

Florante at
Laura



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Florante at Laura Details

Date : Published May 29th 2008 by BiblioLife (first published 1861)

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Author : Francisco Balagtas

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From Reader Review Florante at Laura for online ebook

Carlo Estadilla says

Mahirap talaga magbigay ng mataas na review kung binasa mo lang yung libro dahil required. Ang hirap pa hindi pa gaano ka-mature yung reading skills ko nung second year high school. Di naman maikakaila yung galing ni Balagtas sa paggawa ng verses, pero hindi talaga compatible sa mga teenagers yung ganitong babasahin.

emil says

bakit. bakit

BAKIT

Nikki Antonio says

3.7/5.0

Hindi madaling magsulat ng 399 na talatang may tugma at sukat na maiintindihan ng mga batang may gulang na 14. Nailahad ni Balagtas ang kaniyang emosyon sa bayan at sinisinta sa pinaka-masining na paraan.

May pagkakataong sa una kong pagbasa ng Florante at Laura na may lingid sa aking bokabularyo at kaalaman ang iba niyang nababanggit. Siguro'y dahil musmos pa ako at 'di pa bihasa ang aking nalalaman.

Nang basahin kong muli ang awit sa sumunod na taon, sinubukan kong intindihin ang salaysay at napahanga ako sa angking talino, sipag, at tiyaga ni Balagtas nang isarado ko ang libro.

Giaa says

going to reread it someday lol

Angélica says

It was a challenge to read the verses when I was in high school. Maybe I'll re-read this in the future, after I finish with Rizal. I didn't get to appreciate the classics we read in high school because I was silly and my grasp of classical Tagalog was (and still is, unfortunately) shameful.

I actually kinda shipped Florante x Aladín and Laura x Florida back then. Maybe I didn't see enough build-up (IMO) between the canon pairs.

Ann Jenelle Rotol says

Sa lahat ata ng dapat basahin sa subject na Filipino nung high school, ito ang pinakapaborito ko. Bakit? Hmm, bakit nga ba? Feeling ko lang, :)) Pag kinumpara mo kasi siya sa noli at el fili, di siya masyadong malalim. E hayskul pa ako nun. Sa panahong iyon, mas gusto ko ang light read kaysa sa mga mukhang boring na babasahin. Tapos parang ewan lang kasi yung Ibong Adarna. Kaya pinakapaborito ko ito. Tsaka gusto ko rin kaya si Balagtas! Ang galing niya e. :D

Claire says

One of the worst novels I've ever laid my eyes on. Worse, I was forced to study this piece of crap to pass Filipino. Sure it's considered as a Philippine "classic", but anyone who reads this would have to agree that there is no bit of originality. It's a monstrous child born from an orgy of various foreign literature-absolutely dripping with plagiarism. A bitter result of a man turned mad by the loss of a lover. Ugh.

Hannah Lei says

lalim

Jr Bacdayan says

I am very conflicted as I write this review. I don't know if I am entitled to criticize a cultural and literary treasure. Maybe just a trolly won't hurt. Firstly, I acknowledge the importance of this work to the Philippine Culture. But, that's the only positive thing that I can see. That's not even a genuine enough reason. Partly, just my observation, because we have no other choices. Poetic yes, but not necessarily great. It is notable, though, that this work of a hopeless and lovesick 'cisco is meant for his love-dovey and not for the country. So this is really meant to be sappy. I also can't help but be wary towards this piece of work because I consider it to be quite unrefined and unoriginal. I won't get much into detail because I still have respect for Baltazar as he is an important figure. I'll just sack the bugger a teeny-tiny bit. See? One of the more obvious criticisms is that he uses foreigners. What a pity! Why not set it in our country and have it played by our countrymen? The way I see it, this is just a localized fairy-tale meant to rouse the heart, nothing more. There, that feels good. And the names, (just for comical effect) what poor choices! Miramolin? Ali-adab? And Aladin, really? He's not good at this naming game, is he? I wanna know what he would've named his children, if he ever had any. Ah, I do feel better. Well, enough ran-sacking for now. Let's leave poor Francisco alone. Don't get me wrong, I'm thankful that we have our "supposed" equivalent of Shakespeare. But, dang! It wouldn't hurt if he was actually much better, ya know. But still, I'm thankful. I'm really really really thankful. **Grins**

dianneugh says

Required reading for school, sophomore year.
It was okay.

Thanthemoon Booklion says

A fast-paced storytelling that propose an idea of undying love

Darl chiu says

bakit ang ganda nung cover? haha.. =P

Leslie Ann says

I understand this epic poem is a classic, but I found it unsatisfying. Yes, the poem (translated by JP Villarica) has rhyme and rhythm, but I could not identify the motivation (as described in this recent essay by Siddhartha Mukherjee). Why did Balagtas choose put in verse an ancient story of the Greek Empire as opposed to the Philippines? And of all classical stories, why this particular one? None of the characters is memorable, and the themes of love and interreligious conflict are underdeveloped.

The quest for a Filipino writer I like continues.

Hera Marie says

Hindi lang naman to puro pag-ibig oi, pero pag-ibig talaga ang naging dahilan kung bakit nabuo itong akda na ito. Pero kung tutuusin mas may malalim pa na mensaheng gustong ipaabot si Tatay Balagtas para sa mga mambabasa nito. Kung babasahin niyo itong ulit at isasapuso ang bawat titik ay talagang inyong makikita na hindi lang ito isang simpleng kuwento ng pag-ibig

areej. says

We were required to read this in school and over-analyzing every line for academic purposes of course but what surprised me is I actually enjoyed the story immensely. Sure I had to translate some of the deep Filipino jargon but nonetheless I found myself just forgetting this was required reading and not pleasure reading.

But I still have a love-hate relationship with this so-called Filipino classic. I mean, yeah sure it was good but it's not like WOAHH BLOWS YOUR MIND SO FRICKEN GOOD.

There were themes that struck me and made me think.

I enjoyed the Feminist tones of this book, basically Florida was the most interesting character for me.

And I consider myself a hopeless romantic, the sappiness of this "epic" or "awit" really touched me and GAAAAAAH it's quite a romance they have there. Sure, it's not one of the most original stories out there, but what is? Heck it's cliché'd to the max but for a story required to study in school, it's not that bad compared to Ibong Adarna.

I enjoyed this story so much I started making up theories or "fanfiction". Listen to this, was Konde Adolfo's father mentioned in the book? No, right. All we know is his name is Konde Sileno. What about Laura's mother? Adolfo's mother?

This was my first initial suspicion: We only really get this story in Florante, Laura, Florida, and Aladin's perspective right? What about the villain? Adolfo. What are his true intentions. If Francisco Balagatas were alive would he give me Florante at Laura in Adolfo's perspective? Probably not.

Here's my theory, Prinsesa Floresca is Adolfo's mother and he has this blind hatred for Florante because of him "stealing her away from him" and the rage intensifies when Prinsesa Floresca dies. He blames Albanya, Florante, and Duke Briseo for the death of his biological "mother" and wants them to suffer for it.

[stupid I know but this theory is up for discussion]

Florante just thinks it's because Adolfo has always been jealous of him when they were classmates in Athens (like wow Florante get over yourself you arrogant douche, kidding) but in reality it's because of him being Adolfo's step-brother.

But that's just a theory, and a thought to dwell on.

One downfall in this book was the ending, it did a good job of showing that Religion was not a hindrance in camaraderie but in the end, both Florida and Aladin convert and I feel like it defeats the purpose of the whole anti-discrimination theme and racial theme.

What I would have loved to see in the end was Persya and Albanya living together in peace. But sadly, it never happened. Resolutions aren't always what I want but they do solve the problem and tie some loose knots so it's all okay.

Having to study this epic for several quarters means I have to hate it and be bored with it already right? But I'm not and that says a lot about this story.

Thank you Selya for breaking Francisco Baltazar's heart.
