

Payal Kapadia

Payal Kapadia's debut novella, "Wisha Wozzariter," won the Crossword Award for Children's Writing in 2013. It is also on the "101 Indian Children's Books We Love!" list.

In this award-winning tale, a ten-year-old girl called Wisha wishes, as her name suggests, that she were a writer. This zany story about a wish come true is also a modern-day fable about the adventure of writing.

Payal's favourite subject through school was English Composition. She studied English Literature at St. Xavier's College, Bombay. After studying Journalism at Northwestern University in Chicago, she worked with Outlook in Bombay and The Japan Times in Tokyo because she thought that real life would give her many stories. It did – but then Payal discovered that some of our dearest stories are born in our imagination.

Payal is no longer a journalist. She now lives in Mumbai, India with her husband, two daughters and their three imaginary friends: Klixia, Pallading and Kiki.

Payal's latest book, Horrid High, about the world's most horrid school was released in September 2014.