



Wednesday May 9, 2018

Greetings! ,

Question

Dear Mr. Roberts,

For about four weeks I am the owner of a 4-year-old Icelandic Horse (gelding) named Tívar. His first owner told me, that Tívar has grown up almost "free", i.e. he had only contact to humans when he was fed, controlled by the veterinarian or when his hooves were done by the smith.

During the first week I could work with him without any problems: I could put the halter on him and go for a walk, brush him or put a blanket on his back, he did everything very well and in my opinion even had some fun during this work and had no negative experience. Then, suddenly, two weeks ago, he started running away from me and doesn't want to put on his halter any more. Encouraged by your video with Lauki, I decided to do some Join-Up with him (for about half an hour), but unfortunately had no success. Did I do wrong or too long or too short? Are there any alternatives to convince him to work again together with humans?

I'm looking forward to your answer and thank you very much for your work with horses and humans!

Sincerely,
Annekatriin Orben

Answer

Dear Annekatriin,

Thank you for your question. Please understand that it is my belief that to blame a horse for anything is like blaming the night for being dark. Horses simply do not say okay to anything and then arbitrarily change their mind to say it's not okay. Something happened

to cause the horse to exhibit this behavior. Even if your horse is a miracle compared to the billions before him, we will do best when we live by that theory.

The second part of this equation is the Join-Up. It is my theory that all horses will do Join-Up. When they don't, we are doing something wrong. I haven't observed your procedure so it would be wrong of me to speculate as to what you are doing wrong. Study the gesture language. Your eyes, your fingers, your shoulders, the direction you travel and your speed of travel create the centerpiece of the gestures.

I predict this horse can be a very good professor for you. When you get it right he will get it right as well. This is one of those situations when you want to see the problem your horse has, look in the mirror. I would love to think that I know that you are the problem. I don't know that, but what I do know for certain is that the best way to fix the problem is to make the assumption that you are the problem. The horse will do the rest.

My textbook [From My Hands to Hands](#) and [Equus Online University](#) were created to cover all these concepts in simple words and helpful videos, any student of the horse will find valuable. I am glad you took the first step to ask the questions. I hope you will be a good student of horses and study from my lifetime of training horses in the absence of violence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the word.

MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY
THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



This online video series shows how Monty works with a horse called Emi who is not trusting of people. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free, fun methods.



UPCOMING EVENTS



- USA** May 12, 2018 Enchanted Dancing Horses at Flag Is Up Farms <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/enchanted-dancing-horses-with-sylvia-zerbini-and-friends-benefit-tickets-44725978606>
- USA** May 23 to 24, 2018: [The Movement](http://themovement2018.com/) in Solvang with Monty and Pat Roberts, Speakers, Demonstrations <http://themovement2018.com/>
- USA** July 23 to August 3, 2018: [Gentling Wild Horses course](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California

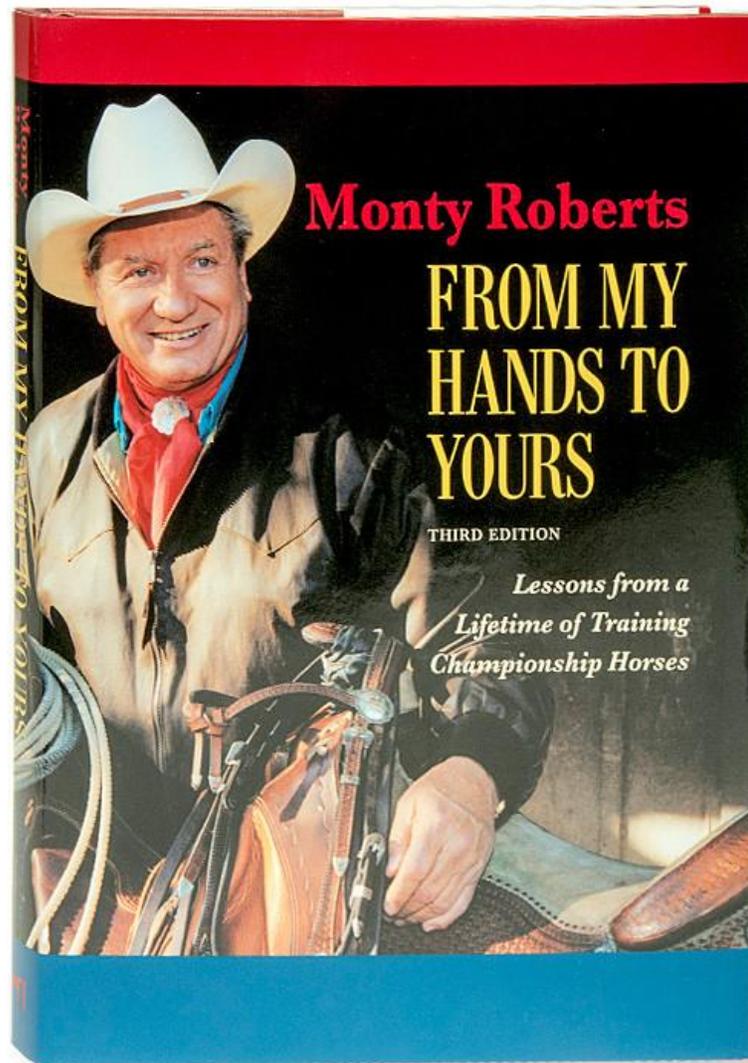
- USA** August 6 to 10, 2018: [Monty's Special Training](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, California
- USA** August 20 to 24, 2018: In Portuguese, Monty's Special Training at Flag Is Up Farms, California

[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER

May 7 to 10, 2018	Join-Up Course	Click for Course Info
May 11 to 12, 2018	Long Lining Course	Click for Course Info
May 25 to 27, 2018	Horse Sense and Healing	Click for Course Info
June 30 to July 1, 2018	Kids Course	Click for Course Info
July 6 to 8, 2018	Horse Sense and Healing	Click for Course Info
July 9 to 20, 2018	Introductory Certification Course	Click for Course Info
July 23 to August 3, 2018	Gentling Wild Horses	Click for Course Info
August 6 to 10, 2018	Monty's Special Training	Click for Course Info
August 11 to 12, 2018	Horsemanship 101	Click for Course Info
August 13 to 16, 2018	Join-Up Course	Click for Course Info
August 17 to 18, 2018	Long Lining Course	Click for Course Info

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



ONLINE PRODUCT REVIEW: MONTY'S TEXTBOOK

"I've been riding for many years and have recently found that Monty's guidance is a blessing. The horse I am working with is in need of assurance and the training methods Monty uses are exactly what this horse needs. Thank you for the opportunity to understand the language of horses."

Jodi B.
Verified Buyer

[VISIT MONTY'S ONLINE STORE](#)

SUPPORT MONTY'S NON-PROFIT ORG WHEN YOU SHOP

AmazonSmile has the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you [shop on AmazonSmile](#), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice, [click here and support Join-Up International](#).

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



In Response to Last Week's article from Monty: "Six things about life I wish I could travel back in time and tell myself"

Dear Monty,

Thank you so much for sharing "Six things in my life I wish I could travel back on time." It was profound in that it gave me a sense that Monty Roberts is a true human being and has overcome a lot through honesty. Thank you for trusting us in sharing your past. You have given us so much to think about. And to have better choices now. After reading this I thought there it is, the honest truth. It takes a tough guy to do that.

Sincerely,
Lisa Correa, one of your students who also works with horses.

Dear Monty,

That is so moving reading Monty's six things he would like to change from the past. How insightful. I'm sure everyone reading these six would be blown away with your processing

of each of the six. We can all learn from your experiences.

I have a filly now a mare which I bred I didn't choose her. Her temperament is not one I would have picked. She's now 7 and completely different from her mother. I've struggled with her. On the ground she would try and dominate me. I've used the Dually Halter with huge success. Riding her she is not willing. However I've changed things to see if it made a difference and it has. She has very little wither and a flat back. I've always thought the saddle might be putting pressure on her shoulders even though it seems to fit. Just this week I've put another rubber under the saddle on top of the saddle cloth riding her in a fender saddle. For the first time she seems more willing I have got some nice canter happening. You can't put pressure on her to comply, she has to want to do it. It would seem this is slowly emerging. It's been a long journey getting to know her.

Thank you, Monty, for your marvelous Dually Halter. I met you last time you were here in Canberra. You must be so incredibly blown away with the over whelming response you have to your life-long work and your goal to help horses and their owners. You has helped me immensely and I am only one person. I've had horses most of my life since age 10 and I'm now 65 and have four very different horses. I know you learn from every horse and how different they all are. Your demonstration in Canberra was very insightful. I had my pic taken with you and have it up on the wall in pride of place.

Sincerely, Gael Simonson

Dear Monty,

Thank you for the "travel back" in your life! I too am nearing my "best-before" date which means the best is yet to come.....Keep up the good work. I've ob-served your clinics several times.....even as far away as Brissi as the folks down under say it....I have gained immense knowledge about horses from your books and clinics.....

Stan

Dear Monty,

I have fond memories of The Night of Inspiration at your farm in 2014. The "six things about life I wish I travel back in time and tell myself" was one of the best reads.

Thank you,
Judy

Monty, Beautiful.

Thank you,
Steve Schlabach

Dear Monty,

Thanks for this very personal and honest email. It reached my heart directly.

Love
Andrea from Germany

Thanks Monty!
Bridget

Dear Mr. Roberts,

I really look forward to these missives from Solvang (and around the world) and I am REALLY REALLY looking forward to your next book, as a voracious reader of all your others and all things horse. When might we expect it??

Hoping you have a lovely spring!
From Erin
Ontario, Canada

Dear Monty,

I have certainly been enjoying your newsletters for the last several years.
Yes hindsight is 20/20.

I would just like to say that I am an avid fan, the time I watched you at the Ohio Expo brought me to tears, it was a demo on trailer loading, and another where the horse could not be shod.

I only wish you were closer to the Midwest, or I was closer to Flag Is Up Farms.

Take care!
Joann Smith

This is amazing.
Thank You!

Karen L. Scott

Thank you. This post touched my heart. Lessons for each of us, ageless.
Kim Brooks

Dear Monty:

Your deeply personal and heartfelt message today is a gift of a lifetime for those of us who have had the honor to come to know your message. We all have ben-efitted because of your willingness to bare your soul and your mind, and the pace that they have gone through to learn. I have come to deeply appreciate your mission and to incorporate it in my own learning.

Thank you with deepest affection,
Linnea Berg

Loved this. Thanks so much!!!

Best Regards,
Kathleen Kenworthy

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

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!

~ Monty

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION

Dear Monty,

I have a question about my mare. She was started and has been entirely trained on gentle methods of Monty and his similars. We always do some degree of pen work to join up before a ride. Sometimes it takes nothing, she is already so attentive there is no need to drive and we begin our work for the day. Sometimes, particularly when in heat, we have to do a full join up session. I watch for the ear, the licking, the head low. She usually takes very little time to begin responding, and when I allow her in she trots in, head low, super respectful, then raises her head (not high, just to normal carriage which is about my eyeline) and lets out a huge snort. It is unsettling, almost startling, and at first sight seems defiant and dominant, but then she continues to breathe heavily from the exercise. Is this a normal reaction from her being out of breath or an aggressive act?

Steph Bradshaw

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



Denise Heinlein teaches the Advanced Courses at the Monty Roberts International Learning Center in California when she is not touring and training internationally. Natalie Rietkerk of CARMA promotes Thoroughbred aftercare as project manager handling the Placement Program, Thoroughbred Classic Horse Shows and works with aftercare partners.

[**EPISODE 111 | LISTEN HERE**](#)



FOR OUR VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS

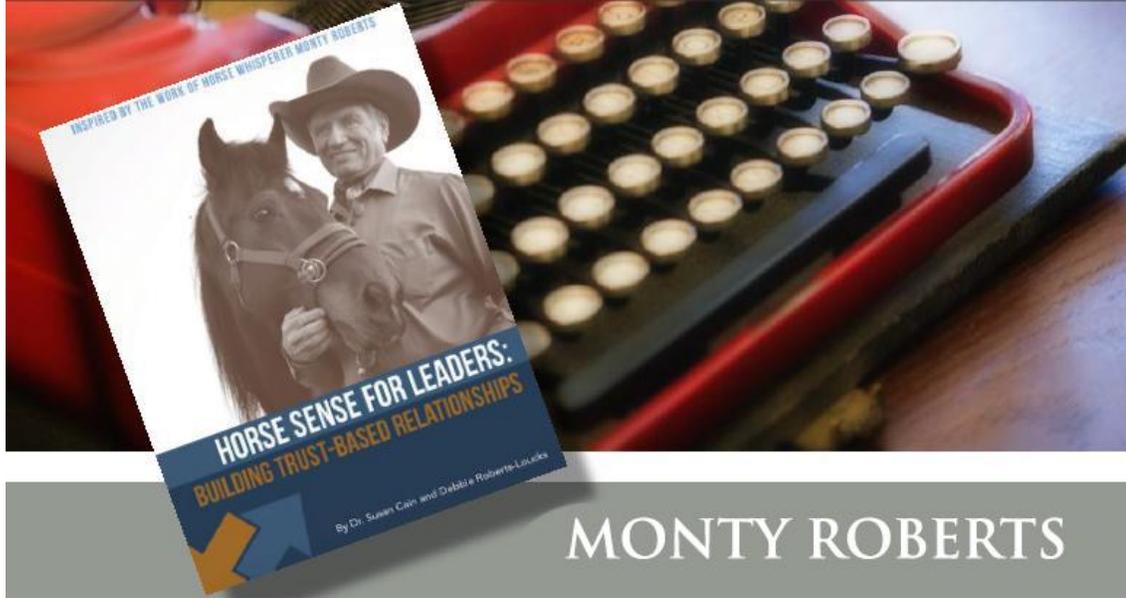


Monty Roberts is running free, resilience-building workshops for veterans, police, fire, first responders and their families. Horse Sense and Healing is a three-day program and it involves working closely with horses. The individuals and horses develop a special bond built upon mutual trust and respect. 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/>

HORSE SENSE FOR LEADERS



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 | MontyRoberts.com

 Forward to a Friend

