

The 7 Question Interview with Maria Murnane



Maria Murnane is currently an independent business writer and works with all types of companies, but like the main character in her book, she did spend a few years in sports PR. One day she quit her job and ended up in Argentina for a year, where she played semi-pro soccer and also wrote the first draft of what would eventually become Perfect on Paper. She has dedicated the book to any woman who has ever been on a really bad date or realized halfway through the workday that her skirt is on backward. Maria was a Regents' and Chancellor's Scholar at UC Berkeley, where she graduated with high honors in English and Spanish. She also received a master's degree in integrated marketing communications from Northwestern University.

Her debut novel is:

- Perfect On Paper: The (Mis)Adventures Of Waverly Bryson

Her official website can be accessed here: <http://mariamurnane.com>

The WritingRaw.com 7 Question Interview

Please let us know who you are and how we might know you:

I'm Maria Murnane, the author of Perfect on Paper, a romantic comedy recently released by the new AmazonEncore imprint. I've dedicated the book to any woman who has ever been on a really bad date or realized halfway through the workday that her skirt is on backward. You can learn more about me and my book at www.mariamurnane.com. (The entire first chapter is posted there.)

Any news you would like to share concerning upcoming projects:

Yes! In my book the main character, whose name is Waverly Bryson, comes up with a line of witty greeting cards for women called Honey Notes. They appear throughout the book and chronicle her efforts to figure life out. Here are two examples:

Front: Is it worse to be fake or bitchy?

Inside: Honey, just face it. If you're asking, you're probably both

Front: Ever feel like you don't know anything at all?



Inside: Honey, congratulations. At least you finally know that. So many readers asked me to make Honey Notes for real that I finally decided to do it! I recently launched a Web site called Waverly's Honey Shop that not only sells Honey Notes, but cute Honey Tees and (coming very soon) Honey Totes as well. I am so excited! The site is at www.waverlyshoneyshop.com, so please take a look!

Thoughts concerning the current state of the literary world:

Oh gosh, I'm hardly qualified to answer this. One thing I can say is that I will never buy a used book online and hope you won't either. Authors work SO hard and deserve every tiny royalty they can get.

Who is/are your favorite author/s and why?

My two favorites are probably Ayn Rand and Pat Conroy. I really like Ayn Rand (*Atlas Shrugged*, *The Fountainhead*) because of the powerful messages in her writing that are still relevant today, e.g. *Get off your a***, and *Think for yourself*. Her books really make you think about life and how to live it. I love Pat Conroy (*Beach Music*, *The Prince of Tides*) because of his amazing ability with words. His writing is so fluid and beautiful that I forget I'm reading and feel like I'm part of the story. Plus I like his books because the characters are so messed up that they make me feel way better about myself.

Have you written a book you love that you have not been able to publish?

Not anymore! It took a long time and a lot of work, but AmazonEncore picked *Perfect on Paper* out of thousands of self-published books to be one of its debut titles, and for that I will forever be grateful. Because of everything I've been through I am extremely empathetic to everyone out there who has been rejected over and over ... and over. Until recently I never thought it would happen for me, so if you've written a book you love, don't give up on it!

Do you have anything specific that you want to say to your readers?

That I would love to hear from you! I sincerely enjoy getting emails from readers and answer every one of them. My site (www.mariamurnane.com) has a "contact" tab that comes straight to me. (I avoid putting my email address on the Internet because I don't need any more Rolexes or prescriptions for Viagra.) Btw wouldn't you love to know who actually replies to those messages? Cross-checking that list with the Darwin awards might reveal some duplicate offenders.



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One more thing — if you liked Perfect on Paper, please please please tell your friends about it! That's the very best thing you can do for me. ☺

How do you feel about what WritingRaw.com and other literary sharing sites are attempting to do for new writers?

Anything that connects readers with books they might not hear about otherwise is wonderful, so I think it's fantastic and am honored to have been selected for this interview!

WritingRaw.com would like to thank Maria Murnane for taking the time out of her busy schedule for this interview.