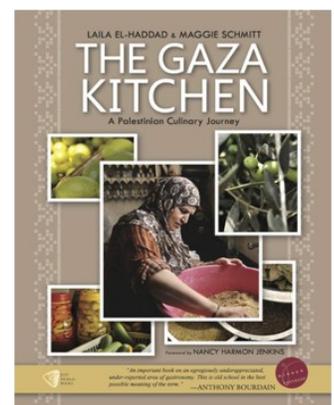
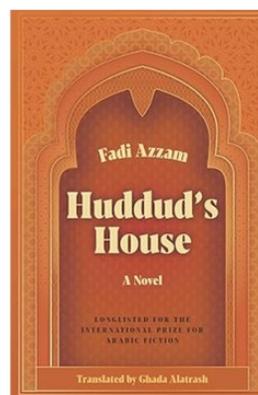
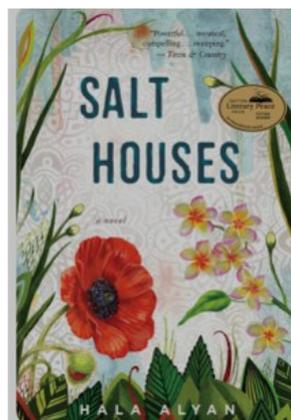
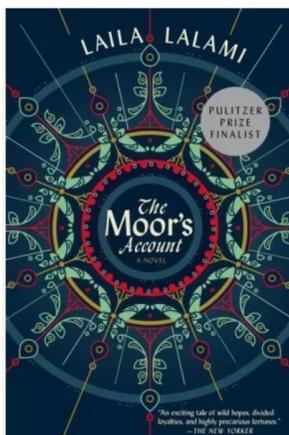
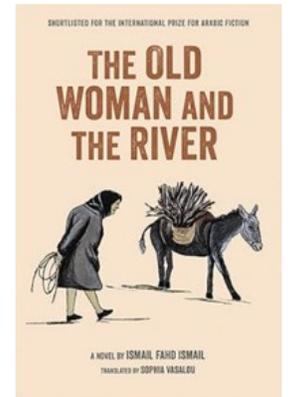
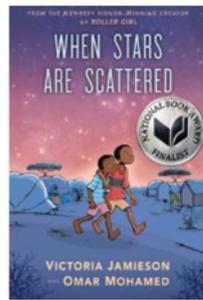
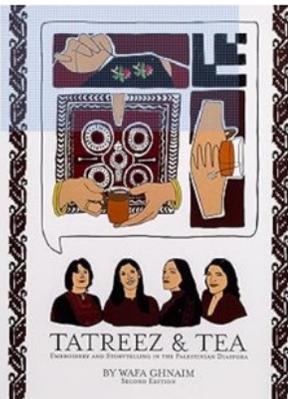
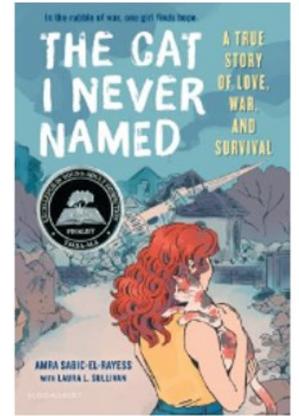
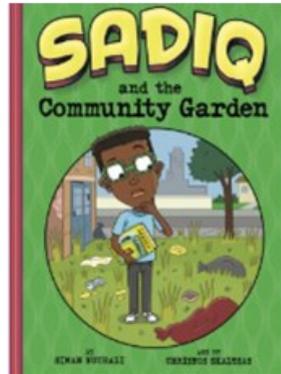
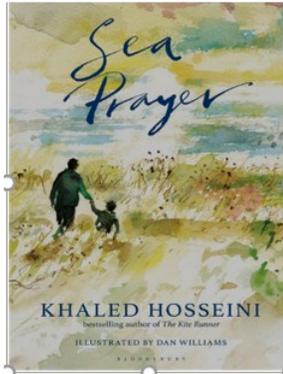
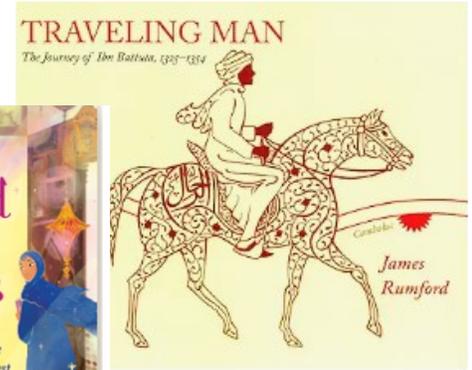
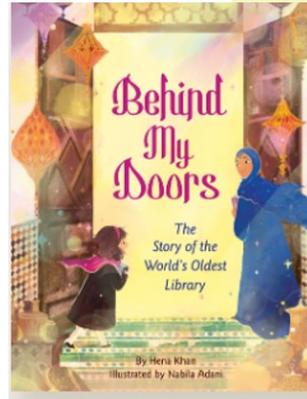
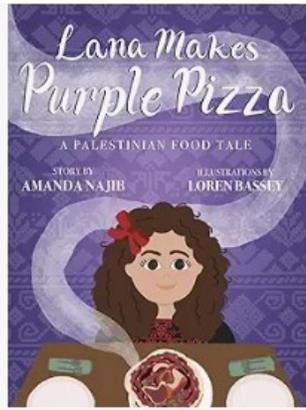


National Arab American Heritage Month-April 2026

Try one of these Award Winners!



Title - youngest to oldest reader	Author	Awards/Honors	Notes
-Lana Makes Purple Pizza - a Palestinian Food Tale	Amanda Najib	2024 Palestine Book Award	Weaves Palestinian culture with its food.
A Map for Falasteen	Maysa Odeh	2025 Honor Jane Addams Children's Book Award	Early school age - Falasteen searches for Palestine on her classroom map.
The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Saba Hadid	Jeanette Winter	2018 Orbis Pictus Honor, Wash Post Best Children's Book of 2017	Non-fiction picture book. Saba Hadid grew up in Baghdad, Iraq.
Behind My Doors, The Story of the World's Oldest Library	Hena Khan	Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2024	a tribute to the oldest library founded by a Muslim woman in Fez, Morocco in 859, non-fiction picture book.
Traveling Man: The Journey of Ibn Battuta 1325-1354	James Rufford	Picture Book Winner, 2001 Middle East Book Award	Picture book biography- story of this medieval traveler covering 117,000 km, Colorful ancient maps and illustrations.
Sea Prayer	Khaled Hosseini	2019 selection for We Are Kid Lit Collective reading lists	Composed as a letter from a father to his son as they cross the sea to leave their home - Homs, Syria. Illustrated refugee story. Grades 1-6th.
Sadiq and the Community Garden	Suman Niyrali	Listed on the GoodReads Site of recommended reads	Series, chapter book of a young boy from Somalia.
Other Words for Home	Jasmine Warga	A Newbery Honor Book	A hopeful middle grade novel about a girl who must leave Syria to come the U.S.
The Cat I Never Named, a True Story of Love, War and Survival	Anna Sajib-El-Rayes	Excellence in Young Adult non-fiction Finalist	Memoir of a young teen's survival in the midst of the Bosnian genocide
When Stars Are Scattered	Victoria Jameson, Omar Mohamed	2020 National Book Award Finalist	Young adult graphic novel, non-fiction. Story of two young brothers who fled Somalia and ended up in a Kenyan refugee camp.
Tahreer and Tea: Embroidery and Storytelling in the Palestinian Diaspora	Wafa Ghannam	2018 Palestine Book Award	448 page full color book containing stories from "stitching circle", Tahreer , patterns, dress patterns and recipes.
They Called Me a Lioness	Amjed Tamimi	2025 Book for One Book Many Communities, 2022 Winner Palestine Book Awards	Memoir. A 16-yr old Palestinian activist jailed after an encounter with Israeli soldiers. The story of resilience, occupation, bravery.
The Return	Hisham Matar	2017 Pulitzer Prize Winner	Story of a young man's return to his native Libya in search of the truth about his father's disappearance - a political dissident of Gaddafi regime. Autobiography.
The Old Woman and The River	Ismail Fahd Ismail	Shortlist - International Prize for Arabic Fiction 2019	Set in post Iran-Iraq war, a woman single handedly creates a lush oasis for her village along the Shatt Al-Arab river.
The Moors Account	Laila Lalouni	Winner of the 2014 American Book Award, Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in fiction	Historical fiction about conquistador Pánfilo de Narváez sailing to America from Morocco in the 16th century.
Salt Houses	Hala Alwan	Winner of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, 2018 Arab American Book Award	Novel following 3 generations of Palestinians as the family confronts no longer having a house or homeland.
Huddud's House	Fadi Azzam	2023 longlisted for the International Prize of Arabic fiction	Contemporary novel placed in Damascus in the days of Syria's Arab Spring. Epic tale of love in the time of war.
The Gaza Kitchen - A Palestinian Culinary Journey	Laila El- Heddad	2013 Winner of Gourmand World Cookbook Award	Much more than a cookbook - over 130 collected recipes from Gaza, with photos, interviews, and storytelling of connection with food and heritage.