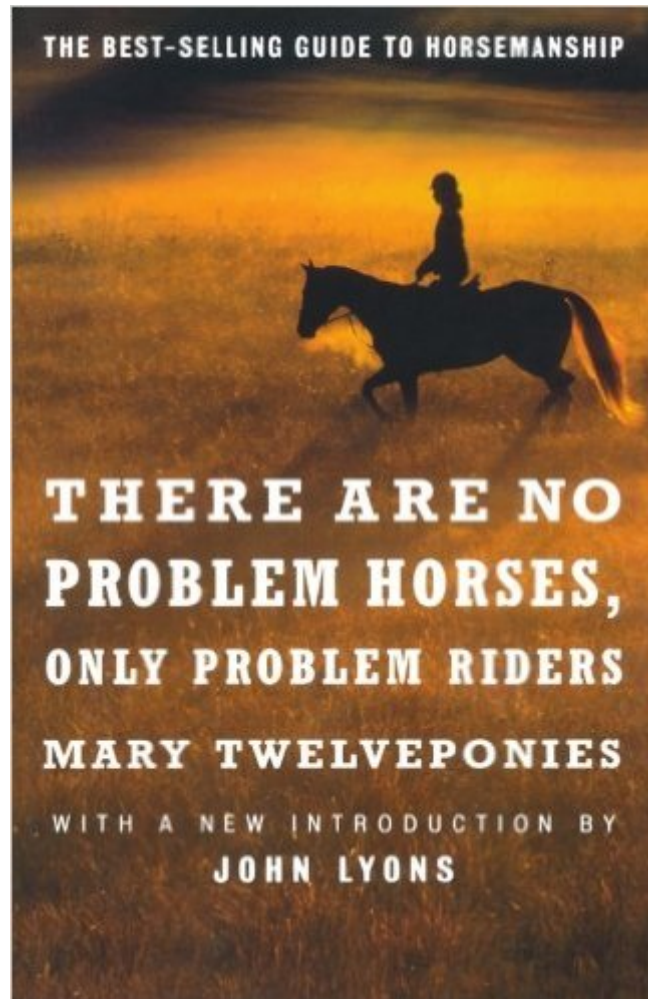


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There Are No Problem Horses, Only Problem Riders



Synopsis

The best-selling guide to horsemanship for English and Western riders **THERE ARE NO PROBLEM HORSES, ONLY PROBLEM RIDERS** has stood for twenty years as an indispensable text in its field. As Mary Twelvetonies writes in her introduction, "It is the hardest pill for all of us would-be horsemen to swallow, but it is absolutely true if the horse is not responding properly, we are doing something wrong." This easy-to-read guide offers sensible advice on every common problem you may have in handling your horse, and provides highly effective solutions. Newly introduced by John Lyons, America's Most Trusted Horseman, this reissue covers everything from dressage to barrel racing, show jumping to endurance riding.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is one of my favorite books, and the name says it all, being the most truthful phrase I know in horsemanship. If you think you have a problem horse ~ think again! The author writes about communication, 'training', prevention and 'curing' many of the most common problems encountered by riders and anyone 'working' with horses. I think the writer of one of the other reviews shown misunderstood the paragraph from the book that I think she is referring to. I have read this book over and over and the most strongest message I feel from it is developing the skill to use your aids properly ("properly in my book is the easiest way to get the best results" quoted from Mary Twelvetonies herself.) so you use the least amount of effort needed to teach your horse, and to do it in a way that has the horse's physical, mental and emotional states in mind. My understanding is

not to under do it, and NOT to overdo it, and NOT to be mean about it. For a horse to be safe around humans he needs to respect and trust the human as dominant, as the leader, and as a friend. This is not mean, this is education in the most respecting and compassionate way to a horse. I feel this book is about learning to ride and interact with horses properly ~ to use the least amount of effort, properly, so it works, horse and human understand each other, and learn to both be HAPPY 'working' TOGETHER. It clearly and compassionately explains communicating to horses in a way they understand. I would recommend this book to everyone who ever interacts with horses! Mary Twelveponies clearly has a love, understanding, respect, and compassion for horses than can be a rare find in todays equine 'industries'.Galaxy Jade Taylor BC Canada

If you don't have this book, your horse library is not complete. I've found most horse trainers concerned with either the horse or the rider. Ms. Twelveponies is one of the few I've encountered who knows and cares about both. I started a youngster using her principles and avoided most of the problems I had heard or read about. She uses the the term "respectful." This is the correct path between beating and coddling. By the time you finish the book, you'll have a better insight into her horses and yours. Refer to it often.

In thirty odd years of experiences with horses, I can tell you that the principles and techniques used in this book are very practical for the average horse owner to implement on a daily basis. Not everyone can afford the expensive trainer or round pen and so many horse owners are left to thier own devices. So what do you do when your horse is not responding? You must communicate and redirect the horses thinking to the fact that you are the dominate herd member. This book will help provide techniques on how to accomplish this. It is written so that even the hardest problems have a solution. It teaches you how to obtain obedience through basic herd behavior and the natural tendency of horses to follow the dominate one without being abusive to the horse or owner. Keep in mind that horses are much more abusive to one another than most people realize. There are NO problem horses...And with the help of this book there will be fewer problem riders...

I've read it front to back so many times that I've worn out my second copy already! I find something that pertains to me or my horses every time I read it. It has helped me overcome simple misunderstanding to major problems. This book is a lesson on understanding your horses instincts and how those instincts play into your horses daily ranch life. I recommend this book to everybody who has ANY horse involvement.

I purchased this book in the early 1980's and lost it so have purchased it again. All these big EGO trainers-Parelli, Mate Clinton, Monty Roberts and so on weren't anywhere around when her book first came out. Mary also never created a line of halters, lead ropes, saddles, bridles, lunge whips, expensive DVD tapes, and implied if you don't use my overpriced equipment you won't succeed using my techniques. Some of her techniques may seem a bit harsh but that was acceptable back then especially if you had a confirmed biter (ever get bitten by a horse? Trust me it hurts like hell. Ever been kicked by a horse? Trust me a basketball size bruise and the threat of blood poisoning not to even try to explain the pain is awful and the worst, if you don't end up with broken bones or dead.) And I am not some newbie and am careful around horses even if I've had them for a while and always wear a helmet. Some of her techniques for correcting bad behavior in her book are excellent. Her book is worth reading and having in your library. You just take from her book what seems to work for you. No one should follow any trainer like they are a God, the smart person takes a little from all of them and you learn your own way on how to train and work with a horse. And this applies to the so called "big" trainers English or western on tv or at horse expos and as well as the smaller trainers available in your state or "backyard", I will keep her book and when I have an issue, I will refer to her book as well as what other trainers have to say about the same issue and then decide which is right for me and my horse. All well known trainers have negative feedback on the internet, take a good look. No trainer is perfect and dismissing a book because a trainer used one or more techniques that you don't agree with is limiting yourself the potential to grow and learn about horses.

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