



COLONISE  
your own  
adventure

It is 1887. You live in  
Whitington, Norfolk, England  
population 263 on the days  
all the men come home.  
You have been to market.  
You have even been to the  
beach. The ship is leaving  
for New Zealand. You know  
if you go you will never  
come back.

If you get on the ship turn to page 2  
if you stay at home turn to page 2

Instructions are on page 40

Oh by the way you have  
a husband who dreams  
of being an inventor  
(well done you)

How does this influence  
your decision?

If you get on the ship, 3  
if home, 3

Did I mention you  
also have a nine  
month old child?

You are tired.

Ship, 4  
Home, 7

The ship is named  
TARANAKI.

You do not know that  
Taranaki is also a place.  
The Lynn News & Wisbech  
Chronicle has never  
contained the word  
PARIHAKA.

Do you think

•

you play no part in this?

You do not read the  
London papers

You have no context  
for 'native difficulty'  
(though there it is in sepia)

Do you think

5



You are not  
complicit?

Silly! You don't get  
to make that kind  
of decision for yourself!  
Turn to page 4 and  
get on the ship with  
your husband like  
the good little  
woman you are.

on board the Taranaki  
you spend your  
time

Stitching

weeping  
rocking the baby

Why is your  
diary

Why (o why) did you  
throw your husband's  
handkerchief overboard?

For shame, your dreadful  
stitching.

Better than throwing  
yourself.

See how it falls.



a festival  
of the  
hands

on board you meet  
Miss Fox, who offers  
you a share in the  
flying fish that  
landed in her nape

Yes? turn to  
page 17

No? turn to  
page 12

you stick to the  
wheel well.

your husband writes  
this in his diary

we have no idea what  
you wrote in yours  
though we know it exists  
because he wrote in his  
that it did.

to read his story • turn to  
page 34  
to continue with yours p 28  
13



The kitchen will  
never be tidy.

Every day a cycle  
of flour  
and steel.

turn to  
page 27

## The TARANAKI docks

Do you  
stay on course?  
turn to page 19  
exit stage left  
with MISS FOX?

turn to page  
24 (via page  
21 if you choose)

Make her a  
MAN KILLER  
says Josh. But  
not one with a  
tragic back story.

turn to page 10, 22, 36

Fingers flesh  
lick the bones

turn to page 12

The opposite of  
rational dress  
is irrational  
dress

THESE PAGES DO NOT COUNT

unpaginated

unpaginated

The fire burns  
bright in the grate.

Y  
Dell

It is 1896. Your  
husband still dreams  
of being an inventor.  
You live in a two room  
house where the  
inventions get made  
on the kitchen table.  
Someone has to go out  
and sell the rabbit  
poison cutter machine

turn to page 23



How think about the word

MANIFEST

man.i.fest.ed

man.i.fest.ing

man.i.fests

clearly apparent

to be revealed

a document containing

particulars

O her

white hands



Before you decide,  
you should know that  
you have nine  
children now, and  
the neighbours like  
to talk. You are tired.  
Do you  
saddle your horse and  
take to the road? p25  
Take your bicycle on a  
sales trip round the hills? p27  
Stay home and tidy the  
kitchen? p14

It's so peaceful living  
with Miss Fox. You have  
a garden grow violets  
marigolds pinks borage  
pansies asparagus  
figs sage feverfew

and it is as if  
to the rest of the world  
you don't exist. And it  
is as if, to you, they don't  
either. This unwording  
is ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Silly! You don't have  
a horse. How could you  
afford to feed one as  
well as all nine of  
your children, especially  
when your dreamer  
husband's inventions  
are not selling.

NINE children.

turn to page 27



eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee

the wind whistles

the wheel is stuck

Bicycles are for the  
fast and loose. Bicycles  
will give you ideas.  
Bicycles will be the  
downfall of civilisation  
as civilisation is  
supposed to be. Your  
babies need you and you  
alone the kitchen is  
untidy and what will  
the neighbours say.



The captain says  
you may steer the  
ship. Do you

refuse?

turn to  
page 15  
via page 26

steer according to  
the given coordinates;

turn to page 15

set a new course?

turn to page  
42 then 15

Which is more  
extraordinary  
a fish that flies  
or a comet  
close to the sun?

I want to know  
more about  
Miss Fox  
says Alison

turn to  
21, 24, 29, 35

16th 2022 the Lynn News  
reported ~~on~~ on the controversial  
ten to seven council vote to  
allow a development of  
passive eco homes in the  
Whittington countryside.


Arguments  
for include  
the words:

PLANNING  
OPPORTUNITY  
BIG TIME  
ECO

GO AHEAD

Arguments  
against  
include:

UNJUSTIFIED  
HARM  
COUNTRYSIDE  
CHARACTER  
DESTRUCTION



when you  
fall off your  
bicycle after  
three months on the  
road you  
blame yourself  
blame your bicycle  
blame the neighbours  
blame the  
road  
pick yourself up  
Start over <sup>turn</sup> to page 1

Did you know, says  
Miss Fox, that comets  
are flowers of the sky?

Her hands soft on  
the treacherous railing.  
It is 1882 and the Great

Comet is great  
and so is Miss Fox.

turn away



Eleven days into the voyage.  
*Hannah made it.* (he wrote)  
A meat pie and plum  
pudding taken to the galley.  
The sea is perfectly blue. (he wrote.)  
Sheep that was killed  
yesterday was hung up in  
the giggling half mast high.  
Devine service was held on  
deck 2 o'clock in the  
afternoon, the clergyman the  
captain for a pupit with a  
Union Jack flag covering it -  
baby was singing during  
Service.

Fourteen days into the  
voyage. Although the ship  
rolls every night (he wrote),  
*Hannah and baby sleep as  
sound as if they were  
asleep.* She rocks them to  
sleep as she rolls on the  
ocean waves. (he wrote) One  
of the passengers, an old  
Scotchman, gave baby a  
halfpenny.

roll the ship southerly  
bonny my baby  
roll the ship southerly  
bonny my boy

Nineteen days into the  
voyage. *Hannah had a  
mishap and came tumbling  
down a ladder when the  
ship rolled, bruising herself a  
great deal on the back and  
arms - but no bones broken*  
(he wrote).

she came tumbling in a  
mishap of a ladder and a  
bruise when the ship we roll  
we tumbling we bruising a  
great deal broken no bones  
*Hannah's shoes slippery*  
those 1880s non-stuck soles  
the smooth metal the hand  
rail slippery with the fresh of  
the sea air and the sea  
rolling and rolling and  
rolling there ought to be

warning signs (I cannot  
read it without)

warning: slippery under foot  
warning: slippery under  
construction  
warning: slippery under  
colonisation

warning: down down  
the stairs the taste of metal  
like sage in the air

Twenty days into the voyage.

*Hannah progressing*

*Javouabiy, W. Pollock, the*

*Steward, just brought a*

*flying fish in to show*

*Hannah - such a beauty, so  
plump and fat* (he wrote).

They used to think that

birds flew to the moon for

winter and who knew fish

could jump this high? In

Genesis 1:28 (it is written)

God says: *Be fertile and*

*multiply; fill the earth and*

*subdue it. Have dominion*

*over the fish of the sea, the*

*birds of the air, and all the*

*living things that crawl on*

*the earth. What to do with a*

*fish that flies?*

fly the fish southerly sonny  
my baby

fly the fish southerly sonny  
my lad

Thirty four days into the  
voyage, a flying fish flies  
under the hat of a young

Irishwoman, Miss Fox,

sitting with Hannah on deck

with her back to the side of

the ship. A flying fish to the

neck. A slip of the fish. A

ship of a girl. A slip of the

tongue. A slippery rung.

Slippery slippery fishy. Fly.

The slippery flying fish slips

into their grasp and the

ladies eat part and part of it

for tea.

Fifty days into the voyage.  
*Hannah has been trying to  
catch a Cape pigeon today  
with a flying line.* (he wrote)  
When you cast a line when  
we cast how far (I cast, a  
line) when she reels (I reel it  
out) when we pull at the  
threads of fill the earth and  
subdue it.

Fifty six days. *A young  
Swede caught a pigeon  
today & gave it to Hannah -  
they are beautiful birds - the  
breast is as white as snow. I  
am going to skin & cure it -  
the breast will look splendid  
for baby & the wings will do  
for a hat too.* (he wrote)

Sixty five. *We are sitting in  
our cabin reading and  
writing.* (he wrote)

Eighty. *Hannah has been to  
the wheel today & steered  
the Taranaki* (he wrote) &  
she was actually strong  
enough to steer her on course  
(he wrote) & kept to her  
course (he wrote). She stuck  
to the wheel well.

stick the ship slipplly bonny  
my baby


stick the ship slipplly bonny  
my my

Eighty two. *Hannah & I (he  
wrote) sighted New Zealand  
mainland this morning - 81  
days. 19 hours. 43 minutes  
& 10 seconds from London  
dock*

roll the ship southerly  
bonny my baby

roll the ship southerly  
bonny my boy

SHIP  
SLOG



If the stories are  
invisible, says the  
Professor, how  
do we know they  
exist?

You cannot hear the  
neighbours from this  
distance. You care less  
and less what they  
think.

Carry on? p 39  
Go home? p 33

You are



Instructions:  
follow the  
instructions

Do you?  
think

turn to page 6



callous

complicit

soft

bruised

tidy

caloused