**[JUMP! By Jilly Cooper, an honest review...](http://www.thevintageequestrianbookshop.com/1/post/2014/01/jump-by-jilly-cooper-an-honest-review.html)**

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Jump! Jilly Cooper

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As I read the final line on page 728, I felt bereaved like my best friend had moved away never to been seen again.  
The complex story and interwoven lives of the characters can only be compared to having your very own daily soap opera in your hand.  
When Jump! Arrived on my doorstep I was a little intimidated by the size of this book, a huge hard back which was a challenge that rapidly turned into my daily fix of Willow Wood and the lives of the residents, animals and people alike with whom I enjoyed spending my time.  
Jilly Cooper has succeeded once agin in taking harsh reality, combining it with humour and sensitivity.   
Every industry has it's villans, jump racing is certainly not exempt; Jilly handles this with details easily perceived as being factual.  
The over whelming deidcation of Etta to Mrs Wilkison when she has her own struggles in life left me rooting for her. Unbeknown to Etta she also has the support of Alan, Trixie and of course Valent Edwards. Emphasising Jilly's ability to bring warmth and compassion into her writing.  
Although the book has many pages, these are broken down in to 147 chapters making the read easily flow from one brief chapter to another, as I frequently found myself intening to stop reading then saying 'just one more they are only short'.  
At times I lost myself with the names of each person, which I was able to quickly remedy with the handy breakdown of who was who at the start of the book.  
Familiar with Jilly Cooper having read Polo, Riders and Rivals, I enjoyed reconnecting with Rupert Campbell-Black the ex show jumping champion and Billy Lloyd-Foxe also a champion show jumper and his loyal best friend; Now portrayed as older and more settled in their lives.  
Jump! Made me laugh, cry and gasp on several occasions, as I followed the lives of Mrs Wilkinson and her companion Chislom.   
A detailed insight into the world of syndicates and jump racing that I have thoroughly enjoyed, I have certainly been left wanting more.  
  
Angela Jones-Moore  
Thank you so much to Angela, a vintage equestrian book fan for her lovely review. She was rewarded by her choice of paperback book. If you'd like to send us a 300+ word review you can also qualify for a free