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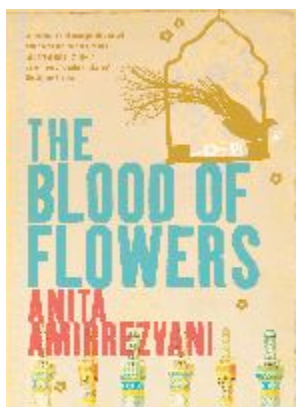
**THE BLOOD OF FLOWERS**  
*Anita Amirrezvani*

*'Sensuous and transporting...filled with the colours, tastes and fragrances of life in Seventeenth century Isfahan. Amirrezvani clearly knows and loves the ways of old Iran, and brings them to life with the cadences of a skilled story-spinner'* **Geraldine Brooks**

*'An engrossing, enthralling tale of a girl's quest for self-determination.'*  
**Emma Donoghue**

**This exciting debut novel promises to be one of the most talked about books of 2007.**

Set against the rich and vibrant backdrop of Iran, THE BLOOD OF FLOWERS is the powerful and haunting story of a young girl's journey from innocence to adulthood.



After the sudden death of her beloved father our heroine is forced to seek refuge from relatives in distant lands. Everything is new: the grudging charity of her aunt, the treacherous friendship of the daughter of rich neighbours. But with the encouragement of her uncle, one of the finest carpet makers in the world, she begins to learn her craft. She embarks on an adventure that will introduce her to the sensual side of life as well as to the cruelty of betrayal and rejection. She finds her way to contentment and possibly, even, to happiness, in a world full of contrasts and dangers.

**The young woman finds herself faced with a daunting decision – to forsake her own dignity, or risk everything she has in an effort to create a new life.**

**ANITA AMIRREZVANI** was born in Tehran, Iran, and raised in San Francisco. She has visited Iran many times and has been steeped in tales of Iranian life and history from an early age. **THE BLOOD OF FLOWERS** is her first novel.

Anita has worked as an arts journalist and dance critic in San Francisco, interviewing world stars such as Yoko Ono and Mark Morris, and reviewing major art events. She began writing **THE BLOOD OF FLOWERS** nine years ago, and since then, she has been selected twice as writer-in-residence at the Hedgebrook Foundation for Women Writers, and made three research trips to Iran.

**THE BLOOD OF FLOWERS by Anita Amirrezvani is published by  
Headline Review in hardback on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007, priced £12.99.**

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