*Rooftops of Tehran* Vocabulary

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| Word | Definition | Sentence | Synonyms | Antonyms |
| 1. Serpentine
 | Having a winding course; like a serpent | “My eyes travel down the sky until they rest on the familiar rise and fall of the Alborz Mountains, which **serpentine** between the desert and the blue green Caspian Sea” (4) |  |  |
| 1. Auspicious
 | favored by fortune; prosperous; fortunate. | “How much does the family of the groom pay the family of the bride for this **auspicious** occasion?” (16) |  |  |
| 1. Dubious
 | Hesitating or doubting | “What do you say to a seventeen-year-old boy who has fallen in love with a seventeen-year-old girl who is about to be auctioned off for a few thousand Persian toomans [currency] of dowry and the **dubious** promise of happiness?” (17) |  |  |
| 1. Grimace
 | a facial expression, often ugly or contorted, that indicates disapproval, pain, etc. | “I **grimace**, then sprint past her into the yard to my bike” (19) |  |  |
| 1. Deplorable
 | causing or being a subject for grief or regret | “Before I had a chance to respond, he said, ‘Their living conditions are **deplorable.** Have you ever been on a farm?’” (25) |  |  |
| 1. Disingenuous
 | Insincere | “Showering friends and strangers with inflated but **disingenuous** compliments is a customary tradition in Iran called *taarof,* but looking into Doctor’s eyes, I don’t think he *taroof*-ing” (29) |  |  |
| 1. Commodify
 | to treat as if a commodity (something of use, advantage, or value.) | “He unveiled women **commodify** their sexuality, that everyone knows that men are programmed to desire women who show off their faces and bodies, and that in a moral society you can’t have horny men desiring other people’s wives, mothers, and sisters!” (78) |  |  |
| 1. Subversive
 | a person who adopts subversive principles or policies. (Subvert- to overthrow) | “My father has told me numerous stories of what they do to *kharab-kars*, **subversive** activists, like Doctor” (181) |  |  |
| 1. Ravenous
 | intensely eager for gratification or satisfaction. | “ ‘Ahmed, Mustafa, and I are sitting next to one another, and we eat our food with the appetites of a pack of **ravenous** wolves’” (178) |  |  |
| 1. Antics
 | Foolish or outrageous behavior | “Gone are Ahmed’s boyish **antics** and youthful mannerisms” (249) |  |  |
| 1. Triviality
 | Lack of seriousness; insignificance | “As inconceivable as her action was, it must have seemed the only way for her to should her defiance to the Shah, making the ultimate sacrifice for the greater good, a red rose action, a Socrates decision, a heroic gesture, signifying the **triviality** of life without freedom” (251) |  |  |
| 1. Jubilantly
 | Showing great joy, satisfaction, or triumph | ““A couple of days later our parents got together and announced to the neighbors that we were engaged,” Faheemeh says as she **jubilantly** shows me her engagement ring” (252) |  |  |
| 1. Gingerly
 | In a careful or cautious manner | “As Mr. Naderi shuts the door, I see Zari’s mother walking **gingerly** toward us” (252) |  |  |
| 1. Pillar
 | A person or thing which provides essential support | “Mrs. Naderi repeats that Soraya has been the **pillar** that has kept the family from collapsing” (257) |  |  |
| 1. Inauspicious
 | Unpromising; unfortunate | “‘Don’t count! Don’t you know it’s **inauspicious** to count people?’” (259) |  |  |
| 1. Incinerated
 | Destroyed by burning | “ ‘Given the chance, he would have **incinerated** the Indians just like Hitler did the Jews’ ” (263) |  |  |
| 1. Din
 | Loud, unpleasant, prolonged noise | “The chaotic **din** of everyone talking over one another is restored” (267) |  |  |
| 1. Engulfed
 | Being completely surrounded, soaked, or flooded | “Zari and I are walking up a hill that’s **engulfed** in a hazy mist” (276) |  |  |
| 1. Cognizant
 | Having knowledge of or being aware of | “Suddenly, Grandma seems totally **cognizant** of everything around her.” (284) |  |  |
| 1. Zealot
 | a person who shows zeal(eager desire) | “He then shakes his head, takes a deep breath, and says, “This **zealot** fraud is making the autocrats of yesterday look like angels of mercy. Isn’t that bizarre?’” (293) |  |  |