



A Horse of Her Own

By Annie Wedekind

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A girl who longs for her own horse is given the chance to care for a troubled, damaged horse, who needs her as much as she needs him.

Fourteen-year-old Jane Ryan has always dreamed of having a horse of her own?but so long as she gets to ride her favorite school horse, Beau, at Sunny Acres farm, she's content. And this is the summer she means to try out for the advanced riding class.

But just as camp begins, Jane receives heartbreaking news about Beau. She loses, not just her favorite horse, but also her chance to ride in the end-of-summer competition. When her trainer asks for her help with an out-of-control chestnut warmblood, Lancelot, a newcomer to the barn, she has no choice but to say yes.

There's another new addition to the farm: Ben Reyes, the grandson of the barn's manager. As Jane struggles to go on without Beau, and to make Lancelot the great horse she believes him to be, her feelings for Ben, her relationships with the privileged group of girls she rides with, and her painful, joyous road to self-discovery all lead to a heart-pounding conclusion that is truly a new beginning. Only Jane's faith in Lancelot, and her own rediscovered skill and strength, can see her through the hard journey toward a horse of her own.

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A Horse of Her Own By Annie Wedekind Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #74100 in Books
- Brand: Square Fish
- Published on: 2009-09-29
- Released on: 2009-09-29
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.55" h x 18.03" w x 5.18" l, .49 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 288 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 5–8—Jane Ryan, 14, is a capable rider whose family is not affluent enough for her to have her own horse. She rides a school horse for years, but then he is sold. Jane also tries to deal with the fact that the wealthy girls with whom she rides have never completely accepted her, except for Robin. When she gets the opportunity to ride Lancelot, a talented but difficult animal, she gains his trust and eventually wins the first Sunny Acres event. Tenacious and thoughtful, Jane is an appealing protagonist who gradually recognizes that being accepted no longer matters to her. The plot, though unremarkable, has enough twists, including a hint of romance, to sustain readers' interest. The descriptions of the challenges involved in preparing for competing are believable, although the time needed to achieve success seems a bit short. This novel merits consideration where horse stories are popular.—*Carol Schene, formerly at Taunton Public Schools, MA*
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From [Booklist](#)

With a title that telegraphs the denouement, this first novel is long on credible emotions but pulls up short on scenery and secondary characters. Jane spends the summer before ninth grade at the horse camp she has attended for years. Her fellow campers, rich and often snobby, stable their horses at the farm, while Jane, less monied and more earnest, doesn't own a horse. After her usual mount is sold, she's given charge of an unruly, new horse. Although class differences and the teens' emerging personal values are well depicted, not everything here rings as true. Jane's father is a professor, and her mother also teaches, so their characterization as impoverished isn't very credible and Jane also has spots waiting for her at three different high schools right up through August, which seems unlikely. Although lots of horse-related vocabulary goes unexplained, readers who love anything equine will be well pleased, and Wedekind's recognition of the fondness girls sometimes develop for horses is right on target. Grades 5-7. --Francisca Goldsmith

Review

"Sensitive, sophisticated and lyrically written, Wedekind's debut portrays the typical teen struggle for self-awareness in an anything-but-typical fashion. Possibly the most honest horse book since *National Velvet*, from an equestrian point-of-view, this offering's riding scenes combine accuracy with seat-of-the-pants excitement. A champion." ?Kirkus Reviews, Starred Review

"There aren't a lot of books around for horse-mad girls these days . . . Where oh where are the horsey novels? Thank goodness for Annie Wedekind. She has written an utterly charming novel that should be placed into the hands of horse-loving girls immediately upon publication." ?Kidliterate.com

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rose Cotner:

Book is to be different for every single grade. Book for children till adult are different content. As you may know that book is very important for people. The book *A Horse of Her Own* had been making you to know about other understanding and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The e-book *A Horse of Her Own* is not only giving you considerably more new information but also to get your

friend when you really feel bored. You can spend your own personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship with the book A Horse of Her Own. You never sense lose out for everything when you read some books.

Judy Turner:

Playing with family inside a park, coming to see the sea world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you may have done when you have spare time, and then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. Just one activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition of information. Even you love A Horse of Her Own, it is possible to enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout men. What? Still don't understand it, oh come on its called reading friends.

Laura Burke:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this A Horse of Her Own publication written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written with good manner for you, dripping every ideas and creating skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still uncertainty A Horse of Her Own as good book not simply by the cover but also from the content. This is one book that can break don't judge book by its include, so do you still needing one more sixth sense to pick this kind of!? Oh come on your reading sixth sense already alerted you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Kimberly Mason:

In this particular era which is the greater particular person or who has ability to do something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you should do is just spending your time very little but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of several books in the top record in your reading list is A Horse of Her Own. This book and that is qualified as The Hungry Hillsides can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upwards and review this book you can get many advantages.

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