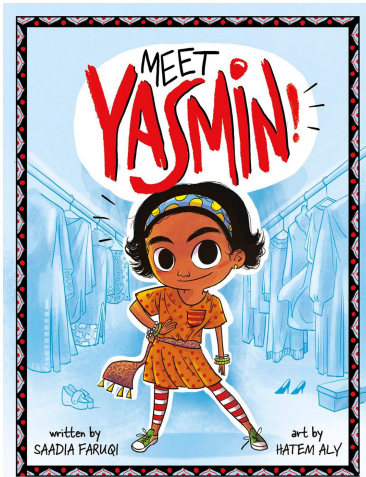


SAADIA FARUQI NEWSLETTER



June 2019



NEWS

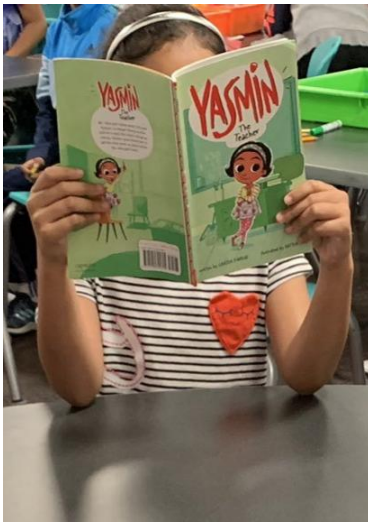
Otter Award Nominee

I am especially excited when any of my books get recognition on a state reading list. Why? Because that means stories that matter will get into the hands of the kids who need them the most. I'm happy this month to see Meet Yasmin on the Otter Award list by Washington Library Association, joining Wisconsin and Illinois. Here's the official Twitter [announcement](#) from WLA.

MORE NEWS

Summer Reading Fun

If you're like me, you're planning a lot of summer reading. If you make Yasmin a part of your summer plans, don't forget to let me know! I have cool swag for my summer readers, like stickers, bookmarks and coloring pages. [Send](#) me a pic of your kiddos reading



Yasmin - or tag me on Instagram - and I'll send you a little something! Doesn't that sound like fun?



APPEARANCES

Virtual Visit to Prague

I'm used to visiting schools all over the U.S. - both in person and online. But imagine my delight when I got to Skype with an international school in Prague! It was a challenge to schedule something because of the huge time difference, but we made it work. I was possibly more excited than the students and teachers combined. Knowing that my books are being read and enjoyed in so many countries on the planet is very

thrilling.



SOCIAL MEDIA

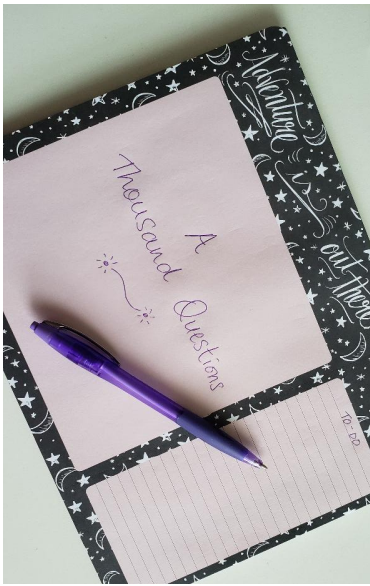
Eid Comes to Twitter

The Islamic holy month of Ramadan is almost over, and very soon Muslims will celebrate the festival of Eid. Keep checking my [Twitter feed](#) for a surprise Eid gift that includes Yasmin books! You will also get some behind-the-scenes glimpses of my own Eid with family and friends. So don't forget to connect with me on Twitter and Instagram, because those are my two

favorite social media platforms.

WORK IN PROGRESS

A Thousand Questions



It was a hectic month as [Laura Shovan](#) and I finished up our revisions of *A PLACE AT THE TABLE* (Clarion 2020), and then I hardly had time to breathe before I received an edit letter from my new editor Rosemary Brosnan. This time, it was revisions for *A THOUSAND QUESTIONS* (HarperCollins 2020) and I'm really looking forward to diving in. Lots of caffeine will be required!



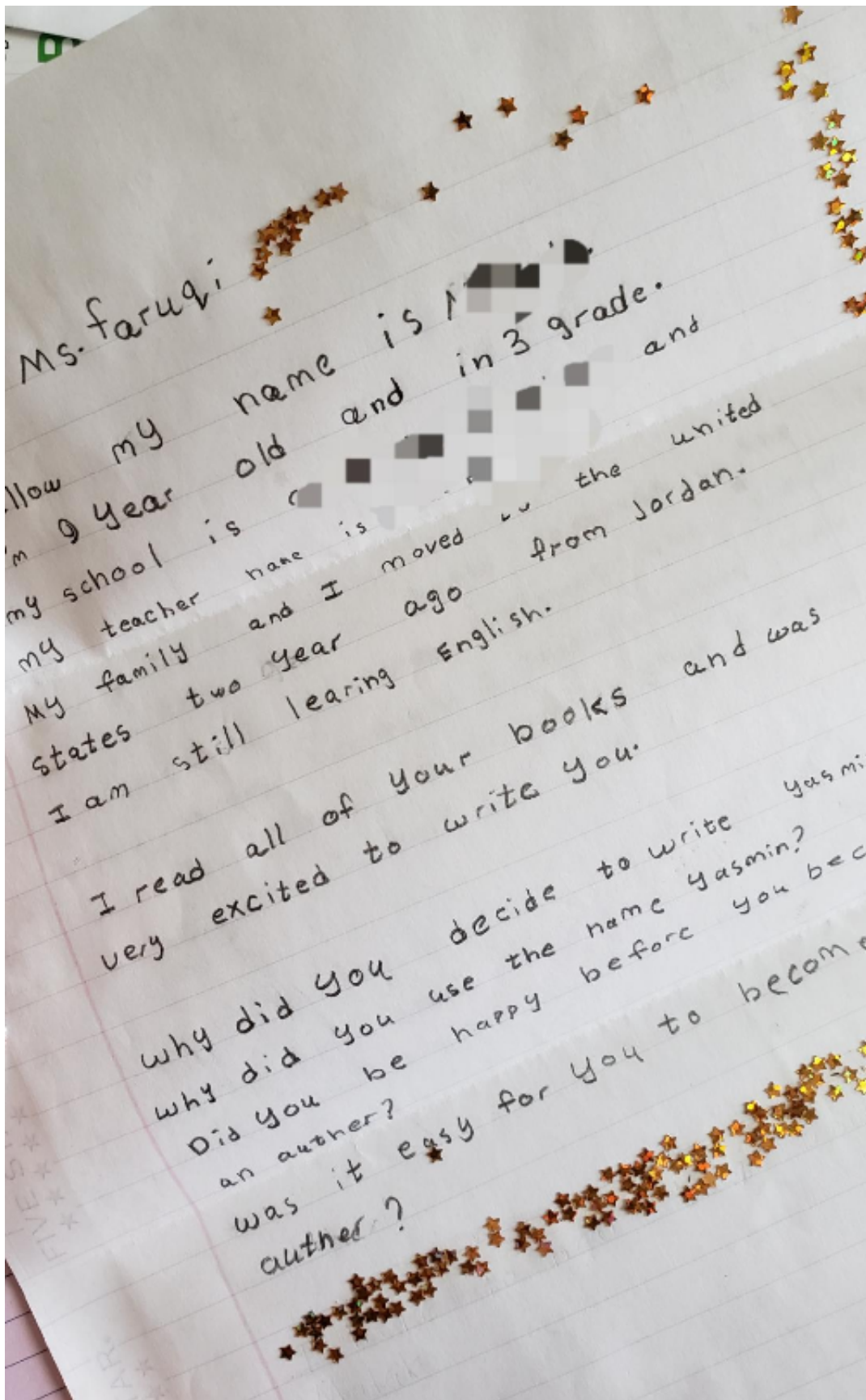
Skype Visit of the Month

Am I looking so weird because I know *someone" is peeking out from behind

me?

Have questions about School/Skype Visits?

School Visits

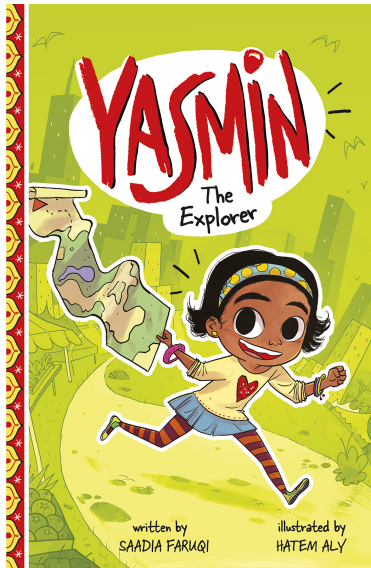


Reader Art of the Month

It's not everyday I receive such a beautifully crafted fan letter complete with glitter stars!

Want to send me reader mail or art?

Contact Me



GIVEAWAY

Yasmin the Explorer

To say a special thank you to my newsletter subscribers, I'm giving away a SIGNED copy of Yasmin the Explorer. To enter, visit my [website](#) and send me a note via the contact form with the subject line JUNE 2019 GIVEAWAY. Ends 6/28. Remember that I offer newsletter-only giveaways to my subscribers every month, so do make sure all your friends are signed up.



WRITING ADVICE

Interviewing Your Characters

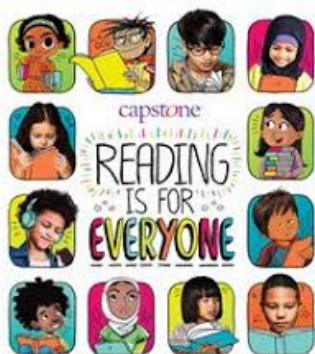
Last month I wrote about realistic characters, and how important they should be to a writer. But how do we actually accomplish this? One way is to pretend the character is real, and that you're interviewing them. You could write down some questions on a paper, and respond to them as if you're the character. Sounds complicated? It's not. And it's very fun too. Ask your characters questions like what they like to do in their free time, and how they express anger or sadness. Ask them their favorite novel or their worst memory. All these may not go into your story, but they'll certainly create a fully formed character to write about.

WORKSPACE

Too Many Pens



A part of my desk is dedicated to my writing tools. This includes a small reading light, some books, and reminders of festivals I've been invited to this year. Oh, and lots of pens. You'll notice that people who write tend to collect pens and papers not because we use them, but because it helps us get comfortable with the writing process. My favorite pens are a pink and a purple one. And my least favorite is a teal one that never seems to work.



REMINDER

Reading is for Everyone

My publisher Capstone has a very cool initiative called [Reading is for Everyone](#) that provides tools and resources to encourage diverse reading. They have tons of great resources such as download-ables, book lists and tips. Check out posters for your library or

home, and read my interview, talking about why mirrors and windows are essential to our youth.

FAVORITE PICS





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AMAZON

INDIEBOUND

CAPSTONE



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