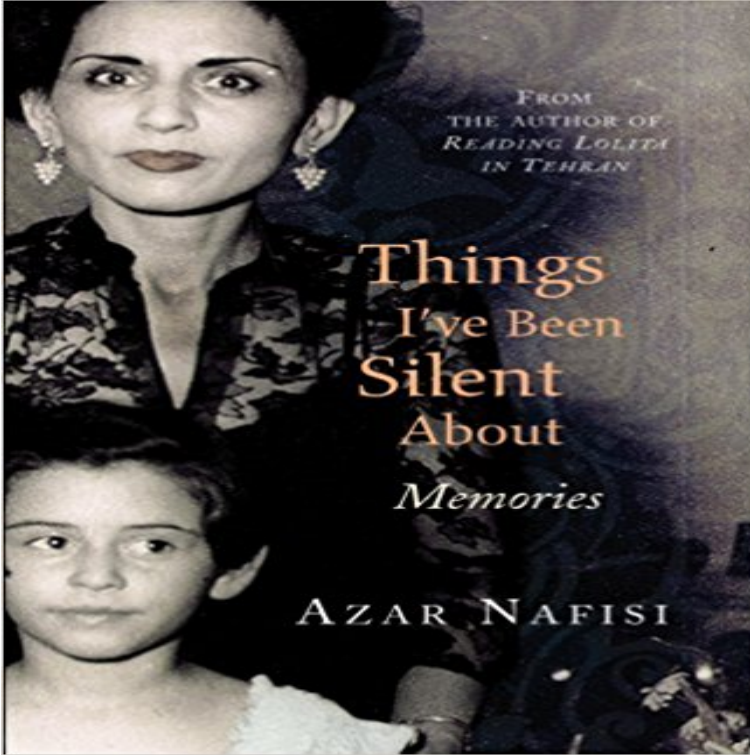


## Things Ive Been Silent About: Memories



Azar Nafisi, author of the international bestseller *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, now gives us a stunning personal story of growing up in Iran, memories of her life lived in thrall to a powerful and complex mother, against the background of a countrys political revolution. A girls pain over family secrets; a young womans discovery of the power of sensuality in literature; the price a family pays for freedom in a country beset by political upheaval - these and other threads are woven together in this beautiful memoir. Nafisis intelligent and complicated mother, disappointed in her dreams of leading an important and romantic life, created mesmerising fictions about herself, her family, and her past. But her daughter soon learned that these narratives of triumph hid as much as they revealed. Nafisis father escaped into narratives of another kind, enchanting his children with classic tales like the *Shahnameh*, the *Persian Book of Kings*. When her father began to see other women, young Azar began to keep his secrets from her mother. Nafisis complicity in these childhood dramas ultimately led her to resist remaining silent about other personal - as well as political, cultural, and social - injustices. Reaching back in time to reflect on other generations in the Nafisi family, *Things Ive Been Silent About* is also a powerful historical portrait of a family that spans the many periods of change leading up to the Islamic Revolution of 1978-79. It is, finally, a deeply personal reflection on womens

choices, and how Azar Nafisi found the inspiration for a different kind of life. This unforgettable portrait of a woman, a family, and a troubled homeland is a stunning book that readers will embrace, a new triumph from an author who is a modern master of the memoir.

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