

SAADIA FARUQI NEWSLETTER



May 2019



NEWS

Contract Signed With HarperCollins

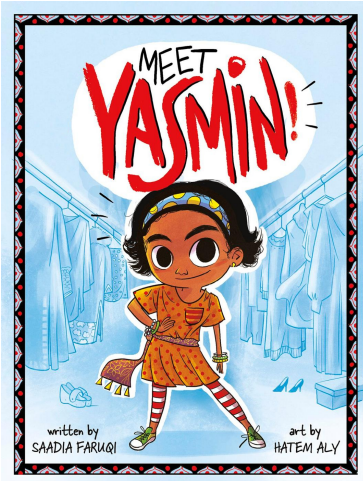
I can finally announce the good news: I have two new middle grade novels coming from HarperCollins! The first of these, a dual voice narrative set in my birthplace of Karachi, Pakistan, is slated to be released in late 2020. Here's the deal announcement on [Twitter](#). Keep an eye out for details about this exciting book! I cannot

wait to introduce you to my main characters Mimi and Sakina, and show you the awesome city of Karachi.

MORE NEWS

Meet Yasmin! Gets More Awards

Meet Yasmin! has received yet another accolade. It's on the prestigious [Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year](#) for 2019. I always get a tad emotional when my stories receive recognition, because it means that my readers' need to see themselves in books is being



recognized.



APPEARANCES

TLA 2019

Yasmin made waves at the 2019 Texas Library Association (TLA) annual conference in Austin. I signed a ton of books, met countless librarians and heard so many stories about sweet students who are enjoying the Yasmin series. I can't tell you how much I enjoy

hearing these stories and wishing I could meet each one of those students.

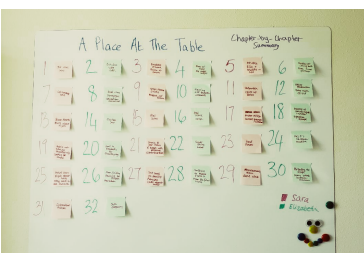


SOCIAL MEDIA

Ramadan on Instagram

Are you on Twitter and Instagram? I certainly am. In fact I love these two social media platforms so much I am continually connecting with my readers through them. I offer prizes, giveaways and exclusive news there, so make sure you're following me. In May, I'll be

showcasing and giving away many Muslim-authored books on [Instagram](#) in honor of the holy month of Ramadan.



WORK IN PROGRESS

A Place at the Table

Work on my new middle grade novel A PLACE AT THE TABLE (Clarion 2020), co-written by the lovely [Laura Shovan](#) is coming along nicely. We are revising the

manuscript based on the notes our editor has sent us, and it is a mind-boggling

endeavor! Laura promises there is light at the end of the tunnel, and I'm leaning hard on her for support and guidance. As with any WIP there is lots to celebrate as well, delicious secrets such as an early draft of the cover! I can't wait to show you!

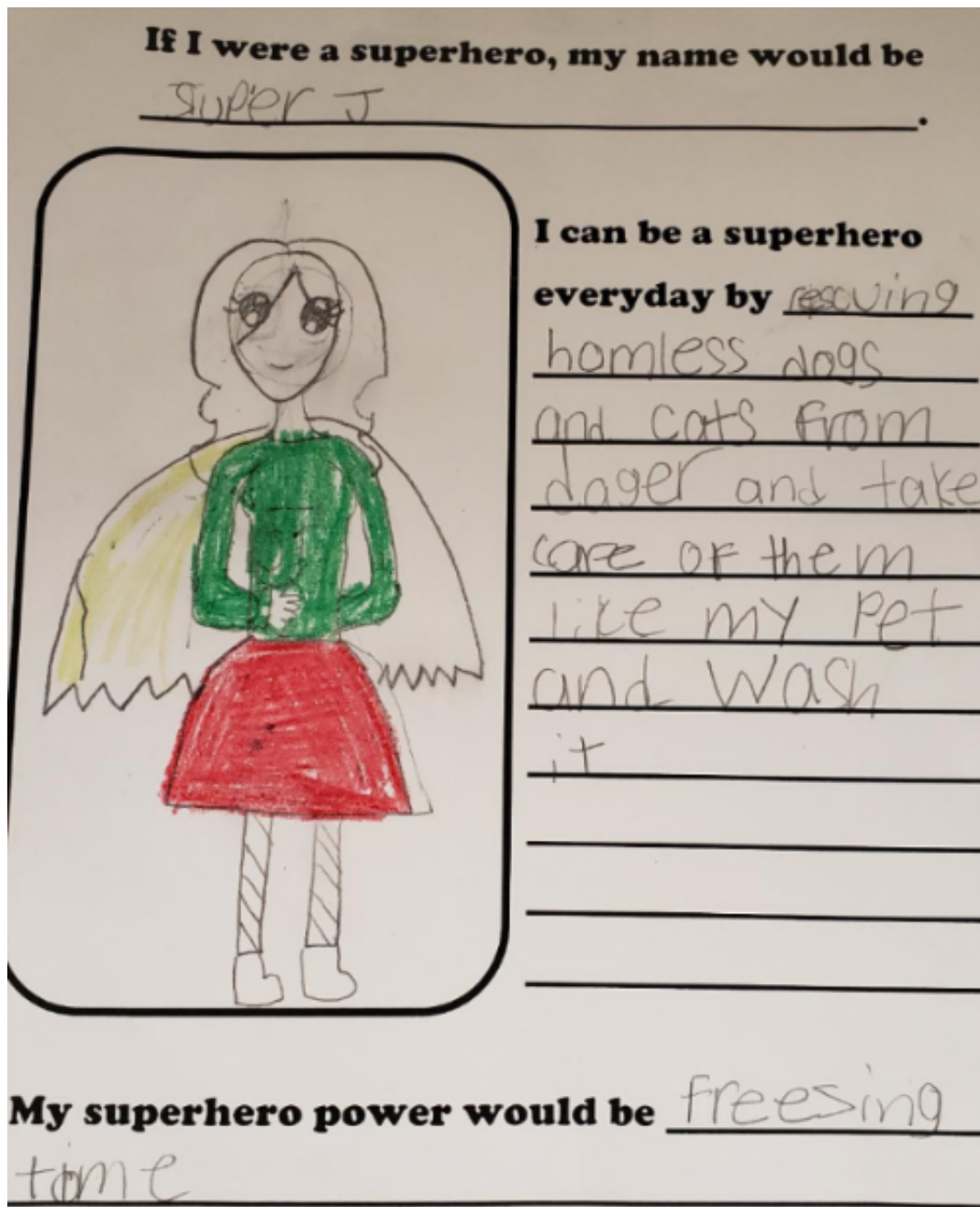


Skype Visit of the Month

The second graders at PS 567 in the Bronx, NY holding up their lovely YASMIN art. Credit: @izzyteaches

Have questions about School/Skype Visits?

School Visits



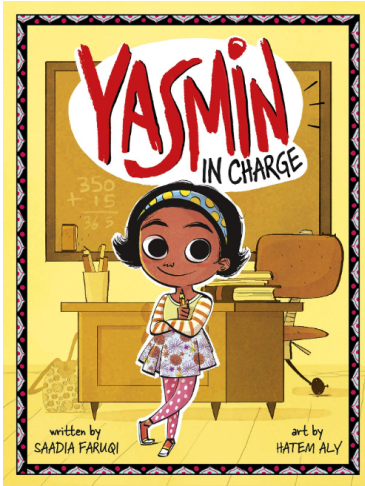
Reader Art of the Month

At a recent elementary school visit to Aikin Elementary in Dallas, TX, I snapped this picture from a wall of Yasmin art. Just like in YASMIN THE SUPERHERO this girl has aspirations to be super helpful and kind.

[Want to send me reader mail or art?](#)

[Contact Me](#)

GIVEAWAY



Yasmin in Charge

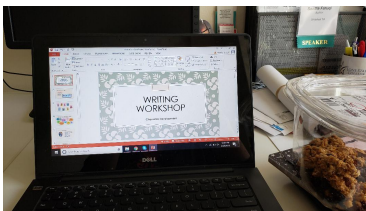
To say a special thank you to my newsletter subscribers, I'm giving away a SIGNED copy of Yasmin in Charge. To enter, visit my [website](#) and send me a note via the contact form with the subject line MAY 2019 GIVEAWAY. Ends 5/24. Remember that I offer newsletter-only giveaways to my subscribers every month, so do make sure all your friends are signed up.

WRITING ADVICE

Complex Characters



I believe that the key to good writing is creating REAL characters. What does this mean? A character must be fully human, even if they're an animal or an alien. They must have complex personalities. Make the good guys a little bad, and the bad guys a little good. Give the hero something to be scared of. Give the villain a redeeming quality. For instance, in the YASMIN series, Yasmin has several not-that-great qualities. She gets frustrated and even mad sometimes. She doesn't always like trying new things. She's not a perfect little good girl. Bottom line: she's just like everybody else, which makes her human.



WORKSPACE

Creating a New Writing Workshop

Sometimes I get called out to a school for a specific purpose: a writing workshop. Those are so fun, because the students really want to learn, and they love receiving real-time tips from a published author. Some of my workshop activities include play acting exercises, interactive discussions, and showcasing my own countless revisions. Here is my workspace with my laptop, PowerPoint presentation, and of course some granola.

REMINDER

Signed Books as Eid Gifts



Eid-ul-Fitr is coming up, and what better way to give an Eid gift than an autographed copy of Yasmin? Children will LOVE their personalized message and a copy of their favorite early reader series! To inquire, visit my [website](#) and send me a note via the contact form. While supplies last.

VIDEO OF THE MONTH



FAVORITE PICS





BUY MY BOOKS

AMAZON

INDIEBOUND

CAPSTONE



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