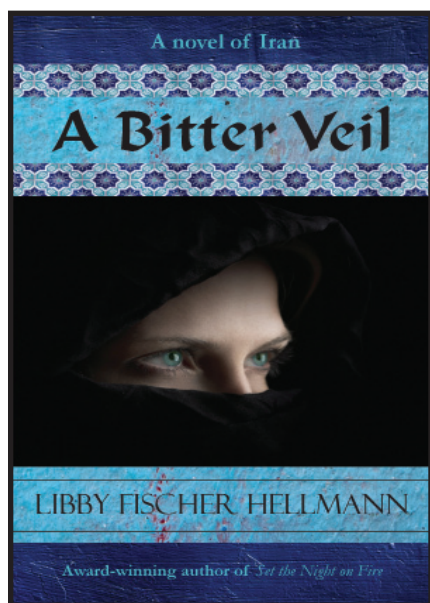


A New Novel from Award-Winning Author Libby Fischer Hellmann

A gripping literary thriller set against the backdrop of the Iran Revolution



It all began with a line of Persian poetry . . .

Anna and Nouri, both studying in Chicago, fall in love despite their very different backgrounds. Anna, who has never been close to her parents, is more than happy to return with Nouri to his native Iran, to be embraced by his wealthy family. Beginning their married life together in 1978, their world is abruptly turned upside down by the overthrow of the Shah, and the rise of the Islamic Republic.

Under the Ayatollah Khomeini and the Republican Guard, life becomes increasingly restricted and Anna must learn to exist in a transformed world, where none of the familiar Western rules apply. Random arrests and torture become the norm, women are required to wear hijab, and Anna discovers that she is no longer free to leave the country.

As events reach a fevered pitch, Anna realizes that nothing is as she thought, and no one can be trusted. . . not even her husband.

Libby Fischer Hellmann is the award-winning author of the Ellie Foreman and Georgia Davis mystery series; *Nice Girl Does Noir*, a two volume short story collection; and the stand-alone novel, *Set the Night on Fire*. She also edited the highly praised crime fiction anthology, *Chicago Blues*. She has lived in the Chicago area over thirty years.

Praise for *A Bitter Veil*

“The Iranian revolution provides the backdrop for this meticulously researched, fast-paced stand-alone from Hellmann. . . this political thriller will please established fans and newcomers alike.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Hellmann crafts a tragically beautiful story around a message that is both subtle and vibrant. The author does an amazing job of delivering her point but never by sacrificing the quality of her storytelling. Instead, the message drives the psychological and emotional conflict painting a bleak and heart wrenching tale that will stick with the reader long after they finish the book.” —Bryan VanMeter, *Crimespree Magazine*

“Libby Hellmann’s *A Bitter Veil* brings a lyrical, literary dimension to her writing. Readers will be fascinated—as I was—by this glimpse behind the veil of revolutionary Iran and how a young American woman deals with her Iranian husband and family.” —Cara Black, best-selling author of the Aimée Leduc Investigation series

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