

Love Stories



At 2nd Chance 4 Life Rescue, our mission is to provide homeless and abandoned dogs with a second chance and a brighter future.

We are an all-foster/volunteer organization. All the dogs in our care live with foster families, in their homes, until they can find their forever family. Currently, our rescue has grown to a place where our vision has outgrown our homes.

Much of our focus is on ailing, senior, and abandoned dogs that will never find a forever home but need us as their forever family. When medical treatment becomes too expensive or when they become a burden, thousands of dogs are abandoned to high-kill shelters where they face imminent death.

These animals need our help. They need a safe place where they won't go hungry or be neglected. They need a Furever Home.

Please join us in our efforts to give the dogs of 2nd Chance their Furever Home.

www.projectfureverhome.org



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2ndChance4LifeRescue.org

2nd Chance 4 Life
Rescue



A Love Story

by Lynn Leach

Some say you only fall in love once in a lifetime.
I can tell you for a fact...that is not true.



I fall in love over and over and over again.
Furry ones with four paws, well not always
four paws and not always furry, but it makes
no difference. I love them just the way they come.

Some say, "How do you let them go, it must break your
heart?" or "When they pass away, how do you do it?"

I've learned your heart gets bigger and stronger.

With every one that leaves, you learn
something and another one will
come that needs you just as much,
and sometimes more.



You do not run out of love unless
you never give yourself the chance to
"fill your tank" again. To have the love of a
loyal friend is a gift, whether it is human or animal.
It is not something you "earn" it is something that
the other chooses to give you freely. It is a gift
that you should never take for granted because
as long as you have love there is always someone
"in your corner."

Life doesn't stop when one of our friends leaves
us. We have the choice to stay stuck while the
world goes on around us, or to honor
them by LIVING.

And so, the love story continues and
the "stars" change but the message
remains the same.

Life is about living and
Love is about giving!



36 Dogs & a few Cats lived in these cages.

They defecated onto the crates below and whomever was in them.
By the time authorities stepped in, many were sick or injured.
One died a few nights after rescue. The rest survived and were
given the medical care they needed. Most were male, so the crew
was named "The Presidents."



From Rags to Riches

by Lynn Leach

**2nd Chance took in 13 of the 36 dogs and started
their journeys to health, love and forever families.**

Clinton and George came to my home. George was young
and full of life but had not one, but two luxating patellas, so
we immediately scheduled surgery and started raising the
funds to take care of our new "best friend."

George stole the heart of Karen VanCurren and she patiently
waited for me to rehab George. During that time, George
had become very attached to Clinton. Karen decided that
her heart was big enough for them both! We drove the boys
to Virginia and their new lives and they met their two pug
brothers. It was love at first sight and although I cried the
whole way home it was the perfect fit for the boys and I am
blessed to have found a lasting friendship with Karen.

Although the boys are not in my home, they are
forever in my heart, and Karen makes sure I receive
pictures and stories often. Last year, she came to
Pennsylvania and adopted our little black pug whom
she named Annabelle. It a "pugfest" of pure love!



Their love rescues us every day!

by Melissa & Tim Barker

We have a loving family of rescue Shih Tzu's: Cody Man, Casper, and Lou-Lou. But make no mistake about it—their love rescued us! How these three love bugs came into our lives clearly proves this point.

In 2013, we were the proud parents of two beautiful Shih Tzu girls—Zoey and Mollie. But they were both older puppies (they never grow up!) and having health issues. In September of 2013, our Zoey passed away one month before her 15th birthday. We were devastated to lose our first pup, and very concerned for our Mollie to be without a furry companion for the first time in her life.

We knew that we wanted to adopt our next older pup from a rescue. We started scanning the Internet and came upon 2nd Chance 4 Life. That is where we saw Cody Man, a beautiful male Shih Tzu.

It was love at first sight!



Melissa, Tim, Lou-Lou,
Casper & Cody Man



We contacted 2nd Chance 4 Life and spoke with Lynn Leach. We introduced our Cody Man and his stuffed elephant squeaker (still his favorite toy!) to his new forever home. While we missed Zoey, Cody Man provided the love we needed to keep our family complete. Mollie loved her new furry companion!

In November of 2013, Lynn asked if we would mind fostering an older pup. We weren't sure if we should introduce a third older pup into our household. Mollie was older and having her own health issues. We worried about disturbing the balance we recaptured since Cody Man came into our lives. But Lynn assured us that taking the plunge and having our own "three dog nights" would make our home even stronger.

We looked at the 2nd Chance 4 Life website and saw Casper, also a beautiful Shih Tzu male. We fell in love with him instantly, especially the photo of his beautiful smile! Okay, he was yawning, but to us it was a beautiful smile! Casper became our biggest cuddler and hit it off with Mollie and Cody Man. Needless to say, the fostering changed to an adoption right away. Our pack was now complete!

Unfortunately, our new family was only together for a year. Our Mollie continued to battle a health condition, and in November of 2014, Mollie passed away at age 14. We were again devastated as our house became out of balance, especially for Cody Man and Casper.

In December of 2014, Lynn contacted us again about a Shih Tzu male that needed a home. We agreed to help, and Lou-Lou came into our lives. When we first met him, he was nervous and needed to wear pajamas for warmth. We wondered if his fur would ever fully grow back!

Casper and Cody Man brought Lou-Lou into the pack. In a short period of time, Lou-Lou was no longer nervous and grew a full coat of fur. He is a loving bundle of playful energy. You would never know that he is actually the oldest of the three! And again, our home found its balance.

It would have been very easy to just focus on grief and never bring another older pup into our lives after Zoey and Mollie passed away. But doing so would have deprived us of the love we have now since Cody Man, Casper, and Lou-Lou came into our lives. Depriving our family of that love would be unimaginable, and quite frankly, unforgivable.

We provided a forever home to Cody Man, Casper, and Lou-Lou. But they provided us the love that we need to be a complete family.



Once upon a time... there was a Director of a dog rescue who was petrified of these things they call cats! All she knew was they hissed, scratched, and had VERY scary looking teeth!

Last year, her promise to "help where she could" was tested! She received a call from a concerned citizen that stated a little cat was running in traffic and dodging death. Could she please help? Her immediate reply was "we are a dog rescue" to which the concerned citizen replied, "I know but it's going to get hit."

The Director wanted to hide behind the fact that we were a dog rescue, but, she took a deep breath and said "if you can catch it and bring it to Waggin Wheels in a carrier, we will take it."

The Director went to Waggin Wheels to take in 2 dogs and adopt out 2 other dogs to wonderful families. Sure enough, in came the concerned citizen with a crate. The thing inside was GROWLING VERY LOUDLY!

The Director looked at the person holding the carrier and said "what is in there?!" to which the person responded "the little cat."

The Directors immediate reaction was to say, "OH NO, I did not agree to agree to take a mountain lion!" However, that was not an option, so she said, "I'll take it from here."

She prayed that the cat would take mercy upon her and not cause her bodily harm. And so the little cat went to live at the Director's home.

One night, the Director woke up to a strange vibration on her chest. You can imagine her shock when she realized that she had a cat sleeping on her chest!

Since that night, the Director and the cat have become best friends.

The Ugly Duckling by Lynn Leach

We were called about a dog in Philadelphia that was given his death stamp. His name was "Mr. Clean."

Now, I have no clue why they would name him Mr. Clean. Mr. I'm-A-Mess, might have been more appropriate. He was one huge, matted ball of fur!

When we got there he was huddled in the back of his kennel shaking uncontrollably. I truly believe he knew he was on borrowed time and the fear just emanated through him. I gently removed him from the kennel and he melted into my arms as if he was trying to glue himself to me. He sat in my lap all the way back home. I took him into Palmyra Animal Clinic and Angie, the office manager said, "Do you want me to see if the groomer could fix him up while you are here?" I said, "Oh my, that would be fantastic!"

The groomer agreed to groom our little, matted fur ball. She started to shave him and you can imagine our surprise when we realized our little Mr. Clean was actually Ms. Clean! Either way, 2nd Chance was going to love our little mess!

Beautiful Swan

The transformation over the next couple weeks was amazing. Ms. Clean, renamed Leiha, Blossomed. We already knew she was beautiful but now the world would know it too. Our little girl was so sweet and loving and now her outside matched her inside.

Sometimes beauty is right in front of you. You just have to look with your heart!



He wiggled his way into her heart



Most people spend New Year's Eve celebrating the New Year. Not Rescue workers. We spent our New Year's Eve driving to save a little pug that was going to be put outside because his owner's landlord found out they got a dog and they weren't allowed to have one. So he said, "Get rid of it. NOW." This little, bug-eyed guy had no clue that his life was going to turn out AMAZING!

We placed a post on our Facebook page saying the first person to donate \$100 could name him. Within minutes, \$100 was donated and our little guy was named Marty Feldman, which was actually fitting.

We had a bingo shortly after, and Pam Stoner came to support the rescue. Of course, Marty Feldman came along to bingo and was the hit of the day. Little did we know once he was placed in Pam's lap, he wiggled his way into her heart and he was home!

Marty lives with the Stoner family and he makes them smile every day! He also opened their hearts to rescue and now they have Lefty, our senior pug. The Stoners did amazing things with Lefty and he now has the best life possible.

Maude was next to come to them. Our little pug girl was between 1-2 years old and totally blind, dumped in Philadelphia's kill shelter. No worries — Maude became a permanent fixture at the Stoner's home and is doing fantastic! She struggled a little at first with the big turtle the Stoners have in the back yard. They think she believed it was a rock — but the rock seemed to move and never stayed where she remembered it!



WOOF



Love comes in many shapes and sizes and with many characteristics that we may not have expected but that endear our loved ones to us even more because they are unique!