

The Horse Girl – spoken text:

10:00:49:22

I'm Juliana. I'm 12,
and I live in Iceland.

My main hobby is horse riding,
and this summer, if I do well,

I can go on a three-day riding trip

where we'll be driving about
a hundred horses.

I've never been on such
a long riding trip before;

once I was on a five-hour trip,

but we weren't driving
any horses with us.

10:01:20:00 V.O.:

*This is my family.
I've got a very big family.*

10:01:24:07 V.O. cont.:

*Mummy goes riding with me.
It's our hobby,*

*and it gives us time to be
together.*

10:01:40:11 V.O. cont.:

Keeping horses is a lot of work.

10:01:43:12 V.O. cont.:

*You have to feed them,

clean out their stables
and exercise them.*

10:01:48:09 V.O. cont.:

*My mare is called Flis.
She's 12 years old, just like me.*

10:01:52:20 V.O. cont.:

I've had her for two years.

10:01:55:16 *V.O. cont.:*
I got her for my birthday
when I was 10.

I was very happy with her.

10:02:00:16 *V.O. cont.:*
Mummy and I often go riding,
and it's really fun.

10:02:07:04
Hey, are you lame?
Shame, you poor thing!

10:02:12:13 *V.O.:*
Flis was a bit lame today,

so we had to have
the vet look at her.

10:02:17:16
Hello.

10:02:20:00
Gone lame, did you say?

10:02:22:18
Yes, I noticed there's something
wrong with her right hind leg.

10:02:44:20
It's all right.

10:02:46:02
There's no sore or anything I can see.

10:02:49:20 *V.O.:*
The vet saw that Flis was
very lame in her right leg.

10:02:54:13
Just give her anti-inflammatory
pain-killers

and we'll see how she is
over the next few days.

10:03:06:07 *V.O.:*
I hope it's nothing serious.

I've been preparing for this riding trip

and Mummy says I'm ready to go on it.

10:03:19:01 V.O. Cont.:
Daddy and me and Aear, who owns the stables, gave Flis the medicine just as the vet said we should.

10:03:26:23 V.O. Cont.:
Flis only got slightly better, so the vet decided to come and take X-rays of her.

10:03:33:00
Good evening.

10:03:34:18
Good evening.

10:03:35:15
Shall we take the X-rays, then?

10:03:36:23
Yes

10:03:45:13
What do you think it could be?

10:03:46:23
I think it's a case of bone spavin.

10:03:49:18
Do you think you'll have to put her down?

10:03:51:15
No, it probably won't come to that.

Bone spavin usually affects the lower part of the joint,

but it just heals up again by itself over time.

It can take from six months
to two years.

So I don't think it's likely
I'll have to put her down.

10:04:11:14

This is her left leg. It's all
knitted together here, and is OK.

But the right leg
doesn't look so good.

Here on the lower surfaces of
the joint you can see bone
spavin,

10:04:24:15 V.O.:

The vet had awful news for us.

*Flis has an incurable disease
called bone spavin.*

*There's nothing he can do
to save her leg.*

10:04:37:05

...which means that probably
you will never

be able to use her again
as a riding horse.

10:04:41:23

And we found out
that you have bone spavin,

right in the worst place.
That's not too good.

10:04:53:20

So I may never
be able to ride you again.

10:04:59:22

Oh

10:05:03:22

The vet said Flis had

this incurable bone spavin,
which is not good news,
because she won't be any use
as a riding horse any more.

10:05:14:10

It's also bad because it means
she won't be able to come with us

on the riding trip. I would
have wanted her to come,

because she's my horse
and I trust her.

10:05:26:21

So instead, I have to go and
try out loads of new horses now,

and I'm a bit worried about it,

because you never know

what a completely strange horse
will take it into its head to do.

10:05:42:21 V.O.:

*My cousin Undina
has got lots of horses*

and I got to try a few of them,

*since I have to borrow a horse
from someone for the trip.*

I must find a horse,

*because I'm really looking f
forward to going on the trip.*

10:06:35:11

How do you like that one?

10:06:37:05

It's fine.

10:06:40:23 V.O.:

At last we found two good

horses to take on the trip.

10:06:51:17

This one's great

10:06:52:14

Yes,
it certainly looks a good one.

10:06:53:17

Yes, those are very good.
Let's see, try it on.

10:07:00:03

It fits me fine.

10:07:01:11

Fine. We'll take this one.

10:07:10:23 V.O:

*We had to have
Mummy's horse shod.*

*If they don't have shoes
they can get sore hooves*

*when you ride over lava
and stony ground.*

10:07:20:09

Finished?

10:07:22:15

Yes

10:07:30:20 V.O:

*The horses were taken
in special horseboxes*

to the place where the trip started.

10:07:39:04

This is going to be fun, eh?

10:07:40:13

Yes

10:07:42:02

Let's go home and sleep
so we're well rested for tomorrow.

10:07:47:16

I'm going on a horse-ride
tomorrow!

I'm looking forward to it so
much!

10:07:52:15

What I'm most looking forward to
is driving the horses,

but all the same
I'm a bit nervous about it

because I'm afraid that they
might just go stampeding

off somewhere and go crazy,
and then of course

mine would go crazy too
because I won't know it properly.

10:08:27:10 V.O:

*When we arrived at the place
I felt a bit worried all of a sudden,*

*because there were so many horses
and so many people.*

10:08:44:12

Who's going to be on this one?

10:08:45:22

My daughter, Juliana.

10:08:47:20

Have you got a bridle?

10:08:48:23

Yes

10:08:49:11

Shall I put it on for you?

10:08:50:09

No, thanks.

10:09:05:02 V.O:

Then the trip began.

*The horses were set free
and they ran off.*

10:09:13:14 V.O Cont.:
*Suddenly I felt scared.
I didn't dare to get on my horse.*

*The horses were running so fast
as if they had gone wild.*

10:09:28:09 V.O Cont.:
*Ragnar came and helped me up
and led my horse
for the first few steps.*

10:09:47:04 V.O: Cont.:
*When we got started
I felt much better*

10:09:50:20 V.O Cont.:
*but Mummy and I stayed at
the back of the group to begin with.*

10:10:31:01 V.O Cont.:
So the first day came to an end.

*We drove the horses into the field
where they could graze
and rest for the night.*

10:10:59:06 V.O Cont.:
*Next day we had to
cross rivers and ponds

and we rode past a volcano
and through a lava-field.*

10:11:06:17 V.O Cont.:
*Then I was lent
a horse called Gluggi.

He's the best horse I've
ever known apart from Flis.*

10:11:53:03 V.O Cont.:
On the third day we had to

*go through more rivers,
down into a gorge and
through other interesting places.*

10:12:26:03 V.O Cont.:
Trips like this are great fun.

*You meet lots of people
and everyone is so happy
and cheerful.*

10:12:44:20 V.O Cont.:
*Being on a galloping horse
is one of the best things there is.
It's as if you are flying freely,
like a bird.*

10:12:57:04 V.O Cont.:
*At last we got to
where we were going.
Here the horses will be let out
to roam around freely all summer.
When winter comes they'll be
brought to the stables again.*

10:13:13:07 V.O Cont.:
*I was a bit tired after all the riding.
But very happy.*

10:13:22:17
So, Julie, we were the last
to leave, but the first to arrive.

Shall we start all over
again tomorrow?

10:13:29:21
Yes, let's!

10:13:30:14
And then start again when that's finished?

10:13:31:19

Yes

10:13:33:23

I don't know ...

10:13:34:07

And we'll start out in front.

10:13:40:12 V.O.:

A few weeks after the trip,

*Mummy and I went
to visit Flis in the field*

*where she's going to
be kept for the summer.*

10:13:48:06 V.O. Cont.:

*I can always visit her
and pat her,*

*even though I can't ride her
because of her leg."*

10:14:05:22

I would like to have a little foal.

10:14:08:10

You mean one like Flis?

10:14:09:16

Yes

10:14:14:06

Maybe I could ride
the foal on a riding trip.

10:14:17:06

Who knows? That would be fun.

10:14:19:17

Yes

10:14:25:06 V.O.:

*I'm keeping my fingers crossed
and hope that Flis has a foal.*

End.