



## The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West

*Mary Stanton*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

# The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West

*Mary Stanton*

## **The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West** Mary Stanton

The Heavenly Horse is the Dancer, a shining Appaloosa stallion, first of all horses in the Army of One Hundred and Five and guardian of the Courts of the Outermost West.

Anor the Executioner, monstrous and fanged, is the servant of the Dark Horse. He comes from the Gates of Death—and if he can, he will destroy the Dancer.

Between them stands Duchess, last true mare of the Appaloosa line. With the Dancer, she runs away from the barns of men—but is stalked by Anor and his Harrier Hounds. If they can kill her and her foal, the Appaloosa breed will be ended.

## **The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West Details**

Date : Published June 1988 by Baen Books

ISBN : 9780671654108

Author : Mary Stanton

Format : Mass Market Paperback 344 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Animals, Horses, Fiction, Science Fiction Fantasy, Animal Fiction

 [Download The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West Mary Stanton**

---

## From Reader Review The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West for online ebook

### Irishgirl1247 says

I loved this book as a child and reread it multiple times. But then again I was horse crazy as a child and only read books with horses on the cover, so maybe I'm a little bias.

re-read 2013:

I acquired the sequel a few years ago since I wanted it for years before that, but I was a kid then and the it was a time before you could go on amazon and find a used copy in 5 minutes. So once I had a credit card I finally acquired the sequel! But then realized I no longer remembered what happened in the first one. And then there was the fear of re-reading. You know when you re-read or watch something that was a childhood favorite and you realize the a character is stupid or really immature or there is a major plot hole. Things that you don't realize as a child but if you re-read it as an adult your memories are ruined because you realized it wasn't really that good. Especially with a book like this. A horse fantasy, told by the horses with horse gods having a major influence on their lives? I was worried I would read it and realized it was crazy. So it took me a while but I did it. And the results were pretty good.

Now don't get me wrong the story is pretty crazy and Duchess, our leading lady, can be a bit tiresome, especially in the beginning. She is a neglected mare who takes a while to learn to trust her new owners.

(this is a stallion, but the picture captures her attitude)

The fantasy element comes in when we discover she is the last of the appaloosa line even though her spots have faded (you know aside from the talking horses element.) So in comes The Dancer, lead stallion of the Appaloosa, kind of a demi god I guess. He is show on the cover as being black with a white blanket and black spots but I always imagined him as black with white spots, no blanket. I couldn't find any really good pictures of this so I don't know if it's even possible. Maybe something like this:

because she describes the white as flowering over his back like ivy and in his god form he is somehow rainbow, that I could never really picture. But if he can be rainbow that I think he can have white spots too. and Yes he is "the dancer" not just dancer, cause he is cool like that. So they adventure together and fight the evil horses to restore the balance of good and evil and save the appaloosa line.

So here's the thing even though the plot is a little out there and the main characters are a little impetuous, I wanted to read it every night. I guess that's good writing for you. Ok I'm not saying award winning or without mistakes but it has that magical spark that draws you in. It completely rehooked me and I am looking forward to starting Piper at the Gates tonight!

---

### Danielle says

This is a childhood favorite. I read it at least a dozen times when I was a horse crazy pre-teen.

---

### August says

This book is Summer. It's stretching out on that scratchy pink camping blanket that smelled like our quarter-

sized garage, fixing my explosive ponytail, and squinting into sunlight splashed on well-loved library book pages. It's getting lost so thoroughly in the world of Duchess and the Dancer that I forget about a snack and read hungrily until dinner. It's snapping the book shut after the last word, my eyes shining with tears or adventure, then flinging myself into a gallop across the yard; never mind the pebbles and sticks in my bony kneecaps; never mind my aching wrists, I ran with Duchess, I ran with Pony, I ran with Cory and Susie and even Lilly.

It isn't a perfect book. But for me, it's a perfect memory. It was like I'd already met the book a long time ago, and sitting down to it was like sitting down to a deep, twenty-something friendship with that kid whose name you barely knew in kindergarten but whose face is lined by the same environment yours is.

Thank you, Mary Stanton. For a couple of stolen afternoons, I ran with Hazel-Rah again for the first time, spun with Ender Wiggins in the Battle Room again for the first time, plunged to the terror of Sgorr's horrible secret with Rannoch again for the first time.

---

### **WaferBiscuits says**

A well-done piece of animal fiction that manages to set itself apart as a unique and genuinely engrossing experience for people of all ages. Highly recommended.

---

### **Libbie Hawker (L.M. Ironside) says**

My feelings about this book can best be summed up in this simple way: "YAAY! HORSIES! HORSIES HORSIES HORSIESHORSIESHORSIES YAY!!!"

I am a huge animal lover and horses are among my favorite. I found this book in a grocery store's paperback section when I was about twelve years old, and my mom, praises be to her, never hesitated to buy me any book I wanted. Just look at the cover! It's a twelve-year-old girl's fantasy coming as close to true as can ever happen! It's got a magnificent Appaloosa with a fancy rainbow mane and tail! He's fighting some kind of spooky fanged/clawed horse! And there are dogs in this book, too! Dogs are rad! YES!!!

I still have that same paperback of *The Heavenly Horse*. I've never gotten rid of it. I read it several times as a kid, totally engrossed by the characters and the fantasy plot (if you must know: the Appaloosa breed is in danger of dying out, and patron god-horse of Appaloosas is sent to Earth to protect the mare who carries the last of the pure Appy blood. But he gets ideas of his own and steals her from her farm to live in the wild, along with a couple of her friends. Meanwhile, the Satan of Horses sends his lion/horse minion to Earth to kill the Appaloosa god-horse, who is now in a vulnerable mortal form.) It's a solid, fun fantasy plot, with gods warring and mortals caught between them.

Re-reading it as an adult, as I have done several times, diminished my enthusiasm somewhat. The writing is not the best I've ever read, although it's serviceable enough. There are facts about horses that the author got all wrong, and gross improbabilities as well; but my younger self still gets final say on this one. *The Heavenly Horse from the Outermost West* is a fun, exciting book that's full of HORSES and MORE HORSES, and I still indulge from time to time when I need a familiarly comforting read.

Recommended for horse nuts of all ages!

### **April Helms says**

I found this and its sequel at one of those mass book sales, and consider it quite a find. This is a book I've read several times. Duchess, the last appaloosa on earth, meets with The Dancer, of the Courts of the Outermost West. The Dancer wants to establish the appaloosa on earth again. But the Dark Horse, too, is seeking the appaloosas for his own evil purposes. Fans of Watership Down will enjoy this book, which is filled with all sorts of horse folklore and mythos.

---

### **Celeste Brooks says**

My all-time favorite book!

---

### **Lindsay says**

I'm going to be honest. I did not have nostalgia on my side when I read this. This is not a book from my childhood. However, as a horse lover and a fan of fantasy, I thought it would be a lovely distraction. I was left sorely disappointed.

The only good thing I can say about this novel is that the writing was fairly agreeable. I found the combat sequences to be a weak, at times unclear, and rather rushed but I'm willing to be forgiving here since the rest was well done. I also enjoyed the lore and origin stories that peppered the plot – they were a solid addition that served to add a good deal of depth to an otherwise flat world.

That's about where the praise ends. The characterization was absolutely awful. The characters' actions and motivations were simply convenient and often felt forced. The plot was contrived and predictable and the battle of good and evil, light and dark and the overarching struggle for balance ultimately ended in a fizzle.

Overall a boring read.

---

### **Jocelyn says**

This book is a fantasy that is about horses and how they get along with each other. This is about different horses in the world. Every chapter is a different kind of horse and talks about the different ways of getting to Eqqus. The horses know the pecking order and what to do during the time they have.

---

### **Blackminx18 says**

This is one of my most favorite books of all times. I hadn't read it in a while but I picked it up last week and re-read it. Even as an adult I still enjoy it immensely. Though I will say reality intrudes a little more than it did when I first read the book when I was 10.

## Ward Behle says

This book came out when I was 10 or 11, and I still have a faded, falling-apart copy of it. I do make time to read this story once a year simply because I love it so much.

Being an artist and horse lover, the cover art caught my attention right away. Later, I got so hooked into the story that I couldn't put it down, which was a miracle to me since my reading comprehension is lousy. But when an author writes a good plot, the reader can overcome these obstacles.

To me, it seemed logical that animals could communicate with each other, and that they faced dilemmas the same as humans do. I can tell you that I never looked at horses the same after I read this book.

Later, when I was 16 and 17 and I worked on a Peruvian Paso farm. At the same time, my parents raised Belgians. After having worked around horses, and looking at this book from a more critical perspective, I began to notice so many things that just don't fit. First of all, horses stick with one lead mare the whole time unless a newer younger one is introduced to the herd. She then establishes authority. Second, I used to think that horses are color blind. Having done some quick reference for the purpose of this review, I discovered that they can see color, just not the same range as humans. It seemed bizarre to me that the equines in this story could make out the red color of the barn that they slept in, and the ribbons that they won at the horse show. Third, how come, despite their superior sense of smell, nobody could tell where Pony came from? I won't spoil this information, but it did seem surprising to me. Another thing that struck me as really unusual was how the All-Knowing Equus Himself had no clue as to the Dancer's fate when Duchess asked him. How can a god--even a horse-deity--be uncertain about such an important outcome? Finally, stallions don't lift their tails to urinate, as the Dancer does in the Dark Lord's face. Nope. Mares do that. (There were more things, but I think I will stop at these.)

In spite of all this, I do enjoy reading this book. What takes me most about it is the romance between Duchess and the Dancer, the heroism that Corey shows, and the interior conflict that Duchess faces throughout. Also, that Stanton devised a sort of horsey religion demonstrates tremendous creativity on her part. I loved her story about how ponies came into the world, and the song about Joachim, the Horse in the Moon. El Arat is quite honestly my favorite character simply because she shows greater human qualities like jealousy and vanity.

I have wanted for years to buy the rights and make a graphic novel. I even sent an email to Ms. Stanton to tell her of my appreciation, and received no reply. I really wish that this book could be re-vamped, kind of the same way that Hollywood is re-making movies these days.

---

## Amber says

I've read this book so many times since I was a kid, and I still never get bored with it. Even if you're not an animal lover, you forget you're reading about a story about horses and you just get drawn into this compelling good vs. evil adventure.

### **Matthew Maiello says**

[ if you didnt know horses she was sick but with under standing come much new light about herlike that she was old. (hide spoiler)]

---

### **G.K. Hansen says**

This is one of those books that is far better than it has any right to be.

---

### **Teri says**

i would have given it a 5 star, but there were a few parts that dragged on a bit, and the Dancer, altho a very cool horse, is not very likable. But beyond that, it is a great book! A few turn of events that will surprise you, some that will bring tears to your eyes. Fancy...lead mare; Feathers...second in command;El Arat...dreamspeaker/storyteller;Cissy...unranked and snotty;Snip...unranked, kind and abit ditzzy; Susie...caretaker and kind also apart of Duchess herd. Duchess...lead mare; Susie...; Pony...storyteller; Cory...collie and protector; Favorite...Susie

---

### **Alisha says**

My Grammie bought this book for me when it came out. We spotted in a bookstore and, being a 13-year-old girl, I was all over that rainbow horse on the cover. I didn't expect an epic story of equine legend and love and a journey and battling evil and pride and hardships and perseverance and reward. I lost that battered paperback a million years ago and yesterday I ordered a copy. I cannot wait to hold it again and remember sitting at Grammie's big kitchen table in the sun, holding my breath to see who would triumph and who would fall. You WILL forget they're horses. They might as well be Frodo and Sam. ;) I'll let you know if it holds up to 25 years of associations and distant memory.

---

### **Rena Sherwood says**

THRILL to a plot that may enthrall a six-year old corpse.

WONDER at Mary Stanton's lack of knowledge about the nature and history of horses.

Be AMAZED by the utter failure of the imagination. The worst thing that could happen to a horse god is to have a breed go extinct? Are YOU KIDDING ME?

All together now -- "How does crap like this get published?"

---

## Autumn says

This book would have been a one star if it weren't for the writing. A lot of the characters were awful, especially Duchess, who turned into a moron after meeting the Dancer. The Dancer himself was an idiot who, though he went through a lot, never improved even after knowing he made mistakes. The only one who seemed reasonable was Cody. Thank the damn Lord they listened to him (sometimes).

---

## Kat says

I picked this up on a lark and was astonished to find myself deeply engrossed well into the night. A wonderful blend of magic and anthropomorphic realism in the vein of "Watership Down" makes "Heavenly Horse From the Outermost West" a really interesting read, especially for horse-lovers. I can see some threads or narrative choices in this book that pop up later in Mary Stanton's Juvenile Fiction series "The Unicorns of Balinor:" the Watching Pool where the heavenly horses keep an eye on the affairs of earth, a Heavenly Herd of demi-gods capable of descending to the earth in mortal form, a small but highly dangerous group of evil demi-gods, a fallen god/dess, and Dreamspeakers. The horses in the story, while given human words and often humanlike emotions, remain strictly non-human. They don't view mates, children, or their place in the world the same way humans do, and yet we can empathize with them and their plight. I enjoyed the Army of One Hundred and Five, comprising the horse pantheon of demi-gods represented by different breeds. And it was refreshing to see horses and humans being able to coexist rather than the more black-and-white "humans are all bad, freedom in the wild is best" trope that is omnipresent in a lot of horse books. An enjoyable read!

---

## J says

Because I \*was\* a 13-year-old girl.

---