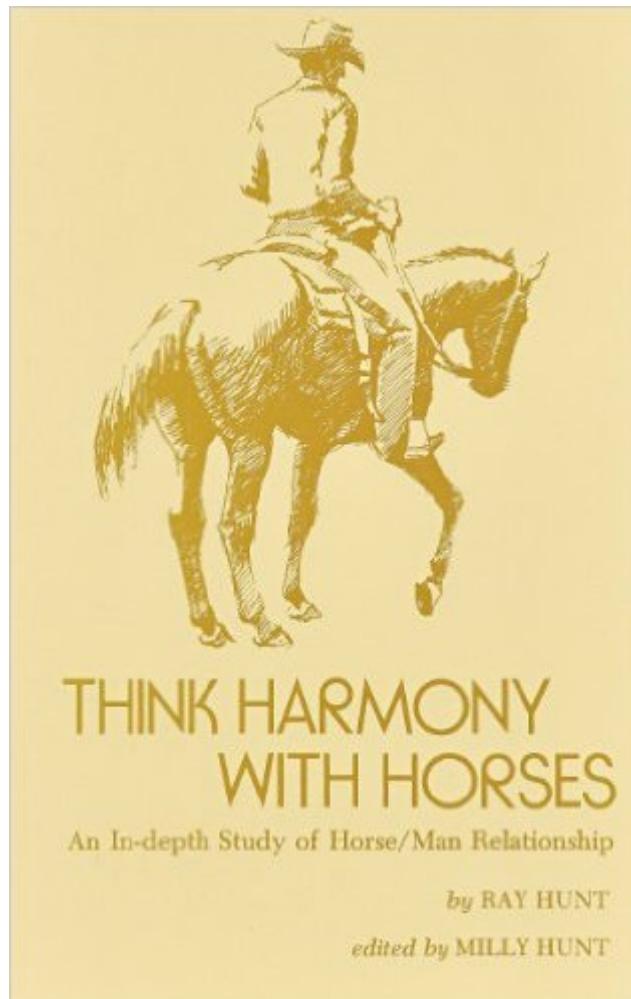


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# Think Harmony With Horses: An In-Depth Study Of Horse/Man Relationship



## Synopsis

"When you ask your horse to do something it should be his idea... he wants to do it, he understands how to do it, and he does it. " These words are typical of the way Ray Hunt expresses his philosophy of the ideal relationship between horse and man. That philosophy is discussed in this book, in a manner that makes the reader feel as if he is listening to Ray talk. It is persuasive talk - gently persuasive; this man's ideas make a lot of sense, and the success he has achieved with those ideas is impressive. Ray Hunt traveled around the country working with groups of riders who were interested in his philosophy of harmony with horses. As Gene Lewis says in his forward to the book, Ray's theory is "to unite the horse and rider into one working unit of both mind and body. He has developed a language and has become a wonderful teacher and demonstrator." Included in this book is an interpretation of the "Ray Hunt method of schooling a horse" written by Vincent W. Carpenter, who attended one of Ray's clinics. He tells amazing stories that Ray might not tell about himself and summarizes the whole philosophy in a clear and objective way. Also included is a question and answer section, in which a number of the most commonly asked questions are answered in detail. And throughout the entire book runs the simple, basic idea: think harmony.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 100 pages

Publisher: Pioneer Publishing Company; F First Edition Used edition (1978)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0914330152

ISBN-13: 978-0914330158

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (92 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #59,331 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Horses #32 inÂ  Books > Textbooks > Science & Mathematics > Biology & Life Sciences > Zoology #135 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology

## Customer Reviews

Ray Hunt has captured what so many "how-to" training books fail to - the essence of the spiritual communication possible with an animal. He wisely recognizes that the technicalities of how you train hinge completely upon much deeper levels of who you are, and especially who the horse is. "Think

"Harmony" is well titled - the reader willing to slowly absorb, think about and then try to apply the philosophy of this book will find themselves in greater harmony not just with a horse, but themselves and all other creatures. All serious trainers of any animal would do well to read this book - over, and over, and over. Those seeking a recipe for success, and specific how-to hints will be disappointed. This is not a book that tells you \*what\* to do; instead, Hunt urges you to think about \*how\* you do anything with respect, awareness and trust in the horse. Inevitably, such an approach bounces the reader right up against their own issues, and thus, in trying to find a better way to work with a horse, you discover yourself. This is a book for folks looking for a deeper, more spiritual and truly holistic approach to their relationships with horses and other animals. Anyone who loved "Kinship With All Life" will cherish Ray Hunt's little gem.

Being a teacher and student of horsemanship, I found Ray's book to be like sitting down to dinner and listening to Ray talk about his relationship with the horse. It is much the same as what Ray tries to explain at his clinics, but as Tom Dorrance said this is something that you have to feel, it's difficult to put into words. You must open your heart, your mind and spirit to be able to have this work. I know that it does. This book can start you on a never ending journey of knowledge. It's not a magical cure for those who have problems with their horses. You must be able to get into a learning frame of mind. "Have patience grasshopper" And remember if it's not working, either fix it so it can or get someone to help you. This book does show you the trail less travelled, it's up to you how far you go.

This book is designed to LEAD the "smart human" to the watering hole of knowledge. It's your choice whether to drink from the source. We as humans profess how superior we are because of our magnificent brain. All Mr. Hunt is doing is challenging us to use that brain and THINK and find these things for ourselves as this IS an art and to it we all bring our OWN persona. There is NO black and white rules that apply to all. Our teachers of our children in schools should be so brilliant, maybe we would have children that thought for themselves for once. I appreciate this man and his techniques, he has allowed me to be an artist with my horses and my horses will tell you out loud they love it.

For those who are ready for a fundamental change in how they communicate with their horses, Ray Hunt shows the professional horseperson the path to true happiness with your equine. Ray explains exactly why horses do not understand English nor traditional training techniques. Even though

beginners may find this book interesting, this book is for the advanced rider and/or trainer. Ray Hunt's methods work on all manner of horses, from wild Mustang to Olympic contenders. I had been training horses for over twenty years when Ray came along and showed me a much better way. If you are ready for it, this book may become your "bible", too.

Interesting book considering it was written over thirty years ago. Ray was one of the originals in "Natural Horsemanship". Although a little hard to follow sometimes, he helped me more understand the term "feel", used by the Dorrance brothers, and others. A good addition to any collection.

Having had the experience of going to a Ray Hunt clinic and then having had some time to let what he was trying to say just soak in and work on through I was fortunate enough to buy this book some two years after. Reading Ray's book is like having him there and listening to him patiently trying to explain - OK let's try this. I know that he knows what to do with horses. I believe that it is his job to "fix it up and let me find it". This is one of his sayings and relates to the horse - "Fix it up and let them find it". This book is not for people looking for the quick fix and a lot of people reading it may not even see the fix in what he is saying in this book. Take the time that it takes to read the book - really read it - and like I did, let the ideas soak awhile and soon enough you'll get that (or I hope you get that) well I'll be darned feeling. Like any master at their craft Ray doesn't say a lot but like any worthwhile student in it for the long haul you appreciate later (not sooner) exactly what he said. Inside the pages you'll also read and get a glimpse of Ray's way of looking not only at horses and how they relate to us but humans (supposedly the smarter of the two) and how they relate to their horses. Overall I believe reading the book has made me try more for my horses and in doing so working more on myself, which can't be all bad.

I rated this book as a three star just because I found it a challenge to read. The story is excellent and it's a book that touched my heart, but it's not an adventure novel. I've only recently become interested in "Horse Whispering" (not the words that whisperers like Tom Dorrance, Ray Hunt or Buck Brannaman would use.) I grew up in the west around horses all the time. I rode them, worked on them and used them hunting in the mountains but I never suspected that there could be a real connection between a man and a horse until I saw Triple Crown hopeful Funny Cide "Talking" with assistant trainer, Robin Smullen, after he lost the Belmont Stakes. She was holding his head in her hands and talking to him like a kid who lost his first baseball game and I thought then it was really

weird. Last year the movie "Buck" came out and told the story about Buck Brannaman, the man behind Robert Redford's movie The Horse Whisperer. And then the plot thickened...If you were intrigued by ideas in The Horse Whisperer or the relationship the trainer of Seabiscuit, Tom Smith, had with horses, you will probably like this book. I wish I had this book while my kids were still young. In the book, Ray Hunt explains that horse training boils down to a simple concept. Making the wrong things hard and the right things easy for your horse. For me I'm applying that concept to many other parts of my life. Enjoy

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