

KYLA ZHAO

Award-winning author ✉ kyla@kylazhao.com

ABOUT KYLA

In the day, Kyla works in Silicon Valley's tech industry. At night, she writes novels that champion Asian representation and female empowerment.

Kyla has also written for *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and *Tatler*. She graduated from Stanford University in 2021 with an MA in Communication and BA in Psychology.

WORKS

- ***May the Best Player Win*** (2024)
- *Valley Verified* (2024)
- *The Fraud Squad* (2023)

PREVIOUS COLLABORATIONS

- **Firms & NPOs:** Twitch, Pinterest, Figma, Qualtrics, Tencent, Oracle, Girls Future Ready, etc.
- **Educational institutions:** Harvard University, Salem State University, United World College, Dulwich College, Global Indian International School, Foothill College, etc.
- **Bookstores, libraries, book conferences:** Bay Area Book Festival, Greater Pittsburgh Festival of Books, Virginia Children's Book Festival, etc.
- **Chess organizations:** World Chess Championship, International Chess Olympiad, International Chess Federation, etc.

SPEAKING TOPICS

- Drawing on my **personal experience in competitive chess** to craft this narrative
- Tackling **gender biases & pressure to succeed**
- **Literary devices** in my book
- My **author career:** how it began & what do I do
- Behind-the-scenes of **how books are created**
- My **writing process and tips**
- **Juggling a full-time job and writing novels**



 kylazhao.com

FEATURED IN

- Forbes
- Good Morning America
- CBS
- ABC
- NBC
- Vogue
- Cosmopolitan
- Elle
- BuzzFeed
- FOX
- Tatler, etc.

AWARDS

- *Forbes* 30 Under 30
- *Tatler* Leader of Tomorrow
- Certificate of Recognition by California State Assembly
- American Library Association's Feminist Book Project 2025
- Mathical Award Honor Book 2025

TESTIMONIALS

More available upon request

OVERSEAS FAMILY SCHOOL

"Kyla's passion for writing and her **dynamic, interactive style** captivated our students from start to finish. Her approachable and friendly demeanor made her a **wonderful role model**, leaving a lasting impression on everyone. Her ability to **tailor her presentations to each age group** was remarkable. For younger students, she introduced complex topics like gender equality in **an age-appropriate and engaging way**, while her high school presentation delved deeper into these critical issues, **sparking thoughtful discussions**. She inspired budding writers by sharing her journey and providing practical insights into the writing process. We would **highly recommend Kyla Zhao to any school** looking to inspire their students to read, write, create and work towards their dream." —Vanessa McConville, Head of School

DULWICH COLLEGE SINGAPORE

"Kyla Zhao's visit was truly memorable. With an engaging and interactive delivery accompanied by a beautifully designed slideshow, she brought a special vibrancy to the event. The students were enthralled, eagerly lining up to have their copies of the book signed. Kyla answered questions with eloquence and insight, leaving a lasting impression on everyone. Her presence added a unique and inspiring element, and we couldn't have asked for a better guest!" —Clare Measures, Deputy Head of Junior School

HARVARD CREATIVE WRITING AND LITERATURE SOCIETY

"Kyla's **passion for writing and perseverance in advocating for the Asian community** through her stories capture the audience's attention. Listening to Kyla speak **reignited my belief in myself and encouraged me to pursue my dreams** regardless of the statistics. She is authentically herself, and her presentation showed me that no matter what, we should not give up because we all have stories inside us that, if we dare, can change the communities we're part of."—Nathalie Zender, President 2024-2025

UNITED WORLD COLLEGE SOUTH EAST ASIA

"It was wonderful to have Kyla visit our campus and share her experiences as a writer with our students. Her talks were inspirational and, what's more, **interactive and fun** for our Middle School learners who had a ball and followed up with endless questions. Kyla facilitated her sessions with ease and was a **fascinating speaker who connected brilliantly with her audience**." —Jenny Murray, Middle School Head of English

HAYWARD PUBLIC LIBRARY

"Kyla's book event was fantastic. She not only talked about her novel, but also gave **revealing insights about the writing process**, from original idea to publication. It was **entertaining and valuable for aspiring writers and readers alike**. I would highly recommend Kyla for your next literary program" —Ricardo Antoni, Librarian
