

[PDF] Battleship: A Daring Heiress, A Teenage Jockey, And America's Horse

Dorothy Ours - pdf download free book

Books Details:

Title: Battleship: A Daring Heiress,

Author: Dorothy Ours

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Description:

From The heiress of the subtitle was Marion du Pont, a steeplechase enthusiast. The teenage jockey was 17-year-old Bruce Hobbs, son of a trainer. And America's horse was Battleship, born of Man o' War, a small but strong Thoroughbred who became, in 1938, the first American horse to win the English Grand National steeplechase (which had been running, except for a brief break in WWI, since 1839). Although the book is titled after the horse, it's really the story of Marion, a woman who so dedicated herself to Battleship that she nearly left everything else in her life behind, and of Bruce, who became the Grand National's youngest winner and whose riding career was cut short a handful of years later. Author Ours, who also wrote Man o' War (2006), clearly has a deep appreciation for racehorses, their riders, and the people who build their lives around them. Perfect for fans of Lauren

Hillenbrand's *Seabiscuit* (2001) or Bill Nack's *Secretariat* (1975). --David Pitt --This text refers to the edition.

Review "Meticulously researched and beautifully written. Ours masterfully ties the sport of racing together with the outer world that embraces it, all the while presenting a cast of human characters we grow to care about, and whose patience and faith ultimately allowed a horse's greatness to shine through . . . A gifted writer with a great tale to tell." —*Daily Racing Form* "Author Ours clearly has a deep appreciation for racehorses, their riders, and the people who build their lives around them. Perfect for fans of Laura Hillenbrand's *Seabiscuit* or Bill Nack's *Secretariat*." —*Booklist* "Evokes a time when horse racing was not only the sport of kings, but captured the global imagination of millions . . . a companion for Laura Hillenbrand's *Seabiscuit*." —*Kirkus* "Battleship reminds us that many thoroughbreds, like many humans, are only getting started in their Derby days . . . If, like Battleship, we have it in us to try the Grand National steeplechase, we may even rise to 4 miles and 856 yards, jumping 30 fences, leaping as high as our own shoulders while carrying much heavier burdens than the Derby babies bear. And that, more than any Derby victory, should give us hope . . . As Battleship the late-bloomer proved, there's more than one way to the Hall of Fame." —*New York Times* horse racing blog, *The Rail*

"Following her superb biography of America's greatest racehorse Man o'War, Dorothy Ours tells the story of Man o'War's son, Battleship, and his quest to win the Grand National steeplechase. Like the heroine Velvet Brown of Enid Bagnold's novel *National Velvet*, Battleship's owner, Marion duPont Scott, persisted in her belief that her little American horse belonged in England's greatest and most challenging race over jumps. Ours' cadenced language, both elegant and often exhilarating, recalls the thundering hooves and pounding heart of her champion."

—Elizabeth M. Tobey, Ph.D.

"Anybody with an appreciation of racing's history is certain to be enthralled by the richness given to this uniquely American tale of a Man o' War son traveling to England for the world's greatest steeplechase race at Aintree. Dorothy Ours excels as she breathes excitement into a grand bygone era with great style."

—Barry Irwin, CEO of Team Valor International, owner and breeder of Kentucky Derby-winner Animal Kingdom

"Meticulously-researched and accurately-written...an easy joy to read. I gained a lot of fascinating new background material on the leading characters, while the vivid description of the race itself was both stirringly exciting and emotionally moving. This is a totally addictive book that I just could not put down."

—Jane Clarke, Grand National historian/researcher for Aintree Racecourse, Liverpool and curator of the Grand National Museum

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