

Holy Cow...I'm a Chicken Mama

Kimberly Bratton



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Holy Cow...I'm A Chicken Mama is a delightful story of my journey from normal woman to 'Chicken Mama'. While kicking around ideas for the topic of this book, I ran into a friend of mine at the local feed store. We began talking and before long, she was picking my brain about chickens. She'd had her flock for about a year and her hens were happy, but something had changed. Her egg count was diminishing rapidly so she decided to ask my advice. Her girls had been giving her six eggs a day for months but now she was lucky to find a few. And on some days, there were none. She didn't understand what was going on. There was no seasonal reason for the reduction but knowing where she lived, I knew exactly what her problem was. I told my friend the story of my disappearing eggs. She didn't want to believe me at first but after hearing the story, she knew I was right. She turned white as a ghost and I thought she might faint, and then she said, "So all this time, it's been that close to me and I never saw it." She was horrified and went home immediately to check it out. She called to tell me it was exactly where I told her it would be and then I told her what she had to do. The next day she called with her own horrific tale and we belly laughed over our shared adventure. We began to share other chicken stories and before we knew it, an hour had passed while we laughed like crazy women about all the things we'd seen. As I sat in front of my laptop later that afternoon to begin an outline for the new book, I recalled the look on my friends face when I told her what was causing her eggs to disappear. I started to chuckle again thinking about the entire encounter and then I typed Holy Cow...I'm A Chicken Mama. I looked at the words in front of me and knew. I had to tell my story so I kept on writing. Raising chickens is exciting and there's never a dull moment when chickens are in the yard. They're mesmerizing and I often find myself just staring out the window watching them play as if I'm dazed or drugged. Holy Cow...I'm A Chicken Mama is a story of how rescuing chickens changed my life. Suddenly I had all these chickens to feed and protect and I had no idea what I was doing. I never intended to keep chickens and when I rescued these, my plan was to find some poor sap to take them off my hands. Little did I know that poor sap would be me. They were now mine and they took over my life. I was no longer a normal woman with a normal life and I wasn't very happy about that at first. But then something miraculous happened and it opened my eyes to the beautiful and amazing world of chickens. So I gave up resisting and left the old me behind and before I knew what had happened, I was a "Chicken Mama" and there was no going back. Holy Cow...I'm A Chicken Mama is a mix of humorous tales and basic information that I hope will help as you travel the same road I did. My goal with this book is not to be a straight up "How To" but instead to give you a firsthand accounting of my adventures with the chickens. If chickens are in your future, I advise you to read on and learn from my mistakes. It was trial and error because I knew absolutely nothing about chickens when I agreed to take them in, but I learned quickly. There's so much information on the Internet about raising chickens, but you'll never know how wonderful and exciting it truly is until you hear our stories. Once you do, you will want to raise them yourselves, of that, I am certain. I first started raising chickens in 2004 and over the past eleven years, I've learned so much. Those first birds never liked me much but these I have now are like my babies. I hand raised them all and they have bonded to me and me to them. They follow me around the yard and in their minds I am truly their "mama". Thank you for considering Holy Cow...I'm A Chicken Mama as your next read. I'm certain you will enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed writing it. Happy Reading. Kim

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