



# MONTY ROBERTS:

## *The Man Who Listens to Horses*

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— Monty

At an early age, Monty Roberts discovered he had a gift for understanding horses. That gift would eventually lead him to develop a nonviolent approach to training horses called Join-Up®.

While tracking wild mustangs in Nevada as a boy, Monty observed a nonverbal communication between the horses, a silent language he would later call “Equus.” Join-Up was born out of the language of Equus.

Through his relationship with horses Monty found a way to escape from a childhood that was filled with harsh treatment and violence. Monty found that the mustangs needed to feel safe and find someone they could trust. These early discoveries grew into a life’s mission. By creating a foundation of trust, the Join-Up method allows Monty to

accomplish in 30 minutes what takes traditional horsemen up to six weeks. “For centuries, humans have said to horses, “You do what I tell you to or I’ll hurt you. I’m saying that no one has the right to say, ‘you must’ to an animal or to another human”, Monty said.

The son of a horseman, Monty was born in 1935 in Salinas, California. He showed horses professionally and worked extensively in the movie business as a stunt double for Elizabeth Taylor, Roddy McDowell and others. In 1989, by invitation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Monty started 23 horses at Windsor Castle. Her Majesty continues to advocate the use of Monty’s methods for training horses. Monty says that his success is due to his work to meet the needs of the horses he trains.



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His collection of educational videos (like those seen on RFD-TV) demonstrates his training aids, such as the Dually Halter, and are companions to his books.

Monty travels the world demonstrating Join-Up on tour. He is in demand as a speaker by corporations, schools, military and penal systems.

He has written many best selling books: *The Man Who Listens to Horses*; *Shy Boy: The Horse That Came In From the Wild*; *Horse Sense For People*; *From My Hands to Yours: Lessons from a Lifetime of Training Championship Horses* (his only textbook) and most recently *The Horses In My Life*.

At his home in California, Monty instructs horse enthusiasts and Fortune 500 companies in the Join-Up technique. Mr. Roberts vows to continue his life's ambition – “...to leave the world a better place than I found it, for horses and for people, too.”

From Monty: We have completed a series for the RFD-TV viewer that marks one of the most exciting chapters of my career. We have decided to title it *Monty Roberts: A Backstage Pass!* The reason for the title is that while traveling the world over we placed a camera near the gate where the horses come into my round pen, providing a view that is as if the camera was backstage.



After filming more than two hundred horses, eighteen individuals have been selected for this series. Each has been judged by me to be unique, educational and entertaining. I have tried to give the viewer a cross section of my work so as to add to the educational value. There are ten countries involved and even more horse breeds included in these eighteen segments.

We start with Låki from Denmark; an Icelandic horse that I fell in love with. We continue to get good reports on his progress and while he was impossible to catch, his owner is now having fun with him and his trust level is very high.

We have buckers and kickers, fresh starters and old professionals at not loading in the trailer. We even have one that had a phobic fear of bicycles. There is no way to describe the level of fun I had working with these wonderful animals. Each of

them proves that when you get your work right training horses should be fun and not a battle.

While editing, I was amazed to discover that five horses from one little town in Italy made it through to the top eighteen offerings. It was a cold night in Cislago and I am not sure that the shivering audience could not possibly have realized what an incredible evening it was going to be for me. It represents the only time that I ever marked each animal on a given evening over a 9 out of 10 for an educational demonstration. If the RFD-TV viewers have half as much fun learning from these segments as I had producing them, I will consider it a great success.

It is my hope that RFD-TV viewers will find it interesting that I have chosen to include a supporter from the world of the Tennessee Walking Horse. It is my mission in this effort to make it OK to own and ride a Tennessee Walking Horse. No Tennessee Walking Horse has ever set out to harm a human being. I believe that it's a wonderful breed with many favorable attributes. I am convinced that this is the right operation and the right individuals to serve as the shepherds to guide this breed. Waterfall Farms' employees, and most of all its owner, are completely dedicated to the fair treatment of these fantastic animals.

#### Contact Information:

Watch *Monty Roberts: A Backstage Pass!* on RFD-TV then go to our website at [www.montyroberts.com](http://www.montyroberts.com) to look for special offers, contests and our E-Newsletter to receive free tips from Monty. Call toll free in the USA (888) 826-6689 for educational materials, classes in Join-Up, extended episodes, tour dates and events on the farm. Write to P.O. Box 1700, Solvang, CA 93464 or visit our web site at [www.montyroberts.com](http://www.montyroberts.com)

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Friday on

RFD TV