

LONGACRE PRESS RESOURCE KIT

New Zealand Junior Fiction

Lizzie, love

RESOURCE KIT contains:

- Comprehension Questions
- Discussion Topics
- Research Topics
- Creative Responses

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BRENDA DELAMAIN

— an historical novel —

Lizzie is twelve years old: sparky, determined and recently crippled by an illness.

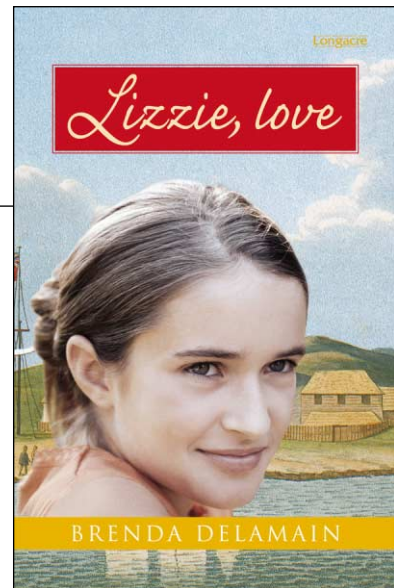
The year is 1833 and her father, James Kemp, is a missionary to Maori at Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands.

When Lizzie's baby brother dies and her mother becomes ill, nothing Lizzie does seems able to make things better. As the eldest daughter of seven children, much is expected of her.

Life isn't easy, but does God care? Is there any point in praying, as her father has taught her?

Based on a true story, *Lizzie, love* is a moving and vibrant cameo of life in early colonial New Zealand. Brenda Delamain brings Lizzie Kemp to us: thoughtful, brave and fully alive.

BRENDA DELAMAIN was born in England. She's been a nurse, a farmer, a student and the mother of three children. Her fascination with local history led to the research that produced *Lizzie, love*. Brenda has lived in Kerikeri for thirty-five years.



SPECIFICATIONS:

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Comprehension Questions:

Chapter 3

- What is saltpetre used for?
- What is Lizzie better at than her brother?

Chapters 5/6

- What does Tareha threaten to do to Richard Kemp? What is the rule he quotes? Why is this relevant to Mrs Kemp?

Chapter 8

- Why does Lizzie get in trouble in this chapter? What explanation does Hana give to the family?

Chapter 10

- pp 68–69. What image provides a parallel to Lizzie's disability? Lizzie mends something – keep this in mind for later in the story, see if you can find an event which echoes this action.
- What makes Lizzie doubt her belief in God?

Chapter 11

- p 81. What does Lizzie see that lifts her mood? Why does it?

Chapter 13

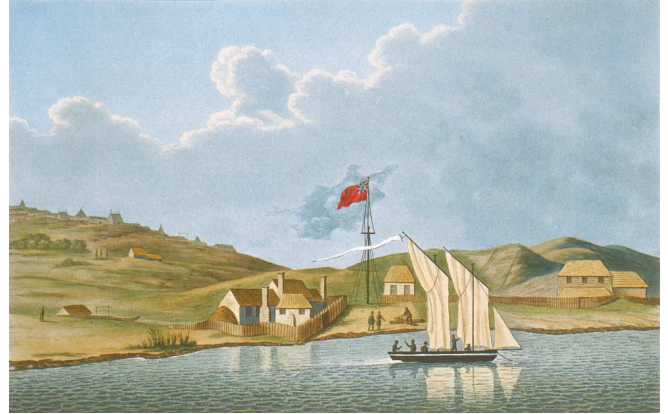
- Who does Mrs Kemp think are coming? Why would these people have come after Hongi's death?
- What does Mr Kemp believe is their purpose in staying in Kerikeri?
- Slavery is mentioned twice in this book. Can you find these instances? (1. page 12 'act abolishing slavery in his Majesty's dominions was passed in parliament', 2. page 41 Mere was Tareha's slave.)
- Throughout the novel there is a motif of darkness and light. Find examples of the use of darkness in the novel; what events happen in darkness? There is a quote from scripture in the novel relating to darkness and light – find it and give your own interpretation of its meaning.

Discussion Topics:

- The Kemp children are fluent in Te Reo Maori, as well as English. In the story it is very useful that the children can speak both languages. Do you feel it is important now for people to be bilingual? What reasons can you think of for speaking more than one language?
- The missionaries believe God created Earth and everything in it. In this story Darwin is only just forming his ideas about evolution. How did his ideas challenge the traditional beliefs of people like the missionaries? Do you think these ideas are incompatible?
- Why do you think early pioneers left their homes to come and live in New Zealand? Was it a brave thing to do? Do you know anything about how your own families got to New Zealand? In what ways does moving countries now differ to how it would have been in the 1830s?
- What do you know about missionaries? What was their motivation in coming to places like New Zealand? Is there a difference between the work missionaries did in the early 1800s and the work they do now?

Research Topics:

- What was life like for Maori before settlers and missionaries came to New Zealand? Research traditional Maori life and what impact contact with Europeans had to this way of life, and present your findings as a presentation to the class or as a wall-chart.
- Where were the earliest missionary settlements in the Bay of Islands? What records can you find of the Kemp family?
- Who was Charles Darwin and what did he do? Research at your school library or using the internet, and present your findings to the class. Give a summary of Darwin's important theory.



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Creative Responses:

Pretend your family are early missionaries in New Zealand:

- Write a letter to someone in England describing life in New Zealand.
 - Write a list of your daily chores. Remember that boys and girls were expected to play different roles in those days. How would a boy's life and a girl's life differ in the 1830s?
 - Imagine what it would be like to see New Zealand for the first time. Think about what New Zealand was like in the 1830s. Write, or draw a picture, that describes what you would see and hear.
 - You are building a storehouse for your settlement. Design your storehouse, and explain what different areas are used for. You might need to research building in the 1800s, to see what materials and tools were available, and what was needed for this kind of building.
- Imagine seeing Europeans for the first time. What would this feel like? Imagine you had to explain what you had seen to your family who have not yet encountered European settlers.
 - In the story, William Kemp and Charles Darwin talk about how creatures evolve to suit their environment, food source, etc. Think about your favourite animal – how could it evolve to suit its environment better? How do you think humans will have evolved in 1000 years from now? In one million years? Write a description or draw a picture, and explain what you think would change and why.