



I am Rembrandt's Daughter

Lynn Cullen

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With her mother dead of the plague, and her beloved brother newly married and moved away, Cornelia van Rijn finds herself without a friend or confidante--save her difficult father. Out of favor with Amsterdam's elite, and considered brash and unreasonable by his patrons, Rembrandt van Rijn, once revered, is now teetering on the brink of madness. Cornelia alone must care for him, though she herself is haunted by secrets and scandal. Her only happiness comes in chance meetings with Carel, the son of a wealthy shipping magnate whose passion for art stirs Cornelia. And then there is Neel, her father's last remaining pupil, whose steadfast devotion to Rembrandt both baffles and touches her. Based on historical fact, and filled with family dramas and a love triangle that would make Jane Austen proud, *I Am Rembrandt's Daughter* is a powerful account of a young woman's struggle to come of age within the shadow of one of the world's most brilliant and complicated artists.

I am Rembrandt's Daughter Details

Date : Published May 29th 2007 by Bloomsbury USA Childrens
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From Reader Review I am Rembrandt's Daughter for online ebook

Sheila says

This was a great read!

Ellen says

A marvelous story.

Shaya says

I'm torn on this book. I really liked the writing and the imagery and the characters. But the plot? It was just way too predictable. True, it is historical fiction but the main storyline was imagined by the author and not based on fact as far as I could tell from the Author's Note. The back cover practically gives away that Cornelia is torn between two boys and you can tell she will pick the serious moral one over the very pretty, rich one. Isn't that what always happens? So the first plot strand was ruined from the start. And the second, I guessed at 100 pages before it was revealed. If only one of them had not been so cliched it would have been a much better book. There was too much foreshadowing. Ideas are drilled in about people's character that makes it obvious what will eventually occur. It felt like a first writer's attempt.

I did really like Cornelia as a character. She is very strong and able to deal with a lot of her problems.

It annoyed me that the book cover spoke about Rembrandt as being maybe crazy. Yes, he is an artist and a bit eccentric but he is not insane. He did make mistakes and is flawed but really no worse than any of the other characters. He ignores Cornelia but I sensed that he understood a lot about her and the people she was associating with. And he does love Cornelia.

If I could go back in time I would tell myself to stop 50 pages before the end and that all my ideas were right but having them revealed was not necessary.

Lauren says

This was a good historical fiction book, but I found it somewhat boring. It took a long time for the story to evolve and sometimes it was not very interesting. It was the story about a girl named Cornelia who's mother died during the plague. Her father was a once-well-known painter who has since gone somewhat crazy. Cornelia's life seems to be spinning out of control but she finds love where she least expects it to make ends meet.

I would not necessarily recommend this book to everyone because it was not very interesting, but it was a good read for anyone interested in historical society.

Anne Osterlund says

Cornelia is the bastard daughter of a reputed madman, the famous Rembrandt—a once wealthy painter brought low. When her brother marries into wealth—and she captures the smile of a young man named Carel—she begins to dream that maybe life will improve.

A dream quickly squelched by her father's careless attitude toward tradition, his failure to bow to the demands of Amsterdam society, and his complete disdain . . . for her. A disdain Cornelia cannot understand.

But then the boy, Carel, returns to her doorstep. And as her father's anger grows, secrets begin to unravel. Because—like paintings—secrets have a way of surviving. Even in an era when death is as constant as the ringing of plague bells at Westerkerk church.

An excellent piece of YA historical fiction! Far more than just an imagined tale about a great painter, *I Am Rembrandt's Daughter* is an earnest exploration of family, the power of love, and the meaning of true art.

Becky says

The writing was very good and the author talked about actual Rembrandt pictures. she did a lot of research on Rembrandt's life and art. But I had a very hard time believing the "surprise revelation" she put in her book.

Monse says

This novel has the main character deal with conflicts like family, self identity, poverty, the plague, and love triangle. It takes in the 1600's so if you like historical fiction it's a great choice it's also a well paced story. It doesn't feel rushed and the ending doesn't leave you wanting more, it leaves you feeling content. I recommend this book to anyone that likes these type of things plus you learn a little more about art.

Haley says

Cornelia has always been defined by her father, Rembrandt, the once-celebrated now notorious painter. Most call her the crazy artist's bastard child.

But when a man of esteem, Carel, takes an interest in her, she begins to think maybe she can escape her impoverished home, just like her brother, Titus did with the beautiful, bitchy Magdalena (can you tell I hate her? A lot?)

When the her father's apprentice, serious Neel, begins to notice her, she brushes him off- why would she want to be further associated with the unstable Rembrandt, who has never acknowledged her as his own? I LOVE the format of this. It starts 1670 when Rembrandt's dead, then goes three years earlier in chapters. Every chapter or so is labeled by a painting of Rembrandt's and the story behind it from Cornelia's POV, like

a flashback earlier.Beautiful imagery.

Ionia says

This book is an example of why I am a hypocrite. Really, and here's why. I write reviews and I constantly tell people how important they are, but then I read a book like this, disagree with many of the other reviews and shake my head at people. In other words, I disregard everything I read and come to my own conclusion. Now about the book:

I fell in love with this book just as assuredly as I fell in love with the last book I read by Lynn Cullen (Mrs. Poe.) I believe this book was marketed as a young adult read, but I felt it had much more depth than one usually finds in that category, so if the YA books tend to turn your head away, please give this one a second look anyway.

Cornelia is a beautiful, strong and capable character. She has the wit and intellect to handle such a strong role as being Rembrandt's daughter. Lynn Cullen has a way of letting the reader inside the minds of her characters so that they can experience their emotions and see through their eyes. She makes you feel like you are part of the ongoing story rather than just a bystander. I felt that way with this story.

I love when you read something and you just know that it must have been important to the author at the time that they wrote it. This book has some absolutely beautiful passages that support a strong story that gets stronger as the book progresses. I enjoyed watching the characters mature and grow throughout the telling.

The struggle of Cornelia loving her father even through shame, humiliation and ridicule from others was incredibly well written. I felt sympathy toward her and her situation and by the end of the book, I only wanted what was best for her.

The secondary characters in this story are also well penned and help to shed light on Cornelia's character and determination. I loved the setting and the historical research the author did was clearly more than adequate. This book is beautiful, and I would certainly recommend it to anyone interested in the historical period.

Passione says

cornelia is a failed painters daughter . cornelia is embarrassed by her father because to her and other he seems insane because of his relationship with God . Only neel remains at her fathers side when eveything turns for the worst . cornelia has an encounter with a boy named carel . they both take a liking for each other but when things get rough carel turns his back on her unlike neel. Cornelia has a brother named titus who has a different mother who used to be rich but when rembrandts gets ill and gets looked down on titus mother leaves . all of cornelia's life she has been jealous of titus and her fathers relationship titus is charming to his father and cornelia as if she is nothing . cornelia has an eye for painting and loves painting . when cornelia was little a man would always pass by her house she never knew who she was until the end . only til the end of the story she really k nows she is truely rambrandts daughter and neel and her is destined to be together .

i thought this was an excellent book in spite of all the horrible ratings it got i loved the book and i am glad i didn't put the book to the side because of other people.

Karey says

I loved *I Am Rembrandt's Daughter*! I started reading it this morning and finished this evening. What I most enjoyed about the book was the author's vivid descriptions. Although I have never been to Amsterdam I felt like I knew it because of how she portrayed the city.

I also liked reading the parts when they talked about what it takes to make paintings, about how important the light is and about brush strokes and the other things. Because I am not a painter and did not know much about painting it was neat to read and learn about those things.

This book reminds me of the novel *Girl With a Pearl Earring*. (Which is another book I enjoyed!) It reminds me of that book because both books were about famous Dutch artists and their way of living.

I definitely recommend this to anyone needing a good book to read!

musiclover says

I love the book. I even like Cornelia's way of thinking and the way she cares for ppl.

Tifani says

I really liked this very simple and sweet book about love and family.

Jessica says

A lyrical and fascinating book, based on the real family of Rembrandt. The author has richly incorporated some of Rembrandt's greatest works into the story, and it's a beautiful book.

Bernadette says

After visiting Rembrandt House this week, in the museum shop I noticed this book and downloaded the Kindle version. A very good read. Although fictional, and very little is known about Rembrandt's illegitimate daughter, the story is about her and her life with Rembrandt. Many of Rembrandt's later works are mentioned and it was fun to look them up and in some ways see the story come to life.
