



THE CHILDREN'S BOOK REVIEW
Growing Readers™

Tuxedo's Tales: Little Pearls of Wisdom from a Horse's Point of View

By Tuxedo Hess, Illustrated by Katie Tunn

Ages: 6-9

Paperback: 104 pages

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What to Expect: Horses, Morals, Values, and Friendship

Tuxedo's Tales is packed with sweet teachable moments and has a strong emphasis on friendship. This book offers the kind of wisdom kids can use on a daily base.

Meet Tuxedo Hess, a Criollo from Argentina—a black horse with a white stripe down the middle of his nose (hence the name Tuxedo)—and his many animal friends. Tuxedo introduces himself and shares that he was rescued by his mom in Malaysia and brought to the United Kingdom. He then tells numerous charming and interesting tales that provide some wonderful life lessons. Each chapter is its own short story and collectively these stories explain how Tuxedo got to know his new surroundings and became friends with his animal neighbors.

In each chapter, Tuxedo has different interactions with various animals, leading to a learning moment. Each of these moments is summarized at the end of the chapter in an information box—providing a “Little Pearl of Wisdom.” Readers learn things such as asking for help, remaining true to one’s self, knowing when to say sorry, and how to be a good friend.

Through the effortless descriptions of the animals’ interactions and the beautiful scenery, it is easy to see that the author is a very observant person and in tune with the real Tuxedo and nature. The design and layout of the book are notably clean and well balanced between text and artwork. Katie Tunn’s precious pencil illustrations are scattered throughout and add a lovely touch of color. The added bonus: a percentage of the profits from this book go towards Horse Welfare, an organization devoted to the care of horses.

Tuxedo's Tales is a lovely chapter book for newly independent readers that consider themselves horse lovers. It is also a great choice for parents looking for an enjoyable book to read aloud to their children—the individual stories in each chapter make it



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easy to slide in a bookmark, too.

—The Children's Book Review