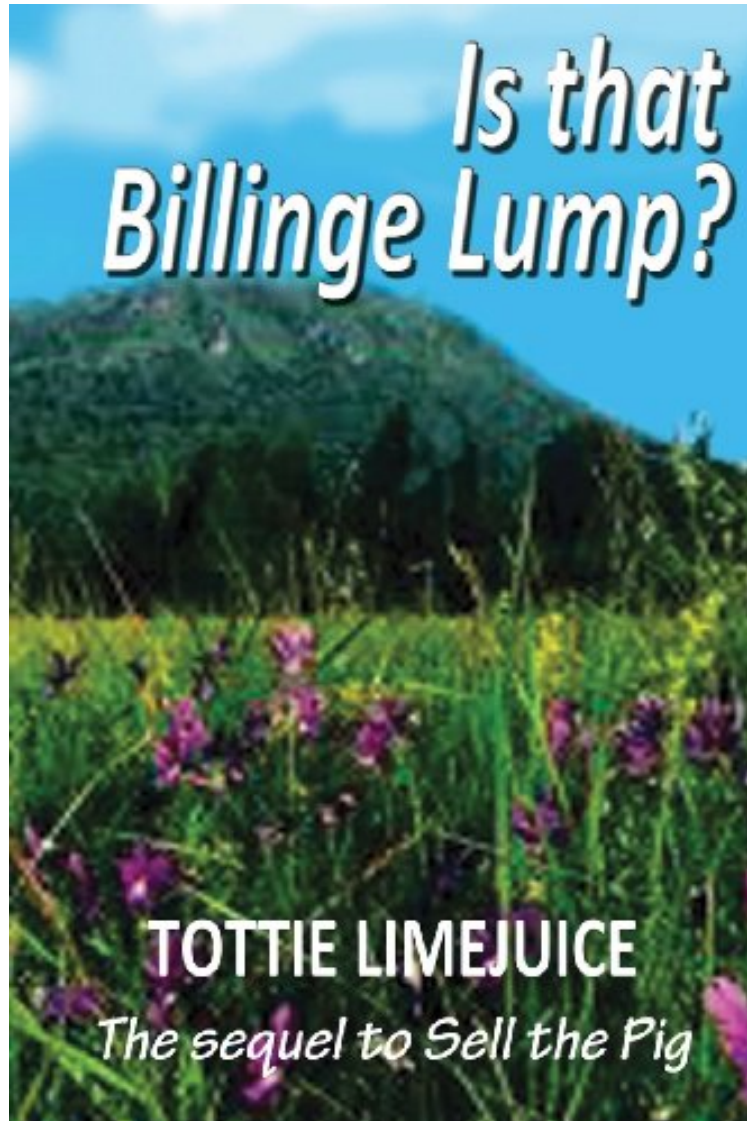


(Mobile book) Is that Billinge Lump?

## Is that Billinge Lump?

*Tottie Limejuice*

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**Tottie Limejuice : Is that Billinge Lump?** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Is that Billinge Lump?:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ex-pat living in France with elderly mom and difficult brotherBy Terra HangenThe author moved from England to France with her elderly mother who is in early stages of dementia and with her brother, a difficult man given to bouts of alcoholic rampages. Her brother purchased the house in France which they named The Pink House, and where the three of them set up living, which is detailed in Sell the Pig, the first book. Her brother does thoughtful things too, like having a stair lift installed to help their mom. I like the author's dark

sense of humor. Tottie's French is pretty good, but she does make some hilarious gaffs, like "my cat killed a mule and brought it in the house", saying mulot instead of mulot for mouse. She also told a French pharmacist that her fleas had arthritis, using puce instead of pouce for thumb. To save her sanity and her health Tottie takes one day a week off from "mom care" and camps nearby in a tent and she adopts an endearing dog. The ending of this book is brilliant, and I recommend this series to anyone interested in ex-pat living or caring for aged parents. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Mother Is a Hoot! By Serena In this book, "Tottie" has settled in to the home in France. Tottie does her best to continue great care for her very elderly mother and keep the peace with her unpredictable hard drinking brother. The mother is very entertaining and the star of the book. However, she is not always easy to care for and you can see the author's patience evaporate throughout the book. The relationship with the brother is disintegrating and Tottie takes mini vacations because, understandably, she needs to get away from the pressures of caring for her mother and dealing with her brother. The author decides she has to find a little place of her own in France because when her mother dies Ms. Limejuice might not want to live with or be allowed to continue living with her unpredictable brother. She eventually finds a wreck that has great potential. Tottie's life becomes much more stressful which makes a less interesting book. Still, worth reading after the first one. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Loved it! By Casuarina I came across Tottie's three books when I was researching people's reactions to living in, or moving to France. I was about to embark on a tour of that country, a place I hadn't been to for many years, and I felt these would be the best type of books to read, as often they provide more information on the difficulties a non-French speaker or person with a little-French has. I first read 'Sell the Pig', and empathised with the author immediately. Having had similar problems with aged care facilities and carers for my mother, I found I was bowled along, taking the journey with her, and relating it to my own. Thankfully, I didn't have an alcoholic brother to contend with! But I couldn't put it down, so when finished, I read her next instalment, 'Is that Billinge Lump', when Tottie moves, with her brother, mother and animals to France. The joys of obtaining carers for her demented mother, some of whom do only what is required, if that, while others do far more, moved me to tears with my own experiences. Being able to have that one day off is extremely valuable. The stress is immense. Tottie relieves the stress by camping, taking her dog with her - and that give her considerable joy and some hilarious experiences. You can sympathise, empathise and laugh with her as she continues her journey, living in her brother's house, the Pink House, in the Auvergne. Mother finally takes her own journey to 'Billinge Lump', and Tottie finds a new life in a new cottage, and that story continues in her final instalment, 'Mother was it worth it', again a book I could not put down. I think she was extremely brave, and totally sensible, to move her mother to France, where mother gained an extra four years of life, which may not have happened if she remained in England. The care she obtained in France seemed far better than in the UK, or even Australia, which says something for both countries. It was more family orientated, not institutionalised. It's a good insight into aged care in France - and all three books inadvertently provide information through experience, on living in France. Good on you, Tottie, well done!

It seemed like a good idea at the time. When British healthcare failed her ageing mother, eccentric writer Tottie decided to uproot her dysfunctional family and try again in France. But was France ready for her depressed dipsomaniac brother, her nearly nonagenarian mother who enjoyed saying bum and bugger and her elderly collie with a weak heart and his own blog? 'Is That Billinge Lump?' continues the saga which began with 'Sell the Pig'. With Tottie's candid style to tell a 'life in France tale' with a difference, you'll find chuckles and tears in equal measure. Did France live up to its reputation for excellence in healthcare? Did Tottie survive sharing living space with her unpredictable brother? There's only one way to find out ...

About the Author Tottie Limejuice is the pen-name of Lesley Tither, a freelance copywriter and copy editor who lives in the Auvergne region of Central France. Passionate about wildlife and the countryside, she enjoys walks and camping with her dogs, and organic gardening. Now firmly settled into rural French living, she has applied for dual British/French citizenship.