



What do a parrot, a drone and a goat farm have in common?

I'm glad you asked!

But first, welcome to the first edition of Lizzie's Lighter Look on Life, which should glide over you like a warm summer's breeze. Quick, light, irreverent and definitely not hard hitting. But still topical, hopefully useful and entertaining. Lifestyle tips on books, movies and more. And a link to my regular 'Life's Rich Pattern' column which appears monthly in *The Village Observer*.

And I know what you're thinking... a) what *do* a parrot, a drone and a goat farm have in common? and b) why should I care?

Well my friends, the answer to a) is that they all feature in my upcoming novel! Some of you may know I've turned my hand to fiction writing and I'm very excited that my debut novel, *The Ruin and Revival of Libby Levine*, is set to launch next January with Affirm Press. It's a warm-hearted page-turning read about a mother who loses everything when her husband's jailed and turns to crime to make things right. Set between beautiful Bondi and even more beautiful Beechworth. Perfect holiday reading. Oh, and it features a parrot - named after a famous fictional detective - a drone and several goats.

The cover design is being worked on right now so if you stay tuned you'll get first dibs on seeing it. And finding out about the book launch. Which also answers b).

Go ahead and unsubscribe straight away if this isn't your thing. But if you want a quick slice of life to make you smile arriving in your inbox monthly then stay tuned.

All feedback welcome - just reply to this email. Or don't.

In the meantime, have a great week, and remember, when life gives you lemons. grab the tequila and salt.

Have a great week.

Liz



Some honest opinions and reviews on current stuff



Reading

'Someone Else's Shoes' by Jojo Moyes. Set aside your multiple daily device distractions and curl up on the couch with this page turner (thanks Covid!)



Watching

The Portable Door (Stan). Who doesn't want a bath towel that turns into a Star Trek-esque portal to anywhere?



Playing

Brain training with Lumosity. Currently addicted to Train of Thought and Word Bubbles (also useful for completing the Sat paper's Word target).



Listening

'Duck à l'Orange for Breakfast' on Borrowbox, by Karina May (audiobooks still count as listening!) Brilliant, page turny, fun and original modern Aussie romance from this clever debut author.



Going

B.M. Carroll (Ber's) new psychological thriller launch. *The Other Side of Her* is out this month, about a missing Irish backpacker, a million-dollar reward and two ordinary families cracking under pressure.



Yearning

As a long-time supporter of Community First Development their Larapinta Trek tops my bucket list. This seven day trek in August is led by Custodians through their Country, with nights round the campfire to connect and yarn.



Writing

The aged care facility mag, Heartbeat, where I interview Ashfield Baptist Homes residents and staff. None of the residents think their stories are worth telling, but they are all wrong and they are all fascinating.



Loving

My dog Sid. He'll be thirteen this year and I can't express how much I adore him. There's always a chin on the knee on offer when you're feeling sick, which he always knows.



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The Prince is Back

This may be my last column for a while as it seems I'm off to prison. An alarming missive has landed in my inbox from POLICE HEADQUARTERS, headed CRIMINAL POLICE REPORT. Luckily, a detailed explanation is attached, and I've been given 48 hours to respond.



I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which this was written. I pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of New South Wales.



Liz Foster Author

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