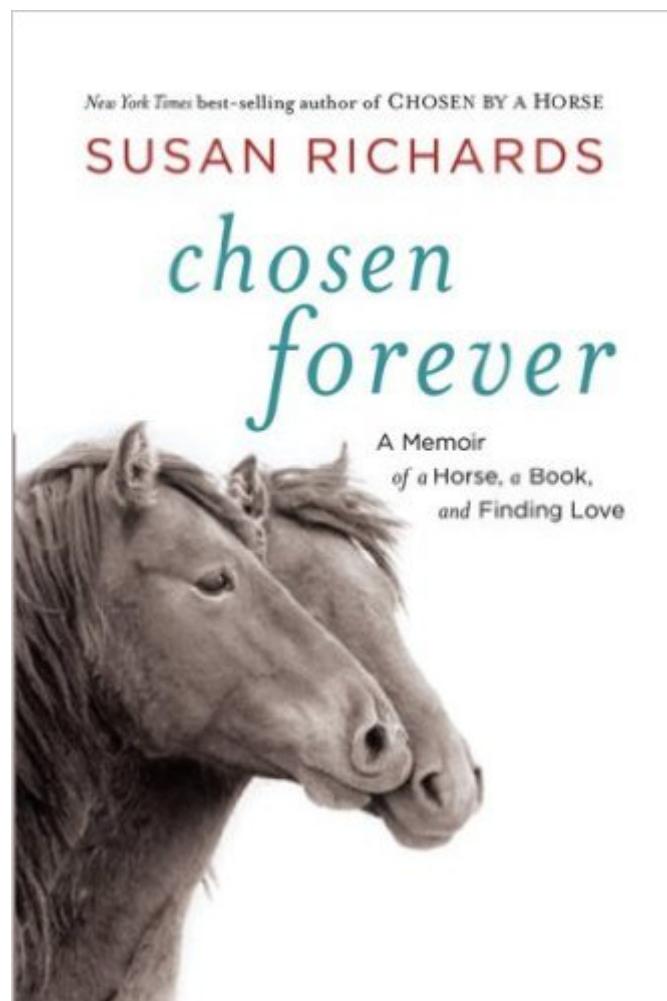


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# Chosen Forever



## **Synopsis**

In the heartwarming sequel to Chosen by a Horse, Susan Richards tells of the continuing gifts brought to her life by her beloved horse, Lay Me Down. Readers cried with Susan Richards when, at the end of Chosen by a Horse, her beloved mare was laid to rest in the paddock where she had met her herd -- Hot Shot, Tempo, and Georgia. Now they will cheer as Susan recounts the further wonders that came into her life as part of Lay Me Down's legacy: a bestselling book, a tour to support that book, the reconnection to friends and family who come to celebrate her success, and love-- unexpected, complicated, and true. And so Chosen Forever works its magic as a sequel of self-discovery, as Susan continues to grow into her new life. Told in charming prose with her familiar and disarming sense of humor, and featuring a new supporting cast of animal characters (a Siamese cat, two pugs, two Labs, and appearances by horses), this is another moving tale for readers facing their own challenges at recreating their lives. Chosen Forever is the story of what happens the day after all of your dreams come true-- how you learn to accept that you deserve to be happy, and how those we love continue to offer us gifts long after they are gone.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: Mariner Books; 1 edition (May 14, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 015603302X

ISBN-13: 978-0156033022

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (67 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #506,917 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #180 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Horses #2526 inÂ  Books > Deals in Books #3245 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Nature & Ecology > Fauna

## **Customer Reviews**

Any voracious reader as I am, loves the times when a book overtakes them so completely they lose all track of time. This was the case with me for Chosen Forever, Susan Richard's more than worthy sequel to Chosen By A Horse. I hadn't even known there was a sequel until two weeks ago when browsing through the bookstore while my granddaughter played nearby. How happy I was to find this gem! Chosen by a Horse chronicled how a rescue horse named Lay Me Down changed

Richards' life. In Chosen Forever, we see how writing the book itself affected her in ways she never imagined. As one who has been an author escort, I found her stories of her book tour a very good example of those I've been on from those with a big throng to those when nobody shows up. But more than that they way Susan reconnected with those from the past during her book tour was very courageous. And meeting the love of her life, who she coincidentally had purchased her farm from 24 years earlier, was the icing on the cake. As I turned the last page at 4:30 AM, I was so glad that Susan had the happily ever after she deserved. She is such a talented writer that I certainly hope she is able to gift her readers with more of her beautiful prose, whether it be in memoir or novel form. I will be first in line to buy it.

Chosen Forever can be seen as another stanza in Susan Richards's loving ode to her departed horse, Lay Me Down. Once again, Richards has expressed their mutual love beautifully. However, this book goes much farther than the first memoir, because Richards has come much farther as a person. I would think that Chosen Forever was a more difficult book for Richards to write because she had to rely more on herself to fill the emotional void left by Lay Me Down's death. I appreciated her account of her journey to getting published, and how her readings turned out; because she came to value the fallow periods in life as well as the high points. I couldn't put this book down, because I couldn't help but feel the human drama as Richards gradually let her guard down enough to fall in love (probably for the first time) and marry the serenely mature Dennis Stock. Despite an emotionally tragic childhood, and unfortunate first marriage, Richards discovered that middle age is no reason not to seek or have love in one's life. Furthermore, she teaches that it's OK to be a work in progress. In short, Chosen Forever is an inspiration, and well worth the time.

Susan Richard's "Chosen By A Horse" ended with real heartbreak. This story picks up where that left off, describing how she was able to turn personal tragedy into emotional healing and triumph. If you liked the first book, you'll love this one. I recommend that "Chosen By A Horse" be read prior to this one. I think "Chosen Forever" would be a bit confusing, and not as interesting, if "Chosen By A Horse" isn't read first.

I did not buy the first book because of the reviews that call Richards a whiner and who judged Richards for her choices about Lay Me Down's end of life. I still haven't read it, but I will now. This book was a wonderful, honest read about personal growth. This is why it's good to read biography: the hope that we can learn and improve our own lives based on others' experiences. Yes, there is a

lot of not so important detail about the book tour, but it serves as a framework for the searingly honest look at her personal growth. If you are not interested in improving yourself, then maybe you should give this book a miss. But if you have ever suffered, and want to take your pain and learn from it, this is a great book. Can't wait to read the first one. I too read until the wee hours to finish it, it is a page turner from the heart.

This book was not about a horse. It was about her experience trying to get books published (way too much), family relationships, and about romance (again too much). I think there was, if you added it up, two pages devoted to horses. I was very disappointed because though it was described as a memoir about publishing and relationships, it also said horses. It should have said the three first descriptions and "a tiny bit about horses." I would not recommend this book based on the description since it has a picture of a horse and entitled "Chosen Forever" and would not recommend it to anyone who loves true animal stories. I should return it.

A friend told me about this book. It was the kind you can't sit it down. Tear jerker. Loved the book. It is the way Susan Richards writes the story. I wish there was more books written like this one. Kudo's to Susan you are the best. Thank You Susan!!!

I literally devoured this book. Having read "Chosen By A Horse" and "Saddled..." by this author, I couldn't have been more excited to find this book by her. It's the moving account of the author's success in getting "Chosen By A Horse" published, and the unexpected challenges that came with that success; book tours, book signings, traveling to these events and leaving behind her beloved pets, being front and center for the first time in her life. It is achingly honest and forthright about the many twists and turns in her life that brought her to this point. But best of all, we get to read about the unexpected meeting between Susan and Dennis Stock, the man from whom she had purchased her home over two decades earlier, and the unfolding of a courtship of which the author was skeptical and not even sure she wanted. It is about finding love after figuring out who we really are, what we're willing to compromise on, and what are clearly the deal-breakers. It's about kismet, and unmistakeable signs. It's about slowing down, savoring life and paying attention when the miracles are happening. A must read for anyone who has dreams, maybe unspoken even to themselves, and how life will work for your ultimate good if you allow it. This, my friends, is a keeper.

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