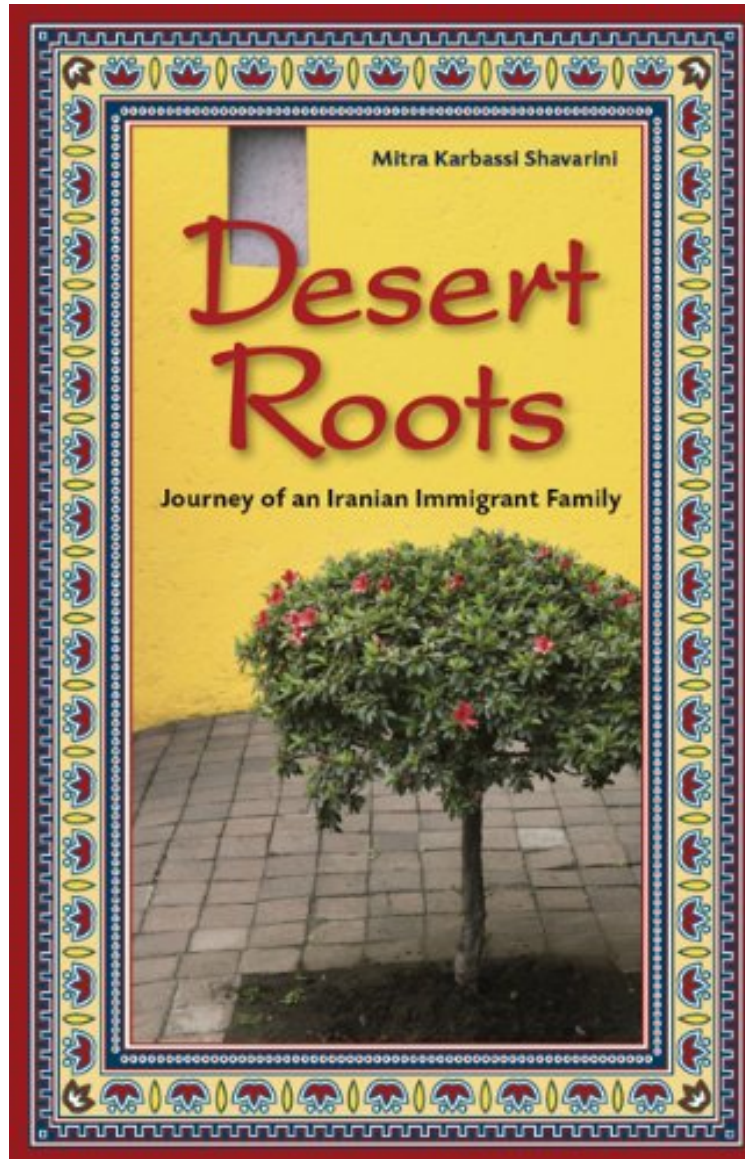


(Mobile book) Desert Roots: Journey of an Iranian Immigrant Family

Desert Roots: Journey of an Iranian Immigrant Family

Mitra Karbassi Shavarini

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Mitra Karbassi Shavarini : Desert Roots: Journey of an Iranian Immigrant Family before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Desert Roots: Journey of an Iranian Immigrant Family:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fantastic read. The author skillfully weaves contemporary Iranian history ...By JmckA fantastic read. The author skillfully weaves contemporary Iranian history into the narrative of her

family's Iranian roots and subsequent emigration to the US. Juxtaposing the struggles of adapting to a new life in the US with the complicated desires to return home, the author explores her parents decision to leave Iran at the cusp of the Revolution, the memories they have gathered over the years, and their emotional decision to return to Iran during their later years of life. A homage to uncovering family stories and the legacies they impart on subsequent generations.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Courageous heartfelt book! By Martha E. Rogers

Reading Mitra Shavarini's 'Desert Roots' leaves me with a deep gratitude for her courage and heart to share her family's journey from Iran to the United States and back. Once I had the book in my hands I could not put it down, following each page with a mix of awe, sorrow, respect, hope, and...more than a few words can describe. Dr. Shavarini writes with wisdom and compassion that invite us deeply into her vulnerable tale of loss, reconciliation, and perseverance in the face of daunting challenges. She manages to seamlessly weave numerous diverse threads -- love for one's native home, complex international power politics that wrought havoc with Iran's culture and national identity, wrenching departure and exile from a beloved homeland, and tender yearnings for love and intimacy within one's own family. Miraculously this tapestry of human experience never loses its heart. Given the tenor of our present times 'Desert Roots' offers a human face to a rich culture and a people shadowed by conflict and misunderstanding on the world stage. For those of us who are distant from this region of our world this book is a powerful gift. Spread the word!

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book By Homaglen

The book, Desert Roots by Mitra Karbassi Shavarini As I think about reviewing this excellent book, I am finding it difficult to overestimate what a wonderful book it is. Mrs Shavarini is surely one of the best story tellers that I have come across. The entire book is engrossing from beginning to end. The story about her Family's history probably mirrors many Iranian as well as other nationalities that have emigrated to foreign lands. The Iranian experience has been more traumatic than most however due to the cultural differences as well as the political situation between our two countries. Her description of her ancestors history back in Kerman, Iran is especially interesting. Also her parents longing to return home adds a poignant touch to her story. Just about every story she tells is told in such a way that the reader is able to empathize with the persons involved. I would highly recommend this book to anyone but most certainly to all persons who have a great interest as I do, in that wonderful country called Iran, formerly Persia.

Desert Roots is the true story of the author's parents who, after being self-imposed exiles from their native Iran for 33 years, decided to leave the United States and return to their homeland. In this family biography, Shavarini explores the issues that brought them to America and eventually drew them back home again. The experiences of her family will help readers understand the struggles many Iranians those living in Iran and abroad have faced. Threaded throughout the story are universal themes that connect readers to the many characters within: a mother trying to raise her children in a new country, a father disappointed in what life ultimately has in store for him, immigrant children ashamed of their roots, and proud nationalist ancestors. Themes of loss, regret, and tragedy, as well as perseverance and resilience, are part of this book's broader narrative.

About the Author Mitra K. Shavarini is currently a lecturer at Brandeis University. She is the author of *Educating Immigrants: The Experiences of Second-Generation Iranians* and the co-author of *Women and Education in Iran and Afghanistan, An Annotated Bibliography*. Her articles have appeared in the *Harvard Educational Review*, *Teacher's College Record*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, and *Women's Studies International Forum*.