BRAVERY GROWS IN YOUR MIND,
BUT ITS ROOTS ARE IN YOUR HEART.

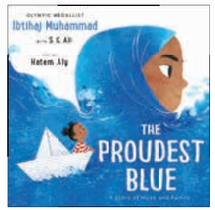
Faizah loves being part of the group in her fencing class, but she's worried she won't be able to compete in the tournament with everyone watching. Mama says not to worry. She says bravery will come in time like it did for Asiya.

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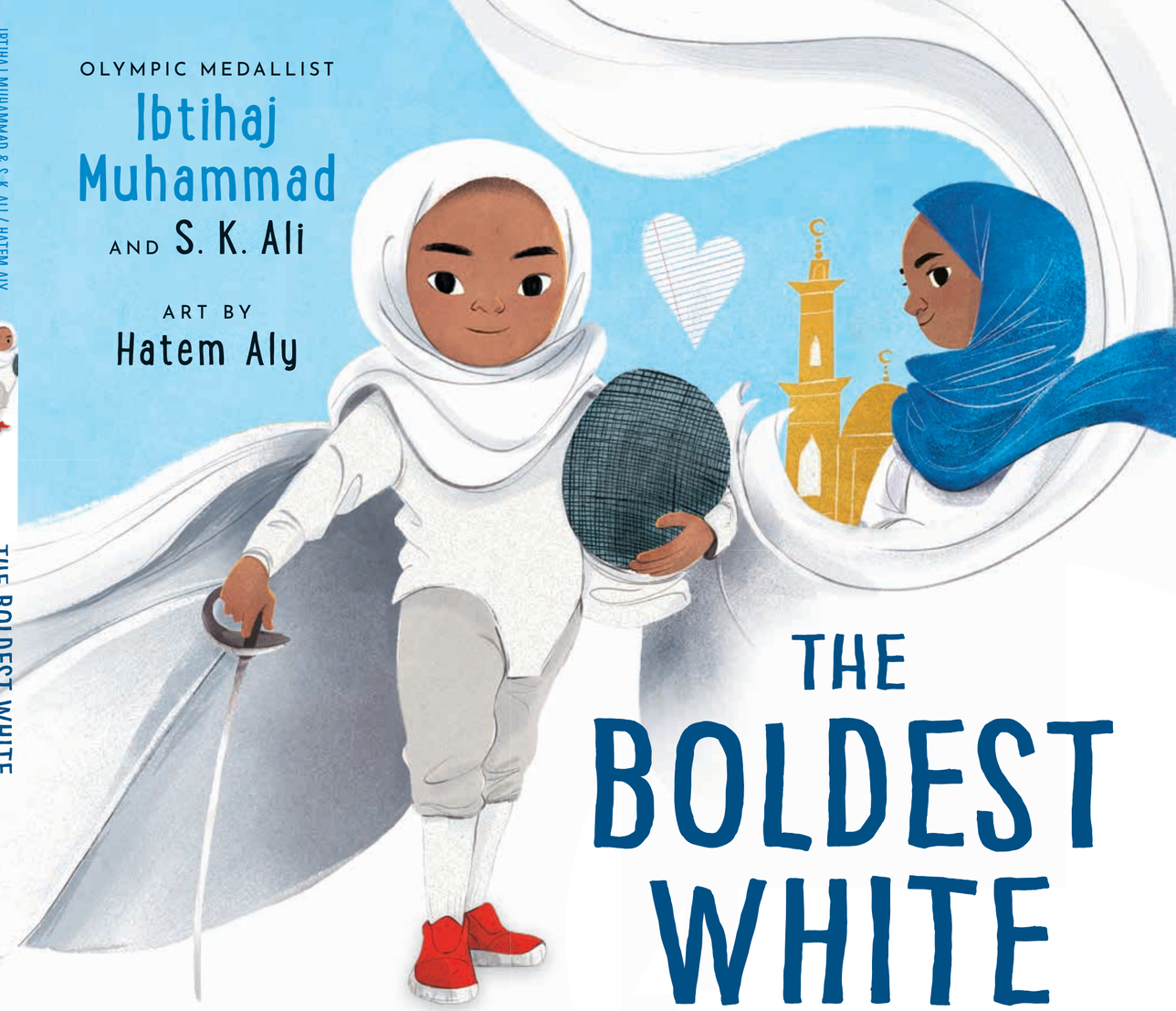
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THE BOLDEST WHITE

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OLYMPIC MEDALLIST
Ibtihaj Muhammad
AND S. K. Ali

ART BY
Hatem Aly



# THE BOLDEST WHITE

A Story of Hijab and Community

From the creators of the *New York Times* bestselling *The Proudest Blue*



*Alya, Musa, Maliha, and Zayd –*
*may you always be rooted in faith and fearlessness.*
– IM

*To my aunt Safiya,*
*my first memory of a confident woman, unwavering in public.*
– SKA

*To Lama and her friends. And to the brave little hearts*
*yearning to grow in safety and freedom.*
– HA



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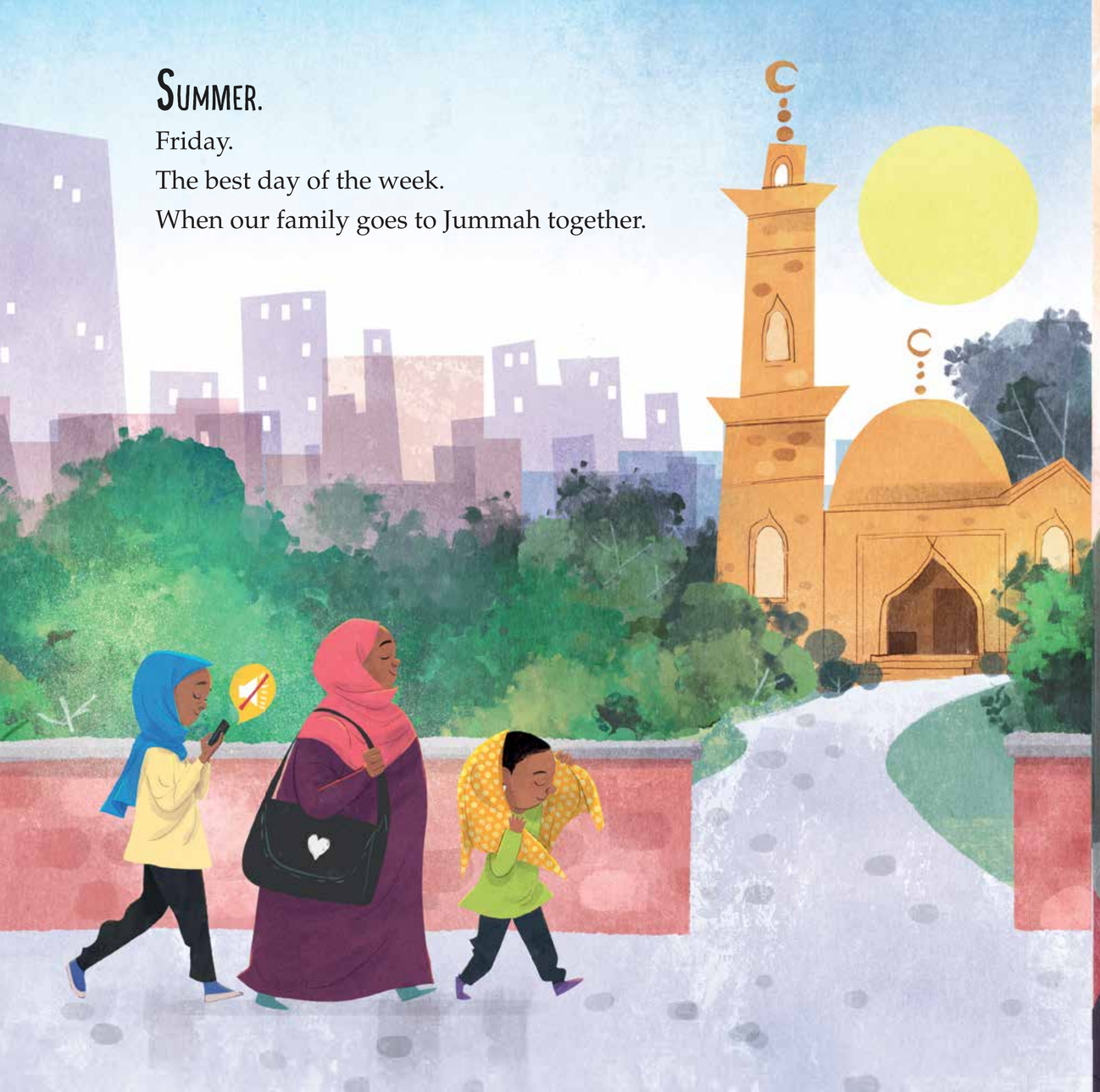
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# THE BOLDEST WHITE

## A Story of Hijab and Community

**Ibtihaj Muhammad**
and **S. K. Ali** • Art by **Hatem Aly**

ANDERSEN PRESS



SUMMER.
Friday.
The best day of the week.
When our family goes to Jummah together.

We sit in rows to listen and then stand to pray.
I love it.
Being part of the crowd.
Like everyone else, covered from head to toe.
It feels right.
I feel right.



After, I go to fencing class!



Coach Mustilli points at the uniforms,
and we all change speedy-quick.
We're a sea of masks.

I love it.
Being part of the crowd.
Like everyone else, covered from head to toe.
It feels right.
I feel right.



Coach yells, “Allez, Faizah!”
And I lunge, sabre out.

All eyes are on me.



And a worry grows: *Are they looking at me because I did something wrong?*

When people stare at me, I forget the rules.

“Sabre first, then move forward,” Coach reminds me.
“Lead with your arm, not your feet.”



I step back.

*Did I do something wrong?*