

## Far from Home

**Lorelie Brown**

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Marriage of convenience? What could go wrong? Well, everything, in Lorelie Brown's sassy new LGBTQ romance, *Far From Home*. In an attempt to solve their mutual problems—crushing student debt and American citizenship, respectively—Rachel and Pari decide to tie the knot. Rachel is straight, American, neurotic, and artistic; Pari is gay, Indian, confident, and traditional. They're a perfectly odd couple, a wonderful setup for a satisfying romance.

Yes, Rachel is adamantly heterosexual, but being in close proximity to Pari has her questioning her orientation. Soon, each touch starts to take on new meaning for the women. "I have no mercy," Rachel says, tickling Pari. "She's writhing under me and her hips jump as if she's trying to buck me off. But she's also laughing like mad, which makes it completely worth it." The will-they-or won't-they tension makes *Far From Home* very engaging, and as Rachel and Pari slowly build intimacy, they begin to share their secrets. Rachel's eating disorder and Pari's difficult family life add dimension and give the characters something to dig into—as well as making their love story more believable.

"Her mouth feels so much different from a man's," Rachel muses. "It's a softer approach, one that's barely a breath across my lips and then she's drinking in my laughter." This sweet comedy of manners explores classic tropes in fresh, compelling ways.

CLAIRE RUDY FOSTER (Fall 2016)

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