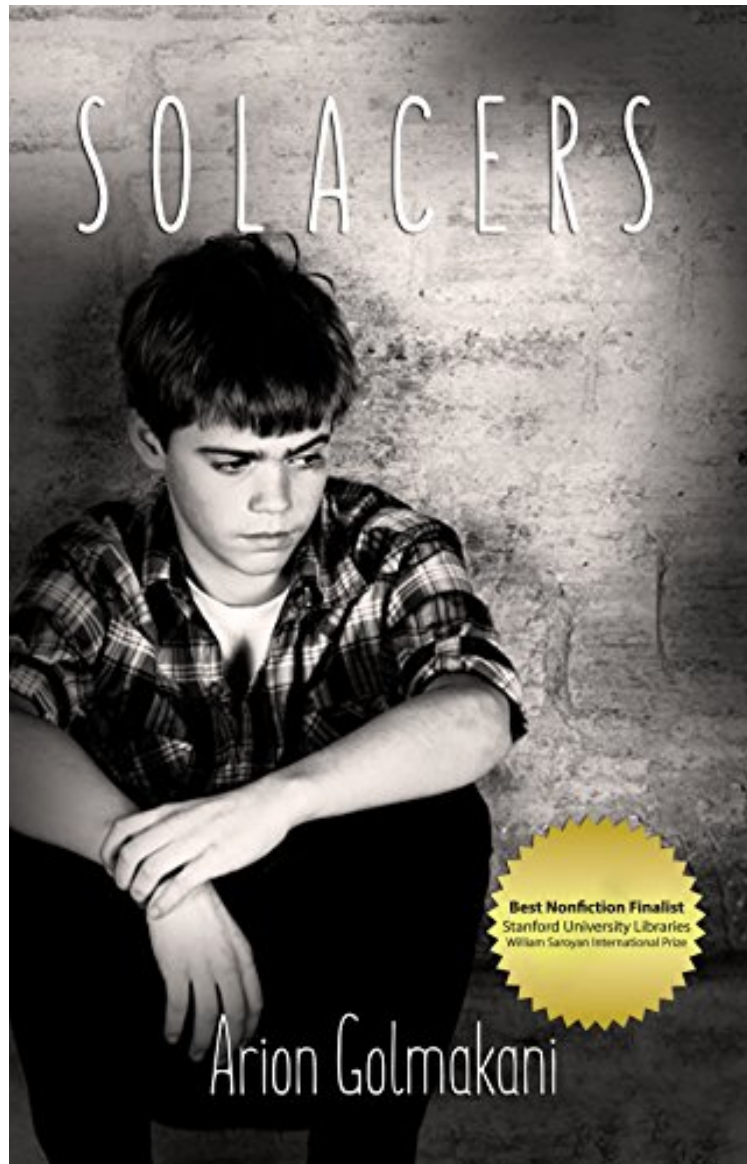


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Solacers: An Iranian Oliver Twist Story- A Memoir (English Edition)

Von Arion Golmakani

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Von Arion Golmakani : Solacers: An Iranian Oliver Twist Story- A Memoir (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Solacers: An Iranian Oliver Twist Story- A Memoir (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An

Iranian Huck Finn Von Customer Arion Golmakani's memoir, *Solacers*, is the story of his often grueling and always challenging childhood in pre-revolutionary Iran. It will grip you from the first page, as a little boy is taken away from his mother, yet again, with her permission. If you're a little boy in Iran in the early sixties' unwanted by your family, passed from one foster home to another where do you go, what do you do, and where do you find solace? You might expect this to be a depressing tale, and that this young boy would quickly become bitter and hardened; after all, he's been abandoned by his mother and father. Instead, the reader is immediately drawn to the main character, who doesn't indulge in self-pity but rather meets his ordeals and hardships head-on. Sort of an Iranian Huck Finn but with a sweeter disposition. This endearing boy's temerity and often self-deprecating storytelling style will keep you turning the pages; throughout his youth he encounters people who are cruel or indifferent, but also finds many solacers. The characters are not portrayed as either good or evil, but as complex people with their own motivations and troubles. As the young boy deals with the intricacies of human behavior, his own humanity and questioning spirit shine through. This beautifully written book gives us a glimpse into another time, while reminding us that we humans are all in this together regardless of what culture or era we inhabit. *Solacers* is suspenseful, moving, sometimes humorous, and always interesting. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A touching memoir of a boy who doesn't feel welcome anywhere but fights his way through life Von Taylor I was really moved and touched by this story. Even though, I didn't know much about the life in Iran during the 50s/60s, the author really managed to paint a picture in my head and took me with him on the tough journey of his childhood. As Arion Golmakani says himself, this book is not a book about Iran, but rather about a child growing up under rough circumstances and trying to follow his dreams. In my opinion, a good book always makes you cry (either of joy or sadness) and when I binge-read this memoir, I spent so much time with little Alirezas thoughts and experiences, that I basically had to schedule regular breaks for crying. This story will move you deeply, shock you at times with its graphic depictions but also make you chuckle here and there. Most of all I admire the courage and hope this memoir portrays. The boy's optimism towards life and his strong morale will take you by surprise and he will undoubtedly win your heart over! A must-read! 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A sad and heart-breaking story about the struggle of a little boy. Von Vero It took me only three days to read this book, because it was so captivating that I wanted to know, what becomes of this little boy, who has to grow up like an orphan, even though he has a mother and father but who don't feel responsible for him. The way he manages to make so much of his life, despite the fact, that he was passed around from home to home and had to live through so many experiences, is really remarkable. If you are interested in both sad and life-affirming memoirs and fates, you have to read this book! You will learn so much about life!

Kurzbeschreibung*** Best Nonfiction Finalist, Stanford University Libraries, William Saroyan International Prize *** Sometimes when life became too overwhelming for my poor young mother, out of frustration and despair she would say; If I only didn't have you, I would have surely found a suitor to marry me by now. I was three then. After she remarried and left town, and I became responsible for myself, and when life got too overwhelming for me, I often pondered the same thought; If I only didn't have me. *Solacers* tells the touching story of a boy's search for family life and safety following the divorce of his parents in Iran during the 1960s. The first child of a heartless father and a discarded mother is left to fend for himself on the streets of Mashhad, seeking food and shelter wherever he can. His lonely early years are an unbelievable tale of cruelty and betrayal on the part of nearly everyone who might be expected to help, save for one aunt who does her best to keep him from starving. But living a harsh and solitary existence has one advantage for this little boy: other than forcing him to be self-reliant, no one attempts to indoctrinate him on Iranian society's archaic cultural values and religious beliefs. And so he never accepts his wretched state as fate, choosing instead to dream big dreams about getting an education, having his own family, and starting a new life possibly in the faraway land called America. He makes a plan and by the age of 17 he boards a plane to the land of possibilities, where his dreams eventually also take flight. One of "30 Moving memoirs every student should read." -- OnlineCollege.org "He was neither an orphan, nor a street kid but life dealt him such a hand that now, those who hear the story of his childhood in Iran, consider him an Oliver Twist in the streets of Mashhad. His childhood could be summarized in two words: Hungry and Forlorn. BBC "If you devoured *The Glass Castle*, vividly remember Angela's Ashes, and were fascinated by *Destined to Witness*, if you loved the colorful descriptions, the oriental storytelling and the ornate language of Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner*, you will definitely get your money's worth reading *Beraubte Wut* -- the German edition of *Solacers*, by the American author Arion Golmakani." Joke Bocker, Westflische Nachrichten Congratulations on such a first class book. One of the most important attributes of this book is its ability to motivate readers to try harder, and guide them to find a better life for themselves. -- Dr. Ehsan Yarshater, Author of *Encyclopedia Iranica*, founder and director of The Center for Iranian Studies and Emeritus Professor of Iranian Studies at Columbia University. "A story of hope, determination, and forgiveness, *Solacers* is a remarkable tale of resilience and optimism, with lessons for us all. Golmakani gives voice to children everywhere who long for nurturing and hunger for security." -- Hans J. Massaquoi, retired managing editor of *Ebony Magazine* and the author of best-selling

book, *Destined to Witness: Growing Up Black in Nazi Germany*. "I confess, when I read the publisher's blurb about your book online, my expectations were low. I feared it would be another "escape from Iran" narrative, in which Muslims (or people "from there") featured as the enemies of reason and civilization. There are so many such Orientalist tales in circulation, and they feed into a politics of fear which I find very dangerous. How wonderful to be surprised by a story that captured the people you encountered in all their humanity" - Eva Sajoo- Research Associate- Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada

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