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Marlow's "Andi saddles up" (Book Review)

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Susan Marlow began writing as a ten-year-old, continuing throughout her teaching tenure and while parenting. She developed the Circle C ideas into the Circle C Beginnings series (ages 6 – 9), the Circle C Stepping Stones (ages 7 – 10) and other related series for older children. This is the first book in the Stepping Stones series, Marlow introduces a nine-year-old ranch girl, Andrea Carter. Andi, her preferred name, begins the story with the anticipation and celebration of her birthday. An angry neighbor invades the birthday party and the conflict between the Carters and Hollisters is established. Intermingled with the conflict is Andi learning about friendship and obedience. In the end, everyone learns some lessons. Andi learns that when adults give her directions, there is a reason and she needs to obey. Her family learns from Andi that keeping their land is not as important as being a good neighbor.

*Andi Saddles Up* would be both a good book for parents to read aloud to children and for independent reading. There is a vocabulary list included in the beginning, a few illustrations to entertain, and a short section on the history between cattle ranchers and sheepherders.

**Reviewer**
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