

## The Reluctant Farmer Of Whimsey Hill

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### How to Be a Perfect Farm Wife

Spanning several decades and three continents, Modoc is one of the most amazing true animal stories ever told. Raised together in a small German circus town, a boy and an elephant formed a bond that would last their entire lives, and would be tested time and again; through a near-fatal shipwreck in the Indian Ocean, an apprenticeship with the legendary Mahout elephant trainers in the Indian teak forests, and their eventual rise to circus stardom in 1940s New York City. Modoc is a captivating true story of loyalty, friendship, and high adventure, to be treasured by animal lovers everywhere.

### The Resilient Farmer

Psychological thriller with an agricultural background and female protagonist, set on farms on the Black Mountain in the 1960s and 1970s.

### The Farming Joke Book

In 1796 young farmer's wife, Anne Hughes, decided to start a diary to "set down all that I do every day" and so, for 13 months we learn of Anne's day to day life, of the butter maken that sometimes "was longe time cummin" of collecting honey, pudden making, making merrie and of all the social activities and hard work that was then the lot of a farmer's wife. This is an extraordinary document, rediscovered in the 1930s, written by a young woman who lives and breathes in its pages.

### A Farmer's Diary

When Richard Benson was growing up he felt like "the village idiot with O-levels" - glowing school reports aren't much help when you're trying to help a sow give birth, or drive a power harrow in a straight line without getting half the hedgerow stuck in the tines. He left Yorkshire to work as a journalist in London, but returned when his dad called with the news that they were going to have to sell the family farm, and, in so doing, leave the home and livelihood that the Bensons had worked for generations. This is not only a moving personal account, but also one that reflects a profound change in rural life.

### If Clouds Were Sheep

### Horses, Heifers and Hairy Pigs

Every day I watch my farm burn. Day after day, the sky is a relentless, empty blue. As our land dries up, all my hopes have turned to vapour, lost in that wide, blue yonder. And so begins Doug Avery's story of emotional resilience in the face of what at times seemed a hopeless situation. The South Island farmer suffered terribly during eight years of drought. His farm was depleted and so was he, to the point of severe depression. The Resilient Farmer is Doug's powerful example of how to get life back on track. With candour and wisdom, he tells his story of turning desperation into determination, embracing risk, navigating change and, on top of everything, enduring monumental earthquakes. An inspiring tale of how one man overcame heartbreaking adversity to live a fruitful life and help others.

### A View of the Art of Colonization

'An amazing story of love, laughter and the challenges of living from the land Simon's self-sufficient rural life is an inspiration to us all' - Ben Fogle Following a drunken misunderstanding Simon Dawson gave up his job in the city, moved to the wilds of Exmoor and became an accidental self-sufficient smallholder with an array of animals. But that was years ago now. Following up on his first book, PIGS IN CLOVER, this is the story of what happens when he suddenly realises that his life is changing all over again. He's not quite the spring chicken that he used to be: he is, horror of horrors, getting older. With a cast of best friends (some more helpful than others) including Ziggy, a panicked soon-to-be father desperate to grow up, Garth, an annoying teenager, and a rather handsome pig called The General, a plan is hatched to help each other mature (or immature). Heartfelt discoveries and hilarious endeavours ensue as they work through their age-related angsts, all with a fair dose of pigs, chickens, lambs and animal madness along the way. This is Exmoor's uplifting laugh-out-loud antidote to middle age in the mud; a place where you truly realise that the sty's the limit!

### The Sty's the Limit

The hilarious and endearing tale of how two American city boys learned to become olive farmers in New Zealand. In this delightful book,

Jared describes the first four years of their new life in the country, its disasters and small triumphs, its surprises and pleasures. You will be charmed. "A heart-warming tale with many laughs and a few tears."

### Forging On

In 1951 Buster Johnson moved from Surrey to Exmoor with her husband Johnny, four children, a couple of dogs and a vanload of pigs and poultry. Alas Poor Johnny, written some ten years later, is her vivid and fascinating account of their life there, and of farming on Exmoor in the fifties.

### A Shepherd's Watch

Common jewelry tools and techniques can be used to make customized stamping and texturing tools that add visual interest to jewelry designs. Many jewelers are reluctant to work with steel, but there are few differences as compared to copper or silver. Once learned, unique stamps or texturing tools can be created for a special application, to accent your work in a unique way, or to brand your pieces with a stamp that others cannot purchase. "Making Design Stamps For Jewelry" presents the step-by-step process of selecting best steels, carving the design, hardening the steel, and tempering the completed stamp to ensure a long service life. It describes the tools to use, gives detailed examples for making several design stamps, includes sources for purchasing tool steel, describes useful shop equipment, and offers tips for saving time and achieving better quality.

### Village Vets

This first book by the much-loved stars of TV's VILLAGE VETS is the unforgettable, hilarious, heartwarming and hair-raising adventures of two country vets, the animals they treat and the characters they meet. Best mates since they met on their first day at uni, Anthony Bennett and James Carroll both dreamed of working with animals from the time they were knee high. Little did these down-to-earth country vets know their dreams would find them unlikely TV stars, their larrikinism and genuine affection for the people they meet and the animals they treat winning the hearts of Australians everywhere. Village Vets takes us back to their early years, from their hilarious escapades at university, to their intrepid adventures in the UK and the Australian bush, to setting up their own practice in an idyllic coastal town in New South Wales. But if you thought country towns were sleepy, think again. Anthony and James have done it all - operated on guinea pigs and euthanased fish; treated a horse that had lost its foot and fixed a prolapsed cow with a piece of polypipe. And then there was the day that involved four calvings, one severed artery, one fox-bait poisoning, one skewered kelpie, one snakebite and 480 kilometres of driving An Australian version of James Herriot's All Creatures Great and Small, Village Vets will by turns charm you, make you laugh out loud and bring a tear to your eye. Join Anthony and James as they take you on an unforgettable journey into the heartache and joy of life as country vets, who are so often up to their armpits in something!

## The Farming Ladder

### A Dictionary of English Synonymes and Synonymous Or Parallel Expressions

“Jerry Nelson’s column comes from the true heart of the Midwest. He has the true voice, the slow twang. He knows wheat from barley. He knows hardware, he knows vegetation, he knows people.” Garrison Keillor In the tradition of Mark Twain and Jean Shepherd, Dave Barry and Garrison Keillor, Jerry Nelson is a humorist whose beat is the American heartland, a small-town world of pickup trucks and Sunday night pancake dinners, dropping in on neighbors and complaining about the county agent. His depictions of daily life, from the point of view of an ex-dairy farmer and taciturn husband with a twinkle in his eye, are read by 250,000 people a week—and occasionally woven into Prairie Home Companion scripts. These are stories of courtship; childbirth—he offers the delivery room doctor the use of his calf puller; family; neighbors; chores; and the duties of a father—why is it that a man who spends his days in cow manure can’t change a baby’s diaper? Knee-slappingly funny one moment, poignant the next, it’s a very special look at a distinctly American way of life.

### Would You Marry a Farmer?

“You are the most God-gifted writer I’ve ever had,” Tom’s college professor told him. However, Tom quit college; his love of farming drew him back to the farm. Thirty years later, Tom picked up the pen again, drawing readers into farming adventures with him. In these exciting and uplifting true stories, he shares his love of farming, family, and God. His unique writing style brings the reader right alongside him and his family as they work on their northern Wisconsin dairy farm. Tom’s stories have spread like wildfire from his hometown newspaper to papers across America. Readers tell him, “Please don’t quit writing.” Others ask him, “When are you going to make it a book?” Due to popular demand here it is. From quotes like “Dad, I really enjoyed fixing that with you” to “She’s a dead cow don’t call me anymore,” these engaging stories will keep you turning the pages to read one story, then another. As you do, you will be blessed as so many others have been. Come, read, and enjoy our farm life with us.

### The Reluctant Farmer of Whimsey Hill

'Wonderfully warm and funny' Cathy Woodman, bestselling author of Trust Me I'm A Vet Will is a Yorkshire lad, through and through. He's in his element when he's outside in the country air, not stuck in a classroom wasting his youth and the beauty of Yorkshire. When he starts as an apprentice farrier, his first few days are a baptism of fire. His fellow apprentice is a wind-up merchant and his gruff boss, Stanley, ribs him mercilessly about his tea drinking habit. But in this chaotic environment, the three of them form a brotherhood, and soon, Will realises that the coming year is going to teach him a lot more than how to shoe a horse properly A charming story full of dry Yorkshire humour and warmth - a must-read for fans of James Herriot, Clare Balding, Countryfile and The Shepherd's Life.

## Alas Poor Johnny

A fall from grace costs Lexi a position at a top New York financial institution. She ends up in a job at a small private bank in Beverly Hills. But that's okay, she still gets to work in her favorite field - catching white collar crooks. At least that's what she tells herself. But when Karista, the daughter of one of the bank's principal investors, runs into danger while traveling in Indonesia, Lexi's job comes to depend on her ability to save her. Even worse, Lexi will have to baby sit Steve, her boss' well-meaning but spoiled son, while going undercover to reach the heiress. Lexi's cushy tropical assignment soon spirals into chaos as she has to outrun fashion-forward Batak natives, outwit an arrogant FBI agent, help Steve find his stolen Air Yeezy sneakers, and figure out why her ardent former lover and debonair gentleman thief, Andre, is staying at the same resort. Lexi will have to be very good or very lucky to survive it all.

## Dear County Agent Guy

When he wedded a veterinarian, chasing horses down the Interstate wasn't in the vows If you love animals, you'll adore this hilarious, delightful, and sometimes heartbreaking behind-the-scenes look at life in a rural vet clinic.

## Crowded in the Middle of Nowhere

Documents the first year spent by the Harvard-graduate author with her new husband on their sustainable farm in the Adirondacks, describing how she withdrew from big-city life to be married in their barn loft, the difficult obstacles they faced attempting to provide a whole diet for one hundred locals, and the rewards of a physical-labor lifestyle.

## The Culprit

How can you get your farmer away for a holiday? How can you feed eight contractors with ten minutes' notice? How can you get along with your mother-in-law (especially if she is an Irish Mammy)? What do you do with a wellie with a hole in it? These questions - big and small - and many others are answered by farmer's wife and writer Lorna Sixsmith. She knows what it is like to have the village appraise your signature dish, how to stay calm during the dreaded "testing," how to interpret "farm speak," and what to do to keep the hens happy. More importantly she knows how to cheat to give the impression you are a PERFECT farm wife. This book is packed with history, advice, recipes, hints and tips (and quizzes along the way to see how you measure up). The best advice is always to keep a sense of humour, and Lorna's shines through in her writing. This is a perfect read for all farm wives and girlfriends (and husbands and boyfriends), and country lovers everywhere. #PerfectFarmWife

## The Farm

Crowded in the Middle of Nowhere: Tales of Humor and Healing from Rural America is a collection of humorous and poignant stories from a veterinarian in a small, dusty farming and ranching community in rural West Texas. Dr. Brock gives you an intimate look into his small-town and big-hearted perspective on life, animals, and their owners. His unique perspective and tales of doctoring beloved pets, cantankerous livestock, and occasionally their owners will make you smile, laugh, cry, and evoke every other emotion under the sun. Crowded in the Middle of Nowhere is Bo Brock's first book. Its first printing has been ranked as high as #5 on the Amazon Best Selling Humor List and won the 2015 Chicago Animals, Animals, Animals Book Festival grand prize. Dr. Bo Brock, DVM, owns a thriving, multispecies veterinary clinic in Lamesa, Texas (population 9,207 and sometimes referred to as "the middle of nowhere"). He graduated magna cum laude from Texas A&M University and was voted equine practitioner of the year for the state of Texas in 2007. In addition to his thriving veterinary practice and moonlighting as an author, Bo is an active public speaker and adjunct professor at Texas Tech University.

### Adventures of the Horse Doctor's Husband

\* Are farmers considered to be romantic?\* How can you find the right woman to be your perfect farm wife? \* What will it take for your mother and your wife to get on?\* Is it ever a good idea to live with your parents?\* How can you get away for a break?Farmer/farmer's wife and author Lorna Sixsmith looks at what it takes to become an Ideal Farm Husband. You'll find out how little effort it takes to be romantic, how to propose with pizzazz, the best ways to survive stresses like the Pre Silage Tension and the Pre Scanning Shakes, and how to overcome your disappointment at finding your girlfriend is not, after all, telepathic. You'll discover why water, social media, sales representatives, your dog and sharing housework are so important for your wellbeing. With "his and her" quizzes to test your progress (and yes, there are wrong answers), this is a book you can read together to ensure you become a modern, IDEAL farm husband. This is a perfect read for all farm husbands and boyfriends (and wives and girlfriends), and country lovers everywhere.

### Making Design Stamps for Jewelry

Cats, dogs, people – funny and heartbreaking stories from a pet veterinarian With insight and humor, Dr. Philipp Schott shares tales from the unlikely path he took into his career of veterinary science and anecdotes from his successful small-animal clinic. Dr. Schott brings to his writing the benefit of many years of expertise. Wisdom he imparts on readers includes the best way to give your cat a pill, how to prevent your very handy dog from opening a fridge, and how to handle your fish when it has half-swallowed another. Through these and other experiences, Dr. Schott also learned that veterinary medicine is as much, if not more, about the people as it is the animals. And he will have you laughing and crying as you embark on this journey of discovery with him.

### Land Sharks

WARNING - Unless, you have superior bladder control, are close to a lavatory or loo and can withstand a hailstorm of hilarity - use caution

when reading this book! After 27 years of marriage, all Martin and Diane thought they needed to complete their perfect Empty-Nest lifestyle was a "little creature bashing around the place." Hardly could they have expected that this wildly-witty little Bengal Kitten would turn their world upside down. Factor in an eloquently written true-story account of their crazy life experiences, and you will find yourself loving the Culprit - from start to finish! " I have edited many books in my life - more than I can ever count - The Culprit stands out as a classic to remember!" - Johanna Petronella Leigh, Editor Chapter 3 - KINDRED SPIRIT "But as I turned and headed for home, the bloody wind blew up again, blowing open the front of my robe so wide that it demanded and required I immediately place Kitten in front of my naughty bits so as to avoid having someone call the authorities." Chapter 4 - OF FELINES & FELLOWS "Oh crap, I thought to myself. And not wanting to spend a back-breaking night on the sofa, I immediately made for the closet, quickly threw on my parka and boots and with all possible dispatch exited the back doorway to help with the rescue and recovery. However, in such a hurried hurry was I that halfway down the damn frozen staircase I lost my footing and went flying, feet first, bumping, thumping, slipping and dumping down to the very bottom on my backs!

### Eat Like a Fish

From the author of *The Farm*, this is the story of twentieth century working-class England through four generations of a Yorkshire mining family

### The Dirty Life

'I am going to do the whole bloody lambing. I'm going to lamb all the lambs. I imagine myself lean and strong, with thin thighs, in attractive waterproof overalls, striding through the lambing shed like I own it. I spend the rest of the evening searching through eBay for waterproof trousers, short leg, size 14, that don't look like a pair of plastic bags stitched together at the crotch.' Sally Urwin and her husband Steve own High House Farm in Northumberland, which they share with two kids, Mavis the Sheepdog, one very Fat Pony, and many, many sheep. Set in a beautiful, wild landscape, and in use for generations, it's perfect for Sally's honest and charming account of farming life. From stock sales to lambing sheds, out in the fields in driving snow and on hot summer days, *A Farmer's Diary* reveals the highs, lows and hard, hard work involved in making a living from the land. Filled with grit and humour, newborn lambs and local characters, this is the perfect book for anyone who has ever wondered what it's like on the other side of the fence.

### Where Crows Would Die

What do you call a bull that keeps dropping off to sleep? A bulldozer. What is a horse's favourite sport? Stable tennis. Why do potatoes make good detectives? They have their eyes peeled. *The Farming Joke Book* brings together around 500 jokes, amusing stories and anecdotes about farmers, farm animals, and life on the farm in general. So, whether you've been arming for donkey's years or you are new to it and whether these two-liners make you laugh, cry or just groan out loud, there will definitely be something in this collection that will tickle your

farming funny bones. Divided into 16 categories and with 32 specially commissioned illustrations by Rory Walker, this pocket sized book will provide you with hours of enjoyment and is the perfect tool for the farmer wanting to entertain friends, family and colleagues, no matter what his or her age. John Terry was formally a teacher and head of a rural studies department and school farm. In June 1989 he started to set up a farm of his own which has developed over the years into a full-time business. He is well known in the agricultural world and is the author of four books about his life on the school farm as well as *How to Become a First-Generation Farmer* - an essential guide for those wanting to get into farming. His irrepressible sense of humour shines through in everything that he says and does.

### Operation Swallow

For Nick and Lesley Albert, swapping the hectic intensity of modern Britain for the peace of a tumble-down farmhouse in rural west Ireland was like a dream come true. But three years later, with the economy crashing and the house refurbishments unfinished, their plan for a tranquil life is falling apart. Are they in danger of replicating the very lifestyle they had hoped to escape, or can they get their lives back on track? Only time will tell. Chock-full of laughter and with a few tears too, this third instalment of their quirky life in County Clare sees these whimsical chicken farmers forge ahead with the renovations, make new friends, rescue more dogs, eat a lot of cake and dance joyfully, whilst enduring floods, droughts, fire and ice, and debating the curious problem of what to do with 300 eggs.

### Once Upon a River

Charismatic David Kennard lives a life most people can only dream about. Farming on a spectacularly beautiful part of the Devon coast he has an almost telepathic bond with nature and with his working sheepdogs. His is a life filled with daily challenges, from the battles with wild Atlantic weather to the dramas of cliff-top rescue, but it is also a life full of the richness of rebirth, and the Herriot-esque delight in a way of life that has remained almost untouched by the modern world. Part diary, part homage to the countryside and the canine family that is so much a part of his life, David Kennard's extraordinary book is designed to touch the hearts and minds of city and country dwellers alike.

### The Diary of A Farmer's Wife 1796-1797

First published in 1943, *The Farming Ladder* aims to explain how the reader may start and maintain a successful and profitable farm in the easiest way possible, without requiring a great deal of special knowledge or skills. With original ideas and a wealth of helpful tips, this is a volume not to be missed by existing or prospective smallholders and farmers. Contents include: *The Farm*, *The Plan*, *The Poultry*, *The Cattle*, *The Sheep*, *The Pigs*, *The Land*, *Labour*, *Corn Bins Unlimited*, *Holidays*, *The Farm Buildings*, *The Fourth Rung of the Ladder*, *Wartime Farming*, *Accounts*, *Conclusion*, etc. Many vintage books such as this are increasingly scarce and expensive. It is with this in mind that we are republishing this volume now in an affordable, modern, high-quality edition complete with a specially-commissioned new introduction on farming.

## Life on the Family Farm

From bestselling author Diane Setterfield, a new mystery as gorgeous, spellbinding and addictively readable as her blockbuster debut *The Thirteenth Tale*. *Solstice* is a time of dreaming, a time of stories and a time of magic. On a dark, misty night in the small English village of Radcot, locals gather at the Swan Inn to cap their day with drinks and lore. The 600-year-old pub is a famed hub for storytellers, but the patrons cannot know that their evening will be stranger than any tale they could weave. Into the inn bursts a mysterious man, sopping and bloodied and carrying an unconscious four-year-old girl. But before he can explain who he and the child are, and how they came to be injured, he collapses. Upriver, two families are searching desperately for their missing daughters. Alice Armstrong has been missing for twenty-four hours, ever since her mother's suicide. And Amelia Vaughan vanished without a trace two years prior. When the families learn of the lost little girl at the Swan Inn, each wonders if their child has at last been found. But identifying the child may not be as easy as it seems. *Once Upon a River* is a miracle of a novel, a tale of love and family, of secrets and betrayal, and of the transformative power of storytelling.

## The Accidental Veterinarian

*Operation Swallow* is the true story of how a small group of American soldiers, inspired by a charismatic but reluctant leader named Hans Kasten, worked to save hundreds of fellow servicemen from a Nazi plan to turn Jewish prisoners of war into concentration camp slaves. It begins in the snowy forests of the Ardennes during Christmas 1944 and ends at the charnel house of Buchenwald concentration camp in spring 1945. It is a remarkable battle of wills between a young GI thrust into a leadership position he didn't want and an SS officer who will stop at nothing to complete his orders. Written from personal testimonies and official documents, it is an escape story replete with courage, sacrifice, torture, despair and salvation. Even more remarkably, it is a story that has barely been told before, a chapter of US military history that the American government tried to suppress for decades — and an uplifting story that deserves to be widely known.

## While You're Here, Doc: Farmyard Adventures of a Maine Veterinarian

Is a farmer a good catch? Would you like to marry a farmer? Wondering where to find a nice farmer? Does the prospect of marrying a farmer scare the life out of you? This tongue-in-cheek funny yet realistic look at what life is like married to a farmer will make you groan in empathy as well as laugh out loud. "Would You Marry A Farmer?" is a lucid discussion of farm life in the 21st century, and a perfect book for both visitors to Ireland who wish to better understand Irish life, urban dwellers seeking to learn more about their farmer forefathers, and anyone curious about the social history of agricultural life in Ireland.

## Forward, Upward, Onward

Veterinarian Brad Brown never knew what to expect when he was called. Whether he was trying to geld a spooked stallion in a blizzard or

found himself in the middle of an all-out fracas involving a monkey's abscessed tooth and a shotgun, he took it in stride, with great affection for both his four-legged patients and his two-legged clients.

### The Valley

### Fifty Acres and a Poodle

We all have mountains to conquer and in the process of climbing them, we find that we're really conquering ourselves. By stepping beyond my comfort zone to discover what I was made of, I learned some valuable lessons about habits, discipline, mindfulness, friendship, challenges, attitude, mindset, comfort, mental strength, and my perceived physical limitations. Reading this book, you'll learn a lot about them as well! Hiking the forty-eight, four-thousand-foot peaks of New Hampshire's White Mountains changed my life forever. It taught me more than I could ever imagine, and my quest can teach you a lot too. Have you ever wanted to embark on a life-changing adventure, but felt too scared to do it? I decided to embrace the unknown and took on the enormous challenge, the difficult and rewarding journey, and the exciting venture. I'm forever glad I did. Take a walk with me as I climb mountain by mountain, and experience the lessons and takeaways learned from each peak I summited.

### Chickens, Mules and Two Old Fools

### Modoc

### An Ideal Farm Husband

Jeanne Marie Laskas had dreams of life on a farm that she couldn't get out of her head. A dream of fleeing her otherwise happy urban life for fresh air and open space. A dream she would discover was about something more profound than that. A dream she never ever expected to come true. Until a hot summer afternoon led to a drive in the country, where a place that had existed only in her fantasies turned out to be real--and for sale. Fifty Acres And A Poodle The place is almost too perfect to be believed, but there it is: a pretty-as-a-picture-postcard farm, with an Amish barn, a chestnut grove, and vistas so beautiful, they take her breath away. And in that moment she knows that this is the spot where her future begins. So she drags her boyfriend Alex, a committed urban dweller with zero agricultural awareness who owns a poodle, into her scheme, hoping that love will somehow conquer all. But buying a postcard--fifty acres of scenery--and living on it are two entirely different matters. The questions seem endless: How long before the barn roof collapses? Should they buy sheep? Will the place be good for

her writing, and for her relationship with Alex? And is there any way to keep Betty the mutt and Marley the poodle from rolling in mud, leaves, and unidentified smelly remains? In this funny yet tender tale, Laskas shares what happens when you follow your dream--and what happens when it's almost snatched away. *Fifty Acres and a Poodle* is a charming and surprisingly poignant memoir of Jeanne Marie Laskas's first year on Sweetwater Farm. It is a journey peopled by unforgettable characters: Billy, the local contractor who bulldozes her briars, takes her shopping for tractors, and advises her on buying a mule; Tim, the FedEx driver whose truck becomes Marley's obsession and nearly his downfall; the local hunters who present her with an entire wardrobe of blaze-orange hats; and Bob the cat, whose valiant fight for life gives her the courage to love. Jeanne Marie Laskas writes with exhilarating wit and extraordinary wisdom about life, love, and finding your true self on a farm. It's hard to say how a dream forms. Especially one like mine, which at first seemed so utterly random. It could have been a sailing-a-boat-to-Tahiti dream, a quit-your-job-and-hitchhike-to-Alaska dream. It was a fill-in-the-blank dream, born of an urge, not content. An urge for something new. I was thirty-seven years old. I lived on Eleventh Street, the last house on the right, in South Side, a gentrified old mill town on the banks of the Monongahela River. I rented an office in downtown Pittsburgh, a fifteen-minute bike ride away, which is where I spent my days writing stories and magazine articles. I had a garden. I had a cat. I had a dog. And I had a farm dream, a fantasy swirling around in my head about moving to the country. Where in the world was this coming from? That's what I wondered. It might have made sense if I was a miserable person, sick of my life. But I was not. I had a good life; it had taken me a long time to get it that way. A farm dream would have made sense, I supposed, if I was at least the farm dream type. A person with some deep personal longing to churn butter. A person who had had city life forced upon her and now was determined to go be true to herself and live among the haystacks. A person who wore her hair in long braids, used Ivory soap, and liked to stencil her walls with pictures of little chickens and cows. A person who, at minimum, had a compost pile in her yard where she diligently threw lawn clippings and coffee grounds and eggshells and earned the right to use the word organic a lot. But I was not that person. I was not even sure what hay was, or why anyone would stack it. And if I composted anything, it was only by mistake. From the Hardcover edition.

### An Olive Grove at the Edge of the World

In "The Reluctant Farmer of Whimsey Hill," opposites attract; for better or for worse. That is what troubles animal-phobic, robotics engineer Smith who just got married. He learns that his bride's dream is to have a farm where there are lots of animals and she can rescue ex-race horses to retrain and find them new homes. But according to a Meyers-Briggs Personality Test that they took for fun, their marriage is doomed. There is only one problem: the newlyweds took the test after the wedding. Whether Smith is chasing a cow named Pork Chop through the woods with a rope, getting locked in a tack room by the family pony, being snubbed by his wife's dog, or unsuccessfully trying to modernize their barn using the latest technology, the odds are stacked against him. It seems like everything with four legs is out to get him. Will the animals win, forcing Smith to admit defeat, or will he fight to keep his family and the farm together? Enjoy the true, warm, and frequently hilarious stories of Smith's journey along the bumpy road from his urban robotics lab to a new life on a rural Virginia farm.

### Fresh Eggs and Dog Beds 3

'I used to be a commercial fisherman, chasing your dinner on the high seas for a living, but now I farm twenty acres of saltwater, growing a mix of sea greens and shellfish.' In *Eat Like a Fish* Bren Smith - a former commercial fisherman turned restorative ocean farmer - shares a bold new vision for the future of food: seaweed. Part memoir, part manifesto, through tales that span from his childhood in Newfoundland to his years on the high seas aboard commercial fishing trawlers, from pioneering new forms of ocean farming to surfing the frontiers of the food movement, Smith introduces the world of sea-based agriculture and advocates getting ocean vegetables onto our plates. There are thousands of edible varieties in the sea! Here he shows how we can transform our food system while enjoying delicious, nutritious, locally grown produce, and how restorative ocean farming has the potential to create millions of new jobs and protect our planet in the face of climate change, rising populations, and finite food resources. Also included are recipes from acclaimed chefs Brooks Headley and David Santos. Written with the humour and swagger of a fisherman telling a late-night tale, this is a monumental work of deeply personal food policy that will profoundly change the way we think about what we eat.

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