



Welcome to the first installment of my newsletter!

I hope this note finds you healthy, safe, and enjoying the start of summer. With all the big news going on in the world, by comparison my news feels small and ordinary.

### **What I'm working on...**

*Love Me Not*, the third book in the Hidden Springs series, is now available in both paperback and ebook! This story was five years in the making (various detours, life, and other interruptions). I've started drafting the fourth book in the series, so you won't have to wait nearly as long for the next one.

Also, the second book in the Hidden Springs series is a Goodreads Giveaway this week. Enter to win one of 75 free copies of the paperback on Goodreads.

### **What I'm thinking about...**

These are strange times, and I suspect "normal" will look a little different on the other side. Instead of dwelling on the scary stuff, I've been trying to pay attention to the positives, no matter how small. Pre-C19, I worked from home, and although I don't mind my own company, I have to admit it got lonely sometimes. Having the husband and the kids working and schooling from home has been an unexpected pleasure, one that I'll miss when regular life resumes.

The wave of protests against racism and police brutality seem to be working, or maybe it's better to say that there are early signs of progress and action. I'm doing what I can to support people and organizations involved in this effort. Check out my Facebook post if you need ideas for ways you can help.

### **What I'm reading...**

If, after the events of the last few weeks, you're feeling that your romance bookshelf (or Kindle collection) is a little too white, and if you're thinking you want to broaden your horizons, I have a recommendation for you.

Try the *Forbidden Hearts* series by Alisha Rai. It's set in a small town, which I love, and it acknowledges that small towns are rarely Hallmark-card perfect, which I love even more. Alisha's writing is pretty hot, so if you prefer a closed bedroom door, her books may not be right for you. She writes compelling characters and angsty stories, but they're definitely romance novels. You can be confident they'll find a way to work it out in the end.

### **What I'm eating...**

Way too much comfort food. Maybe it's because we're all home for dinner every night, or maybe it's because the world has been upside down, but I've spent the last few months protecting us all with an extra layer of love. It's going to take all summer to claw my way back to healthy eating. I won't share a comfort food recipe, because it's a slippery slope and I don't want to drag you down with me. Instead, at the end of the summer I'll share my favorite healthy recipe. Better karma that way.

### **What I'm drinking...**

A few years ago, I made the mistake of planting some mint in the garden. Attempts to rip it out have failed, so my revised goal is to harvest it ruthlessly. Grab a few fresh leaves, toss them in your water bottle, and you're good to go.

## What I'm listening to...

It's time to build the summer playlist. My chill-time rotation leans toward 70s and 80s acoustic, although you'll find some Zac Brown Band in mix. Any suggestions to help refresh the rotation? **If you reply to this email with song suggestions, I'll send you the link to my playlist on Spotify.**

May your summer be filled with good news.

~ Lisa

## P.S. Shameless cute puppy photo...

*My writing partner, working hard.*



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