

RITA Romance Award Winners

Romance Writers of America (RWA) is the national association for published and aspiring romance writers. With over 9,500 members and more than 140 local and special-interest chapters, RWA provides opportunities for members to come together to discuss the industry, build connections and find support. <http://www.rwanational.org>

The Portland, Oregon chapter of Romance Writers of America.
<http://www.rosecityromancewriters.com/>

2008 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Dead Girls Are Easy</i> by Terri Garey
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Catch of the Day</i> by Kristin Higgins
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>A Touch of Grace</i> by Linda Goodnight
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>Treasure</i> by Helen Brenna
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>Lessons of Desire</i> by Madeline Hunter
Best Romantic Novella	“Born in My Heart” in <i>Like Mother, Like Daughter</i> by Jennifer Greene
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Lover Revealed</i> by J.R. Ward
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Ice Blue</i> by Anne Stuart
Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements	<i>Silent in the Grave</i> by Deanne Raybourn
Best Regency Romance	<i>The Secret Diaries of Miss Miranda Cheever</i> by Julia Quinn

2007 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>The Husband Trap</i> by Tracy Anne Warren
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Adios To My Old Life</i> by Caridad Ferrer
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Revealed</i> by Tamera Alexander
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>The Mommy Quest</i> by Lori Handeland
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>On the Way To the Wedding</i> by Julia Quinn
Best Romantic Novella	“Tis the Silly Season” in <i>A NASCAR Holiday</i> by Roxanne St. Claire
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>A Hunger Like No Other</i> by Kresley Cole
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Blackout</i> by Annie Solomon
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>From the First</i> by Jessica Bird
Best Short Historical	<i>The Book of True Desires</i> by Batina Krahn
Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements	<i>A Lady Raised High</i> by Jennifer Ashley w/Laurien Gardner
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Claiming His Family</i> by Barbara Hannay

2006 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Show Her The Money</i> by Stephanie Feagan
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Lakeside Cottage</i> by Susan Wiggs
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Heavens To Betsy</i> by Beth Pattillo
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>Worth Every Risk</i> by Dianna Love Snell
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>The Devil to Pay</i> by Liz Carlyle
Best Romantic Novella	"The Naked Truth about Guys" in <i>The Naked Truth</i> by Alesia Holliday
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Gabriel's Ghost</i> by Linnea Sinclair
Best Regency Romance	<i>A Reputable Rake</i> by Diane Gaston
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Survivor in Death</i> by J.D. Robb
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>The Marriage Miracle</i> by Liz Fielding
Best Short Historical	<i>The Texan's Reward</i> by Jodi Thomas
Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements	<i>Lady Luck's Map of Vegas</i> by Barbara Samuel
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Princess of Convenience</i> by Marion Lennox

2005 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Time Off For Good Behavior</i> by Lani Diane Rich
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Bet Me</i> by Jennifer Crusie
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Grounds To Believe</i> by Shelley Bates
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>John Riley's Girl</i> by Inglath Cooper
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>Shadowheart</i> by Laura Kinsale
Best Romantic Novella	"Her Enemy" in <i>Night's Edge</i> by Maggie Shayne
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Blue Moon</i> by Lori Handeland
Best Regency Romance	<i>A Passionate Endeavor</i> by Sophia Nash
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>I'm Watching You</i> by Karen Rose
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>Miss Pruitt's Private Life</i> by Barbara McCauley
Best Short Historical	<i>A Wanted Man</i> by Susan Kay Law
Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements	<i>A.K.A. Goddess</i> by Evelyn Vaughn
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Christmas Eve Marriage</i> by Jessica Hart

2004 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Back Roads</i> by Susan Crandall
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Birthright</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Autumn Dreams</i> by Gayle Roper
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>The Top Gun's Return</i> by Kathleen Creighton

Best Long Historical Romance	<i>The Destiny</i> by Kathleen Givens
Best Romantic Novella	"Prisoner of the Tower" in <i>The Wedding Chase</i> by Gayle Wilson
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Shades of Midnight</i> by Linda Fallon
Best Regency Romance	<i>Prospero's Daughter</i> by Nancy Butler
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Remember When - Part 1</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>The Knight's Kiss</i> by Nicole Burnham
Best Short Historical	<i>Worth Any Price</i> by Lisa Kleypas
Best Novel with Strong Romantic Elements	<i>Between Sisters</i> by Kristin Hannah
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Her Royal Baby</i> by Marion Lennox

2003 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Shades of Honor</i> by Wendy Lindstrom
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>No Place Like Home</i> by Barbara Samuel
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Never Say Goodbye</i> by Irene Hannon
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>Taking Cover</i> by Catherine Mann
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>Stealing Heaven</i> by Madeline Hunter
Best Romantic Novella	"To Kiss in Shadows" by Lynn Kurland
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Contact</i> by Susan Grant
Best Regency Romance	<i>A Debt To Delia</i> by Barbara Metzger
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Three Fates</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>Taming The Outlaw</i> by Cindy Kay Gerard
Best Short Historical	<i>The Bride Fair</i> by Cheryl Reavis
Best Traditional Romance	<i>The Christmas Basket</i> by Debbie Macomber

2002 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>The Border Bride</i> by Elizabeth English
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>True Confessions</i> by Rachel Gibson
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Beneath a Southern Sky</i> by Deborah Raney
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>Coming Home To You</i> by Fay Robinson
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>The Bridal Season</i> by Connie Brockway
Best Romantic Novella	"I Will" from <i>Wish List</i> by Lisa Kleypas
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Heart Mate</i> by Robin D. Owens
Best Regency Romance	<i>Much Obliged</i> by Jessica Benson
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>The Surgeon</i> by Tess Gerritsen
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>A Long Hot Christmas</i> by Barbara Daly

Best Short Historical

Tempt Me Twice by Barbara Dawson Smith

Best Traditional Romance

Quinn's Complete Seduction by Sandra Steffen

2001 RITA Winners

Best First Book

A Man Like Mac by Fay Robinson

Best Contemporary Single Title

First Lady by Susan Elizabeth Phillips

Best Inspirational Romance

The Shepherd's Voice by Robin Lee Hatcher

Best Long Contemporary Romance

Rogue's Reform by Marilyn Pappano

Best Long Historical Romance

Devilish by Jo Beverley

Best Romantic Novella

"Final Approach to Forever" (from *Once Upon A Dream*) by Merline Lovelace

Best Paranormal Romance

The Highlander's Touch by Karen Marie Moning

Best Regency Romance

A Grand Design by Emma Jensen

Best Romantic Suspense

Carolina Moon by Nora Roberts

Best Short Contemporary Romance

It Takes A Rebel by Stephanie Bond

Best Short Historical

The Mistress by Susan Wiggs

Best Traditional Romance

The Best Man & The Bridesmaid by Liz Fielding

2000 RITA Winners

Best First Book

The Maiden and The Unicorn by Isolde Martyn

Best Contemporary Single Title

Body Guard by Suzanne Brockmann

Best Inspirational Romance

Danger in the Shadows by Dee Henderson

Best Long Contemporary Romance

Undercover Princess by Suzanne Brockmann

Best Long Historical Romance

Silken Threads by Patricia Ryan

Best Romantic Novella

Starry, Starry Night by Marianne Willman

Best Paranormal Romance

Nell by Jeanette Baker

Best Regency Romance

The Rake's Retreat by Nancy Butler

Best Romantic Suspense

The Bride's Protector by Gayle Wilson

Best Short Contemporary Romance

The Stardust Cowboy by Anne McAllister

Best Short Historical

The Proposition by Judith Ivory

Best Traditional Romance

Annie, Get Your Groom by Kristin Gabriel

1999 RITA Winners

Best First Book

My Darling Caroline by Adele Ashworth

Best Contemporary Single Title

Dream A Little Dream by Susan Elizabeth Phillips

Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Patterns of Love</i> by Robin Lee Hatcher
Best Long Contemporary Romance	<i>Meant to Be Married</i> by Ruth Wind
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>My Dearest Enemy</i> by Connie Brockway
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>The Bride Finder</i> by Susan Carroll
Best Regency Romance	<i>His Grace Endures</i> by Emma Jenson
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Cool Shade</i> by Theresa Weir
Best Short Contemporary Romance	<i>The Notorious Groom</i> by Caroline Cross
Best Short Historical	<i>Merely Married</i> by Patricia Coughlin
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Monday Man</i> by Kristin Gabriel

1998 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Brazen Angel</i> by Elizabeth Boyle
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Nobody's Baby But Mine</i> by Susan Elizabeth Phillips
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>Homeward</i> by Melody Carlson
Best Long Contemporary Series Romance	<i>Reckless</i> by Ruth Wind
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>Promise of Jenny Jones</i> by Maggie Osborne
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>FireHawk</i> by Justine Dare
Best Regency Romance	<i>Love's Reward</i> by Jean R. Ewing
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>On the Way to a Wedding</i> by Ingrid Weaver
Best Short Contemporary Series	<i>Nobody's Princess</i> by Jennifer Greene
Best Short Historical	<i>Heart of a Knight</i> by Barbara Samuel
Best Traditional Romance	<i>His Brother's Child</i> by Lucy Gordon
RWA's Favorite Book of 1997	<i>Nobody's Baby But Mine</i> by Susan Elizabeth Phillips

1997 RITA Winners

Best First Book	<i>Stardust of Yesterday</i> by Lynn Kurland
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Daniel's Gift</i> by Barbara Freethy
Best Inspirational Romance	<i>The Scarlet Thread</i> by Francine Rivers
Best Long Contemporary Series Romance	<i>Wild Blood</i> by Naomi Horton
Best Long Historical Romance	<i>Conor's Way</i> by Laura Lee Guhrke
Best Paranormal Romance	<i>Stardust of Yesterday</i> by Lynn Kurland
Best Regency Romance	<i>The Lady's Companion</i> by Carla Kelly

Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Best Short Historical
 Best Traditional Romance

See How They Run by Bethany Campbell
Cowboy Pride by Anne McAllister
Always to Remember by Lorraine Heath
Her Very Own Husband by Lauryn Chandler

1996 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1995
 Best First Book
 Best Contemporary Single Title
 Best Inspirational Romance
 Best Long Contemporary Series
 Best Long Historical Romance
 Best Paranormal Romance
 Best Regency Romance
 Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Best Short Historical
 Best Traditional Romance
 Best Young Adult Romance

Born in Ice by Nora Roberts
The Warlord by Elizabeth Elliot
Born in Ice by Nora Roberts
As Sure as the Dawn by Francine Rivers
The Morning Side of Dawn by Justine Davis
Something Shady by Pamela Morsi
The Covenant by Modean Moon
Gwen's Christmas Ghost by Lynn Kerstan and Alicia Rasley
Winter's Edge by Anne Stuart
Single Dad by Jennifer Greene
Lord of Scoundrels by Loretta Chase
Stranger in Her Arms by Elizabeth Sites
Runaway by Cheryl Zach

1995 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1994
 Best First Book
 Best Contemporary Single Title
 Best Historical
 Best Inspirational Romance
 Best Long Contemporary Series
 Best Long Historical Romance
 Best Paranormal Romance
 Best Regency Romance
 Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Best Traditional Romance
 Best Young Adult Romance

It Had To Be You by Susan Elizabeth Phillips
Ghostly Enchantment by Angie Ray
Again by Kathleen Gilles Seidel
To Tame a Texan's Heart by Jodi Thomas
An Echo in the Darkness by Francine Rivers
A Soldier's Heart by Kathleen Korbel
Dancing on the Wind by Mary Jo Putney
Lord of the Storm by Justine Davis
Mrs. Drew Plays Her Hand by Carla Kelly
Hidden Riches by Nora Roberts
Getting Rid of Bradley by Jennifer Crusie
Oh Baby! by Lauryn Chandler
Second to None by Arleyynn Presser

1994 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1993	<i>Lord of the Night</i> by Susan Wiggs
Best First Book	<i>A Candle in the Dark</i> by Megan Chance
Best Contemporary Single Title	<i>Private Scandals</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Futuristic/Fantasy/Paranormal	<i>Falling Angel</i> by Anne Stuart
Best Historical Series	<i>My Lady Notorious</i> by Jo Beverley
Best Historical Single Title	<i>Untamed</i> by Elizabeth Lowell
Best Long Contemporary Series	<i>Dragonslayer</i> by Emilie Richards
Best Regency Romance	<i>Deidre and Don Juan</i> by Jo Beverley
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>Nightshade</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Short Contemporary Series	<i>Avenging Angel</i> by Glenna McReynolds
Romance	<i>Annie and the Wise Men</i> by Lindsay Longford
Best Traditional Romance	<i>Summer Lightning</i> by Wendy Corsi Staub
Best Young Adult Romance	

1993 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1992	<i>Come Spring</i> by Jill Marie Landis
Best First Book	<i>Trust Me</i> by Jeane Renick
Best Futuristic/Fantasy/Paranormal	<i>Emily's Ghost</i> by Antoinette Stokenberg
Romance	<i>The Prisoner</i> by Cheryl Reavis
Best Historical Series	<i>The Silence of Midnight</i> by Karen Young
Best Long Contemporary Series	<i>An Unwilling Bride</i> by Jo Beverley
Romance	<i>Divine Evil</i> by Nora Roberts
Best Regency Romance	<i>Navarrone</i> by Helen R. Myers
Best Romantic Suspense	<i>This Time Forever</i> by Kathleen Eagle
Best Short Contemporary Series	<i>Keeper of the Dream</i> by Penelope Williamson
Romance	<i>Father Goose</i> by Marie Ferrarella
Best Single Title Contemporary	<i>Song of the Buffalo Boy</i> by Sherry Garland
Best Single Title Historical	
Best Traditional Romance	
Best Young Adult Romance	

1992 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1991	<i>Outlander</i> by Diana Gabaldon
Best First Book	<i>Candle in the Window</i> by Christina Dodd
Best Futuristic/Fantasy/Paranormal	<i>Angel for Hire</i> by Justine Davis
Best Long Contemporary Series	<i>A Rose for Maggie</i> by Kathleen Korbel

Best Regency Romance
 Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Series Historical
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Best Single Title Contemporary
 Best Single Title Historical
 Best Traditional Romance
 Best Young Adult Romance

Emily and the Dark Angel by Jo Beverley
Night Shift by Nora Roberts
The Tender Texan by Jodi Thomas
A Human Touch by Glenda Sanders
A Man to Die For by Eileen Dreyer
Courting Miss Hattie by Pamela Morsi
Every Kind of Heaven by Bethany Campbell
Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep by Lurlene
 McDaniel

1991 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1990
 Best First Book
 Best Long Contemporary Series
 Best Regency Romance
 Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Series Historical
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Best Single Title Historical
 Best Traditional Romance

The Prince of Midnight by Laura Kinsale
Black Horse Island by Dee Holmes
Patrick Gallagher's Widow by Cheryl Reavis
The Sandalwood Princess by Loretta Chase
Night Spice by Karen Keast
A Wild Yearning by Penelope Williamson
Step Into My Parlor by Jan Hudson
Where Love Dwells by Elizabeth Stuart
Song of the Lorelei by Lucy Gordon

1990 RITA Winners

Best Romance of 1989
 Best First Book
 Best Long Contemporary Series
 Best Regency Romance
 Best Romantic Suspense
 Best Series Historical
 Best Short Contemporary Series
 Romance
 Best Single Title Contemporary
 Best Single Title Historical
 Best Traditional Romance
 Best Young Adult Romance

Morning Glory by LaVyrle Spencer
Out of the Blue by Alaina Hawthorne
The Ice Cream Man by Kathleen Korbel
The Rake and the Reformer by Mary Jo Putney
Perchance to Dream by Kathleen Korbel
Silver Noose by Patricia Gardner
Night of the Hunter by Jennifer Greene
Private Relations by Diane Chamberlain
The Bride by Julie Garwood
Rhapsody in Bloom by Mona Van Wieren
Renee by Vivian Schurfranz