

she's not a Flojo but still likes to wear flojos? Or maybe she'll always be a Flojo at heart even if she doesn't belong to a certain clique? Can she come to some kind of a conclusion?

- ✓ -If Evie's mother's Mercedes is in the driveway, why doesn't Evie just take this car out for a joy ride, especially if Vicki isn't home? It still seems a little odd that Evie asks permission to use Lindsay's car. Maybe Lindsay's character doesn't need to be introduced until Evie has the accident, at which point Evie calls her in desperation and confesses she's driving (someone's) car without permission?
- It's helpful that Evie is said to feel guilty about the accident a few times in the book, but these statement don't seem believable. What triggers Evie to think about it and feel guilty? What is she going to do if her grandmother doesn't come through with the money to fix the dent?

Charreada theme:

At one point in the book, Evie is determined to become a charrita (and in the previous draft, she even dresses like one for her party). What makes her change her mind? How does she go from loving being at the horse ranch to going back to her usual ways? Because she decides she doesn't like Arturo, after all?

intends to work at horse reserve

Arturo:

What happens to Evie's crush on Arturo? She constantly compares Alex to him for a while, and then Arturo makes it very clear that he likes her. How does Evie ultimately respond? Maybe when he comes to her house, she realizes that, maybe he's not a stalker, but he just isn't her type? Again, this theme needs to be wrapped up.

Sabrina:

Great revision with this theme! But it still feels slightly anti-climactic and a little neat. When Sabrina/Suprema (fitting nickname!) finally reveals what happens with Robert on p.219, could the explanation be a little more emotionally resonant? It doesn't seem like enough to say that she didn't want to be known as Robert's girlfriend. Even an extra line or two about what Sabrina never knew about

26 – Lindsay’s story is confusing. How would Lindsay know that Evie’s parents hadn’t ALREADY seen Molesto (thereby making it obvious their story is false?) ✓

27 – We need to see more emotion from Evie here! She was so worried she was going to get into trouble and should be VERY relieved.

31 – Evie *really needs to believe* her parents might not let her have the party. As is, they just sound too nice and like there is no way they’d actually cancel it. They should mention that they know Evie thinks they won’t really cancel...but they will if she doesn’t shape up.

43 – As noted in the text, this would be a good time to build up Raquel’s drug problem. Maybe after the sentence, “Raquel had upgraded from last semester’s diem bags to this semester’s bountiful purchases....” ?

Dee Dee’s mom – do we ever explain that she passed away? I’m not sure it’s mentioned in this book. *the late*

83 – We still need to feel a greater sense of urgency about Evie’s party!

83 – Occasionally this sounds too summary, ex on page 83 “One afternoon at the reserve”. This book happens over an extremely short time span, so you should say specifically when everything happens (at least say what day of the week it is)

✓ 226 – We should play up this moment a little bit more: “No. I mean, yes. Dee Dee might be going away too. I don’t know Arturo. I’ve just got a lot of things on my mind and my birthday is coming up and I don’t think I’m gonna be getting the party I wanted. Everything is just a mess.”

“Your birthday?” he asked. “When is your birthday?”

At the end of the chapter Evie realizes that she wants to be with Alex because he’s a good shoulder to lean on. We should have a moment here of Evie feeling real emotion and hoping Arturo will be understanding. She should notice when he jumps right

I’ll be receiving another set of notes from the publisher by Monday, and will pass them along to you.

As discussed, I’ll need to get this back from you 12/4. This is your last significant revision. After this you’ll have from 12/22 – 1/8 to input final tiny adds from the publisher, but you should really consider this your last real chance to make any big changes. Totally excited to see the next draft! I just know that with some work this book is going to be as fantastic as our beloved HBC! I’ll be at my desk all day tomorrow. Whenever you have a minute between readings, call me and we can discuss. Thanks!

All best,
Lynn