

# Laila Lalami

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Linguistics. University of Southern California.  
M.A. in Linguistics. University College London, University of London.  
Licence ès Lettres in English Language and Literature. Université Mohammed-V. (Class Valedictorian.)

## BOOKS

*Conditional Citizens*. New York: Pantheon Books. Forthcoming.  
Audio: Random House Audio. Forthcoming.

*The Other Americans*. New York: Pantheon Books. March 2019.  
Audio: *The Other Americans*. Random House Audio. March 2019.  
UK: *The Other Americans*. Bloomsbury. March 2019.  
Netherlands: Nieuw Amsterdam. Forthcoming 2019.

*The Moor's Account*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2014.  
Audio: *The Moor's Account*. Newark, NJ: Audible, 2015.  
Paperback: *The Moor's Account*. Vintage. 2015.  
Canada: *The Moor's Account*. Toronto: Simon & Schuster Canada, 2014.  
UK: *The Moor's Account*. London: Periscope Books. 2015.  
Greece: *Οι Ιστορίες ενός Μαυριτανού*. Aiolos Publications. 2016.  
Portugal: *Memorias de um Escravo*. Clube do Autor. 2016.  
Middle East/North Africa: *ما رواه المغربي* Athar House. 2017.  
Serbia: *Mavrov izveštaj*. Belgrade: Laguna. 2018.  
Netherlands: Nieuw Amsterdam. Forthcoming, 2020.  
TV: optioned for TV series by Lionsgate Entertainment. 2015.

*Secret Son*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Algonquin Books, 2009.  
Audio: *Secret Son*. Newark, NJ: Audible, 2009.  
Paperback: *Secret Son*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Algonquin Books, 2010.  
Australia/New Zealand: *Secret Son*. Camberwell, Australia: Penguin, 2009.  
Netherlands: *De Geheime Zoon*. Amsterdam, The Netherlands: Sirene, 2009.  
U.K.: *Secret Son*. London: Viking/Penguin, 2010. Trade paper: Penguin, 2011.  
Bosnia-Herzegovina: *Secret Son*. Sarajevo: Sahinpasic, 2010.  
China: *Secret Son*. Taiwan: Morning Star Publishing, 2011.

*Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*. Chapel Hill, North Carolina: Algonquin Books, 2005.  
 Audio: *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*. Newark, NJ: Audible, 2009.  
 Paperback: *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*. New York: Harcourt, 2006.  
 Spain: *Esperanza y Otros Sueños*. Madrid, Spain: Editorial Maeva, 2006.  
 Netherlands: *Hoop en andere gevaarlijke verlangens*. Sirene, 2006. Mass-market paperback: *Hoop en andere gevaarlijke verlangens*. Maarten Muntinga, 2008.  
 France: *De l'espoir et autres quêtes dangereuses*. Editions Anne-Carrière, 2007.  
 Italy: *La speranza e altri sogni pericolosi*. Rome, Italy: Fusi Orari, 2007.  
 Brazil: *A esperança e uma travessia*. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Editora Rocco, 2007.  
 Morocco: *De l'espoir et autres quêtes dangereuses*. Editions Le Fenec, 2007.  
 Morocco: *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*. Fez: Fez Cultural Studies Center, 2008.  
 Norway: *Håp Og Andre Farer*. Oslo, Norway: Kontur Forlag, 2009.

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

### *The Moor's Account*

Finalist, Pulitzer Prize for fiction. 2015.  
 Longlist, Man Booker Prize. 2015.  
 Winner, American Book Award. 2015.  
 Winner, Arab American Book Award. 2015.  
 Winner, Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. 2015.  
 Longlist, IMPAC Dublin Award. 2015.  
 Finalist, Bridge Book Award. 2015.  
 Honorable Mention, Langum Prize for Historical Fiction. 2014.  
*New York Times* Notable Books of 2014.  
*Wall Street Journal* Ten Best Books of 2014.  
*Financial Times* Best Fiction Books of the Year. 2015.  
*Kirkus* Best Fiction Books of 2014.  
 NPR Great Reads of 2014.  
*Los Angeles Times* Holiday Book Recommendations of 2014.  
 Common reading at the University of Portland. 2016.  
 Signature first-year read at Salem College. 2016.  
*Washington Post* Bestseller. 2016.

### *Secret Son*

Orange Prize longlist. 2010.  
 IndieNext Selection. 2009.  
 Twenty Best 9/11 Books. *The Guardian*.  
 One City, One Book. Seattle, Washington. Spring 2010.

### *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits*

Finalist, Oregon Book Award. 2006.  
 Finalist, John Gardner Fiction Prize. 2006.  
 Top Ten Book of the Year, *The Oregonian*. 2005.  
 Booksense Pick. 2005.

Kansas City, Common Read. Spring 2018.  
 Lafayette College, Community Reading. Spring 2018.  
 Wingate University, freshman reading program. Fall 2011.  
 Georgia College & State University, freshman reading program. Fall 2009.  
 One City, One Book. Rochester, New York. Spring 2008.  
 Mercy High School school-wide reading program. Fall 2007.  
 University of Tennessee-Knoxville, freshman reading program. Fall 2006.

### SHORT STORIES

“Echo.” *The Guardian*. September 8, 2011.  
 “How I Became My Mother’s Daughter.” *Callaloo*. Fall 2009: 1120-1122.  
 “Excerpt from *Secret Son*.” *The New York Times*. June 5, 2009.  
 “Excerpt from *Secret Son*.” *Banipal: Magazine of Modern Arab Literature*. Number 34. April 2009: 134-145.  
 “Bunny and the Rich Lady.” *The Los Angeles Times*. April 11, 2009. D10.  
 “The Trip.” Translated into German as “Harragas.” *Lisan Verlag*. No. 5. May 2008: 84-90.  
 “The Turning Tide.” *Elle India*. Vol 14, No. 4. April 2008. Translated into Italian as “Il destino nelle onde.” *Internazionale Magazine*. Vol 15, No. 725. December 2007: 48-53.  
 Translated into French. *Magazine Littéraire du Maroc*. June 2010.  
 “El Dorado.” *First Intensity*. No. 20. Fall 2005: 56-63.  
 “Better Luck Tomorrow.” *The Baltimore Review*. Vol 9, No. 1. January 2005: 2-9.  
 “The Lessons.” *Mizna*. Vol. 6, No. 2. December 2004: 8-14.  
 “A Nice Young Man.” *Pindelyboz*. November 2003. Translated into Italian as “Un ragazzo gentile.” *El Ghibli*. Vol 2, No.11. March 2006. Translated into Farsi as “Jawaan Nazneen.” *Atiye Weekly Magazine*. May 2006.

### ANTHOLOGIES

“How I Became My Mother’s Daughter.” *Dismantle: An Anthology of Writing from the VONA/Voices Writing Workshop*. Edited by Marissa Johnson-Valenzuela. Thread Makes Blanket Press. 2014. 136-139.  
 “Echo.” *Immigrant Voices: A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Reader*. Edited by Achy Obejas and Megan Bayles. The Great Books Foundation. 2014.  
 “So to Speak.” *African Lives: An Anthology of Memoirs and Autobiographies*, edited by Geoff Wisner. Lynne Rienner Publishers. March 2013.  
 “Homecoming.” *The Granta Book of the African Short Story*. London: Granta Books. 2011. 149-163.  
 “Education Sentimentale.” *Enfants de la balle*. Edited by Abdourahman Waberi. Paris: Editions Jean-Claude Lattès. May 2010.  
 “How I Became My Mother’s Daughter.” *Dinarzad’s Children*. Edited by Pauline Kaldas and Khaled Mattawa. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2009. 297-301.  
 “The Politics of Reading.” *Gods and Soldiers: The Penguin Anthology of Contemporary African Writing*. Edited by Rob Spillman. New York: Penguin Books, 2009. 137-141.  
 “The Trip.” *Elements of Literature, Fourth Course*. (High school textbook. Circulation of 500,000.) Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2009. 46-59.

- “The Odalisque.” *A Stranger Among Us: Stories of Cross Cultural Collisions and Connections*. Edited by Stacy Bierlein. Chicago: University of Illinois Press/OV Books, 2008. 115-125.
- “Bus Rides.” *The Mermaid of Msambweni and Other Stories*. Edited by Austin Bukenya and Kithusi Mulonzya. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. 86-100.
- “The Fanatic.” *Jungfrau and Other Stories: The Caine Prize for African Writing 7th Annual Collection*. Oxford: New Internationalist Publications Ltd., 2007. 61-76.
- “The Saint.” *X-24: Unclassified*. Edited by Tash Aw and Nii Ayikwei Parkes. London: Lubin and Kleyner, 2007. 225-235.
- “An Immigrant’s Take.” *Proud To Be Liberal*. Brooklyn, New York: Ig Publishing, 2006. 123-129.
- “Scheherazade Has Left The Building.” *The May Queen*. Edited by Andrea Richesin. New York: J.P. Tarcher/Penguin, 2006. 66-74.

### INTRODUCTIONS

- Introduction to *The Curious Case of Dassoukine’s Trousers* by Fouad Laroui. Deep Vellum. June 2016.
- Introduction to *Season of Migration to the North* by Tayeb Salih. *The New York Review of Books* Classics Series. April 2009.

### ESSAYS

- “A Redeeming Story?” *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. September 23, 2018. F8.
- “Our Gang.” *The New York Times Magazine*. July 1, 2018.
- “Hearts and Minds.” *Harper’s*. February 2018. 29-30.
- “Changing Sides.” *The New York Times Magazine*. August 6, 2017. 11-13.
- “Over The Edge.” *The New York Times Magazine*. April 30, 2017. 13-15.
- “Public Figure vs. Private Writer.” *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. April 2, 2017. F1.
- “Love and Betrayal in America.” *The New Yorker*. February 3, 2017.
- “Group Think.” *The New York Times Magazine*. November 27, 2016.
- “The Art of Procrastination.” *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. June 26, 2016.
- “For or Against.” *The New York Times Magazine*. November 29, 2015.
- “An Unforgettable Tagine in Morocco.” *The New York Times Magazine*. November 1, 2015.
- “Charmed.” *The New York Times Magazine*. July 26, 2015.
- “Against Easy Stories: Facile Explanations for the *Charlie Hebdo* Massacre Must Be Resisted.” *The Nation*. February 2, 2015. Reprinted in *The Nation: 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition*.
- “Chronicles of the Veil.” *The Los Angeles Review of Books Quarterly*. Winter 2014. 114-117.
- “Imagine.” [On J.M. Coetzee’s *The Childhood of Jesus*.] *The Nation*. October 14, 2013. 33-35.
- “My Fictional Grandparents.” *The New York Times Magazine*. July 28, 2013. 54. Reprinted in *The International Herald Tribune*. July 31, 2013. 7.
- “Among the Blasphemers: On Salman Rushdie.” [On Salman Rushdie’s *Joseph Anton*.] *The Nation*. February 4, 2013. 27-32.
- “Islamophobia and Its Discontents.” *The Nation*. July 2-9, 2012. 20-22.
- “The City: Los Angeles.” *Newsweek*. May 13, 2012. Translated into Spanish as “Laila Lalami descubre una metrópoli extraña y familiar a la vez.” May 18, 2012.

- “In Annawadi.” *The Nation*. May 7, 2012. [On Katherine Boo’s *Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai Slum.*] 27-30
- “In the Land of the Setting Sun.” *Newsweek International*. April 9, 2012. Translated into Spanish as “Lejos de la Revolución”. *Newsweek Argentina*. April 18, 2012. Translated into Italian as “Scontenti del re.” *Internazionale*. April 27, 2012.
- “Everything Except Me.” *The Nation*. [On Percival Everett’s *Assumption* and *Erasure.*] February 6, 2012. 35-37
- “Revolution in the Arab World.” *The Guardian*. January 13, 2012.
- “The Moroccan ‘Exception’.” *The Nation*. September 12, 2011. 29-31.
- “Urban Legend: the Pull of Tangier.” *Time Magazine*. July 21, 2011. 44.
- “An Unlikely Martyr.” *Newsweek*. June 26, 2011. 14.
- “Shakira vs. The Democrats.” *Foreign Policy*. May 19, 2011. Reprinted in *Islamists in a Changing Middle East*. Kindle e-book. Edited by Marc Lynch. June 16, 2012.
- “Morocco’s Moderate Revolution.” *Foreign Policy*. February 21, 2011. Translated and reprinted in *Le Courier International*. March 3, 2011.
- “Writing Muslims.” *Journal of Religion and Literature*. Spring 2011. University of Notre Dame. Notre Dame, IN: 25-30.
- “Kilito’s Way.” [On Abdelfettah Kilito’s *The Clash of Images, The Author and His Doubles, and Thou Shalt Not Speak My Language.*] *The Nation*. December 27, 2010. 51-52.
- “Picture Stories.” *The Sunday Herald*. February 21, 2010. 16.
- “The New Inquisition.” [On Christopher Caldwell’s *Reflections on the Revolution in Europe: Immigration, Islam, and the West.*] *The Nation*. December 14, 2009. 15-24. Translated into Dutch and reprinted in *Eutopia*. 26 December 2010. 37-49.
- “So to Speak.” *World Literature Today*. Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma. September/October 2009. Vol. 83: 5. 18-20.
- “It Can Be Tough to Be Female in Morocco.” *The Los Angeles Times*. Off The Shelf. July 19, 2009.
- “Continental Shift.” [On Abdourahman A. Waberi’s *In The United States of Africa and The Land Without Shadows.*] *The National*. June 12, 2009.
- “Just Like Us They Are Born and Die.” [On Tayeb Salih’s *Season of Migration to the North.*] *The National*. February 27, 2009.
- “The Notebook.” [On Alain Mabanckou’s *African Psycho* and *Broken Glass.*] *The National*. February 6, 2009.
- “Imperial Definition: On Edward Said’s *Orientalism.*” CUNY Great Issues Seminar. January 13, 2009.
- “The Dot Matrix.” [On Sinan Antoon’s *I’jaam.*] *The Nation*. January 21, 2008. 34-36.
- “Beyond the Veil.” [On Joan Wallach Scott’s *The Politics of the Veil.*] *The Nation*. December 10, 2007. 17-22.
- “Revenants.” [On Zakes Mda’s *Ways of Dying* and *Cion.*] *The Nation*. November 22, 2007. 31-34.
- “Why I Write.” *Nexus 48: In Dreams Begin Responsibilities*. Amsterdam: Nexus Institute. Summer 2007. 111-115.
- “Native Speaker.” [On Sayed Kashua’s *Let It Be Morning* and *Dancing Arabs.*] *The Boston Review*. September/October 2006. 45-47.
- “The Missionary Position.” [On Ayaan Hirsi Ali’s *The Caged Virgin* and Irshad Manji’s *The Trouble With Islam Today.*] *The Nation*. June 19, 2006. 23-33.

“Exile and the Kingdom.” [On Tahar Ben Jelloun’s *The Last Friend*.] *The Nation*. March 20, 2006. 23-26.

“Colonial encounters.” [On Abdulrazak Gurnah’s *Desertion*.] *The Nation*. September 26, 2005. 38-42.

“The Pay-Off.” *The Independent*. January/February, 2005. 22-26.

### BOOK REVIEWS

“Displaced Persons.” [Review of Daniel Alarcón’s *The King is Always Above the People*.] *The New York Times Book Review*. January 1, 2018.

“The South (and the West) Through Joan Didion’s Eyes.” *The New York Times Book Review*. April 16, 2017.

“Eight Books About Muslim Life For a Nation That Knows Little About Islam.” *The Washington Post*. December 16, 2015.

“A Glimpse into the Tremors of the Arab Spring.” [Review of Mathias Énard’s *Street of Thieves*.] *The Guardian*. September 23, 2015.

“Secret Shame.” [Review of Amitav Ghosh’s *Flood of Fire*.] *The New York Times Book Review*. p. 23. August 30, 2015.

“Scene of a Crime.” [Cover review of Kamel Daoud’s *The Meursault Investigation*.] *The New York Times Book Review*. June 14, 2015.

“The Ethics of Torture, Explored in a Painful Fable.” NPR’s All Things Considered. December 12, 2014.

“Nuruddin Farah’s *Hiding in Plain Sight*.” *The New York Times Book Review*. November 21, 2014.

“This Fight Begins in the Heart: Reading James Baldwin as Ferguson Seethes.” NPR’s All Things Considered. August 19, 2014.

“Guests of the Ayatollah.” Review of Hooman Majd’s *The Ministry of Guidance Invites You to Not Stay*. *The New York Times Book Review*. December 29, 2013.

“Quietly Seeking Cover.” Review of Leila Ahmed’s *A Quiet Revolution*. *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. July 31, 2011. E8.

“Ambition Just Isn’t Enough.” Review of Jonathan Littell’s *The Kindly Ones*. *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. March 15, 2009. E10.

“Bound by Tragedy.” Cover review, Elias Khoury’s *Yalo*. *The Los Angeles Times Book Review*. January 13, 2008. R1-R4.

“Holy Wars.” Review of M.G. Vassanji’s *The Assassin’s Song*. *The Chicago Tribune*. September 1, 2007.

“A Reason to Live, In And Beyond Iran.” Review of Marjane Satrapi’s *Chicken with Plums*. *The Boston Globe*. January 17, 2007. F7.

“Naguib Mahfouz: An Appreciation.” *The Nation*, August 31, 2006.

“Home is Where the Art is.” Review of Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic*. *The Boston Globe*. July 30, 2006. D5.

“A Whole New World.” Review of Meg Mullins’s *The Rug Merchant*. *The Washington Post Book World*. May 28, 2006. T06.

“Turmoil at Heart of Essay Collection.” Review of Amitav Ghosh’s *Incendiary Circumstances*. *The Oregonian*, March 5, 2006. O17.

- “Seth’s Portrait of an Improbable Marriage.” Review of Vikram Seth’s *Two Lives*. *The Boston Globe*. January 22, 2006. E8.
- “The Shadow of the Wind.” Review of Carlos Ruíz Zafón’s *The Shadow of the Wind*. *The Los Angeles Review*. December 2005.
- “Zadie Smith takes on the subject of beauty in her new weighty, multifaceted novel.” Review of Zadie Smith’s *On Beauty*. *The Oregonian*. October 2, 2005. D22.
- “Rushdie the writer can’t shake the cloud of celebrity.” Interview with Salman Rushdie. *The Oregonian*. October 2, 2005. O21.
- “Rushdie pits God and state.” Review of Salman Rushdie’s *Shalimar The Clown*. *The Oregonian*. September 11, 2005. F6.
- “In Mexican saint’s story, the logical and divine converge.” Review of Luis Alberto Urrea’s *The Hummingbird’s Daughter*. *The Oregonian*. June 26, 2005. D9.
- “Tradition, reform and the future of Islam.” Review of Reza Aslan’s *No god but God*. *The Oregonian*. May 15, 2005. D8.

### OP-EDS

- “Who Owns Public Space?” *The Nation*. June 18-25, 2018. 10-11.
- “After the Raid.” *The Nation*. May 14, 2018. 12-13.
- “The Cruelty of ICE.” *The Nation*. April 16, 2018. 10-11.
- “Redefining Immigrants.” *The Nation*. March 12, 2018.
- “A Reality Show Presidency.” *The Nation*. January 29-February 5, 2018. 10-11.
- “Partisanship and Assault.” *The Nation*. December 4-11, 2017. 10-11.
- “The Color of Terrorism.” *The Nation*. October 30, 2017. 10-11.
- “Good Governance, Not Charity.” *The Nation*. September 25-October 2, 2017. 10-11.
- “How to Win the Culture War.” *The Nation*. August 28-September 4, 2017. 10-11.
- “The Senate Health-Care Bill is Morally Indefensible.” *The Nation*. June 27, 2017.
- “Free Press Under Assault.” *The Nation*. June 19-26, 2017. 10-11.
- “Save the Arts, Save America.” *The Nation*. April 17, 2017. 10-11.
- “Who Belongs in America?” *The Nation*. March 20, 2017. 12-13.
- “No Time for Silence.” *The Nation*. February 20, 2017. 12-13.
- “The Change We Believed In.” *The Nation*. January 2, 2017. 8.
- “The Trump Voter You Know.” *The Nation*. November 28, 2016.
- “The GOP Empathy Gap.” *The Nation*. October 31, 2016.
- “Conditional Citizens.” *The Nation*. October 10, 2016.
- “Letter from the Palestine Festival of Literature.” *The Nation*. July 28, 2016.
- “We Are Each Other’s Keepers.” *The Nation*. July 4, 2016.
- “In a Season of Hate, I Have Hope.” *The Nation*. May 16, 2016.
- “Egypt Must Not Try to Legislate Imagination.” *The Guardian*. May 12, 2016.
- “Why Republicans Cry Political Correctness.” *The Nation*. April 8, 2016. 10-11.
- “Savage Fantasies.” *The Nation*. March 28, 2016. 10-11.
- “Donald Trump’s Hate-In.” *The Nation*. March 7, 2016. 10-11.
- “Ten Writers Look Back on the Arab Spring.” *The Guardian*. January 23, 2016.
- “To Defeat ISIS We Must Call Both Western and Muslim Leaders to Account.” *The Nation*. December 7, 2015. Reprinted in *The Age* as “When Terror Strikes, Saudi Arabia Evades Responsibility.” November 18, 2015.

- “Why Trying to Secure a Border is Futile.” *The Los Angeles Times*. September 11, 2014.  
Reprinted in *The Miami Herald*. September 17, 2014.
- “The Perfect 100: Los Angeles,” *Newsweek*. December 3, 2012. 22.
- “Riff: The Great Pulitzer Do-Over.” *The New York Times Magazine*. May 13, 2012. 52-53.
- “A Rape Victim’s Suicide Proves Morocco’s Culture of Silence Must Go.” *The Daily Beast*.  
March 15, 2012.
- “Why ‘All-American Muslim’ Should Have The Right to Be Boring.” *The Wall Street Journal*.  
December 19, 2011.
- “The Nameless Palestinian Prisoners.” *The Daily Beast*. October 19, 2011.
- “In Defense of the Hotel Maid.” *The Daily Beast*. May 17, 2011.
- “Frankfurt Shootings: the Making of a Terrorist?” *The Nation*. March 3, 2011.
- “Arab Uprisings and American Intervention.” *The Nation*. March 2, 2011.
- “Fadoua Laroui: the Moroccan Mohammed Bouazizi.” *The Nation*. February 27, 2011.
- “Who’s Responsible for the Arab Uprisings: a Non-Exhaustive List.” *The Nation*. February 25,  
2011.
- “Morocco’s Day of Dignity: an Update.” *The Nation*. February 22, 2011.
- “Rocking the Casbah: Morocco’s Day of Dignity.” *The Nation*. February 20, 2011.
- “Arab Uprisings: What the February 20 Protests Tell Us About Morocco.” *The Nation*. February  
17, 2011.
- “The Attack on Lara Logan: War of the Words.” *The Nation*. February 15, 2011.
- “Why Egypt’s Naysayers Got it Wrong.” *The Daily Beast*. February 12, 2011.
- “Winter of Discontent.” *The Nation*. February 21, 2011. 6-7. Reprinted in *Middle-East Online*.  
Reprinted in *Siyasah*.
- “After Tunisia.” *The Guardian*. January 29, 2011. Pg. 2.
- “Tunisia Rising.” *The Nation*. February 7, 2011. 7-8. Reprinted in *Middle-East Online*.
- “The Swiss Minaret Ban: What Are Voters Really Trying to Outlaw?” *The Nation*. December 7,  
2009. Reprinted in *The Free Lance-Star*, December 22, 2009. A9.
- “California’s Higher Education Crisis.” *The Nation*. June 12, 2009.
- “Milestone: Tayeb Salih.” *Time*. March 9, 2009. 19.
- “Pourquoi j’ai voté pour Barack Obama.” *Le Journal Hebdomadaire*. 45. November 14, 2008.
- “Looking Past Clichés.” *The Nation*. May 6, 2008.
- “The Fear Factor in the Campaign.” *The Boston Globe*. April 19, 2008. A9.
- “The Fake Prince of Facebook.” *The Nation*. February 21, 2008.
- “Censorship’s New Clothes.” *The New York Times*. February 3, 2007. A27. Reprinted in the  
*International Herald Tribune*. February 5, 2007. 6.
- “It’s Still By The Book.” *The Guardian Comment Is Free*. January 4, 2007.
- “Clichés and Capital Letters.” *The Guardian Comment Is Free*. September 13, 2006.
- “Survival Skills.” *The Huffington Post*. July 17, 2006.
- “Days of Terror.” *The Huffington Post*. May 16, 2006.
- “Fiction in the Age of Poverty.” *Powells.com* exclusive essay. October 2005.
- “The Cult of the Ethnic Writer.” *MobyLives.com*. November 2003.
- “Arab-Bashing For Fun and Profit.” *Los Angeles Times*. July 28, 1997. F3.
- “Bride Walks Down Aisle of Stereotyping.” *Los Angeles Times*. Jan 1, 1996. F3.



**EDITORIAL STAFF POSITIONS**

Columnist. *The Nation*. 2016-present.

Critic-at-Large. *Los Angeles Times*. 2016-present.

**SELECTED HONORS**

Lannan Foundation Residency Fellowship. Marfa, Texas. Fall 2018.

Santa Monica Project Fellowship. 2018.

Guggenheim Fellowship. 2016-2017.

500 Most Influential Muslims in the World. 2015, 2017, 2018.

Santa Monica Artist Fellowship. 2015-2016.

Yaddo Colony Fellowship. July 2015.

Elizabeth George Foundation 'Women Authoring Change' Fellowship. August 2013.

Hedgebrook Women Writers' Retreat. Langley, Washington. June-July 2013.

Lannan Foundation Residency Fellowship. Marfa, Texas. Fall 2012.

Keynote speaker. African Literature Association. Athens, Ohio. April 2011.

Young Global Leader, World Economic Forum, 2009.

Scholar in Residence. Macalester College. March 2009.

Finalist, Nona Balakian Citation. National Book Critics' Circle. 2009.

Thomas P. Johnson Fellowship at Rollins College. October 2007.

Fulbright Fellowship to Morocco. November 2006-August 2007.

Finalist, Caine Prize for African Writing. 2006.

Fletcher Pratt Fellowship in Fiction. Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. August 2006.

Oregon Literary Arts Fellowship in Fiction. 2006.

Work-study scholarship. Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. August 2005

Hedgebrook Women Writers' Retreat. Langley, Washington. March-April 2005.

Morocco-British Council Literary Prize for the short story. 2003.

British Council Graduate Fellowship. 1990-1991.

Ministry of Education Graduate Merit Grant. 1990-1991.

Valedictorian. Class of 1990.

**SELECTED MEDIA/INTERVIEWS**

*Weekend Edition*. NPR. May 2018.

*The Point with Ari Melber*. MSNBC. July 2017.

*Join or Die with Craig Ferguson*. February 2016.

*CBS News*. December 2015.

*PRI's The World*. November 2015.

*CBC's Writers and Company*. November 2014.

*The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*. October 2014.

*NPR's All Things Considered*. September 2014.

*KPFK's Four O'Clock with Jon Wiener*. September 2014.

*BBC World's Have Your Say*. September 2012.

*WNYC's The Brian Lehrer Show*. July 2011.

*KCET*. April 2011.

*CBC (Canada)*. January 2011.

*BBC's The Strand*. February 2010.

*BBC's Excess Baggage*. February 2010.  
*The Daily Beast*. May 2009.  
 WAMU's Kojo Nnamdi Show. May 2009.  
 Voice of America. May 2009.  
 KQED's Forum with Michael Krasny. May 2009.  
*Deutsche Welle*. October 2008.  
 WXXI's *1370 Connection*. March 2008.  
 Authors@Google series. March 2008.  
 Sirius's *Mike Feder Show*. November 2007.  
 NPR's *All Things Considered*. October 2007.  
 NPR's *Morning Edition*. September 2007.  
 OPB's *Oregon Territory*. September 2006.  
 BBC's *World Service*. August 2006.  
 WPR's *To The Best of Our Knowledge*. July 2006.  
 KPFA's Voices of the Middle East. November 2005.

#### **SELECTED APPEARANCES**

UCSB Arts and Lectures. 2017.  
 Get Lit! Festival. Spokane. 2017.  
 PEN/Faulkner. Washington, DC. 2017.  
 Ake Festival. Lagos, Nigeria. 2016.  
 Palestine Festival of Literature. 2016.  
 Boca Arts Festival. 2016.  
 Jaipur Literary Festival at Boulder. Boulder, Colorado. 2015.  
 Tennessee Williams Literary Festival. New Orleans. 2015.  
 International Festival of Authors. Toronto, Canada. 2014.  
 Chicago Humanities Festival. 2014.  
 Miami Book Fair. 2014.  
*Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books. Yearly. 2006-2018.  
 Casablanca Salon du Livre. Casablanca, February 2007. February 2012.  
 Emirates Festival of Literature. Dubai. March 2011.  
 Seattle Arts and Lectures. Seattle. May 2010.  
 University of East Anglia Literary Festival. Norwich, UK. February 2010.  
 PEN World Voices Festival. New York. 2007. 2009. 2016.  
 Arabesque Festival at the Kennedy Center. March 2009.  
 Internationales Literaturfestival Berlin. October 2008.  
 State Department Public Diplomacy Program. Rome and Cagliari, Italy, October 2007.  
 Internazionale Festival. Ferrara, Italy, October 2007.  
 Winternachten Festival. The Hague, January 2007.  
 Wellesley Symposium on African Literature. October 2006.  
 Asilomar English Conference. Asilomar, September 2006.  
 Bumbershoot Music and Arts Festival. Seattle, September 2006.  
 American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Convention. D.C., July 2006.  
 Wordstock Festival. Portland, Oregon, April 2006.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE*****Professor of Creative Writing. University of California, Riverside. Spring 2015-present. Courses taught:***

- Undergraduate Fiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced. Professional.
- Undergraduate Creative Nonfiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced.
- Graduate Fiction Workshop.
- Graduate Nonfiction Workshop.
- Graduate Seminar: Special Topics in Fiction: The Art of Revision.

***Associate Professor of Creative Writing. University of California, Riverside. Fall 2010-Spring 2015. Courses taught:***

- Honors Project Seminar: History into Story, Fact into Fiction.
- Undergraduate Fiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced.
- Undergraduate Creative Nonfiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced.
- Undergraduate Seminar: Special Topics in Nonfiction: Literary Memoir.
- Graduate Fiction Workshop.
- Graduate Nonfiction Workshop.
- Graduate Seminar: Special Topics in Fiction: The Narrative Eye.

***Assistant Professor of Creative Writing. University of California, Riverside. Fall 2007-Spring 2010. Courses taught:***

- Introduction to Creative Writing (college-wide course, 180 students).
- Survey in Contemporary Fiction.
- Honors Project Seminar: Travelers and Wanderers in the Age of Empire.
- Undergraduate Fiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced.
- Undergraduate Creative Nonfiction Workshops: Beginning. Intermediate. Advanced.
- Graduate Fiction Workshop.
- Graduate Seminar: Special Topics in Fiction: Race and Gender in Fiction.

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- Judge, Middle East and Islamic Studies scholar prizes. 2018.
- Chair, Tenure Review for Prof. Craig 2017-2018.
- Member, Rules and Jurisdiction Committee. College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. 2015-2017.
- Chair, Merit Review for Prof. Craig. 2016-2017.
- Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. 2014-2015.
- Chair, Noir Fiction Search Committee 2013-2014.
- Chair, Creative Writing Contests and Awards committee, 2010-2014.
- Judge, *Mosaic* Fiction Award, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014.
- Graduate adviser, UCR Master of Fine Arts program, 2009-2010.
- Chair, Undergraduate Committee, 2008-2009.
- Chair/committee member, MFA theses [list available on request.]
- Chair, senior theses [list available on request.]

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

- Chair of fiction judges. National Book Awards. 2018.
- Board member. Before Columbus Foundation. 2016-current
- Judge, Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for Debut Fiction. 2016.
- Judge, PEN/Bellwether Prize for Socially Engaged Fiction. 2016.
- Open Letter to Congress: Do Not Cede to Fear. *The Nation*. November 2015.
- Tenure review letters [list available upon request.]
- Judge, *3 Quarks Daily* Arts & Literature Prize. March 2011.
- California Council for the Humanities. Member of Statewide Read Selection Committee. February 2011.
- Editor, June 2008 issue of the Nigerian literary magazine *Farafina*, with contributions from Chris Abani, Hisham Matar, Wail Hassan, and many others.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

PEN.

Authors' Guild.

RAWI (Arab American Writers' Organization.)

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

Fluent in Arabic and French.

Conversational knowledge of Spanish.

Reading knowledge of Portuguese and Italian.