



## October 2019











### **NEWS**

## ARCs are here!

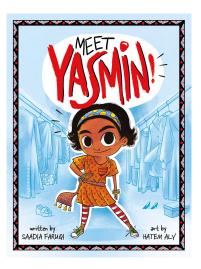
I'm so excited to announce that Advance Review Copies (ARCs) of my upcoming novel A Place at the Table are finally here. They've been distributed by my publisher Clarion/HMH to a variety of reviewers, bloggers and journalists to give feedback and share with their audiences. This is a critical part of the publicity machine, so I'm waiting to see what people have to say! If you're a reviewer or writer for a major publication,

please contact me to ask how you can receive an ARC!

### **MORE NEWS**

## L.A. Times Recommends Yasmin

You don't have to live in California to know that the L.A. Times' book recommendations are a pretty big deal! I'm very happy to share the news that Meet Yasmin! was selected to be in the L.A. Times Reading by 9



annual guide that helps educators and parents ensure their children's academic success through quality books. The guide can be downloaded for free <u>here</u>.



program!

### **APPEARANCES**

## **Barbara Bush Public Library**

It was a lovely Saturday afternoon, perfect for kids to meet Yasmin! The Barbara Bush public library in Texas invited me for a morning of story time, kids art and much more! I spoke about my passion for diverse books to a room full of kids, parents and even grandparents! The best part? So many new children were introduced to this series, which is why public libraries are a great place to hold a fun Yasmin-inspired



**SOCIAL MEDIA** 

# October giveaways on Instagram

I've been doing a lot giveaways on Twitter, so I think it's time to spread the love to Instagram! During the month of October, I will give away lots of goodies - books, and more! - so head on over to my <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a> account and follow me if you don't already! Every new follower in October will be

automatically entered into a drawing for a free Yasmin book.

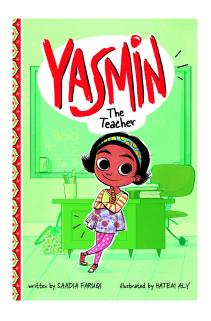


#### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

## Research, Research

This fall, my most important project is going to be the Muslim Minds biography (Harper Collins 2021). I've

been working hard all summer doing preliminary research on ancient Muslim visionaries, but it's still in the initial stages of compilation. There are SO MANY great people to profile, and not enough time to research them all. If anyone has a magic wand to help me, please send it my way! In the meantime, back to work!



#### **GIVEAWAY**

### Yasmin the Teacher

Did you know that October 5 is World Teacher Day? I love all teachers, and so does Yasmin! To say a special thank you to my newsletter subscribers, and to celebrate teachers every day, I'm giving away FIVE signed copies of Yasmin the Teacher! To enter, visit my website and send me a note via the contact form with the subject line OCTOBER 2019 GIVEAWAY. Ends 10/25. Please remember that I offer newsletter-only giveaways to my subscribers every month, so do make

sure all your friends are signed up.



### **WRITING ADVICE**

## **Use Your Imagination**

My daughter was working on an essay about respect, and wanted my help. I thought what I shared with her may be helpful to my readers as well. Essay writing can seem boring because there are no stories involved, and you can't use your imagination. Never fear, this isn't always true. I told her that she should come up with

some personal stories of respectful behavior, or rather instances of disrespect. She could use those as starting points for her essay, and also as examples throughout. Other ways she could utilize imaginative stories in essay writing is to talk about books she's read or movies she's watched about respect or kindness. Once she figured out how to weave stories throughout her narrative essay, she was no longer bored. Happy writing!

#### WORKSPACE

## **Prepping for School Visits**



October is going to be a hectic month for me. First, I'm visiting Boston to meet students in four different elementary schools, and then back to my own city for two whole weeks of school visits in Katy, TX! I'm excited, because I love meeting Yasmin readers and hearing about their experiences. But it's also a time when I get stressed out if things aren't organized. So this is me, trying to be organized for October visits! Guess how it's going?



### **REMINDER**

## **Open for Skype**

The school year is in full swing, which means that I'm gearing up for Skype visits. If you're a school that can't afford to bring me into your classroom physically,

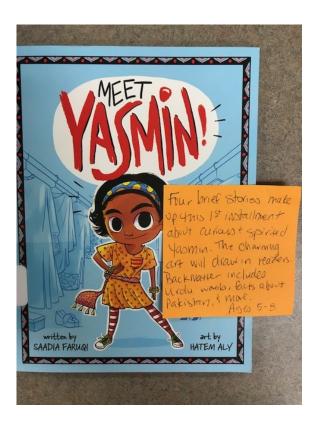
technology allows you to do so virtually. I offer free 20-minute Q&A session via Skype or other platforms to classrooms that read my books. It might be worth it to <u>learn more</u>, or to pass on this information to your child's school.

### **READING LINKS:**

The Struggle Between Diversity and #OwnVoices at MG Book Village.

Religion Publishing for Children's Books Expands at **Publishers Weekly**.

# **FAVORITE PICS**







# **BUY MY BOOKS**

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