



---

Volume 60 | Issue 2

Article 15

---

12-1-2017

## Marlow's "Andrea Carter and the long ride home" (Book Review)

Cathie Chatmon

*Piedmont International University*

*The Christian Librarian* is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit <http://www.acl.org/>

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

 Part of the [Family, Life Course, and Society Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Chatmon, Cathie (2017) "Marlow's "Andrea Carter and the long ride home" (Book Review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 2 , Article 15.

Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol60/iss2/15>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolf@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolf@georgefox.edu).

# Book Reviews

---



Marlow, S. (2016). *Andrea Carter and the long ride home*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel. 142 pp. ISBN 9780825445002

Andrea Carter, a young girl growing up in 1880, feels that fitting in with her family's expectations is an onerous task. She finds herself disappointing them with her carelessness or her outright disobedience and believes that the only one who understands her is her beloved horse, Taffy. When she overhears what she assumes are plans to send her to live with a despised aunt, Andrea takes Taffy and disappears into the night on what becomes an arduous journey. Along the way, Taffy is stolen; Andrea is befriended by a family of Mexican migrant workers, and she finds herself working to please a wealthy, spoiled girl, who is the daughter of the ranch owner. She is ultimately reunited with Taffy, who is now owned and mistreated by the same wealthy girl for whom she works. Just as all seems lost, both she and Taffy are rescued by her older brothers who have been searching for her. She returns home decidedly matured and ready to submit to family discipline.

In this anniversary reissue of a book initially published in 2008, Marlow has done a masterful job of creating authentic characters and believable surroundings. Her work is decisively Christian without being overly didactic. The consequences of seeking one's own way are clearly evidenced, albeit in some instances they are rather drastic. More than that, though, the unconditional love of Andrea's family is shown. That unconditional love stands in stark contrast to the doting, whimsical love the ranch owner shows toward his daughter. I would certainly recommend this book to middle grade girls. It would also find use in schools with Children's Literature courses. For those who are interested, Kregel provides a study guide for the book at the following website: <http://www.circleadventures.com/StudyGuides.html>.

## Reviewer

Cathie Chatmon, Piedmont International University