



YOUR NEIGH-BORHOOD HULLABALOO

## Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

August 2020

### Gulliver's Travels Landing on the island of Houyhnhnm

"In Summer they grazed in the field and in winter were kept in houses, with hay and oats, where Yahoo servants were employed to rub their skins smooth, comb their manes, pick their feet, serve them with food and make their beds. 'I understand you well,' said my master, 'it is now very plain, from all you have spoken, that whatever share of reason the Yahoos pretend to, the Houyhnhnms are your masters.'"

When Jonathan Swift wrote of the Yahoos and the Houyhnhnms in *Gulliver's Travels* he probably did not realize how accurate his satire would be today. In his book, the Houyhnhnms were horses gifted with superior reasoning and minds and the ability to communicate with one another in a spoken language. The Yahoos had all the physical characteristics of man, but they were lacking in intelligence and they were subservient to their masters, the horses.

Here is the satirical tale, a chance to you to be the judge of what Swift was really comparing and how accurate he may or may not be:

Gulliver arrives on Houyhnhnm (pronounced "whinim") Land by chance. After a really brief stay in England, Gulliver becomes captain of his own ship. He sails towards the South Seas when suddenly his men mutiny against him and lock him in his own cabin. Eventually, they maroon Gulliver on an island – Houyhnhnm Land.

When Gulliver first starts exploring this island, he runs across a herd of deformed animals with hair on their heads and covering their genitals but leaving the rest of their bodies bare. They seem agile, but they also tend to sit around on their butts a lot. The females have bare faces, without the long, goatish beards of the men. These creatures are violent and easily frightened. When Gulliver strikes one with the flat part of his sword, a whole bunch of them swarm around him throwing feces, until he thinks he's going to be smothered in poo.

Just as Gulliver thinks he's going to suffocate in poo, another resident of the island comes to his rescue: a kind, gentle looking gray horse who seems to frighten these gross animals away. The horse seems fascinated by Gulliver, and particularly by Gulliver's clothing. As Gulliver hears this horse apparently speaking to another horse, he realizes

that the horse's neighs and whinnies (from which the word "Houyhnhnm" comes) are slowly starting to make sense to him. The horse keeps saying the word "Yahoo" and gesturing to Gulliver.

The gray horse leads Gulliver through his own house and out to a kind of stable where a bunch of those vile beasts from the earlier scene are kept chained to a wall, surrounded by bits of raw donkey meat. Suddenly, Gulliver realizes the awful truth: these grotesque, violent, brutal, cowardly, hairy-but-also-way-too-naked creatures are, in fact, humans just like Gulliver. The horses, which are the reasonable creatures of this island, call humans "Yahoos," and keep a tight leash on them, because otherwise they'll misbehave.

This slow introduction to the Yahoos (gross humans) and the Houyhnhnms (lovely, smart horses) makes humanity unfamiliar and horrible to the reader; this moment of lack of recognition that Gulliver has with the Yahoos suddenly forces humankind itself to seem unfamiliar and revolting.

Houyhnhnm Land is the one place out of all the islands he visits where Gulliver wishes he could stay.

*Continued on back page...*

# HOMEOPATHY

## Remedies For Horses

Homeopathy is a system of medical treatments brought to light almost 200 years ago by a German physician named Samuel Hahnemann. In his first experiments, he discovered that the substance quinine actually caused signs of malaria in high doses. He then diluted it and prepared it as a homeopathic therapeutic remedy, and was able to cure an outbreak of malaria with far better results than traditional medicine. He published his findings in 1796, and the science of homeopathy has grown into worldwide use since that time, with humans and horses alike.

The term 'homeopathy' is derived from the Greek word Homoiōs, meaning "like". Homeopathy is the practice of treating like with like; that is, treating an illness with an extremely diluted amount of the same substance which in large amounts will actually produce the illness. Homeopathy sees the symptoms as the body's attempt to heal the illness, and seeks to stimulate and not to suppress this reaction.

Homeopathy stimulates the body's own natural powers of recovery. The three principles of homeopathy are:

- A medicine which in large doses recreates the symptoms of a disease and will in small doses cure the disease;



- By extreme dilution, the medicine's curative properties are enhanced and all the poisonous qualities and side effects are lost;
- Homeopathic medicines are prescribed by a study of the characteristic, temperament, and symptoms specific to that individual

Homeopathic remedies are usually from a natural source, such as plants or minerals, and are progressively diluted and 'potentized' by violent shaking at each step, until the final remedy often theoretically contains none of the original substance! Homeopaths view disease as a manifestation of a disturbance in the "vital force," and symptoms of the disease are absolutely unique to each patient. For this reason, two patients can show identical symptoms but require a different remedy to correct their condition. There are over 2,000 homeopathic remedies from which to choose, are very inexpensive and deemed to be virtually free of side effects.

Some examples of Homeopathic remedies for horses are the use of Arnica, Hypericum, Calendula, Aconite, Arsenicum, Thuja, Nux Vomica, St John's Wort and Colocynthus



Our store is open 11:00am – 6:00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

Shop online:  
www.thenoblehorsevintage.com  
www.theurbanequustrian.com



## New Items for August

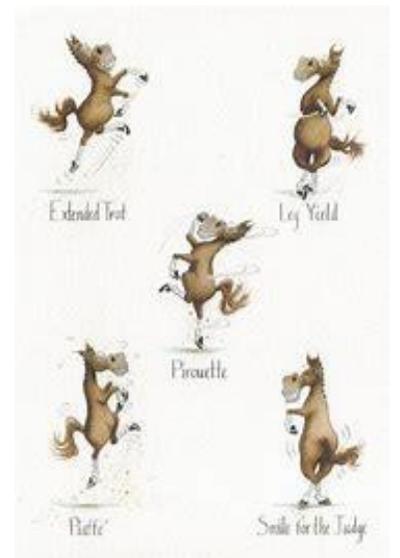




"We have a problem. He spends more time tweeting about himself than training for the Kentucky Derby."



The first sign your daughter's been watching to much X-games!



www.funnyhorsecartoons.com

Why is it so difficult to identify horses from the back?  
They are always switching their tails!



OH COME ON FERNANDO, YOU CAN'T WAIT 'TIL AFTER THE RACE!?

© Guy & Rodd Distributed by Universal Uclick via CartoonStock.com



hello, fire dept..?

I honestly did not know they could do that.

© Jan 2013 J.L. Moore & Jeff Rodd for EQUUS

A Stallion and a mare were due to get married but the stallion didn't show up at the church...  
He got colt feet



Some people find that lunging is a great way to subdue and control their horse

www.funnyhorsecartoons.com

Why was the racehorse named Strawberry Ice?  
He was a Sherbet



IF HORSES RAN THE OLYMPICS

A cowboy went into a saddlery and asked for one spur. "One spur?" asked the clerk, "Surely you mean a pair of spurs?"  
"No, just one" replied the cowboy. "If I can get one side of the horse to go, the other side is bound to come with it."



YOU DO REALIZE I JUST NEEDED 'EM BROKE TO RIDE?

Why did the horse stir his cereal with his hoof?  
He wanted to feel his oats!

## WILDWOOD FARM B&B



**This is your moment.**

Today at Wildwood Farm B&B

**A family of four  
Discovered new colors in a sunset,  
learned that horses speak without  
words – and in the dancing light of a  
campfire retold their family's dreams**

Immerse yourself in the equestrian world at Wildwood Farm B&B located on beautiful Whidbey Island.

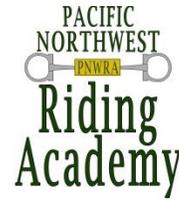
Our ranch has a long history of igniting the spark between horses and humans, whether you want a small introduction or total immersion.

Come experience the power of possibility with these magnificent creatures and explore the abundance of silent repose.

[www.wildwoodfarmbandb.com](http://www.wildwoodfarmbandb.com)

WILDWOOD FARM HAS IT ALL!

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST RIDING ACADEMY



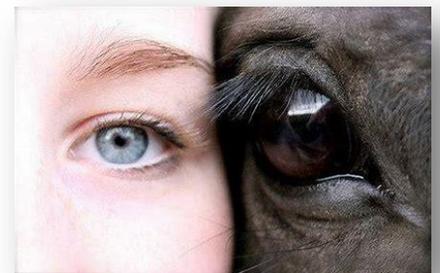
### WILL YOU?

Learn from me and take my wisdom with you as a safe secret tucked into your pocket?



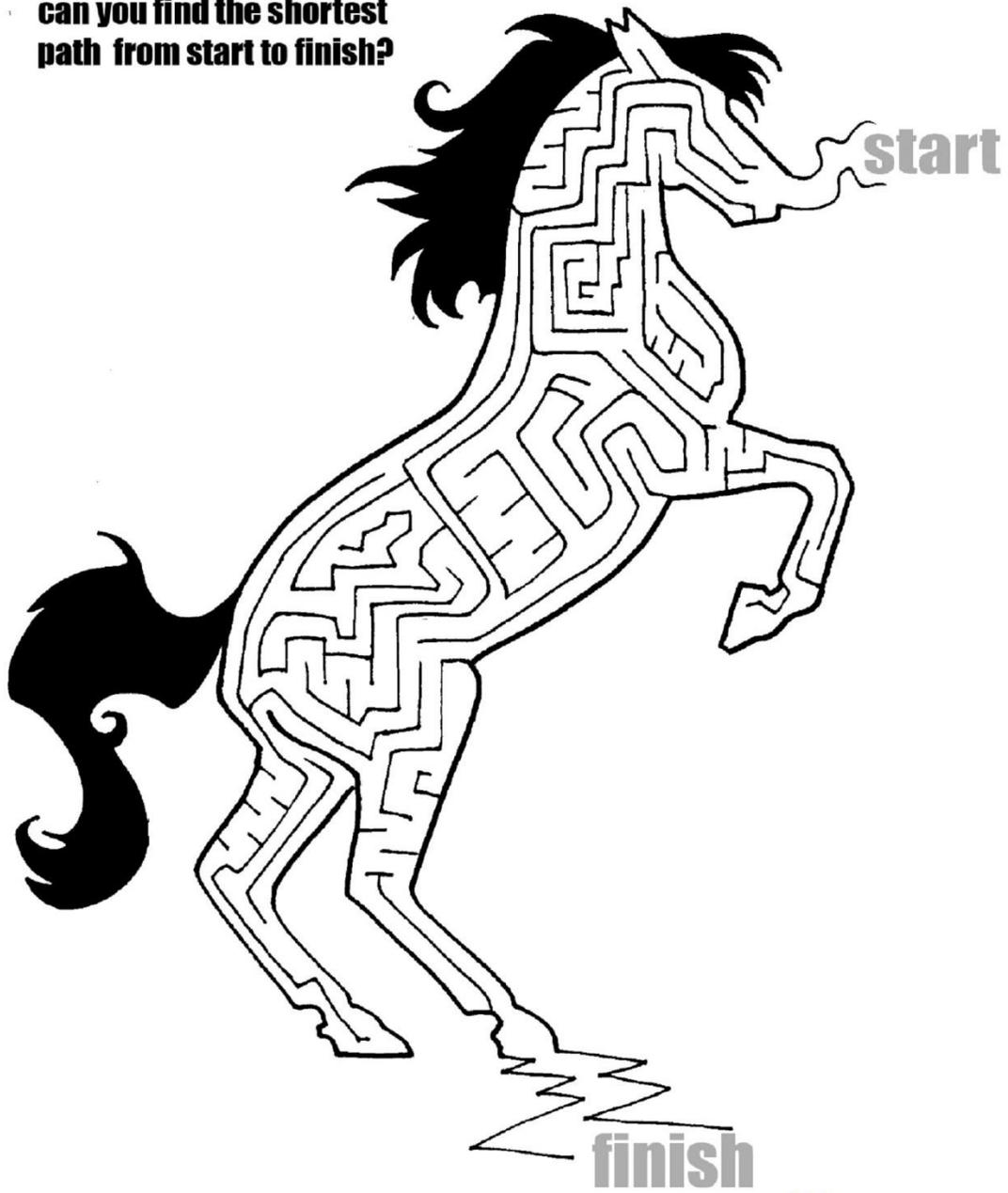
### WILL YOU?

Allow me to tell you who you really are so you can move forward and paint your own portrait?



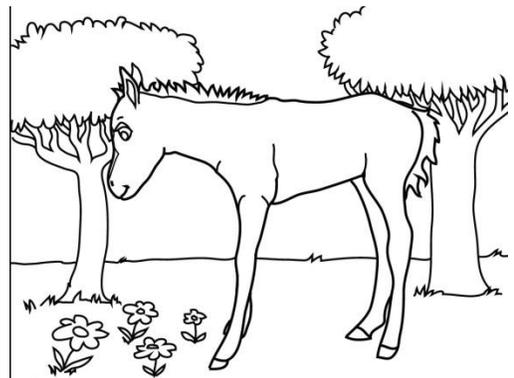
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path from start to finish?**



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## Nutrition Corner

### WHAT ALL HORSE OWNERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT BEET PULP

Beet pulp has been a popular feed for horses for years without many people really knowing why. Beet pulp is a byproduct of the sugar beet industry and they look a lot like a turnip that has been taking growth hormones - they are very large. The beets are grown and processed for their sugar content –after the sugar is processed and removed the pulp is left over.

Beet pulp is often referred to as “super fiber” due to its high digestibility and ease of fermentation because of the lack of lignin in the fiber. Tall pastures and overly-mature hay cannot be digested well by horses because of the high lignin content in the plant to give the stalk strength. High lignin fibers – like peanut hulls, oat hulls and rice hulls – have very low fermentation properties and are, therefore, very low in caloric content. Beet pulp, on the other hand, has about the same caloric content as oats - it is unusual to have a fiber product that is easier on the horse’s digestive system and still provides the caloric content of a grain product. In shredded form the beet pulp provides some additional fiber length and is often preferred over pelleted beet pulp in equine diets.

Individuals mixing their own rations need to understand that beet pulp is a very dry product at only about 5% moisture and most horse owners soak the product in water prior to feeding. One of the advantages of feeding a beet pulp based commercial feed is that the addition of oils and molasses eliminates the need for soaking. Also, beet pulp is lacking in nutrients such as vitamin A and selenium and in a diet where significant amounts of beet pulp is fed, balancing nutrients can be challenging.

With the current focus in the horse industry on lowering non-structural carbohydrates it is important to note that beet pulp has an average NSC of around 12%. This fact, combined with its good calorie content and ease of fermentation make it an excellent ingredient in a high fiber, low carb diet.

Triple Crown feeds contain a premium shredded beet pulp that is put through an intensive screening process to assure a smaller, more consistent shred size that is easier for your horse to digest

### WILDWOOD FARM AND TRIPLE CROWN FEEDS.

Our partnership with Triple Crown began in 2014 through a promotion with the USEF encouraging farm members to compare their current feeding programs with Triple Crown products. We have found the TC products to be superior over other products primarily because of the EquiMix technology and the research support of a leading edge team including independent representatives of Equine Universities, Medical clinics and top level riders and trainers

## MEET AURORA!

Aurora, a purebred Arabian mare, came to Wildwood Farm under not-ideal circumstances in June of 2016. Her owner had fallen ill and was not taking care of her and her other horse, a palomino quarter horse named Cal. A family member had contacted us to see if we could help get the horses off of the property and to possible new homes, as they were moving the owner to Louisiana so her family could take care of her.

Although Aurora & Cal’s owner was at one time a very serious horsewoman, her illness took its toll on the well-being of these two horses, Aurora in particular. She was very, very thin and not in good health with green foam seeping from her nostrils from a weakened immune system. We honestly did not think Aurora would make it and we had to keep a sheet on her because she was so thin – everyone had questions about the thin little Arabian!

Aurora gradually got better and as she regained her strength and started putting on weight she started showing her sweet personality. It WAS gradual, she had been through a lot of disappointment with humans in her past and was not about to open up again easily. At first she was stoic and quiet, not giving anything or expecting anything from us.



She would not look you in the eye nor interact with you, but we knew a gentle little mare was in there somewhere.

Happily, all of that mistrust changed as she started getting healthier. We started to see the bright gleam in here eye and she started to communicate with us, and when we started using her for lessons she blossomed into a caring and gentle school horse.

Today she is one of the best school horses we have; she is honest and kind, a good teacher and a very safe mount for riders of all ages and experience. We are so glad to have found Aurora, our beautiful bay Arabian mare!

## INTERVIEW WITH QUARTER HORSE TRAINER AL DUNNING

*Al Dunning has owned and operated the Almosta Ranch in Scottsdale, Arizona since 1970. Over the years Al has developed his multi-faceted equine business with a focus on the development of champion horses and riders, and he and his students have won over 45 World and Reserve World Titles. His love of teaching has taken Al all over the world, conducting clinics and sharing his techniques and philosophies of horsemanship. In this Interview Al talks about his career as a horse trainer.*

**What was your upbringing and how did you get introduced to horses:** I was born in Chicago in 1950 and my family moved to Arizona when I was 8 yrs old. My sisters started taking lesson and I watched; when I was 12 I took lesson and started showing. I competed through my college years, then decided to become a professional when I was 20. My early mentors were Jim Paul, John Hoyt and Don Dodge.

**How would you describe what you do for a living?** Quarter Horse trainer, clinician and instructor, tack business owner and horse sales.

**How would you describe what you do?** I live and breathe horses. I train and show AQHA, NCHA cutting and reining horses; I also do clinics worldwide to teach riders and trainers how to ride and show.

**What does your work entail?** I ride approximately 12 horses daily and compete extensively, mostly in the Western states. I am focus on cutting horses, but have shown in almost every event.

**What is a typical work-week Like?** We get up early, saddle, water the arenas and then groom them with the tractor, ride, give lessons, do office work, repair various things on the ranch, doctor cattle, wash and repair the trucks and trailers, clip & bathe horses, feed, clean and go show.

**What do you like about what you do?** I like the work, the horses and the lifestyle ; being a cowboy and having cowboy standards; believing in America, mom and apple pie.

**What do you dislike?** Sometimes dealing with customers that micro-manage or have unrealistic expectations.

**How do you make money, or how are you compensated?** I charge a monthly rate to board and train the horses; there is a daily charge at each show and a rider's fee when prize money is won. We also charge a commission to buy and sell horses.

**How much money did you make/do you make starting out as a horse trainer?** When I was an apprentice, I starved! After success I have been comfortable.

You must adjust your spending to relate to your income. I have accumulated horses, equipment and property over the years. The assistant, or apprentice, makes minimum wage plus housing in most cases. Sometimes they can make \$15/hour, but unfortunately the nature of the business is long hours and few employers pay by the hour.

**What education, schooling or skill is required to become a trainer?** I think a good education is a huge advantage. Bookkeeping, organizing and dealing with clients can be enhanced by a college degree in business and psychology, which were my degrees.

**What is most challenging about what you do?** Every day working hard, ups and downs, winning and losing, balancing the budget and balancing family time.

**What is most rewarding?** I love the Western life style, seeing the advancement of the horses, meeting many interesting people, traveling, competing, and all the friends that love horses too.

**What advice would you offer someone considering this career?** Many young men and women have come through my program and started careers for themselves. You must apprentice with someone who has the skills and business that you want. Take your time to absorb all you can learn, minimum of 5 years.

**How much time off do you get or take?** I take a vacation each year. Usually I take Sunday off if I don't have a show or Monday off if I do have a show on the weekend.

**What is a common misconception people have about what you do?** Some think it's all the glitz and glamour they see in the winner's circle and overlook all the sweat and work that got you there.

**What are your goals & dreams for the future?** I am living my dream each day! I love helping good people that have the desire to achieve, and riding good horses!

**What else would you like people to know about your chosen career?** My career is not typical in this fast-paced world. I get dirty, work hard, it is sometimes dangerous, there are long hours, you must stay very healthy to make a good living and only 10% of trainers make it to a decent level...but it's a great life!



Visit Al's website at [www.aldunning.com](http://www.aldunning.com)

# Portland Horse Rings

## Portland, Oregon

**Tiny horses tethered to antique rings are scattered around the city.**



**TINY HORSES HAVE BEEN TAKING** over Portland's streets for decades. Look down, and you'll likely find some tethered to one of the antique horse rings scattered throughout the sidewalks.

Scott Wayne Indiana, a Portland resident, began tethering toy steeds to the horse rings in 2005. His quirky personal art project soon took off. Before long, other Portland residents were adding their own tiny horses to the herd. Now, many of the city's horse rings have plastic ponies attached to them.

Locals have long been tethering toy horses to the rings scattered throughout the city. The trend shot off at a gallop after Indiana's Portland Horse Project gained traction. More than a decade since Indiana's first toy horses descended upon the streets, people still have yet to rein in their enthusiasm for the project. People leave treats, tack, hay, and riders for the little equines (and their occasional dinosaur friends). One Portland couple even got engaged after meeting because of one of the horses.

In addition to adding a fun touch of equine whimsy to the streets, the Portland Horse Project also preserves an often overlooked part of the city's heritage. The horse rings date to the 19th and early 20th centuries and hark back to a time when horse-drawn carriages were the main method of transportation.

Over time, Portland began losing these small relics of its horsey history as construction tore up its streets and sidewalks. But in the 1970s, one of its residents began complaining about the lost rings and thus spurred their preservation. Now, the rusted circles are protected and must be replaced following any construction.

# Wildwood Farm CLIPS & CLOPS Oak Harbor

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Oak Harbor WA 98277

## **GULLIVER'S TRAVELS – THE LAND OF HOUYHNNHM (Continued from first page)**

Sadly, though, he is forced to leave: the Houyhnhnms have an island-wide assembly every four years where they discuss important matters. Gulliver happens to be the important matter at the current assembly. The Houyhnhnms all decide that, as a superior Yahoo, Gulliver might someday go off and convince all the other Yahoos to organize and rise up against the Houyhnhnms. They decide he's too dangerous to have around, so they boot him out of the country. Gulliver has to make his own boat and sail to a nearby island.

So, let's get a little more specific about the Houyhnhnms. We love them because, well, they're horses – who doesn't like talking horses? But Gulliver kind of worships them, and it's worth talking about why. Here are some of the characteristics Gulliver singles out for comment: there are no words in Houyhnhnm language for any of the bad things we humans do, including lying, power, greed, or jealousy. In fact, Gulliver has a lot of trouble explaining human nature to his best buddy, the Master Horse, because he keeps having to talk around things that the Master Horse has no concept of. The best example of this kind of talking around that Gulliver has to do is "the thing which is not", a phrase that the Master Horse uses to get as close as he can to "lie" in Houyhnhnm language.

The Houyhnhnms don't need laws or a special class of lawyers because they are completely governed by reason. Breaking laws is not rational, so they don't need to spell out their codes of behavior. The Houyhnhnms don't need to limit the length of their laws because they don't even need laws. They all agree about the rightness of what to do. The fact that all the Houyhnhnms agree about law points to something else Gulliver loves about them: they don't understand opinions or factions. To have an opinion about something, you have to speculate about something you can't know for sure. The Houyhnhnms accept hard facts; anything outside of fact, you can't argue about, because by definition you can't know what the correct answer is. It makes no sense to argue about something you can never answer correctly. This is why the Houyhnhnms have no law.

As you may have guessed from the fact that the Houyhnhnms don't have arguments or differences of opinion, they are equally friendly with all members of their tribe. They value "friendship and benevolence" above everything else. In fact, this friendship thing is so important to Houyhnhnms that they treat all of their children as their own, and will educate all the kids in the same way.

This total lack of preference for one Houyhnhnm over another means that they always, always arrange marriages for their children. There's no such thing as a love match. Families will get together and decide: oh, your daughter is smart? My son is attractive. Let's breed them together to get smart, attractive children. And Houyhnhnm couples never cheat on each other because it makes no sense – they're in this relationship for the kids, not for love or sex or anything. And it gets even more technical: Houyhnhnm couples are limited to one boy and one girl foal. If one couple has two girls and another couple has two boys, they trade one of their kids. If a couple is unfortunate enough to lose a child to an accident, they can have one more child to supply the loss. The Houyhnhnms have managed to subordinate their feelings to logic – like horse-shaped Vulcans or something.

But, much as we love Spock, this particular aspect of Houyhnhnm society can creep us out a little, because it gets Gulliver into kind of a tricky moral area, at least in some people's opinion. The Houyhnhnms have a strong class system. Gulliver refers to "the race of inferior Houyhnhnms" who are born to be servants. These animals are allowed to have more kids so they can serve the high-born Houyhnhnms better. Different colors of Houyhnhnms also appear to be better suited to different stations in life. All of this stuff about selective breeding and maintaining racial characteristics is really common when you're talking about animals, which of course, the Houyhnhnms are. But they also think and speak, which can make you feel like there's a moral gray area in this portion of Gulliver's description of the Houyhnhnms. Something to think about.