

# 20 QUESTIONS

... about your life with Arabian horses ... with KELLY AND KAITLIN PAYNE



**1** What is your current involvement with Arabian horses?

*Kaitlin: Currently, I live on a farm with our Arabian horses that I show with my Mom every spring and summer.*

*Kelly: I live with my family and horses on a farm east of Fort Saskatchewan. Kaitlin and I share our horses and show together.*

**2** How many years have you been around horses?

*Kaitlin: All my life.*

*Kelly: I begged for a horse since I was young and was lucky enough to get my first purebred Arabian "Sir Bolton" when I was 14. Neither of us knew anything.*

**3** They say, "the Arabian horse finds you". How did the Arabian horse find you?

*Kaitlin: I was very lucky to be born as my Mom's daughter.*

*Kelly: Before I owned my very own Arabian, I was always most attracted to the beautiful pictures I would see in the books/magazines I'd read.*

**4** Who is or has been your favorite horse companion?

*Kaitlin: I've had a few. My Mom's gelding she had for a long time was MY first horse. "Spoons Sherateer" was really special. My brother and I would play outside in the backyard and he would be right there beside the fence just watching. He taught me lots as my first horse. He passed away at 31. Enrico+++// has been pretty special too. I have gotten too experience many successes with him and he is just an all around amazing horse.*

*Also, BD Shavonna. I have been through so much with her. From barriers we have overcome to accomplished goals, she is a great horse and my best friend.*

*Kelly: I've had a few. My gelding I owned until the age of 31 "Spoons Sherateer" will always hold a special place in my heart. We learnt a lot together. Enrico+++// is also very special. He has taught me so much and helped my accomplish things I never would have thought possible.*

**5** Who has been your (horse) mentor?

*Kaitlin: My horse mentor would have to be my Mom. I have always seen her as my role model and someone I have looked up to.*

*Kelly: I have learnt from a lot of different people over the years and still continue to.*

**6** What is your favorite horse book?

*Kaitlin: The Pony Pals series.*

*Kelly: The Black Stallion series.*

**7** What is your favorite horse movie?

*Kaitlin: My favorite horse movie is Spirit.*

*Kelly: The Man From Snowy River.*

**8** What are some 'Arabian horse activities' in which you participate?

*Kaitlin: Currently we show our Arabian horses.*

*Kelly: Showing our Arabian horses.*

**9** What would be your most memorable experience or moment with an Arabian horse?

*Kaitlin: Honestly, the first time my mom won her first regional champion with Enrico++++// was pretty exciting!!! I knew how hard she worked and hearing her number called and seeing stunned and then burst into tears was great! I was so happy she finally got to experience that feeling.*

*Kelly: Watching Kaitlin ride and show our horses has given me so many memorable moments. I'm glad we've gotten to experience all of this together.*

**10** What has been your greatest achievement with your Arabian horse(s) so far?

*Kaitlin: Showing my mom's horse Enrico++++// all the way to a reserve national champion!*

*Kelly: Successfully showing Enrico++++// the last few years. We have had many great successes.*

**11** Which horse do you consider to be your "dream" horse, either past or present?

*Kaitlin: Enrico++++//*

*Kelly: Umm....Enrico++++//*

**12** Horses are amazing teachers. What has your horse taught you that has helped you become a better person?

*Kaitlin: My horses have taught me so many things. I learn something from them everyday.*

**13** What is the best thing about working and playing with your Arabian horse?

*Kaitlin: The bonds and friendships you form with your horses is absolutely incredible.*



*Kelly: The relationship you form. Looking after our horses at home, I'd say we know our horses very well.*

**14** What would you say to a person considering buying a horse to encourage them to purchase an Arabian?

*Kaitlin: They are understanding, smart and beautiful. They will teach you lots and be your best friend.*

*Kelly: They are smart, sensitive animals that bond well with their people. I've never had any regrets with my choice. They've been a great fit with my family too.*

**15** What is your advice to someone, "brand new," considering becoming involved with horses?

*Kaitlin: Learn as much as you can before making too many big decisions. It's always better to know for sure your horse and equipment are the right fit for you. Don't be afraid to ask questions and learn from different people as you can always learn something from everyone.*

*Kelly: Get educated! Read! Go to different horse events. Decide what discipline you'd like to be involved in and get lessons first. Horses are big commitments and the more you can learn, the more educated you can be in making decisions that are best for you.*

**16** Is there a favorite reference book you'd like to share?

*Kelly: The Arabian: A Guide for Owners – I always had this book signed out from the library growing up!!!*

**17** What is the one thing you'd like to do that you haven't done yet?

*Kaitlin: I would love to someday ride a Half-Arabian country horse!!!*

*Kelly: I've been blessed to do so much, I'd be happy to be able to keep doing it!!*

**18** What about "kids" and an Arabian horse?

*Kaitlin: I think Arabians are great kids horses. They understand you so well and teach you so much. I think they are great for teaching children character skills and bringing up their confidence.*

*Kelly: There's nothing better! That's all my kids have ever ridden. I have no regrets!!! They are very much a family horse.*

**19** Why do you think you get such a "rush" being around or riding your Arabian horse(s)?

*Kaitlin: They make me so happy!!! They have helped help me accomplish so many goals and have and continue to make me laugh everyday. If you are having a bad day, they'll find some way to cheer you up!*

*Kelly: They are just so talented and pretty!!! How could you go wrong?!!*

**20** What are your words to live by?

*Kaitlin: Never give up and always believe in yourself!*

*Kelly: Keep learning! You can learn something from everyone!! ■*