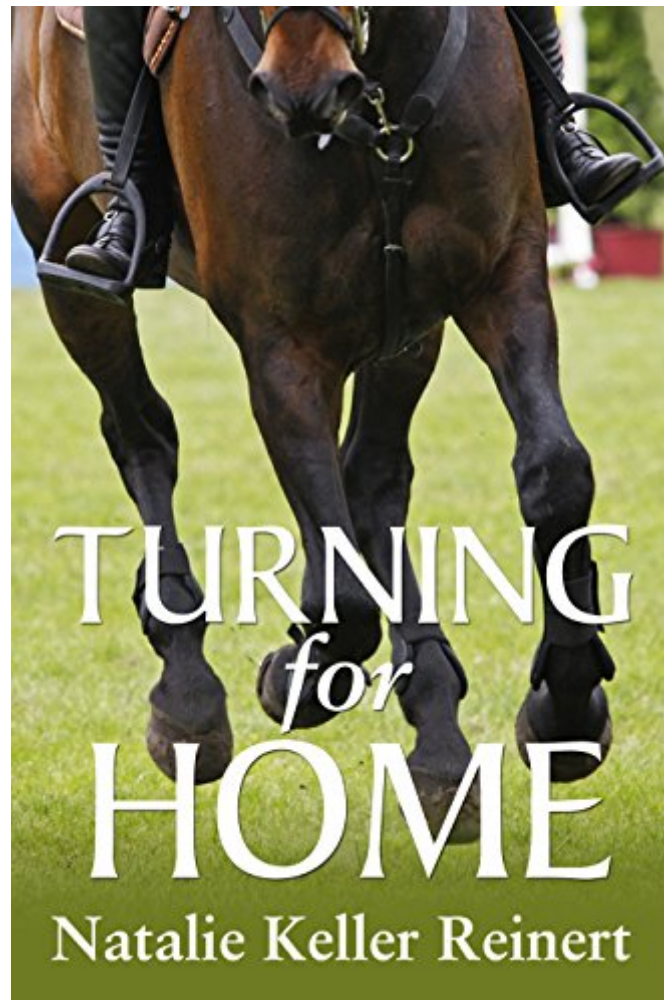




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Turning For Home (Alex And Alexander Book 4)



Synopsis

Finalist, 2015 Dr. Tony Ryan Book Award Every racehorse must one day retire from the track, and for Tiger, that day has arrived. Alex isn't ready for Tiger's racing days to end, but planning his next career is quickly becoming the least of her problems. An animal rights group is accusing her of involvement in a horse-abuse scandal, and with death threats arriving daily, Alexander fears for her safety. Suddenly Tiger's not the only one heading back to the farm -- Alex is stuck at home, too, with strict orders to stay away from the racetrack. Both horse and rider would rather be racing than hacking around the farm. A Thoroughbred makeover event seems like the perfect distraction, but as the activists ramp up their protests, Alex realizes she's competing for more than just a blue ribbon. She's fighting for her own reputation. This horse show could make -- or break -- her future in horse racing.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Wow. Wow, wow, wow. I've always known Natalie Keller Reinert is one of the rare authors who truly understands the ways of the Thoroughbred horse (and of the people who love them), but either she

has truly outdone herself here, or else I just love this book because it's more about retraining an Off-The-Track Thoroughbred ("OTTB" for short) once its racing days are done, and that end of a Thoroughbred's life is much more familiar to me than the racing side. Ms. Reinert is fortunate enough to have had plenty of experience on both the racing side and the sport horse side, and she brings it ALL to this book. Her writing is confident, her perceptions accurate, and her characters are so alive that I found myself mentally arguing with them over their choices as I read. :-) I really could not recommend this book more highly for horse lovers!

As always, Reinert delivers an authentic view into the equestrian life--sometimes gritty, sometimes painful, and always realistic. As a veteran of the racing and show horse worlds, I find myself nodding (and sometimes wincing) when I'm riveted to my Kindle late into the night, immersed in Natalie's (and my former) world. I am delighted at the return of Alex and Alexander and can't wait for the next peek into their lives. In *Turning for Home* Natalie tackles the all-important issue of finding second careers for Thoroughbreds when they are not competitive enough to pay the bills and keep their owners interested. It's on the minds of horse people everywhere as the horror stories of neglected and abandoned horses hit the news too, too often. When a horse that Alex schooled as a youngster for racing is found starving in the swamps, a well-meaning but misinformed animal rights group attacks Alex. She had been interviewed in a popular sport horse magazine about her policy of finding homes and careers for the farm's racehorses after their racing days are over, which made her a handy target, especially when encouraged by Alex's main enemy. The abandoned horse was boarded for training and not owned by the farm, but that fact was overlooked in the group's quest for a villain. For her own good, Alexander asks Alex to stay away from the track for awhile, and to concentrate on re-schooling one of her favorite racehorses. She's suddenly out of her comfort zone, questioning herself, and very touchy. How can she restore her reputation and returning to training her beloved runners?

All of the Alex and Alexander books have been extremely readable and relevant to issues currently present in the thoroughbred racing world. In *"Turning For Home"* the author takes a look at the rehoming of "unwanted" thoroughbreds, horses for whatever reason are coming off the racetrack. Some have second homes and careers to go to. Many do not. *"Turning For Home"* focuses on both the horror of horses abandoned by thoughtless owners and trainers and the misconception those in other horse disciplines have about OTTB (Off The Track Thoroughbreds). Smoothly written through Alex's perspective, we see her struggle to come to grips with a problem now facing both her stable,

her life as a trainer, and the lives of the racehorses she makes her living on. Enjoyable, even if you are not a fanatic horse racing person (Sorry - I am!) The author has developed her leading characters and their horses quite well.

You can't go wrong with one of Natalie's equestrian books. Whether it's the Alex and Alexander series (set in the world of Thoroughbred racing) or her newer series set in the world of eventing, her name on the cover guarantees an absorbing read. Her works are the kind of books you can't put down (nor should you), but when you're done, you feel disappointed that there isn't more. This latest one is ripped from the headlines, with horse abandonment a central part of the plot. We revisit familiar characters and places, but we're also taken in different directions with new situations. We're introduced to new characters -- some sympathetic, others not -- and familiar characters who live up to our expectations, while at the same time developing and maturing. Once again, Natalie Keller Reinert does not disappoint. My only problem? That she doesn't have a new book out every month to feed my addiction.

I loved all four books in this series. I am a big fan of thoroughbreds and enjoy racing so the four books were right up my alley. I spend half my time in the Ocala area so that made them all the more interesting to me. Natalie is a natural story teller with extensive knowledge of horses. I was sad when I finished them! I wanted the story to continue!

Good compelling story. Follows up on the previous 3 but doesn't wind up every tale. No pun intended. Hope to hear more from Alex and her stable full of horses.

One of my most favorite authors and person, Natalie Keller Reinert, had done it again with Alex and Alexander!! I have read everything Ms Reinert has written, including her blog and following her on Twitter. I enjoy her storytelling skills immensely and love sinking my teeth into one of her novels. If you love horses, horse racing, showing or just plain love Thoroughbreds...then read Natalie.

This was yet another wonderful horse book for adults. It is beautifully written with strong and flawed characters. Her descriptions of life with and loving horses are perfect. I also love how complicated Alex is. You just want to shake her half the time and admire her orneriness the other times. All in all I have been whole heartedly recommending it to all of my horse loving friends!

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