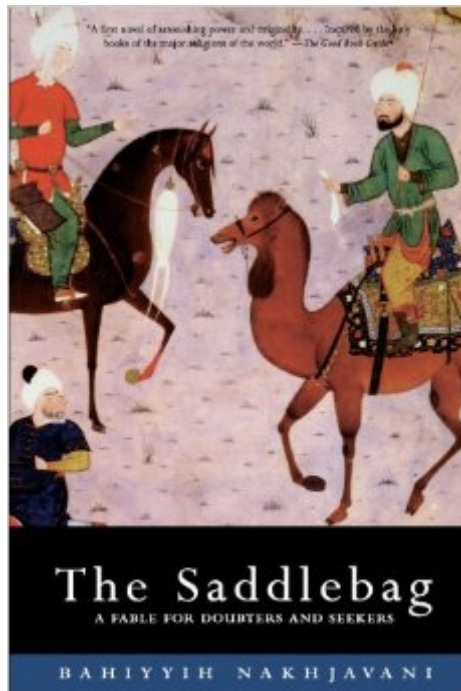


The book was found

The Saddlebag: A Fable For Doubters And Seekers (Bluestreak)



Synopsis

A beautifully told, transcendent tale of truth, salvation, and the power of desire.

Book Information

Paperback: 272 pages

Publisher: Beacon Press (September 22, 2001)

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Other websites describe "The Saddlebag - A Fable for Doubters and Seekers" as an "international bestseller." Apparently this book was a hidden bestseller in the U.S (and more is the pity). I spent a mesmerized weekend trying not to read the "The Saddlebag" too quickly, a thing I uniformly fail to do when enthused by a great writer. Author Bahiyyih Nakhjavani has lent a gifted, informed imagination to the question a reader of Babi/Baha'i history might ask: What of the saddlebag?"The Saddlebag," is inspired by a brief episode described in "The Dawn-Breakers," (a much-loved early narrative of the formative years of the Babi/Baha'i Faith), The Saddlebag's story takes place along the Mecca - Medina pilgrim route in the year 1844/1845 (1260 A.H.). A saddlebag is stolen from a young Shirazi Siyyid by a Bedouin thief as The Siyyid engages in prayer beside a well-shrine. The young Siyyid of the story is destined to become known to history as The Bab (Arabic for "The Gate"), Prophet-Herald of the Baha'i Faith.As the stolen Saddlebag passes hand to hand, its contents unleash a profound, seemingly inexplicable effect on the lives of nine persons traveling an ill-fated caravan; a Thief, a Bride, the Chieftain, a Moneychanger, Slave, Pilgrim, a Priest, Dervish and even a Corpse. The characters, portrayed in separate chapters, have strong reactions to the contents of the Saddlebag. Each character is wonderfully nuanced, especially, The Corpse in the

last chapter. The story of the Corpse reads like a tour de force as Ms. Nakhjavani's shows us an ascendant soul is seen struggling with sudden transcendence. (Pure genius!

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