

Laila Lalami

Quotes

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Immigration, a lexicon. You're a 'migrant' when you're very poor; 'immigrant' when you're not so poor; and 'expat' when you're rich.

~Laila Lalami

Historical novels, in particular, allow us to relive the past without the neatness of history, and with all the complexity of the present.

~Laila Lalami

In some ways, I think it's the closest that we come to the truth " is in the form of fiction.

~Laila Lalami

The universe had an odd sense of fairness; it took away things one did not want to give up, and then gave things one did not ask for.

~Laila Lalami

A name is precious; it carries inside it a language, a history, a set of traditions, a particular way of looking at the world. Losing it meant losing my ties to all those things too.

~Laila Lalami

Thing that was very different for me is that an American child's reading is filled with Americans.

~Laila Lalami

No one wrote better about the sin of pride, the corruption of power and the redemption of love. I will miss you, Gabriel GarcÃ-a MÃ;rquez.

~Laila Lalami

There are writers I return to no matter what I'm working on, writers like the South African J.M. Coetzee. He has an ability to make you feel that he is writing for you alone.

~Laila Lalami

I began reading in French. I didn't read in English until high school.

~Laila Lalami

There is a insularity within American fiction even for adults. It's very tough for books in translation in the US.

~Laila Lalami

I love James Baldwin essays, but also his novels. I recently read "Another Country." I couldn't believe how ahead of his time he was.

~Laila Lalami

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