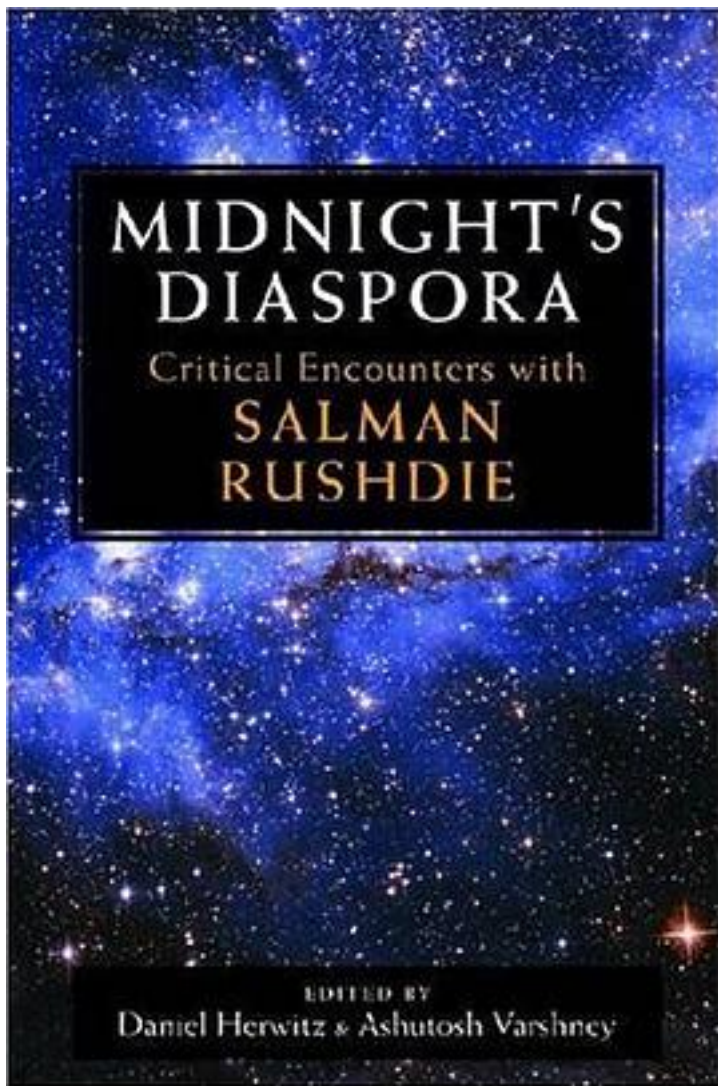


Midnight's Diaspora



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Almost twenty years after the Ayatollah Khomeini declared a fatwa against him, Salman Rushdie remains the most controversial and perhaps the most famous living novelist. Far more than an acclaimed author, Rushdie is a global figure whose work is read and studied by a wide variety of constituencies, many of whom are not primarily concerned with its literary significance. This important collection of essays and interviews brings together a distinguished group of critics and commentators, including Rushdie himself, to explore the political and cultural contexts of Rushdie's novels. While each of the essays offers a distinct and often highly original take on Rushdie and his work, the two substantial interviews with Rushdie illuminate his thoughts on a series of literary and political subjects that he has for the most part been reluctant to discuss in public. This combination of fresh perspectives and historical and political context will appeal to a wide array of readers interested not only in Rushdie's own work but also in the many collateral cultural and political issues it raises. Daniel Herwitz is Director, Institute for the Humanities; Professor of History of Art, Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Comparative Literature, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; and Professor of Art and Design, School of Art and Design, at the University of Michigan. Ashutosh Varshney is Professor of Political Science at the Brown University. "The never-ending inventiveness of Salman Rushdie's mind and art makes this volume both a pleasure and a necessity. These distinguished scholars have done a fine job introducing Rushdie's work to a new generation of readers in a new century."---Homi K. Bhabha, Harvard University "This collection engages with the larger context of Rushdie's work to reflect on the urgent issues raised by Rushdie's novels and their afterlives. The essays are first rate, achieving accessibility without sacrificing rigor and depth and bringing a variety of disciplinary perspectives to offer a fresh understanding of Rushdie's writings. This is rare."---Gyan Prakash, Princeton University

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