

Horsenameographies

Life Stories in a Race Horse Name

by Lovers of Horses

Everywhere



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Edited and Designed by
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A Caballo Press of Ann Arbor Book
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Introduction

All you have to do is hear the names Eclipse, Exterminator, Phar Lap, or Man O' War; Seabiscuit, John Henry, War Admiral, or Secretariat; Barbaro, Eight Belles, Zenyatta, or Rachel Alexandra, and their extraordinary histories come alive.

Contained in the names of these legendary Thoroughbreds are histories that ended in dramatically different ways, and for some, the complete stories of their lives remains untold. Nevertheless, they share a common thread: At one point in their lives, men, women and children stood at the rail shouting their names. For those precious seconds, time stood still, and in the balance hung a history yet to be written for both the Thoroughbreds and the spectators that cheered them on.

Such was the premise of *Horsenameographies: Life Stories in a Race Horse Name*. Horse lovers were asked to pause “the race” of their lives in order to capture their history in a race horse name. In a little over two and a half months, hundreds of horsenameographies were submitted from around the world. So many in fact that the deadline for

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submissions was moved up months before the original deadline just so the process of selecting the names to be included in this book could begin.

From the beginning, it was quite clear that horse lovers were taking the time to carefully consider their life stories in a race horse name and that they were willing to tell it like it is. Some of the horsenameographies reflected pain and triumph; hope and despair; laughter and sadness, while others spoke of love and heartbreak, as well as life and death. However, all of the life stories had one thing in common, raw honesty.

The goal of this collection was for horse lovers to create a book for and about themselves, as well as to introduce others to horses and Thoroughbred horse racing. This mission has been met thanks to horse lovers and others we have come to respect and admire. The motto of Caballo Press of Ann Arbor is that “we are committed to forming friendships with our patrons first, and selling them one heck of a horsey book second.” Through the process of gathering names and photographs for this book, we’ve had an opportunity to do just that. In e-mails and letters, folks have shared freely details of their lives that they wanted us to know, yet information they wanted left out of the book. To them we say thank you for your trust and to all

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the others we've come to know, we say thank you for your support and encouragement.

Caballo Press of Ann Arbor is a relative yearling in the world of horse publishing, but we're eager to make good. Our goal is not only to publish compelling books related to the equine industry, but also to give back to the industry that allows us to prosper. With this in mind, a percentage of all the books we publish are donated to a non-profit organization related to the industry. To ensure that this happens, our books can only be purchased through our online store, Libros Caballo. Ten percent of this book will be donated to ReRun Thoroughbred Adoption Program and Southern California Thoroughbred Rescue, two organizations dedicated to bettering the lives of the animals we love and admire. A special thanks must go to these two organizations for their willingness to accept our support and for allowing Caballo Press of Ann Arbor to be associated with them and the outstanding and courageous work that they stand for. At the back of this book you'll find additional information about these organizations; please support them in a way that suits you best. In purchasing this book, you've already contributed to their success. On behalf of ReRun Thoroughbred Adoption Program, Southern California Thoroughbred Rescue and Caballo Press of Ann Arbor, we'd like to thank you for your support, it is very much appreciated.

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There is nothing like preserving history in a book. When black and white photographs are preserved alongside the written word, there's something special and nostalgic about it, something concrete, something that can never be taken away. The "race" stands still. Forever more, the lives of those whose horsethoughtographies are contained in this book will be frozen in time. No matter what life brings, they will be able to point at this book and remember the name they would have yelled if they were standing at the rail watching themselves barreling down the "home stretch of life."

So stand at the rail and shout out the names of our horsethoughtographers as they race past you on the page. If you happen to be inspired, write your life story in a race horse name and tuck it away somewhere in the folds of this book. In the years to come, open the piece of paper and smile as you think back on how much your life has changed. But for the moment, sit back and relax and get ready for "the race" of life stories in a race horse name....

The horses are approaching
the starting gate....

“The Flag is Up. . . .

There They Go!!!”

*In Loving Memory of Joe Hernandez,
The Voice of Santa Anita*

Sassy Achiever

**“Pursuing achievements
large and small
with an attitude.”**

T. Planeta

LovinghoovesNpaws

“I have always loved animals,
especially horses and dogs.

I truly believe in the healing power of the
human/animal bond.

I hope to one day open a horse and dog
rescue that incorporates therapy and promotes
healing for the animals and people who bond with
them.”

G. Welch

Horsenameographies

Run **Rip** *and* Race

“My mother used to say this is what life was
and it sure is for me
now with all I have to do.”

L. Truitt

Twilight **serenade**

“... because twilight is my favorite time
of the day and I love music.”

L. Rasmuson

Ma Gorgeous Klutz

“I had to ask my hubby what I would be named as
a race horse...
and this was the first thing that
popped in his head...
I'm always running into things
and coming up
with random bruises.”

J. Peargin

Long Goodbye

B. Taylor

MEET MY HERO

“This is my horse's show name,
he raced as a three year old under
Heroic Sovereign until I bought him.
But when I took him on as a troubled
15 year old girl, I quickly realized
how much of a hero he really was to me.
A year later, I had his name changed
to Meet My Hero.
We have been together 4 years now,
and every day I realize I am becoming much
stronger and much more at peace
because of him.
He is my Hero.”

COURTLYN

Life Stories in a Race Horse Name



Live N Love N Life

“After several near death experiences,
after my house burning to the ground,
after my son and granddaughter passed away. . .
a person learns what really counts.
Living each day to the fullest
in the most positive way possible.”

C. Bowling

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Highlandprof

“I'm a proud Scotswoman and a professor of English Literature. I grew up riding horses on the plains of West Texas and the sagebrush country of New Mexico.”

Y. Robertson

Just Imagine

“Just Imagine,
all that I can be
on
and
OFF
the track.”

Robin

Love *and* **Light** **M. LePage**

BRAVE HEART

“Braveheart is our name.

We got into racing with little to no knowledge about it at all.

We have met some wonderful people and some not so.

One thing we still hold dear to is to keep on having a brave heart, especially when you know in your heart it's right but can't see why.”

F. HARVEY

Horsenameographies



See

You

At

The

Wire

K. Toler

See You At The Wire

“Life Is A Wonderful Challenge and I compare it to a horse race. We all have our hurdles to jump through to give our lives the quality we want life to have.

Horses have given me the inspiration I have needed throughout my life to attain many goals for myself and my daughters.

When it seems we can't or the struggles seem too hard -- Horses have made me see that the impossible is very possible.

The race can be won.

My response to having a wonderful and fulfilling life is ‘See You At The Wire’. I live by that and always will.

At every track I go to you can always
See Me At The Wire.

I hope to see you there too.”

K. Toler

Gottahaveheart

“It's what every person
and horse alike
need to have.”

C. Gentry

jumptomoon

“My name is a reflection of what my racehorse
name would be after being retired from the track.
We picked this name for our new farm after much
consideration.

It shows how life goes on after our beloved
thoroughbreds retire from their racing career and
begin a new life as show horses.

Jumptomoon is the hope and promise of a new
future after leaving racing days behind.”

J. Cox