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**Marjane Satrapi On Why She Wrote *Persepolis*:**

“The only thing I hope is that people will read my book and see that this abstract thing, this Axis of Evil, is made up of individuals with lives and hopes.”

In her introduction to *Persepolis*, she explains that she wrote this book to show that Iran is not only a country of “fundamentalism, fanaticism, and terrorism.”

“Here’s the problem, today, the description of the world is always reduced to yes or no, black or white. Superficial stories. Superhero stories. One side is the good one. The other one is evil. But I’m not a moral lesson giver. It’s not for me to say what is right or wrong. I describe situations as honestly as possible. The way I saw it. That’s why I use my own life as material. I’ve seen these things myself, and now I’m telling it to you. Because the world is not about Batman and Robin fighting the Joker; things are more complicated than that. And nothing is scarier than the people who try to find easy answers to complicated questions.”

- Marjane Satrapi, in an interview with *Believer* magazine, August 2006

The real war is not between the West and the East. The real war is between intelligent and stupid people. There is much more in common between George Bush and the fanatics in my country than between me and the fanatics of my country. There is much more common ground between me and normal people here in America who don't want that. As an Iranian, I feel much closer to an American who thinks like me than to the bearded guy of my country

- Marjane Satrapi, in an interview with Powells.com.