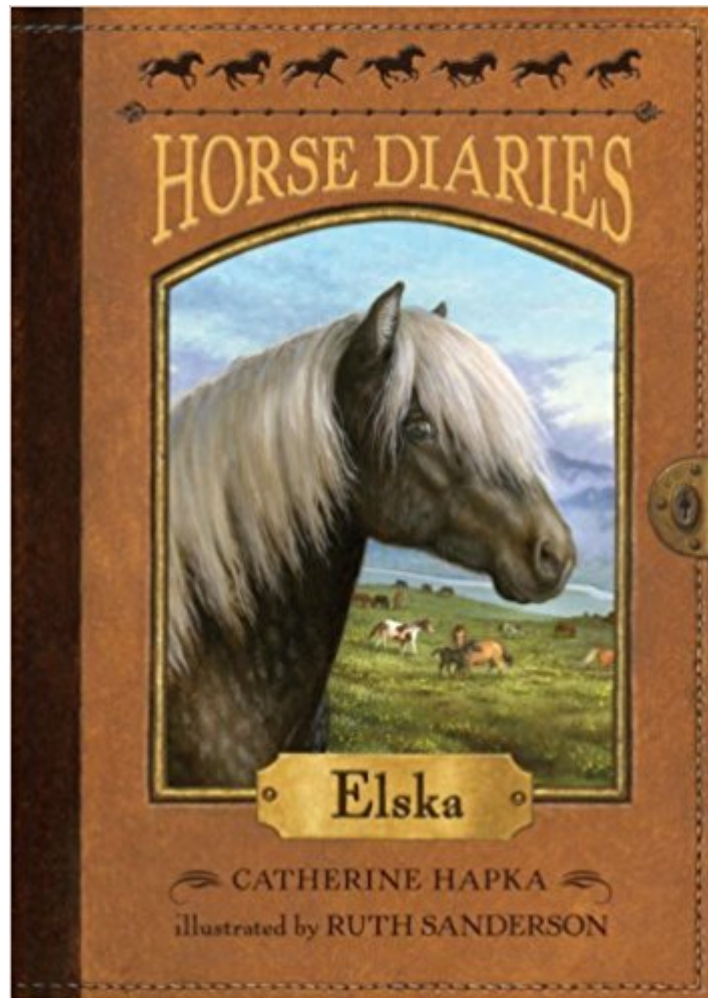




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Horse Diaries #1: Elska



Synopsis

Iceland, circa AD 1000Elska is a silver dapple Icelandic filly. She spends summers frisking about the countryside and winters in the farmyard, where the girl human Amma takes special care of her. But when a powerful neighbor notices Elska, her contented life suddenly changes. Here is Elska's story . . . in her own words.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 660L (What's this?)

Series: Horse Diaries (Book 1)

Paperback: 144 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers; 37317th edition (March 24, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375847324

ISBN-13: 978-0375847325

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.4 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 111 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #74,329 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe #119 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Horses #311 in Books > Deals in Books

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

The first in the Horse Diaries series, this lively chapter book is set in Iceland around 1000 BCE, where the filly named Elska by the people tells of her life, from her birth in the short summer months to her fun with the herd, running and playing through the long, cold, dark winter, and then her pride as she grows bigger and works, "circling around to gather up all the sheep." The setting is always a dynamic part of the novel, and there are photos and notes at the back about the Icelandic horse and its cultural significance. But there is a real story, too, as Elska bonds with a young girl and then is wrenched away. Sanderson's occasional, beautiful drawings add to the drama. A must for horse lovers, the cozy and exciting adventure will draw a wide audience. Grades 3-6. --Hazel Rochman --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Catherine Hapka has written more than 150 books for children and young adults—many about horses, including several in the Saddle Club and Pine Hollow series. A lifelong horse lover, she rides several times per week and appreciates horses of all breeds. She lives on a small farm in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Ruth Sanderson has illustrated books for children of all ages, including Summer Pony and Winter Pony. She lives with her family in Ware, Massachusetts, and her favorite hobby is horseback riding.

Loved this story and can't wait to read the series with my grandkids. I highly recommend it.

I bought this book for more insight about the Icelandic horse breed. My 10 year old daughter is currently using an Icelandic horse for 4H this year and stumbled upon this book in while trying to find books about Iceland. This one caught my eye and I bought it for her. She read it quickly then said, "Mom you have to read this!". So I did. I loved it. Wonderful little story about a girl and a horse. It reminded me of the "Little House on the Prairie" books. Illustrations seem similar and writing style and content too, except, the story comes mostly from the view of the horse, not the little girl. It was a good read. Safe and good.

Everyone should read this book this book is sad in the middle but at the end it is a happy ending. If you have any or want any Horse's you should read this book. If you have any but you still don't like them you should not. There is a horse named Elska and she is a foal. She travels very far and then she learns about humans and then she stays with the human. Then she gets gifted (given) to a neighbor and Amma her owner cry's because her father gave Elska away. And this story like all horse diary books this book is written in the horse's own words.

My daughter, at 7, is smitten with horses and to find books that are written in the horse's perspective is awesome! She really enjoys the fact she gets entertainment from the book, but also gets a history lesson at the same time. There's great information concerning the breed of horse the book is about as well as information on the era and location the horse lives. In this case it's Iceland around the year 1,000 and Elska is an Icelandic filly. The book is written in chapters and introduces children to the complex stories of multiple dialogue, switching scenes, etc.

I just purchased this book (the kindle edition) earlier today. My 6 1/2 year old daughter loved this

book so much that she read the entire book in a few hours time. She can't wait for me to get more in the series. She said this was one of her favorite books that she has read. My almost 9 year old daughter is also very excited to read this book as soon as she finishes the one she is currently reading. She did not always enjoy reading, so I love it when we are able to find books and series of books that she likes.

My daughter loves these books!

This was a really good book! I recommend it to all of the horse lovers out there! Loved every minute reading it!

My 3rd grade daughter was introduced to these books by a friend and they're perfect! She loves horses and these stories are being narrated by the horses in them. They're educating by also being a period peice. Because she loves these stories so much, I don't even have to tell her to go read, she makes the time because she enjoys the story lines so much. I imagine we'll get all of the sequels by some point in time.

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