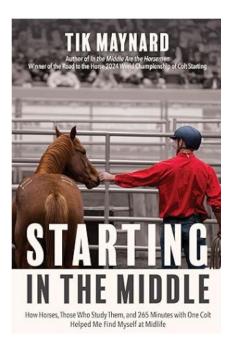


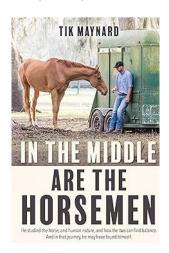
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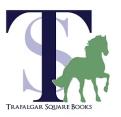
Summer/Fall 2025

Greg Brandenburgh
Biagi Literary Management



#### Also by Tik Maynard





# Starting in the Middle

How Horses, Those Who Study Them, and 265 Minutes with One Colt Helped M find Myself at Midlife

Tik Maynard

### **Selling points:**

- Authentic equestrian journey
- Lessons from world-class trainers
- Personal growth through horsemanship
- Unique insights into horse psychology

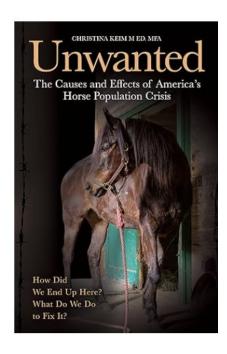
Tik Maynard had everything-a dream farm, a loving family, and a clear purpose: horses. But doubts crept in. Was he doing it right? Had he been doing it too long? He began to wonder if his path as a horse trainer and competitor was truly the one he wanted.

When invited to compete in Road to the Horse, the World Championship of Colt Starting, he saw a chance to reignite his passion, expand his world, and embrace new possibilities. He took a leap of faith-on himself and on a young, unbroken colt-and said, "I'll do it."

Maynard's journey unfolds as a year of learning, questioning, and testing boundaries. He meets top experts in animal behavior and training, exploring how humans connect with other species in traditional and unconventional ways. Through deep conversations, he redefines his beliefs, confronting both philosophical and ethical dilemmas.

Starting in the Middle is an honest and insightful exploration of self-discovery, growth, and embracing change. It's a book for anyone wondering "What's next?"-and daring to find out.

About the author: Tik Maynard, a former Canadian National Team pentathlete, competed internationally before transitioning to eventing. He won Road to the Horse 2024 and teaches clinics worldwide. An author and equestrian educator, he runs Copperline Farm in Florida with his wife, top eventer Sinead Maynard.





### The Unwanted

The Causes and Effects of America's Horse Population Crisis Christina Keim

### **Selling points:**

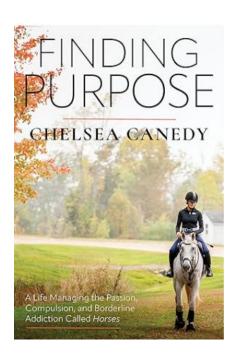
- Exposes America's horse population crisis.
- Inside look at rescues and auctions
- Uncovers myths about horse slaughter
- Challenges equine industry ethics
- Offers solutions for lasting change

Christina Keim's *The Unwanted* is a fact-based, compassionate exploration of the horse overpopulation crisis in the U.S. Any horse—regardless of breed, discipline, or history—can become unwanted due to changing circumstances. These horses often face abuse, neglect, or slaughter, with up to 150,000 shipped annually to slaughterhouses abroad.

With rescues stretched to capacity, Keim urges a collective effort to address deep-rooted economic and cultural factors fueling the crisis. She takes readers behind the scenes at livestock auctions, rescues, and therapy centers, shedding light on the harsh realities and myths surrounding the slaughter pipeline.

Through expert interviews with veterinarians, lawmakers, and welfare advocates, Keim presents solutions that honor the horse's heritage while securing its future. She challenges readers to rethink equine ethics and responsibility, encouraging a well-informed, open-minded discussion for lasting change.

About the author: Christina Keim is an award-winning equestrian journalist whose work appears in major equestrian publications. Co-author of *The Athletic Equestrian*, she coached hunter seat teams for nearly two decades and now teaches compassionate horsemanship at Cold Moon Farm in Rochester, New Hampshire.





# **Finding Purpose**

A Life Managing the Passion, Compulsion, and Borderline Addiction Called Horses

Chelsea Canedy

### **Selling points:**

- Unlock growth through equestrian wisdom
- Overcome setbacks with resilience
- Discover passion in every challenge
- Transform struggles into personal success
- Ride forward with confidence and purpose

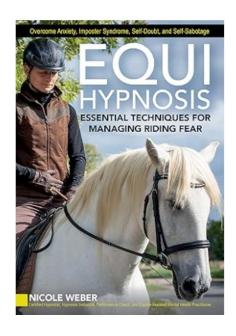
Chelsea Canedy's *Finding Purpose* is a deeply personal memoir about passion, perseverance, and self-discovery through horses. She reflects on her journey as a competitor, teacher, wife, and mother, sharing the experiences that shaped her career and philosophy.

From heart-wrenching failures to transformative friendships, Canedy explores what it means to love something wholeheartedly—even when doubts arise. She examines setbacks, guilt, and moments of uncertainty, showing how accepting mistakes and starting over can lead to growth and fulfillment.

Blending horse-centered wisdom with life lessons, Canedy illustrates how curiosity, resilience, and adaptability play key roles in pursuing a passion. Through vivid storytelling, she encourages readers to embrace their own journeys and recognize that what truly fulfills us is always enough.

This book is for anyone who questions their path yet feels drawn to continue. It offers distinct lessons in compassion, tenacity, and self-awareness, helping equestrians—and dreamers—find meaning in every stage of life.

**About the author:** Chelsea Canedy is a competitive upper-level event rider blending traditional training, natural horsemanship, and R+ methods. Her background in social service work and meditation informs her psychological approach to horse training. A sought-after clinician, she teaches nationwide and runs Unexpected Farm in Maine.





### **Equihypnosis**

**Essential Techniques for Managing Reader Fear** Nicole Weber

#### **Selling points:**

- Conquer fear, ride with confidence.
- Mind-horse connection made effortless.
- Master hypnosis, transform your riding.
- Break barriers, enjoy the saddle
- Train smarter, stress less, succeed.

Almost every rider has felt fear at some point while working with a horse. Fear is a normal reaction to a frightening situation, and as long as the emotion subsides, it isn't necessarily a problem. However, when apprehension starts to monopolize our thoughts while in the saddle, and when our interactions with our horses are dominated by panic or dread, we need to make a change.

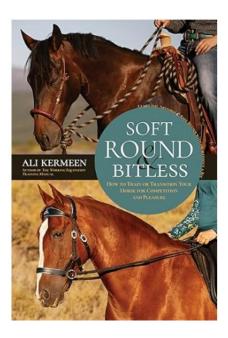
Fear can make riding difficult, but **Nicole Weber**, a **certified hypnotist**, offers tools to help riders regain confidence without losing their connection to horses. Her method, **Equihypnosis**, doesn't eliminate fear but teaches riders to control it when they are truly safe.

Weber explains how fears arise, why horses mirror emotions, and how riders can shift their mindset to enjoy their partnership with their horse. Through step-by-step photographs, videos, and guided audio lessons, she introduces self-hypnosis techniques tailored specifically for equestrians.

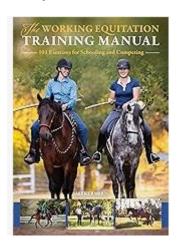
Beyond riding, these strategies can improve overall **mental resilience** and help riders manage fear in daily life. Whether fear has **lingered for years** or is a **recent struggle**, Weber's approach offers a **safe**, **effective solution**.

This **confidence-boosting** book is for anyone who wants to ensure fear never keeps them from enjoying **barn time or saddle time**.

About the author: Nicole Weber, a certified hypnotist, performance coach, and equine osteopath, developed Equihypnosis to help riders overcome fears and improve their connection with horses. She has trained therapists and gained international recognition, specializing riding. She is based in Krum, Texas



#### Also by Ali Kermeen:





### **Soft Round and Bitless**

**How to Train or Transition Your Horse for Competition and Pleasure**Ali Kermeen

### **Selling points:**

- · Ride confidently without a bit.
- Develop true horse-rider connection.
- Achieve softness through proven techniques
- · Enhance balance and athletic ability

Ali Kermeen's book explores how riders can achieve an optimal, athletic frame without using a bit. She emphasizes that control comes from training and partnership, not equipment, and that the decision to go bitless or bitted should be based on the horse's needs.

Many riders worry that riding bitless means losing control, but Kermeen argues that true control comes from clear communication and proper training. She explains that bitless bridles can be just as strong as bitted ones and that horses should play a role in deciding what they wear.

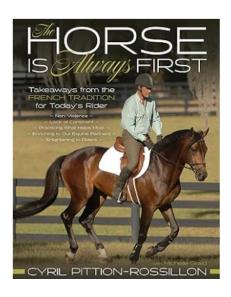
### **Key Topics Covered:**

- · Groundwork essentials to prepare horses for bitless riding
- · Comparisons of different bitless bridles to find the best fit
- · Expert guidance on choosing and fitting a bitless bridle.
- · Step-by-step exercises that transition groundwork into ridden work.

Kermeen has developed a structured method that helps horses understand softness and roundness naturally, creating a harmonious partnership between horse and rider. She explains that learning to ride effectively without a bit has improved her ability with a bitted bridle, making her a more aware and skilled rider.

This approachable, practical guide is ideal for equestrians who want to enhance their riding, respect their horse's comfort and well-being, and explore bitless training as a legitimate option.

About the author: Ali Kermeen, a certified equestrian instructor, integrates dressage principles with Tom Dorrance-style horsemanship. A USDF medalist, she teaches varied disciplines, has coached collegiate teams, and authored The Working Equitation Training Manual. She competes in USAWE rated events.





### The Horse is Always First

Takeaways from the French Tradition for Today's Rider Cyril Pittion-Rossillon and Michelle Grald

### **Selling points:**

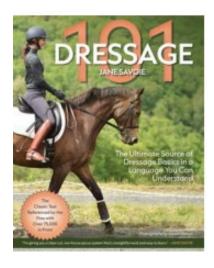
- Master humane, effective horse training.
- Achieve harmony through proven techniques.
- Enhance connection with your horse.
- Train with French equestrian wisdom

**Ride with confidence and skill!** *The Horse Is Always First* distills the principles of French horsemanship-harmony, freedom, and respect for the horse-into practical lessons for modern riders. French Riding Master Cyril Pittion-Rossillon, with decades of experience teaching American equestrians, shares methods that prioritize the horse's well-being while fostering rider connection.

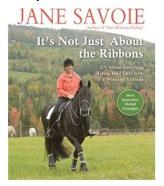
Through simple yet profound explanations, Pittion-Rossillon introduces exercises that help equestrians explore the foundation of humane and effective training. His teaching approach is shaped by years of working with adult riders, making his insights approachable and easy to implement. The book's hand-drawn illustrations and thoughtfully crafted words create an immersive, enjoyable learning experience.

Designed for flexible browsing, The Horse Is Always First allows riders to begin with the lesson or exercise they need most. Pittion-Rossillon's passion for horsemanship shines through, offering a "love letter from France to equestrians worldwide." Whether training for performance or simply deepening the bond with a horse, this book providesguidance rooted in tradition, compassion, and success.

About the author: Cyril Pittion-Rossillon, a French Riding Master, trained with the French Olympic Team and coaches champions across disciplines. Michelle Grald, a writer and lifelong equestrian, blends her passions to inspire riders, specializing in endurance and trail riding while advocating for equestrian trails and open space.



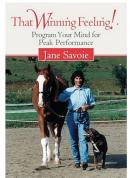
#### Also by Jane Savoie



Czech – Brazda German – Kosmos -expired



Poliah- Galaktyka expired



German - Kosmos



### Dressage 101

The Ultimate Source of Dressage Basics in a Language You Can Understand Jane Savoie

### **Selling points:**

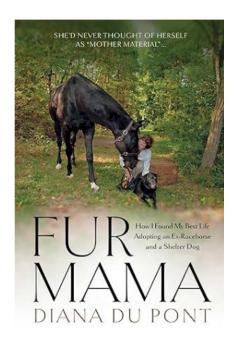
- New edition of the classic that has sold over 75,000 copies
- 310 new color photos and 275 drawings
- The essential guide to precise horse training focusing on balance, flexibility, responsiveness, and harmony.
- A must-have for all equestrians, trainers, and instructors

Beginning with the three golden rules of dressage training-clarity, consistency, and kindness-dressage legend Jane Savoie walks you through her four stages of dressage education.

Stage One is an introductory course in the basics, and Stage Two covers the "nuts and bolts" of training, including transitions, school figures, and movements. By the time you finish Stage Two, you'll have a happy, responsive horse that understands going forward and being straight; accepts contact so you can communicate with him through the reins; moves in a regular rhythm and a steady tempo in all three gaits; and is proficient in transitions, circles, backing up, lengthening his stride, and going sideways. In Stage Three, Savoie translates the secrets surrounding the half-halt, enabling you to put your horse "on the bit," and adding a whole new dimension to your training. You'll even be ready for "the big time" in Stage Four, including collected, medium, and extended gaits; advanced lateral movements; and flying changes. Don't worry, everything in this book is well within the capacity of most horses, whatever their breed, sport, or activity.

With a time-tested, expert-vetted, and supremely easy-to-follow system, this book is for anyone who aims to improve the horse's body and mind so he is healthy and happy in whatever activity you choose to pursue.

**About the author:** Jane Savoie (1949-2021) was an American dressage rider, coach, and author. She was a reserve rider for the 1992 U.S. Olympic dressage team and coached Canadian eventing teams at multiple Olympics. A motivational speaker, she wrote best-selling books on sports psychology and dressage training. Inducted into the USDF Hall of Fame in 2019.





### **Fur Mama**

**How I Found My Best Life Adopting an Ex-Racehorse and a Shelter Dog**Diana Du Pont

### **Selling points:**

- Rescue animals, transform your life.
- Heartfelt journey of second chances.
- Discover the power of adoption.
- Love, loss, and redemption explored
- A must-read for animal lovers

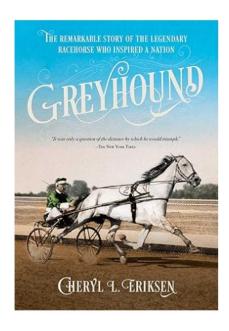
Perfect for animal lovers, this heartfelt memoir follows successful career woman Diana du Pont's fulfilling journey as she opens her heart and home to rescue animals—and discovers the undeniable power of the human-animal bond.

Diana du Pont was a die-hard careerist and grinding workaholic. Married without children, she never had a chance to see herself as maternal material. Then, having fortuitously been offered a new post in a town known for its rich equestrian legacy, she adopted a young, tempestuous Thoroughbred, fresh off the racetrack, followed by a loveable rescue dog. This turn of good fortune began an emotional journey from Type-A professional to a woman willing to risk the life upon which her entire sense of self-worth and personal identity had been built.

Fur Mama traces du Pont's moving transformation into a devoted animal parent as she introduces these two dependents, both entirely reliant on her for a new form of "family." Even as she's uprooted from all that is familiar and moves halfway across America, she finds herself unexpectedly consumed by the abiding need to love and care for these innocents, living beings as their own. Despite challenges in her animal relationships, du Pont gracefully navigates her new maternal role and what it might mean, in this context, to be a "good mother."

With intelligence and sensitivity, du Pont's emotionally moving memoir explores the social phenomenon of embracing and humanizing pets—and the benefits we discover when we do. Blending themes of career and motherhood with horses and dogs, *Fur Mama* adds a new twist to the ongoing cultural debate about "having it all" and the nature of true professional and personal success.

**About the author:** Diana du Pont, an art curator and writer with 30 years of experience, has authored award-winning books and museum catalogues. A former J. Paul Getty Museum Fellow, she advanced Latin American art at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and advocates for animal rescue, living in Columbia City, Indiana.





### Greyhound

The Remarkable Story of the Harness-Racing Horse Who Inspire a Nation Cheryl L. Ericksen

### **Selling points:**

- Record-breaking speed, legendary trotter.
- The underdog turned racing icon.
- Heartfelt journey of triumph.
- Forgotten history brought to life

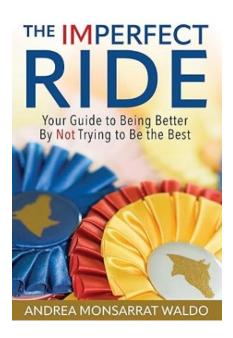
A must-read for horse lovers. For fans of Elizabeth Letts's *The Eighty-Dollar Champion* comes a compelling and illuminating true story about the greatest racehorse history forgot.

Unbeatable like Man O' War, record-breaking speed like Secretariat, and loved by the fans and everyone who knew him like Seabiscuit. While any fan of harness racing will know and talk of Greyhound with deep reverence, outside the world of harness racing, he is almost completely unknown.

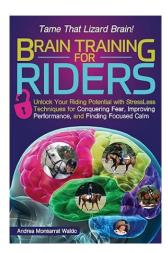
An ugly, awkward underdog in his early years, Greyhound blossomed into a champion under the care of a millionaire entrepreneur owner, the guidance of a veteran trainer/driver, and the love of a young caretaker who acted as bodyguard, public relations guru, and valet for the horse. Greyhound developed into the fastest trotter in history—his mile record stood for over thirty years—and retired with sixteen of twenty-five world records still unbroken. Greyhound was a celebrity in his day—a horse with such an enigmatic personality some swore he was part human.

Brought to life in these pages with painstaking detail and meticulous research, Greyhound's story is both colorful and entertaining. With nearly two hundred historical photographs and racing artifacts, many shared with the public for the first time, and a compendium of race results from the heyday of harness racing, this is more than a feel-good success story—it's the historical record racing enthusiasts have been waiting for. *Greyhound* is a book for anyone who has known the love of a great horse and everyone who finds inspiration in a Cinderella story.

**About the author:** Cheryl L. Eriksen, an author and equine-assisted psychotherapy expert, explores trauma, resilience, and the horse-human connection. With a Master of Social Work, she teaches and writes from Kentucky's historic Bluegrass region.



#### Also by Andrea Waldo:



Spanish-Arcaro (expired)



# The Imperfect Ride

Your Guide to Being Better by Not Trying to Be the Best Andrea Montsarrat Waldo

#### **Selling points:**

- Master racing strategy for consistent wins.
- Harness elite training for peak performance.
- Gain insider secrets to dominate competition.
- Develop winning instincts like top champions.
- Unlock the keys to unstoppable speed

Busting the perfectionism myth so you can improve your performance in the saddle.

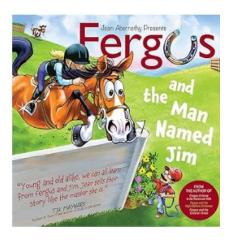
Andrea Waldo—rider, trainer, instructor, and former psychotherapist—is back with her long-awaited follow-up to the bestselling *Brain Training for Riders*. This time, she tackles the problem of perfectionism, providing a roadmap for riders to identify how the idea of "perfect" interferes with their natural progression and distracts from the day-to-day enjoyment of the equestrian experience.

Drawing from research and her own riding life, Waldo helps readers recognize the pros and cons of perfectionism, guiding them toward a healthier perspective. With practical exercises, she encourages self-improvement in a way that benefits both rider and horse by emphasizing that growth necessitates mistakes and the "messy middle"—the phase between mastering a skill and finding the next step.

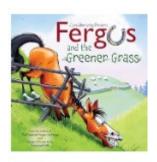
With humor, insight, and her clear love for horses and equestrian sport, Waldo provides tools for riders to set high standards without the pressure of perfection, fostering a more satisfying, successful, and less stressful relationship with themselves and their horses.

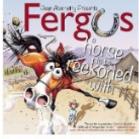
**About the author:** Andrea Monsarrat Waldo, a certified riding instructor and former psychotherapist, co-owns Triple Combination Farm, coaching riders in eventing and dressage. Competing at advanced levels, she specializes in mental performance coaching for equestrians. She authored Brain Training for Riders, helping equestrians overcome mental barriers to achieve success in horse sports.

Pub Date: **September 2025**; page count: **224 pp**; binding: **paperback**; **Trim size** ISBN: 978-1646012794; **retail price**: \$22.95; **unillustrated Trafalgar Square Press** 



#### Also by Jean Abernathy









### Fergus and the Man Named Jim

**Become a More Effective Rider by Taking Ownership of Your Body** Clare Staple

#### **Selling points:**

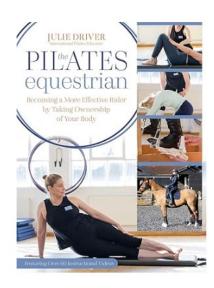
- Fergus learns to trust humans.
- Healing through gentle hands-on care.
- Laughter and lessons in every page.
- A must-read for horse lovers.

In this newest comic adventure, Fergus, the world's favorite cartoon horse, finds out how humans can help make his body and mind feel better—if he lets them.

"Everyone loves Fergus!" say reviewers, and now the opinionated cartoon horse and bona fide social media star is back in an all-new comic adventure. In his sixth book, Fergus is finding show ring success, clearing jumps and winning prizes. But the stress of travel and performing his best begins to take a toll, and for the first time in his friend-and-grass-filled life, Fergus doesn't feel so good. His muscles are tight and painful, and he is always worried about silly things that used to make him laugh. When Fergus meets a gentle mustached man named Jim, he discovers a different way to spend time with humans—with their hands offering a great big release of tension from his sore spots and his busy mind.

Featuring the talented Jean Abernethy's hysterically funny illustrations and scenes replete with supporting characters as amusing as their endearingly awkward hero, *Fergus and the Man Named Jim* entertains while reminding us all to make the horse's well-being a priority. Recommended for ages 5 to 95.

**About the author:** Jean Abernethy, an equine artist and storyteller, has entertained horse lovers for over 30 years with her comical Fergus cartoons. Through books and social media, she shares the humor and charm of equestrian life, delighting fans worldwide with her playful, insightful illustrations and storytelling.





# The Pilates Equestrian

**Become a More Effective Rider by Taking Ownership of Your Body**Julie Driver

#### **Selling points:**

- Enhance balance for better riding.
- Strengthen core for improved posture.
- Increase flexibility for smoother movement.
- Boost stamina for longer sessions.

**Prevent injuries with smart training.** Developing body awareness is the first crucial step in enhancing physical abilities, and consequently, your abilities to communicate and perform with a horse. Athletes and performers of all levels rely on the practice of Pilates to exercise that body awareness, and in *The Pilates Equestrian*, certified instructor Julie Driver helps riders create a more harmonious partnership with their horses.

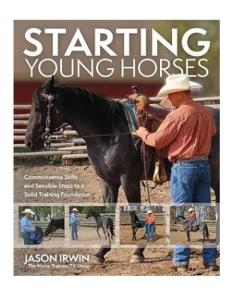
With Driver's equestrian-specific Pilates program, you will learn to instinctively respond to your horse's movements with balance, grace, and subtlety, becoming a stronger, more effective rider. The focus on body awareness, breathing, and alignment will lead to lasting improvement in your riding. With the needs of equestrians in mind, Driver covers key areas such as:

- Foot, spine, hip, and shoulder mobility
- Pelvis and spine stability
- Balance
- Stamina
- Coordination
- Breathing

Driver's approach goes beyond exercise—she believes that by improving self-awareness and body responsiveness, riders will become less prone to accidents and easier for horses to carry, reducing injury risk for both human and horse. Driver provides practical techniques, supported by instructional photos and video lessons, offering a fresh and effective approach to equestrian fitness for riders at any level. Horses' emotional needs, leading to deeper bonds and better care.

**About the author:** Julie Driver, a certified Pilates educator for nearly 30 years, won Pilates Anytime Instructor of the Year in 2014. She specializes in Pilates for riders, enhancing technique and connection, and contributes to fitness and equestrian publications. She lives in London.

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### **Starting Young Horses**

# Commonsense Skills and Sensible Steps to a Solid Training Foundation

Jason Irwin

#### **Selling points:**

- Fearless circus-born equestrian artistry.
- Fluid liberty training with Arabians.
- Fascinating journey from trapeze to horses.
- Freedom-based communication without restraints.
- Flawless performances that captivate millions

Starting Young Horses provides a practical, step-by-step system for building a solid foundation in a young horse's training. Irwin's approach is straightforward, safe, and adaptable, ensuring horses develop the essential skills needed for future success.

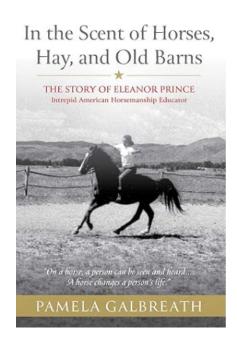
#### **Key Features:**

- Round Manners & Basics: Establishing respect, patience, and responsiveness from the start.
- Essential Groundwork: Exercises that transition seamlessly into saddling and riding.
- Roundpen Training: Sensible, sensitive techniques to build trust and communication.
- .First Saddling & Bridling: Thoughtful methods to introduce key riding equipment.
- Riding from the Ground: Teaching steering, stopping, and turning before mounting.
- Ground-Driving Techniques: Easy-to-follow exercises for clear horse-rider communication.
- Assessing Readiness: Knowing when a horse is prepared for the first ride
- Customizing Training: Adjusting methods for different personalities and "bad days."

Irwin emphasizes that the first rides should be enjoyable experiences, not just something to "get through." His patient, structured approach helps young horses become confident, willing partners in any discipline-Western or English.

**About the author:** Jason Irwin has trained young horses for over 20 years at Northstar Livestock Quarter Horses. He and his wife Bronwyn run Jason & Bronwyn Irwin Horsemanship and host The Horse Trainers on RFD-TV Canada. He also writes for Western Horseman and Horse Illustrated.

Pub Date: October 2025; page count: 192pp; binding: paperback; Trim size: 8.25 10.25 ISBN: 978-1646012749; retail price: \$29.95; 115 color photos; Trafalgar Square Press





# In the Scent of Horses, Hay, and Old Barns

The Story of Eleanor Prince, Intrepid American Horsemanship Educator Pamela Galbreath

### **Selling points:**

- Record-breaking speed, legendary trotter.
- The underdog turned racing icon.
- Heartfelt journey of triumph.
- Forgotten history brought to life

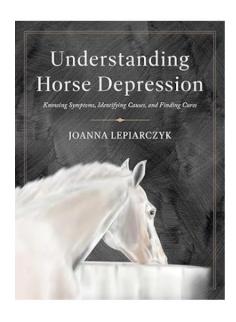
A narrative retelling of the life of a horse girl who moved west and started one of the nation's longest running equestrian schools.

In early autumn, 1958, thirty-two-year-old Eleanor Fracker Smith left her family roots in Massachusetts and moved to southeast Wyoming. There, she realized her life philosophy: that people can do without a lot of things, but no one should have to live without horses.

Living on the dry, wind-swept prairie west of Laramie, Ellie bought horses she could afford: ill, malnourished, and poorly trained. Through her accumulated knowledge of equine care, Ellie turned her unimpressive herd into show-ring winners and sought-after breeding stock. In 1961, she established Sodergreen Horsemanship School based on a uniquely immersive curriculum, with lectures and lessons based upon love, patience, mutual trust, communication, and—most importantly—groundwork. For forty years, Ellie's renowned depth of knowledge and commitment to educating the horse-loving public drew students of all ages and skills. When Ellie married Bill Prince in 1966, they purchased a rundown ranch, just west of Cheyenne, and took with them the school and its name. Classes were full every summer until the school officially closed in 2001. Ellie stayed involved in teaching and other horsemanship activities until she passed away in 2024, in her ninth decade. "I was nutty about horses," she once said, "and couldn't see life any other way."

Pamela Galbreath's finely tuned narrative reverently traces the arc of Ellie Prince's lifetime of service to horses and horsemanship with remarkable attention to setting and detail, transporting readers from the suburbs of Boston to the plains of the West. Those who love horses or have an interest in the history of horsemanship in the United States will find themselves wishing they could have been taught by Ellie Prince.

**About the author:** Pamela Galbreath, an award-winning nonfiction writer with an MFA from the University of Wyoming, is a Pushcart Prize nominee and retired literature teacher. She lives in Laramie, Wyoming, with her husband, dogs, and horses, continuing her passion for writing.





# **Understanding Horse Depression**

**Knowing Symptoms, Identifying Causes, and Finding Cures** Joanna Lepiarzyk

### **Selling points:**

- Recognize hidden signs of distress.
- Break the cycle of learned helplessness.
- Restore joy and emotional balance.
- Strengthen bonds through mental awareness.

Transform care with science-backed insights Joanna Lepiarczyk's Healthy Body, Broken Spirit explores the neglected emotional well-being of domestic horses, revealing how stress, learned helplessness, and depression impact their mental health. While horse owners often focus on physical care-feeding, grooming, and shelter-many fail to recognize signs of emotional distress, which can lead to dullness, withdrawal, and a lack of joy. Lepiarczyk, a lifelong horsewoman and horsemanship educator, draws on recent research to highlight how horses form bonds, experience stress, and struggle with mental health challenges. She translates scientific findings into practical strategies to identify and improve equine well-being.

### **Key Topics:**

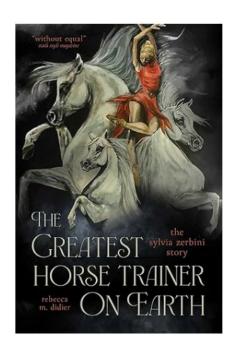
- The Stress-Depression Connection: How chronic stress can lead to emotional shutdown.
- Learned Helplessness: When horses stop seeking solutions and resign themselves to discomfort.
- Recognizing Signs: Changes in attention, posture, and responsiveness that indicate mental distress
- Anhedonia in Horses: Understanding the loss of joy and engagement.
- Preventing & Treating Depression: Steps to promote mental health and emotional resilience.

By bringing equine depression to the forefront, this book empowers horse owners, riders, and trainers to support their horses' emotional needs, leading to deeper bonds and better care.

**About the author:** Joanna Lepiarczyk, an Equine Canada Competition Coach, specializes in equine orthopedics, thermal imaging, and animal psychology. She contributes to equestrian media and hosts Horses Explained, sharing expert insights on horse care, behavior, and well-being from her home in Burnaby, British Columbia.

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### The Greatest Horse Trainer on Earth

The Sylvia Zerbini Story Rebecca Didier

### **Selling points:**

- Fearless circus-born equestrian artistry.
- Fluid liberty training with Arabians.
- Fascinating journey from trapeze to horses.
- Freedom-based communication without restraints.
- Flawless performances that captivate millions

For readers whose imaginations are captured by the glamour and excitement of the big top comes a biography of ninth-generation circus performer Sylvia Zerbini, whose astounding liberty horse performances have entertained millions and redefined what's possible between horse and human.

Sylvia Zerbini was born into circus life, a child of a ninth-generation circus family. By age twelve, Zerbini was part of a six-person trapeze troupe, and she went solo as an aerialist at fourteen. But it was her remarkable connection with animals, horses in particular, that would propel her to international fame. Her breathtaking liberty horse acts, often incorporating up to sixteen Arabians, defy what even the most sensitive and practiced horsemen can accomplish. Using her breath, her body, and vocal communications spoken in French, she and her horses compose a dance as beautiful as it is unusual to witness. One of the first people to mix aerial acts and equestrian showmanship, Zerbini has performed for nearly 10 million people around the world as well as in the traveling show *Cavalia*, the highly acclaimed equestrian-themed spectacular created by one of the pioneers of Cirque du Soleil.

**About the author:** Rebecca M. Didier has spent over 20 years editing and co-writing equestrian books with top trainers worldwide. She co-authored Dressage with Mind, Body & Souland Finding Your Superhorse. Living in Andover, New Hampshire, she enjoys riding horses and motorcycles and writing her own stories whenever she can.





# The Wild Boys of Skydog

Become a More Effective Rider by Taking Ownership of Your Body Clare Staple

#### **Selling points:**

- Rescued Mustangs reclaim their freedom.
- Heartbreaking stories of lost liberty.
- Powerful images of wild resilience.
- Mustang families reunited at Skydog.
- A tribute to untamed spirit.

A stunning tribute to the guardians, heartbreakers, and rebels-the "Wild Boys" of Skydog Ranch and Sanctuary.

Skydog Ranch and Sanctuary, founded by Clare Staples, covers over 9,000 acres in Malibu, California, and Bend, Oregon, where wild horse advocates work tirelessly to save captured Mustangs and return them to freedom. To date, Skydog has rescued over 300 wild horses and 50 donkeys and mules, with a special focus on finding and reuniting bonded families who may have once roamed the American West together but were separated during the roundup process.

Gorgeously illustrated with hundreds of dramatic photographs, The Wild Boys of Skydog features more than fifty horses who once, as stallions, roamed western public lands. They lived freely, loving and protecting their bonded partners and family bands until roundup separated them from their herds and forced them into captivity, and often abuse and neglect. Staples recounts their tales of lost liberty and the dramatic extent to which some Mustangs will go to flee captivity or rejoin their family bands. The Skydog team identifies, locates, and secures captured wild horses-often saving them from notorious kill pens-ensuring their lifelong freedom at the sanctuary and, when possible, in the company of their original wild herdmates.

Incredibly moving and inspiring, The Wild Boys of Skydog illuminates the plight of wild herds, showcasing their beauty and resilience and honoring the iconic inhabitants of the American West. A percentage of all sales goes toward supporting Skydog Ranch and Sanctuary.

**About the author:** Clare Staples, founder of Skydog Ranch, advocates for rescued wild Mustangs. Jamie Baldanza documents their stories through film and photography, while Steve Rymers captures powerful images supporting the Sanctuary's mission.

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