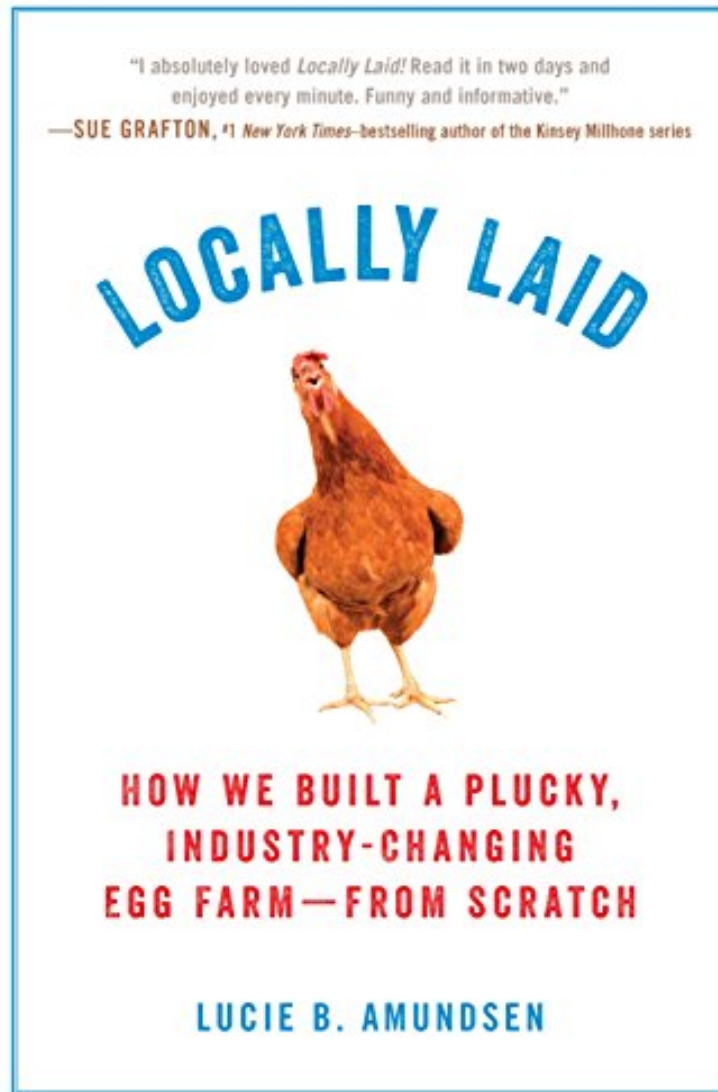


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Locally Laid: How We Built a Plucky, Industry-changing Egg Farm - from Scratch

Lucie B. Amundsen

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Lucie B. Amundsen : Locally Laid: How We Built a Plucky, Industry-changing Egg Farm - from Scratch

before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Locally Laid: How We Built a Plucky, Industry-changing Egg Farm - from Scratch:

12 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Spoiler: It's not really about the chickens
By MDeran
While the category might mislead you, it's not really about the chickens. While you will learn a great deal about chickens, farming, and agriculture, it's really a story of relationships. Primarily the relationship between spouses, but with lovely

pieces about family, friends, and fans. The author is unafraid to show you her failings, shortcomings, and her gratitude. She shows you when she is sometimes unlikable and scared - how brave! Let's face it, none of us are Mary Poppins all the freaking time...how many are willing to admit it in a widely published book? Even if you don't like chickens (and I don't. I openly hate them...my second-least-favorite bird...the only birds I hate more are geese), you will enjoy the book. It's worth your read. And psst, you will also learn about agriculture. Shhh. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I was disgusted with the writer's view point. By Customer As a farm girl and chicken lover, I was disgusted with the writer's view point. This book is not about a woman's pluck or business success necessarily. The real story is how a woman is dragged along unwillingly as her husband follows his ultimately successful chicken-raising dream regardless of her childish behavior! I was very disappointed with this book. I'm proud of her husband for ignoring her complaints and following his heart no matter what. After all his success, she still "won." Yes, she refused to live on the farm, and persuaded her husband and family to live in a house in the city. Don't bother to read this book if you're a county gal at heart! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Entertaining and Educational. By Mark Dennis Anderson Hands down one of the most entertaining and educational books I've read. Amundsen's charming and contemporary voice deftly interweaves her personal family story with insightful and important information about current and historical farming and agricultural practices. What makes this book particularly unique and approachable is Amundsen's transparency. The narrative documents her own agricultural education, allowing her to share her discoveries, findings, and experiences without ever coming across as preachy or know-it-all. Moreover, because she focuses solely on chickens/eggs within the larger agricultural landscape, the overall message is grounded and realistic.

How a Midwestern family with no agriculture experience went from a few backyard chickens to a full-fledged farm; and discovered why local chicks are better. When Lucie Amundsen had a rare night out with her husband, she never imagined what he'd tell her over dinner; that his dream was to quit his office job (with benefits!) and start a commercial-scale pasture-raised egg farm. His entire agricultural experience consisted of raising five backyard hens, none of whom had yet laid a single egg. To create this pastured poultry ranch, the couple scrambles to acquire nearly two thousand chickens; all named Lola. These hens, purchased commercially, arrive bereft of basic chicken-y instincts, such as the evening urge to roost. The newbie farmers also deal with their own shortcomings, making for a failed inspection and intense struggles to keep livestock alive (much less laying) during a brutal winter. But with a heavy dose of humor, they learn to negotiate the highly stressed no-man's-land known as Middle Agriculture. Amundsen sees firsthand how these mid-sized farms, situated between small-scale operations and mammoth factory farms, are vital to rebuilding America's local food system. With an unexpected passion for this dubious enterprise, Amundsen shares a messy, wry, and entirely educational story of the unforeseen payoffs (and frequent pitfalls) of one couple's ag adventure; and many, many hours spent wrangling chickens.

2016 Midwest Booksellers Choice Award Winner "Written with candor, sarcasm and humor, *Locally Laid* is, to pluck a phrase from the book, an immersion into 'a loud, flustery poultry tsunami.'" --NPR "I absolutely loved *Locally Laid*! Read it in two days and enjoyed every minute. Funny and informative." --Sue Grafton, #1 bestselling author of the Kinsey Millhone series "Witty and eye-opening, *Locally Laid* is a gem. I found myself rooting for this couple of lunatics who get into the egg business in the most unlikely of places, in the most unlikely of circumstances." Lucie B. Amundsen, aka Bird, is utterly uninhibited and quite hilarious." --Novella Carpenter, author of *Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer* "Lucie Amundsen's refreshingly honest account of starting a mid-sized farm will resonate with any business owner. She brings the perfect measure of levity to her tale, keeping the reader laughing during even the most tense moments of this true-to-life story. *Locally Laid* is a plucky read worthy of a place on every eater's bookshelf." --Anastasia Cole Plakias, founding partner of Brooklyn Grange and author of *The Farm on the Roof* "As a remedial adult; with chickens, I heartily commend you to the words, wisdom and knowledge of Lucie B. Amundsen, an author whose voice is as earthy as a chicken run, as goofy and bright as a pasture-raised egg yolk at sunrise, and as down-to-earth as barn boots in mud. People ask me about chickens, I say, 'Read Lucie.'" --Michael Perry, author of *Coop: A Year of Poultry, Pigs, and Parenting* "Locally Laid is as entertaining as it is thought-provoking. With candor, humor, and a distinctly midwestern irreverence, Lucie B. Amundsen chronicles her family's earnest effort to bring some sanity back to the food system." --Liz Carlisle, author of *Lentil Underground* "I laughed, cried, and said 'Amen' during this roller-coaster pastured poultry farm start-up memoir. *Locally Laid* is a perfect example of why farm apprenticeships are so important. Seldom will nonfiction keep you from going to bed at night. *Locally Laid* will definitely keep you up!" --Joel Salatin, author of *You Can Farm: The Entrepreneur's Guide to Start Succeed in a Farming Enterprise* About the Author Lucie Amundsen is a writer, marketer, and reluctant farmer. She co-owns *Locally Laid Egg Company*, a farm that provides pasture-shy; raised eggs in Minnesota, Iowa, and Indiana.