



# Ismee Alharakee Farasha

Ahlam Bsharat

A beautiful book that...seamlessly blends the dreamy world of adolescence with the tough questions it brings. *Ismee Alharakee Farasha* speaks with intelligence, wit and irony about the injustices and implications of occupation.

## The best Arab young adult novel, hands down!

*Susanne Abou Ghaida, Researcher in Children's Fiction, Glasgow University*

## Her observations of life under occupation are both astute and amusing.

*National Centre for Research In Children's Literature (NCRCL)*

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With irony and poignant teenage idealism, Butterfly draws us into her world of adult hypocrisy, sibling rivalries, girlfriends' power plays, unrequited love...not to mention the political tension of life under occupation. As she observes her fragile environment with all its conflicts, Butterfly is compelled to question everything around her. Is her father a collaborator for the occupiers? Will Nizar ever give her the sign she's waiting for? How will her friendship with the activist Mays and the airhead Haya survive the unpredictable storms ahead? And why is 'honour' such a dangerous word, anyway?

- IBBY 2012 Honours List
- Shortlisted for Etisalat Prize for Arabic Fiction 2013

Author

Ahlam Bsharat grew up in Tammun in Palestine and now lives in Ramallah. Following a Master's Degree in Arabic, she worked as a teacher for several years. An award-winning author of poetry, picture books, short stories, novels, memoirs, and TV and radio scripts, she also works for the Ministry of Culture in Ramallah. Her literary craft has taken her to Belgium and France, where she was artist in residence.

Translator

Nancy Roberts is an Arabic-to-English literary translator whose translations include Salwa Bakr's *The Man From Bashmour*, for which she received a commendation in the Saif Ghobash-Banipal Prize for Translation, Ezzat El Kamhawi's prize-winning *House of the Wolf*, Laila Aljohani's *Days of Ignorance* and Ahlem Mosteghanemi's *The Dust of Promises and Chaos of the Senses*.

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