## **Hooks for a Personal Narrative**

Type of Hook	Explanation	Example from Reading Lolita in Tehran
Announcement	Make an announcement about what is to come	"In the fall of 1995, after resigning from my last academic post, I decided to indulge myself and fulfill a dream." (3)
Action	Describe a character doing something, placing the reader immediately in the middle of the story	"Six A.M.: the first day of class. I was already up. Too excited to eat breakfast, I put coffee on and then took a long, leisurely shower." (9)
Strong statement/ declaration	Make an assertive claim about the topic	"Turning points always seem so sudden and absolute, as if they have come bolt out of the blue." (176)
Dialogue	Open with a quotation from a character or dialogue between characters	"'Upsilamba!' I heard Yassi exclaim as I entered the dining room with a tray of tea." (18)
		"'You should stop blaming the Islamic Republic for all our problems,' said my magician. I frowned, digging into the snow with the tip of my boots." (277)
Description	Describe a character/setting in detail, consider using a simile or metaphor in the description	"A young woman stands alone in the midst of a crowd at the Tehran airport, backpack on her back, a large bag hanging from one shoulder, pushing an oversize carry-on with the tips of her toes."  (81)
Call to imagine	Address the reader directly while setting the scene	"Imagine you are walking down a leafy path. It is early spring before sundown, around six P.M. The sun is receding, and you are walking alone, caressed by the breezy light of the late afternoon." (59)