

BLACKHORSE ROAD by Merida Johns

Excerpt

Uncertain what to make of Luci's stillness, Barry brought his head close to hers and asked, "What are you thinking?"

Luci held back, still gazing ahead. She turned and drilled into Barry's blue eyes. "I guess, using an Irish term, I could say, 'What a bunch of malarkey!'" She drew back her lips in a saucy grin and weighed his reaction.

Luci's response was unarming but charming. Barry laughed. "No one has ever told me in such a nice way that I'm full of bullshit."

"Well, I guess there's that!" Luci chuckled, then turned thoughtful. "Putting the 'BS' aside, I'd say the story is about choices, not a lovestruck fairy tale. It's about risks and consequences and being true to your values. It's about living who you are and not how someone else expects you to live."

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Barry put his arm around Luci's shoulder, pulling her closer. He felt like beating his chest and announcing to the world he had the most beautiful girl in his arms. The lengths of their bodies touched each other, and Barry took in Luci's scent. No girl had ever had such a powerful effect over him. In the past, emotion and sex had fueled his excitement. Now, those feelings mingled with wanting mutual fulfillment and creating an enduring relationship filled with love, joy, hope, amusement, inspiration, and even awe.