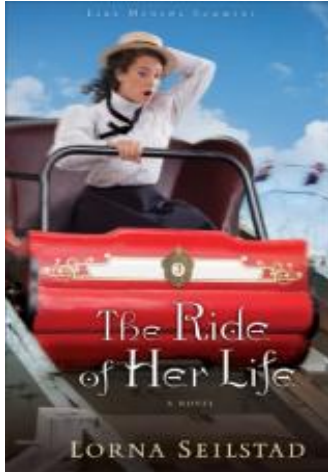

The Ride of Her Life: Lake Manawa Summers, Book 3

by Lorna Seilstad



About the Book

She's planted firmly on solid ground.

He's ready to sweep her off her feet.

The only man pragmatic Lilly Hart needs in her life is a six-year-old. Widowed for three years, Lilly has decided to leave the home of her intrusive in-laws to stand on her own. However, her in-laws find her new life as a cook at Lake Manawa utterly unsuitable for their grandson. When an argument ensues, a handsome stranger --- who designs roller coasters, of all things --- intercedes on her behalf. But Lilly is not about to get involved with any man, especially this cocky gentleman. Little does she know she is about to begin the ride of her life.

Filled with the sweet romance of summer, THE RIDE OF HER LIFE will have you laughing out loud and sighing contentedly as you spend the summer of 1906 at Lake Manawa.

Discussion Guide

1. The cover of THE RIDE OF HER LIFE is unique. What does it say to you? In just looking at the cover, what type of story did you anticipate reading? What types of covers appeal most to you?
2. Friendship plays a big role in the story. What do you think has made Marguerite, Lilly, and Emily such fast friends? Have you ever been blessed with close friends like that? Share something about them.
3. After being reared in the Westing home as the daughter of household servant, much of THE RIDE OF HER LIFE revolves around Lilly's struggle with insecurity. What things led to her insecurity? In what ways can you relate to her

security issues? Do you think women struggle with this more than men? Why?

4. Lilly, like most parents, wants what is best for her son. She wants him to have what she did not --- a home. How important is a physical home to a child? As a parent, how do you deal with the desire to want something for your child/children that you did not have? How has this concept influenced our society and how we rear our children?

5. There were some unusual romantic scenes in this book --- riding a camel, picking mushrooms, fishing with Levi, and visiting in the Squirrel Cage Jail. What are some of your most unusual dates or ones that you've heard about? How important do you think it is for a couple to share new and unique experiences? What would you like to do or where would you like to go on a date that you've never done before?

6. In *THE RIDE OF HER LIFE*, there were several different mothers: Lilly, Evangeline Hart, Emily, Marguerite, Nick's mother, and even Lilly's own mother, Alice. How did each of these women parent? Who made the most difficult choices? Which is most like you as a mother or like your own mother? How is being a single mother today different than it was back then?

7. Lilly felt the Lord sent Eugenia to teach her patience. Could you have worked with a young woman like Eugenia? What things try your patience? Have you ever felt the Lord was teaching you something in a concrete way?

8. The roller coaster was a big part of this book. Roller coasters in 1906 were a far cry from today's thrill rides, but how do you think people of that day felt about this new invention? What did the roller coaster symbolize in the story? How do you feel personally about roller coasters? Share one of your own roller coaster memories.

9. Nick says, "Trust is a fragile thread and easily snapped." Lilly believes in God, but her trust in Him is shaken. What role did trust play in *THE RIDE OF HER LIFE*? Has anyone ever broken your trust by a single action? How did you handle the situation? In today's society, is trust valued? Why or why not?

10. Sean asks Nick about his prayers. He asks him if he's praying a "God-doing-the-leading prayer" or a "wish-list prayer." What do you think Nick's answer would have been? What's the difference between the two? In which way are you more likely to pray?

Author Bio

Lorna Seilstad is the author of *MAKING WAVES*, *A GREAT CATCH* and *THE RIDE OF HER LIFE*. A former high school English and journalism teacher, she has won several online writing contests and is a member of American Christian Fiction Writers. Lorna lives in Iowa with her husband. Find out more at www.lornaseilstad.com.

Critical Praise

"With her expected wit and humor, Lorna Seilstad has penned another winner. Hang on and enjoy --- this book is truly a fun ride."

? Judith Miller, bestselling author of the *Daughters of Amana* series

"Buckle up! With a sparkle of humor, heart-pumping romance, and a writing style that is fresh, fun, and addictive, Lorna Seilstad takes you along the fun-filled shores of Lake Manawa."

? Julie Lessman, award-winning author of the *Daughters of Boston* and the *Winds of Change* series

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