comes the king and his companions, who with their bows and arrows, hunt down the animal just for the fun of it. However, the king himself becomes the victim of his hunting, when he's thrown down from her horse, whose rein is tangled in the branches of a tree. The deer, lost and in pain, tries to free the horse, and that's when the king's daughter comes along. She takes the wounded deer to the palace and look after it, but the poor creature dies. This perhaps can be the most touching part of the story, for the deer is still talking to the readers, mentioning that he misses his family and friends: *I am a deer, but a dead deer, But I still long for my kind to wander around in the meadows.*

*I was bleeding. I was thirsty. Drops of blood ran on from my leg. I licked my wound. There was no deer around. I called for my mother and my father. I called my brothers and sisters, my friends; but no one was around... I was lost.*

*I was afraid of the hunters. I wanted to run away. Suddenly the king, who was wounded and on the ground as well, turned his head and saw me. He could have hunted me, if he wanted to. He saw*

*my wound and gazed into my eyes. His stare was different from the hunters'. He even smelled different. I wanted to save him and his horse...*



### **Rouzbeh's Migratory**

Written by: Atousa Salehi

Illustrated by: Hesam aldin Tababaie

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2016**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003532106**

**Size: 23 cm X 20 cm**

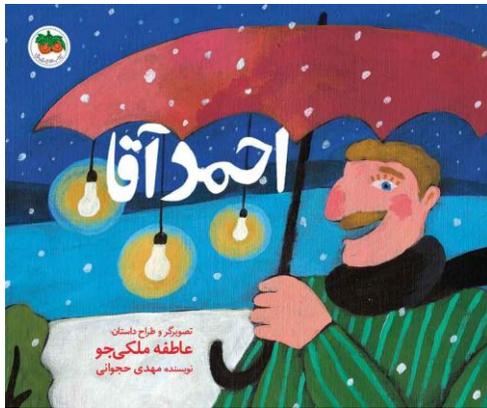
**Pages:**

*English translation is available.*

Nomads live all around the world, with their unique lifestyle and untouched lands, such as steppe, tundra, and ice and sand. In Iran, there have always been nomadic people with their beautiful livestock, handicrafts, art, and history.

This title has provided a unique opportunity to witness just a glance on their lives. The mesmerizing illustrations of the book, as simple yet as beautiful as the real life of nomads, tells the story of love, experience, sympathy, and hardship of nomadic life.

The role of animals is very bold in nomadic routine life, and they are of great importance. This has always created a special bond between animal and man and the illustrator depicts in such a delicate way that goes smoothly with the simple, yet rich story of the book.



**Mr. Ahhmad**

Illustrated by: Atefeh Malekijoo

Written by: Mehdi Hejvani

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2016**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003532090**

**Size: 23 cm X 20 cm**

**Pages: 28**

*English translation is available.*

Like all illustrated books, Mr. Ahmad is the perfect combination of story and picture. The author and illustrator have worked together to create a world of words and painting for children, to make for them a vivid story, and to encourage them to follow their imagination. Mr. Ahmad is the story of man, who doesn't speak and can't hear, whose name nobody knows, whom people count on to bring them light amidst darkness.

He drives with, sleeps in, and lives on his motorcycle. He brings light wherever he goes and for that, everybody loves him. They call him with different last names: Ahmad Lightgiver, Ahmad Brightside, Ahmad Luminous.

People say good prayers to him and one day, his heart is luminous with the light of love. He marries a woman called Sun (Khorsheed in Farsi) and they together, roam around and bring light wherever they go.

This book is one of the best illustrated titles of recent years in Iran, and has been chosen to be introduced in The White Raven Catalog 2015, of International Youth Library of Munich, in Germany.



## **The Smiling Banana**

**Written by: Hamid Reza Shah Abadi**

**Illustrated by: Hassan Mousavi**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date:**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003532168**

**Size: 23 cm X 20 cm**

**Pages: 2016**

*English translation is available.*

Simplicity at its best is manifested in this picture book. The contrasting beauties of nature mingles with the imagination of author and illustrator and creates a story children won't forget easily. The happy banana changes the life of a gorilla and shows him another way of life. Others badger the Gorilla because of his affections towards a banana and they are forced to leave that part of the jungle, in search for peace and quiet.

They are united with another Gorilla, who has a smiling apple friend. The main message of the book is what has caused struggle and frustration for many: Change, and the acceptance that change is necessary and most likely, fruitful, in every aspect of the word!



### **Porcupine Cousins**

Illustrator: Atieh Bozorg Sohrabi

Author: Majid Rasti

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2015**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003531512**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages: 20**

*English translation is available.*

This is the sweet tale of two Porcupines, who happen to be cousins. They're on their way to reach the Porcupine City. One is called This and the other one, That. In the text's story, they are indicated with colours, one orange, and the other, purple. They want to rest, but they both move around and decide to fight: one spine from That and the other from This, while they're both hiding on the two sides of a big rock. They threw spines at each other and as the night fell, they both went to sleep, without knowing that each and every last one of their spines had been thrown.

The next day they started missing one another. They collected the other's spine and set out to look for their cousins. They both rounded the rock but never reached their cousin. At sun down, they heard a crowd calling their names. The citizens of Porcupine City were looking for them and eventually, found them. The porcupine cousins are once more reunited.



**The Ogre Conserve**

**Written by: Mehdi Rajabi**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date:**

**Age Group: +12**

**ISBN: 9789643699680**

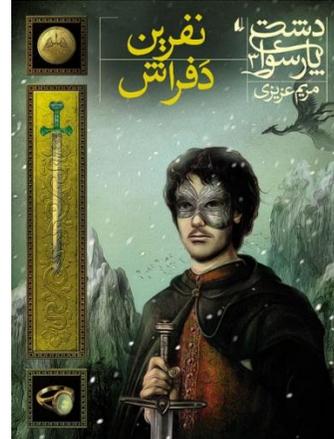
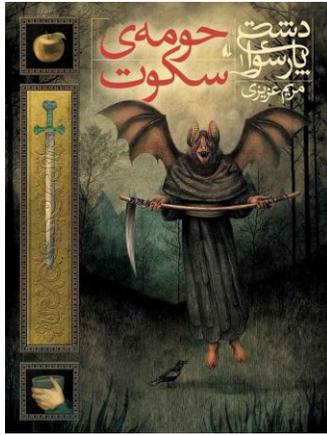
**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**Pages: 220**

Mehdi Rajabi has been a well-known author for a decade now. He always says his main passion is to write novels for younger adults. He has won a number of literary prizes so far, such as: Yalda Literary Prize, Isfahan Literary Prize and winner of Best Book for Children and Young Adults.

The Ogre Conserve has a twist in it: a good boy who wants to be bad. Tooka is a clever boy, with whole lot of problems at home and at school. His father passed away and his mother is so depressed she doesn't care about Tooka. In School, there are always some bully boys who want to hurt him. Hi is alone, has no friends, and gets bitten all the time. Someday, he buys a book from an old lady: the biography of a criminal. Some parts of this memoir is dextrously woven in the context of the book. Tooka decides to be a criminal because his current life is very disappointing to him. The old lady sold an Ogre Conserve to Tooka as well. The Ogre is big, bitter, speaks nonsense, like the colour yellow and doesn't obey Tooka. When Tooka's finger is broken in a fight at school, he has to stay home and then he'll get to know the magic of numbers. His mathematics brilliance is flourished and he becomes a well-known math scientist. He no longer wishes to be a criminal, for now he is famous and loved.





### **Parsua Prairie (series)**

#### **Young Adults' Fantasy Novels**

Written by: **Maryam Azizi**

Illustration of Cover art by: **Pezhman Rahimizadeh**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date:**

**Age Group: +12**

**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**Pages: 264, 472, 424,**

**ISBN: 978-600-353-146-8, 978-600-353-047-8, 978-600-353-342-4**

The Series *Parsua Prairie* is indeed a new experience for readers, offered by a very capable author, who has created a land of her own. In this series, people, demons, landscapes, and narratives, entangled together by a series of unforeseen turn of events, are all one of a kind. Incidents and suspensions take place with surprising effects. There are no definite bad and good, but a spectrum of colours and adjectives. Loves and sufferings are laced in a narrative so vivid and influential that very soon the reader feels as though he has entered a world of his own, in which he must fight to survive and deal with ups and downs of the story. Brilliant characters, brand new atmosphere, and familiar yet unfamiliar legends and myths altogether create a unique experience of readership, which can be relatable to all cultures. Therefore, this series is truly a souvenir from contemporary Iranian literature for young adults from around the world.

### ***Parsua Prairie***

Written by: **Maryam Azizi**

#### ***Book 1: In Vicinity of Silence***

The book starts with the story of a girl called Mandana. She lives with her parents. A boy called Abtin live with his parents in the same neighborhood. Abtin appears to be a loner, for he spends most of his time on his own. Once, when other boys in the alley want to abuse and persecute Mandana, Abtin interferences and tries to defend her. He takes one of the bullies to the back of alley and frightens him in a mysterious and dreadful way. The bully runs away and later, speaks of magic and fear.

Mandana turns 18 and Abtin and his family leave that neighborhood. Mandana and her family go on a trip and their car falls into a valley. Her parents die and she does too. However, she is revived later, by a wizard called Razian. Therefore, Mandana has to live in the land of wizards and witches. She is informed that if she returns to humans' land she will die. During the course of the story, we find out that after being revived, she has gained magical powers.

Very soon we find out that Razian has seen in her dreams one night that she should be there at the valley to save someone: that "someone" is Mandana.

Razian is a doctor, who works for herbs to make potions and remedies. Mandana becomes Razian's assistant and one day, Abtin sees the two together. He is also Razian's assistant. Abtin's mother is noble and genuine witch, however, his father is a regular human. This all means that Abtin is a hybrid or half-breed. According to wizardry laws and regulations, hybrids are not allowed to use magic and their special powers. Mandana and Abtin live a peaceful life with Razian, although according to the rusty and old laws of wizards, hybrids are unoriginal, sinister, and of bad omen. They are ridiculed and threatened by other original wizards.

Here comes the horrible incident. Each year, a contest called the Best Wizard Contest is held. Abtin and Mandana must participate in the contest and win, in order to prove themselves to the society of skeptical wizards; otherwise, they will be killed. They take part along with three other wizards. Abtin and Mandana gradually dominate over the bad and evil features of the contest. They gain special powers and with the help of their human instincts, high values, and recognizing the good, appear in the contest.

After a great deal of breath-taking adventures, the first book approaches the end. They have not yet found The Apple to leave the contest. There's also a vicious wizard, who kills Abtin and captures Mandana and Razian at the end of Book 1. But Abtin lives through special magic.

## ***Parsua Prairie***

***Written by: Maryam Azizi***

### ***Book 2: Prophecy of Dawn***

The protagonist of the series, Mandana, is caught in the Coffin of Fear. She is saved by someone, who she later finds out was Kianick. In this title, we have five characters: Mandana, Kianick, Abtin, Banafsheh, and Nariman. They are all stuck in the Enchanted Forest. They are still trying to find The Apple. After Mandana is saved, they go back to finding The Apple. Ultimately, with the help of a citizen from Urtaj City they find The Apple and an ancient castle.

There they face an evil woman, whose name is Gorgona and is a servant to Shargon (The Black Wizard). Gorgona is a woman with dangerous eyes and hairs of snakes. At the end, Gorgona petrifies herself by looking into a mirror and seeing her own reflection. Mandana once again becomes the heroine and saves her friends. However, Gorgona performed the magic of the Black Spear on Kianick and as a result, he suffers a deep and dark wound on his shoulder. He is now struggling with darkness for the rest of his life. Ultimately, these five wizards gain the Apple and return to the city. However, Shargon, determined to kill Mandana, does not leave her alone. Until now, Kianick's mission was to eliminate and kill Mandana, but after the contest, Shargon directly and through bat-men enters the field and attacks Razian's house. Razian is then captured, but Mandana is saved by Kianick and takes her to his father's palace. When Kianick was in the Enchanted Forest his father was killed. From now on, Mandana's life as a fugitive and prisoner takes another path. She's dubious about Kianick. She feels a great deal of love and affection towards him, but is afraid of him at the same time. The five wizards gather again in the quest of finding out why Shargon wants Mandana dead. Now the city is completely in the hand of the evil group. Darkness rules over the city and the group finds out that according to an ancient prophecy, Mandana is a quadruple, who can destroy Shargon for good. After a great deal of combat and fights with the evil forces, and for the sake of her friends, being captured, Mandana decides to surrender herself to Shargon. They meet near a lake and Mandana, with the help of Kianick, Banafsheh, and Nariman, defeat Shargon. All the other prisoners are freed, except for Razian.

***Parsua Prairie***

*Written by: Maryam Azizi*

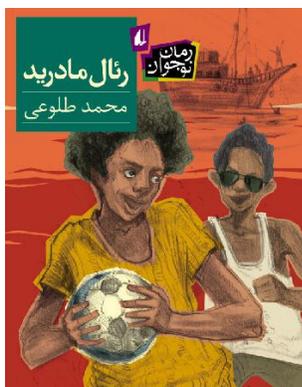
***Book 3: Dafrash's Curse (Unpublished)***

The story begins five years after Shargon's death. Mandana and Horn the Sparrow live in Razian's cottage. Horn is a citizen of Urtaj City. Most of Mandana's friends are now married. Kianick has left for faraway lands. Although Mandana is now a national hero, she still believes that Razian is alive. She lives her life in pain and misery. She has no interest in festivities and interacting with others. Mandana thinks that Shargon, or evil as a whole, has not been destroyed completely. She feels its presence in wizardry society and in her heart as well.

Meanwhile, in a parallel narrative, we find out that Shargon is still alive. He lives inside Kianick, through a dark magical invention of his, called the Black Spear. Kianick returns to Parsua Prairie and tries to get close to Mandana. He attempts to kill her several times, but the school's masters and a group we come to know as Niazan, save her life. Gradually the romantic relationship between Mandana and Kianick rekindles. Each time Mandana refuses to complain against Kianick and decides to act against eliminating him. She knows that Kianick's attempts on her life are not deliberately his own decisions, but due to a force within him and unwanted will.

Moreover, Mandana is in touch with Razian in her dreams and through her mind. When Razian is tortured by Shargon, Mandana too feels the pain. There are many relationships between Horn and other students and other characters from China and Ireland also enter the narrative.

At the end, during the celebrations of Nowrooz (Persian New Year), Kianick unwillingly tries to kill Banafsheh. She is saved as a result of Mandana's and an Irish doctor's vigilance. Kianick, bothered by his inner slavery by Shargon, decides to kill himself. At the end of this book, everything ends in a limbo. Is Kianick really dead?



### **Real Madrid**

**Written by: Mohammad Tolouie**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2014**

**Age Group: +12**

**ISBN: 9789643699994**

**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**Pages: 136**

Mohammad Tolouie is an Iranian author, mostly famous because of his books for adult readers. He has won numerous national prizes, among which Golshiri Prize can be mentioned. This time, he has written a novel for young adults and the audience seems to like it very much.

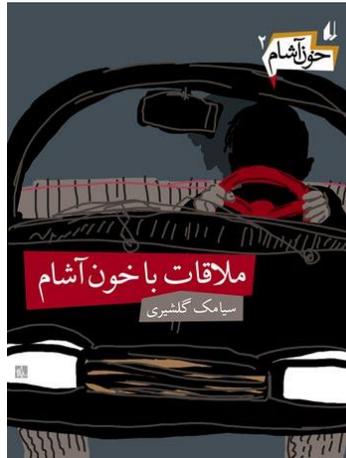
Real Madrid, as obvious from its title, is a book about Iranian's love for football. A group of young boys from South of Iran, decide to go to Dubai and play a match against the younger players of Real Madrid, one of the greatest football clubs of all time. Their coach, Mr. Jalali, helps them to get on a boat to reach Dubai, but they are forced to swim 3 km to reach the shore. In Dubai nothing goes as plan: they have nowhere to stay, no money to practice nothing to eat, and no one to ask for help. In the meantime, Mr. Jalali is caught by the police, accused of kidnapping his own daughter who lives in Dubai with her mother. Aboo, an old Iranian football player comes to their rescue and bring them to the stadium to play with the great Real Madrid, but this is not the happy ending of the story...

The sweet southern accent of the boys and their simplistic minds, plus the twists of the story are the reason behind Real Madrid's literary value and its success in the market.

**5 Books of Vampires**  
**Written by: Siamak Golshiri**



**ISBN: 9789643695149**  
**Tehran, Ghosts' Alley**



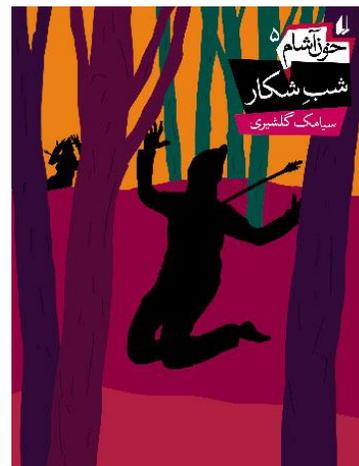
**ISBN: 9789643695965**  
**Meeting the Vampire**



**ISBN: 9789643698089**  
**The Ghost of Death**



**ISBN: 97896436959657983**  
**The Cloud Forest**



**ISBN: 9786003530102**  
**The Hunting Night**

**Publisher: Ofoq**  
**Publication Date: 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2013**  
**Age Group: +12**  
**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**  
**Pages: 112, 120, 144, 176, 144**

Siamak Golshiri has created an exciting world, in which vampires and humans, their lives and their stories are entangled. He has masterfully narrated the intertwined stories of vampires, their struggles, their reputation as killers, and the misperceptions we humans have of them. In this series of five books, the readers are presented with the occurrence of suspicious murders and the links they have with the unknown vampires in Tehran. The familiarity of situations, locations, timings, names, and the overall atmosphere has made this series a brilliant all Iranian horror story.

In the first book, the author is mentioned as Dracula. You read it right, the same famous legendary Dracula, is willingly telling his side of the story.

In the second book, the author is reliving a story and unknowingly, has stepped foot in a world he previously thought of as fantasy. He goes to a place Dracula had described in the first book and suddenly feels a cold breeze over his shoulder. Then all he hears is this: "it's now my home too." said the Lord Dracula.

In the third book, the author's curiosity is intrigued, when the corpse of Arash Bahrami, a journalist, is found in the eastern part of Tehran. The author found himself searching through the journalist's stuff at his home and finally realized he had a fiancé, called Rita. The author visits Rita and passes the point of no return. He has entered a world, he has heard a story, and he has met people and creatures, from which he can no longer escape.

In the fourth book, the author previously familiar with vampires of Tehran, is searching to find Arash Bahrami. In the process, he meets a strange and estranged woman, with even a stranger past. She tells him about the experience she had in the cloud forest: an experience which has been haunting her for good.

In the fifth book, the author becomes the target for the vampires, after he has mistakenly revealed and unfolded their secret. The author is convinced by other people who are now involved in the story, that the best defense strategy is to attack. This group of men, each one with a different goal in mind, comes together and starts the hunt for the vampires. But nothing is pure good nor evil. The author must face his ultimate fear to be able to realize the truth; a truth so different from he has in mind. He eventually learns that the clichés and the stories about vampires have nothing to do with the intentions they have in heart. He learns that evil can reappear in any shape, even in shape of the people he puts his trust in.

### **About the Author:**



Siamak Golshiri is among well-known Iranian authors for young adults and adults as well. He was born in Isfahan and his first book was published 16 years ago. He is also a translator from German and has translated works by famous German language writers such as Heinrich Boll. He has won numerous national awards, such as Yalda Literary Awards. Golshiri has cleverly chosen to write the Iranian version of vampire and fantasy stories, for he has felt the empty space of such stories must be filled by the works of an Iranian author for Iranian readers.



### **Sandwich Maker, Pony Tail Weaver**

Illustrator: Ameneh Arbaboun

Author: Mehdi Rajabi

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2015**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003531529**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages: 24**

*English translation is available.*

This amazing title is about making friends. It depicts the beautiful, humane story of how people tend to feel desperate, when they are all alone. The illustrations are vividly drawn and full of interesting details, which will help children's creativity and imagination, at the same time.

It starts with a hungry boy, who wishes for a sandwich maker machine. He starts looking for it and on the way, meets a girl with long, curly, dirty hair, who wishes for a machine to weave her hair into a pony tail. They both encounter a sad little dog by the bus station, who is longing for someone to adopt him. And the group of three, meet a tailless lizard, who wishes the machine could help grow his tale.

Their journey is cut short when they find a white house in the middle of an empty road, with beautiful lawn and a tree and a swing. On the swing, sits a tired scientist. The boy asks about the machine and the scientist, one by one, help them with their problems: a sandwich for the boy, a comb for the girl, a house for the dog, and a tail for the lizard.

He then points out to his dream machine: a machine to move away the tiredness. The boy, the girl, the dog and the lizard smile all together, and said: "maybe there is such a machine... we just never have looked for it..."



**Who Knows Mr. Pink?**  
**Illustrator: Reza Dalvand**  
**Author: Mojgan Kalhor**  
**Publisher: Ofoq**  
**Publication Date: 2015**  
**Age Group: Pre School**  
**ISBN: 9786003531505**  
**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**  
**Pages: 24**

This is a beautifully drawn story with many interpretations. A little child sees a man completely in pink and starts a journey to find him. In a city, whose sky and buildings are all grey, a little bit of colour goes a long way. With the help of police and citizens of the grey city, they finally find Mr. Pink, who turns out to be a painter.

He offers the people of the city to paint their houses and buildings. They all have a favourite colour and soon enough, bright colours are shining on the walls of city's buildings and in the hearts of its citizens.

*Suddenly, I saw a pinky pink car. Even the wheels were pink. I shouted: "It might belong to Mr. Pink!"*

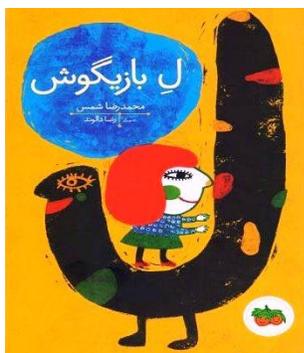
*The policeman jumped in his care and started following the car, shouting: PULL OVER!*

*The car stopped in front of a tall building. "Stop right there!" the policeman said.*

- *Are you Mr. Pink?*
- *I am Mr. Painter and have become Pink, today.*

*Gradually a crowd was forming.*

- *What do you want here?*
- *I'm here to paint these grey buildings. Pink, Yellow, Purple... what's your favorite color?*



### **The Playful El**

**Written by: Mohammad Reza Shams**

**Illustrated by: Reza Dalvand**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2014**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003531079**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages: 24**

*English translation is available.*

The Playful L is the first in a series of illustrated books for children. In this series many prominent Iranian authors and illustrators have come together to create fun books for children, which are educational and recreational at the same time. Mohammad Reza Shams, who is among very well-known Iranian authors for children in his latest title, has masterfully plays with different words which start with L. he intertwines his narrative with frivolous sentences and memorable characters. This is a series for bringing the children into the world of story, and the adults, into the world of children.

*The L went on slowly tiptoeing. It got close to the black cat, became a Lulu and entered the dreams of children. The kids were frightened and screamed out of fear. Shriek, shriek, shriek. The L liked it so much and tittered so hard.*

*One night he went into the dreams of a brave little girl, who was afraid of nothing. "Fear me. If you don't I'll eat you." Said the L. "if you want me to be afraid, you have to become round, clump, and jump into the painting pond." The girl replied...*



### **The Straw Hat**

**Written by: Mostafa Khoraman**

**Illustrated by: Mitra Abdollahi**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2013**

**Age Group: Pre School**

**ISBN: 9786003531062**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages: 20**

*English translation is available.*

When it comes to war, children are considered to be the most vulnerable members of each war-torn society in the world. Iranian children today may not know what it is for a nation to be involved forcefully and unwontedly into the flames of war. Mostafa Khoraman, who is a known name in children and young adults' literature, in his newest book, tells two different tales of one city during Iran-Iraq war. One story is based on social framework of cities during war and the other is a fantasy, which bears the main weight of the book. The illustrations of this book are truly unique and mesmerizing. They can bring into life the characters of the story and help the children to sustain a better connection with the texts.

*When the sun set, the scarecrow bent on his wounded leg, started into the palm-grove and waited for the old man to come. The old man caressed his wounded leg and tried to calm the scarecrow down, who knew him well. He was no stranger, he was Khaloo Mohammad. "I'll come and fix it for you, tomorrow." Said Khaloo Mohammad...*



***The Giant and the Bicycle***

**Written by Ahmad Akbarpour**

**Illustrated by Raashin Kheyrieh**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date:**

**Age Group:**

**ISBN: 978-964-369-550-7**

**Size: 23.5 cm X 16 cm**

**Pages: 28**

*English translation is available.*

A kind father wants to tell her little daughter, Dorsa, a bedtime story. He will tell the story, while Dorsa's mother will draw the pictures of it. But Dorsa wants to participate in the storytelling too. So she constantly interrupts her father and tries to change some parts of it as she wishes the events to happen.

The story is about a small boy, who plans to steal a bicycle from a shop. He steals the bicycle when the shop is crowded but then, he is trapped all the other bicycles' falling down. The small boy tries to escape. Dorsa immediately calls the police and finally the boy is arrested and taken to prison. Dorsa feels sorry for the boy, when she realizes that she was the one who called the police, and asks her parents to help the boy. It is dark and they have to be very careful, as they don't want to wake up the prison guards. They have to run away when suddenly a wild wind blows at the doors and all the night guards wake up. Finally the prison guards lose track of Dorsa and the little boy in the jungle. After a short while, a little giant appears and takes her and the boy to his house. Both children are terribly scared, but the baby giant seems friendly and shows the pictures of all the bicycles he has drawn on one of his room's wall. When the baby giant asks the boy's name, Dorsa is forced to call him Sina; her own brother's name. She never got a chance to ask the boy's name. But suddenly the baby giant decides to eat them all. How can Dorsa possibly change the story ending and rescue their lives? Although the baby giant and Sina become friends, Dorsastill wants to make sure everything is all right. She makes her best to persuade her mother and father to help Sina in the story they are writing and drawing. When her father promises to buy a bicycle for Dorsa, she becomes excited and...



**RashinKheirieh**, born in 1980 in Khorramshahr, Rashin earned her MA. in Graphics at Al-Zahra University. She is a member of the National Foundation of Elites and the Book Illustrators' Association.

So far RashinKheirieh has illustrated 31 books in Iran and abroad.

**Her awards include;**

- Award of Excellence from 51<sup>th</sup> Annual illustration exhibition of Communication Arts, USA, 2010
- Winner of New Horizons from the International book Festival Bologna, Italy 2009.
- Selected Winner of Munich International Library; Germany-2008
- Winner of Second Prize in Bologna International Book Illustrators' Competition; Italy - 2006
- First Prize from Catha International Illustration Competition; India – 2005



**A Lullaby for the Dead Girl**  
**Written by: Hamid Reza Shahabadi**  
**Publisher: Ofoq**  
**Publication Date: 2016**  
**Age Group: +12**  
**ISBN: 9786003532489**  
**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**  
**Pages: 120**

This is an unusual book, for a number of varied reasons: first, it is based on historical facts, which date back to The Persian Constitutional Revolution in Iran. Second, the title is a brilliant mixture of drama, horror, and social genres all in one. Third, the dexterity of the author is visible through the delicately intricate net of characters, their backgrounds, and the information, which is presented to the readers. And fourth (but definitely not the least), the weaving of one story inside another and this alone has created a unique taste for young adults' literature. A Lullaby for the Dead Girl has won numerous national awards, such as The Book of the Year and The Best Book for Young adults, chosen by the Children and Young Adults' Literature Association, and international recognitions, such as being selected as one of the best books of 2008 for the White Raven Catalog of Munich Youth Library.

Hamid Reza Shahabadi, with his immense knowledge on Iran's history, has provided an opportunity for his audience to delve into the one of the most essential periods of this country's history. That old days meet contemporary situation is one of the title's prominent features, which not only makes it more relatable, but also triggers the readers' curiosity to gather more information on the subject. This is not a horror novel, but deals with critical subjects of each and every society on today's world: poverty, education, adaptability to new environment, parents-children's relationship, and how children tend to cope with their sense of loneliness and their fears of the unknown. Zohreh, the protagonist of the novel, is a teenage girl living with her parents and four brothers, in rural parts of Tehran. Her father works hard to make ends meet and rarely shows affection towards his daughter. Her mother considers her a burden to the family. Her friends call her a liar, because she claims to have met a girl, with grey hairs, and half-burnt hands, who has died one hundred years ago. She is one of the girls who were sold to other people, by their families, out of absolute poverty in a period of Iran's history, which goes back to more than one hundred years. And now, she is wandering around in the complex that is where Zohreh, her family, and her friends reside.

A Lullaby for the Dead Girl is free of any redundant motto or slogan, it's plain in prose and inviting in content and this might be the result of its author's experience as a teacher. Shahabady started his career as a teacher when he was only 17, and continues to do so – among other responsibilities. He has written titles for adults, young adults, and even children.

*When 450 people live in a space designed for 3000 people, there are enough empty space for anyone to start hallucinating. Perhaps, that's why when Zohreh, a student at the second grade of high school, told others of she had seen, they all said she's losing it and that nobody believed her. 13*

*Zohereh first talked about Hakimeh with her BFF, Mina, and it all started from there. Now everybody was talking about it, without believing even one word of it. Zohreh said she knew a girl with grey hairs and half-burnt hands, who more importantly, has died one hundred years ago!*

سه دخترتون  
دختر گل خندان  
محمد رضا شمس اسفندی سحر خراسانی



سه دخترتون  
دختر نارنج و تنج  
محمد رضا شمس اسفندی سحر خراسانی



سه دخترتون  
دختر ماه پیشونی  
محمد رضا شمس اسفندی سحر خراسانی



### **The Legends of Three Girls**

Written by: **Mohammad Reza Shams**

Illustrated by: **Sahar Khorasani**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2017**

**Age Group: Primary School and up**

**Size: 14.5 cm x 18.5 cm**

**ISBN: 978-600-353-214-4, 978-600-353-213-7, 978-600-353-212-0**

**Pages (respectively): 80, 78, 70**

This series is amongst the kind of titles which not only is fit for younger adults, but also the adults can relate to the stories as well as children. A mixture of world renowned fables brilliantly woven into old Persian legends. That the stories are based on humane feelings of love, loss, betrayal, loyalty, honesty, and as such, has added a tremendous superiority to it, for a person no matter how young, will encounter such dilemmas sooner or later. Shams has this rare ability of mingling stories and create a brand new essence, which becomes the reason why his titles are so well received by the readers.

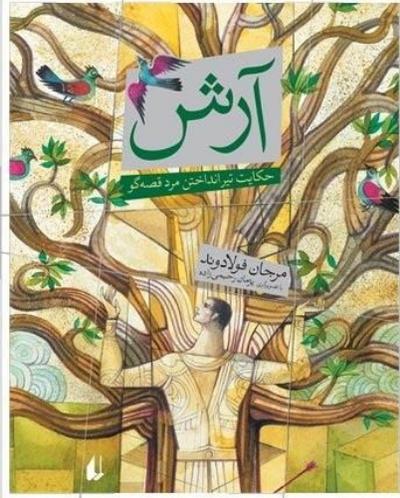
In this series, we read of lives of three girls, whose stories may seem repetitive, but the twists and turns they gain, is like no other fable we have read. For instance, we all have heard, read, or even seen the story of Cinderella and her cruel stepmother or The Sleeping Beauty or Rapunzel and the Witch, but combining it with ancient Iranian myths spicing it up with princes and spells would prove a new experience.

Book one of this series is called *The Girl with the Flower Laughter*. Honest parents, an evil witch, a beautiful girl called Golanr (whose laughter produces flowers and her tears, the pearls), a prince, and an aunt hateful as the witch are the characters of the story. Golanr is kept in a tower by the evil witch and has long hair, just like Rapunzel. However how the story unfolds, is not that easy to predict. And that's perhaps one of the great abilities of the author: It's never easy to

guess the ending and in not too many pages of the book, there's no single page to be dismissed, for you may just miss a clue to unsolved the mystery that is his story.

Book two is about a prince who has fallen in love with an image of the most beautiful girl I the world, who is in desperate need of saving from the most horrific witch. On his way, he must face the horrendous traps, giants, hags, spells, and all of t nasty tricks you can imagine. It reminds us of the many princes and beautiful girls who have been separated from each other by magic and evil witches and cunning creatures. Along the way, the prince who is utterly in love, is fooled by the disguise of the witch and his path is hindered couple of times. The mingling of Old Iranian love stories and legends such as the Sleeping beauty has added to the fantastical world of Book Two. Despite other stories, the reader cannot guess or predict the happy ending of the story. When there is no hope, the dim light of the truth will shine through: the prince and the girl after much hardship and deceptions of the evil witch, with the help of nymphs and sea creatures, and of course, the girl's beautiful voice are united once and for all.

Book Three, is a mixture of one of the oldest and most famous Iranian fables: the girl with the moon on her brow and her mother who turns into a beautiful cow. Moon and cow are very special and respected in most of the ancient cultures and civilizations in the world. On the other hand, we all know the story of Cinderella, her cruel stepmother and stupid sisters; well, we have all of them in this book (though only one stepsister) and many more daring adventures and puzzles the girl (whose name is Shahrbanoo). A talking cow, a well, the wind, and of course the giant who lives in the well are other characters of the story. The giant who lives inside the well, talks in a funny way: he says the opposite of everything he has in mind. Shahrbanoo is kind to the giant and in return, she has a moon on her brow and a star on her chin. Her stepsister, out of jealousy, does the same thing. However, she is cruel and mean to the giant and in return, her face becomes black and a horn grows on her chin. The rest is a Cinderella story, though it has its differences: Sharbanoo dies and comes back to life and has a son and her stepmother and stepsister are punished and after quite a ride, Shahrbanoo, the well, the giant, and the cow (who turns out to be her mother) and the prince live happily ever after.



**Arash; The Story of the Storyteller's Arrow**

Written by: **Marjan Fooladvand**

Illustrated by: **Pejman Rahimizadeh**

**Publisher: Ofoq**

**Publication Date: 2011**

**Age Group: ---**

**Size: 22.5 cm x 27 cm**

**ISBN: 978-964-369-735-8**

**Pages : 32**

This is a story rooted deep down in Iranian old folklore, based on a very patriotic, sensitive subject. Many famous Iranian poets and authors have been inspired by the story of Arash, who willingly and selflessly put his own life force into one arrow, shot it, and saved his mother land and fellow Iranian from the humiliation of living under the sword of their neighbouring country of Touran, presumably today Turkey. He was a simple man, who nobody knew his name, until the day, on which the destiny of his country and his brothers and sisters depended on him. In the title *Arash; the Story of the Storyteller's Arrow*, the author masterfully changes the course of the narrative, into something more humane, more relatable, and more memorable. With the beautiful prose, a mixture of old Iranian poetry and today's rhythmic narration, Marjan Fooladvand has created a delicate, familiar and yet new experience for her readers. Let us not forget the graceful illustration of Pejman Rahimizadeh, who recently was shortlisted for Hans Christian Anderson's award in 2016.

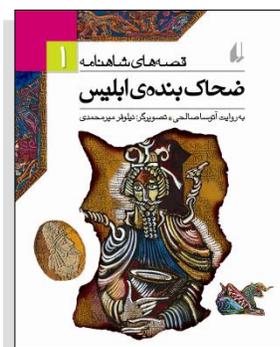
## **Shahnameh's Series of Stories**

*Adapted by Atoosa Salehi*

*Illustrated by Niloofar Mir-Mohammadi*

Among the Iranian literary works, the *Shahnameh* is a masterpiece especially due to its epical nature. The rich Persian prose and language of *Shahnameh*, written by the great Persian poet, Ferdousi, is still a reliable literary source for researchers and professors of the Persian Literature. This epic enjoys several stories within itself, which can be hard for a young adult to read. The author of this series has adapted *Shahnameh* with having the keen young adults in mind as the major audience of these six books.

The author has avoided repetition of the fairy tales in order to create them through a new point of view.



### **1. Zahak, a Slave of Eblis**

**ISBN: 964-6003-91-5**

**17 x 21 cm**

**48 pages**

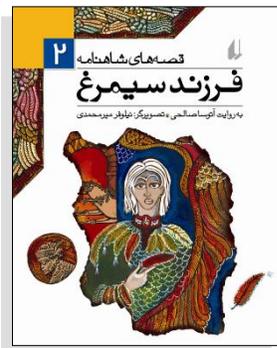
*Selected as the Best Book in Salaam-Baacheha Journal (1999)*

*Winner of the Golden Plaque and Merit Award for Adaptation in Press Festival of Institute for Cultural and Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (1997)*

Two snakes have grown on Zahak's shoulders, a slave of Eblis, which is actually the Satan. The snakes feed on young people's brain. Armail and Karmail, the two piteous and prudent brothers, intend to go to Zahak's court and become his cooks. They have decided to help one of the two captured young men run away so that one day they would finally the help the others, who are imprisoned by Zahak. But what would possibly happen if Zahak discovers their plan?

*I don't say anything. Armail sneers: "Who knows if they've not said the same thing yesterday?" He then turns around in rage.*

*"We must do something. Zahak will kill all the young men of our country and there won't be any sign left for..."*



## 2. *Sphinx's Child*

ISBN: 964-6003-92-3

17 x 21 cm

56 pages

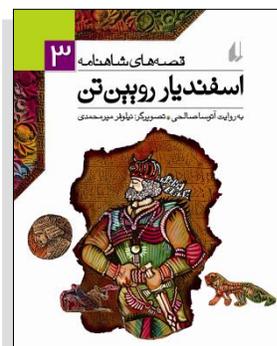
*Selected as the Best Book in Salaam-Bacheha Journal(1999)*

*Winner of the Golden Plaque and Merit Award for Adaptation in Press Festival of Institute for Cultural and Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (1997)*

Saam, the warlord of the Iranian army, intends to take revenge on Salm and Toor, the unkind and cruel sons of Fereidoon, by the command of Iran's king, as they have cruelly killed his other son; Iradj. Saam succeeds to defeat them. Saam's sole wish is to have a child to rely on in old age. Once he wants to return back, he is told that his wife is expecting a child soon. But how could he ever imagine that his son, Zaal, would be old and hoary from the first moment of his birth?

*The man places his hand on my shoulder gently. His fingers are cold and heavy. He says something. His calm voice is like a swift pond. Then I hear: "Saam! Now look at me! Be ashamed of God! Do you really deserve to be called a hero? No, you are a chicken beneath this armor! You must know that your son is now a famous hero who..."*

*I stare at the man's face. He is now covered in a mirror-like mask. I see myself in him. All my hairs are white. I shout and wake up...*



## 3. *The Invulnerable Esfandiyar*

ISBN: 964-6003-93-1

17 x 21 cm

80 Pages

*Selected as the Best Book in Salaam-Bacheha Journal(1999)*

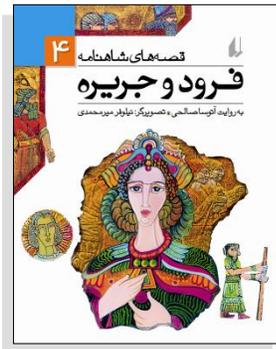
*Winner of the Golden Plaque and Merit Award for Adaptation in Press Festival of Institute for Cultural and Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (1997)*

Gashtasb, the Iranian King and Esfandiyar's unkind father, has captured his own son. At the same time both of his daughters, Homa and Beh-Afarid are in the prison. When Gashtab lets Esfandiyar go, he hurries out to free his sisters. Esfandiyar has a complicated and difficult way ahead. He has to pass through the 'Seven Courses' and open the high and inaccessible gates of the DedjCastle.

*Esfandiyar listens carefully.*

*“Can you hear that? Go away, Hide behind the trees”.*

*I hide, then as I peep from behind the mass of trees, my eyes catch sight of a woman shining like the bright, radiant sun. She goes toward Esfandiyar in a slow pace. They talk to each other. Then the woman begins to walk and Esfandiyar follows her. I sneak from behind and see that...*



#### **4. Forood and Jarireh**

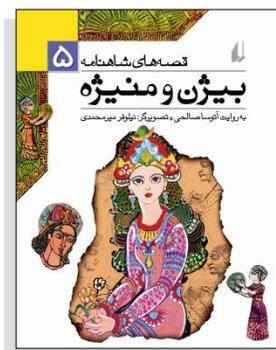
ISBN: 964-6742-95-5

17 x 21 cm

72 pages

Forood, Siavash's son, is alone in the Calat Castle with his mother, Jarireh. His grandfather, Afrasiab, the ruler of Turan Land, killed his innocent father years ago. And though a long time has passed by, Forood has not forgotten this crime. A magnificent army moves on from Iran towards Turan Land. At this point, Forood gets ready to go with them and take revenge. Finally His mother, Jarireh, who has always been terribly upset and crying for her husband's death, still dreams of taking revenge on his father Afrasiab too. But what is to take place if Afrasiab, the ruler of the Iranian army seeks to kill Forood, the grandchild of Esfandiyar who on one hand has the Turan's heritage and on the other hand has an Iranian origin?

*“I have no intention of listening to your advice anymore. The day I was to take revenge for the sake of my father, you told me to leave Afrasiab alone. You said he will be sorry soon. You told me he will send a messenger to you and make you his assistant. Now I want to do as I wish. I cannot tolerate this humiliation any longer...”*



#### **5. Bizhan and Manizheh**

ISBN: 964-6742-96-3

17 x 21 cm

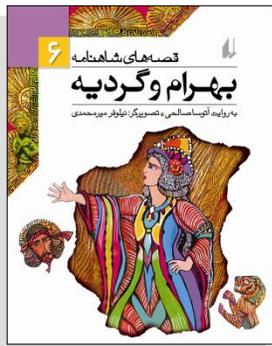
80 pages

Manijeh, the daughter of Turan's king, Afrasiab, is having a feast in her tent which is on the border of Turan Land and Iran. There Bijan sees her and falls in love with her. Manijeh who is amazed by seeing a young man wearing a jeweled crown on his head like a prince, finds herself opening the garden fences for him. Bijan tells her about hunting boars and his courageous deeds. Since Manijeh is indeed in love with him, she makes him unconscious with a substance and takes him to the palace with the help of her servants. She hides the young man there.

But what is he doing there, in the palace of his greatest enemy, Afrasiab?! Could it be the start of another war between Iran and TuranLand?

*Manijeh tried to comfort him: "Don't worry! You're safe here! We brought you here in the middle of the night and no one saw us. Nobody knows you are here with us."*

*Bijan calmed down. Manijeh helped him wash his hands; then asked her maids to celebrate the event which was to...*



### 6. *Bahram and Gordoyeh*

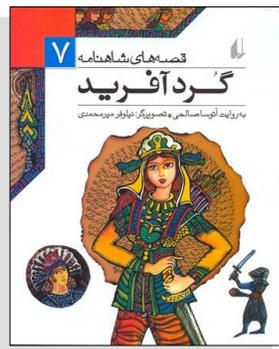
ISBN: 964-6742-97-1

17 x 21 cm

80 pages

When Bahram returns back from an exhausting war defeating Saveh-King, his brother Gordoyeh takes him in his arms. But just about the same time a messenger arrives and informs them about the serious anger of Hormoz, the Iranian king, who believes Bahram has treated his relatives badly in the war. Hormoz sends a woman's dress for Bahram to humiliate him. Bahram wears the dress in rage and sits among his army. His army becomes angry and rebellious. Gordoyeh who cannot stand another war now, tries to calm down his brother. He well knows they donot have enough support and supplies.

But no matter how much Gordoyeh tries, Bahram who has a witch's sayings at the back of his mind goes for the war. She had once told him that one day he will be the king of Iran.



### 7. *Gordafarid*

ISBN: 978-964-369-136-4

17 x 21 cm

64pages

Gordafarid, the daughter of Gozhdahem who is the ruler of Dezh-e-Sepid (White Fortress), foresees the forces of Afrasiab, King of Turan, attacking his father's dominion. But Afrasiab is unworried because Hajir, the warden of his fortress, is being sent to defend the fortress against the Turanis who are under the command of Sohrab, the son of Tahmineh and Rustam. She asks her father to call for help from the king of Iran, but he refuses.

Hajir becomes captive. Gordafarid puts armour and helmet on, takes the sword, and sets out to the battlefield. During their battle, she loses her helmet and Sohrab finds his adversary being a woman, a brave and beautiful one. He falls in love with her. Gordafarid has no way, except fleeing. Sohrab is determined to pursue and get his strange enemy.

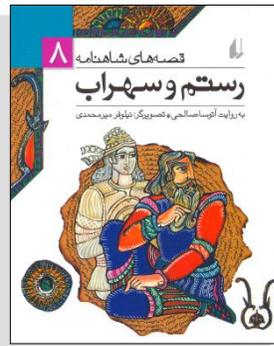
*A perturbed Gordafarid rides towards the fortress, at a gallop. Sohrab is pursuing her. Still, he cannot believe what he has seen by his own eyes. A shout cleaves the sky: "Halt!" Gordafarid rides fast.*

*- "Who are you? Are you human or fairy?"*

*She makes her horse riding faster.*

*- "Just wait! I have never witnessed a woman's swordsmanship as yours. Do not move further unless you don't halt and speak, I have to rivet you and your horse with this lance."*

*While riding much faster, in the direction of the wind, she shouts: "Dwell my name on your mind, I am Gordafarid, the daughter of Gozhdam."*



### **8. Rustam and Sohrab**

**ISBN: 978-964-369-437-1**

**17 x 21 cm**

**64 pages**

For Sohrab it's impossible to forget Gordafarid. Along with ZhandehRazm, one of Turan's army commander, he is galloping to the zone, where Iranian forces have set up their camp. From a height, his look catches the camp. After returning to his own forces, he commands the soldiers to make a huge fire.

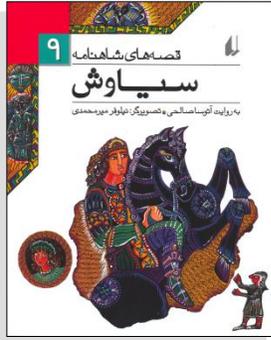
Rustam goes to meet Kavoos, king of Iran, and tells him that he has to encounter Turan's young commander. While leaving the king's place, he hides a poniard in his neck. At night he leaves for the fight with Sohrab. After killing ZhendehRazm, he returns to his camp and confides his desire, a son to rely on him, in Guiv, the brave Iranian commander.

Sohrab orders to bring him Hajir and puts the nib of a lance on his throat but Hajir, to rescue his life, proposes collaboration with the Turanis, which means betraying the ruler of Dezh-e-Sepid (White Fortress). Both leave the camp for the place where Iranians have set up their camps. Sohrab is keen to find out which tent is Rustam's, but finds out that Iranian hero has not still joined his own men.

Finally the both rivals, father and his son, initiate their battle. Rustam, unaware of Sohrab being his son from Tahmineh, is nearly killed by him, but succeeds to survive. The day after, during the second round of their battle, Sohrab get killed by his father, who by seeing the armlet, discovers that the corpse he is embracing belongs to his own son.

*Raising his hand, Rustam declares: " Make no haste, youn man. Don't be so restless to die, and if not feeling sorry for yourself, remember your defenceless mother, and don't wish her be clad in black." Sohrab, while narrowing his eyes to see this great hero, standing in front of him as a sun, calls him: " It was my mother who did put this armour on me, because she was sure the ,World has not seen anybody braver than his own son. But if you are in doubt, unsheathe your sword and let our fight commence!"*

*Rustam swords and says: "It is hard to put brand a mother's heart by killing her son; even if she is the enemy, in flesh and blood. Still you can return to her arms, and let not a tragedy happens."*



## 9. Siavash

ISBN: 978-964-369-438-8

17 x 21 cm

80 pages

Kavoos, the king of Iran, has married Soodabeh, a deceitful and unfaithful woman. She accuses her stepson, Sohrab of having evil intention about her. On the other hand, she wishes the death of his husband. Kavoos becomes confused by the unjust charges and the defenses of his son and he can not make a correct judgment. The high priest finds the solution in passing through a huge fire, each of these two. Only the honest one can survive such an ordeal.

The king's men make the hugest fire ever seen until then and Siavash riding his own horse passes the fire, safely. Kavoos orders Soodabeh to be punished, but it is Siavash that pleads to his father to be merciful to his wife.

Again Afrasiab makes an assault on Iran. Kavoos offers the all-command of Iranian forces to Siavash. But he reminds Kavoos of Rostam. Due to all his bad deeds to the great hero, the king is sure he would not accept taking the command of the army. Finally, Siavash makes his father happy by accepting his offer.

Rostam rides his loyal horse, Rakhsh, toward Siavash and gets close to the prince. Meanwhile, he reminisces those good old days, when he had instructed him how to ride a horse, and how to play polo. At the same time, it was Siavash who had taught him the meaning of the fatherhood. Siavash and Rostam visit the Iranian camp. The battle begins. A wounded Siavash brings the news of their own victory to Rostam. He believes this being the last battle between Iran and Turan, but it is Rostam who reminds him that only the king must order the end of war. Siavash along some of his best men passes the frontier river, Jayhoon, and faces the peace proposal by Afrasiab, the king of Turan. In this land and in the castle of Afrasiab, Great Minister of Turan forces Siavash to marry Faranguiss, the princess of Turan. If this happens, Kavoos will donate part of his domain to the young couple. Can this put an end to an old hostility between the two countries?

*The kneeling Piran says: " My Lord should think of a day when he becomes ruler of Iran after Kavoos. To be saved from the enemies' enticements you need a loyal wife who should bring you a heir and through him, an everlasting union can take place between our countries. So, listen to an advice from an old man: "Tie the nuptial knot with Faranguiss and you will be safe from all the autumn winds."*



***Shahnameh's stories; Book One To Three***

*(Zahak, the Slave of Eblis, the Symorgh's Child and the Invincible Esfandiyar)*

*(Hardcover)*

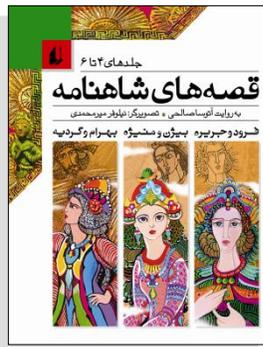
ISBN: 964-6742-08-4

17.5 x 21.5 cm

79 pages

The three first books are collected in this hardcover for a better reading of young adults who wish to value these mysterious yet great stories and learn more about the Iranian heroes.

*Manizheh said: "I now just wander around. I have nowhere to go since everyone refused to accept me and let me in. I do not wish you to pity me. I only long for Bijan's freedom. Since a few months ago that he was forced into the well, he cannot even recognize day from night in that darkness. He will not make it there, he will die!"*



***Shahnameh's stories; Book four to six***

*(Forood and Jarireh, Bizhan and Manizheh, Bahram and Gordoyeh)*

*(Hardcover)*

ISBN: 964-6742-98-X

17.5 x 21.5 cm

79 pages

The stories of Shah-Nameh have been told several times and in many ways. This time one of the Iranian authors has decided to narrate them in an interesting and peculiar style for the young adults, who might never find a proper chance to read the original epic work.

*I ride on my father's side. Father takes a look at me. I draw my sword. He says: "You are not afraid of dying, are you?!"*

*- No!*

*- And what about your father's death?*

*- I hope that day would never come.*

*I realize the choke in my throat.*

*Esfandiyar says: "Don't get close to the army. Your mother's tears frighten me more than your death. Tell your mother that..."*