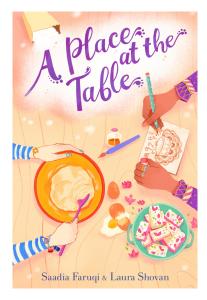


August 2019





NEWS

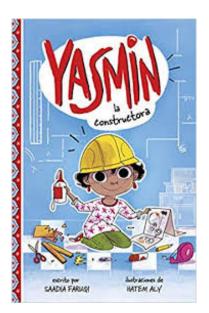
Cover Reveal

July marked the cover reveal of my upcoming middle grade novel A Place at the Table (HMH/Clarion 2020), co-written with Laura Shovan. Both of us were so excited to finally reveal this awesome cover, designed by Sharismar Rodriguez and illustrated by Anoosha Syed. Read the full cover reveal post, including some thoughts by Laura and myself, at <u>Nerdy Book Club</u>.

MORE NEWS

Yasmin en Espanol

I'm delighted to announce that the first four titles of Yasmin are now available in Spanish! This is a huge deal for wide swathes of the country where bilingual children will now be able to enjoy Yasmin's antics in



their own language, and those learning Spanish in our schools will be able to use a text they already love. Check out Yasmin la Exploradora, Pintora, Constructora, and Fashionista today!



APPEARANCES

Yasmin in London

I hopped across the ocean to see the sights and launch the latest Yasmin titles in the U.K. The lovely <u>Round</u> <u>Table Books</u> in London welcomed me warmly, and kiddos were excited to hear me read Yasmin the Superhero. They even made some masks and pretended to be superheros themselves! It was a very fun and emotional evening for me, to see my stories enjoyed by families in Europe.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Instagram Stories

Are you on Instagram? Me too! Do you like Instagram stories? Me too! My <u>Instagram page</u> is a great place to connect with me and share stories of Muslim authored books. In August, tag me on a book-related Insta story and I'll share your post on my stories too! How fun will that be?

WORK IN PROGRESS

A Place at the Table

You may be aware that A PLACE AT THE TABLE



(HMH/Clarion 2020) includes lots of food. It's set in a South Asian cooking club, and the main characters Sara and Elizabeth try to win a food competition. What you may not know is that my co-author <u>Laura</u> <u>Shovan</u> actually makes each recipe at home which the characters try in the book. Here's a picture of her yummiest creation: Sara and Elizabeth's entry for the competition, a fusion ice cream with Pakistani and British flavors. You'll have to read the book to find out what those flavors are!



Store Visit of the Month

Some kiddos dressed up in their own superhero masks at the UK launch of Yasmin the Superhero at Round Table Books. Credit: @isasimsofia

Have questions about School/Skype Visits?

School Visits



Reader Art of the Month

Sent by Amber Riaz, of her daughter Sidra holding a fabulously face-painted Yasmin coloring page!

Want to send me reader mail or art?

Contact Me



GIVEAWAY

Yasmin in Spanish

To say a special thank you to my newsletter subscribers, I'm giving away a set of four hardcover titles of Yasmin translated into the Spanish language. That's Yasmin la Exploradora, Yasmin la Pintora, Yasmin la Constructora, and Yasmin la Fashionista. To enter, visit my <u>website</u> and send me a note via the contact form with the subject line AUGUST 2019

GIVEAWAY. Ends 7/24. Remember that I offer newsletter-only giveaways to my subscribers every month, so do make sure all your friends are signed up.



WRITING ADVICE

Take a Break

In July, I decided to stop writing and do something else. My family planned a trip to London and Paris, right in the middle of so many projects! At first I wanted to take my laptop with me. After all there was a nine-hour plane ride I could write on, and surely there would be nights in the hotel to work on my manuscripts. But I changed my mind, and it was the best decision ever. Sometimes, not working is the best thing you can do for your writing. Take a break and travel if possible to a different location. This could be within your own city, or even your house. Just go somewhere else, and do

something else other than writing. When you get back, you'll have a fresh perspective and your creativity will be recharged.

WORKSPACE

Shredding the Evidence

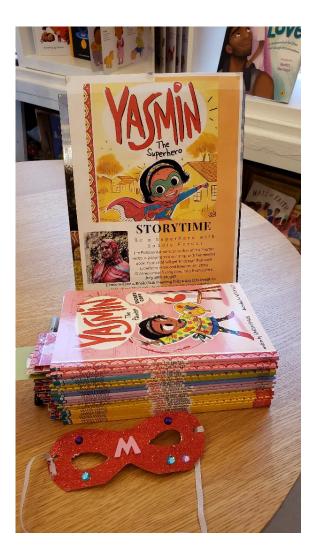
On my right side near my feet, there is a big shredder. I tuck it under my desk, only to drag it out once in a while. For me, shredding papers is an important therapeutic process. It not only helps me keep my work space clean, but it also provides a very satisfying feeling. Papers passing through the shredder, telling



me it's okay to make mistakes, delete, start over. It's a healthy habit to frequently clean and reassess your work space, otherwise the clutter takes over and makes you unproductive. One day I'll also clean up the mess on *top* of my desk!

FAVORITE PICS







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