

# Never Have I Ever...

By Denny Emerson

“Never have I ever” is one of those popular parlor games played for various reasons, some serious, some playful, some deeply revealing.

Here are 50 “never have I ever” statements designed to help determine how thoroughly immersed in horses we might be, some

specifically aimed at the Morgan world, others about the broader and more general world of horses.

Take this little survey to see how deeply involved you might be. This is for your interest only as there are no right or wrong answers.



27



30



33



42



48

1. Trudged around a field or pasture hunting for a lost shoe.
2. Woken up, panicked, in the middle of the night, wondering if I forgot to turn off the hose filling the water tub.
3. Held a mare that was being bred live cover.
4. Whacked my leg on a trailer hitch.
5. Given an intramuscular shot.
6. Drawn pictures of horses on my schoolbooks.
7. Learned the names of Bulrush, Sherman, and Woodbury, Figure's most prominent sons.
8. Ridden a Morgan stallion.
9. Memorized a dressage test or equitation pattern.
10. Forgotten a dressage test or equitation pattern while riding it.
11. Driven a horse trailer.
12. Made the mistake of saying that some horse was “out of” a stallion rather than “by” the stallion.
13. Fallen off a horse.
14. Ridden or driven in some kind of race.
15. Ridden in a three-day event.
16. Jack-knifed a horse trailer while backing up.
17. Spelled con-*FOR*-mation, as of a horse, as con-*FIR*-mation.
18. Acted as a ringmaster at a horse show.
19. Judged some type of horse competition.
20. Driven a single horse.
21. Driven a pair of horses.
22. Traveled with horses in an airplane.
23. Walked a horse with colic.
24. Helped with haying.
25. Driven a tractor.
26. Chopped ice from a frozen water tub.
27. Gone for a sleigh ride.
28. Owned a Morgan horse.
29. Ridden as part of a team, school, college, barn, whatever.
30. Ridden or driven in the pouring rain.
31. Watched a mare deliver a foal.
32. Planned a breeding, matching sire and dam.
33. Been on any sort of cattle drive.
34. Spent forever trying to load a reluctant horse into a horse trailer.
35. Long lined a young horse.
36. Competed in a Justin Morgan Performance class.
37. Written stories or books about horses.
38. Been a member of a horse club or association.
39. Experienced the heartache of losing a horse either from illness, accident, or old age.
40. Posted a blue ribbon on a wall in my bedroom, office, wherever.
41. Won a blue, red, and yellow championship ribbon.
42. Ridden in a 50-mile or longer distance ride.
43. Read Walter Farley's “The Black Stallion,” (or watched the movie), and identified with Alec Ramsey.
44. Subscribed to *The Morgan Horse* magazine.
45. Mucked a stall.
46. Gone to the Morgan Grand National, either as a spectator or as a competitor.
47. Learned interesting new words while holding a horse for the farrier.
48. Visited the remote farm in Chelsea, Vermont, where Figure died in 1821, and is buried.
49. Found that lost horseshoe I was looking for.

As you can see, this is quite an eclectic mix of serious to frivolous activities and experiences. Some will have done most of these, some very few.

And, of course, 50. Never have I ever complained when some stupid judge failed to observe the brilliance of my performance and left me out of the ribbons (just kidding!). ■