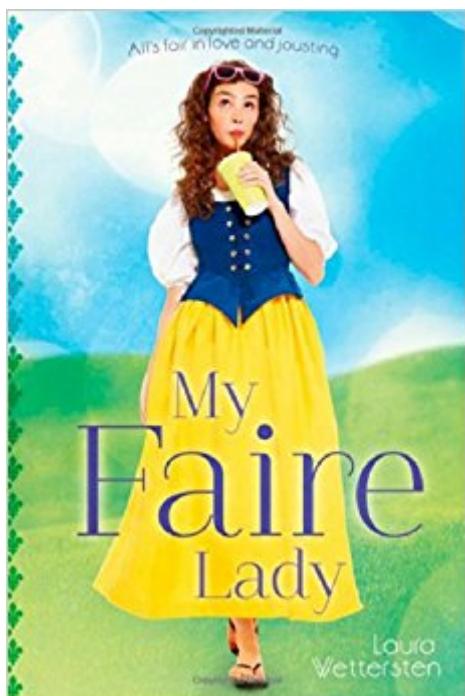


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# My Faire Lady



## **Synopsis**

When a cheating boyfriend leads to an unexpected summer job, Rowena discovers that the best way to let go of the past might be to dive right into it. Rowena Duncan is a thoroughly modern girl with big plans for her summer—working at the mall with her best friends, taking trips to the Cape, date nights on the beach—until she catches her boyfriend making out with another girl. Heartbroken, she applies to an out-of-town job posting and finds herself somewhere she never expected: the Renaissance Faire. As a face-painter doubling as a serving wench, Ro is thrown headfirst into a vibrant community of artists and performers. She feels like a fish out of water until Will, a quick-witted whip cracker, takes her under his wing. Then there's Christian, a blue-eyed stunt jousting who makes Ro weak in the knees. Soon, it's not just her gown that's tripping her up. Trading in the Internet and electricity for stars and campfires was supposed to make life simpler, but Ro is finding that love is the ultimate complication. Can she let the past make way for her future?

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 880L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 352 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.4 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,363,551 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Renaissance #74 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Renaissance #578 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > New Experiences

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 8 Up—Rowena Duncan has plans for the summer before her junior year, but then her longtime boyfriend cheats on her, and she makes an impulsive decision: to take a job as a face

painter/serving wench at an out-of-town Renaissance Faire. She jumps at the chance to be elsewhere, even if it means leaving her friends behind to live in a tent and wear corsets. She quickly settles in to life at the Faire, making friends with her tent-mate Suze and Will the whip-cracker, and pining after Christian, an actual knight in shining armor. As the summer progresses, she comes to realize how art is changing her view of the world. She gains the courage to challenge her practical parents' expectations of her, and she learns to look beyond others' exteriors to see who her true friends are. Wettersten offers a whimsical setting, engaging characters, and plenty of summer romance, making this an easy sell for teens. •Laurie Slagenwhite Walters, Brighton District Library, Brighton, MI

" Sharp, funny dialogue is mixed with thoughtful resolutions of relevant teenage topics—love and lust, admitting fault, the mettle it takes to pursue a passion. The rich backdrop of the fair, with its vivid description and appealing characters, is icing on the cake. Verily, fine fare." (Kirkus Reviews)"Wettersten provides a playful, fresh setting for her YA debut, and summer fun abounds amid the jousting, mead-drinking, and evidence that chivalry is indeed not dead...[a] light touch and solid characterizations make it a satisfying read." (Publishers Weekly)"Wettersten offers a whimsical setting, engaging characters, and plenty of summer romance, making this an easy sell for teens." (School Library Journal)

Actual rating: 4.5 stars My Faire Lady was a quick, cute read that will appeal to many readers. The story was very well written, with a main character that is quick, sarcastic, and hilarious, and side characters that you fall in love with. You can easily tell that Ms. Wettersten did her research in order to accurately describe the details of a Renaissance Faire, and I love when authors make the story as true-to-life as possible! Rowena was a very charming character that was both realistic and relatable. She experiences a tremendous amount of growth over the course of the novel, and it was very nice to watch. Ms. Wettersten did a remarkable job at integrating both teen drama, but also not overdoing it. It was a nice balance that few authors can achieve, especially when writing contemporary novels. The romance was light and you easily fall in love with Will. Will was hilarious, cute, and sharp as a whip (you'll get that after you read the book). I was rooting for him from the very beginning, and you will be too. However, one of my favorite characters in this book is Suze. She had me cracking up, and is the exact type of friend you want in your life. From the minute she shows up in the book, you will fall in love with her character. There are plenty of characters to love in this book, and each had their own distinct personality that makes for a fun read. I highly

recommend checking this book out if you're looking for a quick, light-hearted love story that is also about finding yourself and having fun along the way. You get to experience new things along with Rowena, and will definitely feel like running away to the Renaissance Faire afterwards! Happy reading :)

I most certainly am. When Rowena Duncan's boyfriend cheats and breaks up with her, she seeks escape and solace in the form of a renaissance faire for a summer job. When she arrives, she meets a host of interesting characters, as well as two handsome fellows. A tale about love and love lost, friendship, and finding yourself is spun with great enthusiasm and entertainment in mind. Being someone who has longed to attend a renaissance faire, but lacks the means to do so, this novel gave me the adventure and thrill of experiencing it without truly experiencing it. This summer romance getaway theme is definitely unique in its genre. I couldn't put the book down and I was sad to see it come to an end abruptly. However, this book had great little moments of clarity and understanding of one's self. It was great to see Ro come into her own skin. The characters had their quirks, which gave them depth. I also like how there were very few petty squabbles between the female characters. It can be a pretty rare thing to see that sort of aspect absent in a YA novel geared toward the female audience. Kudos to Wettersten on that one! This book is a great light read with quite a bit of heart and a great deal of adventure. It isn't everyday that you find a book with a renaissance faire as the setting for the story. It makes for a perfect summer or fall read. I couldn't put it down. I definitely would recommend this to anyone looking for a twist on YA romance. Also, prepare for Ramon to stick with you like glue. He is a fantastic character.

Really well-drawn behind the scenes view of a small renaissance faire - it's like the author met all these fantastic faire stereotypes and then got to know them well enough to write real, lovely characters for them all. The romantic plot, while predictable (there are only so many high school romances in the world to choose from without getting ridiculously melodramatic, and this book is funny without being ridiculous), is also sweet and captivating. The best part, though: the real story isn't about to faire or the boy, but about the heroine. I'm a sucker for a good finding-herself tale, and this book delivers perfectly.

Can't tell you how excited I was to finally get my hands on my online-bestie's debut novel! And boy, did Laura deliver. I'll dispense with the summary and just say what a great read **MY FAIRE LADY** is! I've always loved Renaissance Festivals, but the characters seemed so authentic to me that I never

thought about who these folks might be after the faire closes. I already knew that Laura did a fair (pun intended) amount of research for this book, and it shows in the authenticity of the characters, especially the newbie Ro, and the culture we get to experience through her fresh eyes. The knights, the wenches, the street performers, all portrayed brilliantly in this fun novel. And might I add there's a bit of romance, perfectly suited for a YA audience, but intriguing enough for adults to enjoy as well. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND this book! And I can't wait to see what Laura comes up with next!

Great book written by my own relative! Being middle aged myself, I had my doubts about it, as the story is about a young girl in her last summer before college and her summer job that would change her life's course forever. But the further I got into the story, I felt myself re-living my youth when I might have made some of those same choices myself at that age. The author paints a beautiful picture of the goings on behind the scenes at a Renaissance Faire where the characters act, interact, hurt, fall in love and learn within a short summer season.

I enjoyed this book a lot.

Such an interesting and well written book. I really enjoyed the setting, and it was obvious that Laura Wettersten did a lot of research to get it right. I'll bet many people who read this will want to visit a Renaissance Faire soon. The main characters were very easy to like, although not perfect at all, just realistic. Even the minor characters came to life, and I could picture each of them. I'll be looking forward to Laura's next book!

A wonderful funny take about young love, first loves and their misadventures. This book will give you laughing along with the characters and rooting them on till the last page!

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