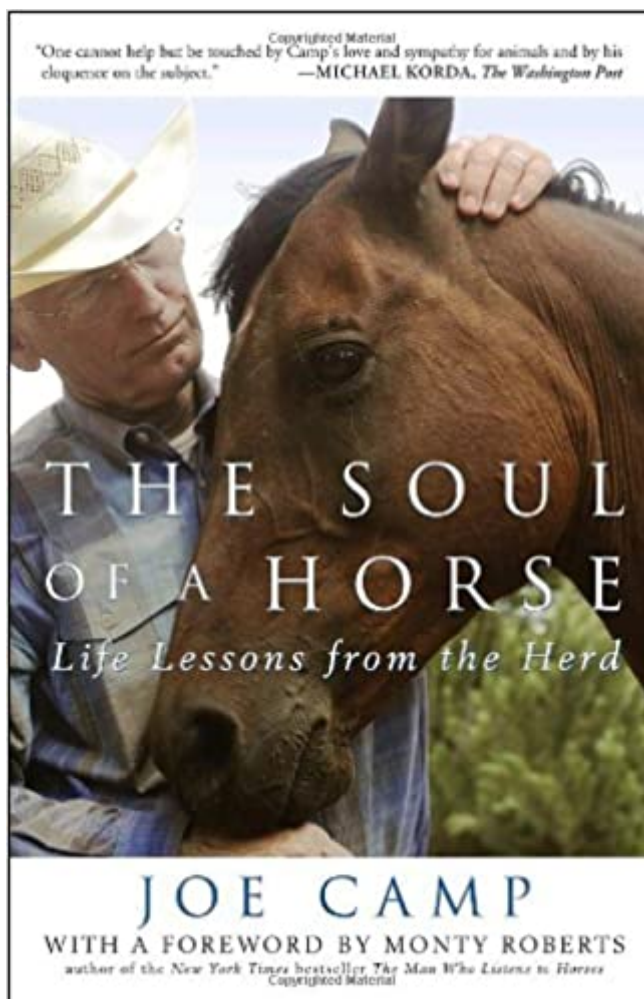


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# The Soul Of A Horse: Life Lessons From The Herd



## Synopsis

Look into the heart and soul of a horse. A surprise birthday gift plunged Joe and his wife, Kathleen, into the world of horses as complete neophytes without a clue as to what a horse needed or wanted. They searched for logic and sense in the rule books of traditional horse care. What they found was not what they had expected. Written for everyone who has ever loved a horse or ever loved the idea of loving a horse, this memoir leads us on a voyage of discovery as Joe and Kathleen navigate uncharted territory on their way to achieving a true relationship with their horses. Joe Camp's inspiring book unlocks the mystery of a majestic creature who has survived on earth, without assistance, for fifty-five million years and teaches us that the lessons he learned apply not only to horses but also to our relationships with people.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"One cannot help but be touched by Camp's love and sympathy for animals and by his eloquence on the subject." —Michael Korda, *The Washington Post*

"Heartwarming, joyful and triumphant lightly describes this literary gem by Joe Camp, author, producer, director and, now, horseman. Not just for horse lovers but for anyone who has loved any living creature." —True Cowboy Magazine

"This book is absolutely fabulous! An amazing, amazing book. You're going to love it." —Janet Parshall's *America*

"Who should read this book? Every person who has a relationship with a horse, other animals, spouse, family, or other humans. So that includes just

about everybody. • The Rider Magazine "Joe Camp is a gifted storyteller and when he turns his talents to his newest passion, the horse, the results are magical. Few veteran horsemen can impart the insights about horses that Joe Camp, a relative newcomer, has done in his book *The Soul of a Horse*. Joe entertains, educates and empowers, baring his own soul while articulating keystone principles of a modern revolution in horsemanship.

• Rick Lamb, TV/Radio host "The Horse Show," Author of *Human to Horseman* "One does not have to love horses to appreciate Joe Camp's new book, *The Soul of a Horse*. And those who don't already love horses surely will by the time they finish reading.

• Bloggernews "Joe Camp's *The Soul of a Horse: Life Lessons from the Herd* presents the history and majesty of equines in a way that truly touches the heart weaving an engaging tapestry of writings that explore the evolutionary development of horses along with Camp's present day relationship with the horses that have chosen him as their leader. A treasure map leading to untold riches.

• The World Magazine "Joe Camp writes about horses with empathy, curiosity, and a deep regard for equine instincts and behavior. He began to question why horsemen used traditional methods of horse care, and pursued a more natural path to training and horsemanship. He turned his horses out, applied natural hoof care principles, and relished the new insights herd behavior gave him -- into not only horses, but into himself, too. It's a book that encourages the reader, gently, to step into the herd and learn.

• Horse and Rider "You will never look at a horse race, or a herd of mustangs, or even the canine of dubious parentage that is lounging on your couch, the same way.

• Las Vegas Review-Journal "The tightly written, simply designed . . . chapters often read like short stories that flow from the heart, not just from the corral.

• Joplin Independent "Hundreds of other books about horses, training, and equine management have been published, but Camp's easy-to-read prose, humor, and enlightening tales bring readers to question what truly is best for the horse."

• Library Journal "Joe shows that animals can change your perspective and perhaps even your life. This book is about compromise, trust, and love. There are life lessons to be learned here that go beyond the pasture and affect the quality of your life. Read this book and feel your heart open."

• Mike Thompson, Writer-Producer of the new Universal film *Traveling* "Yes, it's a "horse" book... but really, it's so much more. This book is about relationships, choices, acceptance, trust, compromise, and love. Take the horses out of it, and it tells stories of life lessons and teaches that the quality of life is often in the choices we make."

• Susan Sherlock, Recording Artist "Joe speaks a clear and simple truth that grabs hold of your heart."

• Yvonne Welz, Editor, *The Horse's Hoof Magazine* "Joe

Camp is a natural when it comes to understanding how animals tick and a genius at telling us their story. The Soul of a Horse is a must read for those who love animals of any species." — Monty Roberts, author of New York Times best-seller The Man Who Listens to Horses "The Soul of a Horse is beautiful. Everyone who reads this book will laugh a little, cry a little, and think a lot; about the horse, about mankind, and about themselves." — Pete Ramey, author, speaker, Hoof Rehabilitation Specialist "I wish you could hear my excitement for Joe Camp's new book, The Soul of a Horse. It is unique, powerful, needed." — Dr. Marty Becker, best-selling author of several Chicken Soup for the Soul books and popular veterinary contributor to ABC's Good Morning America "I am amazed and in awe...and I'm a tough, cynical woman. The ideas in this book are phenomenal." — Holly Hazard, Innovations Director, Humane Society of the United States "It's lovely! I found myself wiping away a tear on more than one occasion. I like the mix of 'fable' and real stories from Joe's own farm and experiences." — Gaynor Renwick, Manager, Horses First Racing Club; Warminster, England "Joe Camp's The Soul of a Horse: Life Lessons from the Herd presents the history and majesty of equines in a way that truly touches the heart. Camp accomplishes this by weaving an engaging tapestry of writings that explore the evolutionary development of horses along with Camp's present day relationship with the horses that have chosen him as their leader. A treasure map leading to untold riches." — Candace Runaas, PET Home Magazine "I was so excited to read this awesome book (or a draft of it) that I could not stop until I was finished. I cannot wait for it to be published and available! I am already compiling a list of people I want to pre-order it for as a gift. Joe is a great story teller. He has managed to pull together all of the aspects that make up this new paradigm of horse care called "natural horsemanship", and has done so in a manner that is some how both gentle and forgiving to the reader as well as absolutely unquestionable. He makes it simple and so obviously the best way to keep and relate to horses. There will be so many horses (and people) that will benefit tremendously from this book! What a blessing Joe Camp is." — Terry Jenkins, Retired Zoo Sanctuary manager and animal advocate "I simply love the way Joe Camp writes. He stirs my soul. He has successfully woven his personal story with horses, with a mountain of valuable information, from many professional Natural Horse people, into a spellbinding book. I have cheered and cried as I have read the pages of his manuscript. I find I keep saying to myself, "THIS IS THE WAY HORSES SHOULD BE TREATED!! This is a must read book for everyone." — Debbie K "The book was fantastic!! I am so impressed. The writing gets straight to the heart of the problem with horse care today: it's not about the horse anymore!!" — Ellen Siedlecki, Equine Veterinarian "The old adage "If it isn't broke don't fix it" may never be shown more true with horses

than in Joe's book. He shows how people have broken most, if not all, of the ways horses were made to live and how to make things right again. It's funny, compelling, to the point, and what any horse would have you read." Al Fischer, rescue horse lover/volunteer. "Joe Camp's new book, *The Soul of a Horse*, should be required reading for anyone who wants horses, has horses or just plain loves horses! From start to finish this book takes you on Joe and his wife Kathleen's own journey from beginning horse owners to a fully realized partnership with their horses as part of the herd. Joe's common sense approach to natural horsemanship shows how much he cares about the well being of horses. In fact, he became Horse in order to understand them and help them to not just survive in our world but to thrive. Joe walks his talk which sets a true example of commitment, respect and most importantly love for any animal that lives with us in our human world." Dr. Kim Bloomer, Host of Animal Talk Naturally Radio From the Hardcover edition.

JOE CAMP is the writer, producer, and director of all the celebrated Benji movies and programs and the creator of the canine superstar.

If you have a horse, this book will completely change any ideas you had on how to take care of your horse. I am 70 years old, and thought for many years that "the way it was always done" was really good! WRONG!!! I really felt like an idiot for not questioning the status quo. I was even married to a farrier, and would shoe my own horse, and thought we were doing the right thing. WRONG again!!! This is truly one of the life changing books for a horse owner! You will rush outside and hug your horse and apologize to him for the way you have been treating him, even though you thought it was right! I have the book on my Kindle, and bought this paperback just to loan to other horse owners. Go to "soul of a horse.com" to see the other books, and lots of videos and other information.

Almost like Joe read my mind. At the beginning of 22 years of horse-keeping, as novices, we had these same instincts of how horses should be and need to be kept, fed, interacted/played with, barefooted, gentled etc etc. But we had very little formal guidance, finding our way by trial and error. At every stage, however and with every task, we came to the same conclusions that Joe went straight for. Where were you 22 years ago, Joe? BTW, we still have the same horses and now as seniors, they are indescribably sweet, interactive, responsive - a joy! Senior horses are a whole new and precious experience that I had not anticipated years ago when we acquired these impossibly hot and headstrong Arabs!

Absolutely changes perspective on horse care. Since incorporating some of these techniques and husbandry my horses and I are much happier and our relationship has delightfully become more bonded and open. I HIGHLY recommend for anyone who wants to have a better relationship with their horses and have given several as gifts to first time horse owners.

This is a delightful book by the director of the Benji movies. Joe Camp is a proponent of Monty Roberts' "Join up" techniques, but if you are a Monty "hater" and I've read some quite negative comments on Monty and his farm, please don't let that put you off. This is a story about Joe, his wife, his horses, a few little Benji stories, his triumphs with his horse, and some failures, and how God works his wonders in our lives, without being preachy. Woven into alternate chapters is a lovely story about wild horse(s), their herd, and a native American who "Joins up" with them. This is a very entertaining read and I enjoyed every word. I was sad to get to the end because I enjoyed it so much!

If you edit out all the extraneous material in this book, i.e., "I'm an important movie director," "I bought this big house with horse stalls so naturally we had to fill them with SOMETHING and that's how we wound up with horses," "I watch Monty Roberts videos a lot," and "I read that part in Monty's book where he talks about the Indians following a herd of horses all over and thought it would make a good script so here goes..." what's left would make a nice couple of paragraphs on the dust cover of Monty Roberts' next book. Too bad that didn't happen. Clearly, this guy idolizes Monty Roberts. Not saying that's wrong, but his life lesson from the title seems to be that you go buy Monty's book. I did, and found it a far worthier purchase. Too bad I can't get my money back on this one.

This book affirmed what I have been doing (most of the time) with regard to my horses. He gave me permission to ignore all of those fancy ideas about blankets, closed up stalls, trimming, shoeing, and isolating horses. Gave me permission to let horses live like horses are supposed to live. I am forever grateful for the wisdom in this book. I finally understand the needs of the herd. I will buy copies for friends

If you have a horse, are thinking of getting a horse or just spend time around them, then *The Soul of a Horse* is a must read. Joe Camp is a wonderful advocate for horses, their care and the wild horse lifestyle. Not only does Mr. Camp share valuable information about horses, their behavior and their

care in a straightforward way, he also tells a wonderful story of the connection he experienced with one of his horses.

Joe Camp has embraced the Natural Horsemanship philosophy and has the ability to teach those who read his book not only that but a whole lot more. This ultimately makes both the life of the horse and of Joe so much better. Over the last year and a half I have been fortunate enough to board at a barn of a tried and true Natural Horsemanship trainer and she has made an amazing difference for Duke and me. We came to her as an older rider who had lost her confidence and a really great horse who had no confidence in the human race whatsoever. It seemed as though he expected nothing good from any human. Through the Natural Horsemanship philosophy, she has taught us both a great deal. Me, to be able to gain his trust and to have confidence in that and his ability to trust me. We have come so far, have a long way to go, but I have no doubt we are becoming a great team,

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