



# Funerals for Horses

*By Catherine Ryan Hyde*

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## **Funerals for Horses** By Catherine Ryan Hyde

FUNERALS FOR HORSES, Catherine Ryan Hyde's critically acclaimed first novel (initially published in 1997) is a deeply felt and heartrending story of redemption and love, disappearance and faithfulness by the author who would go on to be known for the bestselling DON'T LET ME GO and PAY IT FORWARD.

Ella Ginsberg's brother Simon has disappeared. His clothing, shoes and watch were found abandoned near a freight line track in Central California. His jockey shorts and wallet were never found. The police have no clue, and Simon's wife had no warning that anything was wrong.

Ella takes off on foot across much of California and Arizona, thinking she can find Simon using nothing but her knowledge of the way he might think. Her search leads her to the Navajo Nation in Arizona, where she is helped and befriended by three Native Americans and an aged paint horse named Yozzie.

Ella has serious mental health issues, and Simon, who raised her, is still the most important person in her shaky world. Only maybe it's not as unstable as it looks from the outside. Maybe inside Ella a core of unexpected strength is emerging. Maybe Ella is even stronger than the brother who held her family's lives together for so long.

"A tale of sibling loyalty, madness, pain and redemption. In this restrained but compelling narrative, Hyde movingly conveys the toll of years of emotional damage." -Publishers Weekly

This "Classic Catherine" Anniversary Edition includes a new Author's Note by Catherine Ryan Hyde.

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## **Funerals for Horses By Catherine Ryan Hyde Bibliography**

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- Format: Kindle eBook

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## Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Ella Ginsberg, the narrator of this debut novel, comes from a dysfunctional home: her sister commits suicide, her mother descends into psychosis, and her father is imprisoned. Ella, who feels she was "born the wrong species," escapes into her own private world and is protected by her brother, Simon, who takes over the parental reins in their dissolving family. As a growing adult, Ella discovers the tragedy of her abnormal behavior through the help of a therapist. Simon, on the other hand, who never dealt with the horrors in their family, disappears one day without warning from what appears to be a happy family and a successful career. Ella embarks on a journey to recover her brother and, in a series of dramatic episodes, learns to accept her past and move on with her life. Hyde, a noted short story writer, successfully offers a rich blend of metaphors and genuine characters that will touch the hearts of readers. Highly recommended for all collections. David A. Berona, Univ. of New England, Biddeford, Me.  
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Review

"Brutally lyrical . . . Compelling." -- *Publishers Weekly*

"Hypnotizing." -- *San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune*

Every true work of art creates a world subject to its own laws. San Luis Obispo writer Catherine Ryan Hyde's enchanting first novel, "Funerals for Horses," adroitly illustrates that point. The book blends the narrator's realistic bout of mental illness with a quixotic search through the desert for her missing brother. Far from raising skepticism, this juxtaposition--of the stuff of reality with that of fable and epic journey--results in a compelling evocation of a world in which hidden purposes abound and all creatures of goodwill are linked by subterranean currents of understanding and sympathy. [A] moving novel of mourning, celebration and salvation. -- *Evelin Sullivan, The San Francisco Chronicle, July 27, 1997*

In her brilliantly wrought, finely plotted first novel, Hyde sends Ella into the Sonoran desert to find her missing brother whom she adopted many years before as her interim God. Ella's red rock journey detours through a parallel hell as we flash back to her terrorized childhood and explore the depths of her mental illness. An established academic author, Catherine Ryan Hyde is a masterful craftswoman with a writing professor's precise draftsmanship. Every scene is sketched with beautiful brevity, to keep the yarn spinning and to detail only that which hones the tale and enthralls the reader. Every vista takes your breath away, but a satisfying sense of clarity and order prevails even through the worst of the craziness. -- *Small Press July/August 1997*

About the Author

Catherine Ryan Hyde is the best-selling and award-winning author of 24 published and forthcoming books, including the acclaimed WHEN YOU WERE OLDER, DON'T LET ME GO, SECOND HAND HEART, WHEN I FOUND YOU, and the creative nonfiction collection THE LONG, STEEP PATH: EVERYDAY INSPIRATION FROM THE AUTHOR OF PAY IT FORWARD. New Kindle editions of her backlist titles FUNERALS FOR HORSES, EARTHQUAKE WEATHER AND OTHER STORIES, ELECTRIC GOD, and WALTER'S PURPLE HEART are now available. Forthcoming frontlist titles are WALK ME HOME and WHERE WE BELONG. Her bestselling novel PAY IT FORWARD inspired the movie of the same name. The Richard and Judy Book Club, the UK's equivalent of the Oprah book club, launched LOVE IN THE PRESENT TENSE and subsequent novels onto the bestseller list in the UK. Learn much more about

the author, maybe even more than you wanted to know, at [catherineryanhyde.com](http://catherineryanhyde.com).

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Carrie Wakefield:**

Typically the book *Funerals for Horses* will bring one to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. Should you try to find new book you just read, this book very suited to you. The book *Funerals for Horses* is much recommended to you you just read. You can also get the e-book in the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

#### **Janelle Smith:**

*Funerals for Horses* can be one of your basic books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in words, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing *Funerals for Horses* but doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource information that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial imagining.

#### **Brian Smith:**

This *Funerals for Horses* is brand new way for you who has curiosity to look for some information because it relief your hunger details. Getting deeper you onto it getting knowledge more you know or else you who still having tiny amount of digest in reading this *Funerals for Horses* can be the light food for you because the information inside this specific book is easy to get by simply anyone. These books develop itself in the form which can be reachable by anyone, sure I mean in the e-book type. People who think that in publication form make them feel tired even dizzy this e-book is the answer. So there is absolutely no in reading a reserve especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss that! Just read this e-book style for your better life as well as knowledge.

#### **Cary Freeman:**

A number of people said that they feel uninterested when they reading a publication. They are directly felt the item when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the actual book *Funerals for Horses* to make your own personal reading is interesting. Your skill of reading expertise is developing when you such as reading. Try to choose basic book to make you enjoy to learn it and mingle the sensation about book and examining especially. It is to be first opinion for you to like to start a book and examine it. Beside that the publication *Funerals for Horses* can be your brand-new friend when you're sense alone and confuse using what must you're doing of these time.

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