

Hi, everyone. I'm Sherry Braxton, and I'm going to be reading a poem by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater. And, it is about a horse. I'm going to read the poem, and then I'm going to take you on a short ride with my horse, Indigo.

So here's the poem, "My Horse and I."

When I ride my horse, I become my horse. My horse becomes cool water. My mind dips through each wave as if I were the ocean's daughter. When I ride my horse, I become my horse. My horse becomes a flame. My heart leaps ginger-crimson with the heat I cannot tame. When I ride my horse, I become my horse. My horse becomes the earth. My hoof beats carve my name in driest dust to prove my worth. When I ride my horse, I become my horse. My horse becomes the sky. My soul breathes out a walk trot canter gallop lullaby. We are water, flame, earth, sky. We swim, we burn, we run, we fly. We are life, my horse.

So, hope you enjoyed the poem, and I hope you enjoy the ride.

My horse, Indigo, this is him coming in from the field. I just call him, and luckily, he is cooperating. Come on, Indigo. I've had Indigo for a little over five years now. He's a quarterhorse/paint mix. And once I get him into the barn, and I'll take some video, and you'll see his unusual trait. Hi, bud.

So, you see, Indigo's special trait. Indigo! Because he's half quarter horse, half paint ... Indigo! Is that he has one blue eye and one brown eye. So, that's his special trait. And it's shedding season, so he's left a little hair behind for me to clean up. And I'm going to do that, and then we're going to go for a run.

All right. So, Indigo's all tacked up and ready to go. Got my saddle on. He's got his bridle on. You can see he's got his ... Says Indigo, so right horse. Indigo, you ready to go? All right, he's looking at me like, "Let's get the show on the road."

Okay, so now we're off for ride. You get my view on Indigo. Walking around back here. Just a little small pond, really. See the other horses out there, so you can get an idea how peaceful this is. Great property to able to walk on horseback. Take a little video later for you. Maybe, if we trot a little bit, I can do it with one hand, if he cooperates. Cross country fence there, made out of tires.

Let's see if I can capture a little bit of trotting here with one hand. Trot. Trot. Let's see. And walk.

Wrapped up the ride with a little of grass. He's got his fly mask on. He's wet. He's sweaty. It's hot while you're shedding. And then, I'm going to put him back out in the field.

And back out he goes. See you tomorrow, Indigo.

I hope you enjoyed my video and visit to the barn. Go hug a horse.