



## **Strange Times, My Dear: The PEN Anthology of Contemporary Iranian Literature**

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Since the Iranian revolution of 1979, the United States has been virtually cut off from that country's culture. Despite severe difficulties imposed by social, political, and economic upheavals, as well as war, repression, and censorship, a veritable cultural renewal has taken place in Iran over the past quarter-century, not only in literature, but in music, art, and cinema. Over forty writers from three generations contributed to this rich and varied collection—or, to use the Persian term, *golchine*, a bouquet—one that provides a much-needed window into a largely undiscovered branch of world literature. In the wake of the Green Revolution and sweeping changes in the region, this particular *golchine* is more relevant than ever, and will bring literary enjoyment as well as a fuller understanding of a complex and ever-shifting culture.



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