

FEATURED AUTHOR

BROUGHT TO YOU BY @KSP_LIBRARY



ISSUE NO. 01

MARCH 2022

**MUHAMMAD
KHAN**

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF
MUHAMMAD KHAN

BOOK REVIEWS

AWARD-WINNER



FEATURING

Muhammad Khan

Muhammad Khan is an engineer, a secondary-school maths teacher and YA author. He takes his inspiration from the children he teaches, as well as his own upbringing as a British-born Pakistani.

His critically acclaimed debut novel *I Am Thunder* was shortlisted for numerous awards including the Great Read Award and TSBA Book Awards, among others making him a promising voice in the YA fiction world. He lives in South London and is studying for an MA in Creative Writing at St Mary's.

On winning the prestigious Branford Boase Award 2019 for his outstanding debut he said:

'I am stunned, humbled and thrilled to learn that *I am Thunder* has won the Branford Boase Award. To do so in its glorious 20th year is completely mindboggling! Just to be shortlisted among such a talented bunch of authors with incredible debut novels was exciting enough.'

"I wanted to be a voice for this minority because we often face erasure or are believed to be inferior to those who have chosen assimilation over integration."

CONTACT US

LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTRE

The King's (The Cathedral) School

(01733) 751541
librarians@kings.peterborough.sch.uk
@KSP_Library

CREATED BY

MRS. WILDMAN

Head of Library Resource Centre

CONTRIBUTORS

Content from BookRiot.com and LoveReading4Kids

I AM THUNDER

INTERVIEW BY LUCAS MAXWELL

I recently had the amazing opportunity to sit down with author Muhammad Khan. A maths teacher from South London, Muhammad Khan's debut novel *I Am Thunder* is a harrowing and realistic portrayal of a young Muslim teenager being radicalized by a terrorist cell.

Lucas: *I Am Thunder* is an intense novel, yet it also has a lot of humour and hope. As a High School Librarian in South London, I could recognise a lot of the teens in the novel. I feel like whenever I speak to adults who don't work in a high school, I spend a lot of time defending the students, explaining how funny, smart and empathetic they are, simply because we often only see the negative side of teens in the media, literature or TV. Do you agree that teens are often misrepresented in these mediums?

Muhammad Khan: Yes, sadly that's often the case. I became a teacher and later a YA novelist because I think teenagers are just the coolest bunch of people. They are so honest and sincere: what you see is what you get. If they don't like you or your subject they'll let you know. But the beautiful thing is that they'll also give you a chance to change their minds. If you take the time to connect with them by taking an interest in them as individuals, you're halfway there. It's the most rewarding thing in the world for a teacher to help students nurture their talents—hidden or otherwise. I guess that's what I'm trying to do with my books: help young people recognise that you can win at life no matter who you are.

Read the full interview on [BookRiot](https://www.bookriot.com)

AN INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR MUHAMMAD KHAN (BOOKRIOT.COM)



AWARD-WINNING
AUTHOR OF
ORANGEBOY



KICK THE MOON

Fifteen-year-old Ilyas is under pressure from everyone: GCSE's are looming and his teachers just won't let up, his dad wants him to join the family business and his mates don't care about any of it. There's no space in Ilyas' life to just be a teenager. Serving detention one day, Ilyas finds a kindred spirit in Kelly Matthews, who is fed up with being pigeonholed as the good girl, and their friendship blows the social strata of high school wide open. But when Kelly catches the eye of one of the local bad boys, Imran, he decides to seduce her for a bet - and Ilyas is faced with losing the only person who understands him. Standing up to Imran puts Ilyas' family at risk, but it's time for him to be the superhero he draws in his comic-books, and go kick the moon.

Kick the Moon, is Muhammad Khan's explosive second novel, with original comic-book art from Amrit Birdi, bestselling illustrator of Username:Evie.

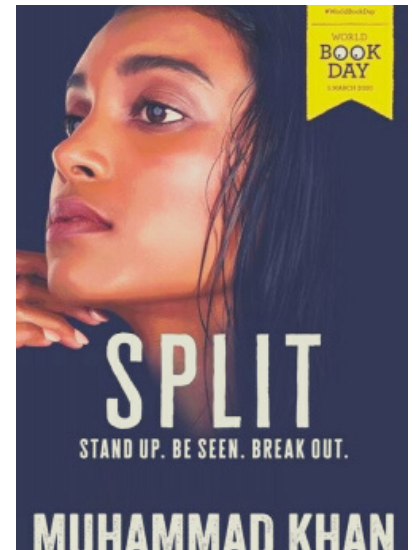
MUHAMMAD KHAN

- SPLIT -

A day can change everything in this exclusive short story from the award-winning author of I Am Thunder, written for World Book Day 2020.

Fifteen-year-old Salma Hashbi has been caught with her boyfriend in a totally humiliating misunderstanding. Instantly accused of being easy, she is shunned by everyone at school, shamed by her community and worst of all has disappointed her mum.

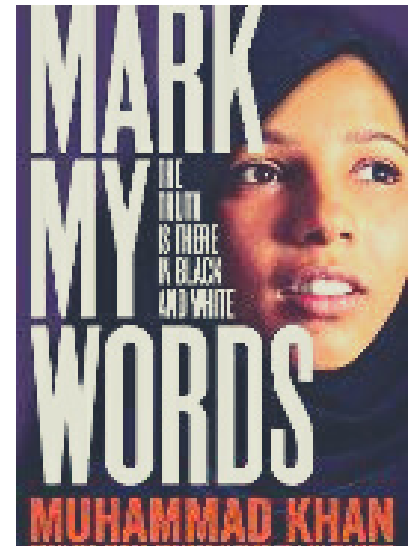
Enough is enough and Salma decides to fight back against the prejudice and rumours and audition for the role of her dreams. But on the hottest day of the year, with everything against her, can Salma make it in time and show the world who she really is? A powerful story of standing up and standing out from the Branford Boase Award-winning Muhammad Khan.



"EVERYONE HAS A SPARK OF GREATNESS INSIDE THEM, YOU JUST NEED TO BE KIND TO YOURSELF AND DISCOVER YOUR INNER THUNDER."

- MARK MY WORDS -

Is the truth as simple as black and white? Mark My Words is the searing novel from Branford Boase Award-winner and 2020 World Book Day author Muhammad Khan, asking who you can trust when all you see is lies. 'A brilliant and powerful story that kept me on the edge of my seat. The protagonist is extremely compelling and relatable, a warrior through and through - you'll root for Dua the entire way!' - Nikita Gill 'A bold and timely book about protest and finding your voice.' - The Observer Fifteen-year-old Dua Iqbal has always had trouble minding her own business. With a silver-tongue and an inquisitive nature, a career in journalism seems fated. When her school merges with another, Dua seizes her chance and sets up a rival newspaper, exposing the controversial stories that teachers and the kids who rule the school would rather keep buried. Dua's investigations are digging up things she shouldn't get involved with about family, friends and her community and as exams rattle towards her, she needs to make some hard decisions about when to leave things alone. But when she discovers that some kids at school are being blamed for selling drugs when the real perpetrator is right in front of their noses, she can't keep quiet any longer.



Coming Soon to the
Library Resource Centre