

The Christmas Horse Show



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Written & illustrated by

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Petunia was a young girl with wavy, blonde hair and bright blue eyes.

She lived on Oakwood farm with her family. They owned cows, sheep, pigs, but most of all they had horses. They loved horses and they went to lots of shows.



One day Petunia went to see her Auntie at a big show jumping competition.

Auntie Alice was riding her horse Daisy, a strong, chestnut brown, lively horse.

Alice was galloping towards the last hurdle, but when they leapt over, Daisy's back leg hit the hurdle and she tripped over, taking Alice with her and they both fell on the ground.

Later that day, Petunia went to see her Auntie Alice in the hospital. "What will you do for the Christmas show next week Auntie Alice?", asked Petunia.



"This leg is broken pretty badly. I think you should take over and ride Daisy for me", Alice replied. Petunia agrees and gets a horse box to take Daisy to Oakwood farm.

Together they practise and practise,
but Daisy feels very nervous so she
never jumps the last hurdle.

That evening, Petunia leads Daisy to
Pony Pond to graze in the shade and
splash in the pond. Daisy seems much
more relaxed. Petunia strokes Daisy's
muzzle and soothes her. She whispers
"We can do this".

Daisy whinnies and carefully nuzzles
Petunia.

The next day Petunia goes to check the arena, but when she is coming back home, she meets the Barley Stable girls and they start teasing her.

"You'll never win that show jumping competition, you'll just fall off like your Auntie Alice did".

Daisy is grazing in the field. When she sees what is happening, she gallops to the fence that separates the field from the track and leaps over the fence and lets out an enormous whinny and raises her front legs in the air.

The three girls run away, screaming.
Petunia is so happy she thinks she will
burst to pieces.
She calms Daisy down and leads her
back to Oakwood Farm.

They practise all week, but Daisy is
still unsure whenever she gets to the
last and biggest hurdle.

On the day of the big Christmas show, Petunia is nervous. Daisy looks worried, so Petunia whispers to her again.

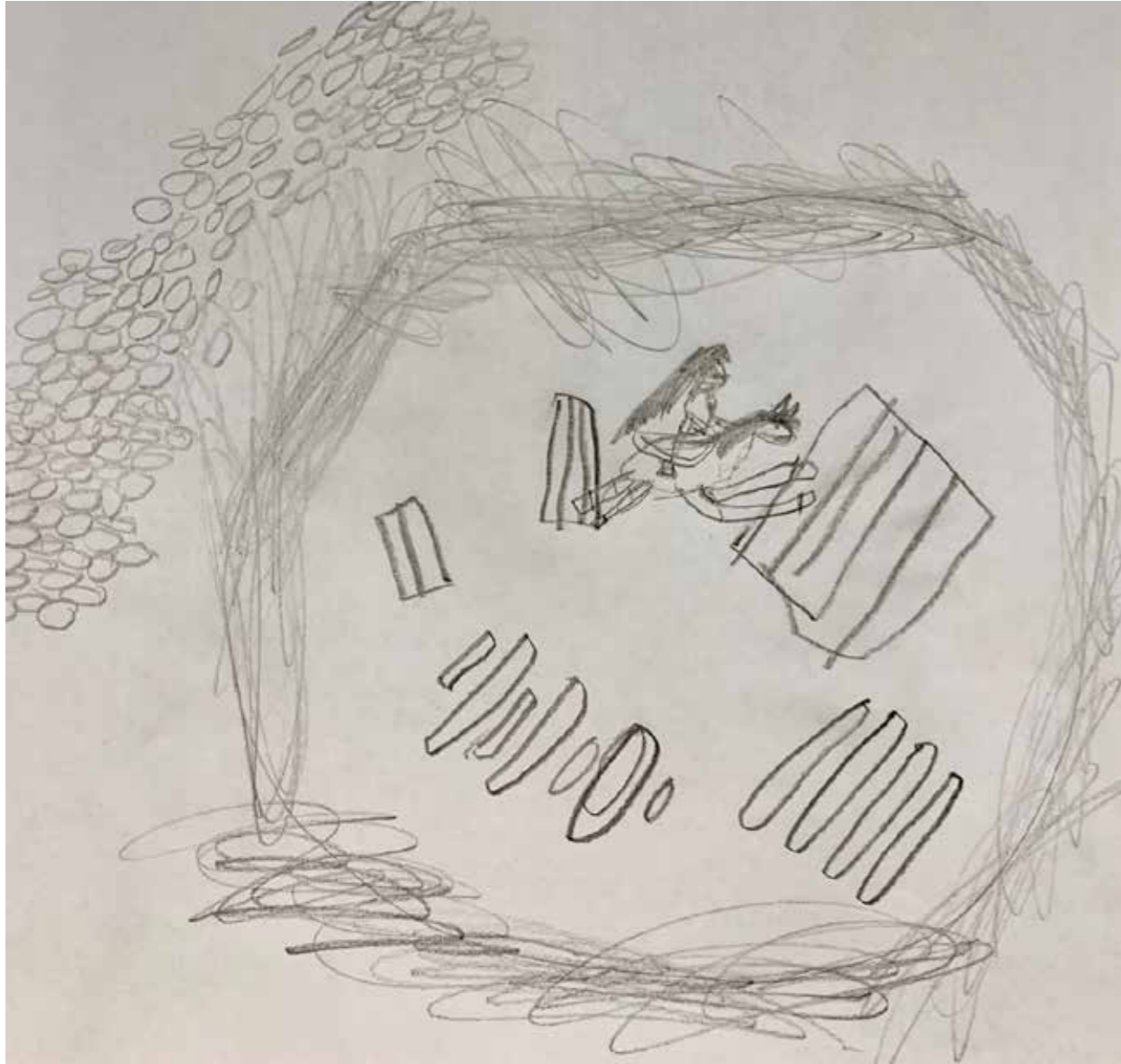
"We won't let those horrid Barley girls stop us from winning this, I know you can do it".

In the arena Daisy gallops and leaps over all the small decorated jumps.

The arena looks very festive.

Then it was time for the last hurdle, would she make it?

Petunia leans forward and whispers, "You can do this, just jump!".



They gallop towards the last hurdle;
it is high and decorated with lots of
Christmas trimmings. Will this scare
poor Daisy?

Petunia holds on tight and they leap over, clearing the hurdle and landing safely on the other side in record time.

The crowd burst out in cheers, clapping.

Petunia thinks this will spook Daisy but no, Daisy is galloping around proudly.

They have won!

As Petunia looks at the audience, she sees her Auntie Alice in a wheelchair, clapping as hard as can be and cheering as loud as can be.

Then Petunia steadies her horse and comes to a stop. She jumps off Daisy and leads her towards the edge of the arena.

Everyone is cheering.

Daisy is a champion!

Petunia hugs her Auntie Alice.

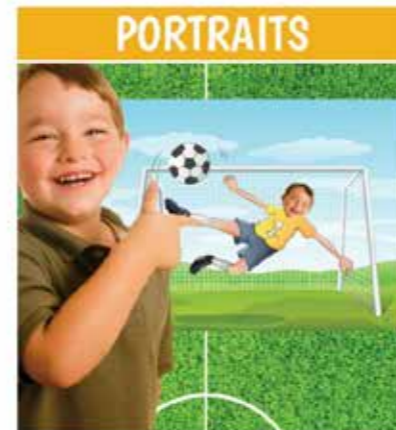
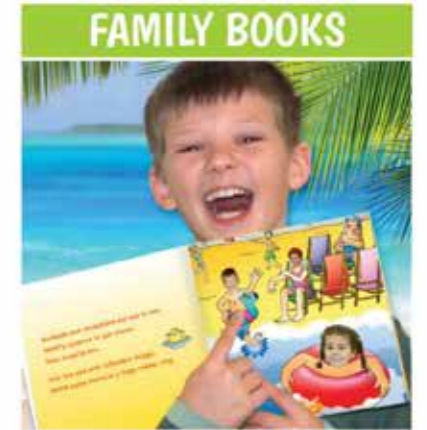
"I knew you could help Daisy get her confidence back, what a perfect end to a very special Christmas horse show", Alice exclaims.

"Just perfect", smiles Petunia.

The End

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The Christmas Horse Show is a story of friendship and courage between a girl called Petunia and a pony called Daisy. Follow the story of how Petunia gets back at the mean girls and Daisy overcomes her fear of jumps.

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