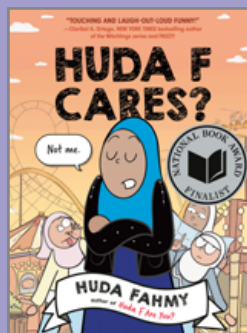
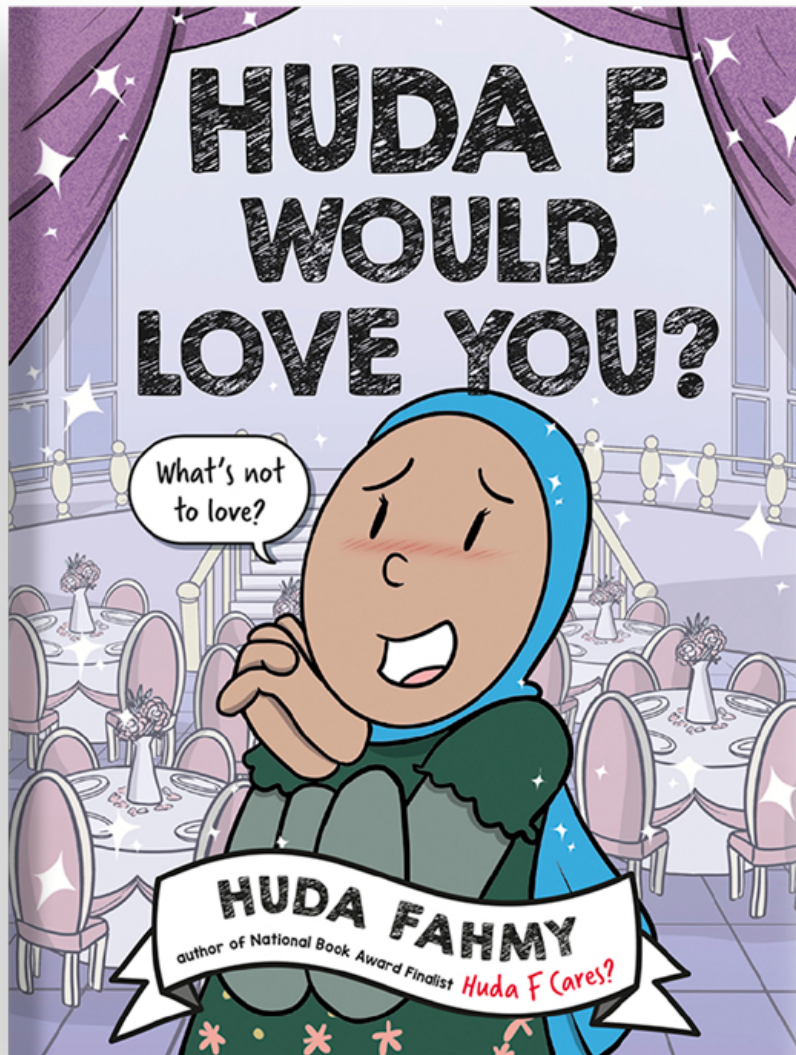


An Educator's Guide to



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Huda Fahmy was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. She is the author and illustrator of the internationally successful webcomic *Yes, I'm Hot in This*, the graphic memoir *That Can Be Arranged*, and the widely popular Huda F graphic novel series. Her graphic novel *Huda F Cares?* was a 2023 finalist for the National Book Award for Young People's Literature. She currently lives in Texas.



ABOUT THE BOOK

In this funny and tender finale to the Huda F series, Huda has a plan to find love—but she might need to find herself first! It's the summer after Huda's high school graduation, and love is in the air! Or it's about to be, anyway. Because Huda has the ingredients for a perfect love story: a butt-kicking girl power squad of new friends and a plan to impress the aunties into setting her up with their eligible sons. But when she finds herself caught between her friends and her heart, gender roles and ambitions, and her fears and dreams, Huda begins to realize that finding her own "happily ever after" might require changing.

★ "This heady celebration of Jane Austen, Muslim culture, and strong Muslim women role models is **EMPOWERING** and **HEARTWARMING**. . . . A spirited ending **WORTHY OF AN ENCORE**."

—Kirkus Reviews, starred review

Download
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the Series!



ABOUT THIS GUIDE'S WRITER This guide was created by Melissa Silerio. Melissa is currently a school librarian and a former English teacher. She holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies with a minor in middle school education from the University of Texas at El Paso and a master's degree in library science from Sam Houston State University.

Glossary for Arabic Words

Salaam: a common greeting in many Arabic-speaking and Muslim countries.

Halaqa: a circle or gathering for the study of the Quran.

Insha'Allah: hopefully, God willing.

Habibti: a term of endearment meaning "my dear".

Knafeh: a traditional dessert layered with cheese and soaked in a sweet, sugar-based syrup called attar.

Nikah: marriage.



PRE-READING ACTIVITY

ANTICIPATION GUIDE

As a pre-reading activity before starting *Huda F Would Love You?*, guide readers through an anticipation guide structured in the following manner:

BEFORE READING	AFTER READING	
		True friendships are just as important as romantic love.
		We should change or hide our true selves to win the affection of someone.
		If true love is meant to be, it will happen.
		Our value and worth don't come from other people's expectations, but from our faith, character, and deeds.
		Personal ambition must be sacrificed to find true love.

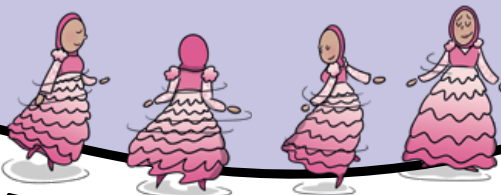


Have readers complete the guide by marking each statement with a "A" for agreement or a "D" for disagreement. Challenge readers to commit to their beliefs, as there are no conditional responses. Remind them that there are no correct or incorrect answers.

Revisit the chart after reading the text and have students mark whether they now agree or disagree based on what they've read. Have students compare their changes with a partner or conduct another agree/disagree discussion. If their responses differ, ask them why they changed their position.



WRITING AND DISCUSSION



The following questions may be used throughout the study of *Huda F Would Love You?* as targeted questions for class discussion or reflective writing prompts.

- 1** At the beginning of the story, we see Huda closing the high school chapter of her life. With her best friend, Nabz, leaving for college and her sisters and mother occupied with their own lives, she remarks that her feelings of abandonment begin to surface. Have you experienced a life event when you felt left behind? How did you cope with those feelings?



- 2** What does Huda's need for "The List" show about her character? What do the needed revisions of "The List" signify about how she has changed?

- 3** Huda proclaims herself as a "Sweep-me-off-my-feet, whisper-sweet-nothings-in-my-ear, dance-in-the-rain, laugh-like-no-one's-watching, card-carrying romantic." Predict if this will help her or hurt her in her pursuit of a relationship.



- 4** When Huda explains her plans to the aunties at the wedding, her response is met with silence. Explain the women's response to Huda. What does that show about their expectations of married women? Is this expectation specific to Muslim culture? What other cultures hold this expectation? Explain.



- 5** Huda says, "What if I end up liking something, but the guy I like doesn't like that I like it? I would hate to sabotage a future relationship for a hobby." What does this reveal about her perspective on a potential relationship?

- 6** Explain Huda's relationship with her mother. How does her mother's view on relationships and marriage influence Huda's choices?



- 7** When Huda's mother overhears the aunties talking about Huda, she immediately defends her by pointing out their sons' shortcomings. What does this interaction reveal about her character? What is revealed about the toxicity of the aunties' behavior and the "wedding circuit"?



WRITING AND DISCUSSION

Continued



8 In the sisters' group chat, Neda says that Huda "ties her self-worth to meeting societal expectations and that places a greater sense of urgency on meeting milestones like getting married." What about Huda's actions proves this to be true? How might Neda be the opposite of this?



9 Huda is excited to have a new group of friends after she met Leena and the girls from MSA. Having just met Loki, why is Huda so quick to believe him when he explains Leena's involvement in the missing MSA funds? Why do you think she does not come to Leena's defense?

10 Huda's post-high-school life is met with new friendships. How do these new friendships with Leena and the girls and her budding relationship with Loki make her feel? What specific events cause her bond with each to strengthen or weaken?



11 After attending her first wedding, Huda begins to experience deep feelings of self-doubt in her pursuit of a potential husband. Explain how this struggle begins to affect Huda and her confidence. What advice would you give Huda?



12 On page 154, Leena says to Huda, "Okay, the way he was talking to you back there! Didn't you get the ick?" Analyze the conversation between Loki and Huda in the library. Do you agree with Leena? Why or why not?



13 Throughout the story, Huda is often frustrated and confused in finding a partner for marriage. In what ways does Huda struggle to balance her personal identity with the expectations of her family or community?

14 On pages 176 and 177, Huda imagines expressing her feelings to her mother when she states, "And I know it's not your fault for wanting to protect us, but I blame you anyway for not preparing us!" What does she mean by this statement? How does the layout of the illustrations highlight Huda's feelings?



15 Dena states that after meeting guy after guy, she figured out that "life started yesterday." What does she mean by this statement? How did this realization influence her choices for her own future?

16 On page 191, how do the author's illustrations of the scale, tiered platforms, and Dena's comments about guys further explain the idea of toxic relationships?



WRITING AND DISCUSSION

Continued



- 17** What are some of the “red flags” Huda begins to realize about Loki? How does this change her perception of him?



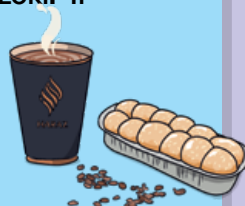
- 18** On page 226, Huda remarks, “The worst part is I thought he was a good guy. I feel like I can’t trust my own judgment anymore.” Have you ever experienced a moment where you didn’t trust your own judgment? What was the situation, and how did you handle it?

- 19** What does Huda mean when she says, “They say sometimes you need to sit in muck before you can see things clearly.” What does this signal about her journey in finding love?



- 20** Leena’s attempt to call out Loki’s behavior backfires on her with her parents and peers. What message is the author trying to convey about society’s double standards regarding men and women?

- 21** On page 222, Huda asks Leena why she didn’t warn her about Loki. If you had been in Leena’s position, would you have handled the situation the same way? Explain.

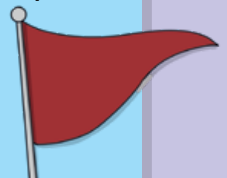


- 22** When Huda is explaining how she handled the Austen essay, she concludes that “It was about Elizabeth’s courage to establish her boundaries early, thus allowing her to set the expectation for all future relationships.” Given her experiences throughout the story, do you think Huda will “establish her boundaries early” in her future relationships? Why or why not?

- 23** Analyze the scene on pages 242 and 243. Based on the illustrations and text, how has Huda changed and grown throughout her journey to find love?



- 24** At the end of the book, the author includes relationship red flags. Why do you think the author included this? Have you or someone you know ever experienced any of these red flags? Explain.



- 25** In the author’s note, Huda writes, “It’s taken me years to learn what love is—and I mean love as it applies to every relationship: platonic, familial, or romantic!” How is each type of love shown in the story? Do you think one is more important than the other? Why or why not?

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Use the following activities inspired by *Huda F Would Love You?* to extend the graphic novel's instructional impact and learning for readers.

Paired Reading & Research: *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

As a self-proclaimed romantic, Huda is thrilled to be taking a summer class on the life and work of Jane Austen. Read *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen and compare and contrast with *Huda F Would Love You?* What are the similarities and differences between the two stories? Complete a compare-and-contrast graphic organizer and focus on key aspects of each story.

- Characters
- Themes
- Relationships
- Roles of men and women in society
- Culture



As an additional extension, research the life and work of Jane Austen using the library or internet sources such as the sites listed below:

- <https://jasna.org/austen/>
- <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jane-Austen>
- <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/specialfeatures/a-guide-to-jane-austens-novels/>

Once research is complete, write a letter from Jane Austen to Huda. Ask the question: What advice would Jane give to Huda? Use the events of Huda's story as a guide for the letter's contents and advice.



Fatima
Al-Fihri



Research: Amazing Women from Islamic History

In the book, Leena explains that every year the Muslim Student Association hosts a masquerade ball that highlights an amazing woman from Islamic history. Choose one current or past history maker, or choose one from the list below. Use the library and internet resources to research their life and contributions.

- Fatima Al-Fihri
- Khadijah bint Khuwailid
- Fatimah bint Muhammad
- Aisha bint Abu Bakr
- Rashida Tlaib
- Ilhan Omar
- Halima Aden
- Shirin Neshat
- G. Willow Wilson
- Ibtihaj Muhammad
- Nadiya Hussein

Use the information you discovered to create a digital collage with a web-based tool like Canva or Adobe Express. Make sure to include text, dates, pictures, any significant events, and the overall impact on history.



Character Analysis: Create a Starter Pack

Choose a character from *Huda F Would Love You?* and create a “starter pack” based on evidence of their words and actions in the story. Use page 113 as inspiration for your creation. Your starter pack can be original drawings or images created using a digital platform such as Canva or Adobe Express. To accompany your creation, write a paragraph explaining the starter pack details for the character.



Illustrate a Quote

At the end of the book, the author includes a quote by bell hooks, “Love and abuse cannot coexist. Abuse and neglect are, by definition, the opposites of nurturance and care.” Analyze the quote by answering the following questions:

- What is the meaning?
- Why did the author include this quote?
- How does it relate to Huda’s story?
- What images and visuals come to mind?

Now create a single-page comic that illustrates the quote using the blank comic page template on the next page. Illustrations can be a literal translation of the quote, or they can take on a more symbolic meaning. Be creative with your choice of images and colors.



Huda F Would Love You? Illustrate a Quote Activity

A diagram of a parallelogram with a diagonal line segment drawn from the top-left vertex to the bottom-right vertex. The parallelogram is defined by a horizontal top edge, a horizontal bottom edge, a vertical left edge, and a vertical right edge. A diagonal line segment connects the top-left vertex to the bottom-right vertex.