



If Wishes Were Horses

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Young Tizra and her twin brother Tracell find their world abruptly changed when their father is unexpectedly called to fight in a war which promises to last much longer than the usual three-day skirmish. Their mother -- the village healer -- enlists her children to assist her in caring for the many refugees left wounded and homeless by the conflict. Inspired by her mother, Tizra learns never to surrender hope even in a time of fear and uncertainty.

If Wishes Were Horses Details

Date : Published February 22nd 2018 by Wildside Press (first published January 1st 1998)

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Author : Anne McCaffrey

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From Reader Review If Wishes Were Horses for online ebook

Hamad says

What a beautiful little tale !

Extremely well told. Loved the crystals !

Were they actually magical or was it just the belief?

Feminism !!!

Shown in a great manner. The leadership quality shown by her mother were inspirational. Infact the character as whole was inspirational. Women make great leaders.

Timothy Skilton says

Anne McCaffery was a remarkable author. I don't know the origins of this little vignette, but what I do know is that this is a remarkable display of Ms. McCaffrey's ability to build a world into a complete story in a seamless fashion in just a few pages.

Jerry says

What a ripoff. I waited for years to read this, only to be seriously let down. Even Anne McCaffrey fans are bound to be disappointed.

Judie St. Onge says

Excellent

Andrea HumbirdStout says

Many horses and a bit of magic

Anne McCaffrey has long been one of my most favorite storytellers. If you've never had the opportunity to read one, do so, you won't regret it.

Lauren says

2.5/5 ??

Deborah Armstrong says

A gift from beyond!!

An excellent variation on the "what did you do during the war?" and coming of age story-types. Add in how much I have missed Anne's work, and how much I've missed Anne, and this becomes a bit of an unexpected treasure. Tho' I'm not sure which part is my favorite....the way Tracell rides his pony...or the fulfillment of Tirza's birthday wish for her twin!

Lisa says

A charming short tale

Anne McCaffrey has such a way with words that to begin any of her tales is to be swept up into that realm. This was a delightful short tale with just a hint or two of magic.

Kristen Coffin says

"It is true that the impossible takes longer, but the improbable is a force to be reckoned with."

Kids reading level book, easy to read if you've got an afternoon to kill (which is what I did). Not that interesting to be honest. Husband goes off to war, mother raises the children while he's gone. Lessons are learned and the like, but it's really basic stuff.

C. E. says

A great story

of the effects of war on the civilian populace. It is probably good for tweens as well as young teens. The protagonist is female but the male point of view is also portrayed.

Margaret S. Fletcher says

Left me smiling

As always in one of her stories, Anne McCaffrey had me smiling and loving the characters from the very beginning.

Douglas Milewski says

If Wishes Were Horses (1998) is a YA fantasy story by Anne McCaffrey. In the story, the Lord goes to war, and the Lady is left managing the valiant home front that could in a circa-1800's feeling English country.

The tale is fairly short and barely rises to the term novella, even if it is a stand-alone book.

The story advances very simply, with the precognitive Lady having the intelligence and resources to see her village through hard times. Meanwhile, the villagers don't seem very capable of taking care of themselves, nor of organizing, which annoyed me to no end.

There's nothing wrong with the tale, but nothing noteworthy either. It's a safe read, if a bit shallow.

Patricia F. Horan says

My favorite author

I thought I had read all of Anne McCaffrey's delightful books. What a pleasure to discover this lovely tale!
Read and enjoy

Dark-Draco says

McCaffrey's Pern books are one of my favourite fantasy series. And when I found out that she was also a lover of horses, just like me, I just had to track down some of her equine fiction.

This short story is simple and fairly well told - I love the world she has created that wouldn't bog down a young reader with too much details and yet feels very real. It also covers a topic that I find fascinating - instead of following the men off to war, it focuses on how the women and children cope instead.

The horsey side is nicely done - the war horses are cared for and respected, while the ending when a few too many horses end up turning up, is quite amusing. The magic elements are subtle and not overdone, and I liked the way they were introduced.

Taking into account this is a book for younger readers, I did enjoy it and would love to see how she'd have written an adult story set in the same universe.

Alyssa Acula says

3.75 ? // Anne McCaffrey is definitely a favorite author of mine as no matter what she writes, I enjoy it in

some way.

If Wishes Were Horses is certainly a fascinating read, even more so if it was double in length. I find 94 pages extremely insufficient to set up a proper conflict, the tension was barely nonexistent, which shouldn't be as there is a war where the main protagonist's father was participating. The story lacks emotional tension and character development.

Nevertheless, Anne McCaffrey's vivid description of the characters' background, the setting I mean, is enough for me to appreciate this book. I'm all for worldbuilding still.

All in all, I honestly still want to read more about Tirza and Tracell, the rest of their family, and just the everyday life with harvest season and dealing with the folks in their principality, and celebrations with ballgowns and liveries.
