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A Gift For Lara (The Love Letters Series Book 1)



Synopsis

Lara Robinson wrote a love letter four years ago, but received no reply. Now the man to whom she gave her heart will visit Blythe Manor for Christmas. How can she enjoy the holidays knowing Miles Greystoke must despise her for revealing her feelings in such an unguarded fashion? As an awkward youth, Miles fell in love with a kindred spirit—but his love was unrequited. Against his wishes, he is now obliged to spend the holidays at Blythe Manor. Time has wrought changes in his physique, but his devotion to Lara Robinson has never wavered. He searches for the perfect present to show her how he feels, but nothing seems quite right—until he realizes the best sort of gift will embrace the true meaning of Christmas. A Victorian Christmas short story.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A GIFT FOR LARA is set in December, 1875, London. The premise of this sweet historical holiday romance is Lara Robinson's unrequited love for Miles Greystoke, the younger brother of her sister's husband. They met four years earlier when the Greystoke family were guests at Blythe Manor prior to the wedding of Angelica (Lara's elder sister) and William Greystoke (Miles's elder brother). While

they were adolescents (about 14 years old) at the time of the wedding, they've both grown up in the intervening years. Miles is a student at Cambridge with a desire to study veterinary medicine, and Lara and her twin sister Fiona anxiously await their first Season. First season yet to come or not, Lara's heart is already lost to Miles. It's painful for Lara to see Miles again, especially at Christmastime when good will and family togetherness (and the shared joy of the infant nephew they share) force them to spend time together. The story progresses nicely, revealing just enough of the back story such that the circumstances surrounding their youthful romance to make the present interesting. S. G. Rogers did a beautiful job creating characters that are believable (yes, even at 18, Lara and Miles are both true to their characterizations, as is Fiona), a sweet and pure romance based on the quality time they spent together as young people, and secondary characters that illustrate the qualities the more mature pair have developed. I enjoyed learning the significant differences in personalities between fraternal twins Lara and Fiona, and the qualities in Miles that won Lara's heart all over again. The story was made significantly stronger by the inclusion of a meaningful villain (enjoy the discovery of this story thread for yourself). The story presented an enjoyable resolution brought about by natural events. I wanted so much to see this satisfying conclusion, despite the rules of society, the stricture of their class (gentry)'s expectations of propriety, and all the history that had passed between them. And this short story delivered! The pair is still young for marriage (not unheard of for the era), but we're left with confidence that these two will be just fine. It will all work out. Their love story is back on the right path. Recommended to fans of historical romance, particularly Victorian London.

S.G. Rogers has done it again, with "A Gift for Lara", an engaging Christmas Victorian Romance for young adults, or anyone who is interested in uplifting stories of young love. The novella begins with a visit to Lara Robinson and her family by Miles Greystoke, who, along with his family visited Lara's family four years earlier, when Lara was fourteen. At the first visit, Lara and Miles were both awkward teens, struggling to express their affection for each other. Alas, as so often happens at this age, the feelings are never made known to either party. Fast forward a few years, and another visit has been arranged. Both Lara and Miles are nervous about seeing one another, convinced that their feelings of younger years had been rejected by the other. The current situation is fraught with missteps, as Lara's sister tries to attract Miles for her own romantic interests. The household is in a minor uproar as a neighboring family whose daughter works for the Robinsons encounters its own difficulties. Lara does her best to help their situation while preparing for the holidays. In an era when gifts were more often made than purchased, all parties in the story are anxious to find just the right

gift for their families. At the same time, both Lara and Miles are embarrassed about their youthful crushes, and seek to put things right now that they are more mature. Will Lara and Miles finally communicate their growing admiration for each other, or will Lara's sister capture the attention of the now handsome and charming Miles? And what about the maid's family? Will disaster strike just as the Christmas holiday arrives? Read this charming novella to find out what turns out to be Lara's gift, and whether or not romance will thrive in the new year to come.

What a wonderful Christmas story! I really liked both Lara and Miles. They were both kind and good and had very giving hearts. Miles really did find the perfect gift for Lara!

I love to read anything written by extraordinary author Suzanne G. Rogers, and this story did not disappoint. Nostalgic, beautiful and romantic, with characters more developed than one might expect in a short story, it offered surprises and made me feel hopeful and uplifted, which is especially appreciated this time of year. Highly recommend!

I loved this short Christmas story by S.G. Rogers! First I have to say that the cover is simply gorgeous! If I were to buy a book based on the cover alone, this would be purchased immediately! Cover aside, the story is great. Lara and her twin sister Fiona are nothing alike; I loved Lara and Fiona was just irritating. I wished that she could be nicer to her sister! They were twins after all! Miles is sweet, kind yet he cannot seem to articulate himself while around Lara. I love how the past comes full circle with Miles and Lara. While this is a short story, you will be pleased with the fullness of the story and the characters. Usually with short stories I feel dissatisfied when it ends, like I didn't get a full story. That was not the case with this book! A fun Christmas themed read, if you like historicals and romance, you will like A Gift for Lara! FYI: this is a 'clean' read :)

This is a Christmas story in which the author examines the relationship between twins as well as the misunderstanding arising from lost mail due to jealousy! The author's most important message is the giving of self and aid in times of need

This was the perfect story to issue in the Christmas season. The characters were believable, dialogue flowed well, and I loved how the mystery of the love letters was solved. Fiona's Christmas gifts revealed her love for her sister, despite the shallowness of her youthful immaturity. Very enjoyable!

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