



Bio **Rushdiyah Narker**

Short Bio:

Rushdiyah Narker is a writer from Cape Town whose work explores romance, identity, and the unspoken tensions within the Muslim community. Her fiction focuses on tender, character-driven narratives rooted in the everyday rhythms of Cape Town life.

Long Bio:

Rushdiyah Narker grew up in Lansdowne, Cape Town, and started writing when she realised it was the one place where her emotions finally made sense. She began with poetry, but once she discovered short stories, her world, and her writing, opened up.

She graduated from UCT at 41 with a degree in English Literature and Anthropology, a combination that deepened her love for fiction while teaching her how research and storytelling can work together.

She has always been drawn to romance and slice-of-life stories, the quiet moments, the messy feelings, the characters trying to understand who they are. She's just as fascinated by the silences and taboos within the Muslim community, and many of her characters wrestle with these tensions in their inner worlds and relationships.

These interests shaped her debut novel, *Some Unspoken Thing*, a young adult friends-to-lovers romance set in Cape Town.

She's currently working on her second novel, a standalone sequel following Gadija as she learns herself, unpacks her hyper-fixations, navigates colourism in the Muslim community, and discovers what it really means to use her voice, all set in the early 2000s.