

Me Since You

By Laura Wiess



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"Laura Wiess's masterful prose kept me turning the pages. This is the first book in a very long time that made me say, 'Wish I'd written this'" (Ellen Hopkins, author of *Crank*, on *Such a Pretty Girl*).

Laura Wiess captures the visceral emotion of a girl's journey from innocence to devastating loss and, ultimately, to a strange and unexpected kind of understanding—in this beautiful and painfully honest new novel.

Are there any answers when someone you love makes a tragic choice?

Before and After. That's how Rowan Areno sees her life now. Before: she was a normal sixteen-year-old—a little too sheltered by her police officer father and her mother. After: everything she once believed has been destroyed in the wake of a shattering tragedy, and every day is there to be survived.

If she had known, on that Friday in March when she cut school, that a random stranger's shocking crime would have traumatic consequences, she never would have left campus. If the crime video never went viral, maybe she could have saved her mother, grandmother—and herself—from the endless replay of heartache and grief.

Finding a soul mate in Eli, a witness to the crime who is haunted by losses of his own, Rowan begins to see there is no simple, straightforward path to healing wounded hearts. Can she learn to trust, hope, and believe in happiness again?



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Me Since You By Laura Wiess Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Booklist

On the day sophomore Rowan Areno skips school, a series of tragic events occur for which she feels personally responsible. She befriends Eli, a young man who witnessed a suicide and is also dealing with the loss of his father in Iraq. But when Rowan's father, a beat cop already troubled by on-the-job incidents, takes his own life, Eli can't seem to help her find the answers to the questions that haunt her. Even Rowan's best friend doesn't understand the depth of Rowan's pain, and her mother has all but given up. The novel deals with emotionally sensitive topics, but Wiess covers other important subjects including the impact of forming and sharing public opinions based on incomplete facts, of depression in a family setting, and of one random act creating ripples in other people's lives. With skillful handling of two related suicides before the middle of the book, Wiess offers, on a larger scale, a study in the many facets of grief, the healing process, and how forgiveness can come in many forms. Grades 9-12. --Jeanne Fredriksen

About the Author

Laura Wiess is the author of *Such a Pretty Girl*, chosen as one of the ALA's 2008 Best Books for Young Adults and 2008 YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers; *How It Ends*; *Ordinary Beauty*; and *Leftovers*. She lives in Pennsylvania's Endless Mountains Region. Visit her online at LauraWiess.com.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Debra Richardson:

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