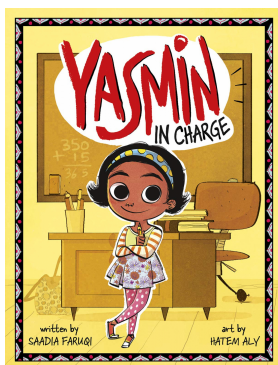




December 2019



NEWS

SLJ Best Books of 2019

If you're an educator, you know how important the School Library Journal's book recommendations are. So it's with great pleasure I announce that *Yasmin in Charge* is on SLJ's [Best Books of 2019](#) in the Transitional Chapter Books Category! I'm honored to be on this list, and also really happy because so many new teachers and librarians will get to know about this series.



MORE NEWS

Signed Copies at Books of Wonder

In November I had the chance to present at Books of Wonder at 84th Street, an iconic indie bookstore in Manhattan. They asked me to sign A LOT of books, which means you no longer have to wonder about gifts. Just call [Books of Wonder](#) and purchase signed copies of *Yasmin* for all your young readers. They will be so happy!



APPEARANCES

Laura and Saadia at NCTE

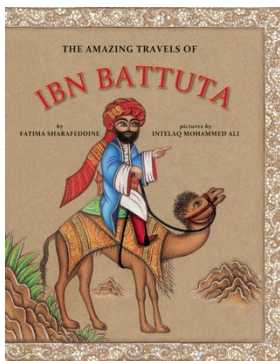
NCTE may be the largest convention of English teachers in the U.S. So it was a complete honor for [Laura Shovan](#) and I to sign Advance Reader Copies of our upcoming book [A Place at the Table](#) at this amazing event in November. We had a wonderful time meeting teachers and sharing our experiences as co-writers with them. I'm looking forward to seeing this book in the hands of young readers everywhere.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter in December

Of all the social media platforms, [Twitter](#) may just be my favorite. I love connecting with teachers, librarians and parents about what their readers most need. If you're on Twitter and don't follow me yet, please do. I will have some wonderful holiday giveaways in December only for my Twitter followers.



WORK IN PROGRESS

Research Continues

When you're working on a research-based project like Great Muslim Minds (forthcoming from Harper Collins), you can't rely on internet research alone. Sometimes you have to read old books you acquire from friends, like this interesting volume about the great traveler Ibn Battuta. I'm in awe of the amount of traveling this adventurer did in his lifetime!

WHAT I'M READING

Middle Grade: [My Basmati Bat Mitzvah](#) by Paula Freedman

Adult Memoir: [This is My Body](#) by Cameron Dezen Hammon

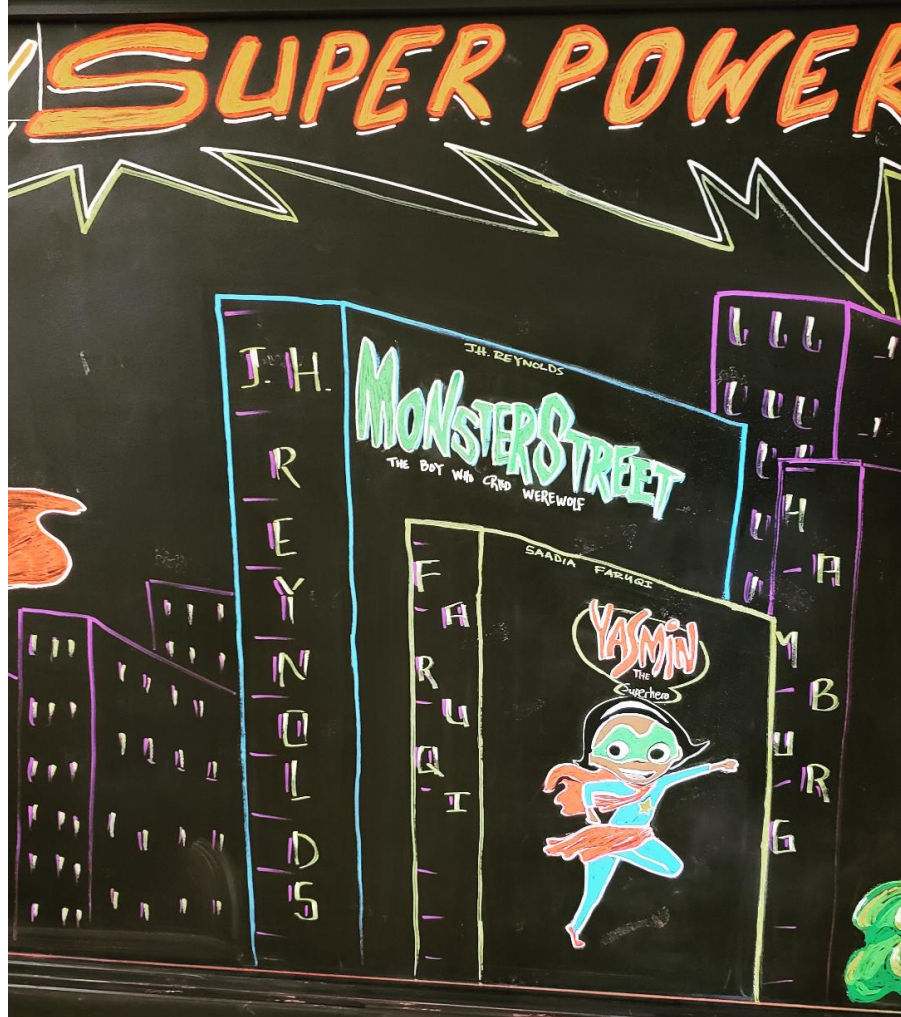


Skype Visit of the Month

Students at Northern Parkway School in Long Island, NY Skped with me to show me the fantastic city they built.

[Have questions about School/Skype Visits?](#)

[School Visits](#)

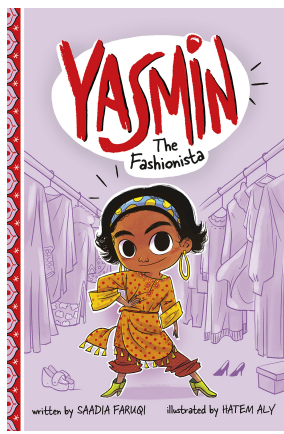


Reader Art of the Month

Chalk on Blackboard, by a reader at Mark Twain Elementary in Houston, TX as part of their book fair week.

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

[Contact Me](#)



GIVEAWAY

Yasmin the Fashionista

To say a special thank you to my newsletter subscribers, I'm giving away a signed copy of Yasmin the Fashionista. To enter, visit my [website](#) and send me a note via the contact form with the subject line DECEMBER 2019 GIVEAWAY. Ends 12/20. Remember that I offer newsletter-only giveaways to my subscribers every month, so do make sure all your friends are signed up.



WRITING ADVICE

Read a Book or Two

December is a month of family and vacations for many people. School may be out for lots of my readers, or work may be slow because of the time of year. What better way to celebrate this season regardless of your faith than through reading? Whether you like to curl up with a book near the fireplace, or read while traveling on the train, books are the number one way to improve your own craft. I don't trust people who say they love writing but not reading. In my mind, writers are first and foremost readers. That's how we get inspired, learn techniques and get ideas. So get reading!



WORKSPACE

To-do Pile Up

They say that an untidy desk is a sign of a creative mind. If that's true, then I may be the most creative writer you will ever know! I have been working on clearing my desk, and now everything is in one tall pile. How long before this leaning tower of papers falls down and covers my nice clean desk once again?

READING LINKS

The Collaborative Classroom: [An Interview with Saadia Farugi](#)

The BBC: [Does Reading Fiction Make Us Better People?](#)

FAVORITE PICS





BUY MY BOOKS

AMAZON

INDIEBOUND

CAPSTONE



Saadia Faruqi

13102 Marbury Court, Houston
United States

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