



Talking as Fast as I Can: From Gilmore Girls to Gilmore Girls (and Everything in Between)

Lauren Graham

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In this collection of personal essays, the beloved star of *Gilmore Girls* and *Parenthood* reveals stories about life, love, and working as a woman in Hollywood—along with behind-the-scenes dispatches from the set of the new *Gilmore Girls*, where she plays the fast-talking Lorelai Gilmore once again.

In *Talking as Fast as I Can*, Lauren Graham hits pause for a moment and looks back on her life, sharing laugh-out-loud stories about growing up, starting out as an actress, and, years later, sitting in her trailer on the *Parenthood* set and asking herself, “Did you, um, make it?” She opens up about the challenges of being single in Hollywood (“Strangers were worried about me; that’s how long I was single!”), the time she was asked to audition her butt for a role, and her experience being a judge on *Project Runway* (“It’s like I had a fashion-induced blackout”).

In “What It Was Like, Part One,” Graham sits down for an epic *Gilmore Girls* marathon and reflects on being cast as the fast-talking Lorelai Gilmore. The essay “What It Was Like, Part Two” reveals how it felt to pick up the role again nine years later, and what doing so has meant to her.

Some more things you will learn about Lauren: She once tried to go vegan just to bond with Ellen DeGeneres, she’s aware that meeting guys at awards shows has its pitfalls (“If you’re meeting someone for the first time after three hours of hair, makeup, and styling, you’ve already set the bar too high”), and she’s a card-carrying REI shopper (“My bungee cords now earn points!”).

Including photos and excerpts from the diary Graham kept during the filming of the recent *Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life*, this book is like a cozy night in, catching up with your best friend, laughing and swapping stories, and—of course—talking as fast as you can.

Talking as Fast as I Can: From Gilmore Girls to Gilmore Girls (and Everything in Between) Details

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Author : Lauren Graham

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From Reader Review Talking as Fast as I Can: From Gilmore Girls to Gilmore Girls (and Everything in Between) for online ebook

Leslie Wilkins says

Lauren Graham narrating the audiobook was every bit of the awesomeness that I'd hoped for and expected.

Kelli says

I couldn't wait to get this audio!! *sniff, sniff, wail*

Recently I made what may have been a questionable parenting decision and starting watching Gilmore Girls on Netflix with my daughter. I was surprised to find it is not only a fabulous (and in our case, somewhat addictive) show with quirky characters and smart dialogue, but it opens many doors for age-appropriate conversations with my daughter about school, relationships of all kinds, community, etc. I love Lauren Graham in both Gilmore Girls and Parenthood but unfortunately, I found this audio just okay. There wasn't a lot about Gilmore Girls beyond that it was long hours and everyone from actors to writers and producers were great. One entire section was a season by season review of her hair and makeup choices on the show and basically what was dated about it: cassette tape answering machines, disposable cameras, VHS tapes. Yawn.

Mmmm, I'll stick to the show. I really think Lauren Graham is a standout in Hollywood. She seems very real and fun. I wish she would be my best friend but I still didn't love this book. I suspect this was a well-timed marketing ploy to coincide with the Netflix reboot. Sadly, 2 stars.

Jessica says

My one-sentence summary: Lauren Graham's personality shines through a lot here, and that's delightful, but she doesn't really explore much of anything with any real depth, and that's disappointing.

I came to Gilmore Girls late, even though I'm in the exact age bracket to have grown up with it. My parents didn't have cable so I couldn't watch the WB and by the time I got to college, where many of my friends loved the show, I found it a little off-putting. Part of that was because it wasn't really a show I could jump into midway and feel connected to, part of it was that I can be a bit of a snob when it comes to discovering things—I love things when I discover them at my own pace, but I sometimes have a hard time loving them when I feel like they're foisted on me. And there was also a part of me that, as a huuuuuge Aaron Sorkin fan, felt like the fast-pace dialogue didn't work as well as everyone else said it did. And so I just kind of wrote it off. I had plenty of other obsessions to indulge in.

I don't really know why I decided to give the series another go when it debuted on Netflix last year, but I did. Part of it was my husband's influence (he loved the show the first time around), part of it was the loud resurgence of internet love for the show that hadn't really existed until the Netflix debut was announced. And part of it was just a desire to go back and reassess things that I knew I might have been previously too quick to dismiss.

So I watched the show for the first time at 31 and I liked it enough that it's still in heavy rotation as mindless binge-watch material, but I also formed opinions of the show that many fans-since-teens seem to hate: Luke and Lorelai are better off as just friends; Rory dropping out of Yale was an interesting plot turn; April Nardini wasn't that bad; and I'm not sure I will ever understand why members of Team Jess are so willing to forgive how terrible he was to Rory in seasons 2 and 3. #sorrynotsorry

All that's to say that I really got swept up in revival fever and this book is definitely timed to play into that frenzy. But there wasn't as much substance here as I really wanted. She fills most of the book with obligatory chapters on how aging in Hollywood sucks and too many people just want to know her fitness regimen and—in what seems to be becoming a requirement for celebrity memoirs—how her editor kept hounding her to get her draft in on time and how she didn't really have time to do that.

The chapters on her youth and her time in summer stock were fine, but it often felt like she was just summarizing events without really taking the time to flesh things out. Ditto the first Gilmore chapter: she rewatched all 7 seasons and briefly commented on her hair and how hunky the guys were. I don't feel like I really got a strong sense of her feelings about the process, what it was like working with her costars, or anything like that. There was a little bit more about her time on Parenthood and how the relatively light schedule allowed her to write her book, but I was really disappointed that she doesn't go into more depth on her relationship with Peter Krause.

Disclaimer: my husband and I once had a lengthy debate about which celebrity couple we'd most like to have an orgy with and Lauren and Peter were among the top finishers. Mostly because Peter could introduce me to Josh Charles and Lauren could introduce him to Alexis Bledel, but still...I have all the heart eyes in Sports Night season two-era Peter Krause.

I know that you don't necessarily want to tell everything about your relationship in your memoir. Yes, by all means feel entitled to your privacy, but at least give us something to understand why this relationship has lasted or what you've learned from it. Especially if you were kind of known for your extended single streak. I mean, what's the point of doing a celebrity memoir if you aren't going to get a little dishy?

The best part of this book, by far, was her reflections on doing the Gilmore revival. I actually found myself wishing that they had been published as an independent piece somewhere on the internet—I really would have been happy reading just that and nothing else.

I think many fans are going to have fun reading this book, and it's a perfectly fine way to spend an afternoon. If you love Lauren's personality, it definitely shines through here. I feel like people especially find the audio book to be a fun experience. I just found myself wanting more than this one had to offer.

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

I love Lauren Graham!

I loved her in Gilmore Girls most of all! Duh. And I also loved her in Parenthood. But Gilmore Girls takes the cake, the old and the new! Woot!

I loved hearing stories about when Lauren was a child like living on the houseboat. I would loved to have seen that in real life! She has a lot of different stories that go back and forth from now and then. It was a little confusing at times but I guess that's why it's called a book of essays!

She even writes like Lorelai Gilmore sounds. <--- If that makes sense, does to me, but I'm weird and I don't care.

Some of the most exciting things that happened in my life took place before I turned six years old. I was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, which his awesome right there, but three weeks later, before I even had time to work on my tan, we moved to Japan. JAPAN. The home of my most favorite food ever: mashed peas. Well, that was probably my favorite food back then; what a waste, since I could have been eating spicy tuna rolls with extra wasabi. Damn you, Baby Lauren, and your infantile palate! Well, to be fair, you were an infant. Sorry I yelled.

For the most part I enjoyed the book. Some parts lagged a little hence my 4 star rating. I also love the book cover!

Happy Reading ♥

MY BLOG: Melissa Martin's Reading List

Lola says

Gilmore Girls is one of the best contemporary TV shows I've ever seen, and I used to be quite addicted to watching them.

So I needed to read this memoir by the co-star of the show, Lauren Graham.

I can't imagine anyone not liking this lady. She is so authentic, on set and off set. She feels so... normal. Fame definitely did not turn her into someone she isn't. I admire that.

In this non-fiction book, she talks a little about her upbringing, college years, first auditions, first jobs in the mundane world and the show business as well as her experience filming *Gilmore Girls* and *Parenthood*.

She also mentions interviewers harassing her about her love life when she didn't have one, tricks to losing weight (there aren't any!) and writing a novel and teases us with future plans.

I love that she didn't become who she is easily the most. She didn't grow up with two superstar parents; she really had to work to get where she is today. And I love how most of the time she doesn't seem to realize how lucky and beloved she is.

It's lovely to see how much Lauren Graham identifies with Lorelai Gilmore, as if they are a single person, not two distinct entities.

Short, honest, fast-paced and humorous, do not miss on Lauren Graham's new book!

Penny Quotes says

In three weeks, I had binged seven seasons and four movies of *Gilmore Girls* - a feat for some and child's play for others. Obviously, I was desperately in need of something to satisfy the big, gaping Stars-Hollow shaped hole in my life. You should be pleased to know that this book did just the trick. In true Rory Gilmore style, I am going to review this book as a pros and cons list.

Pros:

- The chapter titles: The titles were quirky and creative. They made absolutely no sense unless you actually read the chapter (e.g. "There Is Only One Betty White, or: Paper Towels, a Love Story").
- The writing: The writing was stunning! I could hear Lauren Graham's unique voice. It was as if Graham was truly talking to me. I liked the addition of the phone conversation with her father in "Fast Forward" - something I had never come across before in any of the books I have read.
- A perfect mix: The book was a perfect blend of funny, inspirational and intriguing.
- Old Lady Jackson, period - nothing else to add here, I need more of her!
- *Gilmore Girls* : I loved the way "What It Was Like, Part One" was set out. Graham really nailed it there. For those of you who haven't read it, she expresses her opinion about each season in terms of the setting, fashion/hair and what she loved. This really helped satiate my *Gilmore Girls* craving!

Cons:

- The writing: I know I had put this on the 'Pros' section, but it's also a con for me too. Sometimes I found myself not fully invested in the story, as if some of the words were superfluous. I found myself drifting and wondering what I'll be having for lunch, instead of laughing. Therefore, I had to take off one star (please don't hate me).
- There wasn't more of it!

All in all, a wonderful read! This book is something that embodies the vibrancy and excitement of the "Life and Death Brigade" (*screams "In Omnia Paratus!" at laptop*).

Thank you for reading my first ever review on Goodreads!

I have decided that I am going to live up to my name by leaving a quote that sticks out for me in every one of the books that I read. So here it is:

"It's hard to say exactly when it will happen, and it's true that whatever you're after may not drop down the moment you spend all your quarters, but someday soon a train is coming. In fact, it may already be on the way. You just don't know it yet."

Send me a friend request and I'll happily accept or if you'd prefer, follow me for a follow lovelies!

I have also just started a blog (<https://penny4quotes.wixsite.com/pennyquotes>) so if you could check that out and subscribe, I would greatly appreciate it ?♥? (I discuss more than just books on there, my most recent post is about a ghost tour I went on haha).

Love,

Elyse says

Audiobook... a gift from Vio: Thank You Vio!!!

I did like the Gilmore Girls...but admit, I didn't watch the reunion series. I was 'done' by the time it came around. I actually liked the show "Parenthood"- much better than "The Gilmore Show", where Lauren Graham was part of the ensemble cast. I felt that overall the "Parenthood" had more substance.

Lauren Graham speaks 'consistently' soooo fast during the entire audiobook- it becomes draining.

There were a few parts in the beginning I thought were interesting. Lauren was born in Hawaii and spent a great amount of time living on a houseboat with her father.... but it felt to me that whenever she started to talk straight on almost any topic she quickly diminished the experience by trying to be funny. Too much of it was annoying. There also didn't seem to be a lot of significant material — she tells us that she had great friends, she laughed a lot, and had great times. That's all wonderful (I mean it), but that doesn't make for a strong book in my opinion.

Unless a person is a die-hard Lauren Graham fan — and she can do no wrong in your eyes - then I wouldn't go out of my way to read or listen to this book.

A few points of interests - a few chuckles - a lot irritating.

2.5 Stars

Whitney Atkinson says

I told myself I would hold off on reading this until I finished Gilmore Girls, but I gave up on season 7 because I just stopped caring about the characters and the plot, so I didn't mind going into this and getting spoiled. Even so, very little of it actually focused on spoilers on the show, but it offered a cool enough glimpse into Lauren's life that I'm glad I picked it up.

I'm not her biggest fan ever, and I haven't even seen Parenthood, so I just liked hearing about her backstory and her experiences in Hollywood. I did enjoy her humor throughout the book, but I was never laughing out loud (three separate times she used the joke "someone call shark tank" and it was only funny the first time). My biggest issue with the essays is that some of them are a bit vapid. Lauren is so successful in many hemispheres of her life, but some of the essays she wrote were just plain vapid, specifically her chapters about LA diets and dating. At one point in her dating chapter, she even made a fatphobic comment by saying that the reason she didn't get any dates in college was because of the freshman fifteen. I just think that given the scope of her career, there were more important things to focus on than poking fun at diets and dating life, which we're already inundated with in the media. I would have preferred to hear stories about her rather than a commentary on something she was trying to make fun of in a weak way.

If you liked Gilmore Girls or Parenthood, consider picking this up on audiobook like I did. But maybe save your money and try it from the library unless you're a mega-fan and are devoted to owning this.

Calista says

This was so good. It kept me laughing out loud and I wanted hear more of her stories. I like her voice as a writer. She had a bit in there about Old Lady Jackson that was funny and she needs to turn this into a whole book. Wonderful character.

She takes us behind the scenes of Gilmore Girls and Parenthood to share her experiences. We also have stories of how she made it in the business of Show. This made me miss seeing her on TV weekly. I hope they bring the show back again.

I felt like I was sitting down with an old friend. I enjoyed this book.

Riley says

This was okay.

There were a lot of filler stories and she didn't start talking about Gilmore Girls until chapter 15.

I listened to the audiobook and Lauren sang way too much. Kinda irritated me.

There were a few cool behind the scenes info about her tv shows but nothing you can't find from interviews.

Jenny says

I read this after finishing Kendrick's "Scrappy Little Nobody" which makes for an interesting point of comparison. Both Graham and Kendrick are known for being intelligent, witty actresses and both write about the business of being an intelligent, witty, actress. In the comparison, however, Graham's book suffers. Graham writes throughout about the time crunch she was under, and it seems like the book was rushed out to coincide with the release of the new Gilmore Girls movies rather than because it was ready or necessary. There are long sections of filler in the book, like where Graham adopts the voice of an elderly biddy for no particular reason. Those sections (helpfully in italics) can just be skipped. There are other sections where it seems Graham is simply trying too hard to be an intelligent, witty, actress and is telling rather than showing, an important maxim in not just acting but writing as well. While the behind the scenes information on the Gilmore Girls was somewhat interesting, it was nothing that couldn't have been gleaned from magazine interviews or talk show visits. The book also seems to be struggling with its status as a an autobiography and Graham's general desire for privacy. Events are told, glibly or superficially, and no deeper insights or truths are made of them. Probably because Graham simply doesn't want to share those with us. That's all well and good, but it doesn't make for much of a book. I've read Graham's novel, and so I know that she is a good writer, but this seemed like a rush job to make some money. In other words, Monkey Doodles.

Danielle says

****Before reading the book:**

This is being released on my birthday! And 4 days after the revival premieres! This is already the best birthday ever :D

****Upon finishing the book:**

This gets 5 stars. Yes I am being biased because I love Lauren Graham and Gilmore Girls (which is more than just a show to me, it's a religion, a way of life -- I know that sounds crazy but I've been too obsessed for too long, its unhealthy...just ignore me). But I genuinely enjoyed this. It was a fun, quick read, made even more fun by Lauren's narration. I wish it had been longer but I'll take what I can get. Lauren basically is real-life Lorelai Gilmore.

Though I have to say, all that cliffhanger business she kept bringing up makes me wonder if we really have seen the end of Gilmore Girls. I mean, I thought we had, but now she has me questioning what the future holds. Regardless, I loved this.

Cait • A Page with a View says

So Lauren Graham basically IS Lorelai Gilmore :)

It was so much fun to read her short diary-type entries of the experience of filming the revival and to hear other bits of Gilmore Girls history. I wasn't as into some of the other parts of the book, but her writing was consistently upbeat and hilarious! It really sounded like Lorelai was just telling you about her day in a casual yet super caffeinated conversation.

April (Aprilius Maximus) says

Awwwwwww this was so sweet. There were some parts where I found myself skim reading or skipping altogether (the fashion chapter coz BORING) but I really, really enjoyed this and I love Lauren's voice and sense of humour!

Vanessa says

I read this as fast as I could, not on purpose, it's just that this book was compelling as a major Lauren Graham fan, being a late bloomer to the phenomena that is Gilmore Girls and becoming instantly obsessed, it was destined for me to read this memoir, this gave me everything I needed and more. Plenty of insights from her time during the Gilmore Girls days, I probably could have read a whole book completely devoted to dissections and discussions of the show but there was also other parts of Lauren's life that I had no idea about so I was pleasantly surprised with those inclusions, this was a quick read and honestly I wished there was more, only because I can't get enough of this fast talking, smart and all round talented actress, writer and just general awesome human being. I plan to read her novel soon someday just so I can inhabit her world a little longer, and of course there are always Gilmore Girls reruns to watch over and over and over again...
