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Hello lovelies!

I hate to open with 'war stories' but it can't be avoided this month. Due to a freak accident with UGG boots (now banished to the back of the wardrobe) I broke my foot! Then ten days later, just as I was back at work, confidently zooming around on my knee scooter, I hurt my back trying to get out of the building with one of those stupid 'press to exit' buttons that's miles from the door. So now I'm stuck on the couch, happily minus the moon boot, but unable to even dress myself. It's been frustrating and humbling, and has given me an appreciation for those who have to live with this all the time. My husband has been amazing. Today I saw my lovely doctor who assures me that patience, some physio, and a few drugs to manage the pain will see me right.





The upside is that I'm still able to do some things with my laptop on a tray, including lots on my list for the launch of **My Ollie Jolly Christmas** on November 10th. First up is ARC team signups! I'm opening them to my newsletter subscribers first.



Would you like to join my ARC Team?

Two best friends. One fake romance.
A Christmas where the clock is always about to strike midnight.

Rock star Ollie Templeton has spent his career giving the tabloids exactly what they want. What he doesn't plan to give them is the truth about Samantha Bamford, his best friend long before the fame ever showed up. But one impulsive word at a charity gala, and Sam isn't

just his oldest friend anymore. She's his girlfriend. Fake obviously. Except nothing about the way he says her name sounds fake at all.

Sam doesn't have the headspace for a pretend romance—not with Ollie's panto run stealing his evenings, weekends at his country house stealing her resolve, and his co-star who's determined to steal him for herself. But every fake date feels a little too easy, and Sam is starting to suspect she's the one with everything to lose when the clock strikes midnight

With his mother circling, and thirty years of calling it friendship collapsing scene by scene, Ollie has one December to convince Sam this was never pretend at all—before it's too late to make it real.

If this sounds like you and you're happy to write a review and share it, click below to find the sign-up form and you'll get a free advance copy of My Ollie Jolly Christmas.

JOIN THE ARC TEAM

If you're over on Instagram, and could make this indie author feel a little less invisible by sharing, commenting, or making the odd bit of content, I also have a Street Team. They're a great group and we have our own little Christmas Riot chat. I make it super easy to share stuff, so if you think you might be able to help, the sign up is here too.

JOIN THE CHRISTMAS RIOT STREET TEAM

Author Update

While **My Ollie Jolly Christmas** is with my editor, I've been writing a four-chapter piece of bonus content for the book. Fast forward a year, and the band and their partners are on a ski weekend in the

Swiss Alps. That's brought a whole lot more searching, with some clues about what happens hidden in plain sight:

Best way to get to from London to Val d'Isère

What does the air smell like before snow?

What is special about the village of Le Fornet?

What shades do pink diamonds come in?

Here's a link to a video of this beautiful location.





I've loved staying with these characters, and also setting the scene for Book 4, Liv and Garrett's book, which will open on the same weekend as the bonus content. I've known the shape of the story from the very start when I created the band. I'll give you one clue: Happy Place.

Indie Author Spotlight

We're holding onto a bit of summer in the beautiful English countryside with this month's feature author, Sarah Shoesmith.



Summer in Sweetingfield

When Summer Sutton arrives in Sweetingfield, the beauty of the countryside takes her breath away, as does the most gorgeous and infuriating man she has ever met.

Ben hides his private pain by focusing his attention on the animals in his care at Pepley Wood Wildlife Hospital. The one thing he and Summer can agree on is that they are both too damaged by their pasts to ever risk falling in love with anyone.

Pepley Wood faces closure. Can Summer and Ben overcome their differences and work together to build a secure future for the animals needing Ben's care?

'Shoesmith's characters jump off the page
straight into the heart of the reader.'
Reader review, ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐

Find Summer In Sweetingfield below.

UK LINK **US LINK**

Caroline's Story Nook

Reading: I'm still suffering a bit of a book hangover from **Into The Blue**! Diving back into Elsie Silver's Chestnut Springs series with **Reckless** (oh, Theo Silva) which defied my dislike of accidental pregnancy, and **Hopeless**, bringing back memories of how mean some small towns can be, has helped me through. Nice easy and enjoyable reads. With not commuting to work, I'm behind on listening to **Lost and Found** but I'm determined to get back into the audiobook this week.

Watching: Stuck on the couch there has been A LOT of TV. We watched both seasons of **The Undeclared War** about cyber attacks (loved it). Then we jumped into Season 3 of **Vigil**, which not only has a great plot but the Arctic scenery is stunning. I've almost finished **Every Year After** and I loved seeing Barry's Bay on the screen. I also watched the movie **Young Victoria** which was great— a queen who actually got her love match, sadly only to lose him after just twenty years of marriage. And of course All Blacks rugby, F1 and Australian Supercars take over the weekends too.

Listening: There's one lovely San Francisco based bookstagrammer I follow who I have a lot of favourite books in common with. She's a massive **Noah Kahan** fan, so I've been listening to a bit of that. It's good!

Caroline's Corner of the World



Now we're in the 'ber' months I start to get a serious case of season envy! While we're coping with fickle spring, I'm seeing beautiful early autumn pictures from the other side of the world. Friends of ours have been in Scotland, one of my favourite countries and while stuck on the couch, reading their travel blog has brightened my days. I just love the beautiful old buildings in this post from Edinburgh.

One thing I enjoy about reading (and writing) is being able to travel the world vicariously. In the last few months I've been to small towns in Canada and Oregon, Torfino in British Columbia, New York City, Chicago, London, Somerset and Val d'Isère. Where have you been travelling in books lately? Share me your book recs for places I need to visit.

See you next month !

In between I'll drop in the next two First Chapter Friday books and the cover reveal for My Ollie Jolly Christmas (you always get to see these things first)

Caroline



Caroline Corvin Author

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