

Awesome Outcasts: School Visits With Author Susan Nadathur



Awesome Outcasts is a multimedia presentation focusing on the message that **It's okay to be different. In fact, it is encouraged.** Through music, art, poetry and literature, students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to embrace what makes them different and to accept that there is an awesome existence on the other side of outcast.

Goal: to counter the negative effects of bullying and breakdown stereotypes by helping students to look beyond today to a positive future

Benefits: this presentation will:

- provide hope for those who are hurting
- build self-esteem
- inspire creativity
- encourage reading

Description: through selections of music, art, poetry and literature, students will come to understand that if they have ever been the target of bullying or harassment, they are not alone and that it always gets better. Young adults in the audience are encouraged to become part of an amazing group of people who lived through what they did and eventually used their pain in creative ways, many becoming champions of outcasts and outsiders. Celebrities like Johnny Depp, Robert Pattinson, Chester Bennington and Charlie Chaplin are used as models to show that some of the most creative, most interesting people became so because they, too, were considered “different.”

Inspirational Message: we are not going to be able to change the people who try to make us feel inferior; we are going to change ourselves.

Common Core State Standards Addressed: CCS-ELA 6-12 (Literature)

If you'd like to invite Susan to your school, please contact her for schedule and pricing.

Website: SusanNadathur.com

Email: susan.nadathur@gmail.com

Phone: (787) 550-7582

About the Author



Susan Nadathur writes multicultural fiction for teens and young adults. A self-proclaimed misfit from Connecticut, Susan is now a full-time author and certified Bullying Prevention Specialist who shares her journey from being bullied to becoming a champion of the outcast through her writing. Any young person who feels pushed to the edge will identify with Susan's multimedia presentations full of visual props, music, and dynamic images that spark audience participation and discussion.

Her favorite topic? **Celebrating Differences** "In diversity there is beauty and there is strength."
Maya Angelou

Bring the fresh perspectives of a working writer to your students by inviting Susan Nadathur to your school. **Take home message for participating students:** it's okay to be different, in fact it is encouraged. Susan's presentations focus on how to thrive on the other side of outcast.

Susan usually begins by sharing the story of how she survived her painful teenage years to become a successful writer focused on young people who do not fit into the mainstream. She then engages in multimedia activities related to her books. *City of Sorrows* tells of a Spanish Gypsy who is forced to face his greatest fears when a Spaniard is not able to let go of his prejudice and allows ethnicity to come before compassion. *Dante's Demons* is a coming of age story about a seventeen-year-old Puerto Rican teen who learns how to embrace what makes him different and how to thrive on what makes him unique.

Using visual props, Susan shows-and-tells her way through the personal stories that inspired the characters in her books and gives students a chance to respond and ask questions. At the end of her presentation she signs and personalizes books for students who have preordered copies.

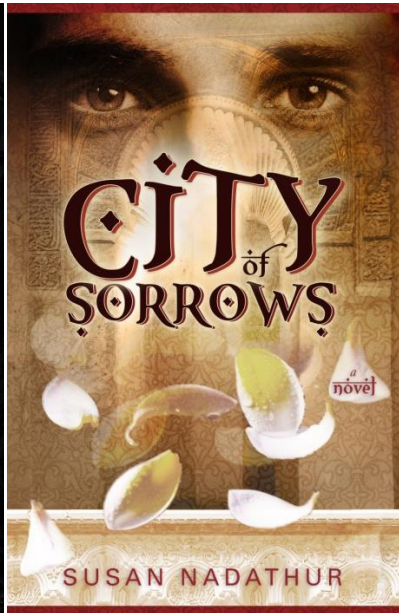
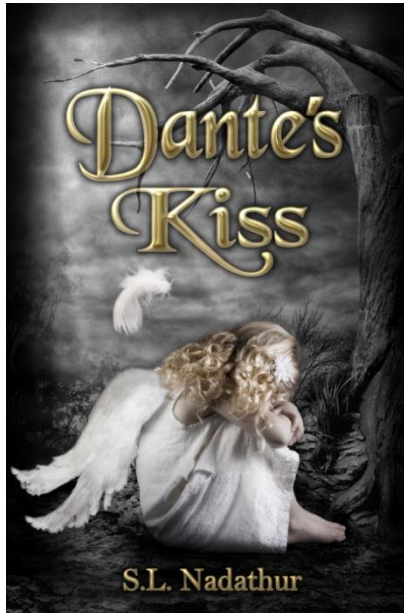
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Autographed Book Order Form



Dear parents,

Your child will meet visiting young adult author **Susan Nadathur** on _____, 2015. She will be sharing the story of how she survived her painful teenage years to become a successful writer focused on young people who are bullied because they are different from their mainstream peers. *City of Sorrows* tells of a Spanish Gypsy who is forced to face his greatest fears when a Spaniard is not able to let go of his prejudice and allows ethnicity to come before compassion. *Dante's Kiss* is a dark love story about what happens when the supernatural collides with the natural world, and when being different is challenging what you don't believe is right about your culture. For full descriptions of these titles go to: SusanNadathur.com

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to encourage your child to read!

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Please order by _____, **2015** and return payment to _____, **(name)**
 _____, **(position or title)**

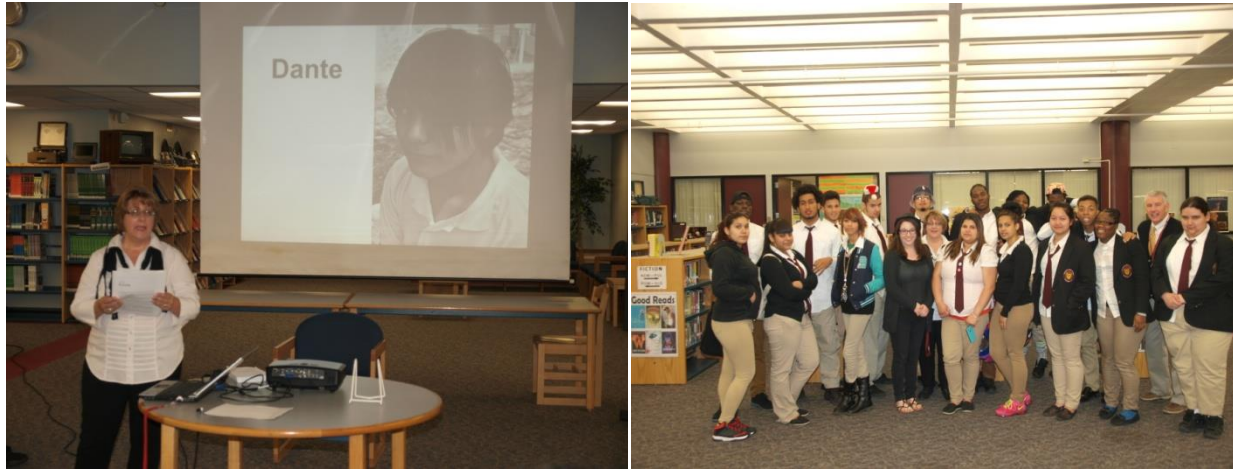
Checks payable to **Azahar Books**

City of Sorrows: \$10 Number of Books ____ X \$10 = _____
Dante's Kiss Blue Cover: \$10 Number of Books ____ X \$10 = _____
Dante's Kiss Black Cover: \$10 Number of Books ____ X \$10 = _____

Name(s) to be inscribed in each book: (Please print clearly)

Name: _____ Name: _____

School Visits and Testimonials



Bulkeley High School, Hartford, Connecticut (May 20, 2014)

“Thank you so much for visiting Bulkeley High and addressing our students. They really enjoyed meeting you. For most of them it was their first experience meeting a published author. Your presentation was great, and the kids gained a greater insight into the writing process and the complexities of quality literature.”

“Best of luck with your novel, *Dante’s Kiss*. It is an exciting book. I hope for you, and especially the genre of teen literature, that it is a huge success. The setting of *Dante’s Kiss* has tapped an underrepresented area in young adult literature. Teens around the globe deserve more opportunities to learn about the culture and lives of Puerto Rican teens. Thank you again for generously giving of your time to the students of Bulkeley High School.”

Timothy Sullivan, Library Media Specialist, Bulkeley High School, Hartford, CT

Wethersfield High School, Wethersfield, Connecticut (June 9, 2015)

“A captivating presentation. I can’t wait to read *Dante’s Kiss*.”

Nella Szilagyi, School Librarian, Wethersfield High School, Wethersfield, Connecticut

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