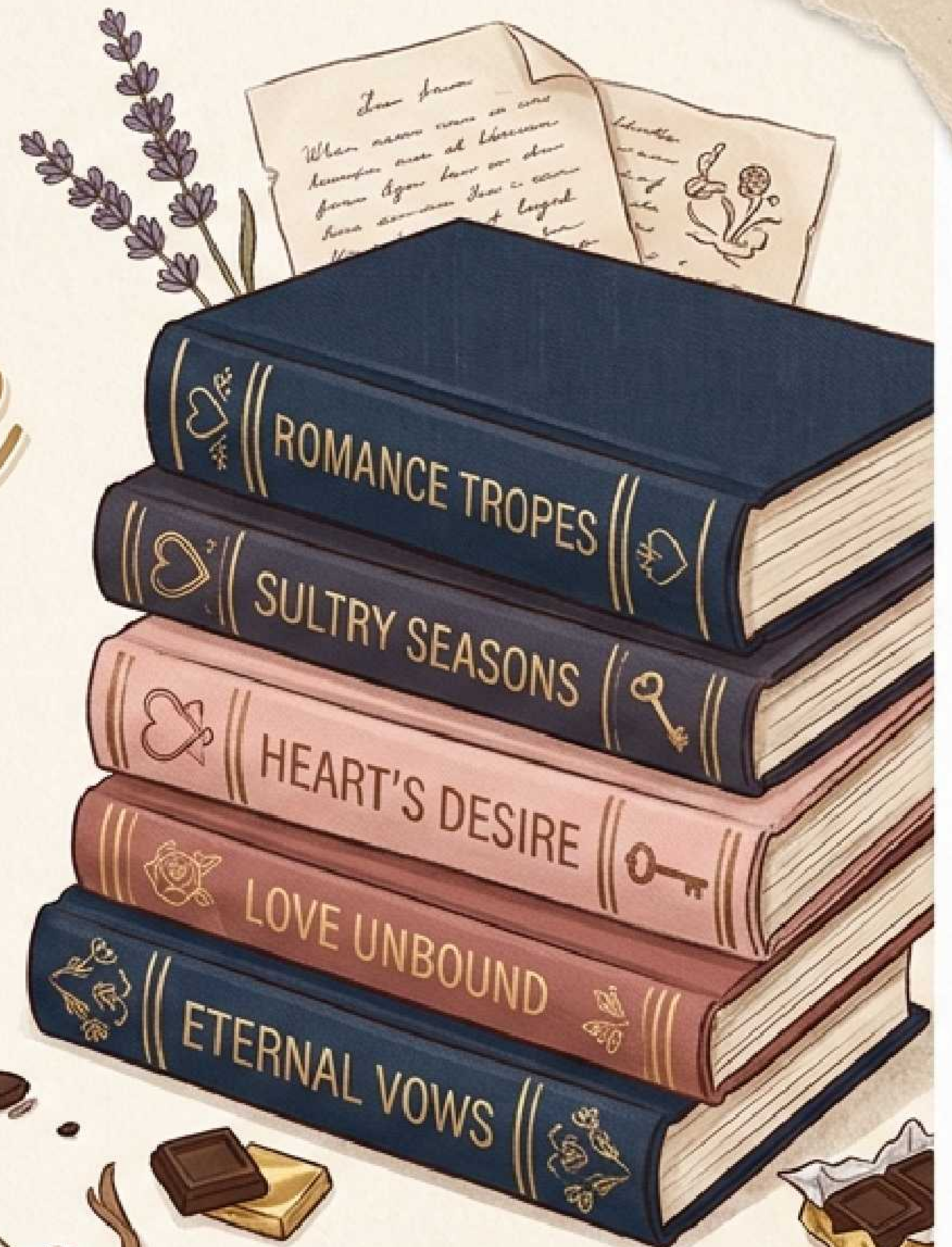
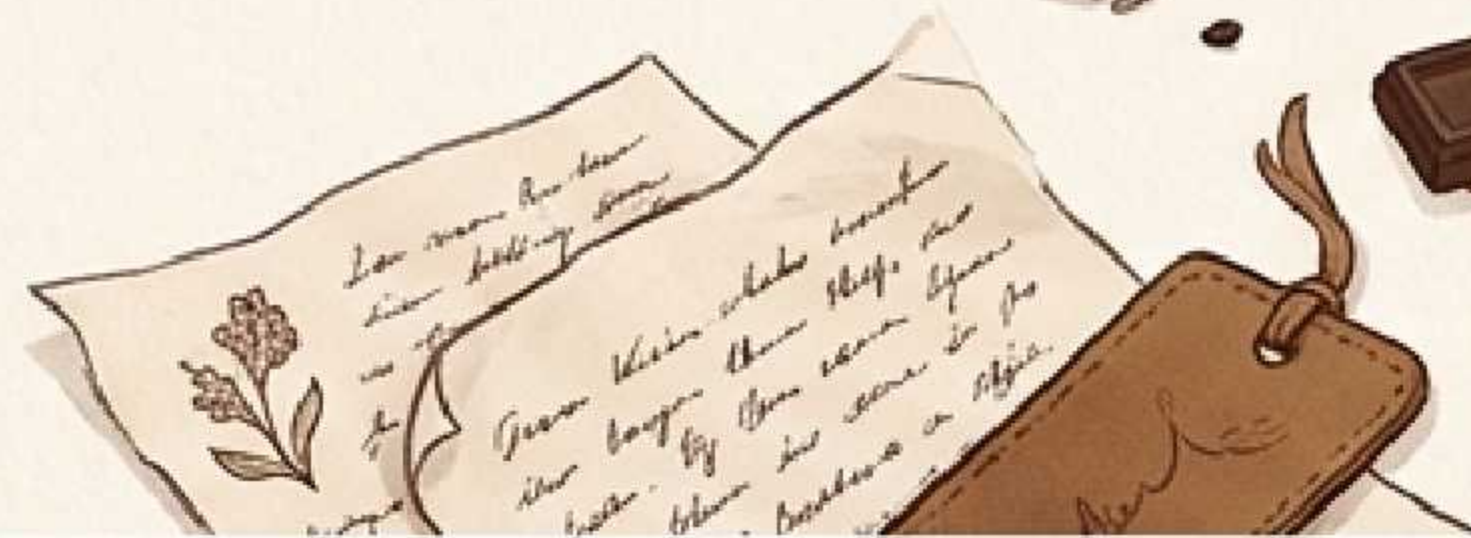


The Golden Age of Swoon

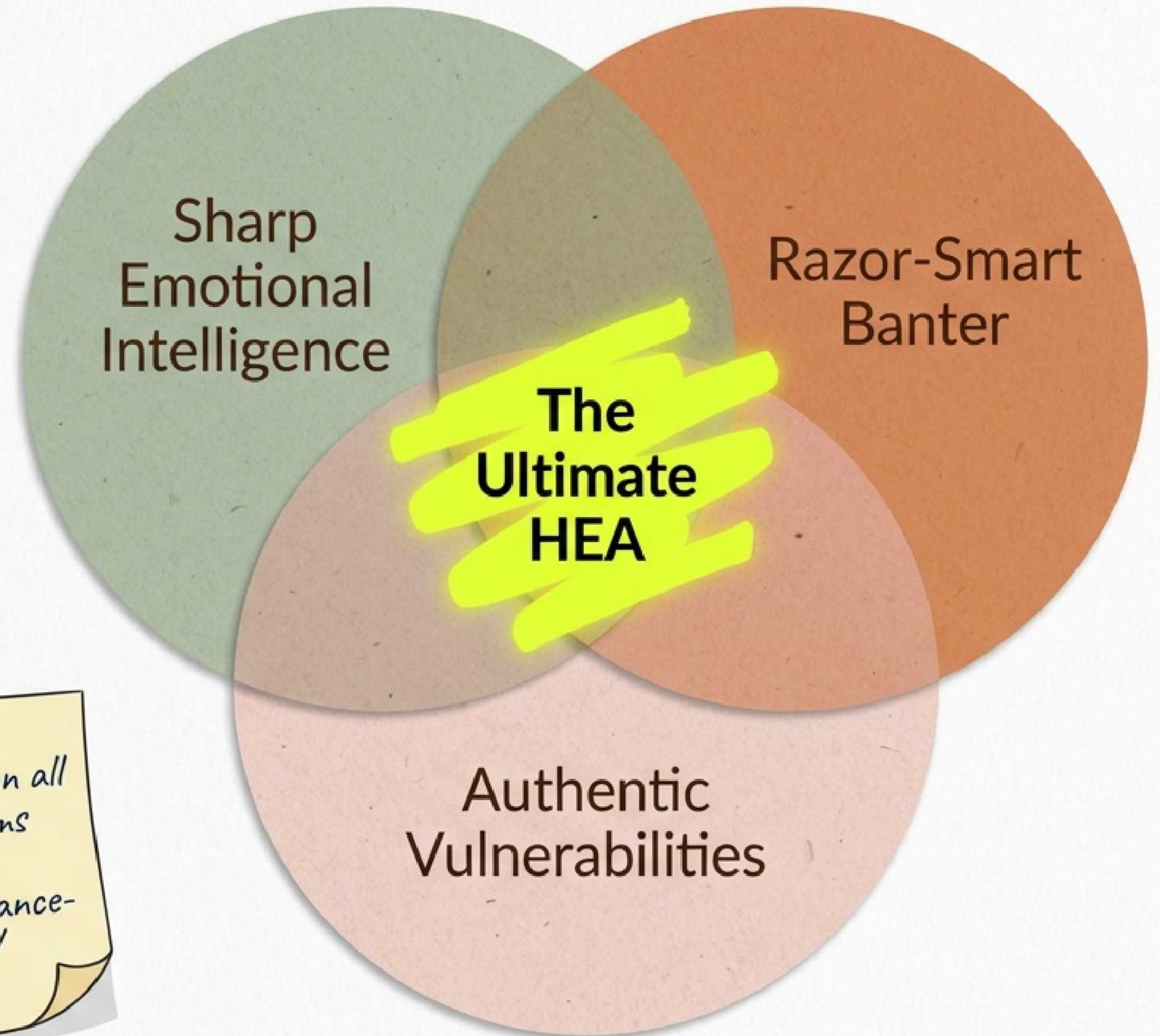
Tropes, heat levels, and happily-ever-afters for every kind of reader.



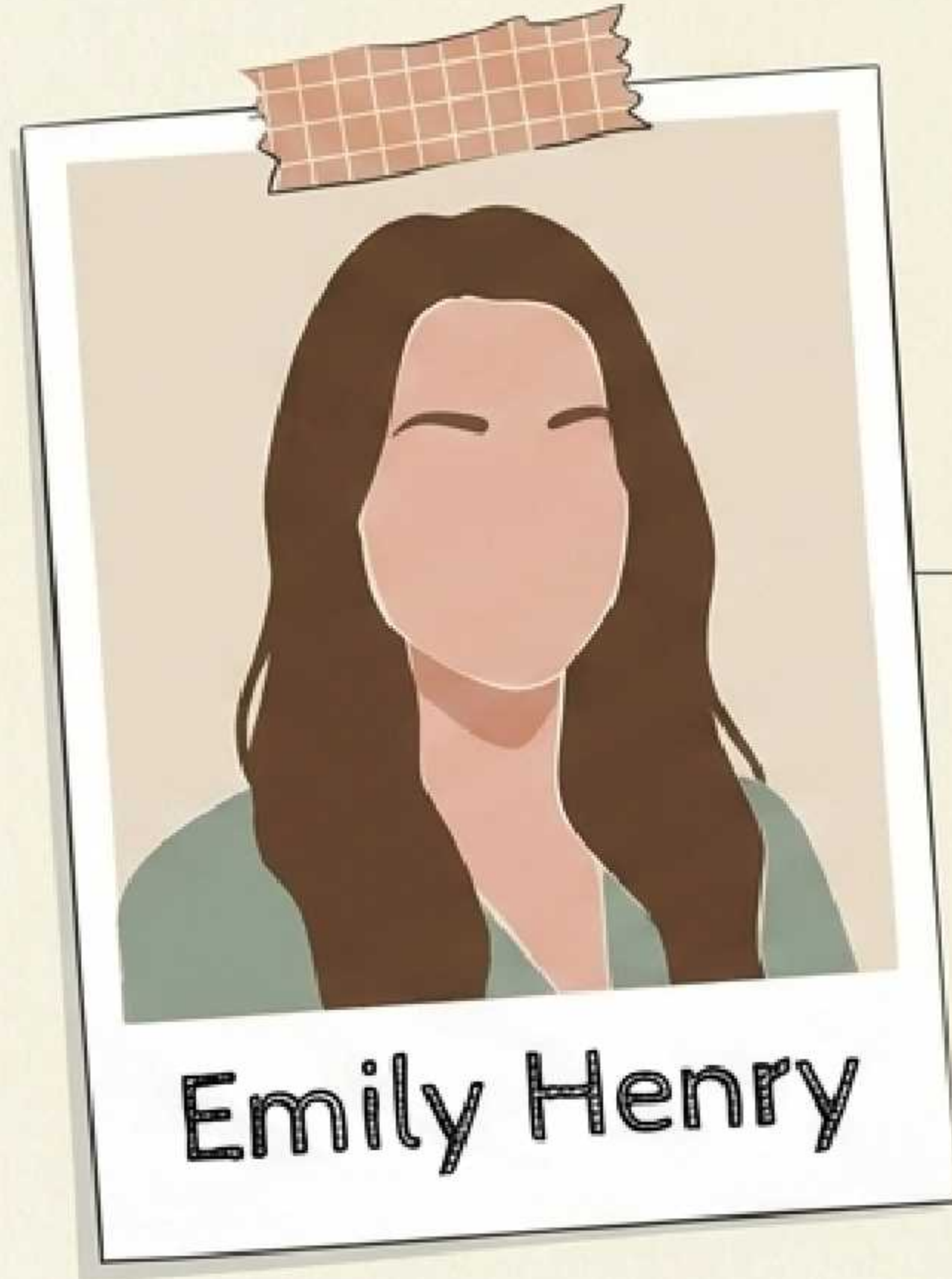
The Anatomy of a Perfect Romance

Contemporary romance hits uniquely hard right now because it has evolved. Today's best stories are no longer just about the final destination; they are about the deeply emotional, messy journey to get there.

Bonus: brush up on all your genre terms with our /flashcards/romance-flashcards/



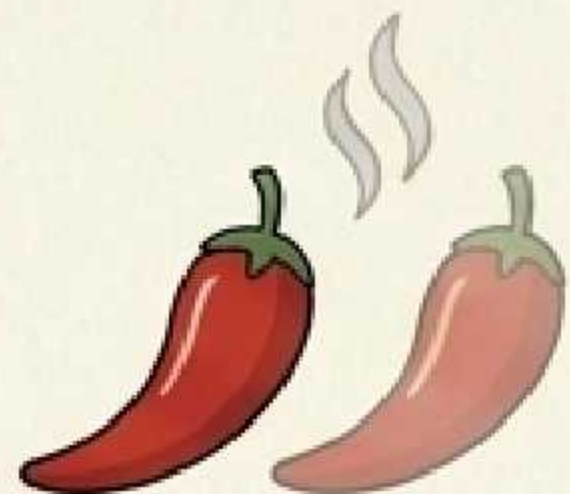
The Queens of Contemporary



Emily
Henry

Vibe: Literary meta-fiction, millennial angst, vacation settings.

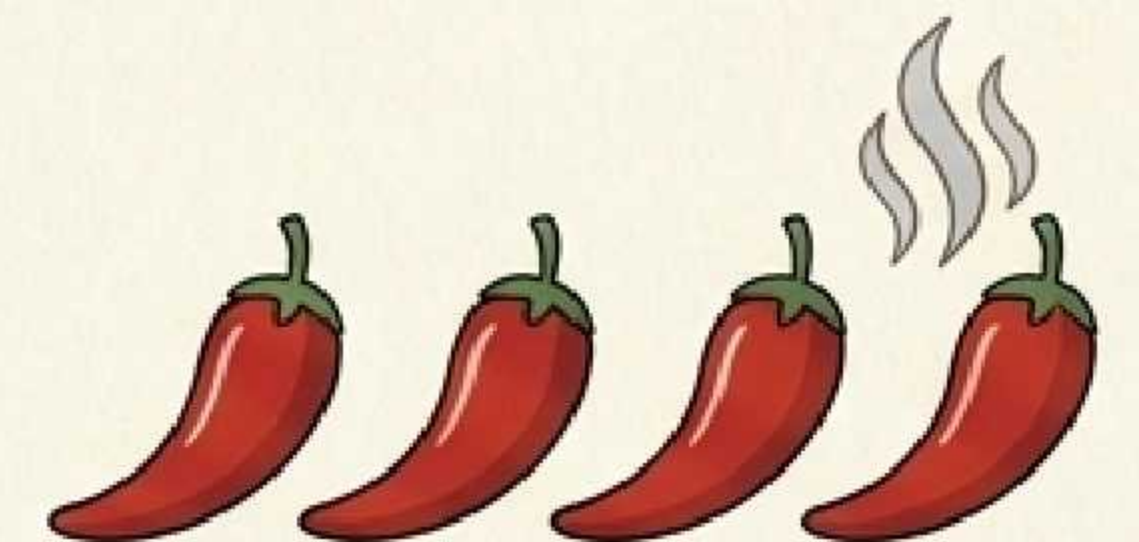
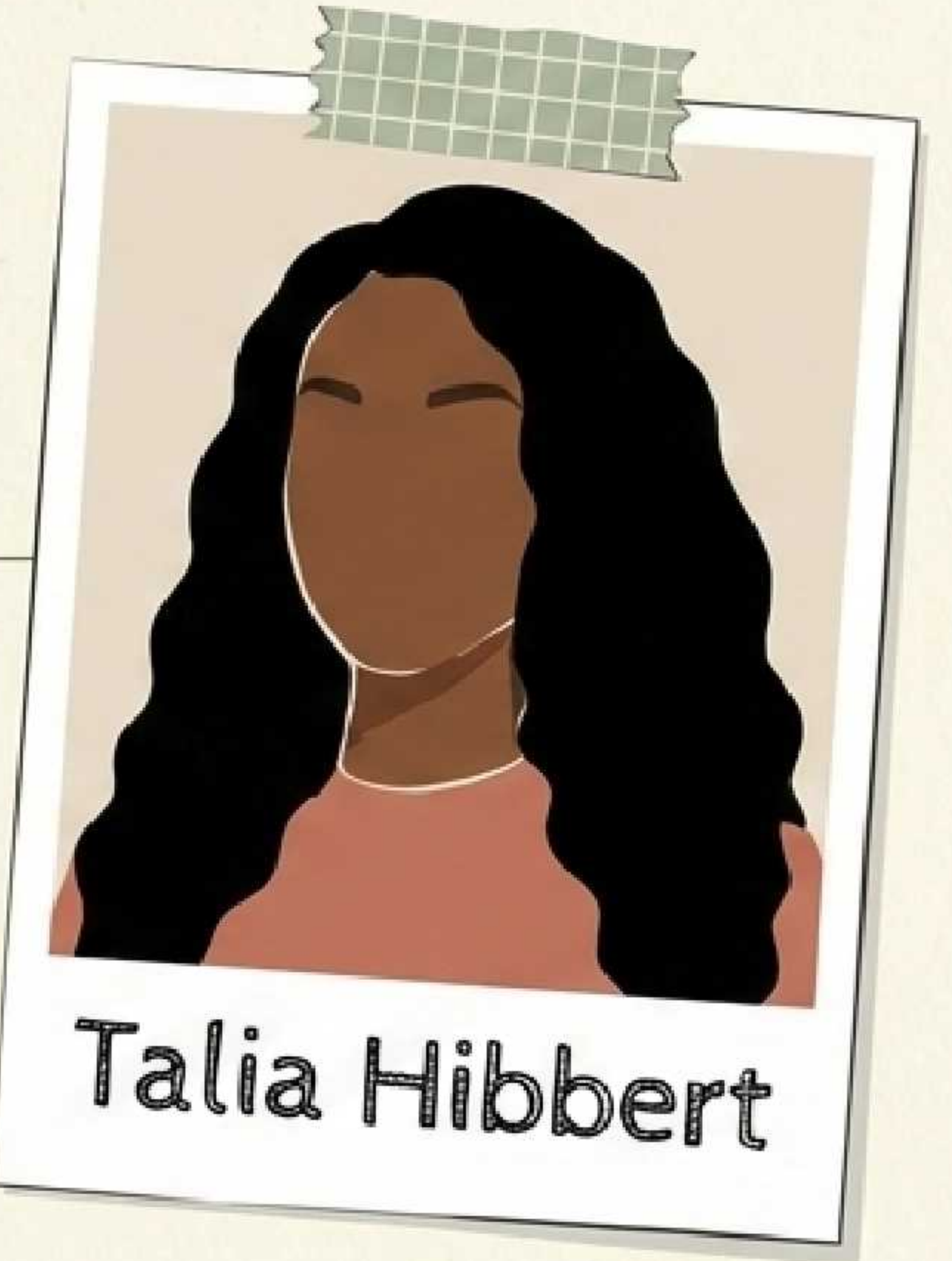
Signature: The master of the emotional slow-burn.



Talia
Hibbert

Vibe: Intersectional, laugh-out-loud funny, unapologetically diverse.

Signature: High-steam intimacy paired with deeply real characters.



Per My Last Email...




The Hating Game by Sally Thorne

The Hook: Two executive assistants are locked in a petty, hostile, and utterly irresistible office war.

The Trope: Enemies-to-lovers with impeccable banter.

The Heat Level: A slow, delicious simmer that boils over into deeply satisfying open-door spice.




Funny You Should Ask by Elissa Sussman


The Hook: A journalist interviews a major film star, sparking a quiet, messy connection that spans a decade.

The Trope: Celebrity/Normal Person and Second Chance romance.

The Heat Level: Wistful, emotionally tense, and moderately spicy.



Love on the Roster



Cleat Cute by Meryl Wilsner

The Hook: A veteran soccer star and a joyful rookie find themselves vying for the same roster spot—and falling for each other.

The Trope: Sapphic workplace rivalry meets Grumpy/Sunshine.

The Heat Level: Fierce chemistry leading to fantastic, high-heat-chemistry leading to fantastic, high-heat spice.



The Cheat Sheet by Sarah Adams

The Hook: A ballet teacher must pretend to date her secret longtime crush, who just happens to be an NFL superstar.

The Trope: Friends-to-lovers and Fake Dating.

The Heat Level: Closed-door, incredibly sweet, and purely romantic.

Beautifully Real & Wonderfully Whimsical



Get a Life, Chloe Brown by Talia Hibbert

The Hook: A chronically ill web designer recruits her rugged, motorcycle-riding superintendent to help her step out of her comfort zone.

The Trope: Grumpy/Sunshine and Forced Proximity.

The Heat Level: Scorching open-door scenes rooted in beautiful, enthusiastic consent and vulnerability.

The Dead Romantics by Ashley Poston

The Hook: A ghostwriter who has lost her faith in love finds herself interacting with the very handsome—and very dead—spirit of her new editor.

The Trope: Magical realism meets workplace romance.

The Heat Level: Emotional, tender, and moderately spicy.

For the Readers



Book Lovers by Emily Henry

The Hook: A cutthroat literary agent takes a small-town vacation, only to continuously bump into her brooding publishing rival.

The Trope: City slickers, Rivals-to-lovers-lovers.

The Heat Level: Moderate, swoon-worthy steam built on incredible emotional intimacy.



Yours Truly by Abby Jimenez

The Hook: Two ER doctors navigate high-stress jobs, anxiety, and a fake-dating arrangement that feels surprisingly real.

The Trope: Workplace, Fake Dating, and Anxiety Representation.

The Heat Level: Low-to-moderate spice with maximum emotional devastation and healing.



Know Your Flavor: The Spice Spectrum



Sweet &
Closed Door

Moderate
& Tense

Swoony &
Mid-High

Scorching &
Open Door



The Cheat Sheet

Funny You Should Ask

The Dead Romantics

Yours Truly

Book Lovers

The Hating Game

Cleat Cute

Get a Life, Chloe Brown

Romance isn't one-size-fits-all. Find the heat level that makes you happiest!



Ready to Meet Your Book Boyfriend (or Girlfriend)?

You know the tropes you love and the heat level you crave. Now let us do the matchmaking.

Dive into our [/quiz/romance-quiz/](#) to discover the exact book you should be reading tonight.

Take the Quiz

