

Our research assistant, Rasvanth Chunylall, was a featured guest on [Pamela Power's](#) vlog, *#BetweenTheSheetsWithPamela*

. On this Christmas Special episode he discussed the project and recommended Zinaid Meeran's "Saracen at the Gates" as an ideal Christmas present. His section can be viewed at 09:08:

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### **Transcript of Rasvanth's section:**

Hi, everyone. My name is Rasvanth Chunylall and I'm a research assistant at the KZN Literary Tourism project which is based here in the beautiful KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) province. A little about the project. We are a multi-faceted project which has conducted research on literary tourism, done reviews, interviewed authors, covered literary event and we've built up an online archive of authors linked to the KZN province. If you would like to learn more about the province, you can visit us on our website at [www.literarytourism.co.za](http://www.literarytourism.co.za) . You can also follow us on social media. Our Twitter handle is

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, our facebook is

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and if you're more into Instagram you can follow us

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So with Christmas just around the corner you're probably wonder: What do I get? What do I get? What do I get? We have the perfect gift for a bookworm. It's called "Saracen at the Gates" by Zinaid Meeran. It explores the life of a young woman from a prominent, rich, Muslim family living in Johannesburg. Now Zakira's family expects her to be a humble and devoted daughter. But, Zakira would rather club, smoke, drink, party, and, essentially, live her life according to her own expectations. This life changes when she meets and falls in love with Sophie, a rebel activist. The book has been praised for its [exploration of identity](#) and its [political incorrectness](#) . Personally, I enjoyed the fact that Meeran is a master of satire. He really shows you the colourfulness of Joburg and all of its people.

On a final note I would like to say thank you to Pamela Power for having me on her vlog. So from us at KZN Literary Tourism have a wonderful festive season and lots of love.

