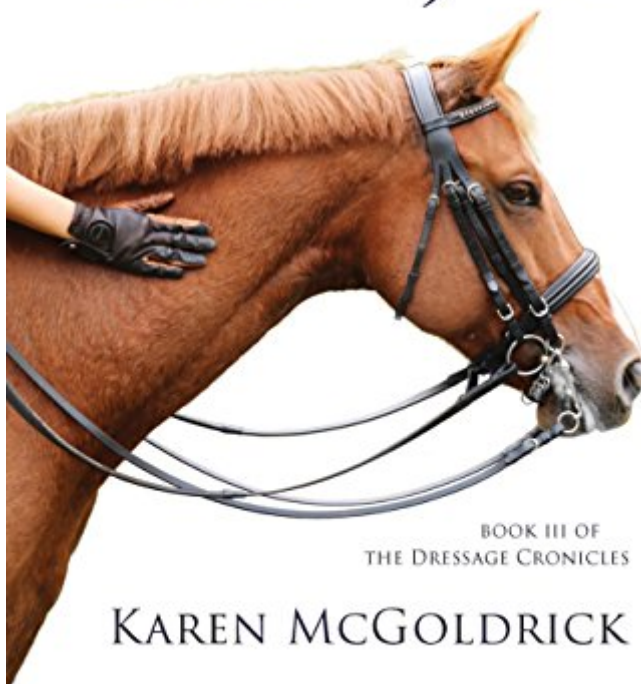


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The Right Girl For The Job: Book III Of The Dressage Chronicles

"The Dressage Chronicles' fresh style and confidential approach makes for an addititing read."
—JENNIFER POWLETTE, Horse Junkies United

THE RIGHT GIRL FOR THE JOB



Synopsis

Margot tells Lizzy that nothing in life is ever really settled, not until they “pack the earth over your grave, darling.” And of course, as usual, Margot is right. Although Lizzy is living her dream at Equus Paradiso Farm there is no guarantee that her future is settled. She is terrified to think that despite her hard work, despite her commitment and desire, her efforts may not be enough. Regardless of the shifting sands beneath her feet, Lizzy still has a job to do. It is a job with growing responsibilities, without regular hours, without weekends off, that pays almost nothing and keeps beating her up physically and mentally. And while success is not guaranteed, failure in part or whole appears to be. Maybe she is foolish with her rainbow and unicorn thinking; maybe her nay-sayers were right all along and reality is coming to kick her in the rear and eject her out of paradise and back out into the ordinary world. Not all good deeds are rewarded, or efforts even appreciated as the territory of her daily routine gets trickier to navigate. Life is not fair. But giving up before the battle is finished is not an option. Though she “ll be tested, though she “ll know doubt and failure, she will come to discover, she is indeed, the “right girl for the job.” Lizzie’s saga continues in Book III of the critically acclaimed Dressage Chronicles series.

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Customer Reviews

This is the third book in a series and I have waited patiently for.. well maybe not so patiently but I didn't have much of a choice did I? Karen McGoldrick is lucky she lives far across the country or I might have perched on her doorstep. Anybody can read this book and enjoy it because of the actions with and between the characters but those of us who enjoy horses and those of us who ride will love this series. Better yet, if you are a dressage enthusiast, you can gain great insight into how to get more from your partner by reading her books. Happily the author is not only a great writer but also extremely knowledgeable about her subject. Lizzie is in the center of the story after getting into the coveted spot in Margot Fanning's working student program. She expects to learn much but never anticipated how much work it would entail! You meet a lot of good riders, great horses and a villain or two and the wicked witch of the East Coast. OK kidding here but to Lizzie and almost everyone else, the owner of this incredible establishment, Francesca Cavelli is quite the "dragon lady". To me, I came to enjoy Francesca a lot. She is a lot deeper than the people who surround her know. Be a great back story to pursue. Her husband Frank, on the other hand is the perfect opposite. Sweet to the bone but he and his wife obviously share a special relationship. The horses are developed as book characters also. They make you wish they were real and you could see some of them in action. For myself, I haven't ridden in about 10 years and Ms. McGoldrick makes me want to give it one more go. The nice thing about dressage is that you can ride this discipline at any age. Not like 3 day eventing or show jumpers which require a lot of physical prowess. Dressage is more subtle. Demanding yes, but easier to ride in the lower levels and great for the body, heart and mind. I hope that if Ms. McGoldrick ever hangs up her shadbelly coat and her tall boots, that she will retire to a chair in front of the computer and write, write, write. I for one, hope to still be around to read those pages. Thanks for a great ride Karen!

I have a love/hate relationship with this author. I would like to give this book a bad rating because it left me wanting more. What happened to Frank's health condition? Did Deb and Wild Child get an offer from the Olympic rep? Did Lizzy date Chess any more or did the cat do him in? Will Lizzy breed Winsome to Wild Child? So many questions. I bought all 3 books of the Dressage Chronicles and read them in 2 weeks. Now I can't wait to read what happens next. I don't do dressage because

I am a western rider. What little dressage I have learned on the side has made me a much better rider and my horses much more responsive. This is such a well written book. I hope Karen McGoldrick is working on the next one and will have it published soon. Till then I will be "chomping on the bit".

I have read the first two books in the series, and have to say this one was my favorite so far. The author's writing is more developed, and so are the characters. I especially related to the book in terms of where the riders are in their learning process, as well as the training techniques being used on the horses - it has given me some good ideas for my own riding and my own horse! What I love most about this series is that it showcases all that is common across the dressage world - the show environment, barn dynamics and most especially the hair edge between inspiration and envy when watching other riders. It makes me feel so much more "normal" and not alone in how I view my own riding goals!! And as crazy as it sounds, I've actually taken key phrases and ideas and applied them in some of my riding lessons and they have worked -- it's probably better than any instructional book on dressage that I've read, simply because of how my brain works. I'm better able to grasp it in this engaging narrative and fiction form!

I am a connoisseur of equestrian fiction, and this is an outstanding series. Intelligently written about intelligent characters, with the realism that life isn't always smooth and that our heroine doesn't always find all her obstacles at her feet. I am enjoying watching Lizzie mature as a rider, watching Deb and Natalie come more into the picture, and watching Francesca become more of a person and less of the fearsome cardboard cutout she was for Lizzy in the first book. The horse scenes are realistic and detailed and always make me want to go outside and ride.

While I am a great fan of Dressage, I do not ride or compete in the discipline, although one of my horses takes to it like a duck to water. As a city kid who grew up working with other people's horses at every opportunity, I know the passion and compassion of horse-loving girls who grow into horse-loving women. THE DRESSAGE CHRONICLES gives a most interesting and enlightening view into the high end world of Dressage, while spinning a great story of people and horses. McGoldrick is quite an up and coming author! Very enjoyable.

I absolutely love Karen McGoldrick's writing, it's so honest and authentic, which is especially important when reading about a subject like horses - enough detail for non riders, and the correct

details for readers who ride. I was absolutely delighted to find that the that Book 3 of the Dressage Chronicles series was available, and it definitely didn't disappoint. It was more in keeping with the style of the first Dressage Chronicles instalment, which I preferred. I love finding out more about Francesca, her husband Frank, working student Ryder, and dressage queen Margot, all through working student Lizzie's eyes. Also, the animals are portrayed with such detail- from the gorgeous horses, to the new kitten. I can't wait to find out what happens in the final instalment (sob! I don't want it to end), and really look forward to reading anything else Karen publishes in the future. A really great series, and more than worth getting invested in.

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