



## Dark Horse (Elena Estes)

By Tami Hoag

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In her latest thriller, *New York Times* bestselling author Tami Hoag takes readers on a suspense-filled ride of shocks and twists leading to an explosive finish. It is the story of an ex-cop, a missing girl, and a killer locked in a race where there can be only one winner—and the losers die trying.

In a trailer in a Florida swamp, time is running out for eighteen year-old Erin Seabright. A pawn in a kidnapper's terrifying game for a ransom no one can pay, her last hope is a washed-up ex-cop who has already lost it all—not once, but twice.

The wealthy world of the Palm Beach horse set seems a long way from a cop's world in the narcotics division. A lifetime ago, undercover sheriff's detective Elena Estes worked the mean streets and BackTop alleys, living by her wits and playing the long odds until she took one risk too many. Now Estes lives on the ragged edge of lost hope and self-hatred, hiding from the past and believing she doesn't deserve to have a future. But the past is about to come back with a vengeance, and the future is about to become a race between life and death.

A young woman is missing and her twelve year-old stepsister comes to Estes for help. No one but serious, studious Molly Seabright seems concerned about what's happened to her troubled older sister. But Molly is convinced Erin is in danger. Estes has no P.I. license, no interest in a new career, and no desire to break her self-imposed exile. But the more she learns about the people Erin Seabright was involved with, the more her long-dormant cop instincts come back to life.

One trip to the show grounds where Erin worked as a groom, and Estes is quickly pulled to the dark side of a glamorous sport. Behind the glittering, ultra-rich facade is an ultra-ruthless world of drugs, payoffs, and dirty deals. A world of dissolute playboys and crooked horse-dealers, of royalty and rabble, of rivals and enemies. An obscenely wealthy world where anything can be had for a price—including a life.

And in that world stalks a killer who will lead Estes down a dark, twisted trail of decadence and deceit, mayhem and murder—from the gilded life of Palm Beach to the darkest corners of the Florida swamps, to a final show-down that could cost her everything. A race against time and evil. A race in which Estes is the

dark horse—and no one is betting on her to win.

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

The professional horse world, as seen through Hoag's eyes, is full of intrigue, glitter and skullduggery. Elena Estes is a former cop whose bravado on the force resulted in a colleague's death; it also cost her her job and her self-esteem, not to mention the psychological and physical fallout from nearly being shot. She's been keeping a low profile at a friend's Florida ranch, but her world is disrupted when 12-year-old Molly Seabright, wise beyond her years, attempts to hire Elena to find her older sister, Erin, who has been missing for two days. As Elena digs deeper into Erin's disappearance, the dark side of the horse-show set is revealed. Hoag (Night Sins; Dust to Dust), herself an experienced equestrian, shows off her dressage-to-showing knowledge of the sport as she weaves behind-the-scenes tidbits about the training, competitions, horse brokers and grooms into a plot that gallops along. Though she is a master of suspense, the story falters when a major secret about the kidnapping is exposed. There are too many bad guys who may be in on the scheme, and readers will feel cheated by the improbable 11th-hour revelation. It's too bad Hoag felt the need to undercut her plot with schemes and counterschemes, since she finds plenty of tension in the equestrian world she examines here and doesn't need the contrivance. Nonetheless, she has enough skill and drawing power to propel this, her 10th book, onto bestseller lists.

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From Library Journal

Elena Estes leaves the Palm Beach County sheriff's office in disgrace after causing the death of a fellow cop and gallops straight into trouble at an international riding competition in Florida's horse country.

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From [Booklist](#)

Welcome to the dark psyche of Elena Estes, a woman who had everything that society has to offer but gave it away to become a cop, and now even that life is lost. She made a mistake during a drug bust, an officer died, and she was badly hurt. Now she's a pariah in the Palm Beach sheriff's office. She retreats to the farm of an old friend, and returns to her childhood love of horse, while she recovers physically if not emotionally. Twelve-year-old Molly Seabright brings Elena back to the world of the living by asking her to find her missing 18-year-old sister, Erin, who works as a groom. Neither the police nor her parents believe anything is wrong, but Molly is persistent. Elena agrees to investigate and soon lands knee-deep in the muck of the horse world, where she finds horses murdered for insurance money, sleazy dealers, debauched playboys, charismatic trainers, and one infuriating cop. A tangled web of deceit and double-dealing makes for a fascinating look into the wealthy world of horses juxtaposed with the realistic introspection of one very troubled ex-cop. A definite winner for Hoag. *Patty Engelmann*

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## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Ronald Brun:**

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite book and reading a guide. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the book entitled Dark Horse (Elena Estes). Try to make the book Dark Horse (Elena Estes) as

your pal. It means that it can be your friend when you sense alone and beside associated with course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortunate to suit your needs. The book makes you far more confident because you can know every thing by the book. So , let's make new experience as well as knowledge with this book.

**Edward Torres:**

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with buddies is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, thrilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition info. Even you love Dark Horse (Elena Estes), it is possible to enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still want to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout men. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its identified as reading friends.

**Sharon Scott:**

Dark Horse (Elena Estes) can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that may increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The article author giving his/her effort to set every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Dark Horse (Elena Estes) nevertheless doesn't forget the main position, giving the reader the hottest and based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be among it. This great information can easily drawn you into completely new stage of crucial considering.

**Mary Ransom:**

This Dark Horse (Elena Estes) is brand-new way for you who has fascination to look for some information since it relief your hunger of knowledge. Getting deeper you onto it getting knowledge more you know or perhaps you who still having little digest in reading this Dark Horse (Elena Estes) can be the light food in your case because the information inside this book is easy to get by means of anyone. These books build itself in the form that is reachable by anyone, yes I mean in the e-book contact form. People who think that in e-book form make them feel sleepy even dizzy this reserve is the answer. So there is not any in reading a e-book especially this one. You can find what you are looking for. It should be here for you. So , don't miss it! Just read this e-book kind for your better life in addition to knowledge.

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