This talk treats the use of modernist literary aesthetics in fictional writings about the Iran-Iraq War, published in the early postwar period in both countries (1988-2003). Dr. Moosavi contends that novelists and short stories writers from both Iran and Iraq resorted to such aesthetics in order create publishable narratives of dissent about the war. As such, their texts create a counter-narrative around the Iran-Iraq War, which productively employs narratives of loss as way to challenge the official, wartime narratives of the both Iranian and Iraqi states. More generally, it is a comparative framework through which to rethink literary production in the modern Middle East.