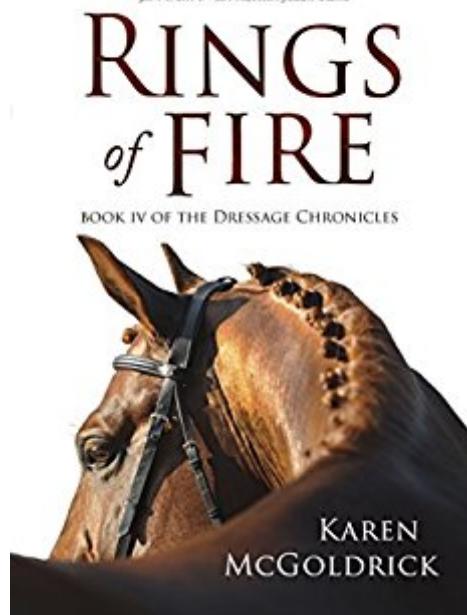


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# Rings Of Fire: Book IV Of The Dressage Chronicles

*'Whether you're a dressage insider or a non-riding horse lover, The Dressage Chronicles' fresh style and confidential approach makes for an addictive read.'*  
—JENNIFER POWELLIETTE, Horse Jockeys United



## Synopsis

When it comes to fear, horses and humans are not so different; emotions can overtake reason. The rubber snake might as well be a real snake—â•the nightmare reality—â•when they elicit the same response. Blind fear will make both horse and rider try to outrun lions, even when those lions are made of paper. Blind fear can send you straight over a cliff, and even if you manage to pull up before the edge, that is no way to live life. It is only through training, training, and more training, and then testing that training, that you learn to turn and face fear, find courage, and welcome the ride, wild though it promises to be. These are the rings of fire, the trials that lie ahead for all of us, whether they be taking command of a spooky horse or navigating more human problems. Once trained, with worthy companions marching with you, shoulder-to-shoulder, you are ready for the ride. Welcome to The Dressage Chronicles IV: Rings of Fire.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I started reading this book series shortly before the FEI World Cup came to Omaha, NE. The intention was to learn more about what I would be seeing at the show. I have loved horses as long as I can remember but, didn't know much about dressage. It was totally enjoyable experiencing the

dressage show world through Lizzy's eyes. I felt like I was really there with her experiencing the pain, passion, love, fear, camaraderie and sometimes hilarity. I learned to see my own horse in a new way as well. I can't wait to read something else by this author!

This final, well written book in the DRESSAGE CHRONICLES series does not disappoint. From the believable, well developed human and equine characters to the plot that ends happily but realistically, this has been a wonderful series. Usually, one must choose between good stories and good writing for equestrian novels, but Karen McGoldrick is both an equestrian insider and gifted and literate writer. I look forward to more from her!

I just finished the book this morning and couldn't put it down. A very good book as is the entire series. I bought them all! I hate to see it end. The author is the best one I've ever read. She makes the characters feel like family. Its like you are going through it all with Lizzy the main character and I felt every emotion she did. I love the classic art of dressage and these books really put you into every ride on those wonderful Grand prix horses in the stories. At the last showing of the two top Grand prix horses I just cried. No other book has done that to me. The author has to be proud of these stories. She knows how to bring you in to the stories and I so love her for that. I hope she will write another series. I shall be anxiously watching for it. Way to go Karen!!

While I could wish for an editor -- or even a proofreader -- overall this was a satisfying end to the series. All the ends tied up neatly, and the good folks won. I will miss Lizzy, Margot, Emma, Frank and Francesca, Deb and Nat, Chess and the rest of the crew ... although Ryder, not so much. Mostly, however, I will miss the very real feel of being back in a competition barn, the realistic situations, and the affection and appreciation for wonderful horses. If you have a soft spot for horses, read this series. You won't be disappointed.

I am a dressage trainer and these books are enchanting! Spot on in accuracy in the sport and the life we live to participate. I laughed and cried and loved and hated through every page. I could not wait to turn the page on each book and could hardly wait to open the next one. Now I wish there were four more books!!! Karen PLEASE write more, we all want more of this story!! Thank you for the memories.

Animal lover that I am and rider that I used to be, I find Karen's books just the best ever. Several

reasons: The writing flows extremely well. The nomenclature about horses and Dressage is always spot on and always in the horses favor. The characters, over time have become pseudo family. I was sorry to see the last book but extremely happy how the author wrapped it up. So what's next Karen?? Ah-- of course, there will have to be children right? Human and horse of course. That would be fun having that tied into the same family. But I expect our author is ready to get back to the riding! Oh, I also enjoyed the shout out to the past on the East Coast with the line about Frank Imparator's vans which were always the coolest back in the 50's and 60's. Not sure on the spelling.. it's been a LOT of years. But thanks for a great finish.

I loved this book! I feel like I know the characters, the horses, and I am so wrapped up in their lives. I wish this series could continue. I need to know if Lizzie and Winsome make it to the FEI, see what happens with Emma and Deb in Florida and beyond, watch the youngsters grow - will Habanero follow in Hotstuff's footsteps?, what will happen with Margot and Word Perfect, will Tank and Emma get married, how will Lizzie handle being a Cavelli... I could go on and on. If this has to be the last book though, what a perfect way to end it. The final freestyle at Devon was just flawless, right down to the yellow roses, and I shed a tear or two. It was an absolute joy to read.

All 4 of the books in this series are truly well-written. They all have interesting plot development and realistic characters that are enhanced by accurate dressage riding, training, competition and business details that give the knowledgeable reader the ring of authenticity and will draw in the horse-crazy aspiring young trainers. This last book has a satisfying end that still leaves the reader wanting the series to continue.

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