
KING

of the

COWBOYS

ATRIA BOOKS

New York London Toronto Sydney Singapore



OceanofPDF.com

KING of the COWBOYS

TY MURRAY

with

STEVE EUBANKS

KING
of the
COWBOYS

ATRIA BOOKS

New York London Toronto Sydney Singapore



1230 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

Copyright © 2003 by Ty Murray

All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce
this book or portions thereof in any form whatsoever.
For information address Atria Books, 1230 Avenue
of the Americas, New York, NY 10020

www.SimonandSchuster.com

ISBN: 0-7434-6371-4
eISBN 978-1-451-60427-6

First Atria Books hardcover edition May 2003

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

ATRIA BOOKS is a trademark of Simon & Schuster, Inc.

For information regarding special discounts for bulk purchases,
please contact Simon & Schuster Special Sales at 1-800-456-6798 or
business@simonandschuster.com

Manufactured in the United States of America

OceanofPDF.com

In memory of Dean “Doc” Pavillard, who was like a second father to me, and to Tres Hazelton, who was like a brother to me. I miss you both.

OceanofPDF.com

INTRODUCTION

Eight Seconds

IT COMES DOWN to this. All the work, all the dreams, all the sweat, tears, blood, mud, fear, doubt, sacrifices, and victories boil down to this one moment in this dirt-filled arena. Everything I've dreamed of, everything I've worked for my entire life, comes down to these final eight seconds, which is how long I hope to stay on the back of a 2,200-pound brindle called Hard Copy.

I don't know much about him, but I've never known much about the bulls I ride until I'm sitting on their back. In my mind, too much information about roughstock is counterproductive. Over the years I've seen bull riders study the tendencies of the animals they draw, but it can backfire. The minute you think you can outsmart a bull and anticipate what he's going to do is the minute you get driven into the ground like a dart. The best bulls in rodeo are unpredictable. Trying to outsmart them can lead cowboys to outsmart themselves. The only things I know about Hard Copy are that he is owned by Harper and Morgan, that he isn't successfully ridden very often, and that he is enormous. This bull is so big his hindquarters won't fit in the seven-foot-long chute.

The gate men can't close the slide gate behind him, so they tie a rope behind his haunches. He doesn't put up too much of a fuss, but that's because nobody's sitting on his back yet. The fuss will come later. Hard Copy is a tough draw.

I know one more thing: Hard Copy is the only thing standing between me and a record-breaking seventh all-around cowboy world championship, a goal I've been working toward my whole life.

Most people aren't fortunate (or some would say cursed) enough to have their life's work come down to a single, defining moment. It's a rare occurrence when a lawyer, banker, artist, or minister can point to one