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# The White Stallion



## Synopsis

Long ago, in 1845, a young girl named Gretchen and her family were on their way west. One day, the horse Gretchen was riding strayed far away from the wagon train. Gretchen was lost and all alone. But then a magnificent white stallion appeared. And Gretchen knew she didn't have to be afraid, because the beautiful horse would show her the way back home.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 470L (What's this?)

Paperback: 64 pages

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Shipping Weight: 2.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #63,560 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #132 in Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Horses #4392 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

I look forward to reading this book every year because the children always love it so. It is a sweet, simple, and yet engrossing tale of a pioneer girl who was going out West with her family on a wagon train when they became separated. She had only her horse, Anna, for company. Anna is torn between her desire for freedom with a wild stallion and her loyalty to the girl. "The White Stallion" is just right for 7-9 year olds who want something longer than a picture book but is still very easy to read. They will like learning a little about wagon trains and the love between a girl and her horse. It is well-written and illustrated, and I happily recommend it.

It is 1845 and three Connestoga wagons are moving west to start a new life. Four-year-old Gretchen is the youngest in her family; she's too hot inside the wagon, so her father straps her to the back of their faithful old mare, Anna, who trots patiently behind the wagon. Gretchen falls asleep with the gentle gait, but the mare is mesmerized by the sight, sound and smell of a passing white stallion.

When Gretchen awakes--far from the wagons--she finds herself surrounded by a curiously aggressive herd of mares, nuzzling at the grain sacks which are also tied onto the mare's back. She needs to be rescued from horses' teeth, hunger, thirst and being lost! Written in short sentences with simple vocabulary and widely spaced lines, this story is good for very young readers. Isadora's black and white illustrations enhance a child's enjoyment of the strange tale of Gretchen's ultimate rescue. Was it all a heat-induced dream, pure fiction on the part of the author, or does it deserve to take its place as a "true" family legend? Read it--or have it read to aloud--to judge for yourself!

We purchased this item for Our Families Friends who have connections with White Stallions and found this tale entertaining and a favorite addition to their libraries, so we are pleased that our favorite has such a wide selection on site, that when we put White Stallion on the search line, up came this item, which was the perfect gift for a unique special occasion. Thank you, . Blessings.

I had this book for years. Just had to have it as a child because #1 there's a horse, and #2 the girl has the same name as me! My dog got ahold of my ancient copy and tore it up. For nostalgia, I just had to have another copy so ordered this one. Will be great to read to my little niece, who also has a love for horses.

I bought this book for my son to use with his homeschool curriculum, Learning Language Arts Through Literature. He was able to read it quickly and found the story enjoyable, even though he was initially worried it would be too girly.

How do you think that you would feel if you were lost while riding a horse with a wagon train in pioneer days? As the book opens, a little girl named Gretchen is being told a story by her grandmother about her own grandmother, also named Gretchen. In 1845, great-great-grandmother Gretchen is traveling west with three other families in Conestoga wagons. She is the youngest of four, with older sister Trudy and older brothers John and Billy. Once they see a herd of mustangs. One day, while following a trail along the Guadeloupe River in Texas, the horse, named Anna, that Gretchen is riding wanders away from the wagon train. Night soon falls, and Gretchen is lost, alone, and afraid. But then a magnificent white stallion appears. Will Anna run off with the white stallion's herd and leave Gretchen all by herself? Or will the white stallion see that Anna takes Gretchen back home? The story of the white stallion is retold from Tales of the Mustang by James Frank Dobie. It is a single chapter that is ideal to appeal to young readers. Their attention will be captured

immediately, and they will eagerly turn the pages to see what happens next. It is short, but very sweet!

We'll never know if this is a true story or a well-meant but fanciful tale. An adult would doubt the truth of this 1845 pioneer and wagon train tale, but a child would want to believe that a wild white stallion intervened on two dangerous occasions and saved the life of a very young girl named Gretchen. So..., I would present the tale as a family legend--believed by some and not by others. Nevertheless, the story does have some suspense--once it gets going--and also endears us to a faithful family mare named Anna who had to choose between freedom with a wild stallion and his herd or loyalty to her human "family." This is a nice story for those almost-independent readers. Fiction: For very young readers (grades 1-3) The Creative Teacher: Activities for Language Arts (Grades 4 through 8 and Up)

This is a short, poetic story of a girl in the pioneer days, who finds a wild, white stallion when she gets separated from the caravan. There are times when a grown person would think "Would a horse REALLY do that?" but a young reader (or listener) will simply enjoy the magic of this wagon-train tale. Beautiful illustrations accompany a well told family-history-type story. I enjoyed reading and can see where even a very young child would want this as their bedtime story. It'll even make them feel all grown up, since it has the look of a chapter book.

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