

= Lois Lane ( Smallville ) =

Lois Lane is a fictional character on the television series Smallville ; she was portrayed continually by Erica Durance since her first appearance in the season four premier " Crusade " to the series finale . Durance began as a guest star in season four , but was promoted to series regular status beginning in season five . The character of Lois Lane , first created for comic books by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster in 1938 to be the love interest for Clark Kent and his alter @-@ ego Superman , was adapted to television in 2001 by Alfred Gough and Miles Millar ? this is the fourth time the character has been adapted to a live action television series .

In Smallville , Lois comes to town to investigate the apparent death of her cousin Chloe Sullivan at the start of the fourth season . After finding Chloe still alive , Lois is forced to enroll in Smallville High to complete the remaining credits of high school she failed to achieve . As the series progresses , her interest in journalism grows , first writing a couple of articles for the Smallville High Torch in season four , landing a job at the Inquisitor in season six , and finally being hired at the Daily Planet in season seven . Throughout seasons four , five , six and seven , Lois 's relationship with Clark Kent is depicted more as a brother / sister relationship , with the two characters often butting @-@ heads . By season eight , Lois begins to realize that she is falling in love with Clark , and by season nine the two become an official couple . During season ten the relationship goes through several milestones and midseason the pair get engaged .

Series developers Gough and Millar had always envisioned bringing the character of Lois Lane to Smallville , but it was not until the end of season three that the creative team had the right storyline to bring her in . Erica Durance was hired to portray the iconic female reporter from the comic books . Smallville 's interpretation of Lois was designed to embody similar traits to that of various leading female characters in film . Described as " fiercely independent " , critics have favorably compared this version of Lois Lane against the other live @-@ action performances of the character in both film and television .

= = Role in Smallville = =

Lois Lane makes her first appearance in season four 's " Crusade " , when she comes to Smallville investigating the supposed death of her cousin Chloe Sullivan ( Allison Mack ) . While investigating Chloe 's death with Clark Kent ( Tom Welling ) in " Gone " , the pair uncover the truth that Chloe is still alive , but in witness protection until Lionel Luthor 's trial , the man she is testifying against with evidence that he orchestrated the death of his own parents . Lionel ( John Glover ) discovers the truth and sends someone to kill her , but Lois and Clark stop the would @-@ be killer , allowing Chloe to testify . Before Lois can leave Smallville , her father ( Michael Ironside ) informs her that she failed to achieve all of her high school credits , and that he has enrolled her in Smallville High so that she can complete her twelfth grade year . Staying with the Kents , Lois begins attending Smallville High . In " Fa?ade " , Chloe convinces her to become a reporter for the Torch in an effort to help Lois earn some of her remaining credits . With Lex Luthor 's ( Michael Rosenbaum ) help in the episode " Devoted " , Clark manages to get Lois her remaining credits ahead of schedule so that she can attend Metropolis University , and vacate his bedroom .

In season five 's " Fanatic " , Jonathan Kent ( John Schneider ) , who is running for the state senate , asks Lois to be his campaign manager after witnessing her take charge against his former campaign manager , whom Jonathan fires when he published a statement that goes against Jonathan 's values . In " Fragile " , Lois continues her duties under Martha Kent ( Annette O 'Toole ) , who is requested by the Governor to take Jonathan 's place after he suffers a fatal heart attack . In season six 's " Sneeze " , Lois discovers an interest in journalism after she is almost struck by a barn door that falls out of the sky while she is jogging . Her story is bought by the Inquisitor , a tabloid newspaper that gives her a job as a reporter . In " Wither " , she begins a romantic relationship with billionaire Oliver Queen ( Justin Hartley ) , who , unbeknown to her , masquerades at night as the vigilante Green Arrow . Queen 's " job " as Green Arrow often gets in the way of their relationship . In " Hydro " , Lois deduces that Oliver is Green Arrow , setting up an elaborate scheme

to prove it . Clark and Oliver are wise to her plan , however , and Clark dresses up as Green Arrow to throw Lois off Oliver 's trail . When Oliver is forced to leave Metropolis to track down all of Lex 's experimental facilities , in the episode " Justice " , his relationship with Lois comes to an end . In season six 's " Prototype " , Lois discovers that Lex has been doing experimental research on army soldiers , one of which was her best friend . As a result , Lois decides in " Phantom " to begin looking into Lex 's LuthorCorp projects .

In season seven 's " Kara " , while looking into Lex 's research projects , Lois discovers an alien spaceship . Her attempt to craft a news story out of the situation lands her a job at the Daily Planet ? in the basement alongside her cousin Chloe . While at the Daily Planet , Lois begins a new relationship with her editor Grant Gabriel ( Michael Cassidy ) in the episode " Wrath " . Their relationship comes under scrutiny from Chloe and Lex in " Blue " , with Chloe seeing it as reason for co @-@ workers to doubt Lois 's true ability as a journalist , and Lex believing it will jeopardize the secret of Grant 's true identity . In " Gemini " , the two finally agree to part ways . In the season eight premiere , Lois believes that Lex is responsible for Chloe 's arrest by the Department of Domestic Security , and goes to his mansion to search his files for her location . She eventually discovers Chloe 's whereabouts and arrives , alongside Clark , to save her . In " Plastique " , Lois takes Clark under her wing ? teaching him how to be a reporter ? after he accepts an internship at the Daily Planet , sitting at the desk directly across from Lois . Her feelings for Clark become stronger as the season progresses , admitting in the episode " Committed " that she is in love with Clark , and stating to Oliver in the episode " Bride " that she has never felt this way about someone before . In the same episode , she almost shares a kiss with Clark before being interrupted by the arrival of Clark 's ex @-@ girlfriend Lana Lang ( Kristin Kreuk ) . In the season eight finale , Lois and Tess Mercer ( Cassidy Freeman ) , Lex Luthor 's handpicked successor to LuthorCorp , get into a physical fight at the Daily Planet . During the fight , Lois picks up a Legion ring that falls out of Clark 's desk and is instantly transported to another time and place .

In season nine , Lois returns from the future suffering from visions of Earth having been overrun by aliens , led by Zod ( Callum Blue ) . This season , Lois and Clark officially begin a romantic relationship , while Lois also begins assisting " The Blur " in his heroic endeavors . Lois 's trust in Clark is shaken when she thinks Clark is jealous of her relationship with " The Blur " , and that he does not understand her need to find value in her own life 's work . Ultimately , Lois deduces Clark 's true identity as " The Blur " in the season nine finale . Lois and Clark 's relationship reaches its peak in the tenth and final season . Clark finally confesses his secret to her in " Isis " and they begin their relationship again free of secrets . He proposed marriage in " Icarus " . In the episode " Beacon " , with Chloe 's help , Lois rallies faithful fans of " The Blur " and repeals the Vigilante Registration Act ( VRA ) , helping Clark and the Justice League preserve their secret identities . In " Masquerade " and " Booster " , Lois convinces Clark to develop an alter @-@ ego as a way of hiding his true identity as the heroic " Blur " . In the episode " Prophecy " , Lois is given Clark 's powers for day , as a wedding gift by his biological father Jor @-@ El , and realizes that the devotion they have for each other is Clark 's greatest weakness , and calls off the wedding . In the series finale , Clark convinces Lois that her being in his life makes him stronger , but the ceremony is interrupted by Darkseid 's sudden invasion of the Earth . Lois convinces the US military not to bomb Darkseid 's home world of Apokolips , allowing Clark to finally embrace his destiny and defeat Darkseid himself .

= = Portrayal = =

Series developer Al Gough contends that it was always the producer 's intention to bring in the iconic Lois Lane , they just needed a good reason to do it ? Chloe 's supposed death at the end of season three appeared to be that reason . Gough explains that , when casting for the role , they looked to Margot Kidder ? Lois Lane in the Superman film series ? for inspiration . They wanted an actress who was " pretty " , " smart " , and who came with some " wit " . Dozens of actresses auditioned for the role of Lois Lane , but it was not until a tape from Erica Durance showed up that everyone felt that they had found the right Lois . As executive producer Greg Beeman describes Durance , " She had a toughness about her . She was tough and sexy and direct . " Another plus ,

according to Beeman , was the chemistry between Durance and Tom Welling . Durance came on set that first afternoon and the two hit it off , becoming friends and developing a brother / sister relationship on the set .

The lateness of her casting forced Durance to start filming only three days after being hired , with no time to prepare for the role . Under the initial agreement , Durance was only to portray the character for a total of four episodes , but , after a discussion with Peter Roth over how they planned to use the character on the show ? insisting that she and Clark would not be having a romantic relationship ? the feature film division then cleared the character for more episodes . After the character was cleared for more episodes , the creative team decided to plant her in the Kent home so that she could provide a constant annoyance to Clark . To separate the physical appearance of Lana and Lois from each other , the producers had highlights added to Durance 's hair , as she and Kristin Kreuk both shared a similar brunette coloring .

= = Character development = =

= = = Storyline = = =

Series writer Brian Peterson discusses how the writing staff chose to develop the character : " In the Smallville pilot , Al and Miles established Lex and Clark as best friends , which is , to me , one of the best aspects of the show . So when you 're introducing his future love interest , why not introduce her , not as an enemy , but as the one who is constantly going to butt heads with him , where they 're not gonna like each other at all at first ? I think that because we chose such a different take on her , it wasn 't that intimidating . She could grow into the person that everybody sees on @-@ screen later . " For season six , the writers chose to start Lois down the path of investigative journalism , only in this version of the character she gets her start working for a tabloid newspaper . Writer Kelly Souders felt that if tabloid beginnings were good enough for Perry White ? an additional character established in season three 's " Perry " ? then they are good enough for Lois Lane . It adds depth to the character by showing how she struggled before becoming " the reporter we all know and love " . As Lois steps closer to her ultimate destiny at the Daily Planet , the writers have continued to evolve the character by having her grow out of the " black and white " mindset and have her begin seeing shades of gray . The writers wanted the character to realize that there is sometimes a middle road that has to be taken . In season eight , Durance sees Clark taking a job at the Daily Planet as a chance for her character to " step it up and be more involved " . In this case , Lois is acting more mature , taking charge in being a mentor to Clark as he transitions into his new job . Durance describes the eighth season as a lesson in duality , with Clark realizing that he has to be two different people if he wants to have a life and save the day ; Durance believes that the same applies to Lois . As Durance explains , " [ Lois has ] got her confidence as a journalist and on the inside , she 's going oh my god I 'm truly in love with [ Clark ] , more in love than I 've ever been with anyone . "

= = = Characteristics = = =

When developing the characteristics of their version of Lois Lane , the writers took inspiration from other leading ladies in cinema , for example , Karen Allen 's character Marion Ravenwood , from Raiders of the Lost Ark . Todd Slavkin describes the character as having a " sophisticated , worldly experience " , and was considered to be more of an adult than the rest of the cast . Durance believes that she embodies many of the characteristics that the creative team wanted to show in their version of Lois , specifically the fact that Lois has a lot of " nervous energy " from trying to " find herself " , the same nervous energy that Durance brings to the role . The actress also relates to Lois 's sassy , and independent nature , but , conversely , she is not as extroverted as Lois . Gough describes the character as coming from the school of hard knocks ; she is street smart , and a very capable woman . Durance believes her character is " fiercely independent " , but at the same time

she is not afraid to admit that she has flaws , and she is only human ; Lois also does not feel sorry about having those flaws . She goes into further detail , identifying the character as more of a tomboy who is vulnerable , with Gough adding that she is also " slightly neurotic " . BuddyTV 's John Kubicek characterizes her as a fast @-@ talking woman , who , though she whines over petty annoyances , can take care of herself . He goes on to further describe how she is not afraid of getting herself into trouble just so she can dig herself out .

#### = = Relationships = = =

One of Lois 's key relationships is with Clark , who is her husband in the comics . For Smallville , the characters ' relationship is in constant development . Darren Swimmer describes the relationship between Lois and Clark in season five as " a bit of a melting of the ice " . The two characters continue to " butt heads " , but the audience can see where there is a growing attraction and that either would be there for the other in a time of need . According to Erica Durance , in season five it is not yet clear if either character realizes the attraction , but the joking between the two characters represents a foreshadowing of a greater relationship . Durance believes that because of Lois 's self @-@ imposed walls , even if she thought about Clark in a romantic notion for just an instant she would immediately make it out to be a joke because she is not ready for that type of closeness , yet . The actress sees season five as being too soon for the characters to be " in @-@ love " , because they are still getting to know each other . Writer Brian Peterson describes Lois 's relationship with Oliver Queen in season six as a precursor to her future relationship with Clark . As Peterson sees it , it is the dynamic between her and Oliver , with her willingness to accept Oliver 's secret identity as Green Arrow as mirroring the relationship she will have with Clark . As far as season six is concerned , the relationship between Lois and Clark is still undefined for the audience . As Durance describes it , neither character is willing to put an official label on their relationship . The pair have learned to deal with each other 's " quirks " , but there are still moments that both feel uncomfortable with . Instead at this point , Durance believes that Clark and Lois are satisfied with identifying with a " brother @-@ sister friendship " label , than trying to discover how they both truly feel about each other .

#### = = Reception = =

Erica Durance has been nominated for two Saturn Award nominations in the Best Supporting Actress category for her performance as Lois Lane . The first came in 2005 , after her first season with the show , and then again the following year . Before the end of Smallville 's seventh season , IGN 's Daniel Phillips compared the actresses who have portrayed the character of Lois Lane over the past three decades . Up against the most recognizable version of Lois Lane , Margot Kidder , the 2006 film incarnation played by Kate Bosworth , and the previous live @-@ action television version portrayed by Teri Hatcher , Erica Durance was rated the highest . Although Phillips acknowledges that Kidder is the best representation of Lois ' personality , he claims that Durance is the best overall embodiment of the character . Apart from her beauty , Phillips states , " Durance makes Lois intelligent , capable , funny and dangerously curious ? exactly the type of woman Clark Kent would fall for . " Mike Moody of TV Squad named Lois as one of five reasons to watch Smallville 's eighth season . Moody believes that Durance 's Lois is " one of the best versions of the character " because Durance plays her as " tough , brainy , sexy and catty " , which makes her portrayal that much better than Kate Bosworth 's Lois Lane in Superman Returns . BuddyTV 's John Kubicek likens the actress 's performance ? her " stylized delivery of lines " ? to that of actresses from the 1940s screwball comedy era .

#### = = Other media appearances = =

In 2012 , the Smallville series was continued through the comic book medium with Smallville : Season 11 . Written by Bryan Q. Miller , who also wrote for the television series , Lois 's story

continues as she lives her life with Clark , who has now become known to the world as " Superman " . Her involvement with Clark also allows her to meet Gotham City 's elusive vigilante Batman , and subsequently learn his secret identity and befriend Batman 's partner Nightwing ( Barbara Gordon ) . She also teams up with the Amazon Princess Diana Prince , and DEO 's agent Steve Trevor was one of Lois 's former boyfriends .

When Lois accepts an assignment to Africa to investigate mysterious reports surrounding a vigilante , known as " Angel of the Plateau . " She is caught in a terrorist attack after her arrival , but is saved by Lana , who is revealed to be the superheroine Lois investigates . After they are acquainted , Lois learns that Lana has been using her abilities to protect children from people who would exploit them . However , Lois tries to keep the fact that Clark is now in the relationship with her from Lana . Both Lois and Lana also find themselves targeted by the latter 's enemies , and they send John Corben to defeat Lana . Lois helps the powerless Lana in defeating Corben , and Lana reveals that she knows about her relationship with Clark as she saw the engagement ring before Lois hid it . Lois receives the blessing from Lana .