

Joe - The Horse Nobody Loved



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Synopsis

Joe, an ugly and unloved horse, trusts no one, and no one trusts him. Until Vicky. This is the story of a troubled horse and the little girl who loves him. Based on the true adventures of the author's childhood 50 years ago, Joe teaches the lesson that sometimes beauty is not skin deep but heart deep. That the unloved have much to show us about the true nature of love.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Very enjoyable read, it kept me interested and engaged from the beginning to the end. The story swept me back to my own youth, which was somewhat similar (in that it revolved around horses like the earth revolves around the sun!) to Vicky's. I knew the ending would be somehow sad, because whenever you love something so much the ending hurts! For that reason it might be intense for young readers. Recommended, simple and riveting for young and young-at-heart horse lovers.

The LAUGHS! The TEARS! I read this true account to my 10 year old daughter at bedtime, a chapter per night until it was finished. She BEGGED for one more chapter every single night. She is an avid horse lover & can't get enough books about horses, fiction & non-fiction. This story is so gripping, heart warming & engaging. My daughter really connected with Vicky's love of horses & could relate with all of her emotive memories of her Joe. I'm a pretty particular parent when it comes to reading material for my children. It has to be clean of profanity, witchcraft & immorality to pass my test. Have no fear of this book introducing inappropriate material to your children. We will be reading Gidget next!

I started this book with low expectations. I am not an animal lover, know nothing about horses past the coloring book stage, so why would I bother? Before I had read two pages I was hooked however! The relationships are delightful, characters endearing, and the story so real and heartwarming I was totally charmed. Very well written, full of laugh out loud humor it ticks all the boxes, I would read another of Vicky's stories in a snap!

This is one of the sweetest stories I have read in some time. I usually read mysteries, but I love horses and could not resist reading this one. I was not disappointed. My emotions ran the gamut from tears to laughter to concern to joy while reading this book. I have had horses in my life and have ridden many different personalities, so I understood how a little nine-year-old girl could find herself in a situation that she would do about any chore to get near a horse. What she did with Joe and the relationship they developed is truly amazing. Spoiler alert. I have dealt with a horse with colic and did the walking bit. When I couldn't get the horse up, I sat on his head to keep him from rolling until the vet arrived. It was a harrowing experience, and I was grateful the horse survived. I felt even pain when Vicki lost Joe and understand how his life stayed with her as she wrote this story. I can only add that this story will touch me for a long time.

The author makes you feel as if you are standing beside her, getting to know a horse who needed and desperately wanted someone like Vicky to come along and befriend him. He was smart enough to see that this particular human had the time and love to give him. They were patient with each other in a difficult time. Joe had given up trusting humans, but saw that Vicky was sensitive and needed connection - just as he did. This story reminded me of Alice Walker's essay about a horse in her book 'Living By The Word'. Both stories are about bonds and heartache, and how truly important relationships can be.

Oh man, this story took me back to my own childhood. Just like the author, I loved horses and I would do anything to be near them. If we had had a horse farm close enough to where I lived as a kid my story might have played out similarly to hers. With all of my nostalgia in mind, I dove into this book and read it in a single day. It's not incredibly long, and I just couldn't put it down. The author's experiences growing up working on a horse farm truly resonated with me and I felt the tales of her struggles and triumphs as if I was there with her. This is an absolutely excellent book for any age to read, everyone will get something out of it. Highly recommended!

I felt as if someone had told my own story. Not ALL of it, but so many things about her perceptions and feelings about persons, places and things. Maybe it is what all Horse-Crazy girls go through. Non the less, it was a wonderful account of people and horses. The way her Mom just 'turned them loose to fend for themselves', really rang true. But back in those days, there were no dangers out there as today... Kids get snatched, raped and killed. Or, just go missing.. . Horses are out there to be loved, good or bad. I will always remember each of the horses I have owned - or should I say, 'owned me'. They filled a void. Filled my heart with love. I hope to meet up with all of them, on the 'Other Side'. I hope all of you who read this book enjoy it as much as I did!

An amazing story of how a child can gr8 e, learn, love, and lose something she has had a passion for and about. More than a few tears were shed, as well as laughs, for the young girl who showed amazing patience, and kindness, for animals!

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