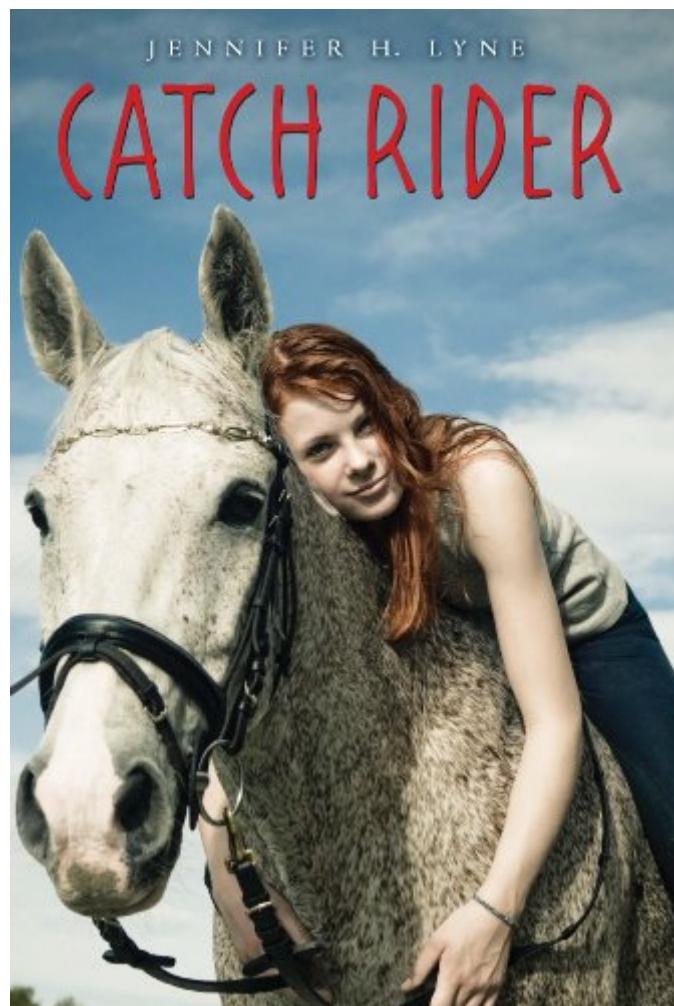


The book was found

Catch Rider



Synopsis

Tough-as-nails fourteen-year-old Sid may not have expensive boots like the privileged teen riders in Virginia, but she knows her way around horses. Working with her Uncle Wayne since childhood, she's learned to evaluate horses, break and train them, care for them . . . and ride like a professional. Amid turmoil at home, she dreams of becoming a catch rider—a show rider who can ride anything with hooves. In this salty, suspenseful teen novel, an unexpected opportunity to ride a top-notch horse in an equitation show takes the small-town girl all the way to Madison Square Garden.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

If you love horses, and hard work(they certainly go together) Catch Rider is a fun read. I almost read it in one sitting, because not only was the subject fascinating to me, but because the writer is so good at her job she makes the words flow by. Add to that great, three-dimensional characters and you have a must-read book. The story is of Sid, a fourteen year old girl who lives in a dead-end mill

town in the hills of Virginia, filled with characters who are resourceful(think moonshine), and tough, with Sid being a product of her environment. Knowing that the only way out of her toxic-aired town is through hard work, Sid uses her love of horses to find her way out. She's been raised by a mother who once rode horses as a girl, and an uncle who trades horses and drinks whiskey, and loves Sid with all of his heart. Uncle Wayne teaches Sid to ride and the novel opens with Sid on board a newly acquired horse who runs crazily over the country side until jumping a four foot high downed tree throwing Sid into the dirt. From the first few pages we learn of Sidney's love of horses, and her fearless expertise in riding them. She dreams of showing horses, but that's a sport reserved for the rich. When Sid's uncle asks her to work along side him at a wealthy owner's show barn, she's reluctant. She can ride anything, why can't she just get a job doing that?Of course Sid takes the job and is plunged into the world of hundred thousand dollar horses and the show circuit. How she makes it work, is through her fearlessness, her strong work ethic and the love of her mother and uncle who support her. Sid keeps trying despite the setbacks in her life, like the death of her father, her mother's abusive boyfriend, her uncle's drinking problem, the pressures of high school, and a total lack of money. This book contains adult themes(though quite realistic), and adult language(spoken by the 14 year old main character), so this might not be good for kids under the age of maturity to these kinds of life experiences(I have no idea what age that might be because it's different for all kids). I think that it's good to expose kids to the themes in this book because it might open a dialogue that could be helpful(again, depends on the child). Maybe if the parent read this book first, they could gage it's appropriateness for their child. As an adult, I loved the book, and the all the characters in it. It read fast, and left me with the good feeling of a well-crafted novel.

As a enthusiastic reader (and author) of all horse-related fiction, I was delighted to read a YA equestrian novel that featured a non-traditional protagonist. While it's true that the theme of the poor, talented rider is featured in many other horse books, Sid grapples in a believable way with issues like alcoholism and abuse. She doesn't lose the edge she needs to survive, even though being with horses is clearly healing for her. The book ends happily but doesn't promise her a rose garden in an unrealistic fashion.

Betsy Ellis recommended this book to me - as she knows that I love love love the mountains of Bath County, Virginia, and horses of any kind. Got it on the Kindle and read it over the weekend "retreat" IN Bath County!!It has a wonderful story about a young girl being raised by a single mother (with a very limited income) that ends up competing in a prestigious horse show on a horse that --- well, as

horses go - shouldn't have ended up qualifying for the event. Good story - great descriptions - I could almost feel myself on the horse's backs with her-with the wind in my face. I have a friend who is a "catch rider" - never knew the term, but now know what to call her ! Please write more books - and as one reviewer mentioned - a sequel to this??!

I'm an adult, and a sucker for pony books. Yes, you can judge me if you want. But they all follow the same formula - underdog teen from the Wrong Side of the Tracks goes up against Spoilt Rich Other Teen and is victorious. And yes, this book follows that formula. But it's so much better than any other pony book I've ever read. It's funny, accurate and engaging and characters are actually developed. If you like the genre give it a try, you'll find it's one of the better ones out there.

This book was very heartwarming and pretty accurate as far as the horse show world goes. I definitely recommend to any horse lovers, especially hunter jumper riders

A great book--even for non-horse people. I know it's marketed as a young adult book but it's a story adults can relate to--set in a fully immersive world that most people don't get to see. Lyne has clearly done her research. She sets the scene so accurately and with so much detail you will feel like you know these people. Looking forward to her next novel.

Story gets a little fetched at the end. The people are real. I have a few issues with her salesmanship, then I don't think too much of horse shows.

We own a horse. My daughter loved this book.

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