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MICHI'S WEEKEND

Poetic license

Occasionally I read those semi-glossy mags and occasionally they have stories about women with enviable careers. I usually skip past the enviable careers to the enviable wardrobe section (because let's face it, who wouldn't want my job?). But one time I paused long enough to read a most fascinating job title. The title of Corporate Poet. The combination of "Corporate" (gets a steady income therefore buys a steady stream of new-season garb) and "Poet" (still a little wafty and artsy enough to be excused for being just a tad vague) made me weak with excitement. Imagine making a living from deciding whether a green dress should be Moss or Lichen, a hot-pink nail polish Edna or Chacma Baboon or a beige skirt Dull or Boring. Naming products seems like the easiest job in the world. Why, all I did was get drunk and stumble a little to come up with the name for this coat.

Merlot wool coat from Obus, 4/289 Flinders Lane, city 9662 1025.

Michi xx

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WHO IS ...ORGANIC ISLAND?



Gold Coast guns-blazing entrepreneurs Mark Power and Alana Lindsay first clicked at Bond University, where they studied for masters of business degrees and amused themselves like a couple of cocky kids between lectures, cooking up business ideas that might, or might not, fly. They honed just one in the end, and it did. For two years while they both worked full-time — Power in hospitality, Lindsay in fashion retailing — they refined this product idea, nussed out where best to pitch it, and finally, carefully, hitched it to the swelling global consumer concern about purity, sustainability, recycling and all things organic. Voila. Organic Island is Power and Lindsay's small company, making big waves since early last year with a disarmingly charming, simple idea: delicate shell purselets with a tiny puddle of waxy, all-natural lip balm inside. They're made with the wings of seashells that have been subjected to a robust blasting of sand and water under high pressure to polish them to a gloss and reveal their beautiful colours. The wings are fastened into their natural closed position with fine silvery bands and minuscule hinges of stainless steel. A tiny mirror is glued inside the top one, and the lip balm — a natural mixture of coconut oil, mango-seed butter, macadamia oil, jojoba oil, rosehip oil, lanolin and beeswax — is poured into the bottom. The result is sweet, practical and, as luck would have it, Power says it was also an instant cracker of a concept that captured the imagination of markets from Fiji to Europe and the US. Organic Island sells here from \$12.95 at retail or \$14.95 via the Organic Island net shop, depending on the size of shell. There are also plans for future organic products: a green-tea night cream, geranium day/night moisturiser, rosehip facial cleanser and hair-care collection.

For stockists, phone (07) 3852 5020 or visit organicisland.com.au.

JAN BREEN BURNS

COVET



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But ensure of pov



REVIVAL

Swing sets are an eBay perennial. After all, children are forever outgrowing them and they're not the sort of thing you want to lug from house to house. On my first attempt at securing one, I bid a ridiculous \$270. Luckily, I lost out and a week later purchased one for \$75. I was still congratulating myself on my internet savvy when I saw one at a garage sale for \$25. Then I saw one on a hard rubbish pile that would have cost zilch