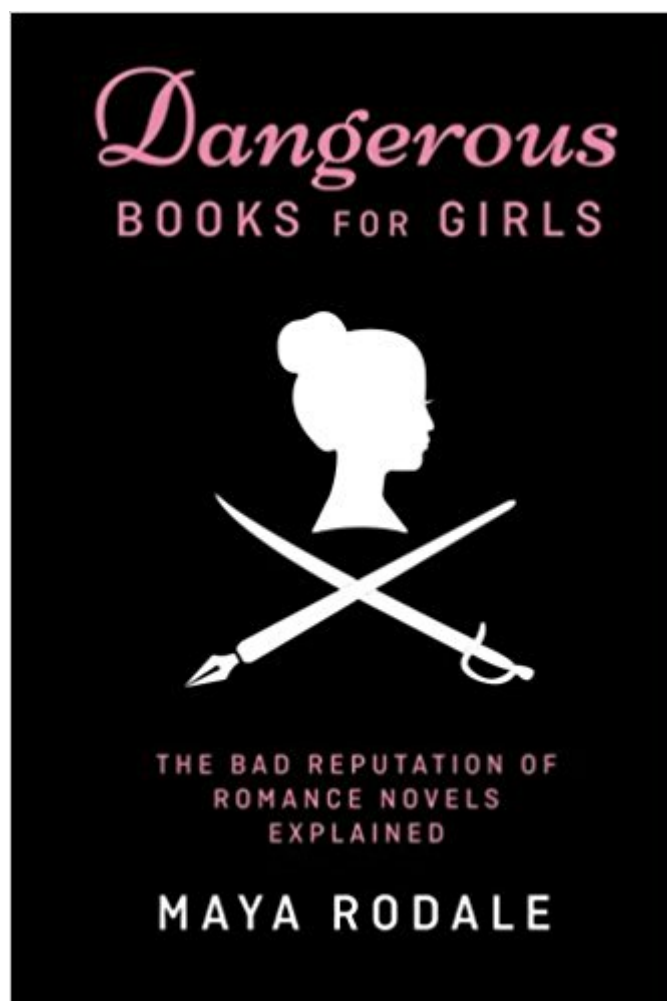


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Dangerous Books For Girls: The Bad Reputation Of Romance Novels, Explained



Synopsis

Long before clinch covers and bodice rippers, romance novels had a bad reputation as the lowbrow lit of desperate housewives and hopeless spinsters. But why were these books—the escape and entertainment of choice for millions of women—singled out for scorn and shame?

Dangerous Books for Girls examines the secret history of the genre’s bad reputation—from the “damned mob of scribbling women” in the nineteenth century to the sexy mass-market paperbacks of the twentieth century—and shows how romance novels have inspired and empowered generations of women to dream big, refuse to settle, and believe they’re worth it. For every woman who has ever hidden the cover of a romance and every woman who has been curious about those “Fabio books,” Dangerous Books For Girls shows why there’s no room for guilt when reading for pleasure.

Book Information

Paperback: 196 pages

Publisher: Maya Rodale; First Edition edition (April 21, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0990635627

ISBN-13: 978-0990635628

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.5 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #369,778 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Reference >

Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Romance #2118 in Books > Humor &

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Customer Reviews

Maya Rodale began reading romance novels in college at her mother’s insistence. She is now the bestselling and award winning author of numerous smart and sassy romance novels. A champion of the genre and its readers, she is also the author of the non-fiction book Dangerous Books For Girls: The Bad Reputation Of Romance Novels, Explained and a co-founder of Lady Jane’s Salon, a national reading series devoted to romantic fiction. Maya lives in New York City with her darling dog and a rogue of her own.

I've been a reader of romance since I was 11 and used to snag my mother's Harlequins. 30 years later, I'm an author of romance. The stigma attached has always bothered me. This book was so fabulously informative. I was thrilled to learn about so much of the history of the romance genre and the women who have been writing it for decades. Thanks so much for this book. I loved it so much, I adopted the tagline "Lady Novelist" for myself...in honor of my predecessors.

I knew I loved reading romance, and I knew that it made me feel good. I also knew that I didn't think it was trashy or gave me unrealistic expectations of love and relationships. But, I couldn't explain why. Now I can. I write romance and I'm proud of it. But, I rarely know what to say to the detractors who call the genre bodice-rippers. Now I do. Thanks, Maya, for putting some facts, figures, and common sense (with a bit of humor because...Real World) to why romance novels are feminist and empowering. I will recommend this book to everyone! Buy it, buy a copy for your daughter, buy a copy for your wife, buy a copy for that a-hole who has never read a romance but thinks it's okay to slut-shame the genre and its readers.

This is a great book. Makes you realize how over history the opinion people had of romance or women's books reflected the way they looked at women in general. That is still true today. This is a book every woman should read, especially young women. I will certainly recommend it to my college age granddaughters.

Good analysis of how books by and for women are treated. I read very few non-fiction books but found this easy to read and entertaining.

I adore Maya Rodale's writing. This book is insightful, well researched, and a pleasure to read.

I recommend it to everyone male or female curious about why a genre that is so popular is still stigmatized. Is smart, well researched and insightful. A wonderful way to remember that we like what we like and to heck with whatever anyone think of us. A MUST READ!

I liked this book. It was. Interesting and well researched. But a bit repetitive. As a romance reader, I now have many more recommendations to read !

Really enjoyed this book and found a lot of great titles to look up to pursue more on this topic.

Wonderfully written, very engaging!

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