

CECILIA GRAY



ALWAYS YOU

A JANE AUSTEN ACADEMY NOVEL

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Always You Details

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Author : Cecilia Gray

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Iz says

Aaaw.

I really really adored this last book of the Jane Austen Academy!

It was an adorable series, really fast and cute.

All of the books left me feeling fuzzy and happy, so even though they're not masterpieces, they have a special place in my heart.

Anne's story was lovely. I really could relate to her! We're so similar, and probably it's the first time it has ever happened.

She's shy, insecure, even weak sometimes.

But the thing is, not all girls in the real world are badass and strong. Maybe in books we prefer the badass protagonists, but I never seem to relate to them, because they don't feel real to me.

But Anne did, and I praise Cecilia Gray for it.

Rick acted like an idiot for most of the book, but I must admit I internally swooned quite a lot because of him.

(Also, because of Knight. And Henry. And Tran. And Edward and Dante, even though they don't appear. Even Josh! He matured, a lot.)

The reason I'm not giving it a full five star rating is because (view spoiler)

The best thing of this series is the friendship between these six amazing girls, though.

And I'm really going to miss them all.

Jenna says

This was a nice conclusion to a nice series.

L DelaRG says

This is the final book the Jane Austen Academy series and the one I was looking forward to the most, seeing as it's based on Persuasion. Cute and fluffy, it followed in a similar vein to the other books, though it did feel like there was something missing. I do wish these books had been longer, but I'll take what I can get. This series made for a great read and it was an ingenious idea.

Sophie says

SPOILER

This was an amazing finish to the series.

Persuasion is my favourite Jane Austen so I have been waiting for what feels like FOREVER for this. While

the main storyline was perfect, I wish the ending hadn't been less happy. I wanted to hear from Ellie and Edward too and I wish the academy had stayed open.

Anne was just as enchanting and lovely as she is in the original and I was extremely happy with how they got back together. I was also happy with Josh becoming a nicer person since the previous book, while his method was not moral to try and get Anne's love jealous, it was a lovely gesture all the same.

But overall, I'm in love with his story.

Sophia says

And so it comes to the end and I find myself sad to say good-bye to the girls and guys of Jane Austen Academy. While at the same time, I was dreadfully eager to get this story. Anne and Rick have both been visible secondary characters from the first book onward and there's was the heartbreaking situation of being the a couple that had their chance and Anne broke them up for reasons that no longer seem important since she never stopped liking him. It was tough for me to be patient as things played out, but that ending was very precious and poignant.

The series, loosely based on the Jane Austen novels with this one retelling Persuasion, has roughly been following the school year and, here at the end, its bittersweet times since the property has been sold with the new owners planning to bulldoze it and turn it into a mall. The students are excited because they are preparing for spring Prom and since its their last, they want it to be the best. Love is in the air as all the dating couples prepare for life after high school and the far flung directions they will all plan to go. Not for Anne and she gets to agonize as she watches the bold and brash Lucy cling to Rick while he studiously ignores Anne or is painfully polite. It's her own fault since she's the one who broke up with him.

That being said, it is not lacking in merriment and mayhem since Lizzie challenges all the girls in their group to snitch a piece of school history as a souvenir of their time there that was personal to that particular person. And Emma is busy orchestrating the prom down to each meticulous detail keeping them all busy jumping to her orders.

Because of being the last book, this one has a heavier feel to it and its definitely more angst since the focus is Anne as she says good-bye to her family legacy and is forced to see the result of letting her fears and trying to please her mother lost her Rick. This is definitely a story that took some time to come to a head. It's all told third person from Anne's point of view. Anne is not one of the stronger and sparkling heroines that make it easy. She wallows and dreams of what could have been. One can feel sorry for her, but its a stretch to admire her. That is until she kicks it into gear and decides to take charge of her life for the first time. I was very excited to see that happen and it was amazing how freeing that was for her.

There was only one piece that I really wanted to know. Lucy! Yes Lucy! After trying to snitch nearly everyone's guy though this was apparently innocently done, I wanted to know if she finally found one of her own. Haha!

All in all, I loved this series and don't want to see it go. I would love to catch up on all the characters in a few years to see where they ended up. I liked that it ended on a hopeful note for everyone and left things open with room for the characters to continue to grow- closer or apart just like real high school relationships. I would recommend this series easily for anyone from middle grade through adults that love YA level sweet

contemporary romance.

My thanks to the author for gifting me this book in exchange for an honest review.

ElizabethRose says

Not gonna lie...I was disappointed with this book :(. I was so looking forward to it as Persuasion is my 2nd favorite (tied with Emma) Austen novel. I love the movie with Rupert Penry-Jones and I have not been able to find many retellings of Persuasion. This was a good book, but I think I was expecting more. Especially since we have had this build up through the 5 previous books. I still sped through it and enjoyed it, and the epilogue was a nice insight, but I miss Anne and Frederick.

XTabbyX says

THE REVIEW

Why this book?

I really like this series

What I thought

Persuasion has always been my least favorite Jane Austen novel. So I expected this to be my least favorite book of this series. Guess what? I was right! It wasn't as fun as the others, and Anne never has been my favorite character. In my opinion she lacks personality, and is not a interesting lead character. The romance was also lacking. I Just didn't care about it. Oh and that Lucy girl is so annoying! She almost ruined the book for me completely. Even though it was just an okay read, it was a decent retelling of Persuasion I got to admit that. I'm sad this was the last book of the series, but i'm looking forward to reading more from Cecilia Gray.

Mackenzie says

I'll admit that I was a little disappointed. It wasn't a bad book but it wasn't what I was hoping for either, especially since it was the last in the series. Persuasion is my favorite Jane Austen book and I have been waiting through the whole series to finally get to read Anne's story. The story between Anne and Rick was good and certainly touched my heart but I felt like there was a lot missing. So many questions were left unanswered and then at the end everyone's futures are so uncertain. I get that real life is like that but these kind of books are not supposed to be like that. They are supposed to be sweet and fulfilling. I'm glad I read the series and I enjoyed the book overall but I feel a little let down.

Sheila Majczan says

This is the last of a series but I got it when it was free and only read this last book out of six. The teenagers

featured in these stories are taken from Jane Austen's stories but you can probably read this without knowing her stories. I was able to connect the characters as the spellings or the names chosen or who they fall in love with are clues.

I would definitely say that this is a series for Young Adults or older teenagers. We read about the Academy closing down and the plan for a prom and about plans for the future, which include couples planning to live in the same cities as they go to school or to fly to the city their boyfriend/girlfriend will be living in.

This last book is based on Persuasion. Anne had broken up with Rick several years ago after he moved to attend a military academy and mother convinced her that a long distance relationship was just not the thing! Anne suffers from low self esteem and has little, if any backbone. Her mother has not paid attention to the Academy which had been the family's for many generations and so this book centers around taking apart what stays, what goes to be sold and what is trash.

It was interesting to read about what each young lady was going to red-tag as "trash" an item so she could keep that momento. Also a tour was given to help decide what might be saved by the mall going in. The story does give you hints about the history of the Academy and the couples.

This book was OK. I can't say that I would buy it if it had not been free.

Carrie says

I actually read this backwards...almost chapter by chapter. (Shrugs and grins sheepishly!) This is a retelling of Persuasion by Jane Austen, except it is set in a school called Jane Austen's Academy with many of the heroines from Austen's various novels reimagined as teenage students who attend the school. This is the last book of the series by Cecilia Gray. I found this story to be okay, but it is geared towards younger readers.

Jess Swann says

Comme toujours,, Cecilia Gray réussit à réutiliser ses personnages (Lucy et Josh) au service de l'intrigue de Persuasion. Alors, même si Anne est touchante dans ce tome, j'avoue que j'ai été un peu moins séduite par la réinterprétation du scénario. Je trouve qu'il manque beaucoup de choses dans cette version (et des importantes à mes yeux) comme par exemple la magnifique lettre de Frédéric. Du coup, ici, même si l'auteure a su instaurer une vraie relation entre Rick et Anne, il manque le désespoir de Frédéric, il manque la mentor de Anne (sa mère comble mal ce trou)... Et j'avoue que tout le démantèlement de l'académie en back-ground m'a lassée (tout comme les personnages d'Emma et de Lizzie)

Ce que j'aime : la relation Ann/Rick est bien construite

Ce que j'aime moins : je n'ai pas assez retrouvé de Persuasion

En bref : Divertissant mais il manque une touche d'émotion entre les héros.

Ma note

6,5/10

Kelsey says

What can I say. These are a total guilty pleasure.

Laura says

I love the story of Persuasion by Jane Austen so I did enjoy this rendition. This is the 5th in the story and could potentially be read stand alone but you will get so much more out of the surrounding story and character development if you read them all. I would have liked to have had more of Rick's perspective in this story, but I realize it was from the girl's point of view. A simple read but entertaining.
