



Published on *Covered in Cat Hair* (<https://coveredincathair.com>)

[Home](#) > The Eyes Have It. Ch 6. Adoptions At Last!

The Eyes Have It. Ch 6. Adoptions At Last!

Mon, 2014-04-14 12:45 — Robin Olson

Of the six Clementine-kittens only one has been adopted. Marigold found her forever family while her brothers and sisters continued to wait. The Clems had been with me for over SIX MONTHS when Mari left us. The delay was mostly due to a reoccurring eye infection/upper respiratory tract infection. Though not seriously ill, I couldn't let them be adopted until I had a better understanding on whether or not this was going to be a chronic condition. It wasn't fair to adopters.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Mandy, Blossom, Bert and Mango (I can FINALLY tell them apart!)

The reason Mari got adopted was that she had been one of the most healthy of the litter and I'd just started a new treatment that we thought would resolve her issues. She seemed to do well so I believed I could move on with adopting out the others, but I was wrong. Buttercup got the eye infection again and Bert looked like he was getting it back, too.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Vampire Buttercup!

In March, one of our vets suggested we test the kittens for Bartonella ^[1]. I almost slapped myself in the head when he said that. Of all the treatments and tests we'd never done that one and it made PERFECT sense. Bartonella is transmitted by fleas and the Clems were COVERED with them when we got them off transport. No wonder the kittens were never 100% well—especially Bert, who early on got hit the worst. I chose to test Bert for that reason and wasn't surprised at the result.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Rock Star Pose with Mandy (left), Blossom (center), Mango (right).

A week later the results came in. Bert was a STRONG positive for bartonella. This was great news because it's treatable, but the bad news was for Buttercup and Blossom, who were on the cusp of being adopted by Ellen and her family. Sadly Ellen has to be extremely careful about her health and after a long talk with her Doctor and Vet they decided it would be safer for the kittens to get their treatment here, THEN finalize the adoption.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Silly Mandy with her "Precious" toy. She is obsessed with it.

I could not argue that point, in fact, I wanted them to stay with me. Why have the first few weeks of an adoption include their new mom having to medicate them for 3 weeks? Also, bartonella, also called Cat Scratch Fever, IS contagious to humans and from what I've heard from a Vet that caught it, it's a very painful infection.

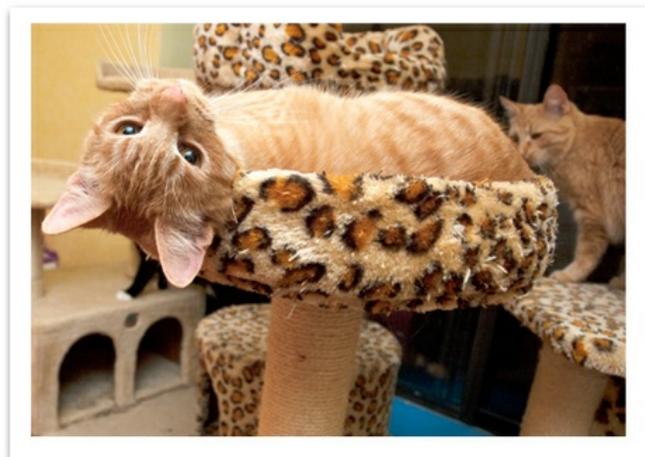
The medication cost \$235.00 for the 6 Clems and Biscotti, who I decided to treat at the advice of our Vet. I almost fell over at the cost. **This litter of kittens was one of the most expensive to care for to date.** Some times it amazes me just how expensive it is to care for a few kittens. It can really add up fast when they get sick.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Bert and Mango want MOMMY while Blossom jumps down to rub against my legs

The risk of making the adopters wait was that the adopter could give up on doing the adoption and the girls would lose their

home. There was nothing I could do expect hope for the best and that the family would still want the “kittens” now that their kittenhood is long past them. **The “kittens” are huge, too, eating me out of house and home. I have to feed them at least 10, 5 oz cans of food a DAY. I can barely keep up with demand. I’m used to feeding a few little kittens, not the equivalent of 6 more adults who are pushing 8 pounds each (their brothers will be 9 pounds any second now).** I really needed to get these cats placed before I ran out of money to care for them.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Mandy and the faux-sniff.

Ellen and I volleyed emails and photos, making sure our connection wasn't lost. She watched [SqueeTV](#)^[2], our webcam, with her boys all the time so she could keep up on how the kittens were doing. I could tell she was anxious to get the girls and was willing to wait the extra time to be able to finalize the adoption. I was very relieved.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Biscotti, always in the background with Blossom and Mango.

Finally on April 6th, Sam and I drove the girls to their new home, which is a block away from Long Island Sound. It was one of the first really sunny spring days so it was a very enjoyable drive to Westport, CT. **The girls were a bit fussy in the car, but surprisingly Blossom got out of her carrier and sat in my lap, purring, watching the traffic go by.** Buttercup was a bit more reserved but the trip wasn't very long, so I don't think she was too stressed.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Mandy and Buttercup.

After over a month wait, the girls got to meet their new family. Ellen was making sure everything was set in the kitchen where the girls would start off their new life. We took away a few items that might cause problems, then let the girls out. Blossom fared better, but both girls were very scared. The room was big and bright with lots of windows for bird watching. I knew they would be happy, but I knew it would take time.



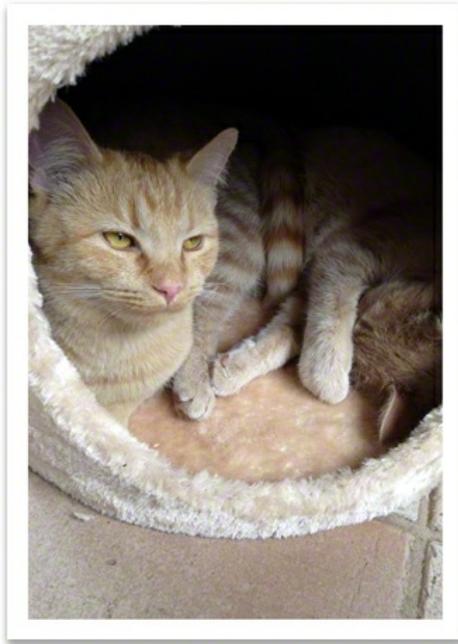
©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Blossom, Buttercup and you-know-who watch Mango fly.

As we filled out the paperwork the girls began to explore a little bit. We gave them a snack and they both ate, which was a good sign. The neighbor's cat, who looked like their dad, walked past the front window but the girls didn't notice. I warned the family that the girls might flip out if they saw the cat again and that they could start peeing in the kitchen. I silently prayed there'd be no problems. The girls were very easy going and sweet. I hoped they'd get a kick out of seeing another cat.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. NOT photoshopped! Mandy (left), Blossom (center), Mango (right), Biscotti pose for the camera (for once!).

Once we got everything settled I gave the girls a kiss goodbye. It wasn't a sad parting because I knew Ellen would make sure they got everything they needed and that her husband and sons would help her give them a great life. It wasn't because I didn't love them, because I did, but in truth they should have been adopted months ago and now we have more kittens in our program who need our help.



©2014 Ellen Gleicher. Used with Permission. The girls together in their new home.

I'm glad the girls get to stay together, because I always prefer litters to be split into pairs if possible. Now I had 3 kittens left from this family: Mango, Bert and Mandy.

But what of Biscotti, the shy kitty who always got overlooked? He'd moved in with the Clementines after his surrogate mom, Mocha, and her kittens were all adopted. I worried that Biscotti, who hides and seems to be completely mortified when new people arrive, would never find his place. The Clems are outgoing, fearless. I will find them homes, but I had my doubts about what was in store for the little tuxedo until a few days when I got a fateful call.

...to be continued.



Visit our FACEBOOK PAGE [HERE](#) [3] to LIKE our page and Change your settings now!

CICH Content Categories:

[Adopted](#) [4]

[Bartonella](#) [5]

[Cute Photo](#) [6]

[Vets](#) [7]

[Wellness](#) [8]

CICH @ [Google+](#)

Robin @ [Google+](#)

Source URL (modified on 2014-04-14 12:50): <https://coveredincathair.com/content/eyes-have-it-ch-6-adoptions-last>

Links

[1] http://www.petmd.com/cat/conditions/infectious-parasitic/c_ct_bartonellosis

[2] <http://dropc.am/p/N7S3no>

[3] <https://www.facebook.com/CoveredinCatHair>

[4] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/30>

[5] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/34>

[6] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/48>

[7] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/85>

[8] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/87>