

If you're unfamiliar with Pitch Wars, check out the [Pitch Wars website](#) for an explanation and a breakdown of the submission guidelines, dates, and other rules.

Quick summary: We are Laura Elizabeth and Mary Ann Marlowe, co-mentoring adult. We'll be taking contemporary romance and fantasy romance. Scroll down for more details.

[Laura's wishlist blog post](#)

[Mary Ann's wishlist blog post](#)

ARE WE A PITCH WARS MATCH?

TEAM TWUE WUV

Name: Laura Elizabeth and Mary Ann Marlowe (aka Lorelei Parker)

Pronouns: She/Her

Age: Adult and New Adult

Have kids? 10 mentees from 7 years as mentoring Pitch Wars

Seeking: Contemporary romance, romantic comedy, fantasy romance

Orientation: Everything.

Diversity: Yes, please.

Contact: @maryannmarlowe or @lauraeliz529

AMA: [PW Forum](#)

ABOUT LAURA:

- I am a contemporary romance writer, published through The Wild Rose Press. I'm currently working on my follow-up to my Reluctant Hearts series, as I educate myself on transforming into a hybrid author extraordinaire. I love learning the many paths to getting books to readers.
- I am an independent contractor for a top-notch editing and writing company by day. I spend my days creating back cover copies and optimized Amazon listing verbiage for writers just like you. And me:)
- I'm also a yoga teacher and general lover of nature. Better yet, I love yoga in nature. Do we have a mutual love of tree pose?
- I have a boy bander addiction. Harry Styles is my guiltiest non-guilty pleasure. You can have a different opinion. I respect that, and we can still fall madly in love.
- I'm a romance junkie. And a comedy junkie. And a melodrama junkie.
- I love *Schitt's Creek*, *Dawson's Creek*, *Finding You*, *Easy A*, *My Life in Ruins*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Titanic*, *The Holiday*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*, *Miss Congeniality*. I also enjoy watching women's soccer and wouldn't mind if I read a romance based in that world. And hockey players also make for great heroes. Just saying.
- I read a ton of memoirs but prefer Instagram when it comes to creating my own memoir. I also love reading books that make me laugh, cry, and reach for a fan because my room is suddenly HOT.

- I'm a midwestern gal who has no intentions of moving. I love the nature in my home state. I do enjoy exploring different states, too. One of my favorite places to visit is Tennessee. Currently, my favorite places are anywhere that doesn't have any crowds. Books are my way of vacationing to all different areas in the world. One of my favorite romance settings is people meeting at resorts. I am an unashamed sinner in all things island love (and mountain love.)
- I love moving my body as a way to relieve stress. Biking, soccer, and hiking are my favorites. Long walks on the beach? I'm your gal.

ABOUT MARY ANN

- I am a hybrid contemporary romance author with 4 books out with Kensington under the names Mary Ann Marlowe and Lorelei Parker.
- I've indie-published 4 other books.
- I'm a music freak and listen to pretty much anything.
- I'm a full-time developer, half-time gamer, and Zelda addiction is my porn.
- I'm a romance junkie. And a comedy junkie. And a fantasy junkie.
- I love *Monty Python*, *Doctor Who*, *IT Crowd*, *Community*, *Parks and Rec*, *Gilmore Girls*, *Schitt's Creek*, *Umbrella Academy*, *Hamilton*, *Douglas Adams*, *Ted Lasso*, *The Great*, and lots more. I also love all things Pixar. Especially if there's romance in it.
- I've lived in a dozen states and several countries. I love to travel and I love foreign languages and books/movies that transport me. I speak French and German and listen to almost nothing but Latin pop in the hopes that by osmosis, I'll finally speak Spanish.
- I'm historically sporty. Back in the day, I was among the first women to join the boys' cross-country team. Also, I have a second-degree black belt from a questionable dojo. I only mention these things in case you have a sporty romance. Which is why I hasten to add, I grew up believing football is a religion.

WHY YOU SHOULD SWIPE RIGHT

- First and foremost, we are authors, just like you. We enjoy cheering on other writers and honing in on what makes their book - your book - great.
- We've both been Pitch Wars mentees. Mary Ann in 2014 and Laura in 2015, so we both know what it's like to be on the other side of the contest, checking out blogs, hoping to find a love connection, waiting nauseously for our edit letters, revising like mad women.
- Mary Ann has entered many other contests, but she found an agent the old-fashioned way—through querying (twice now, actually).
- Laura is still in pursuit of an agent, somewhat intentionally. She enjoys being picky when it comes to a mutual love connection. She's also loved working with a small press and navigating the growing opportunities in indie publishing. She's a bit of an open lover when it comes to publishing. She likes playing the field.
- Mary Ann has been a Pitch Wars mentor every year since 2015. Laura has read through our submissions in the past, and we share a hive mind. Mary Ann was also a slush reader for Pitch Slam, a judge for Query Kombat in 2015, and a mentor for Pitch Madness in 2017.
- In 4 years of Pitch Wars, Mary Ann has worked with ten mentees (hell yeah, wild cards!) all of whom are wicked talented. All their MS were romances. 7 were LGBT. 6 contemporary. 2 Romantic Suspense. 1 Fantasy. 1 Alternate earth speculative fiction. All were brilliant. Drop to the end of this page if you want to check them out in more detail.
- Laura is a Pitch Wars mentor virgin, which means she's eager and hungry for a love connection. She loves helping writers explore their stories and collaborating to make those stories marketable. She also loves helping writers find their community as her Pitch Wars experience did for her. Nine of her best friends she met because of Pitch Wars. We laugh together. We cry together. We are a lifelong group. It's a forever kind love that she's ready for you to find as well.
- Mary Ann currently works as a computer programmer, but she started life as an academic, working toward a PhD in French Literature, meaning she spent a decade of my life analyzing literature. She's also worked as a copy editor for literary journals. She brings high-level structural and eagle-eyed detailed readings.
- Laura will be your biggest cheerleader as you work on the story you want to tell. She is a supportive, personable, and caring lover of books and writers. She'll commit to you and will be loyal in all the ways that matter. In editing, she can point out crutch words and areas to make your verbs shine. She's also a big picture editor. What's your hook? Let's talk plot. Let's talk character motivation.
- If we pick you, we'll be ready to throw down for you.

DESPERATELY SEEKING: STEAMY KISSING BOOKS.

We're on the look out for **Adult** books with **SEXY ROMANCE**. We *love* love and want YOU to make US fall in love.

Specifically: Contemporary Romance / Romantic Comedy OR Fantasy Romance

Must have: Chemistry and **VOICE, VOICE, VOICE**.

Mary Ann's personal kink (not an exhaustive list):

- Comedy (ie. Alexis Hall's *Boyfriend Material*)
- Plots derived from lists (ie. Sophie Kinsella's *Can You Keep a Secret?*)
- Enemies to lovers (ie. Casey McQuiston's *Red, White, and Royal Blue*)
- Fake relationships (ie. Helen Hoang's *The Kiss Quotient*)
- Forced proximity (ie. Christina Lauren's *Josh and Hazel's Guide to Not Dating*)
- Dirty bad boys (ie. Emma Chase's *Tangled*)
- Hot burning-down-the-page chemistry (ie. Suleikha Snyder's *Tikka Chance on Me*)
- Witty banter (ie. Sally Thorne's *The Hating Game*)
- Musicians (ie. Robinne Lee's *The Idea of You*)
- Gamers (ie. Alexis Hall's *Looking for Group*)
- Immersive fantasy (ie. Sarah J Maas, *A Court of Mist and Fury*)
- Alt world fantasy (ie. Rainbow Rowell, *Carry On*)
- Urban fantasy (ie. Ilona Andrews, *Burn for Me*)

Laura's dirty secrets:

- Comedy (ie. Christina Lauren's *The Honey-Don't List*)
- Enemies to lovers (ie. Elizabeth Phillips's *Ain't She Sweet?*)
- Fake relationship (ie. Lauren Blakely's *The Real Deal*)
- Forced proximity (ie. Helena Hunting's *A Life for A Lie*)
- Dirty bad boys (ie. Colleen Hoover's *Hopeless*)
- Witty banter (ie. Sally Thorne's *The Hating Game*)
- Musicians (i.e. Robinne Lee's *The Idea of You*)
- Small town setting (ie. Toni Blake's *The Love We Keep*)
- Workplace romance (ie. Suzanne Baltzar's *Sidelined*) – Plus, it's sporty!
- Second Chance (ie. Lyssa Kay Adams's *The Bromance Book Club*)

SWIPE LEFT IF . . .

We're not a good fit for historical, women's fiction, or fantasy that isn't predominately a romance. We're also not looking for polyamory, inspirational, religious, or so-called "clean romance."

NOTE: If your book doesn't end with a happily ever after (HEA) or a happy for now (HFN), it isn't a romance. No cliffhangers, no limbo land, no tragic endings—unless you're willing to rework the ending to bring it to a satisfying romantic conclusion.

Please don't send us books where sexual violence is a central plot point especially if it involves the main couple. Also, cheating once the game is afoot is a huge no-no in romance.

We **do not want** anything based in a recent **true-life** tragedy, such as a terrorist event or school shooting, unless it happened so long ago anyone affected by it is no longer around to read it (in which case it would be historical . . . and also not right for us). For similar reasons, we're not interested in pandemic-based romance.

If you're unsure if what you got is up our alley, tweet us (@maryannmarlowe @lauraeliz529) or ask on our [AMA page](#). (No pitching, but general questions about tropes, genres, etc. are fair game.)

TO MAKE A LOVE CONNECTION

Above all, we want great writing. Make us feel like we can settle in for a page-turning ride. Make us laugh or make us cry. Just so long as you make us really care about your characters and root for their happy ever after.

We want books that are sex positive, diversity of sexual orientation positive, diversity of gender positive, diversity of race positive, diversity of religion positive, diversity of nationality positive, and disability positive. Black lives matter. Trans lives matter. Trans women are women. Trans men are men. We're happy to work with authors who fit any demographic and on books that fit any demographic. Just send us a respectful, compelling read.

If you're writing outside your experience, we'll expect you to do the requisite research or hire additional readers to make sure you're as accurate as possible. And we might ask: Why are you the person who should be writing this?

If we get to the end of your chapter and start shaking our laptops to see if it knocks out more pages, we'll probably request.

HOW WE'LL CONNECT

We'll be sending you emails for the heavy stuff, but for quick communication, we might use messenger or Twitter DMs. We'll probably be in communication in waves, since you'll be heads down revising for a chunk of time. But you can always drop us a line and get feedback, hugs, or just blow off steam.

HOW WE'LL ROMANCE YOU

We will read through your MS in the first round to help identify the overarching issues with plot, tension, character arc, chemistry, and your opening and closing. The first edit letter will show you where you can tighten or re-arrange or slash and burn. we'll also mark up your MS with in-line notes (and smiley faces) so you can zero in on trouble spots (and know where things are working because that's also important). (Laura is awesome for pointing out the positive.)

Be prepared to do some extra-novel work, too: outlining, outside reading on craft, beat sheets, etc. We'll compare these to what you've written and look at ways these tools can bring out the most in your novel.

We'll read at least once more to vet the revision and also to give you line edits. In addition, we'll be helping you hone your pitch and query to get you completely ready to hook an agent.

This should be a partnership, but if we pick you, it means we loved your book, but there's work to be done. That means you can expect critical feedback that might hurt like a mofo. Please don't submit to us if you're not open to criticism or if you don't want to do the work. You could be asked to: add/cut a POV, change the title, change the MC's name, delete entire chapters, rewrite the ending, rewrite the opening, rewrite the middle... Expect to work. Be open to big change.

IS IT TOO SOON TO TALK HISTORY?

You can spy on all of Team Twue Wuv agent showcase entries past if you want to see more.

- Me: [Calamity](#)
- Laura: [Catch a Falling Star](#)
- Kate: [The Month of Fireflies](#)
- Jamie: [Out of the Ashes](#)
- Gwynne: [All Songs Are Love Songs](#)
- Amy: [How to Reset a Broken Heart](#)
- Aty: [Coup de Grace](#)
- Eliza: [Fanboy](#)
- Andy: [Miss Martin's National Pastry Competition](#)
- Jordan: [The Honest Lie](#)
- Suzy: [The Arcane Mage](#)

HIT US UP

You can always hit me (@maryannmarlowe) and Laura (@lauraeliz529) up on Twitter or the PW forum if you want to ask us anything. (Just remember – do not pre-pitch your book. General questions are fine.)