

*Persepolis* Reading Questions Ch. 7-9

“The Heroes”

1. Where have Siamak and Mohsen been for the last several years? Why?
2. Who led the training in torture practices?
3. According to Marji, what makes a hero? Are there other people in Marji’s life you consider heroes? Why or why not? If you answer yes, why do you think Marji overlooks these people?
4. How does Marji’s mother’s perspective on justice and forgiveness change after Siamak and Mohsen return? Why? How does this impact Marji’s understanding of justice and forgiveness?

“Moscow”

5. Who is Anoosh? How does Marji feel about him? Why?
6. Who is Fereydoon? What was his goal?
7. Where did Anoosh go after Fereydoon’s arrest? How would you characterize him?
8. When Anoosh had to leave, where did he go? What does he study in the USSR?

9. What gift does Anoosh give to Marji? Why does she like it so much? What might it symbolize for him?

“The Sheep”

10. What is the significance of the title of this chapter? How does it help to characterize the people of Iran?

11. According to Anoosh, why is it nearly impossible to persuade the population to follow Marxism?

12. What was the reported outcome of the elections? How does Marji’s father explain these results?

13. Why do Marji’s parents subject themselves to a political upheaval and refuse to leave Iran? What is their opinion of those who left?

14. What makes Marji suspect that something has happened to Anoosh?

15. What is Anoosh’s final wish? Why?

16. Who comes to visit Marji after Anoosh’s death? What is Marji’s reaction? What has happened to Marji?

17. Does Anoosh lose hope at the end of his life? Explain. What about before he’s sentenced to death?--How do you suppose he’s managed to remain hopeful despite all he’s seen and experienced?