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PERSEPOLIS

MARJANE SATRAPI



PANTHEON



THE SHEEP

DURING THE TIME ANOOSH STAYED WITH US I HEARD POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS OF THE HIGHEST ORDER.

IT'S INCREDIBLE. THE REVOLUTION IS A LEFTIST REVOLUTION AND THE REPUBLIC WANTS TO BE CALLED ISLAMIC.

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT. EVERYTHING WILL TURN OUT FINE. IN A COUNTRY WHERE HALF THE POPULATION IS ILLITERATE YOU CANNOT UNITE THE PEOPLE AROUND MARX. THE ONLY THING THAT CAN REALLY UNITE THEM IS NATIONALISM OR A RELIGIOUS ETHIC...

BUT THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS DON'T KNOW HOW TO GOVERN. THEY WILL RETURN TO THEIR MOSQUES. THE PROLETARIAT SHALL RULE! IT'S INEVITABLE!!! THAT'S JUST WHAT LENIN EXPLAINED IN "THE STATE AND THE REVOLUTION."

SOMETIMES I EVEN TOLD THEM MY OPINION...

ON TV THEY SAY THAT 99.99% OF THE POPULATION VOTED FOR THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC.

DID YOU HEAR THAT, ANOOSH? DO YOU REALIZE HOW IGNORANT OUR PEOPLE ARE? THE ELECTIONS WERE FAKED AND THEY BELIEVE THE RESULTS: 99.99%!! AS FOR ME, I DON'T KNOW A SINGLE PERSON WHO VOTED FOR THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC. WHERE DID THAT FIGURE COME FROM? FROM THEIR ASSES, THAT'S WHERE!

BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT! IT'S THE TV!! BOO HOO!!!

CALM DOWN EBY, SHE'S JUST A CHILD WHO REPEATS WHAT SHE HEARS!

HEY, WANT TO PLAY?

HE'S GOING TO THE UNITED STATES!

TO THE UNITED STATES? WHY?

MY PARENTS SAY IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO LIVE UNDER AN ISLAMIC REGIME, IT'S BETTER TO LEAVE.

BUT THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS ARE VERY STUPID, THEY WON'T LAST.

YEAH!

MY DAD SAYS NOBODY REALIZES THE DANGER.

SO WHEN ARE YOU LEAVING?

IN ABOUT A MONTH.

OH.

I THINK I REALLY LIKED THIS BOY...

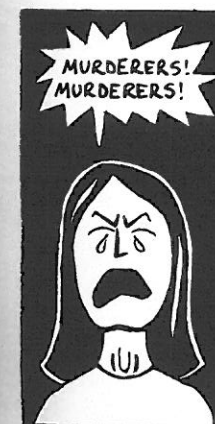
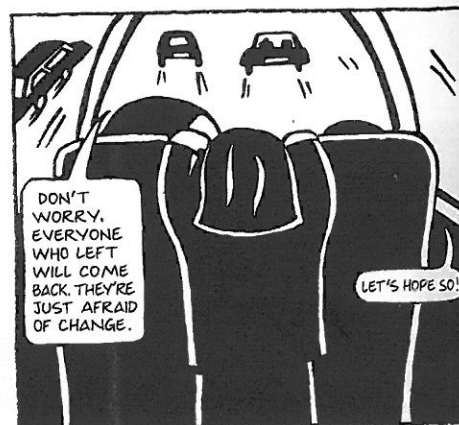
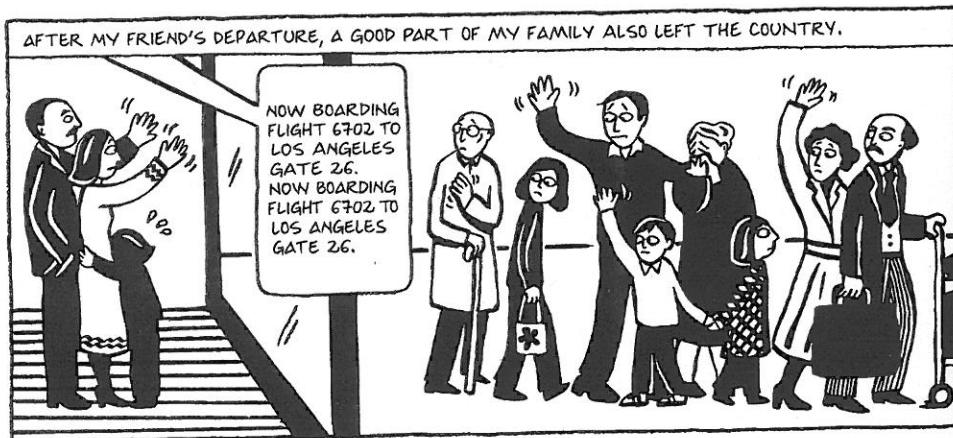
BUT THE UNITED STATES IS TERRIFIC! YOU'LL FINALLY SEE BRUCE LEE IN PERSON!

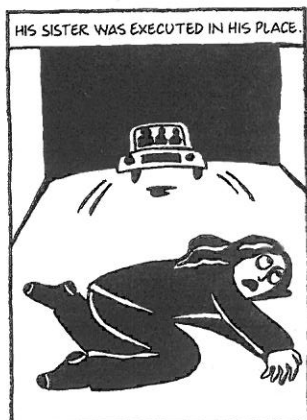
YEAH...THAT WOULD BE NICE.

BRUCE LEE IS DEAD...

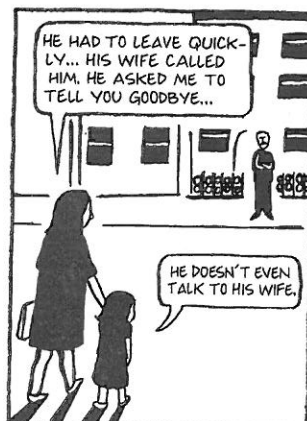
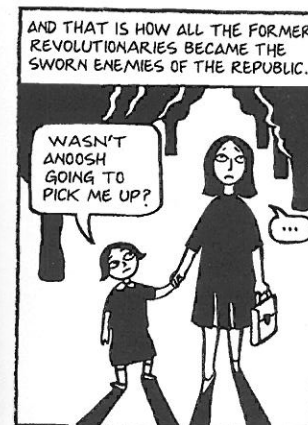
ACTUALLY I LIKED HIM VERY, VERY MUCH.

IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD!...





LATER ON WE LEARNED THEY CROSSED THE BORDER HIDDEN AMONG A FLOCK OF SHEEP.





THAT WAS MY LAST MEETING WITH MY BELOVED ANOOSH...



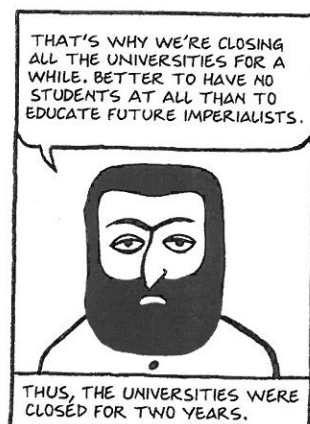
AND SO I WAS LOST, WITHOUT ANY BEARINGS... WHAT COULD BE WORSE THAN THAT?

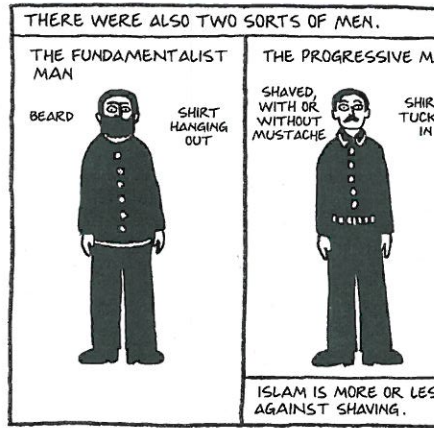
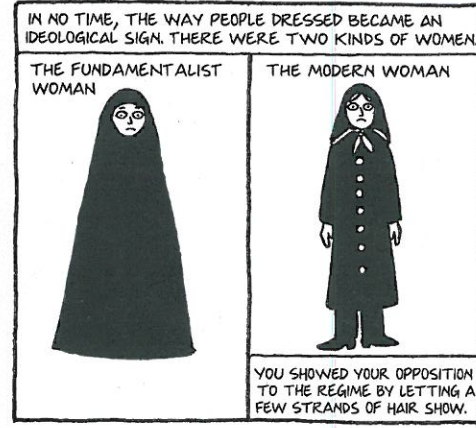
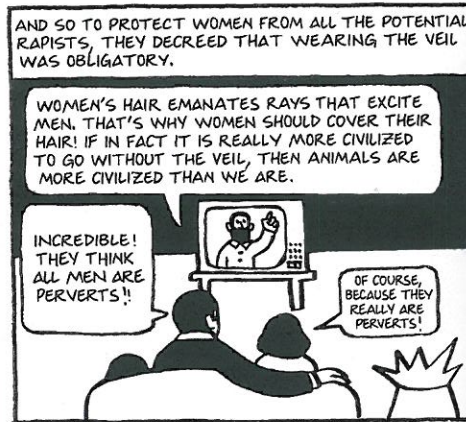
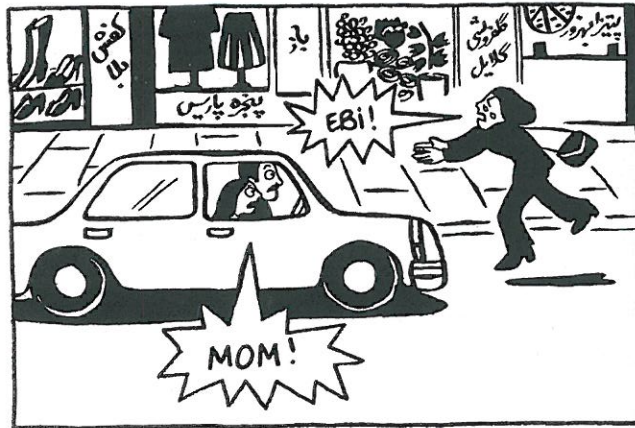


IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR.

THE TRIP

1979



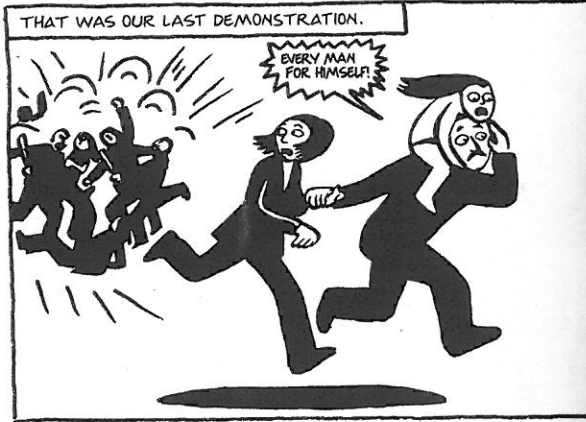


1980

IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING, THE SPIRIT OF REVOLUTION WAS STILL IN THE AIR. THERE WERE SOME OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATIONS.



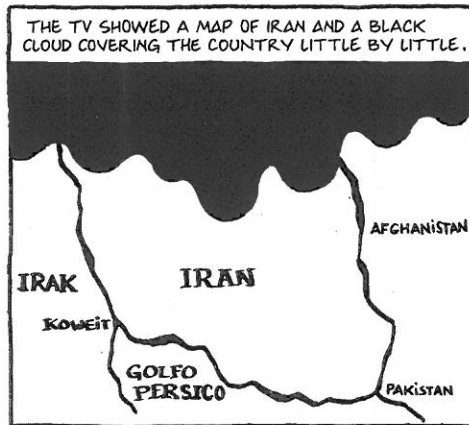
SO I WENT WITH THEM. I PASSED OUT FLYERS...



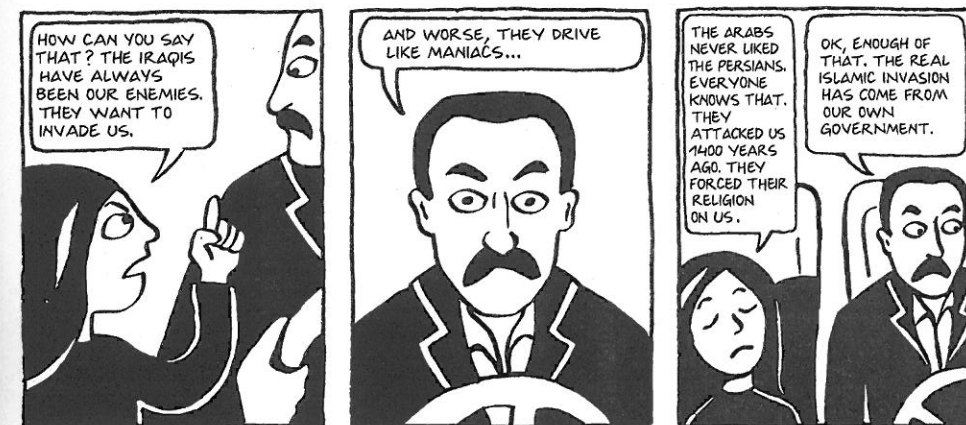
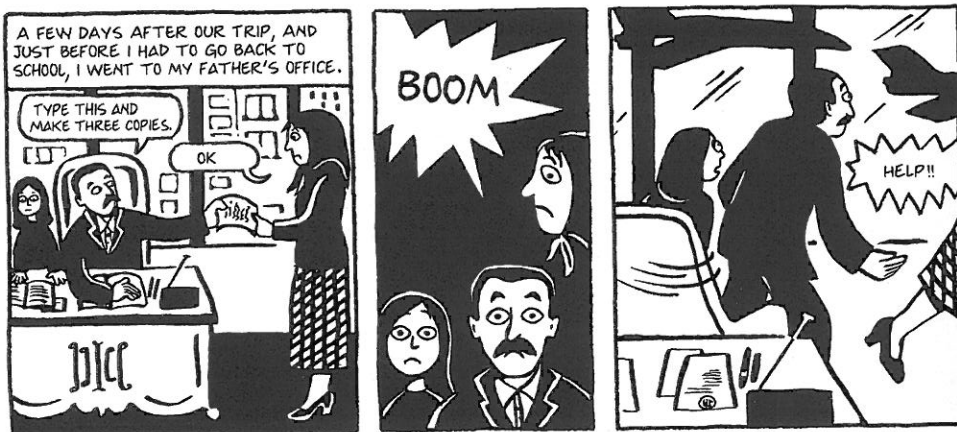
THINGS GOT WORSE FROM ONE DAY TO THE NEXT. IN SEPTEMBER 1980, MY PARENTS ABRUPTLY PLANNED A VACATION. I THINK THEY REALIZED THAT SOON SUCH THINGS WOULD NO LONGER BE POSSIBLE. AS IT HAPPENED, THEY WERE RIGHT. AND SO WE WENT TO ITALY AND SPAIN FOR THREE WEEKS...

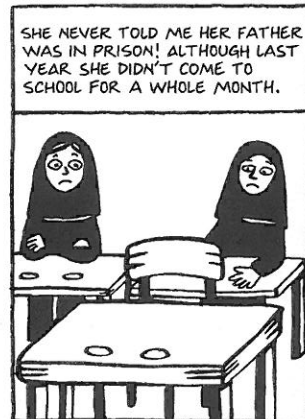


...IT WAS WONDERFUL.



THE F-14s







BZZT...ZZZT...
ZZZT...



140 IRANIAN BOMBERS ATTACKED
BAGHDAD TODAY...

HA! HA!



WE GOT THEM
WHERE IT
HURTS!

HOW'S
THAT FEEL,
SADDAM!



I WAS ALL WRONG ABOUT DAD.
HE LOVED HIS COUNTRY AS MUCH
AS I DID.



PRESIDENT BANISADR HAS
ORDERED THE
RELEASE OF THE
MILITARY PILOTS
JAILED AFTER
THE FAILED COUP.
THEY AGREED TO
ATTACK IRAQ IF
THE GOVERNMENT
BROADCAST THE
NATIONAL ANTHEM...



AS USUAL, MY DAD WAS RIGHT...



...THE REST OF THE NEWS
WASN'T SO COOL...

IRANIAN
LOSSES
WERE VERY
HEAVY...
HALF OF THE
PLANES IN
THE MISSION
HAVE NOT
RETURNED.



I HOPE PARDISSE'S DAD
ISN'T DEAD!

CALL HER.

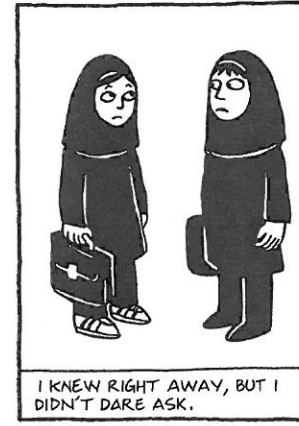


I DON'T
HAVE HER
NUMBER.

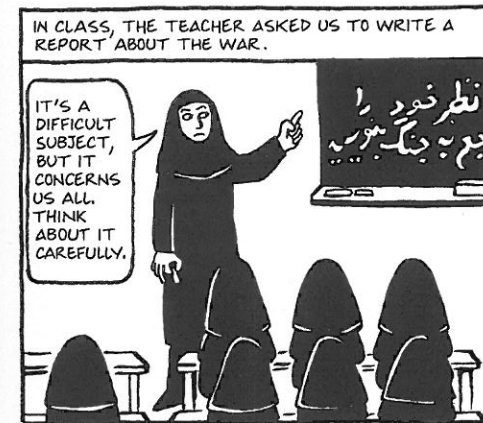


I HAD TO WAIT TWO WEEKS TO FIND OUT.

HEY! PARDISSE



I KNEW RIGHT AWAY, BUT I
DIDN'T DARE ASK.



IN CLASS, THE TEACHER ASKED US TO WRITE A
REPORT ABOUT THE WAR.

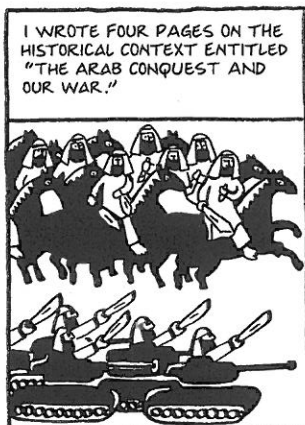
IT'S A
DIFFICULT
SUBJECT,
BUT IT
CONCERNS
US ALL.
THINK
ABOUT IT
CAREFULLY.



I DIDN'T NEED TO DO MUCH THINKING. I KNEW ALL
ABOUT THE WAR.

YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU'RE GOING TO SAY?

TOTALLY!



THE JEWELS



