



April 2-16, 2018

Dear Readers,

I am so thrilled that *Flat Broke with Two Goats* has been chosen as OverDrive's Big Library Read! If I had told my grandmother that people would one day be reading about our lives—about my homesteading experiences and about her childhood in rural Appalachia—she would have said, “Aw, shucks,” by which she would have meant “No way!” My grandmother had an eighth-grade education, and my grandfather only finished sixth grade. Growing up, they did not have easy access to books, but each had a tremendous sense of humor and a deep appreciation for a story well told. I am sure they would be honored and amazed to know that people all over the world can now read this book through the digital library, and I am so grateful to OverDrive for this opportunity to share our stories.

*Flat Broke* is about monumental financial troubles, staggering life changes, and a marriage stretched to its very limit. It is also about unruly dogs, ladies of bluegrass laying hens, and the ins and outs of goat dating. But it is about more than that. It is about home and family and the journeys we take to find our way back to ourselves when we are lost.

Writing this book helped me get through one of the most trying times of my life. It also helped me remember not to take myself too seriously, to always remember to laugh. In that spirit, I hope my story amuses you, but I also hope it inspires you to honor the people who came before you, to seek a closer relationship with the natural world, and to hold gently the people you love.

Join the discussion on [discuss.biglibraryread.com](http://discuss.biglibraryread.com).

Happy reading, y'all!

Jennifer