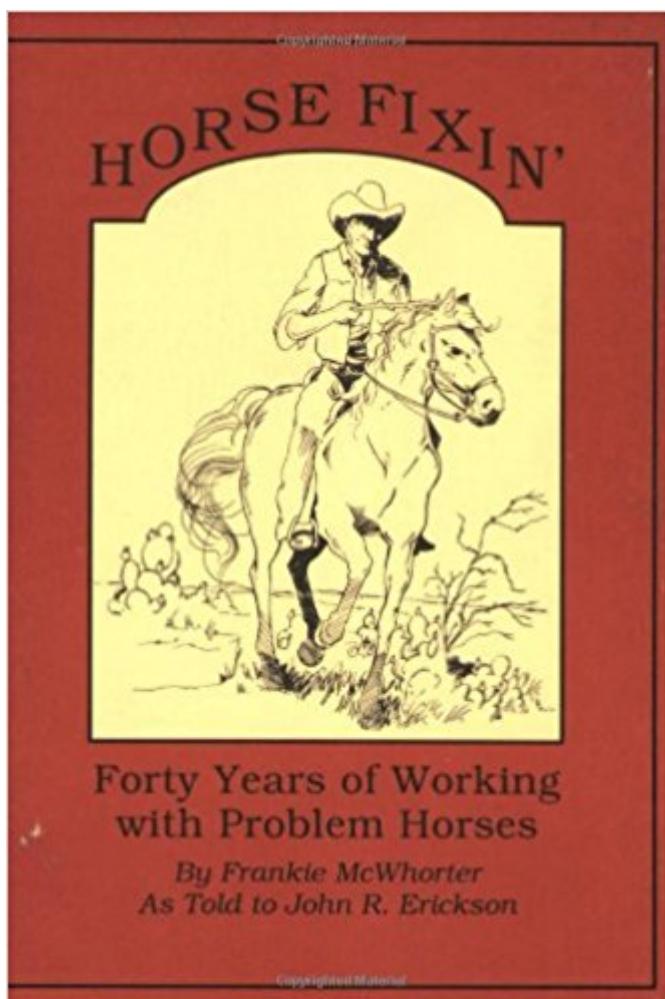


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Horse Fixin': Forty Years Of Working With Problem Horses



Synopsis

"Horses aren't born with bad habits. They learn them from people." â "Frankie McWhorterIn this memoir, Frankie reminisces about horses and horsemen he has known and discusses his innovative, unconventional approach to horsemanship. Founded on intelligence, compassion, experience, and a profound practical understanding of a horse's mind, his methods derive also from the cowboy tradition in which he was schooled and can be read as western folklore.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was appalled at the methods suggested in this book for correcting problems. Tying the horse down in the barn or putting in into a stall and shooting the horse with BB's or stabbing it with a pitchfork til it bleeds to correct the problem of being barn sour were just two of the methods this author described. Save your money for a book on humane correction. There are plenty out there.

This little book provides both humor and truths about riding and training horses.

If you don't know much about true horse nature or how a horse actually thinks, you aren't going to like this book. You will think the author is too crude. However, if you are looking for "real" answers to horse behavior problems, this book will give you some ideas that really work. This author knows horses and he's had a lot of experience dealing with dangerous habits. His advice is probably the most "honest" I've read in a long time. Seems like nobody wants to admit that to change a horse's

habit of behavior, you have to make the "bad behavior" very uncomfortable and the "good behavior" very rewarding. The author of this book gives several good examples of this. The forward of this book, states the author's methods may be outdated and are not appropriate for our modern times. That's not true. Every top trainer I know uses the same kind of logic explained in this book. Why? Because it's the truth. If you are interested in learning training techniques that really work, go to my web site and read my "training tips". Go to [...]Larry Trocha

In my opinion, Frankie McWhorter should be in prison. I would caution anyone against purchasing this book. I was hoping to discover another perspective on traditional training methods but instead was appalled by the abject cruelty that Mr. McWhorter advocates. Anyone who would subject horses to being shot repeatedly, or stabbed with a pitchfork over and over and exposed to countless other atrocities cannot be taken seriously as an educator. There is little to be learned from this individual. Passing off his methods as quaint, old-fashioned, and anecdotal do nothing to diminish the fundamental immorality of his techniques. I have returned the copy of the book that I unwittingly purchased as I begrudge Mr. McWhorter a single cent from the sale of his perverse approach to horsemanship. Instead, I prefer to spend my time and money adopting credible, effective methods pioneered by men like Chris Irwin. Such trainers clearly know that training often requires considerable strength and assertiveness, but never do they resort to sickening, savage brutality.

I loved this book. Granted a lot of the advice is old fashioned and by today's standards harsh, but if you look at the "cause and effect" reasoning behind the methods they are mostly sound. Throughout the book the author does acknowledge how times have changed, and does not expect people to accept everything. Mostly he is telling horse stories from his life. The advice for handling horses that buck and rear was invaluable. Simple methods for correcting and fixing behavior is much more valuable than the cliche "a horse never misbehaves on purpose" which most authors hang on. Or the old "does your saddle fit" sidestep.

This book is a horrible example of how horses have been abused by men who feel a need to exert their dominance over them. The atrocities Frankie McWhorter inflicted on horses he worked with disgusted me and I hope no one follows any of his suggestions like tying a horse's head in the air and leaving him that way for hours, or tying a horse up on the ground and stabbing it with a pitch fork until the horse bleeds, or shooting a horse with a BB gun. Who in their right mind would cause any animal such pain and anguish and call themselves a "horseman". If Mr. McWhorter is not dead

yet, someone should do these things to him and see how he likes it. I pity the poor horses that crossed paths with this monster. Thank God there are trainers in the world now who preach and practice working with these beautiful creatures with patience, love, and understanding.

Although the author admits (several times) that a lot of the techniques he used in the past are no longer acceptable, he does give a lot of very useful information in a humorous way. For example, one thing he mentions is that a horse can only think of one thing at a time. If he is doing something wrong, get his mind on something else to stop the bad behavior. Maybe some of the techniques are outdated, but a lot of the thoughts behind them are VERY useful. I learned a lot from this elder horseman. I only wish the book was longer. (thus 4 stars)

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