



BaSatai: Outside In #1

Suzan Battah

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Seventeen year old, Armani Radnelaq a full blooded BaSatai is plagued by a curse in her blood. A curse created from hate and designed to break the divide between two parallel worlds of Earth and H-trae when Armani's blood is spilled in attack and she dies.

S'teuquoubs have been travelling back and forth across the divide for centuries without trouble. The BaSatai and Guardians monitoring activity and enforcing rules to ensure peace and harmony but if the divide splits and opens, a much greater number of supernatural S'teuquoubs will filter into earth destroying equilibrium which the BaSatai and Guardians will be unable to control. Humanity and the BaSatai will suffer and perish. The parallel divide must remain secure at all costs.

Armani has remained hidden on earth with her adopted father Elijah since her birth. She has been raised in the human way and fights her natural instinct to evolve into a BaSatai. The BaSatai in her requires her to evolve and shift, use her powers and strength. Yet Armani is freaked out by the need to shift. She smokes, has a bad attitude, must deal with aggressive bullies and control her natural BaSatai instinct. Her Guardian with BaSatai Warriors are coming for her. She refuses to accept her fate and doesn't believe any BaSatai should die to protect her.

The blood curse maturing in her veins makes her a target for her enemies. Her Guardian Karhl and an elite BasSatai Warrior Rafael are the first to arrive and prepare her for her crossing over. Her attraction to Rafael complicates her purpose to stay on earth even more. They both insist she fall into line and follow their lead but she is not ready to leave earth just yet...

BaSatai: Outside In #1 Details

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From Reader Review BaSatai: Outside In #1 for online ebook

Julie Barrett says

BaSatai: Outside In by Suszan Battah

Fascinating story line. I do watch Grimm on TV and it's one of our favorite shows, love the different shape shifters there.

In this story a baby was sent to Earth to be raised by a very old man. He brought her up as if she was his own. Fast forward to high school and strange things have started happening.

She is the chosen one but she doesn't feel she is the one at all. She starts to see things that might or might not be there and she now has protection from the evil ones. Some are trying to be her Guardian, another wants her to be connected to him, others just want to guide her and help her learn her new craft.

Armani has so much to learn about the rules, laws and her tribe.

Training has started now and the descriptions of what each can do and show her and explain how she can do it is veey descriptive.

Love the battles and how they show off what each of them can do individually and as a team.

Can't wait for the next one in this series!

Emily says

Review originally posted at Doodle's Book Blog

I didn't know what to expect when I started BaSatai: Outside In, but it was beyond amazing. Not only was I pulled in from page one, I found myself very attached to Armani, Karhl and Rafael.

Four days after Armani is born she is taken to Earth to be watched over by Elijah because she has cursed blood running through her veins. Seventeen years later her Guardian, Karhl, comes to watch over her to make sure she lives because if she dies, both Earth and H-trae will be destroyed. Not only does Armani push him away, she refuses to accept her heritage. Then there is Rafael, the one who is made for her. Will she embrace him and her heritage and accept who she is or will she put up a wall and ignore those trying to keep her alive?

Let's talk about the main players. Armani is the girl who doesn't fit in and is called a freak on a daily basis by girls she used to be friends with. She knows she is a BaSatai because her father, Elijah, raised her to know she was not of this world. Karhl, her Guardian, is supposed to keep her safe at all costs. She may not like it or his actions, but he is keeping her best interest in mind. Rafael is easily angered and doesn't like the way Karhl is doing his job. He feels strongly for Armani, but doesn't think she feels the same way in return.

I really loved the characters in BaSatai: Outside In. Armani has a really strong bond with Karhl. This bond is hard for Rafael to accept because he wants to connect with her, but she won't allow it making him think it is because of Karhl. This causes a major rift between the two boys. Yes, this sounds like a love triangle, but it's not, promise! I also really liked the story line. It was unique, creative, and kept my attention. There were

times that I laughed, got really angry and even shed a couple tears. I was so attached to the characters that I felt for them when things didn't go according to plan.

Overall, Suzan Battah did a wonderful job depicting the world of the BaSatai. I highly recommend it to all paranormal fans and I can't wait for book two!

FTC Disclosure: I received a copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review. I was not monetarily compensated for my opinion.

Kayla Eklund says

BaSatai: Outside In was a very good book. The beginning was a little confusing until the author gave more information about the BaSatai culture. I wish the author would have given a little more information in the prologue about the blood curse, because I was a little confused as to what was going on. I loved all of the characters, except for Valko and Evander. They both seemed arrogant, cocky, and prickish. I think Rafael is my new book boyfriend. I loved his attitude and his sexiness. Also, I loved how he loved Armani so much, he was willing to put his life on the line for her. Armani was a very strong female character. I liked how she always did what she felt was right, regardless of what the people around her thought about her decision. I also liked how she didn't take any crap from anyone. A big plot twist after the final battle with the S'teuqoub made me a little mad. I definitely didn't see it coming. I can't wait for book two to be released to find out how the plot twist works out. Also, I want to learn if Armani finds her niece. I recommend this book to anyone looking for something good to read.

Kelly says

While there were definitely things I enjoyed about this book - the worldbuilding was fun and interesting and very different from anything I've read recently - I had a really tough time connecting to the characters. Namely, I had a tough time with Armani's attitude toward both her curse and the people who were coming to help her. I get that she wanted to be a normal girl but she flat out admits in the beginning of the first chapter that she can smell the curse in her blood and then she turns around and denies it left and right. When her BaSatai compatriots show up to teach her about herself and her heritage she continually rebuffs them and refuses to listen to anything they had to say. Admittedly, they don't give her a whole lot of answers but you'd think with something as important as this they'd make her listen to what they could tell her instead of letting her carry on with her very juvenile temper tantrum. I'll also say that things become clearer (as far as Armani's attitude) toward the end but it was a long road to get there.

Yes, in case you were wondering, I'm very torn about this book. I was intrigued by the idea but I never connected to Armani emotionally. I didn't understand her reasoning behind continually blocking her fellow BaSatai's attempts to train her and it left me feeling frustrated.

In the end, this book just wasn't for me. I don't know if it was unfortunate timing (I've read several other YA books recently and I do have a tendency to hit genre burn-out when I saturate myself in one genre) or simply that I couldn't see Armani's side of the story enough to understand why she was fighting so hard against

people who want to make her stronger and more able to face the things that are coming to hurt her. As I said, the end of the book does help to clear up several issues that I had with Armani, but the bulk of the book left me frustrated with her unwillingness to accept help.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

Raihana says

BaSatai is YA paranormal story that follows a 17 year old girl, Armani, who was hidden on Earth and raised in human ways however S'teuqoububs and other nasty supernatural creatures are out to get Armani. Luckily for her, she had been assigned guardians to train her and keep her safe but Armani has been thought human ways but will she accept who and what she is meant to be but most of all is she willing to fight to stay alive?

Suzan Battah has created a wonderful paranormal story with strong characters and a plot that will keep you reading. There are twists in the story that even I didn't see coming but BaSatai was a really enjoyable story. If you want to know if there is...S'teuqoububs? Supernatural Powers? Awesome story plot? Yes, yes and YES! It has it all.

So if you looking for amazing story with a great plot that keeps you intreped then I recommend BaSatai:Inside Out.

Rating - 3.5 Stars
GOOD!

Lisa says

I think the reason I love reading YA books so much is that I'm always amazed at the minds of the authors. I'm just shocked by the extent to which their minds go into details... details that my mind could never imagine.

Suzan definitely did that for me in BaSatai. The plot and storyline was great! The amount of details she went into was perfect. I really enjoyed taking part in Armani's quest to find her BaSatai self. She steadily argued that she's not the cursed one, and that it's someone else the Guardian and Warriors need to protect. The struggle the BaSatai have in trying to make her accept her fate is definitely a difficult one. Will Armani accept that she's not human and learn to control her BaSatai instincts? Will she finally allow the Guardian and Warriors to help and protect her?

The story is quick and enjoyable. I would definitely recommend BaSatai to anyone that enjoys YA science fiction. I really believe you won't be disappointed with this one.

Kristina Aziz says

There are many, many things going through my head about this one. The story itself is good. It's interesting, it's full of emotions, and I didn't leave regretting that I read the book. Those are all major pluses.

But there are a few things that bothered me about this book as a whole.

1. Prologues are tricky things.

In fact, it seems that most of what bothered me about this book lies in the prologue. On the whole, it seems to me that this was the kind of book that didn't actually need a prologue, but it received one anyway. Instead of not affecting the book, it hurt the novel as a whole just a little bit.

2. Know where to start.

Assuming we keep the prologue, I still think the story should have started on the second paragraph. The first few sentences, while descriptive, were not necessary. Compare first sentences: "Thump...thump-thump-thump." or, ""Why me?" Elijah rocked the peaceful baby resting in his arms; she was wrapped in the softest, purest cloth, finely woven." I vote for sentence number two.

3. Originality and consistency

Props to Suzan for coming up with "Ba'Satai" as a species name. I love it. It's original, and easy to read so I didn't find myself stumbling over it while I tried to get through the book. That's a bonus. What really irked me, though, was the naming for nearly everything else. "H-trae," "S'teuqoub," and even "Gnusmas Rebmevon" struck me as lazy backwards words that for the most part had nothing to do with what they represented.

4. Lazy with a purpose

As I kept reading, the logic that H-trae, being parallel to Earth, might have a completely backwards lexicon made sense to me. But this point should be made earlier in the book--or else do away with the prologue.

5. Twilight-syndrome

Another instance of "Girl sees boy and is instantly turned on" appeared in this book. Granted, the girl and boy in question are not actually human and instant love is natural for their species--but it's always just a little disconcerting.

6. Superpowers done right.

As Armani matures, she is told she has super-human abilities. What doesn't happen (and I am so grateful for this) is Armani getting the hang of it right away and becoming everybody's savior. What I love about this book is that Armani has to work at using her abilities. She lands face first in the dirt more than once. That seems more realistic to me--like having to make mistakes and crashing your first car before being a perfect driver.

7. Plot Twists done right

I did not see anything in the last half of the book coming. It was a complete surprise and I ended up not even trying to predict what would happen. Definite bonus.

All in all: My rating, with the prologue, stands at a 3/5 rating.

If you skip the prologue, it's an easy 4/5 stars.

Suzanne says

This book was so good. It was completely different to what I was expecting. I really didn't expect to love it as much as I did and now I miss the BaSatai already. I can't wait for the next in the series.

Armani is a BaSatai who is born with a curse in her blood. If she dies, all BaSati will die with the destruction of their realm, H-trea, but humanity will also be wiped out with the destruction of the earth.

When Armani is a few days old, she is taken to earth to be raised as a human by Elijah, a 72 year old man, in the hopes of keeping her safe from their enemies, the Stequob's. When she is 17, her guardian Karhl and the BaSatai that she is meant to be with, Rafael, arrive on earth. They are to protect her and train her. Other BaSatai will soon arrive and when Armani is ready, they will all return to H-trea.

Armani is in denial. She does not want to be the one who's cursed. She just wants to be normal. A normal human that is. While she has a smart mouth and comes across as being tough, I feel she is vulnerable and just wants to be accepted. Especially by "The Primpers", the popular girls in school, who have labeled Armani a freak. Armani is a likeable character but at times she made some stupid decisions and could be childish and whiney and I just wanted to shake her it was so frustrating lol. She would go off on one and lose her temper towards someone, usually Rafael, for stupid or no reasons. She came into her own though in the end of the book and I look forward to seeing her character grow with her acceptance of her BaSati heritage in the next instalment in this series.

I really liked Karhl and Rafael. Karhl connects with Armani so he can feel her emotions. This is to help him to better protect her. They become really close and Armani soon grows to love him, in a brotherly way.

She is falling in love with Rafael, who is already crazy about her as he knew they were destined for each other. He wants to connect with her but she won't. She says the reason she won't is because he would die for her and she doesn't want anyone to die to keep her safe. I didn't like this as a reason and really couldn't see why she wouldn't just connect with him. It would have made a lot of things better for them.

This book confused me at times because things seemed to just happen and there would be no explanation as to why. Sometimes the scene would change suddenly and I felt the dialogue could be a bit off at times. Armani would ask a question that wouldn't be answered and then there would be no mention of it again. This was all very frustrating and hindered the natural flow of the book.

I didn't like the use of the BaSatai language. Armani didn't understand what they were saying and no one ever translated for her which left the reader out of the loop too.

Aside from that, this was a fantastic story. It was original and creative and I didn't want to put it down. The character number increase as more BaSatai and guardians arrive on earth and I thought the characters were really well written. The ending of the book is amazing. The action picks up, there is a twist that is completely unforeseen and something happens that made me just want to scream.

I feel the writing style also improved as the book came to an end which made the action packed ending flow much better. We don't get to see H-trae in this book but I really hope that we get to discover it in the next one. I think I have an idea of one direction the next book is going to take and a part of me really hopes that I am wrong. I'll just have to wait and see. And hope that I won't be waiting too long.

"So, we're all in agreement," Armani declared brightly into the tense atmosphere. "Good, let's get this over with. Shut up Rafael, don't say it, you would do the same for me." "That's different!" he snapped. "You shouldn't." She couldn't comprehend his reasoning. "Why?" Rafael blinked a few times. "Because you don't love me the way I love you!"

Thanks to Suzan Battah for supplying a copy of this book for review.

Jessica says

I tried to like this book. I really really tried. I think if I were reading this at any other time, I would have been able to finish it, but since I haven't had that much time to read lately, every book I spend my time on has to be worth spending the time reading. And this one just wasn't.

I always need to like the main character, but I wasn't that big of a fan of Armani. She was constantly complaining about how she didn't need help and her attitude just got kind of annoying. And when Rafe came into the picture, I didn't get their instant chemistry at all. Apparently they were soul mates and sparks flew when they were near each other, even when they just met. I really don't like it when people magically are in love before they even talk, so that aspect of this story really bothered me.

The whole world they live in was also confusing. I thought it took too much effort to really understand what was going on, so I stopped after 50 pages. It took me three days to read those 50 pages because I just couldn't get into it, so I decided to put it down because I wasn't enjoying it as much as I wanted to. This book held a lot of potential with an interesting storyline, it just wasn't fun or interesting enough to read.

Latoya says

Unique and fascinating. Battah has created such an amazing concept with this one. I loved the bond between the characters and the meaning behind them. This book has something for everyone with a tidbit of romance and lots of action. I kinda cringe when I say this but I would love to see this one visually onscreen, as I feel like my "mind" movie just doesn't do it justice. Armani, the female lead has been told she holds a curse though she is quite adamant it is not her the BaSatai should be sacrificing their lives for and she is very vocal about this. It's good that she is a girl of action even though she hasn't mastered her powers yet. Her strength comes from her capacity to love, a very human trait it seems she has adopted. Armani can be a bit frustrating at times because she is strong-willed, and very determined to not give in to what the BaSatai want for her. She is more concerned with fitting in and being accepted by the so called Primpers in school, mainly Lily, her former friend turned enemy makes school a very lonely and unpleasant place. Then one day these BaSatai warriors come to take her back to H-trae, so they can work on breaking the curse . It practically takes her almost being killed to get her to be more willing to at least try to learn more about her heritage. She begins to do things that Karhl, her guardian and Rafael, the love interest are baffled by as she has not fully shifted into her BaSatai form. Everything is not what it seems in this one as there some unexpected surprises

that happen. I look forward to reading the next. Great read!

Melissa says

Read full 3.5 star review [here](#). And learn more about the BaSatai in author Suzan Battah's Guest Post [here](#)

This is my first half star review. I had mixed feelings about this one. I really liked it, but for some reason it was hard for me to follow. The beginning wasted no time in introducing the action which I was very grateful for. But in the first few chapters the main character Armani came off as whiny and ungrateful. I mean if two hot guys showed up and said they were going to help and protect me I wouldn't be complaining. And it's not like she didn't know they were coming eventually. Although I do understand her being reluctant to give up her life completely. She does slowly change this attitude over time. I was glad that it was a gradual change and that she still kept some of her fiery attitude in the end. Sometimes characters seem to switch overnight and that doesn't really happen in real life.

Rafe was my favorite character. I just have a soft spot for selfless, protective, hot male leads. Kahrl her Guardian was fun because he didn't take Armani's attitude. She really seemed to hate him in the beginning and then all of a sudden she is willing to do anything to save him. I was confused when their relationship seemed to shift so suddenly, but I liked it better when they were getting along. And I was so glad that for once there were many main characters without having a love triangle.

Although the whole book they are on Earth and not in the BaSatai world, there was a lot of world building. We learn about Armani's race, a curse that was placed on her family, how they shift, etc. All I kept thinking was Battah has one crazy imagination! I really wish I could come up with something as unique as the BaSatai.

The ending has two big plot twists that really surprised me and were the main reason for the extra half star. They were the reason I want to read the next book and find out what will happen. It's a little confusing, but it's fast pace and interesting characters makes it a worthwhile read. If you like reading about new worlds, characters with a lot of depth, and a few surprises in the plot this is a good book to try.

Samantha March says

I was looking forward to hosting Suzan Battah again through CLP Blog Tours. I was really interested in this second novel as it is a complete 180 from the romance novel *Mad About the Boy*. *BaSatai: Outside In* is a YA/paranormal/sci-fi book, the first in a series. The story follows seventeen year old Armani Radnelaq, a BaSatai that does not want to accept the fact that her blood is cursed. Armani hides on Earth with her adopted father Elijah, and continues to ignore the fact that she is different. But when her Guardian Karhl and an elite BasSatai Warrior Rafael arrive to help protect her and train her with her BaSatai powers, Armani must realize that a different fate has been set for her.

I have been reading a lot of these paranormal books lately, and even more YA/paranormal on top of that. I find it fascinating what an author's mind can create with these mystical worlds and powers and rules, and

BaSatai was no exception. The details and execution of H-Trae and the BaSatai were fabulous. I enjoyed the love story as well between Armani and Rafael, and never quite knew what was going to happen next. I will say that I made it through half of the book very quickly, and then everything seemed to slow down. I thought that was a bit backwards, since the beginning is filling in readers on this land and the second half was the action and fighting, but that's the way it read for me. I would be curious to see where the second novel goes. If you have a fan of sci-fi, I would recommend this for you.

3.5 stars

Jane says

I won this book as an ARC. I liked this story very much. A great YA read. It tackles those teenage issues of bullying, going against the rules, wanting independence, the need to fit in and fear. I mention fear, for teenagers who grow at quite a rate, it's scary enough but imagine if you are different. And Armani is different - from a different world, is taller than her peers and does not look like her adopted family. Added into this mix is romance, again the confusing feelings, the fear that your chosen one likes someone else. I like the 'connection', those intense feelings and bonding, two bodies becoming one but without the sex. We have to wait for Book Two to find out if Armani and Rafael do eventually re-connect. A good twist at the end. Great characterisation and storytelling with plenty going on to keep the reader interested. I shall be looking out for #2.

Katie says

Blood is thicker than water in “BaSatai: Outside In”.

Armani’s blood is cursed and because of this is the prime target for deadly enemies. Her character is very strong willed and stubborn she doesn’t sit back and allow the curse to take over her life. She is definitely one of the more interesting characters I have come across. I liked hearing her point of view and how she handled the sticky situations that came with having cursed blood.

Rafael is a typical alpha hero in that he believes she should just be a good little girl and do as he and Karhl say, but he soon learns better. The relationship between Rafael and Armani was very interesting and full of twists and turns.

This story was well written and highly enjoyable. I loved the new world and supernatural creatures that the author creates in this story. There was also plenty of action going on that had me on the edge of my seat and eager for each turn of the page.

Readers of Fantasy and/Romance will love Suzan Battah’s “BaSatai: Outside In”.

Janina says

Going into reading this book, I knew it was going to be different! Just by the title of the book. I didn't expect to enjoy this book as much as I did! It was amazing and it was written in a way like it was made for me to

read it. Lol If that makes any sense whatsoever! I loved the characters and I loved the whole storyline. It was just so different.

It's so hard to give a review of this book without giving away any spoilers. But I'll try....

Okay. Armani is a girl who is believed to have a curse in her blood. She's not human and she knows it and she also knows the BaSatai will come back for her. She was given away to her adopted father Elijah to help mask her from the S'teuqoubs who are trying to kill her.

I really did like Armani. She was in denial about being the one with the cursed blood because she felt she was different enough from the humans. She was smart and brave, but at times she got on my nerves, I must admit. The denial and her mind set not to connect with Rafael, who I will get to later, annoyed me. But overall, she was a great heroine.

Armani's Guardian Karhl was probably my favorite character. He was confident and sarcastic, but I loved him all the same. I really like him. (smiling right now) Rafael is Armani's, I don't know how to describe this, kind of like a soulmate. I like him a lot too! He is also one of my favorite characters. But boy does he have a temper. And what's with the Lily thing. I'm so confused about that, and I don't like that at all. I also really liked Karhl's "soulmate"! She was fun.

This book was action packed! I loved it. So many things and so many different elements went on in this book that made it amazing, but at times it was confusing. I had to reread certain parts to try to grasp the full concept.

And that ending!!!! What? So confused. And again what the hell is with this dumb Lily girl? I'm sorry but I just didn't like her character and now I feel she has a major role to play in the next book, which I don't like, even though I knew something was up with her from the get go. BUT, *deep breaths*, whatever. It's just frustrates me! And what Karhl and Armani.....And now.....

Whoa! I want to read to know when the next book releases and what is going to happen. I have way too many unanswered questions :(But, it's a wonderful book! I definitely recommend it! Guys, you have to check this book out when it releases!
