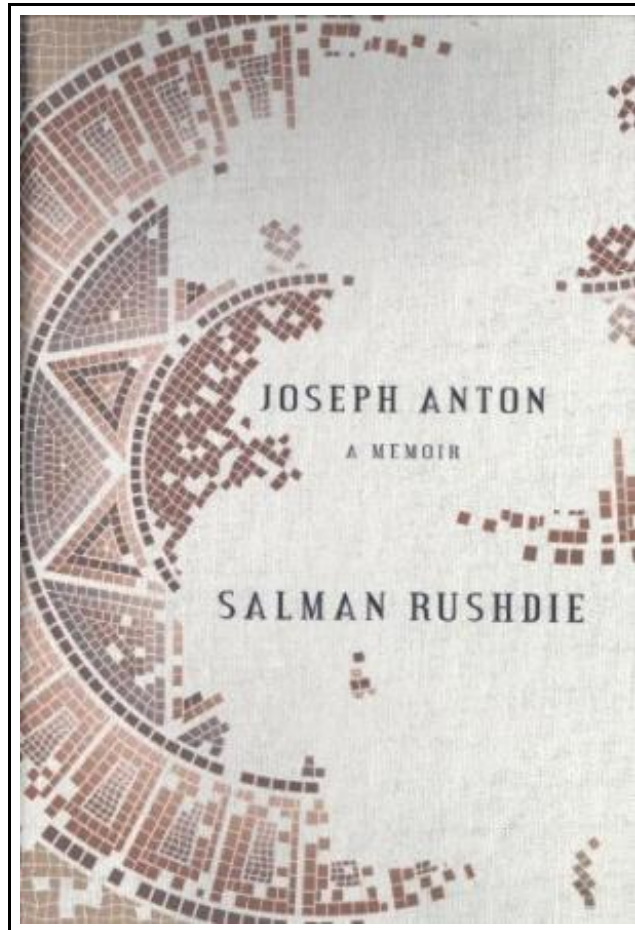


## Joseph Anton: A Memoir



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Random House. 1 Cloth(s), 2012. hard. Book Condition: New. (Named one of the Best Books of 2012 by London's Economist, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Seattle Times, the Kansas City Star, and Newsweek) The author of *Midnight's Children* and winner of the Booker of Bookers and many other of the world's most prestigious literary awards, Salman Rushdie is most widely known for *The Satanic Verses*, the 1988 novel that was banned in many Islamic countries. Most of the furor was sparked when Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini issued a fatwa, a religious decree that Rushdie and his publishers should be killed on sight. And while this action chilled Western and Muslim relations around the world, for Rushdie personally it led to years of hiding, moving from house to house with the constant presence of armed police, and living under an alias, Joseph Anton. More than a memoir, *Joseph Anton* is a frank, profound, sometimes surprisingly funny examination of the inalienable right to and vital need for free speech. "A harrowing, deeply felt and revealing document: an autobiographical mirror of the big, philosophical preoccupations that have animated Mr. Rushdie's work throughout his career." *NYTimes* "Extraordinary. Joseph Anton beautifully modulates between . moments of accidental hilarity, and the higher purpose Rushdie saw in opposing at all costs any curtailment on a writer's freedom." *Boston Globe* "Rushdie accomplishes many wondrous and momentous feats in this profound and galvanizing memoir. He shares the now strangely foreshadowing fact that his ardent storyteller father invented their last name, paying tribute to Ibn Rushd, a 12th-century Spanish Arab philosopher who argued for rationalism over Islamic literalism. He explains how, decades later, when British protection officers asked him to come up with an alias, really a nom de guerre, Rushdie concocted Joseph Anton in homage to Joseph Conrad and Anton Chekhov. His first fictions, he observes, were the upbeat...

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