

Author Interview: Laura Loup

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I'm a massive fan of anything sci-fi and I have always loved Hitchhiker's Guide, and Futurama, so it is an absolute pleasure to welcome to my blog Laura Loup, whose latest book, *The Audacity* takes those works as inspiration and puts them through a blender throwing in a good dose of feminism and queerness as she goes!

So, tell us about your latest book? What inspired you?

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy has been my go-to book for years but I just can't shake the lack of great, non-sexualized female characters and how mind-numbingly straight and eye-rollingly alcoholic everyone is. So I wrote the book I desperately wanted to read. Aliens who don't fit into human gender norms (because why would they?), a main character who is legitimately ace, a rocket ship that's too orange, and a hallucinogenic aphrodisiacal noodle bar.

I know exactly what you mean!

But it's quite to go from passionate reader to published author: when did you first realise you wanted to be a writer?

When I started crossing things out that I didn't like and re-writing them in the margins of published books. I don't do that anymore! That's disrespectful. I just... I just do that in my head now.

I still do that-but only in my own books! Haha

What is it that you think makes a good story?

Oh heavens could I analyze the heck out of that. I'll keep it simple: If I analyze the heck out of it after I'm done, it was a good story.

Do you have a favorite childhood book?

"The Princess Bride" can be considered a childhood book right? It's the first book I remember actually reading... no, that's a lie. I'm sorry I lied to you. That would be the "Warrior Cats" series by Erin Hunter.

I had never heard of Warrior Cats before, but now that I have looked them up... my gosh! I am going to have to read some of those!

If you could tell your younger (writing) self anything, what would it be?

You can both be a serious writer and have ridiculous amounts of fun with this. You don't have to brood. You don't have to torture yourself (okay maybe a little but do it in a fun way for Blitheon's sake). Also lay off the coffee. At that rate, you'll be addicted by high school.

Queer fiction isn't exactly a mass market seller, but I couldn't write anything else. Why do you think we need more LGBTQIA+ representation?

Well it's just realistic isn't it? Aliens, I mean. What reason would aliens have to be on our gender spectrum at all? And furthermore, what would being "straight" even mean to an alien? Really though, everyone wants to see something of themselves in characters they love. It's a natural yearning, the feeling of not being alone.

How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

I've got most of "The Audacity: Sphere of Time" done. There are also a few really old books that will never see the light of day. A very different version of "The Audacity" called "The Importance of Remaining on Earth" which was written a decade ago exists somewhere along with a fantasy book called "Leap" that roughly related to leap day. Several novel-length fanfictions for "The Princess Bride", "Artemis Fowl", and (believe it or not) "Superjail" exist on my harddrive.

Wow! Superjail – I don't even know how to begin imagining fanfiction for that show!

What can we expect from you next?

Next on the list is "The Audacity: Sphere of Time" then "The Audacity: The Carmnian Scourge"! In between those two I may or may not do a flashback YA style short story regarding Xan and Yvonne's relationship and the story of how Xan chose the worst career path possible.

Well, I'd really love you to come back and talk about those when you're ready!

It's been a pleasure! Thank you.

Author Bio



Laura Loup is a very serious humorologist with an extremely impressive BFA in animation that she promises to never actually use and an intense desire to eat orange. Not the fruit, the color. Though the fruit will do in a pinch. She owns a metaphysical shop in

Savannah, GA with her husband and is the mildly peckish artist behind Tarot in Space.

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