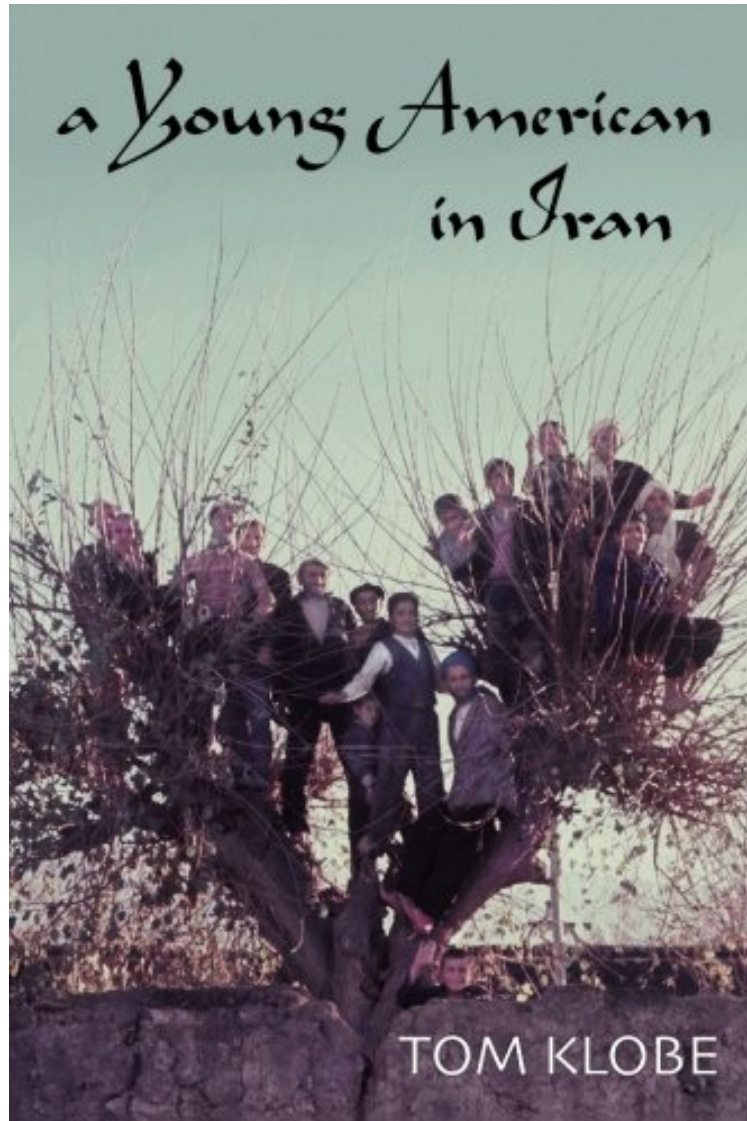


[Download pdf] A Young American in Iran

## A Young American in Iran

*Tom Klobe*

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**Tom Klobe : A Young American in Iran** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Young American in Iran:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Iran before the Revolution By Pamela Naessig I really loved this book, in fact I could hardly put it down. I found it just before leaving on a trip to Iran in May of 2015 and thought maybe it would be more interesting to read upon my return. In the beginning, I found the writing a bit simplistic, but then I began to realize that it was a reflection of the author himself at that time; rather earnest and naive. I am drawn in as he recounts almost every day of his two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer from 1964 to 1966 in Iran. Tom,

intuitively, did what the happiest volunteers did. He lived in a remote rural village. In many ways his Peace Corps experience was what I wish mine would have been; profoundly immersive and life-changing. Throughout the book he is asking himself, Why am I here? Eventually he comes to the realization that the value is not in the doing but rather in the being. I had to chuckle at his honest critiques of the Peace Corps administration and USAID in-country. It seems nothing much has changed in 40 years! Luckily, however, neither has the excellent care and concern of the Peace Corps doctors. I, too, fell in love with the people of Iran. I would strongly encourage you to go meet them for yourselves. - RPCV Malawi 2006-080 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Peace Corps Volunteer's Iranian Memoir By Phillip B. Olsen Artist-writer Tom Klobe was a newly graduated University of Hawaii student in 1962 Honolulu when President John Kennedy was assassinated. Like many mourning Americans both young and old, he joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Iran, where he lived and worked in a remote village in northern Iran near the Caspian Sea for two years, becoming fluent in the dialect and growing to love Iran and its people. Following retirement from U.H. he published "A Young American in Iran," a passionate memoir that records in loving terms his friendships, frustrations, disappointments and adventures in rural Iran during the mid-1960s. I found Klobe's recollections of the joys and tribulations of assimilation and rejection in a land of heart-rending conflicts, as a traditional society was undergoing enormous changes and disintegration, to be wondrously insightful. More importantly, Klobe's sensibilities and role as a young American man in that turbulent society give marvelous cognizance to the dissonant forces at work then and now in Iran. Thanks to Klobe's skillful writing and incredibly detailed recall, this book can help Westerners better understand the current conflicts and promises of Iran. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Adventures in an ancient land with a loving spirit By pohaku Having lived in this vast country, traveled the same roads, visited many of the same fascinating places, and experienced the same warm and gentle hospitality as Tom Klobe, his book brings back many fond memories. More important than his sensitive descriptions of the country and culture, though, is his own intense love of the place and the people, and the love they gave him in return, along with the engaging details of his own adventures. The Iranian 'aloha spirit' (Tom's from Hawaii and he's quite right in using the term) that Tom found during the periods covered by the book is, by all accounts, just as prevalent today. Tom does a great job of telling stories imbued with that aloha.

In November 1963, a bright Hawaiian morning is shattered by news of the assassination of the President. This marks the beginning of a journey to a remote Iranian village where a young American Peace Corps Volunteer sets out with rebellious tenacity to do what is right, unaware of America's loss of innocence and his own. From a youthful determination to perpetuate Kennedy's legacy, to coping with the reality of America's faults and ambitions, to grappling with unfamiliar customs and languages, to discovering the friendship and love of Iranians, Tom Klobe discovers that being Tom of Iran is as fulfilling as being American Tom.

"This illuminating and unpretentious memoir, filled with eloquent portraits, informed by an artist's eye for meaningful detail and charged with the energy of youth..." - Honolulu Star Advertiser About the Author As a Peace Corps Volunteer in Iran, Tom Klobe learned the persuasive qualities of quiet leadership that enlightened his 29-year career as Director of the University of Hawaii Art Gallery. He organized and designed over 200 exhibitions, five of which received the prestigious Print Casebooks: Best in Exhibition Design award. His book "Exhibitions: Concept, Planning and Design" was published by the American Association of Museums Press in 2012. He has authored or edited over 35 publications. Klobe was named a Living Treasure of Hawaii in 2005 and was the recipient of the University of Hawaii Robert W. Clopton Award for Distinguished Community Service in 2003. In 1999 he was honored by the Republic of France as a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for his contributions to the arts in France and Hawaii.