

# [PDF] Half Broke Horses: A True-Life Novel

Jeannette Walls - pdf download free book

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**Books Details:**

Title: Half Broke Horses: A True-Lif  
Author: Jeannette Walls  
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**Description:**

**From Publishers Weekly** For the first 10 years of her life, Lily Casey Smith, the narrator of this true-life novel by her granddaughter, Walls, lived in a dirt dugout in west Texas. Walls, whose megaselling memoir, *The Glass Castle*, recalled her own upbringing, writes in what she recalls as Lily's plainspoken voice, whose recital provides plenty of drama and suspense as she ricochets from one challenge to another. Having been educated in fits and starts because of her parents' penury, Lily becomes a teacher at age 15 in a remote frontier town she reaches after a solo 28-day ride. Marriage to a bigamist almost saps her spirit, but later she weds a rancher with whom she shares two children and a strain of plucky resilience. (They sell bootleg liquor during Prohibition, hiding the

bottles under a baby's crib.) Lily is a spirited heroine, fiercely outspoken against hypocrisy and prejudice, a rodeo rider and fearless breaker of horses, and a ruthless poker player. Assailed by flash floods, tornados and droughts, Lily never gets far from hardscrabble drudgery in several states—New Mexico, Arizona, Illinois—but hers is one of those heartwarming stories about indomitable women that will always find an audience. (*Oct.*)

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**From** Originally conceived as a biography based on family interviews and historical research, Walls found herself filling in too many blanks for *Half Broke Horses* to remain a work of nonfiction, so she assumed Smith's indomitable voice and set out to write a novelistic recreation of Smith's unconventional life. Most critics were captivated by Smith's earthy, straightforward style, despite the steady stream of repetitive axioms intermingled with her antics. Only the *Washington Post* seemed thoroughly disappointed, lamenting that "this book is no *Glass Castle*." Though Smith, "a gumption-packin' ranch gal whose pluck never quits" (*New York Times*), may not rise to the intensity of Walls's troubled, nomadic parents, *Half Broke Horses* nevertheless tells the heartwarming story of an irrepressible woman who carved her own destiny. --This text refers to the edition.

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