

SAMARRA ST. HILAIRE

📖 *Brushed Between Cultures* 📖



AUTHOR BIO: Samarra St. Hilaire is a Haitian American indie author and occupational therapist who writes stories that encourage young people to embrace their identity, culture, and dreams. Through her book and school visits, she inspires students to believe in themselves and imagine possibilities beyond their current circumstances. Her debut novel, *Brushed Between Cultures*, explores balancing cultural traditions with personal goals. In February 2025, the book won the 56th NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work – Youth/Teens, a recognition that highlights Samarra’s commitment to empowering youth to dream big and pursue their goals despite perceived weaknesses.

Book Description: Manushka is a Haitian American teen growing up in New York City, navigating family expectations, friendships, and self-discovery. Dating is forbidden until she follows a traditional career path, yet she dreams of becoming an artist. Supported by her best friends, Manushka learns the courage to pursue her dreams despite cultural pressure.

Sample Interview Questions

- What inspired you to write *Brushed Between Cultures*?
- What message do you hope readers take away from the book?
- What challenges did you face while writing and releasing the book?
- What did you learn about yourself through this journey?
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Website & Social Media

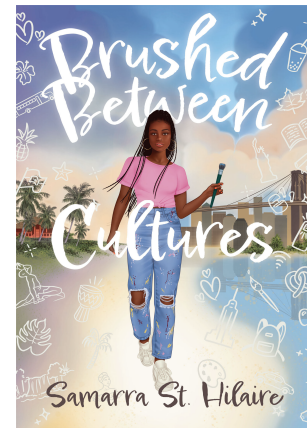
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