

American Horse Tales

Book Discussion Guide

Set in modern-day California, this second book in the American Horse Tales middle-grade series is the story of a young girl and her horse who are destined for the big screen.

Juniper is a young girl who dreams of making it big in the movies along with her horse, Able. In particular, Juniper is obsessed with getting Able onto her favorite television show, *Castle MacAvoy*, and will do anything, even slay dragons, to make that happen. HOLLYWOOD is part of a Penguin Workshop series of books written by several authors highlighting the unique relationships between young girls and their horses.





1) Juniper lives on a ranch where her father trains animals for movies and TV shows. Would you like to live in a place like that? What would you like best about it and what would be bad?

2) What does Juniper do to take care of her horse Able? Do you have an animal best friend? How do you take care of them?

3) What did Juniper do to be with Able for his audition? Do you think she did the right thing? What would you have done differently?

4) When Juniper is on the *Castle McAvoy* set, what does she learn about being a kid actor/stunt person on a TV show? Knowing all this, would you want to be an actor on your favorite TV show?

5) How does Juniper feel when she sees other people praise Leigh's performances? Have you ever heard your parents or someone you respect praising someone else? How did it make you feel?

6) Why does Juniper's sister Rose encourage Juniper to do bigger stunts on *Castle McAvoy*? Do you think it's important to do things you're uncomfortable with so that others will be your friend?



8) What does Juniper learn after her accident? If you had been a stunt rider on your favorite TV show, what would you have done differently?

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