



TRAFALGAR SQUARE BOOKS

www.horseandriderbooks.com • The Leading Publishers of Equestrian Books & DVDs

AVAILABLE NOW

A Girl, a Horse, a Dog, and 2,600 Miles

DISTANT SKIES

An American Journey on Horseback

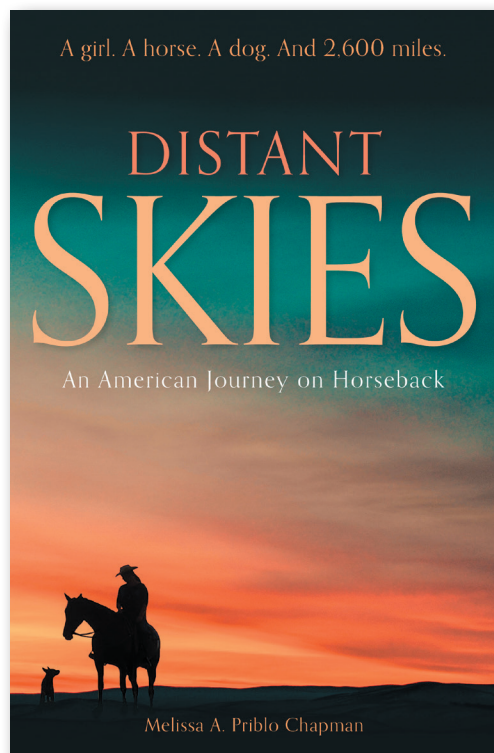
MELISSA A. PRIBLO CHAPMAN

Trafalgar Square Books is pleased to announce the release of *Distant Skies* by Melissa A. Priblo Chapman.

Melissa Chapman was 23 years old and part of a happy, loving family. She had a decent job, a boyfriend she cared about, and friends she enjoyed. Yet she said goodbye to all of it. Carrying a puppy named Gypsy, she climbed aboard a horse and rode away from everything, heading west. With no cell phone, no GPS, no support team or truck following with supplies, Chapman quickly learned that the reality of a cross-country horseback journey was quite different from the fantasy. Her solo adventure would immediately test her mental, physical, and emotional resources as she and her four-legged companions were forced to adapt to the dangers and loneliness of a trek that would span over 2,600 miles, beginning in New York State and reaching its end on the other side of the country, in California.

Enchanted by the freedom a nomadic life seemed to promise, the young woman would soon find herself only more deeply connected ... to the animals that accompanied her, to the varying and challenging landscapes through which she traveled, and to the people she met on the farms and back roads that crisscross the United States. Her tale is part American road trip, part coming-of-age adventure, and part uncommon love story—a remarkable memoir that explores the evolution of the human-animal relationship, along with the raw beauty of a life lived outdoors.

MELISSA A. PRIBLO CHAPMAN is a freelance writer who has had work published in magazines including *The Western Horse*, *Good Dog!*, and *Doggone*. Her story "Gypsy, Cross-Country Dog" appears in the book *Traveler's Tales: A Dog's World* alongside the work of such renowned authors as John Steinbeck and Gary Paulson. Chapman has been a paid speaker to over 100 organizations in regard to her solo cross-country trip, and is a member of the Long Riders Guild, a worldwide league of equestrian adventurers. Chapman is a married mother of four and lives in upstate New York. She rides every day and continues to share life with her horses and dogs.



"This girl, riding bravely across the continent, reminds us to appreciate the journey—for the end comes all too soon. *Distant Skies* will move you, guaranteed."

—TIK MAYNARD
Author of *In the Middle Are the Horsemen*

368 pp • 6 x 9 • 56 color photos • 978 1 57076 960 3 • \$22.95 pb

For more information, contact mcook@trafalgarbooks.com.

To order, contact: Trafalgar Square Books, Box 257, Howe Hill Road, N. Pomfret, VT 05053
800.423.4525 • www.horseandriderbooks.com