

# The Dressage Formula

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Art: An Emotional Sojourn through **The Dressage Formula**

In a world inundated with displays and the cacophony of instantaneous interaction, the profound energy and psychological resonance of verbal art often diminish in to obscurity, eclipsed by the continuous onslaught of noise and distractions. However, situated within the lyrical pages of **The Dressage Formula**, a charming perform of literary elegance that pulses with raw feelings, lies an wonderful journey waiting to be embarked upon. Written with a virtuoso wordsmith, that enchanting opus manuals readers on an emotional odyssey, delicately revealing the latent potential and profound impact embedded within the elaborate web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse with this evocative analysis, we shall embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is main subjects, dissect their charming publishing model, and immerse ourselves in the indelible effect it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

**The Dressage Formula** Erik F. Herbermann 1980

Classical Dressage with Anja Beran Anja Beran 2014 Classical equestrianism represents the basis of all other equestrian disciplines. It serves exclusively to keep the horse healthy, strengthen it and help it develop into an attractive and expressive personality.

Irish Thoroughbred Nora Roberts 2020-09-15 The very first novel by the phenomenal #1 New York Times bestselling author Nora Roberts, Irish Thoroughbred is the story of a young immigrant, a racehorse breeder, and a romance that could only happen in America--now in a beautiful new hardcover edition. There's nothing left for Adelia Cunnane in Ireland. The aunt she cared for has passed, and the family farm has been sold for taxes. But her uncle Paddy has written her: Come to America... The Maryland horse farm where Paddy lives and works is more than Dee dared to dream about. She has always had a magical touch with animals, and her she finds employment in the stables—and a chance to fly, on the muscular back of Travis Grant's chestnut Thoroughbred. It's easy to put aside a passing pang of homesickness when she can spend her first paycheck—which feels like a veritable fortune—on the feminine frivolities that were never a part of her life in the old country. But the most unfamiliar territory of all is her relationship with her boss, the man who has made all this possible. Spirited but innocent, Dee is disconcerted by the way he treats her—and the way she responds. America may be the land of opportunity, a place where even those from the humblest background can pursue what they want—and, perhaps, even find themselves one day attending the Kentucky Derby. But some divides may be too wide to cross, and Dee fears that demanding more could cost her all that she's already gained...

Dressage Formula Erik Herbermann 2008 Based on the principles of the classical school, this book covers both the aesthetic and practical aspects of riding and training. Now in its fourth edition, this easy-to-read guide continues to be one of the most widely quoted books on the subject of dressage today.

Dressage in the Fourth Dimension Sherry Ackerman 2010-09-07 Dressage is often seen as the most formal and controlled of the equine sports, following an ancient, standardized training progression. For philosopher and dressage instructor Dr. Sherry Ackerman, dressage is much more. It — along with riding in general — can be a transformational art and an avenue for reflection, exploration, and self-knowledge through which a rider can experience liberation from the individual, egoistic self. This second, revised edition of Dressage in the Fourth Dimension is a pioneer work in awakening “dressage consciousness.” Drawing on such diverse sources as sacred geometry, ancient Western and Eastern philosophies, and esoteric spirituality, Ackerman seeks to heal humanity's alienation from nature through riding. She points us toward the liberation from societal conditioning and normative thinking, and, ultimately, from our own egos. Her concept of the fourth dimension requires us to leave the analytic, objective mind behind and enter into the mystery of inspiration. A short, unique, thought-provoking work that has enjoyed a word-of-mouth reputation among horse people for years, Dressage in the Fourth Dimension will challenge riders' assumptions about their horses and themselves.

Dressage Formula Erik F. Herbermann 1989

**Dressage Riding** Richard L. Wätjen 1979

Anky Anky van Grunsven 2002

Peter Leone's Show Jumping Clinic Peter Leone 2012-01-01 Offers strategies for successful show jumping, and provides advice on the physical aspects of riding and the mental focus needed for successful competition.

**Educating the Young Horse** Julian Westall 1994-01-01 Knowledgeable equestrians would agree that the quality of the young or green horse's

basic training ultimately affects its performance and happiness throughout its life. Yet it is in this critical time that one is most likely to run into problems, owing to the very fact of the horse's lack of education and experience.

**Ride Big** John Haime 2021-06-11 An easy-to-implement framework proven to grow rider confidence, tested by the world's leading equestrian athletes. Without confidence, achievement in competition is unattainable. When confidence is lacking in any sport, equestrian included, chances are your career will be short. Renowned performance coach John Haime has written the book to counter this challenge, providing the mental tools riders need to be better under pressure of all kinds and consistently succeed. Equestrian sport is a partnership: there's an equine athlete, and there's a human athlete. Haime notes that often, there is an investment in world-class training for one partner (the horse), but not the other (the human). This compromises the potential effectiveness of the horse-and-rider team. It just makes sense for equestrians to develop their own skills—mental and physical—and bring more to the partnership. Haime explains that there is what he believes is a crisis of confidence in modern equestrian sport. This has a variety of causes, including: a lack of fundamental mental/emotional structure and development, the presence and prominence of technology in the rider's life, and the constant comparisons inherent in social media and a technically “connected” existence. Addressing this crisis enables equestrians of all ages and abilities to: communicate better with their horses, both in day-to-day interactions and competition; absorb more in valuable learning situations, such as lessons and clinics; and perform their best when the stakes are high, as when heading into the jump-off or approaching the last fence on the cross-country course. p> Haime invites readers to dive into three clear and informative areas of exploration: The Confidence Base: Firm up the fundamentals. The Confidence Builders: Systems and tips to help you build confidence. The Confidence Threats: An inside look at what to watch out for in riding and in competition. Throughout, those who have reached the highest levels on horseback in a number of disciplines share their stories, including Michael Jung, Beezie Madden, McLain Ward, Laura Tomlinson, Harry Meade, Oliver Townend, Mattias Tromp, Casey Deary, Beth Underhill, Fred Mannix, Jarred Zenni, Beth Underhill, Jonathon Millar, and Kelly Soleau-Millar. These Olympians, champions, and medalists explain what they do in the saddle and how their techniques for performing under world-class pressure might help other riders develop a similar kind of confidence. Perhaps even more valuable are the struggles these top competitors share, giving readers the rare opportunity to see how even “the best of the best” are human, too. p> The way riders develop confidence in their equestrian lives is transferable to everything they do: a confident rider can be a confident business person, confident worker, confident spouse, confident parent, and confident friend. In this way, Ride Big!™ instills a skill of worth and promise that extends far beyond the show ring.

*Jane Savoie's Dressage 101* Jane Savoie 2018-04-04 "First published in two volumes: Cross-train your horse and More cross-training in 1998"--T.p. verso.

**Storey's Guide to Training Horses, 2nd Edition** Heather Smith Thomas 2010-07-02 Safely and successfully train your own horse. Stressing the importance of understanding equine behavior, Storey's Guide to Training Horses provides a series of progressive exercises that can easily be adjusted to suit your horse's personality. Whether you're raising an animal for farm work, competition, or show, you'll learn everything you need to develop a well-trained and happy horse.

**The Alchemy of Lightness** Dominique Barbier 2018-02-01 Within these pages lies an ambitious study of the interplay of mechanisms put in motion when man and horse meet, communicate, and ultimately become one. Dominique Barbier and Dr. Maria Katsamanis examine how

"lightness" is generated, using the simple and elegant basics of the universe—atoms and molecules—which exist all around us. Scientific findings and theoretical underpinnings allow us to better understand how lightness with a horse occurs—and how to harness it. Discover practical guideposts for the mechanics of "riding in lightness," including:

- Five common misconceptions about riding and horses
- Seven keys to meeting the challenges we so often face when working with horses
- Four elements necessary to ensuring the horse's comfort and willingness to join us in "the dance"

**Riding Logic** Wilhelm Museler 2021-04-01 Out of print for more than 20 years, this classic book on equitation introduces and explains the art of riding. Updated with all new color photography of contemporary riders and horses, it includes details on training the rider, schooling the horse, cross-country riding, dressage exercises, and jumping techniques. It expertly provides a wealth of practical knowledge and experience and concisely lays down rules and guidelines that are as applicable today as when the book was written more than 70 years ago. Beginners and experts alike will find the instructions easy to follow and will benefit from the essential theoretical background provided here but so often overlooked in modern riding.

**Stride Control** Jen Marsden Hamilton 2020-11-15 The only book dedicated to learning to find and ride the ideal jumping distance with fundamental skills and enlightening lessons from one of the best in the business. Understanding how to count strides helps to develop the rider's eye and "feel." Stride control means producing the correct number of strides and quality of stride to jump the jumps at hand—the emphasis is on the quality of strides, not just the number. It is one of the skills that enables the rider to achieve success, whatever the size of the jumps. Jen Marsden Hamilton has coached countless riders and horses around the world in the striding techniques that brought her success during her own impressive competitive career, and here Hamilton has compiled her knowledge in a concise book of exercises and insightful strategies. Inside you'll find: Detailed setup for specific exercises. Connecting flatwork for between ground poles or jumps, such as transitions and serpentines. Strategies for completing the exercises and analyzing the outcome. Appropriate exercises for the rider's desired discipline and level.

**A Horseman's Notes** Erik F. Herbermann 2003 Presents the inner workings of classical riding, which assists every rider to discover the joys of greater harmony with their horse. The content of this work is based on notes the author made while answering the daily practical needs of his pupils during many years of teaching.

**Academic Equitation** General Decarpentry 2012-01-27 Originally written and published in 1949, Academic Equitation was considered by dressage experts to be the most important contribution to classical training in the twentieth century. This book was intended as a preparation for international dressage competitions but is far more than this. It discusses the subjects of academic equitation, the riding master and the choice of horse before introducing the reader to the author's systematic program, covering the very early training right up to the most advanced movements. The appendix deals with lungeing, work in hand, long reins and pillar work. General Decarpentry was not only a distinguished scholar of artistic equitation but also equally versed in putting the theories into practice. He deals with the education of the young horse and the complications and details of advanced schooling with the hand of a master. Although he claims that nothing in the book is his—his training system is based on the methods of D'Aure, Baucher and L'Hotte—the General's wisdom and deep knowledge are manifest throughout. It was the General's great wish that traditional teachings on the art of equitation should not be lost to those who wished to study equitation. In this most important work he has succeeded in presenting these teachings in such a way that allows both layman and expert to obtain a deeper insight into this fascinating subject.

**Equitation Science** Paul McGreevy 2018-02-12 A new edition of a highly respected textbook and reference in the rapidly emerging field of equitation science. Equitation Science, 2nd Edition incorporates learning theory into ethical equine training frameworks suitable for riders of any level and for all types of equestrian activity. Written by international experts at the forefront of the development of the field, the welfare of the horse and rider safety are primary considerations throughout. This edition features a new chapter on research methods, and a companion website provides the images from the book in PowerPoint.

**Dressage Principles Based on Biomechanics** Dr. Thomas Ritter 2011 Analyzed by an expert and accompanied by many practical examples, the ancient secrets of classical riding are presented here in a modern way

Classical riding, in essence, is correct riding. It is how one should ride every time they get on a horse, and includes not just knowing how to ride, but all around knowledge of the horse as a species. Here, a thorough examination of classical riding is presented through accessible modern day examples. It also includes almost forgotten, yet essential, riding methods—such as the Bugeltritt (the position of the rider's foot in the stirrup) or ridden work with a cavesson. Other concepts include the aims of dressage; the system's essential gymnastic building blocks; breaking down blockades; essential riding skills such as sitting, feeling, and thinking; and the network of aids.

**The Rider Forms the Horse** Udo Bürger 2006 In this book, first published in 1939, the authors set out clearly and precisely the requirements for successful training, and for the long and healthy life of the riding horse. The authors explain the physiological facts which are the foundation of riding instruction and discuss how to identify and rectify training problems.

**Dressage, Naturally** 2007

**Storey's Guide to Training Horses, 3rd Edition** Heather Smith Thomas 2019-05-28 Storey's Guide to Training Horses is a one-stop reference for every aspect of horse training, including a complete program for turning a shy and gangly foal into a calm, confident, well-balanced equine partner. Now with full-color photography, the third edition includes step-by-step guidance on all the essential training procedures for both English- and Western-style riding, including haltering and leading, saddling and mounting, and addresses the finer points of gaits, lightness, and collection. Best-selling author Heather Smith Thomas draws on her decades of equestrian experience to anticipate every situation that might arise and provide answers to managing all the potential challenges of training different types of horses.

**Down the Darkest Road** Tami Hoag 2011-12-27 A woman will do whatever it takes to uncover the truth about her missing daughter in this taut thriller from #1 New York Times bestselling author Tami Hoag. California, 1990—Four years after Lauren Lawton's sixteen-year-old daughter disappeared, the world has given up the girl for dead. Lauren's husband took his own life. Her younger daughter is looking only for what's left of her childhood. But Lauren never surrendered. She knows who took her child, and there's not a shred of evidence against him. Looking for a fresh start, Lauren and her younger daughter Leah move to idyllic Oak Knoll. So has Lauren's suspect. And it feels that history is about to repeat itself. Leah is turning sixteen, and Oak Knoll has a cunning predator on the hunt. But as sheriff's detective Tony Mendez and his team sift through the circumstances of an increasingly disturbing case, a stunning question changes everything they thought they knew... **The Girl on the Dancing Horse** Charlotte Dujardin 2018-03-08 \*THE TOP 10 BESTSELLER FROM THE MOST DECORATED BRITISH FEMALE OLYMPIAN IN HISTORY\* 'Refreshingly honest [...] a highly enjoyable, fascinating read.' Horse and Hound

"To ride into that arena, next to a sea of British flags and hear the roar of clapping and cheering, was so exciting. It's a sound I will never, ever forget." Charlotte Dujardin and her charismatic horse Valegro burst onto the international sports scene with their record-breaking performance at the London, 2012 Olympics. The world was captivated by the young woman with the dazzling smile and her dancing horse. But no one quite knew what it took to get there, nor how hard the path to success would be - until now. Dujardin began riding horses at the age of two, but dressage was firmly the domain of the wealthy, not the life of a girl from a middle-class family. Her parents sacrificed all and with a undeterred focus, Charlotte left school at 16 to follow her dream. When she was invited to be a groom for the British Olympian Carl Hester, she began to ride Valegro, a dark bay gelding and an unbreakable bond was formed. This is their incredible story.

**The Perfect Horse** Elizabeth Letts 2016-08-23 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From the author of The Eighty-Dollar Champion, the remarkable story of the heroic rescue of priceless horses in the closing days of World War II WINNER OF THE PEN AWARD FOR RESEARCH NONFICTION In the chaotic last days of the war, a small troop of battle-weary American soldiers captures a German spy and makes an astonishing find—his briefcase is empty but for photos of beautiful white horses that have been stolen and kept on a secret farm behind enemy lines. Hitler has stockpiled the world's finest purebreds in order to breed the perfect military machine—an equine master race. But with the starving Russian army closing in, the animals are in imminent danger of being slaughtered for food. With only hours to spare, one of the U.S.

Army's last great cavalymen, Colonel Hank Reed, makes a bold decision—with General George Patton's blessing—to mount a covert rescue operation. Racing against time, Reed's small but determined force of soldiers, aided by several turncoat Germans, steals across enemy lines in a last-ditch effort to save the horses. Pulling together this multistranded story, Elizabeth Letts introduces us to an unforgettable cast of characters: Alois Podhajsky, director of the famed Spanish Riding School of Vienna, a former Olympic medalist who is forced to flee the bomb-ravaged Austrian capital with his entire stable in tow; Gustav Rau, Hitler's imperious chief of horse breeding, a proponent of eugenics who dreams of genetically engineering the perfect warhorse for Germany; and Tom Stewart, a senator's son who makes a daring moonlight ride on a white stallion to secure the farm's surrender. A compelling account for animal lovers and World War II buffs alike, *The Perfect Horse* tells for the first time the full story of these events. Elizabeth Letts's exhilarating tale of behind-enemy-lines adventure, courage, and sacrifice brings to life one of the most inspiring chapters in the annals of human valor. Praise for *The Perfect Horse* "Winningly readable . . . Letts captures both the personalities and the stakes of this daring mission with such a sharp ear for drama that the whole second half of the book reads like a WWII thriller dreamed up by Alan Furst or Len Deighton. . . . The right director could make a Hollywood classic out of this fairy tale."—*The Christian Science Monitor* "Letts, a lifelong equestrienne, eloquently brings together the many facets of this unlikely, poignant story underscoring the love and respect of man for horses."—*Kirkus Reviews*

**Brain Training for Riders** Andrea Monsarrat Waldo 2017-01-16 Did you know there is an area of your brain known as the "Lizard Brain" that thinks only about the immediate moment and your means of survival? Yes, in certain circumstances, your "Rational Brain" can effectively "shut down" and you are at the mercy of a reptile . . . dry-mouthed, sweating, queasy, unable to think clearly—even though you know better. When does the Lizard Brain run the show? It can happen in any number of unfamiliar, uncomfortable, challenging, or "stressful" riding situations. But here's the thing: with the right kind of training, you can learn to manage the reptile within, which leads to greater confidence with horses, better riding performance, and ultimately, happiness at the barn, at shows, and everywhere in between. Andrea Monsarrat Waldo teaches you how to: handle uncomfortable emotions, such as fear, anger, anxiety, and embarrassment; hone your mental game and focus your riding time to get the most out of your hours in the saddle; care for your emotional injuries the same way you would care for an injured horse; and produce a state of "Focused Calm" and tap into the skills you have (whether you know it or not!) to ensure an outstanding ride.

**Psychic Communication with Animals for Health and Healing** Laila del Monte 2010-03-09 The transformation and insights of an acclaimed flamenco dancer turned world-renowned animal communicator and healer • Presents powerful case histories of animals with whom she communicated and treated • Offers instruction on how to establish communication with animals When Laila del Monte was a child growing up on the Balearic island of Formentera, she experienced a special bond with the animals that were a part of her life. Later, as she became entirely focused on her career as a flamenco dancer, she resisted those who told her that her true vocation was as a healer. But when her own health challenges jeopardized her dancing career, the healing energies she received from both her human and animal teachers raised her consciousness about the important insights animals have to offer on the state of our physical and emotional well-being. In this book Laila del Monte reveals how the unconditionally loving nature of animals very often leads them to take on the physical pains and negative emotional experiences of the human beings in their lives. The animals absorb negative emotions such as guilt, anger, jealousy, and other issues that stop people from moving forward and reflect these back in their animal behavior. Through her work with countless animals suffering from behavioral disorders or who have been sick or injured, del Monte learned that the physical healing of the animals is directly tied to the emotional healing of the people they are close to. The stories and situations she shares in this book demonstrate that learning what animals have to teach us about our lives does not require any magical formula or laborious training—it is part of our natural birthright. We need only to revive our own deep intuition to restore this connection. The authenticity and loving nature of del Monte's approach is not only testimony to her dedication and amazing abilities but also shows us the way we can follow the same path simply and honestly.

*What Horses Really Want* Lynn Acton 2020-07-07 Relationships with horses, whether for companionship or competition, are complex and

ever-changing. This is one of the reasons why "horsemanship" can become a lifelong pursuit: There is always a balance to be struck with our equine partners, and it demands continual growth and understanding on our side. In this book, horsewoman Lynn Acton explains that when the focus in the relationship is on what we want from the horse, his compliance becomes the measure of success, and what he thinks and feels is often overlooked. Is he calm, confident, and trusting? Or anxiously wishing he could escape? His behavior, performance, and reliability—in whatever discipline we prefer or equestrian sport we pursue—depend on the answers to those questions. Horses want security and social bonds. They want leaders they trust to protect them—not only from danger, but from stress. When we provide this security, they accept our rules. This not only puts us in charge, it makes our leadership more effective because we do not force it on them; they seek it. The result is less anxiety, fewer behavior problems, more efficient learning, and better reliability. Acton refers to this relationship as Protector Leadership because being the "protector" is the foundation. Building methodology based on time-tested training theories that we are often exposed to in bits and pieces, Acton shows why Protector Leadership works and how to make it work for us, fitting the separate pieces together, and illustrating the connections with practical examples of real horses in everyday life.

**From the Horse's Mouth** Erik Herbermann 2015 Revised edition of: A horseman's notes. 2003.

*Four Legs Move My Soul* Isabell Werth 2020-02-01 An illuminating look at the story behind the success of one of the best dressage riders in the world. German Olympian Isabell Werth has six Olympic gold medals and scores of championship titles to her name—there are few her equal on paper. But an equestrian's success is wholly dependent on the relationship she has with her athletic partner—her horse—and Werth's astounding accomplishments would not have been possible without her unique approach to working with the animals she's loved since childhood. Even as a little girl, growing up on a farm on the Lower Rhine, it was clear that Werth possessed an extraordinary gift for empathizing with horses and foreseeing how they were likely to react in certain situations. This insight gave her a special ability as a rider and trainer. Here, Werth collaborates with accomplished sports journalist Evi Simeoni—someone who has witnessed and written about her career from the very beginning—to tell her life story. Readers will get the inside scoop when it comes to Werth's accomplishments—and her failures, too. They'll hear her personal thoughts regarding some of the biggest controversies to rock the dressage world: Rollkur and Totilas. Perhaps most importantly, they'll learn about each of the sensitive and talented horses that has impacted Werth's life, including Gigolo, Satchmo, and Bella Rose. There is a meme that is popular in the riding community that says, "Two legs move our body, four legs move our soul." It is this sentiment that Werth feels perhaps best defines her.

*Experiences Along the Way* Joe Andrews 2002 A horse training book with a different approach. Instead of providing another cookbook formula, Andrews writes about his experiences working with horses, from haltering the foal through the first trail ride. This book will make you think about what and how you are communicating to your horse and why he may have problems understanding what you want.

*Green Rider* Kristen Britain 2008-11-04 After an unexpected confrontation with a dying knight, Karigan G'ladheon becomes the unlikely bearer of a vital message to the king, on a mission during which she faces assassins and other deadly dangers in a world of complex magic.

**Legendary Hearts of Horses** Adrienne Neary 2021-04-15 *Legendary Hearts of Horses* is the result of Adrienne Neary's collection and analysis of various information sources regarding the large heart gene. Her work began in the early 2000's, eventually turning into a manuscript, first published in 2020. In this book, Neary follows the equine large heart trail instigated by the famous American Thoroughbred, Secretariat. The revelation of a 'super heart' during his autopsy, set the horse industry afire. Following the equine pedigree history that other researchers identified as being the fountain spring of this marvelous trait, she leaps from breed constraints and boldly jumps into the vast pool of equine evolution and human ambition. Here, the large heart trait is clearly connected to 'Old World' horses, and even suggests that horses in the wild had been very creative and proactive about their own survival. Insightful and inspirational, this is a book that appeals to a wide audience. This well written book elucidates not only the physical heart, but the intangible qualities of heart that horses have demonstrated throughout history. Enhanced by historical references, expert science and a surprising, fortuitous discovery, this a thought provoking book for

anyone interested in history, evolution, and of course, horses.

**The Smart Woman's Guide to Midlife Horses** Melinda Folse 2011

Includes bibliographical references (p. [311]-317) and index.

**Ride Better with Christoph Hess** Christoph Hess 2018-03 Christoph

Hess, a Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) "I" Judge in both dressage and eventing, is highly respected around the world as a teacher of riding and the development of the horse according to classical principles. Here he collects some of his very best riding and training tips along with well-honed insight related to the topics that he finds most often challenge equestrians and their equine partners. Ride Better with Christoph Hess provides thoughtful, easy-to-apply advice when dealing with issues with the gaits, in particular the walk and canter; high-headedness or the horse that is "too light" in the poll; inconsistency of performance; leaning on the bit; falling out; lack of straightness; and much more. In addition, Hess breaks out particular skills and movements that often need specialised attention when in the dressage or jumping ring, and when going cross-country. Throughout Hess emphasises that a rider must always strive to improve, for the simple reason that you can always do better for your horse. While competitive and training goals do, of course, bring a certain satisfaction, it is having an equine partner who is contented in his work and happy in your company that rewards most. This lesson, and all Hess's tips and solutions, are invaluable to equestrians of every level--everyone can walk away from this book a better rider.

**Best Enemies** Jessica Burkhart 2009-10-20 Some Girls Just Have To Be The Best At Everything. If any two girls know about being the best, it's Heather Fox and Jasmine King. Just ask them; they'll be happy to tell you. But every girl knows that there can only be one "best." Can Sasha keep the girls from turning the arena into a war zone and still snag a spot on the coveted Youth Equestrian National Team?

**Dark Horse** Tami Hoag 2004-06-01 In her latest thriller, New York Times bestselling author Tami Hoag takes readers on a suspense-filled ride of shocks and twists leading to an explosive finish. It is the story of an ex-cop, a missing girl, and a killer locked in a race where there can be only one winner—and the losers die trying. In a trailer in a Florida swamp, time is running out for eighteen year-old Erin Seabright. A pawn in a kidnapper's terrifying game for a ransom no one can pay, her last hope is a washed-up ex-cop who has already lost it all—not once, but twice. The wealthy world of the Palm Beach horse set seems a long way from a cop's world in the narcotics division. A lifetime ago, undercover sheriff's detective Elena Estes worked the mean streets and BackTop alleys, living by her wits and playing the long odds until she took one risk too many. Now Estes lives on the ragged edge of lost hope and self-hatred, hiding from the past and believing she doesn't deserve to have a future. But the past is about to come back with a vengeance, and the future is about to become a race between life and death. A young woman is missing and her twelve year-old stepsister comes to Estes for help. No one but serious, studious Molly Seabright seems concerned about what's happened to her troubled older sister. But Molly is convinced Erin is in danger. Estes has no P.I. license, no interest in a new career, and no desire to break her self-imposed exile. But the more she learns about the people Erin Seabright was involved with, the more her long-dormant cop instincts come back to life. One trip to the show grounds where Erin worked as a groom, and Estes is quickly pulled to the dark side of a glamorous sport. Behind the glittering, ultra-rich facade is an ultra-ruthless world of drugs, payoffs, and dirty deals. A world of dissolute playboys and crooked horse-dealers, of royalty and rabble, of rivals and enemies. An obscenely wealthy world where anything can be had for a price—including a life. And in that world stalks a killer who will lead Estes down a dark, twisted trail of decadence and deceit, mayhem and murder—from the gilded life of Palm Beach to the darkest corners of the Florida swamps, to a final show-down that could cost her everything. A race against time and evil. A race in which Estes is the dark horse—and no one is betting on her to win.

**The Opium Equation** Lisa Wysocky 2011 Winner of silver medals from IBPA (Ben Franklin Awards, Mystery), the American Horse Publication Awards (Best Book), Mom's Choice Awards (Fiction), and National Indie Excellence Awards (Mystery). No one liked Glenda much. So when retired movie star Glenda Dupree was murdered at Fairbanks, her antebellum mansion near Nashville, Tennessee, there was much speculation, but no one missed her. Prior to leaving life on earth, Glenda had managed to offend everyone in sight, including her neighbor, a (mostly) law-abiding horse trainer named Cat Enright. Cat finds Glenda's body and is implicated in the murder, and also in the disappearance of a ten-year-old neighbor, Bubba Henley. Cat thinks Bubba's disappearance

ties into the murder and realizes her name will not be cleared until he is found. Because the police treat the missing boy as a runaway Cat begins her quest to find Bubba, solve Glenda's murder, and clear her name. An unpopular sheriff and upcoming election mean the pressure to close the case is on. With the help of her riding students, a (possibly) psychic horse, a local cop, a kid named Frog, and an eccentric client of a certain age with electric blue hair, Cat takes time from her horse training business to try to solve the case and keep herself out of prison. The Opium Equation features reader club questions and 19 horse tips, and the series has been optioned for film and television.

**Dark Horse** Kate Sherwood 2010-06-11 "Dan thinks about just driving, leaving the whole mess behind. He's got enough money. He could just arrange to get his stuff and his horse shipped to wherever he's going. Taking off is what he used to do when things got to be too much, and it worked pretty well, really. Dan Wheeler thought he'd found lasting love and stability with his life and work partner Justin Archer. But when Dan finds himself alone again, still working as a horse trainer for Justin's parents, he has to find a way to accept that his perfect life is gone forever. Then he meets billionaire Evan Kaminski, who arrives to buy a horse for his younger sister, and Evan's lover Jeff Stevens, a horse trainer who seems to understand more than just Dan's job. Struggling to deal with all the upheaval in his life, Dan finds himself drawn to both Evan's mercurial passion and Jeff's quiet wisdom. Is Dan strong enough to take a chance on new love, or would it be better--safer--for him to be alone?"--P. [4] of cover.

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