

The Story

The Lighter Side of Large is a modern day comedy romance, and disguised self-help guide set in Nelson, New Zealand. Isabella "Bella" White, a first generation Samoan New Zealander, is a talented artist with a flair for writing. Problem is, no one knows it. She hides from the world, men and her potential behind 60 kg of excess weight. The weight, however, is not so easy to hide and Bella endures revulsion, ridicule and rudeness for being fat. But when she discovers her ex-husband is marrying her sister in nine months, Bella embarks on a mission: lose the weight, get a career and find the perfect man in time for the wedding.

Along the way, Bella discovers losing weight does not make her life perfect. A short cut to skinny through surgery almost ends her life, just as she begins to find it in the arms of Jae, the adventurous entrepreneur who's got skinny issues. Bella also has an online friend whose interest in her grows with every chat, as well as an ex-husband who still carries a spark for her.

The Lighter Side of Large is the first installment in a series of self-help guides and cartoon books which laugh at the misadventures of being overweight and the universal prejudice faced by the obese, while encouraging the anorexically-challenged to take back their lives, lose weight, and live without fear.