**📘 Equity-Inclusive Book Guide: Sadia**

\*\*Title:\*\* Sadia

\*\*Author:\*\* Colleen Nelson

\*\*Grade Level:\*\* 6–10

\*\*Themes:\*\* Identity, Hijab, Sports, Refugee Support, Advocacy, Islamophobia, Friendship

\*\*Summary:\*\*

Sadia is a Muslim teen navigating high school life, basketball, and her hijab in Winnipeg, Canada. When her school introduces a new uniform policy that conflicts with her beliefs, Sadia is forced to choose between playing the sport she loves and staying true to her values. Meanwhile, she becomes involved in helping a Syrian refugee family settle into a new life, all while confronting bias, media representation, and systemic injustice. This novel gives voice to underrepresented youth and highlights the strength found in cultural identity and community action.

\*\*Discussion Questions:\*\*

• What internal and external challenges does Sadia face throughout the story?

• How does Sadia's identity shape the way she views her role in the community?

• What role does sport play in Sadia’s life, and how does it affect her choices?

• How are refugees portrayed in the story, and what does Sadia learn from her experience with Amira’s family?

• How can students use their voices to stand up for equity and fairness in their schools?

\*\*Extension Activities:\*\*

• Media Literacy Project: Analyze how different media outlets portray women in hijab. Students can write a reflective piece or create a presentation.

• Debate: Host a classroom debate on dress codes and religious accommodations in school settings.

• Creative Writing: Write a letter from Sadia to her younger self about standing up for what she believes in.

• Refugee Awareness Campaign: Research local organizations that support refugees and create posters or presentations to raise awareness.

• Book Pairing: Read \*The Proudest Blue\* and compare the messages around wearing hijab and personal strength.