

Mohammadreza Shams



About the Author:

Mohammadreza Shams (1957-Tehran) was studying in an art school when he became acquainted with a theater troupe, which caused him to opt for acting and playwriting. Besides theater, he composed poetry and after the Islamic Revolution in Iran, his poems and stories were published in renowned Iranian children's and young adult magazines. Shams is particularly skilled in creatively rewriting legends. Using the techniques of Iranian curiosity texts, he has tried to write very short fantasy stories for children. In these stories, inanimate objects become alive and obtain personalities, with their relationships forming the story. Shams has also written scientific stories. He is particularly skilled in creatively rewriting legends. Using the techniques of Iranian curiosity texts, he has tried to write very short fantasy stories for children. Most of his books have been translated into other languages.

Awards:

- Listed in the International Library of Munich (White Ravens),*
- IBBY Honor Diploma,*
- Best Book Award from the Book Festival of the Institute for the Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (Kanoon),*
- *Best Book Award from the Children's Book Council of Iran,*
- Best Book Award from the Cultural Society of Children's Publishers*

Sample of Works:

Title: Bald Apple



Illustrator: Sana Habibirad

Publisher: Peydayes Pubs.

Subject: Short Stories

No. of Pages: 116

Age Group: 12+

Size: 14×21

ISBN: 9786002935505

Bald Apple is a collection of thirty short stories alongside an epilogue written in comic language instead of a biography. There are no boundaries to the author's imagination, and the stories' beauty and sweetness are what he cares about most. The stories of this collection are short fantasies. Inanimate objects are alive, and any phenomenon in the world can be the subject of a story. From an umbrella to a snowman; from a ladder to a glass. Animals, objects, and nature are bold in this collection. The author has created a story from anything and shared it with his child readers. The outcome of viewing the world differently is presented to the children, and maybe they can turn their outlooks toward the world into stories. The illustrations of the book are in black and white, and they have animated the stories.

Title: The Legends of Three Girls (3 Vols.)



Illustrator: Sahar Khorasani

Publisher: Ofoq Pubs.

No. of Pages: 232

Age Group: 12+

Size: 14×21

ISBN: 9786002935505

About the Series: This series is amongst the kind of titles that not only is fit for younger adults but also adults who 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 the lives of three girls, whose stories may seem repetitive, but the twists and turns they gain are 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 and spicing it up with princes and spells would prove a new experience.

About the books:

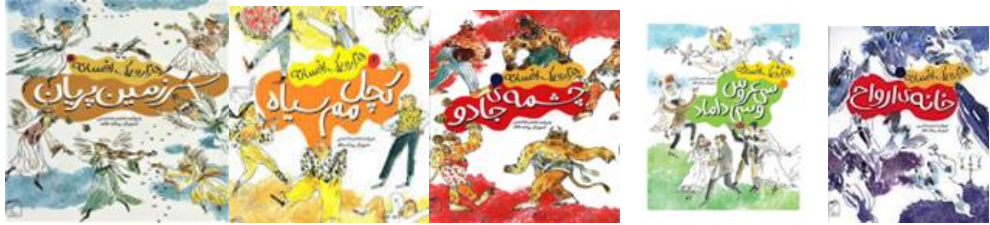
The Girl with the Flower Laughter: Honest parents, an evil witch, a beautiful girl called Golanr (whose laughter produces flowers and her tears, the pearls), a prince, and an aunt as hateful as the witch are the characters of the story. Golanr is kept in a tower by the evil witch and has long hair, just 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.

Dokhtar-e Naranj va Toranj: In 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 the 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 a 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 is united once and for all.

Smiling Flower Girl: 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 her 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 good 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 means 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.

Title: One Thousand and One Tales Series (5 Vols.)



The Magical Fountain

Mam Siah the Bald Man

The Haunted House

Thirty Brides and Thirty Bridegrooms

The Fairy Land

Illustrator: Rodabeh Khaef

Publisher: Mehrab-e Ghalam Pubs.

Age Group: 12+

Size: 25×25

ISBN: 978-600-413-311-1

One Thousand and One Legends is a series of five books. Each book has 600 pages and 200 legends for teenagers who are interested in this type of story. The name *One Thousand and One legends* are derived from the name *One Thousand and One Nights*. It narrates one thousand and one Iranian legends, which include folktales, short fables, proverbs, and myths.

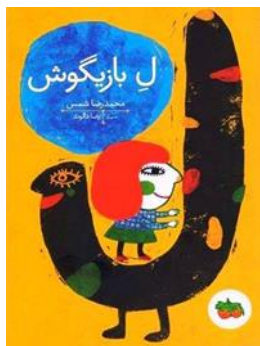
After doing some detailed and extensive research, the author wrote this collection. It took him fifteen years to write and publish this series. He classified the tales based on their theme into animal stories, magic and wizardly stories, sacred and historical tales, short stories, funny stories, anecdotes, and chain stories respectively. One of the specific characteristics of this collection is the use of colloquial language and its close proximity to the current ordinary language and teenage slang words. Comparing Iranian legends with foreign legends and mentioning various narrations of each legend briefly are among the various characteristics of this collection. Furthermore, giving characters Iranian names helps readers to develop deep empathy with the stories' characters. Non- Iranian names are only given to foreign characters.

Generally, in this collection, the legends have happy endings; but some legends don't have happy endings and make you sad. Therefore, the author changed some tales like "Seeking Good Luck" which have a sad ending and ended them with happy conclusions. Besides, the author uses various animals in the stories and avoids using the same animals to make sure that the collection is not boring for kids. The One Thousand and One Legends is narrated in a way that can be used as an encyclopedia by university students, researchers, and university lecturers. Likewise, the research results for each legend are narrated briefly and are suitable for teenage target audiences who find long stories boring and tedious. Moreover, the author tried to convey supplementary information to the readership and broaden their knowledge of the legends' origins by introducing the heroes of mythology, the role of women in mythology, ministers' characteristics, the role of judges, and the role of animals in

mythology.

In order to provide a fresh take on the ancient myths that adapts to the present time, the author has modified and adjusted the legends. Updating legends is one of the main reasons for their survival.

Title: The Playful El



Illustrator: Reza Dalvand

Publisher: Ofoq Pubs.

No. of Pages: 24

Age Group: 6+

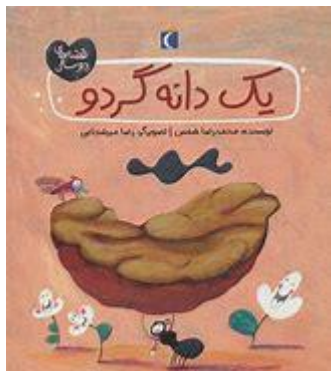
Size: 15×15

ISBN: 978-6003531079

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 the very well-known Iranian authors for children in his latest title, 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 stories, and the adults, into the world of children.

Title: One Single Nut



Illustrator: Reza Mirshojai

Publisher: Mehrab-e Ghalam Pubs.

No. of Pages: 24

Age Group: 6+

Size: 15×15

ISBN: 978-6004133456

One of the short tales from the "Friendship Series", promotes friendship as a fortunate accident that makes the world more beautiful. This collection, written for preschool children, consists of 15 stories, of which nine have been published. All the stories are thematically based on friendship and sympathy. The amusing tales and interesting illustrations are created by Iranian expert writers and skillful illustrators under the direction of the renowned author, Majid Rasti, executive director of

Mehrab-e Ghalam's Board of Children's literature. The artistic director of the board is Hoda Haddadi, the internationally acclaimed artist.

Pol Literary & Translation Agency

www.pol-ir.ir

Unit.8, No.80, Inghlab Ave, Tehran-Iran

Tel:+98 21 66480369, Fax: +98 21 66478559

Contact Person: Dr. Majid

polliteraryagency@gmail.com

