

# Author Interview: Michele L. Rivera

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I'm a bit of a softie when it comes to coming out stories, and second-chance romance. So it is a huge joy to welcome Lesbian romance author, Michele L. Riveria who is here to talk about her upcoming re-release, as well as her own experiences of dating and writing her first book.

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

This book was inspired by my personal experiences trying to date as an epileptic. I was diagnosed with epilepsy when I was thirty-one after years of testing beginning at age twenty-three, which is when I had my first seizure. It didn't matter which app I used or which site I was on, once a woman realized that I couldn't drive or work a "real" job, she was no longer interested. In addition to this, I had to constantly overcome my fear and anxiety about having a seizure in front of someone new who I might be romantically interested in. In this book, *A Trick of Light*, I wanted to give all

my readers (especially the ones with disorders, diseases and invisible illnesses) some representation and, of course, a happily ever after.

### **When did you first realise you wanted to share your story and be a writer?**

I've been writing poetry and short stories since I was about eleven years old. I can barely remember a time when I wasn't writing creatively.

### **I can understand that!**

### **What is your favourite childhood book?**

Anything by Doctor Seuss and (as an older child) Goosebumps by R.L. Stine.

### **I still love Dr. Seuss! Although I have to admit that my own love of R.L.Stine has waned over the years.**

### **What do you think makes a good story?**

I think a good story has a nice blend of sweet romance, sexual tension, humor, and a bit of depth. If a story has heart, it's usually a good story.

### **Why do you think we need more LGBTQIA+ representation?**

I came out in 1996 and hid in libraries looking for love stories between girls in the YA section only to come up empty-handed and defeated. I felt that if it wasn't in a book, it wasn't real. My sexuality felt invalid. I was really depressed over this during my teenage years. Once I got older, I created a bucket list and on it, I listed, "write the coming out story you looked for during your freshman/sophomore years in high school." And that's exactly what I did in 2013.

### **If you could go back and tell your younger (writing) self anything, what would it be?**

Write because you love it and because there are people out there who need to see themselves in your stories. This is the imprint you will leave

behind: the belief and the power of love. And definitely pay no mind to the haters...and there will always be haters and that's okay.

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

I have one unpublished book, one half-finished book, and something cooking on the back burner.

### **So, what can we expect from you next?**

A second chance romance that started by accident followed by hearts being broken and an unexpected reuniting that is eight years in the making. I'm titling it "The Third Act."

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

**It's been a pleasure! Thank you.**

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## Author Bio



Michele L. Rivera is a Massachusetts native who has been writing lesbian romance since 2013. It all started with the release of her first book, "Taking the Lead," which is a fictional story loosely based on her own coming out experience.

Through her writing, Michele strives to share her strong personal beliefs that love is love and that happily ever afters *do* exist.

Michele's priority as a writer is to touch the life of at least one person with every book she creates.

When she's not writing love stories or blogging, she enjoys cuddling with her cats, spending time with the people closest to her, and searching for artistic inspiration within the human experience.

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