



I hope this note finds you well and healthy, and that back-to-school season is bringing you relief rather than stress. (If not, please see “What I’m drinking…” below.)

What I’m working on...

The 4th book in the Hidden Springs series is underway! First draft goes to the editor by Thanksgiving. If you’d like early access, volunteer for my ARC (advance reader copy) team. You’ll be among the first to see the final draft when it’s ready, and you can help to spread the word about the new release. **Reply to this email if you’re interested and I’ll send you the details.**

Also, a fun McLuckie swag store is under construction. When it’s ready, I’ll celebrate by giving away some of the new swag. Keep an eye on [Facebook](#) for updates.

What I’m thinking about...

We’re all really tired of coronavirus at this point, so I’ll simply admit that it sucks up too much brain space and move on to other things. How about politics? (Kidding! Although if you live in the US, please vote in November. This is not the time to sit on the sidelines.)

What I’m reading...

Lucy Parker first caught my attention because her books are set in London, a city I love, and in the world of live theater, which I miss. (Curse you, COVID!) Lucy’s books have lots of witty banter, characters that feel real, and plenty of sexual tension. Instead of recommending her latest, I’ll send you back to the beginning. Start with [Act Like It](#), the first in her London Celebrities series. She has five in the series so far, and you can grab the first three as part of an anthology. I hope you enjoy her books as much as I do.

What I’m eating...

We’ve tried to move away from Covid comfort food this summer and toward a healthier diet. You know the drill: As Michael Pollan [said](#), “Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants.” Results so far have been mixed. After all, Covid is still with us, and comfort is still required. However, this new undertaking has led to lots of experimentation. Lentils, for example, were something I encountered from time to time in soups, but didn’t give much thought. Then we tried [this recipe](#) for dal makhani. Wow. If you don’t make Indian food often, you’ll need to stock up on the required spices, but it will be worth it.

What I’m drinking...

We’ll be pulling mint out of the garden for years, I think. It’s a delicious nuisance. As part of my continuing quest to use it rather than mulch it, I’ve developed a taste for mojitos. The best recipe I’ve found so far is [here](#). Enjoy them while the summer sun lasts.

What I’m listening to...

Thanks for your song suggestions for the 2020 Summer Chill playlist. I’ve been listening to it all summer—to the dismay of my teenagers. Why do they not appreciate my taste in music? Now it’s time to work on the 2020 Back-to-School playlist. **Send me your song suggestions for an upbeat, dance-in-the-living-room experience, and I’ll send you the link to the playlist when it’s ready.**

And now, I’m off to shop for school supplies—not because I need them (the kids are all set), but because nobody notices my weird obsession with office supplies if I indulge it at

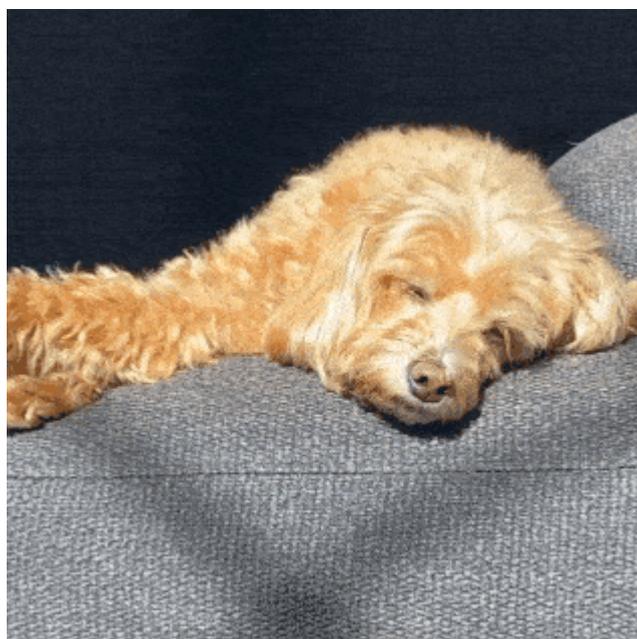
this time of year.

May your Fall be full of fun.

~ Lisa

P.S. Shameless cute puppy photo...

My writing partner, taking a break. Sometimes it's hard to keep your eyes open.



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