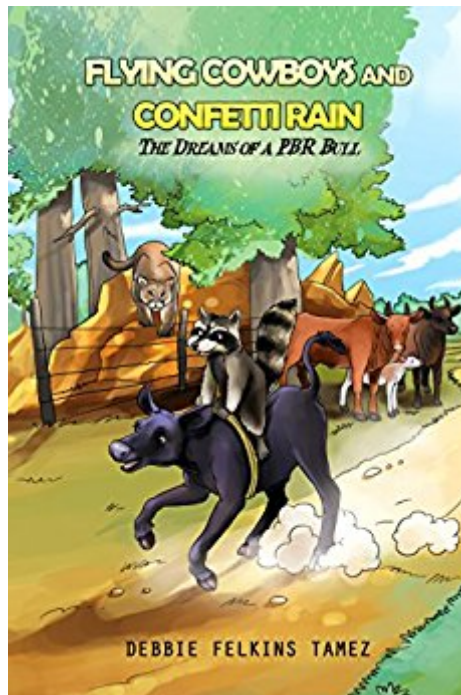




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Flying Cowboys And Confetti Rain: The Dreams Of A PBR Bull



Synopsis

Go on an exciting and energetic coming of age adventure as seen from a young bull's point of view. Join Scene of the Crash as he discovers what he must do to make his dreams come true. With a deep-rooted desire to become the greatest bucking bull in PBR history, Crash must rely on his best friend Trouble, a mischievous baby raccoon, and a host of legendary Professional Bull Rider (PBR) Superstars. But will it be enough to help Crash achieve his dream? Find out in this fast-paced and engaging story about the bulls and the cowboys of the PBR.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book for my student who loves PBR and he said, " It was a good book because it feels like it was a true story. It was cool to know how the bull grew up. It was good that he bucked off a lot of riders." It was a good book to get my student reading and one he could relate to, being part of to Rodeo.

Except for The Story of Ferdinand written back in 1936, there are not too many children's books that feature a bucking bull as a lead character. So Debbie Felkins Tamez's first book

should appeal to a lot children and young adults who are either captivated by or aspire to a life associated with cowboys and bull riding. The idea of dreaming about joining the rodeo for a kid has a magical feel to it. Tamez wanted to capture that elusive childhood fantasy in her tale "Flying Cowboys and Confetti Rain: Dreams of a PBR Bull" but from a different perspective. When pulling the gate means you're looking for a place of a cowboy's dream, Tamez anthropomorphizes a bull and weaves an entertaining fable around his aspirations to become the best bucking bull he could possibly be. While the book has a long title, namely: Flying Cowboys and Confetti Rain: Dreams of a PBR Bull, it works well in triggering the reader's curiosity as to what does "flying cowboys," "confetti rain" and the "PBR" have in common? For starters, cowboys fly when they are tossed from a bull, hopefully in a time-frame that takes more than 8 seconds. Then that 8-second ride receives a confetti rainstorm to celebrate the bull rider's accomplishment. The acronym "PBR" stands for the prestigious Professional Bull Riders association established in 1922, which is made up the best bull riding athletes and the toughest animal athletes [the bucking bulls] on the planet.

Lead Character From his meager beginnings, born on a small ranch in Rush Springs, OK, our protagonist is introduced to us with the unassuming name Walter. This is a coming of age story all told through eyes of this young bull, and his dream to make something out of his life. After learning of his father's earlier rodeo exploits, the story takes the reader on Walter's quest. From the Spring Roundup, to his very first Rodeo, to Boot Camp and his acceptance into the PBR his journey is filled with anecdotes about famous bull riders and bulls of the day. Along the way, we see Walter slowly maturing and transitioning into "Rocket Man" for his ability to buck straight up into the air. At full maturity, his name is changed once again, when he is given the moniker "Scene of the Crash" [Crash for short] at the time he receives membership into the PBR to vie for the ultimate title of "Bucking Bull of the Year!"

Author, also a Bull Rider Tamez writes from experience. She started bull riding as young girl. "When I started riding bulls I competed in the GRA (Girl's Rodeo Association) around the state. The number of bull riders was usually between 8 and 15 depending on where the rodeo was. The GRA became the WPRA in 1981," says Tamez. "Women just don't want to ride bareback broncs or bulls anymore. Woman now days are more into roping and running barrels. Women are either getting smarter or softer, or maybe a little bit of both," adds Tamez.

Set in Reality While the story is fictional, all the bull riders and bulls are real, including Crash. "Other than my animals talking, almost everything is true. 'Trouble' [Walter's closed friend as an adolescent bull] was a raccoon I raised on a bottle and was a part of my family for many years," Tamez pointed

out. These are true stories that Tamez was keen to share with her grandson Caden, both on tape and at bedtime readings. Caden's favorite story about Rocket Man was the one about Rocket being terrified of spiders. Even as a two thousand pound grown bull, a teeny tiny spider would cause Rocket to run off screaming like a little girl and hide behind Trouble. Caden still thinks that so funny, noted Tamez. No More Bull? The book is an entertaining jaunt for any child who gravitates toward adventure and the fun, of course is getting a birds-eye [or a rather, a bulls-eye] view as to how a bucking bull perceives the world. As far as future installments, Tamez is not saying no only that she has plenty of crazy stories to tell for sure. Here's hoping she'll be sharing them with her grandson and the world at large, very soon.

I don't have children or grandchildren but I read the book after getting the chance to talk with the author in my (and her's) home town. She like myself loves the PBR and the bulls they match heads with. The book was delightful and I wish I would have known about it when I was still teaching because I know my students would have loved it. You don't have to be a child to enjoy this delightful story

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