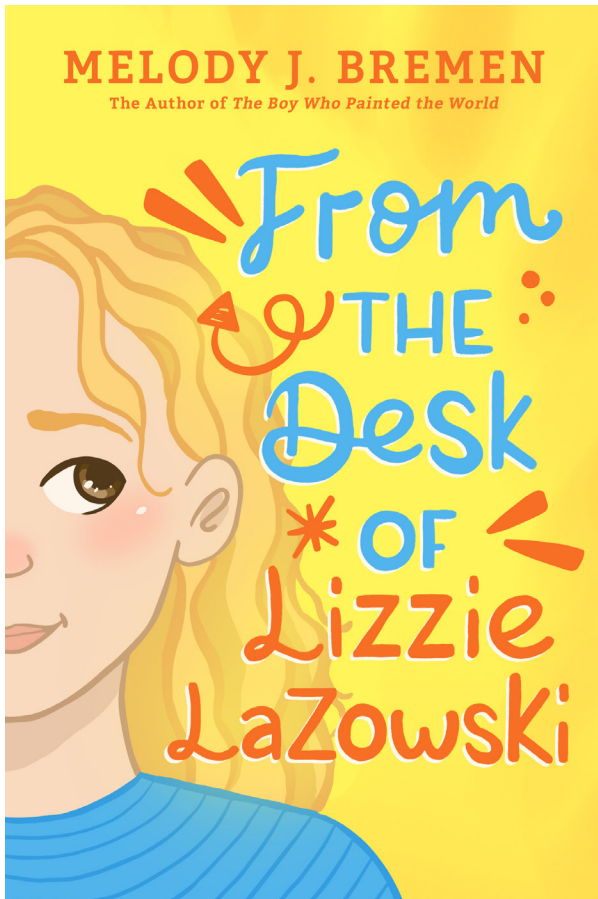


A Teacher's Guide to: From the Desk of Lizzie Lazowski



Ages 9-12 . B0D9XY38ND3 . E-Book: B0D181H2PS

About the Book

When 8th grader Lizzie Lazowski receives a pen pal assignment, she puts her letter into a bottle and throws it into the ocean. A few days later, she receives an anonymous response in her mailbox. She continues to write to her mystery pen pal, answering prompts like *what's your favorite food* (milkshakes), and *who is your best friend* (she doesn't have one at the moment).

Through her letters, she tells about her biggest dream: to secure a spot at Northcrest High School for the Arts. If she submits a creative project—a true story about one person—she can win a scholarship. And Chloe, the new girl at school, just might be the one to help her complete the project (and maybe even fill the best friend role).

As the deadline for the scholarship draws near, her project flops and her budding friendship goes horribly wrong. All she has is the help of a mystery pen pal to put her life back on track.

About the Author

Melody J. Bremen writes books for middle grade readers. Her books include *Room 42*, *The Boy Who Painted the World*, *Flying in a Cage*, and a four fantasy novels.

She lives in New Jersey with her family.

Visit her website at www.melodyjbremen.com to find out more.



Discussion Questions

1. In her second letter, Lizzie describes some of her life experiences. How do you think those impacted her and how she thinks about herself?
2. Lizzie and Chloe have very different personalities. Choose two-three adjectives to describe each of them.
3. In order to get into Northcrest High on a scholarship, Lizzie needs to complete a project that tells the true story of one person. If you had to complete that project, which person would you choose?
4. How does Lizzie change over the course of the story?
5. Grandpa Clarence spent most of his life creating games and toys. Why do you think he chose that as his job?
6. What lesson(s) did Lizzie learn from creating the documentary?
7. This book is written in letters, text messages, and transcripts. How does that make it different from a typical novel?



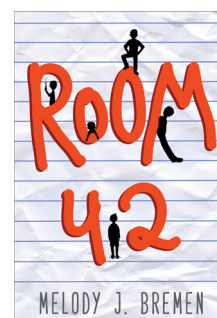
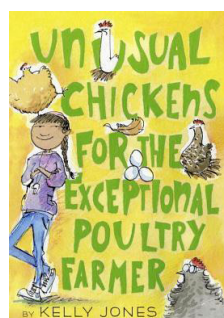
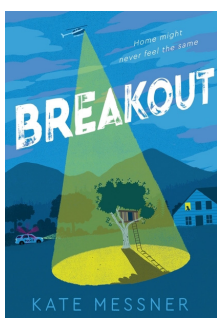
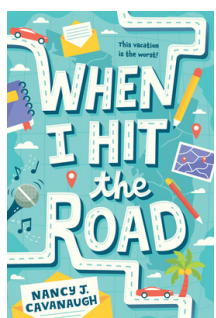
Ideas for Classroom

Imagine you had a pen-pal. Using one of Lizzie's prompts, write them a letter.

Imagine the residents of the Sunview Assisted Living Facility made a graduation party for Lizzie and Chloe at the end of the school year. Write a scene describing it.

Further Reading

Other epistolary (written in letters, journal entries, etc.) middle grade books:



Other middle grade books by Melody: