



**[Under My Hijab](#) by Hena Khan, illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel**

Lee & Low Books, an imprint of LEE & LOW BOOKS, INC, 2019  
ISBN: 9781620147924 (Hardcover)

\*Age Range: 4-8 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: PreK-3 (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

---

This lovely book from the author of *Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns* invites readers to understand and appreciate the hijab and the Muslim women who decide to wear it.

Grandma's hijab clasps under her chin. Auntie pins hers up with a whimsical brooch. Jenna puts a sun hat over hers when she hikes. Iman wears a sports hijab for tae kwon do. As a young girl observes the women in her life and how each covers her hair a different way, she dreams of the possibilities in her own future and how she might express her personality through her hijab.

With cheerful rhyming text and charming illustrations, *Under My Hijab* provides a friendly introduction to hijabs for all readers and celebrates the many Muslim women and girls who choose to wear them.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

---

★ "This is a book that offers great representation and inspires readers to accept everyone just the way they are. A timely story that breaks down many stereotypes and negative feelings about hijabs. A perfect selection to reinforce religious freedoms and self-expression." —[School Library Journal](#), **starred review**

★ "[A] warmhearted tribute to beauty in diversity and self-expression. Cheerful, rhyming verses complement a parade of confident women athletes, doctors, artists, and students, each donning a hijab as colorful and unique as the women themselves." —[Foreword Reviews](#), **starred review**

"A generous invitation by both author and illustrator to young Muslim girls to witness a variety of ways and reasons women wear hijabs. . . Cheerful, colorful images complement the affirming tone and message of this timely book." —[Booklist](#)

"A window into the world of a Muslim-American girl and the diverse women in her family and community. . . Informative and genuine, the book offers much to learn about the settings and situations of hijab." —[Kirkus Reviews](#)

"Matter-of-fact approach accomplishes what it sets out to do: celebrate the diversity and autonomy of contemporary Muslim women." —[Publishers Weekly](#)

Updated 8.19.24

LEE & LOW BOOKS INC.

Contact [marketing@leeandlow.com](mailto:marketing@leeandlow.com)

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

---

- NPR Book Concierge List
- Rise: A Feminist Book Project List (Feminist Task Force and the Social Responsibilities Round Table of ALA)
- Bank Street College of Education Best Children’s Books of the Year
- Capitol Choices (DC) Noteworthy Books for Children & Teens
- MISelf in Books List (Michigan Association of School Librarians)
- Monarch Award Master List: Illinois’ K-3 Readers’ Choice Award (Association of Illinois School Library Educators)
- Star of the North Award Nominee (Minnesota Youth Reading Awards, Inc.)

## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

---

- [Teacher’s Guide](#)
- [Reading is Fundamental’s Multicultural Book Collections lesson plan and activities](#)
- [Lee & Low’s Tea Time Talks with Hena Khan](#)
- [Lee & Low’s The Open Book Blog: Illustrator Aaliya Jaleel Takes Us Behind the Art of \*Under My Hijab\*](#)
- [Lee & Low’s The Open Book Blog: Interview with Hena Khan](#)
- [Anti-Defamation League’s Book of the Month reading guide and learning activities](#)
- [Anti-Defamation League’s Book of the Month Parent/Family Discussion Guide](#)
- [ABC News: How book bans are impacting Asian authors](#)
- [Social Justice Books “Our Recommended Banned Books” List](#)

## AUTHOR STATEMENT

---

“I know that my books are often included on lists that are recommended for anti-racist education or for inclusive reading lists. And, unfortunately, what I believe is happening is that people who are feeling threatened by this for some reason are getting their hands on these lists and then deciding to ban all the books on the list. It does ultimately harm the kids that these books are intended for, and all children who really should have the freedom to read anything they want. It’s unfortunate that the cries of few, you know, small minority is taking away the rights of the rest of us to read widely and freely.” — Hena Khan on [ABC News](#)

Banning certain books and suppressing different viewpoints, backgrounds and ways of life feels like a gigantic step backward in the progress we have been making toward diversifying children’s books and including voices that have long been left out of collections.” “It frightens me,” she adds, “that books like mine and others that celebrate people, traditions and cultures outside of the mainstream are seen as a threat by a very vocal and powerful minority leading the charge to ban books, often through misinformation and fearmongering.” — Hena Khan in [The Missourian](#)

## \*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

---

A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book’s intended use.

Updated 8.19.24

LEE & LOW BOOKS INC.

Contact [marketing@leeandlow.com](mailto:marketing@leeandlow.com)