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**Wednesday February 7, 2018**

Greetings! ,

Pulling back when tied is dangerous for both horse and handler. Read Monty's advice on how to change this unwanted behavior without the use of force in his question and answer column below.



Image from Monty's textbook, [From My Hands to Yours](#)

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## **Question**

Dear Monty,

I purchased a six-year-old Arabian mare 1.5 years ago. I did not realize it at that point but she has obviously had learned to continue to pull until something breaks when she is tied

especially at a hitch rail. I think it starts as panic but she is smart and does not stop until something gives.

She learned to break bungee cords. A Blocker tie ring and tying overhead gets me a short period of standing still and some work has improved her reaction when something pulls on her head in general. My goal for her is to be my primary trail horse but I am looking for a kinder method than just tie her solid and hope she doesn't hurt herself.

Do you have any material to purchase that addresses this issue or any thoughts? I have not addressed this before. I primarily use your methods and John Lyons methods when working with my horses. I have started two from scratch so this is really only my fifth horse in 30 years of riding. I am in Southern Indiana if there is someone in this area you would recommend.

Thank you,  
Shelly Underwood Hendrix

## Answer

Virtually everyone who has owned a horse, has, at some time, experienced an episode where the horse pulls back when tied. If your horse successfully breaks free several times, she is likely to develop a phobia where she feels compelled to pull back when tied. Certain activities are more likely to evoke pulling back; loud, sudden noises or movements in the horse's environment, or tying the horse in the trailer with the back door open.

Horses are naturally into-pressure animals; the behavior your mare is exhibiting is to move into the pressure she feels on her poll. Your goal is to re-train her to yield to pressure without causing unnecessary pain or fear. I would suggest your first step should be to school her with the Dually Halter until she is comfortable moving off the pressure.

You will need a solid smooth wall, 8-feet high and 24-feet wide, with a tie ring in the center of the wall approximately seven feet high. Attached to the tie you will have a thick bungee rope (such as 'The Leader,' available through tack shops). You need to create a D-shaped enclosure with round pen panels attaching to either end of the wall, approximately 10-12 feet from the wall at the center point.

Take your mare into the enclosure; attach her to the bungee rope and exit, closing the round pen panel after you. If your mare chooses to pull back, the bungee rope will stretch approximately 10 feet, at which point she will bump her hindquarters on the panels and be unable to go further back. The bungee rope will continue to exert a gentle pressure on her head until she steps forward, releasing the pressure. She is in a safe environment to be able to experiment with the pressure and learn to move forward and accept being tied.

The environment I have briefly described for you is depicted in great detail in my book *From My Hands To Yours*. You will find diagrams and photos as well as a detailed explanation, and please also feel free to contact us for details of training programs that we offer here in California. Also I have a series on my Equus Online University that covers this issue: <https://montyrobersoniversity.com/training/2031188870>

Pull-back horses can be extremely dangerous as when they panic, they can hurt

themselves and others, so it is imperative to keep yourself safe and create a safe environment for your mare. Good luck, and please contact us with any further questions you may have.

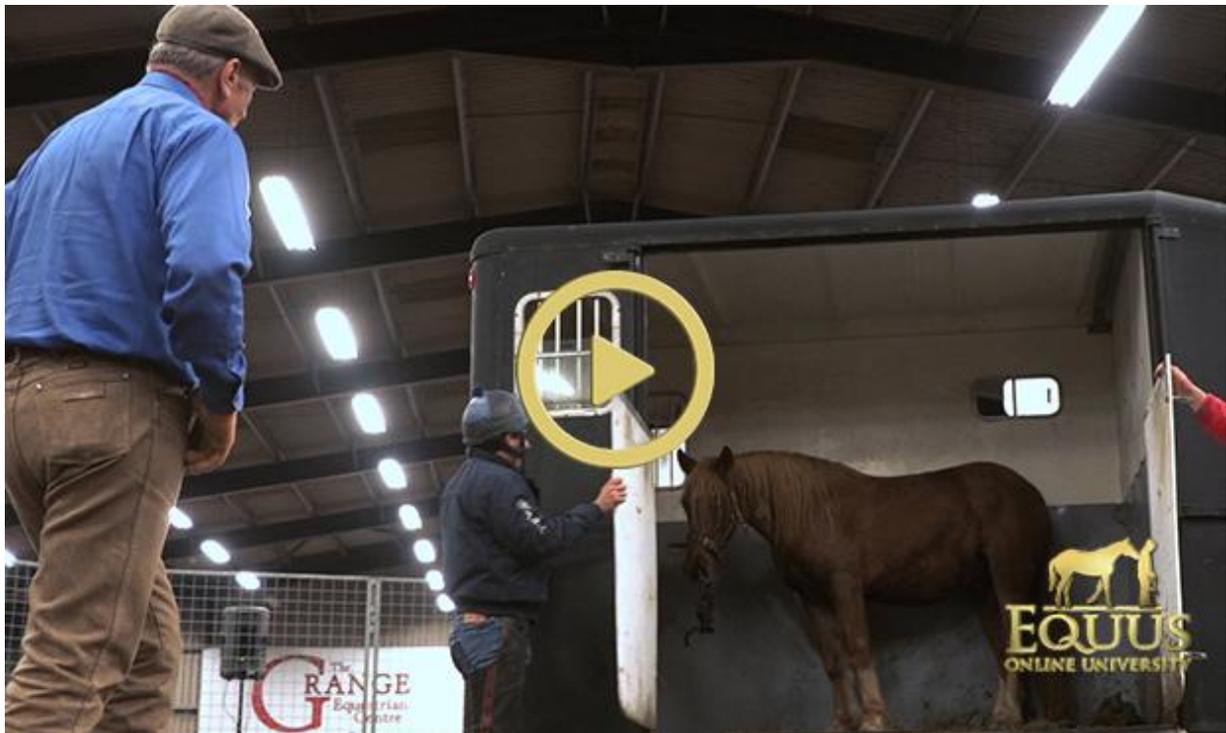
Sincerely,



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## MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE

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This online video series shows how Monty worked with Chico, a wild pony. Learn how to build your core strength and balance. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free, fun methods.



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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

SYMPOSIUM AND FESTIVAL  
DATES: MAY 23-24



*2018 Moment of Join-Up*  
**THE MOVEMENT** 

FLAG IS UP FARMS | SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA | [MOMENTOFJOINUP.COM](http://MOMENTOFJOINUP.COM)

- UK** March 3, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Myerscough College](#), Bilsborrow, Lancs, PR3 0RY
- UK** March 7, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Hadlow College](#), Hadlow, Kent, TN1 0AL
- UK** March 17, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [The Grange - with Special Guest "Martin Clunes"](#), Okehampton, Devon EX20 3DA
- Ireland** March 24, 2018: Monty Roberts demonstration at [Cavan Equestrian Centre Ltd](#), near Dublin.
- USA** April 21 to 22, 2018: West Coast Dressage Convention, Los Angeles, California, featuring Edward Gal, Hans Peter Minderhoud and Monty Roberts.

Tickets from: [www.shproductions.ca](http://www.shproductions.ca)

- USA** May 23 to 24, 2018:  
The Movement in Solvang with Monty and Pat Roberts, Speakers,  
Demonstrations  
[Symposium and Awards Dinner ticket](#) or [Symposium only ticket](#) or [Awards  
Dinner only ticket](#)
- USA** July 23 to August 3, 2018: [Gentling Wild Horses course](#) at Flag Is Up Farms,  
California
- USA** August 6 to 10, 2018: [Monty's Special Training](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California

**[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)**

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## **THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER**

February 19 to 22, 2018

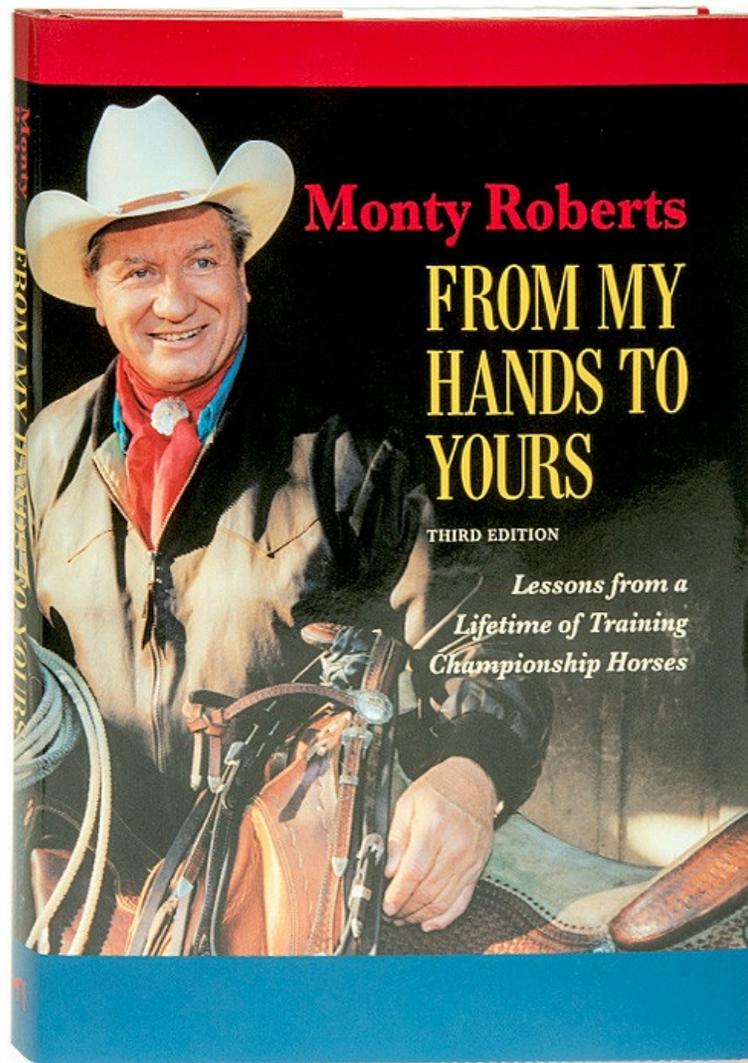
[Join-Up Course](#)

February 23 to 24, 2018

[Long Lining Course](#)

**[MORE COURSE INFO HERE, CHECK OUT OUR 2018 COURSES!](#)**

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## **ONLINE PRODUCT REVIEW: MONTY'S TEXTBOOK**

"Excellent. The book [[From My Hands to Yours](#)] is well written and very pertinent. It is a wonderful tool to understand horses. Thank you Mister Roberts."

Serge A.  
Verified Buyer

**[VISIT MONTY'S ONLINE STORE](#)**

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**MONTY'S PRINCIPLES  
HORSE SENSE FOR PEOPLE**



Dearest Monty Roberts,

First of all, thank you so much for the absolute splendid special training day the 1st of October. I am so happy that I managed to come, to see your work and for the good atmosphere, thank you and Kelly. It was absolutely a fantastic experience. As I mentioned, we would love to see you in Norway, and please do consider it.

My deep wish is that your fundamental ideas of horse approaching and non-violence should be incorporated in every rider and instructor. And we would very much appreciate your help to start that work here in Norway.

Look forward to hearing from you.  
Kindest regards,  
Vibeke Osland

## **MONTY'S CHALLENGE**

Test yourself each week as I challenge you to answer the question below. I mean this. Sit down and write an answer. Don't wait for my answer next week. If you have been reading my Weekly Questions and Answers for the last six months, you should be in a position to do this. Send your answer to my team at: [askmonty@montyroberts.com](mailto:askmonty@montyroberts.com)

Why should you bother? Because it will help you focus. There is probably a comparable question in your life that needs answering... or will be. If you can gain insight into how to go about answering a practical question that is loosely related to your problem, this exercise will help you answer your nagging question. Then read my answer. I want all of my students to learn to be better trainers than me. That's good for you and good for horses!

## NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION

Dear Monty,

Just retired from military. I was able to take advantage of one of your sponsored Join-Up seminars, Horse Sense and Healing, thanks so much. Getting back into horses now, getting one for my daughter and one for myself. Even though I am purchasing older, well broke horses initially, my intent is still Join-Up with them initially and accomplish ground work before ever mounting/riding to hopefully establish that friendship first. How often should I Join-Up with them initially and/or should that depend on how we are "communicating"? Also, say months or even years down the road when things are going well, is it still smart to Join-Up every once in a while? Thanks so much!

Carl in Missouri

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## HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Boyd Martin and Monty Roberts swap stories about their horses, their goals for 2018 and their clinic together. Actress Wendie Malick (Hot in Cleveland) wants to align with Monty Roberts to help more mustangs. Keith Dane weighs in on the number of mustangs needing their help.

[EPISODE 105 | LISTEN HERE](#)

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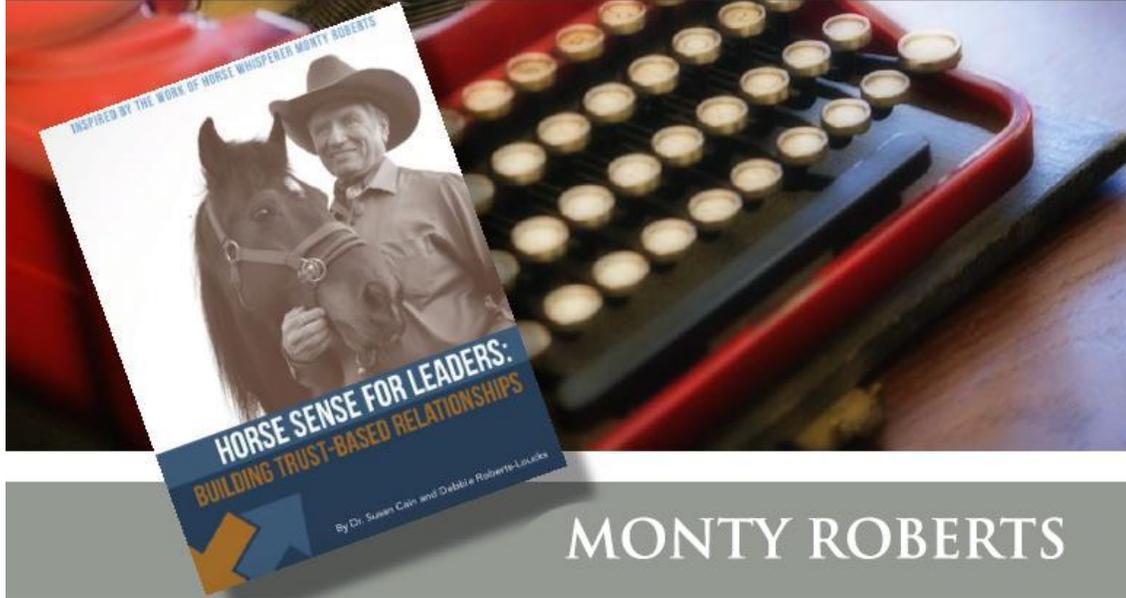
## FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS



Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. Join-Up offers everyone an effective tool to rediscover themselves through the eyes of the horse. This self-awareness exercise deals effectively with emotional trauma, anti-social behavior and withdrawal, anger, stress, combat stress and even Post Traumatic Stress Injury (PTSI). [READ MORE](#)



To find out about Monty's upcoming Horse Sense and Healing workshops and for more information, go to: <http://www.join-up.org/horse-sense-and-healing/>



Buying Monty's book, **[Horse Sense for Leaders: Building Trust-Based Relationships](#)**, is another great way to support Monty in his efforts. We have a **[Paperback Version](#)** and a **[Color Version](#)**.

Paperback \$9.99 <http://amzn.to/1jqmgBc>

Color Version \$19.99 <http://amzn.to/1h31Psj>

"Are leaders born or made? Follow the life of New York Times Best Selling Author and Horse Whisperer, Monty Roberts in the book Horse Sense for Leaders. Discover how Monty's life events shape his leadership style. Then, take our Trust Based Leadership Assessment to find out your own leadership style, and how to capitalize on your own unique leadership style."

~ Dr. Susan Cain, Corporate Learning Institute



## REDUCING VIOLENCE THROUGH WORKSHOPS WITH HORSES GLOBALLY

Lead-Up is a program of Join-Up International based on workshops with horses in which youth at risk are introduced to calm and humane ways of interacting with horses. Participants discover non-violence for themselves and develop a new sense of peaceful leadership. **[READ MORE](#)**



**FIND A MONTY ROBERTS CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR**

Find [a Monty Roberts Certified Instructor](http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/) near you. All courses offered by certified instructors give students effective tools to communicate using the horse's own natural language, forming a partnership based on trust and communication rather than dominance. Visit the certified instructor web page here: <http://www.montyroberts.com/certified-instructors-page/>



## LEAVE A LEGACY

Planned gifts to Join-Up International's non-profit organization, such as a bequest in your will or trust, help to secure the future of non-violent concepts. To learn more, go to: <http://www.join-up.org/how-to-help/> or to donate in support to Join-Up International, go to: <https://montyrobertsshop.com/collections/courses/products/donate-join-up-international>



[Join-Up International](#) | [AskMonty@montyroberts.com](mailto:AskMonty@montyroberts.com) | [MontyRoberts.com](http://MontyRoberts.com)

 Forward to a Friend

