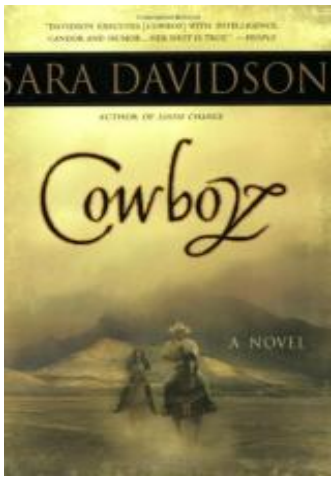
Cowboy

by Sara Davidson



About the Book

Sara and Zack are wrong for each other in every way. A divorced mother of two, Sara is an author and television producer. Zack is a cowboy who barely finished high school and lives in a trailer in the Arizona desert. His greatest ambition is to make the best rawhide bridles in the West. But when a weekend fling turns into something more, it challenges every aspect of Sara's being: her relationship with her kids, work, social life, and most importantly, her understanding of the link between body and soul.

How can Sara reconcile the differences, both social and economic, between herself and Zack in order to embrace the love that becomes undeniable? Devoted to his art, Zack often finds himself strapped for cash, leaving Sara in the uncomfortable position of supporting him. Needless to say, this raises more than a few eyebrows among her family and friends. After all, what does it look like to the world that she is paying for a man 10 years her junior, a man with magic hands and an open soul that warm her like no other. More importantly, how can she explain this to herself?

In **Cowboy**, bestselling author Sara Davidson takes an unflinchingly honest look at the very real issues that women must face today as they search for love: the sacrifices, the risks, and the criticism they must bear for dating men who are not society's idea of Mr. Right.

Discussion Guide

1. Have you ever met someone at a party, a bar, or a meeting, felt a spark of interest and turned away? Why did you walk away? Did you regret it?

2. What made Sara receptive to Zack? If they'd met when they were younger, what might have happened?

3. Why do you think the children reacted so violently to Zack's continued presence?

4. What does **Cowboy** suggest about contemporary parenting?

5. Do you think it's possible to have great sex without love? Why is the physical relationship in **Cowboy** so important?

6. How did Sara expand and challenge Zack's views?

7. What did Zack offer Sara that she'd never experienced?

8. Whose needs come first: your children's? Your partner's? Your own? Does Sara rearrange her priorities through the course of the story?

9. What aspect of this relationship seems to represent the greatest hurdle: Money? Cultural difference? Class barriers? Conflict with the children? Which would you find most difficult to overcome?

10. How do the events in Sara's life affect her writing on the TV show? Does art imitate life or is life imitating art?

11. What do you see as the prospects for this relationship in the future?

Author Bio

Sara Davidson captured America's imagination with her seminal account of life in the sixties, **Loose Change**. She has been called "the liveliest historian of her generation" by Malcolm Cowley. She was one of the first group that developed the craft of literary journalism, drawing on intimate material from her life and shaping it into a narrative that reads like fiction. Her articles have appeared in many magazines, including *Mirabella, Harper's, Esquire, The Atlantic* and the *New York Times Magazine*. She is the author of three other books: **Real Property**, **Friends of the Opposite Sex** and **Rock Hudson: His Story**. She lives in Santa Monica, California.

Critical Praise

The White Horse Home " The premise? That love humbles us in wonderful, unexpected ways, that if we believe in that mysterious wind that blows our lives, like tumbling tumbleweeds, into new shapes, we must ride blind with it. "

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Publication Date: January 28, 2013
Paperback: 288 pages
Publisher: Perennial
ISBN-10: 0060931353
ISBN-13: 9780060931353