



Horses All – Book Barn – November 2008

Book Review by Carol Upton



Book Title: *When Horses Could Fly and Other Fantastic Tales*

Author: Sharon Janus

Illustrations: Kathy Newell-Worby

Publishers: Amigo Publications, Inc.

ISBN: 978-0-9658533-6-1

***Why don't horses fly anymore? It's simple. They don't have wings. Still some horses do forget that they lost their wings and attempt to fly – even today.***

If you have a horse-crazy child or are still one yourself, you will enjoy letting Mother Horse entertain you with her take on the history of horses. *When Horses Could Fly* is the second book from English Professor Sharon Janus and is as close to a perfect Christmas gift as you will find. Haven't you ever wondered why horses snort and why they have long faces?

The answers are contained in this spirited collection of 12 tales told by endlessly patient Mother Horse to her filly and colt. Children will love each story and the lyrical language is guaranteed to take the adult reader back to his or her own magical age. Of course, horses snort whenever they remember the breath of Spirit and they have long faces for "snuzzling their young". What other explanation could there be?

The stories are laced with originality and rhythm reminiscent of Dr. Seuss. Readers are transported to "...a time when butterflies hopped and snakes wore skates, a wonderous, funderoulous time, so long ago when horses had orange feathers and teal lips and two heads". This book contains 25 of Kathy Newell-Worby's dream like paintings to complement the author's imagery and fuel imaginations, young and old.

*When Horses Could Fly* feels like a future classic and will entertain long into the night, "...when large puffy snowflakes fall softly from the sky".

Sharon Janus has been a freelance writer for over 15 years. Her first book, *The Magic of Horses – Horses as Healers* was published in 1997. When not teaching or writing, Sharon is either in the barn, or on the trail, or in the arena with her Spanish horses.

The book is priced at \$9.95 and is available online from: [www.equibooks.com](http://www.equibooks.com) or call Amigo Publications, Inc. at 805 344-1507 in Los Olivos, California.