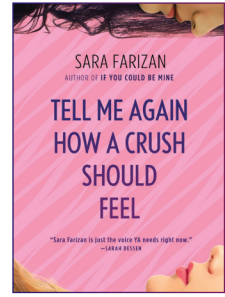


Meet the cast of **TELL ME AGAIN  
HOW A CRUSH  
SHOULD FEEL**



by **SARA FARIZAN**

## **LEILA**

Funny, self-deprecating, and overly observant of her very preppy surroundings, Leila is grappling with her attraction to women while trying to deal with everyday high school issues. Leila is a social floater who becomes involved in theater, makes new friends, and falls very quickly for Saskia, the new girl in school. Leila also quietly struggles with coming out of the closet, her grades, wanting to be a good daughter, and self-consciousness about how she's perceived in her homogeneous school.

## **SASKIA**

A global nomad from a wealthy family, Saskia is a new student at Armstead Academy and takes an immediate interest in Leila. Saskia is gorgeous, well dressed, articulate, intelligent, sophisticated, and seems to have it all. She is sometimes enthusiastic and spontaneous and other times cool and calculating. Saskia can be sweet to Leila but nasty to other students. Saskia says and does what she wants without thinking much about the consequences or other people's feelings.

## **LISA**

A part of the popular crowd at Armstead, Lisa is a childhood friend of Leila's, but since they entered high school, the two have become estranged. Lisa is coping with the death of her older brother. She seems distant at times to Leila, but the two begin to bond again over the course of the school year. Lisa becomes a source of strength for Leila.

## GREG

One of Leila's good friends, Greg is also a social floater. He has an unrequited crush on Leila. They both love the same sci-fi and horror films, the *Zombie Killer* franchise being their favorite. Greg is handsome, good at science, and athletic. Greg becomes frustrated with Leila and her behavior toward him. He inadvertently hurts Leila, and their friendship is tested many times.

## TESS

A faculty brat, Tess tries to do her best at everything at Armstead Academy, from academics to sports to theater. Tess is sometimes the target of cruel jokes but does not feel defeated or inferior to other students. Tess is determined, smart, kind, honest, and a good friend to Leila. She has a very big crush on Greg but for a long time is too shy to do anything about it.

## TECH GIRLS

Taryn, Christina, and Simone are a part of the technical theater crew. Leila assumes they are lesbians. Taryn is gruff and rebellious, enjoys flame throwing as a hobby, and says what she means. Christina is into vampire culture and naps through most tech rehearsals because she is nocturnal. Simone is into knitting and rowing, and is sweet and kind.

## TOMAS

Tomas is the only truly out student at Armstead Academy. He has a love life outside of school and is unapologetic about his identity. Tomas is funny and strong, and he deals with adversity using humor. He is easily impressed by Saskia. At first Leila finds him annoying and arrogant, but he ends up being a creative collaborator behind the scenes in theater with Leila, and the two become allies.