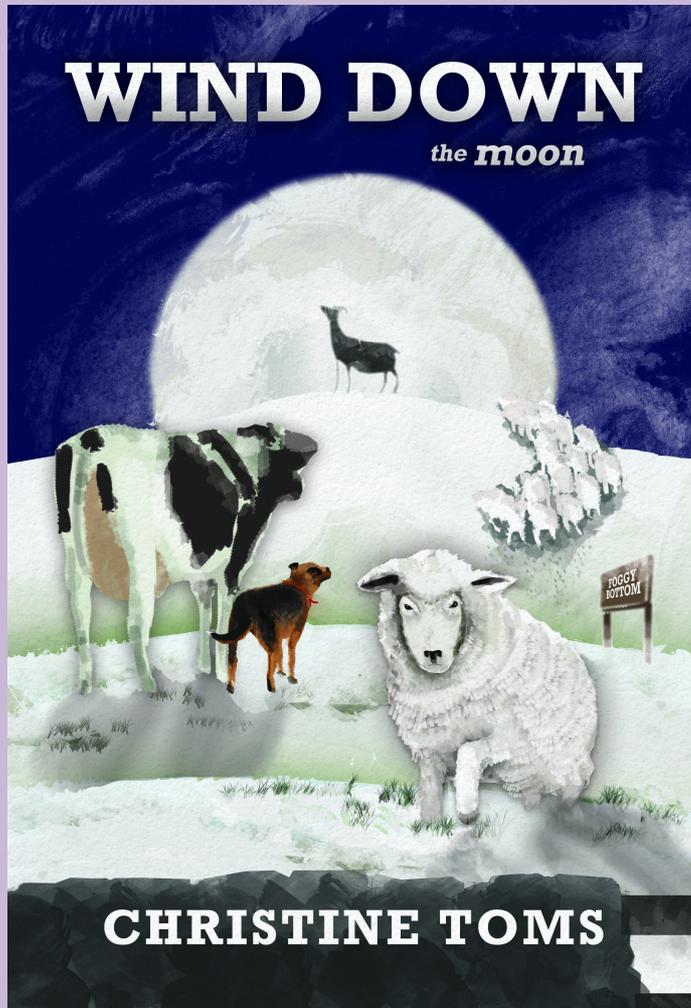


WIND DOWN THE MOON

A winter's tribute to the animals who were here first

Christine Toms



English-born NZ journalist, author and script writer, Christine Toms, lives near Palmerston North.

She is a keen supporter of animal welfare groups, with an affinity with those whose language is alternative to human-speak.

Finished novels, children's books and TV/ film scripts in other genres available.

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In 1977, Richard Adams gave us *Watership Down*. In 2013 Christine Toms brings us *Wind Down the Moon*.

They've always done things differently at Foggy Bottom farm in Flock Hill. Here lives the invincible Saanen goat Cranston, along with Utopia Eavesdrop his Friesian dairy cow lover, Huntaway dog Harriet, and a flock of sheep. Head ewe, Mrs Honeypekker, makes it clear; the animals will daily recite the Abide Ode in exchange for good care.

One day, ever-dreaming Cranston witnesses the moon being wound down and vows to discover who it is that holds the key to Day and Night. When Foggy Bottom farm is taken over by evil businessman Roguespierre, Utopia and friends disappear. Soon, all shelter goes and factory farming is introduced.

Cranston yearns to escape and in a dream sees fences tumble. His dream comes true. A massive earthquake prompts the Foggy Bottom animals' flight, in a mid-winter exodus, over the Southern Alps in search of The Promised Land and Utopia.

Wind Down the Moon takes you deep into a world where sheep, a dog and one goat go on a quest to find the Keeper of Day and Night and fulfil a great love story. Nadene Hall, New Zealand editor Lifestyle Block magazine.

Christine, with empathy and humour, gives sheep and other animals of New Zealand's South Island hill country centre stage ... in the process reminding us of the trials these defenceless animals face.

Paul Carrol, sheep farmer.



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