

***From the Horse's Mouth!* is warmly brought to you by the horses and humans at Take Flight Farms. We dedicate this book to those who believe that horses have the power to heal and to our clients whose courageous journeys are an inspiration to all of us.**

**A VERY special thank you to
The Dick and Helen Kelley Family Foundation
for their kindness and generosity.
Thank you for making this book a reality.**



P.O. Box 22185 • Chattanooga, TN 37422-2185
423-899-5714 • 866-318-6294 • fax 423-899-4547 • www.ncyi.org

ISBN: 978-1-937870-12-6 \$9.95 • E-book ISBN: 978-1-953945-39-6
© 2012 National Center for Youth Issues, Chattanooga, TN • All rights reserved.
Written by: Julia Cook • Illustrations by: Allison Valentine
Published by National Center for Youth Issues • Softcover
Printed at Starkey Printing • Chattanooga, TN • March 2017

DUPLICATION AND COPYRIGHT

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, video or audio recording, or otherwise without prior written permission from the publisher, except for all worksheets and activities which may be reproduced for a specific group or class. Reproduction for an entire school or school district is prohibited.

The information in this book is designed to provide helpful information on the subjects discussed and is not intended to be used, nor should it be used, to diagnose or treat any mental health or medical condition. For diagnosis or treatment of any mental health or medical issue, consult a licensed counselor, psychologist, or physician. The publisher and author are not responsible for any specific mental or physical health needs that may require medical supervision, and are not liable for any damages or negative consequences from any treatment, action, application or preparation, to any person reading or following the information in this book. References are provided for informational purposes only and do not constitute endorsement of any websites or other sources.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Cook, Julia, 1964- author. | Valentine, Allison, illustrator.

Title: Straight from the horse's mouth! / written by Julia Cook ;
illustrated by Allison Valentine.

Description: Chattanooga, TN : National Center for Youth Issues, 2021. |
Includes bibliographical references.. | Audience: Ages 6-10. | Audience:
Grades 2-3. | Summary: A horse named Archie who understands what it
feels like to be hurt, hungry, and lonely, lives at Take Flight Farms
and helps humans overcome such challenges as trauma, abuse, and
depression.

Identifiers: LCCN 2021007312 (print) | LCCN 2021007313 (ebook) | ISBN
9781937870126 (paperback) | ISBN 9781953945396 (pdf)

Subjects: CYAC: Stories in rhyme. | Horses--Fiction. | Animals--Therapeutic
use--Fiction. | Human-animal relationships--Fiction. | Working
animals--Fiction.

Classification: LCC PZ8.3.C76797 Ss 2021 (print) | LCC PZ8.3.C76797
(ebook) | DDC [E]--dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021007312>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2021007313>

NCYI titles may be purchased in bulk at special discounts for educational, business, fundraising, or promotional use.
For more information, please email sales@ncyi.org.



My name is
Archie.

I am a horse...
but not just any
horse. I have a real
important job. I
help people get rid
of their flies. You
know, the things
that bug us.

When horses get flies, we just swish our tails
and make them go away. But since people
don't have tails, they come to me for help.





*When people are having a tough time with life,
when they can't seem to tell what is wrong and what's right.*

*They come here to see me, and even those who have doubts,
are just blown away when they figure things out.*

I am a horse, and horses can help people fix ANYTHING!
You see, horses have something that people don't have...

horse sense!



About 10 sunups ago, a sad girl came to see me. She had a lot of flies bugging her. I could tell just by the way she walked that her insides were sore. I think she had barbed wire stuck inside of her, and she needed to get it out of her body. She had tried cutting holes in her skin to let the barbed wire out, but it must not have worked.



*At first she ignored me, and I ignored her.
She acted like she'd been mistreated.*

*But then she could tell I knew just how she felt,
'cause I know what it's like to feel cheated.*



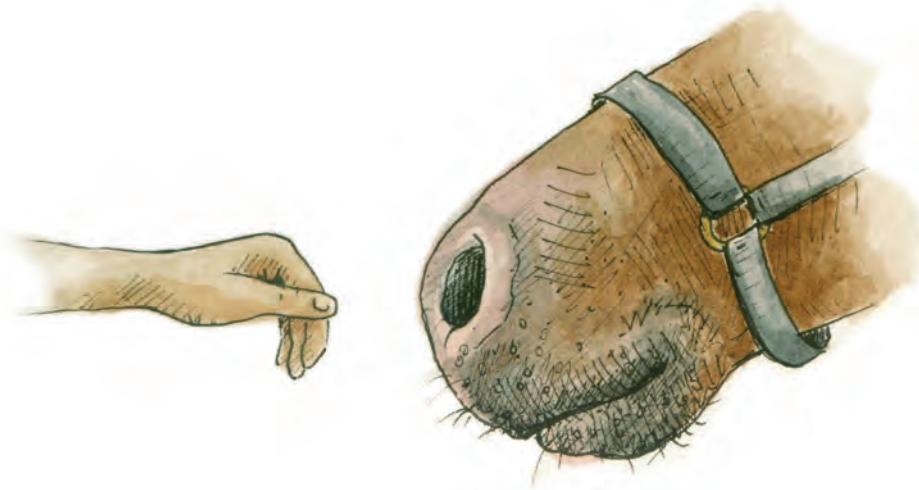


*I knew if I kept doing just what horses do,
she'd see it's not all about her.*

*I made her be the one to come up to me first.
It took courage and strength for sure!*

*When she reached out to me, I reached out
right back, and her flies seemed to go away.*

*When the girl learned how to believe in herself,
her whole world changed that day!*



When people with flies come to see me, my **horse sense** tells me what I need to do. Some people need to be ignored at first, and others need my closest attention right away.