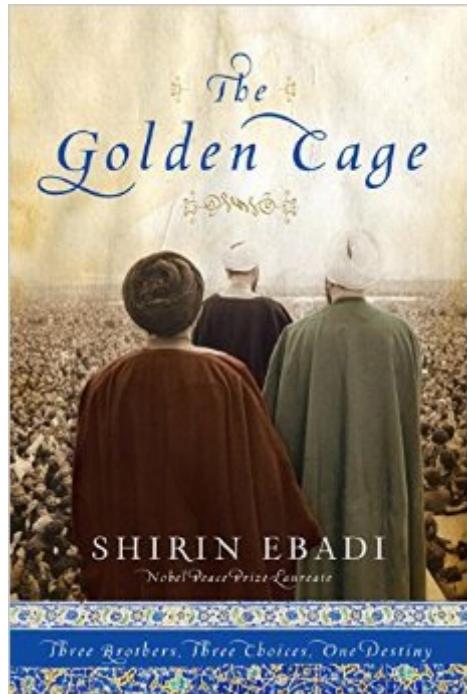


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# The Golden Cage: Three Brothers, Three Choices, One Destiny



## **Synopsis**

"If you do not have the power to overthrow the rule of oppression, inform others of the oppression." •Persian proverb For over fifty years the Shah Pahlavi dynasty ruled Iran until Ayatollah Khomeini's 1979 Islamic Revolution seized power and began its own reign of tyranny. The questions about the revolution shape The Golden Cage while the answers shed light on Islamic Iran's current events and tell us why it strives for nuclear energy, chants "Death to Israel," and claims to be the most powerful force in the Middle East and Muslim world. History perhaps is best described through life stories we each can hold dearly. The Golden Cage is one such story about three brothers the author knew through their sister, Pari, a childhood friend. Each brother subscribes to a different political ideology that tears Iran and their lives apart. As Pari observes, her brothers live deluded lives in golden cages of ideology. These words mark the beginning of this story, illuminating the multifaceted, oppressive Iran of today and years past.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (16 customer reviews)

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## **Customer Reviews**

Full disclosure: I am truly prideful of Shirin Ebadi and her courageous work, that has led to becoming a human rights noble leader and role model for our [now] broken country. My review is specifically in regards to this book.

Cons: 1- Lets be honest, first of all, the cover image is misleading. I really thought this book is about the three main mullahs (Beheshti, etc.) that were the key players in the Islamic revolution and Khomeini's inner circle. Particularly because the cover image shows three mullahs standing before a large crowd, and introduction refers to "three brothers" which was interpreted as the Islamic brotherhood.

2- The first half of the novel is a bit unclear and scattered.

Some of my early questions were answered later after getting through the first 100pages.3- The story is quite bias. The political events and some characters are portrayed in a very specific bias way.I am quite disappointed that Shirin Ebadi didnt try to maintain a neutral position in regards to the political events and figures such as the Shah, or Khomeini, etc. especially considering that this is a 'novel', the story of how a family (one of millions) got destroyed throughout the country's internal turmoil. Her personal perspective and beliefs definitely set a different tone to the whole story and skew the reader's point of view.Pro:1- The book explains the regime's dark sides quite well. The horrific events, brutal mass murders, blind and heartless followers of the regime, anti women and human rights rules, extreme suppression and brainwashing systems, unstable political structure, etc. are all very nicely laid out and touched upon.2- The emotional and cultural moments of the story are quite strong.

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