



# Straight Cowboy

*Jan Irving*

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## **Straight Cowboy** Jan Irving

Joshua Ryan did a stint for much-needed cash as the 'straight cowboy' in gay porn movies but he doesn't think of himself as gay, so why does he want to do the things to Matt James he once did in front of a camera?

Cowboy Joshua Ryan can't stop his erotic thoughts about Matt James, the hearing-impaired guest he's taking into the foothills in search of wild horses. Matt James has dreamed all his life of coming out west. He's at first taciturn with Josh, afraid he's as close minded as some other hands they encounter on their excursion, but when Josh reaches for him unconsciously in his sleep, Matt has a tough time hiding his desire for a 'straight' man.

Reader Advisory: This book contains light hearted bondage.

Publisher's Note: This book has previously been released as part of the Saddle Up N'Ride anthology by Total-E-Bound.

## **Straight Cowboy Details**

Date : Published July 11th 2011 by Total-E-Bound

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Author : Jan Irving

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## From Reader Review Straight Cowboy for online ebook

### Madison Parker says

I'm a sucker for a good "I Can't Fight This Feeling Anymore" story. Two men, alone in the mountains. Stolen glances and naughty thoughts lead to sexy times. What's not to love?

Yes, I did find it unbelievable that Matt recognized Josh from the porno, given that Josh never showed his face in the flick. He should have at least had a tattoo. I also found it unbelievable that Matt could pick up on Josh's emotional experience in said porno without having seen his face. He has exceptional body-language reading skills! I also had to laugh when the condoms and lube were within easy reach. Gay men are always super prepared. You never know who you're going to meet on a guided expedition in the mountains!!

However, I am willing to overlook all of that because these men were just the right mix of sweet and sexy. ;-)

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### Beck says

This was a 4 star read right up to the last sentence where it abruptly ended with no satisfying resolution...I don't mean that I *have* to have everything wrapped up to garner satisfaction, but I do expect a little bit of tidying up...at the end of the book the reader is left unsure if Josh is going to embrace his sexuality; if Matt is going to stay with Josh; how Josh is going to cope with homophobia; if Josh is ever going to manage to kiss or bottom for Matt; why Josh's brother was in foster care; etc etc etc...so much left hanging...too much IMO...perhaps these questions get answered in subsequent books in the series, but I feel annoyed that I have to purchase them...

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### „•\*°\*!Gwendolyn!°\*\*★°\*\*★ says

Nice shifter book, easy flowing and fun♥?

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### Diane says

I really liked the characters in this book, both had their vulnerabilities - one young, inexperienced and confused, one with a perceived disability of being deaf, yet they can balance each other so well. A follow up story would be interesting to see how they made the shift from what they found on a trail ride to daily life, and perhaps some of that is touched on in the rest of the series since the author's website says characters from previous books make an appearance throughout the series. It was well written, well paced and I think it will be a very interesting series.

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### Serena Yates says

Straight Cowboy is a great story about Josh, a cowboy/wilderness guide who awakens to the fact that he may be gay. More to the point: he can't stop thinking about Matt, his newest client, who wants to take photos of wild Mustangs.

Josh takes quite a while before he can be honest with himself, and hurts Matt a lot while he tries to come to terms with the facts of his newfound sexuality. I can't say I liked him for the way he treated a man who clearly wanted more from him, but Jan Irving describes his thoughts and struggles so well, that I definitely felt for him.

Matt thinks Josh keeps his distance because he's uncomfortable with him being deaf. But since Josh has a deaf grandmother and a deaf younger brother, he figures that isn't it. I felt for Matt who starts falling in love with Josh despite telling himself he was straight and it was hopeless. He still wants the other man, though, and in a way that accelerates the process of the two figuring out the truth of their attraction.

If you like stories about cowboys, scenes in the wilderness (including some very hot tent sex), and the rough, no, surly, men that go with those scenarios, you will probably like this book.

NOTE: This book was provided by Pride Publishing for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

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### **Nicole says**

Good read. Characters are enjoyable to read. Quick 50 page read. MM read.

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### **Cole Riann says**

2.5 stars (rounded up for the hotttt sex)

Not really much of a plot here except for setups for the frequent raunch, dirty talk, and insatiable sex. That doesn't bother me though!

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### **Trix says**

It was a cute and sweet story.

There were some contradictions along the way as both characters either threw themselves at each other or ran in opposite directions. I can argue that Josh was somewhat motivated, having willingly initiated sexual contact with another man. He was confused as to what it meant and how it affected him, since his only other reference was an orgy where he was not emotionally invested. And now, he was spending time with a man to which he feels attracted.

Matt, on the other hand, was all over Josh one moment and playing it cool and aloof the next. Though towards the end, he did seem to make up his mind and play the understanding gay man.

It wasn't a very heavy plot, nor were the characters complicated. But sometimes, sweet and short will do the trick.

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## **Judy & Marianne from Long and Short Reviews says**

Originally posted at: <http://whippedcream2.blogspot.com/201...>

Straight Cowboy brings together two men from completely different backgrounds and life styles. Josh is a cowboy who professes to be straight and Matt a city boy who is gay and has set his sights on Josh. Josh is one cowboy Matt has no attentions of letting ride off into the sunset.

I just loved the character of Josh. He is a young man who has done some things he isn't proud of all for the sake of family. He's struggling with his sexuality and feels confused about his own feelings towards city boy Matt. At times how Josh treated Matt was a little unsettling but it isn't done out of cruelty, it's done out of fear. In his mind he isn't gay only gay for pay, or so he keeps telling himself.

Matt is hearing impaired and he has come out to the great outdoors in search of wild horses. Matt wants to write a paper about these horses, and being paired up with Josh as his tour guide was an extra bonus. Matt is fully aware where he seen the sexy cowboy before and doesn't judge his past actions, but it is making it hard for Matt to stop having dirty thoughts about his cowboy guide.

The interaction between Josh and Matt was really sweet. Josh has family members who are deaf so he is able to sign to Matt. Matt has just recently gotten hearing implants so he can hear but Josh isn't for sure how much or how good. But when Matt speaks to Josh, Josh is pleasantly surprised. Once the ice is broken these two men form a bond. They discuss being deaf, family, and Josh's job as a tour guide. Slowly these two men start fall for one another.

The sex at first was all one sided but it help tell their story. With two gay men, one who is comfortable with his sexually orientation, and one who is coming to grips with it, there's bound to be misunderstandings. In such few pages we get to see Josh and Matt become friends than lovers.

Straight Cowyboy is a beautiful love story between two men who suffer from their own self-doubts and insecurities. Reading how Josh and Matt break out of their shells to see what really is important in life was a satisfying and uplifting read.

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## **Alina says**

Very sweet book about deaf city guy, who wanted to see mustangs in their natural habitat, and his shy cowboy guide. Nice and heartwarming short story :)

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## Christy says

**3.5 Stars** ~ 'Straight Cowboy' was a cute, sweet, sexy story. I would've loved to have seen more, but had to be content with a short story. Matt is adorable and wonderful, whereas Josh is the epitome of the "I'm really confused about my sexuality" cowboy.

This was an entertaining read.

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## Aymee says

Cute but short story about a confused cowboy and an openly gay tourist. I liked the idea of the story but think it could have been fleshed out a bit more. Overall, worth the read.

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## Julianna says

Reviewed for THC Reviews

*Straight Cowboy* is a M/M romance novella and the first story in Jan Irving's *Uncommon Cowboys* series which appears to be an unusual mix of contemporary and paranormal romances. *Straight Cowboy* is a contemporary about two young men who are on a trail ride in search of a band of wild horses. City boy Matt is hoping to do a little first hand research and photograph the horses for a book he's writing. Josh is a cowboy, working for the trail riding outfit Matt hired to lead him into the wilderness. Josh is also on a personal journey to accepting who he truly is. He's always considered himself straight, but in need of some quick cash, had participated in the production of a gay porn film the previous year. When he starts having lustful feelings toward his guest, Josh is confused, so him finally accepting that he's gay is a gradual process throughout the entire story.

I admired Josh for his commitment to his family. He seemed to be the sole provider for an elderly grandmother and a half-brother who he had only recently found out about, because the boy had been in foster care. I would have loved to have seen some actual interactions with his family, but I got enough hints from the narrative to know that he was an upstanding young man who cared about them very much. Matt is a well-adjusted gay man from an affluent and accepting family, and as such, we don't learn as much about him as an individual. I did like that he had an awestruck appreciation for the wild horses and that he didn't seem to mind being out in the wilderness. Having seen the porn film Josh was in, Matt doesn't understand at first why he's fighting their attraction, but once he figures it out, Matt becomes more patient with Josh. Overall, I thought they were a well matched couple whose love scenes are frequent and ultra-steamy. However, even though they didn't overtly declare their love, they were both thinking that they were falling in love and entertaining the idea of a longer-term commitment once the trail ride was over, which was perhaps a tad too quick to be entirely believable.

*Straight Cowboy* had a few other minor issues. First, I thought it stretched the bounds of credibility a little to have Matt recognize Josh from the porn movie since he'd only been filmed from behind. I realize that Matt had watched the movie numerous times and had been lusting after the "straight cowboy" for quite a while, but despite that, I honestly don't know how he could have known the two men were one and the same when he had only seen Josh's back. I think this would have been a lot more believable if Josh had some sort of distinctive mark like a birthmark or tattoo or at the very least something unique about his physiology. The

editing also could have been a bit better as the author occasionally uses some awkward wording that doesn't always flow well. Lastly, the majority of the story is told in relatively small snippets with the scenes changing pretty frequently, leaving me feeling like there were gaps in the narrative. I would have loved to read a longer story about these two men with more of those breaks filled in and more getting-to-know-you and romantic moments to make their growing love more plausible. However, despite it's weaknesses, I can't deny that it was an appealing story. I liked both heroes, especially Josh, because he embodies a sweet honesty in his struggles. *Straight Cowboy* was my first read by Jan Irving, but it has definitely left me open to trying more of her work and continuing with this series. *Straight Cowboy* can be purchased as a stand-alone e-book novella and in print as part of the multi-author anthology, *Saddle Up 'N Ride* or the single author anthology, *Uncommon Cowboys: Vol 1* .

**Note:** This book contains scenes of explicit sensuality between two men which may offend some readers.

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### **Bree Nead says**

1.5? There wasn't much of a real story. It wasn't the best, but wasn't bad...and then it just ended. It felt like there was a chapter or two missing from the end of the book.

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### **Tam says**

I liked that this had a deaf MC, although after it was pointed out that he was deaf and they started using sign language, they soon lapsed into speech (he had an implant) and it was never mentioned again. I am still puzzling how Matt recognized Josh from porn when apparently Josh's face had never been shown so you only saw his back and ... junk. And when he recognized him, he hadn't seen his privates yet so it wasn't like he had a turtle shaped birthmark on his left nut. So I kept thinking "how did you know who he was?" The following books have a paranormal spin but this one doesn't. So despite my niggle I did like both guys and enjoyed the whole wild horse story line. I have a soft spot for wild horses. Great for fans of cowboys and camping out and all that kind of fun Western stuff.

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