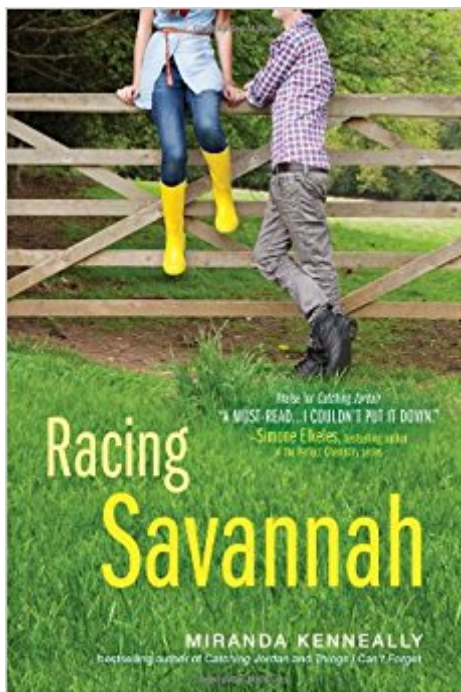


The book was found

Racing Savannah (Hundred Oaks)



Synopsis

They're from two different worlds. He lives in the estate house, and she spends most of her time in the stables helping her father train horses. In fact, Savannah has always been much more comfortable around horses than boys. Especially boys like Jack Goodwin—cocky, popular and completely out of her league. She knows the rules: no mixing between the staff and the Goodwin family. But Jack has no such boundaries. With her dream of becoming a jockey, Savannah isn't exactly one to follow the rules either. She's not going to let someone tell her a girl isn't tough enough to race. Sure, it's dangerous. Then again, so is dating Jack..

Praise for Miranda Kenneally: "Kenneally's books have quickly become must-reads." —VOYA "Fresh, fearless, and totally romantic." —Sarah Ockler, bestselling author of *Twenty Boy Summer* and *Bittersweet on Stealing Parker*

Book Information

Series: Hundred Oaks (Book 4)

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Contemporary

Customer Reviews

Kenneally (*Stealing Parker*, 2012) again looks at sports through a female lens, this time tackling male-dominated horse racing, in this fourth Hundred Oaks novel. Savannah, her widowed horse-trainer father, and her father's pregnant girlfriend move to Tennessee—Cedar Hill, a farm that trains horses for races including the Kentucky Derby. When the teen notices that she is the only one who can control Star, a horse that bucks all riders, she seizes the chance to realize her dream of becoming a jockey. But placing herself in this potentially deadly sport is not Savannah's only danger. There's also her instant attraction to Jack Goodwin, the

farm owner's cocky, flirtatious son. Savannah decides she wants more than "friends with benefits" (even if she can't stop thinking about those skin-to-skin benefits), but wonders if she will always be considered "the help" in Jack's world of privilege. The author's knack for weaving forbidden romance, breezy dialogue, and details of this lesser-known sports venue places it in the winner's circle for reluctant readers and chick-lit fans. Grades 9-12. --Angela Leeper

"Kenneally's equestrian-themed romance is energized by another winning heroine . . . Kenneally's story about considering the importance of one's own happiness should appeal to a wide audience; despite some bumps in the road, there's never any doubt that all will end well." - Publishers Weekly
"Kenneally has established herself as a writer of romances with some interesting complexity along with the swooning, and there's certainly plenty of swooning and steamy pleasure here. Additionally, Savannah herself is genuinely brash and not just saucy, and the Tennessee milieu is vividly evoked." - Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books
"The author's knack for weaving forbidden romance, breezy dialogue, and details of this lesser-known sports venue places it in the winner's circle for reluctant readers and chick-lit fans." - Booklist

Heartwarming, fun, and with characters that I felt to know and regard almost like old friends, *Racing Savannah* was a book I read in literally two nights. I had never read a romance that takes place in a horse-racing backdrop, and I found myself enjoying learning the ins and outs of horse racing almost as much as I enjoyed seeing Savannah and Jack's relationship develop as the story progressed. One thing I love about this author is that she portrays people realistically. Most people in the story, just like most people in the real world, are a mixed bag - and yes, there are exceptions like the creepy son of one of the horse owners. Overall though, *Racing Savannah* succeeds not just with the main protagonists' relationship but also the side characters which Kenneally puts in to enrich the story. Oh, and any story about a badass girl jockey falling in love is just hard not to love...so I'm giving it 5 stars.

Racing Savannah was such a great young adult novel. It was the second book in my Miranda Kenneally-binge last weekend and I enjoyed it just as much as the one before. This time it's all about a working class girl and a rich guy and the girl and her dad just happen to work for the rich guy and his family. Savannah and Jack were both great, relatable characters. I loved them both, but Savannah came out on top as far as I'm concerned. She was wonderful. I

loved her drive and her heart. She was wonderful with animals and her relationship with one of the most difficult horses at Jack's family's farm was something truly special... just like Savannah's character. Jack was a good guy in a tough spot. His father had given him a chance to run their horse farm, but he wasn't an easy guy to please. One of his father's strictest rules was "don't date the staff." I think we all know that one was doomed to be broken. Jack wasn't all swoony all the time, but he won me over when it was all said and done. Savannah and Jack had their issues

~ ~ most coming because of the differences in their backgrounds and upbringing

~ ~ but I still thought the romance was sweet and had a ton of heart. I loved watching both characters grow as a result of their time together, too. Despite their differences, they made a fantastic pair. It was a bumpy road, but it was also a real one. Racing Savannah takes place a few years after the first few books in the series and there was a fantastic scene a little more than halfway through the book in which we were treated to an AMAZING checkin with some of the earlier characters in the series. It totally melted my heart. I mean, big time cheesy smiles for pages and pages. I get a huge grin on my face just thinking about it!

I love when a book surprises me and Miranda ~ ~s books do that every time. I always think I know how things will play out but the characters and story never go how I think. The characters are always way more layered and the story is always so much more than a love story. Savannah is probably my favorite of Miranda ~ ~s characters so far. She just has this amazing will and drive and I completely admired her for it. I related to her insecurities too, even though I never was as strong as she. I think overall, she ~ ~s the most relatable of all the Hundred Oaks girls. Savannah had a complicated love interest in this story. Her and Jack ~ ~s relationship was never going to be easy, with him being the boss ~ ~s son and all, and essentially him being her direct boss. I thought Jack was a great multi-layered character. He struggled with so many things because he wanted to please so many people in his life, especially his father. I definitely felt for him. The parents in this story are very present and I loved seeing that they loved their children very much. They each had their struggles but overall they were supportive in the end. I loved learning more about horse racing thanks to Racing Savannah. I already had an idea of how it all works thanks to the show Wildfire, but this book brought a new understanding of it all. It ~ ~ll make you want to go to a race, that ~ ~s for sure! Like in all past Hundred Oaks books, Racing Savannah does have a few appearances by past characters. There ~ ~s even a wedding!!

You ~ ~ll have to read it and find out whose wedding though. ;) It ~ ~s

always such a fun treat to see who we'll see and probably the best way to get a glimpse of their happy lives now. Basically, you need these books in your life. Each one is better than the next and leaves me wanting more, more, more!

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