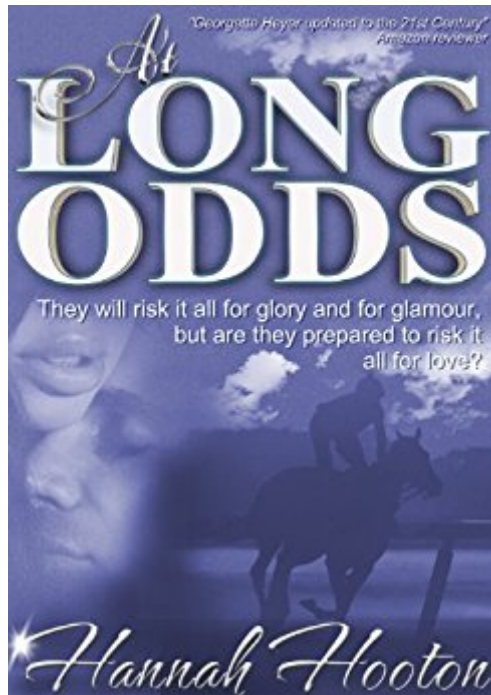




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# **At Long Odds (A Racing Romance)**



## Synopsis

\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\*: To keep it real, some characters in this novel use bad language and occasionally engage in sex scenes which some readers might find offensive. "Don't you see, Julien?" Ginny continued in anguish. "We're after the same prize." He nodded. "But there can only be one winner," he finished for her. When Ginny Kennedy returns home to Newmarket to revive the family racing stable, she has just one thing on her mind: winning the coveted Dewhurst Stakes at the end of the season. Not only is she faced with the challenges of making her way in a man's world, but she must also cope with her next door neighbour, rival trainer Julien Larocque. Ginny's heart has been burnt once before and the chemistry between her and Julien promises nothing but fire. They will risk it all for the prestige; for the glamour and for the glory. But when the call to post sounds, will they risk it all for love? Come Race Day, Ginny realises there is a lot more at stake than just a trophy... Praise for *At Long Odds*: "A romance mystery thriller all rolled into one, with a touch of comedy to lighten the tone. Best buy!" "Loved *At Long Odds*, so refreshing to read something original. Just wish it hadn't ended so quickly, though I suppose part of that was me staying up until 1am reading it!" "I know nothing about horses and horse racing [but] I have so enjoyed *At Long Odds*." "I really enjoyed this story. I was up past 3 o'clock in the morning because I wanted to finish it all in one go." "So good! I really enjoyed [*At Long Odds*] it made me all warm and tingly!"

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Hannah Hooton put a lot of research into horse racing in this story. Every detail about the racing world is carefully noted and used to create a realistic story. I have read multiple stories where the author writes about racing, but doesn't even have pure thoroughbred horses racing in thoroughbred only races! Not only has she researched her story well, she has created an interesting plot with multiple twists that keeps a reader reading from beginning to end. This story is a romance that is not only about the romance, but also about the world around the romance, which is the racing world of England. Unlike stories such as Walter Farley's Black Stallion series, you never know if the horse is going to win. Every race puts the reader on the edge of the seat waiting to see if the horse wins. That, combined with the after affects of the races on the lives of the people around creates a novel that twists and turns while keeping its major goal in mind. I would highly recommend this story to fans of romance or horse stories for its well written romance set in the world of horse racing.

This book seems to be written after much studying of the goings on behind the scenes of horse racing, which I enjoyed very much. However I gave it a rating of only 3 or maybe 3.5 because I felt the story had a very slow, long boring start. My love for horses, reading about horse racing and the affects it has on many peoples' lives pushed me to read on. About 1/3 the way through, the twists and turns began along with the romance bringing on a more enthusiastic story. I am glad to have completed the book as it did bring about many details that can and quite possibly do occur in some of the stables at times. It was a very well written story and I would recommend it to anyone who loves horses, but I will warn you, it may bring you to tears at times.

Though I'm not so sure this is a realistic possibility of a small racing stable's success, it was an enjoyable read. The fact that the setting was in England and I have no background in thoroughbred racing may have helped me feel comfortable with the developing story. I enjoyed the support of

family and stable hands, the less than confident but feisty Ginny fighting to help her family's business, and the characters' slowly evolving attitudes towards each other. The romance part was not too syrupy and fit the tenor of the rest of the story. I'd read more of this author.

It started out a little slow but then the book took off. I really liked it. Not your typical romance where the girl saves herself for the guy. It takes her some time to find her way, having a relationship with another man first, which makes for a good story.

## LOVE THE ASPEN VALLEY BOOKS BY HANNAH HOOTON

A different kind a book for me, but a delightful story. Set in England, I could almost imagine the excitement and challenges of horse racing. The heroine is headstrong and somewhat stubborn. She comes home after her father becomes ill and takes over the management of his horse training business. A usually male dominated territory, it is a struggle for the heroine to gain the respect of her peers. She has a love and hate relationship with her rival and neighbor, but the mutual attraction is very evident. An enjoyable read.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book. It had real people trying to live a real life. I liked that the story didn't fit the typical love story. Now I want a horse!

Loved it! Hannah Hooton brings her characters Ginny & Julian to life in this fabulous equine romance. Add a couple of dubious exes into the mix, a promising racehorse or three, a good swig of champers and you have all the ingredients for a perfect storm. With a feel good factor of 10/10, it's definitely worth the read

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