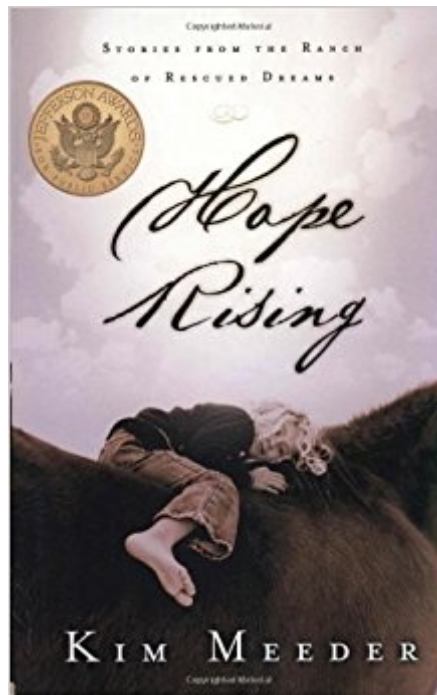




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Hope Rising: Stories From The Ranch Of Rescued Dreams



Synopsis

Kim Meeder has seen horses go where no one else can tread - stepping through the minefield of a broken child's soul in a dance of trust that only God can understand. From a mistreated horse to an emotionally starved child and back again, a torrent of love washes away their barren places. Kim's ranch is a place where this miracle happens over and over again. It is a place where the impossible flourishes, where dreams survive the inferno of reality - a place where hope rises. *Where Wounded Spirits Run Free* Follow a horse where no one else can tread, through the minefield of pain that surrounds a broken child's soul. From a mistreated horse to an emotionally starved child and back again, a torrent of love revives their barren places. In the presence of unconditional love, a mute girl speaks for the first time. A defiant teenager teaches a horse to trust again...and opens his own heart to love. A rescued horse gives a dying man his last wish. A battered girl finds love and protection in the friendship of a battered horse... Come visit a place where the impossible flourishes, where dreams survive the inferno of reality - a place where hope rises.

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Customer Reviews

A 16-year-old girl, mute since the loss of her parents, speaks her first words to an abused and emaciated horse. This moment was really the birth of Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch in Oregon, writes Meeder, the founder and operator of the ranch that rescues abused horses and gives disadvantaged children a chance to care for them. Readers will need an entire box of tissues handy for this collection of real-life stories of incidents at the ranch: two tough-as-nails boys minister

lovingly to a horse that has, like them, suffered terrible neglect; in an answer to prayer, strangers donate hundreds of dollars so an impoverished girl can have a pony for Christmas. Most stories are emotional, even cloying, though some are comical and a few—such as one about a horse that was rescued too late to avoid being put down—sidestep the obligatory happy ending. The writing can at times be maudlin; far too many people are described as having "hollow eyes," for example, and the vignettes are encumbered by gratuitous adjectives intended to drive home a dramatic punch. Despite the over-the-top writing style, the emotions are real and intense. Readers will recoil from Meeder's gritty descriptions of the devastating neglect of horses and children, then cheer when it seems their interaction provides healing for both. Meeder laces the stories with her testimony of God's faithfulness and providence, making this an earnest and loving gift book for the Christian market. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Kim Meeder owns and operates Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch in central Oregon with her husband, Troy. Crystal Peaks is a nonprofit organization that rescues abused and neglected horses and pairs them with disadvantaged children, offering the children a place of safety, peace, and learning.

I cry through every story. What a treasure. I have purchased extra copies for people with childhood trauma, as the stories bring understanding, compassion, courage and hope. Truly a MUST READ.

The only reason I gave it 4 stars instead of 5 is because the first book I read I liked even more! "A Bridge Called Hope." But I WOULD recommend this book. The tears end up bringing joy, because purpose comes from the pain. ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

If I could I would give this book a higher rating than a 5 star. It was wonderful. Touching and full of unconditional love. I definitely will read more by this author. She is remarkable. Do yourself a favor and read it I assure you it will not disappoint you.

I received the book yesterday. I finished this morning. Two complaints- it caused my eyes to leak uncontrollably and was too short. Beautiful stories of love and healing.

Awesome read.... Very moving stories.... And very real... Especially since I'm just getting involved with a very similar organization... Hated it to end! Was very glad she filled the reader in at the end on some of the story endings.... But might have preferred to hear the endings at the time of each

story.... A little Frustrating to have to remember all the details of each short story with the endings at the end...

I was so disappointed that each story is so short. At least the first couple stories are. I didn't read further than that because it doesn't look like the book completes the stories about the children it tells about.

This book had me riveted from the start. It's a book about a couple with a strong devotional courage to help children and horses, and help the two to connect on a level so deep it defies what I (you) believed about the lasting impact of abuse and grief can have on lives. I started reading this book at the request of a new client, one who is building a ranch in New Zealand based on the same passion for children and horses a like. I heard 'Christian book' and I thought hmmmmm - but from the first chapter I felt a great understanding of what my clients need and want to achieve. I can now work with them to build their dreams and enable the dreams of the children to come true. The special lives these children and horses have lived have not diminished their mutual need for love and affection. The relationships forged will change lives for ever. The honesty of Kim's written word leave no doubt as to the passion she and her husband have for their cause - their undying faith knows no bounds.

Kim Meeker is a fine example of a big hearted human who is great at sharing her story. Their program in Bend, Oregon is a blessing and this book is just a small insight into a world of love that showcases an equine's ability to help heal humans from the inside out with some help from above.

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