

# ONJALI Q. RAÚF



SCAN ME

## Biography

Onjali Q. Raúf is the award-winning author of her debut book, *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. Her second book, *The Star Outside My Window*, delicately deals with the issue of domestic abuse. Her latest book, *The Night Bus Hero*, is eagerly anticipated and explores the theme of homelessness.

Onjali Q. Raúf is the Founder and CEO of Making Herstory: an organisation mobilising men, women and children from all walks of life to tackle the abuse and trafficking of women and girls in the UK and beyond; and O's Refugee Aid Team, which delivers emergency aid and funds to frontline refugee aid teams in northern France and beyond.

When she was little, she was always being told off in class for daydreaming – when really, she was trying to spot a unicorn and thinking up stories! She eats at least one piece of chocolate every day and would one day like to fly a plane all on her own!

## Fact File

**Born:** February 1981

**Nationality:** British

**Lives:** London, United Kingdom

**Favourite drink:** Elderflower Fizz

**Favourite comic book:** *The Adventures of Tin Tin*



## Why read?

"Through something so simple as the pages of a book, you can travel to new places, meet the most extraordinary people, and go on adventures that you'll never want to forget!"

## Published

**Date:** July 2018

**Title:** *The Boy at the back of the Class*

**Themes:** Refugees, friendship and love



**Date:** October 2019

**Title:** *The Star Outside My Window*

**Themes:** Domestic abuse, friendship and hope



**Date:** February 2020

**Title:** *The Day We Met the Queen*

**Themes:** Refugee, peace and love

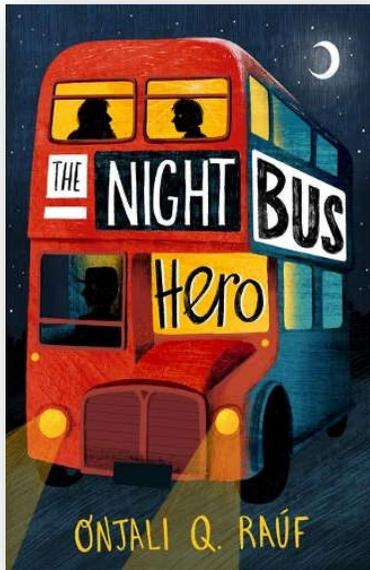


**Date:** October 2020

**Title:** *The Night Bus Hero*

**Themes:** Homelessness, compassion and love





Illustrated by  
Pippa Curnick

## The Night Bus Hero

Onjali Q. Raúf

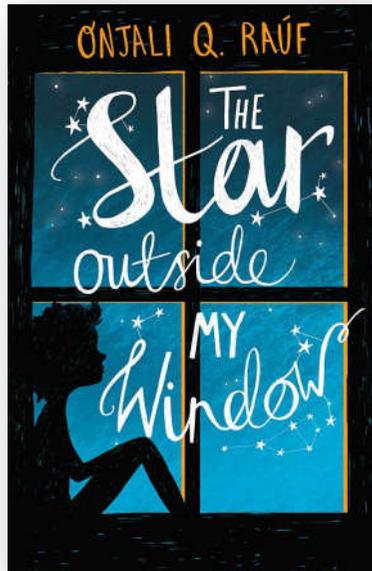
Inventively told from the perspective of the bully, *The Night Bus Hero* addresses homelessness and is an accessible book for all. It was inspired by Onjali Rauf's personal experience of helping a homeless man called Thomas. It is a reminder that, like the character in the story, it's never too late to show compassion to the most vulnerable in society. A beautiful story that will get you thinking: what can I do to make a difference?



Platinum VIP  
book

Published by  
Hachette Children's Group  
October 2020

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## The Star Outside My Window

**Onjali Q. Raúf**

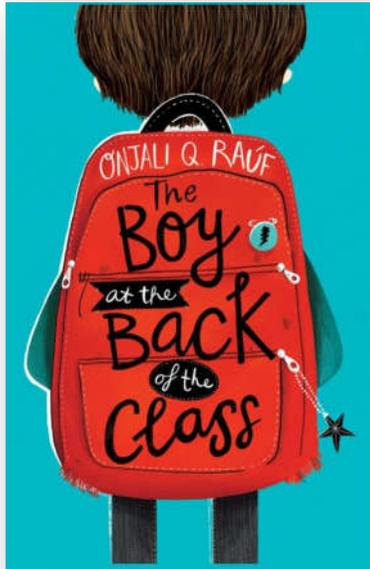
This book, by award-winning author Onjali Raúf, is a profound story told beautifully from the perspective of a young girl called Aniyah. Onjali's writing ensures that we feel every single moment, from the hilarious to the incredibly moving. This book acts as a beacon of light and sensitively tackles the issue of domestic abuse. The loveable and relatable characters help to remind us of the power of love and that no one should suffer. An unmissable book with the power to change.



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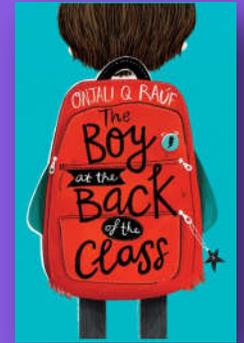
## The Boy at the Back of the Class

Onjali Q. Raúf

Onjali Q. Raúf's heart-warming and emotive story of friendship, compassion and overcoming adversity, is a must-read. This book teaches children the importance of empathy and how to stand up for those who are oppressed.



“Through something so simple as the pages of a book, you can travel to new places, meet the most extraordinary people, and go on adventures that you'll never want to forget!”

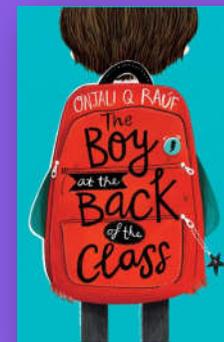


## Onjali Rauf

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## The Boy at the Back of the Class - *extract*

I think it must be one of the worst things in the world to be new to a place and have to sit with people you don't know. Especially people that stare and scowl at you like Clarissa was doing. I made a secret promise to myself right there and then that I would be friends with the new boy. I happened to have some lemon sherbets in my bag that morning and I thought I would try and give him one at break-time. And I would ask Josie and Tom and Michael if they would be his friends too.

After all, having four new friends would be much better than having none. Especially for a boy who looked as scared and as sad as the one now sitting at the back of our class.

