



# ANDALUSIAN QUOTES From The Ancient Masters

...and other interesting characters



William Cavendish, The Duke of Newcastle

## ANDALUSIAN

"The [Andalusian] horses have a wonderful active walk, high trot, and admirable canter and an exceptionally fast racing gallop. In general, they are not very big, but there are nowhere better bred horses. I have heard extraordinary tales of their courage. The best horses are bred in Andalusia and especially the royal Cordoba stud."

~ Jacque de Solleysel  
 Master of the Horse to Louis XIV, circa 1664

"...It is the noblest horse in the world, the most beautiful that can be. He is of great spirit & of great courage and docile; hath the proudest trot & the best action in his trot, the loftiest gallop, and is the lovingest and gentlest horse, and fittest of all for a king in his day of triumph."

~ William Cavendish, The Duke of Newcastle, 1667

"All authors have always shown a preference for the Spanish horse, considering it the best of all horses for high school dressage, due to its agility, its resilience and its rhythm. It is considered the most adequate to show off, because of its bravery, distinction, and noble character."

~ Francois Robichon de la Gueriniere,  
 Equerry to the King of France, circa 1773

## ANDALUSIAN

In 1188 the chronicler Giraldus Cambrensis noted in Powys:

"Most excellent studs put apart for breeding, and deriving their origin from some fine Spanish horses, which Robert de Belesme, earl of Shrewsbury, brought into this country: on which account the horses sent from hence are remarkable for their majestic proportion and astonishing fleetness."

~ The Itinerary of Archbishop Baldwin  
 through Wales: Book II, Chapter XII

"... This most noble beast is the most beautiful, the swiftest and of the highest courage of domestic animals. His long mane and tail adorn and beautify him. He is of a fiery temperament, but good tempered, obedient, docile and well-mannered."

~ Pedro Garcia Conde, 1685

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"He did not feel the ground under his feet... he thrust himself into the capriole, rose high in the air... forelegs and hindlegs horizontal. He soared above the ground, his head high in jubilation. Conquering!"

~ Felix Salten, Austrian writer, 1869 author of Bambi

"Only ask, and he will weave a spell to light the dark recesses of your being, spinning around you a web of sweet delights.

He will be your children's playmate; a child himself, he'll do no harm.

He'll pardon like no other your omissions, errors, thoughtless handling.

His back, a throne of feathers, will bear you smoothly at the trot and gallop.

He'll go where others dare not. He'll stand firm where others flee in terror.

You'll discover that the pirouette is easy, that a rein back can go on forever,

that you need not be a great rider to perform airs above the ground.

At the spur's light touch he'll take flight with the wind,

bearing you safely through the air laden with long forgotten fragrance.

With him, the distant mountains will be clearer, brighter the light of the stars,

the trilling of the nightingale more joyful, sweeter the gurgling of the streams.

And at last you'll understand why he was e'er the chosen one of kings."

~ Juan Llamas on the Spanish horse, the Andalusian