YA Fiction by Arab American Authors

Novels and graphic novels for teens in a variety of genres, by American authors of Arab descent.



Squire by Sara Alfageeh and Nadia Shammas | YA G SQU

Also by Shammas, Confetti Realms.

Hiding her status as a girl from conquered lands while training as a Squire on her quest to become a Knight, the only path to true citizenship, Aiza navigates friendships and rivalries until she discovers the military's endgame.



When Samira receives a strange vase with some ancient coins, she and her sister Rima are pulled into Baalbek, a Phoenician underworld where they are caught up in the a struggle between deities, shapeshifters, and ghouls--and Eshmun, who wants his obol, his burial coin, back.



All-American Muslim Girl by Nadine Jolie Courtney | YA COU

Sixteen-year-old Allie, aged seven when she knew her family was different and feared, struggles to claim her Muslim and Arabic heritage while finding her place as an American teenager.

Mirage by Somaiya Daud | YA DAU

Daud's debut novel tells the story of 18-year-old Amani, whose planet is occupied by the Vathek empire. During a coming-of-age ceremony, she's kidnapped by the regime and smuggled into the royal palace, because she bears an uncanny resemblance to Maram, the cruel princess of the Vathek empire. (from Booklist)





Driving by Starlight by Anat Deracine | YA DER

Sixteen-year-olds Leena and Mishie are best friends. They delight in small rebellions against the Saudi cultural police--secret Western clothing, forbidden music, flirtations. But Leena wants college, independence--she wants a different life.

Bright Red Fruit by Safia Elhillo | YA ELH

Also by this author, Home is Not a Country.

An unflinching, honest novel in verse about a teenager's journey into the slam poetry scene and the dangerous new relationship that could threaten all her dreams.



Huda F Are U? by Huda Fahmy | YA G FAH

Also by this author, Huda F Cares?

In her old town, Huda knew exactly who she was: She was the hijabi girl. But in Dearborn, everyone is the hijabi girl. Huda is lost in a sea of hijabis, and she can't rely on her hijab to define her anymore. She has to define herself.



We Hunt the Flame by Hafsah Faizal | YA FAI

Also by this author, A Tempest of Tea.

In a world inspired by ancient Arabia, seventeen-year-old huntress Zafira must disguise herself as a man to seek a lost artifact that could return magic to her cursed world.





Man O' War by Cory McCarthy | YA MCC

While at a marine life theme park, River's encounter with a queer person lands him in the shark tank, which launches a journey of self-discovery, from internalized homophobia and gender dysphoria, through layers of coming out, affirmation surgery, and true love.



When fourteen-year-old Liyanne Abboud, her younger brother, and her parents move from St. Louis to a new home between Jerusalem and the Palestinian village where her father was born, they face many changes and must deal with the tensions between Jews and Palestinians.





This is All Your Fault by Aminah Mae Safi | YA SAF

Also by this author, Travelers Along the Way.

Three young female employees work together to stop the Wild Nights Bookstore and Emporium from closing.

Six Truths and a Lie by Ream Shukairy | YA SHU

Also by this author, The Next New Syrian Girl.

Told in their separate voices, six Muslim teens are falsely accused of an alleged attack on a Los Angeles beach and must trust or turn their backs on each other to prove their innocence.





You Can Go Your Own Way by Eric Smith | YA SMI

Also by this author, *Don't Read the Comments*.

Trapped inside an arcade by a snowstorm, Adam, who is determined to save the arcade from Philadelphia's newest tech mogul, and Whitney, the daughter of the tech mogul, find the tension between them turning into something else.

Here We Are Now by Jasmine Warga | YA WAR

Also by this author, My Heart and Other Black Holes.

While her mother is out of town, sixteen-year-old Taliah accompanies her estranged father--a famous rock star who one day appears on her doorstep--to Oak Falls, Indiana, to meet his dying father and the rest of his family, and on the way, Taliah learns about how her parents met and separated, her mother's experience as a Jordanian immigrant, and her own ability to accept change and open up to others.



