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Wed, 2014-09-10 20:52 — Robin Olson

I just met a very nice young couple at [Newtown Veterinary Specialists](#).^[1] They rescued two tiny kittens from a “friend of a friend” who let her cat outside and didn’t seem to care that the cat and her offspring were flea-covered and starving. The young couple wanted to help so they took two kittens and named them Pascal and Freya. The thought was that these kittens would become part of their family, so they focused on bathing them to get rid of their fleas and started feeding them consistent meals to help them gain some strength back after what the fleas did to them.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. My first glimpse of Freya and her sparkling blue eyes.

But there was something odd about Freya.

Although Freya is sweet and loves her brother dearly, Freya wasn’t eating very well. Add to that she seemed to be in the litter pan a lot and nothing would happen. She would strain and thrash about and little would come of it so she’d leave the pan, then go right back in moments later.

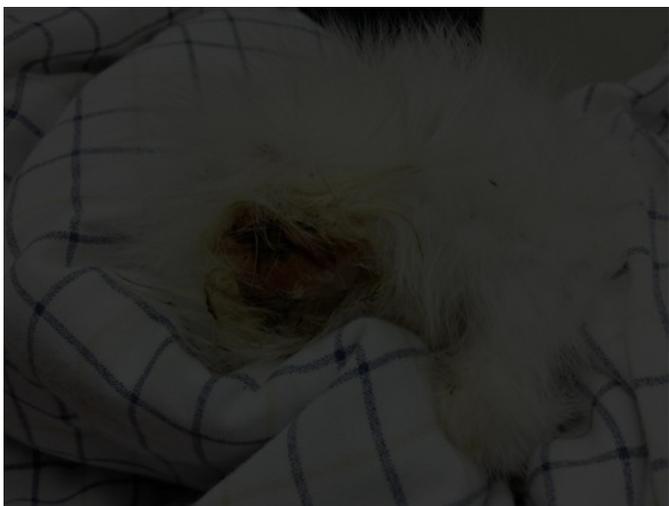
The couple knew something was wrong so they took the kittens to the Vet. The Vet got the kittens de-wormed, tested the brother for FIV/Feline Leukemia and said since he was negative then surely his sister was, too. The Vet began to examine Freya. Her eyes are little blue sapphires that dazzle against her mostly white fur, save for one tabby-patterned circle on her forehead. Everything appeared normal but as he continued the exam, the further he got to her back end, the odder things became.

Freya has no tail and the couple noticed she walked a bit oddly too. Upon examining Freya’s rear end it was discovered that she does NOT have a urethra and rectum. She only has ONE opening when there should be two. No wonder she was having trouble passing anything. It wasn’t possible to tell where these two join together. The Vet knew that the kitten needed to see a Specialist and SOON. This was no easy fix. If this kitten couldn’t eliminate properly a whole host of problems was going to crop up fast. **It was rather amazing that she was even alive considering the severity of this deformity.**



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. *Too tired and weak to run around.*

Dr. Andrews, the surgeon who helped us with Twinkle, did the exam this evening. **He told the couple that Freya might be helped by surgery IF the two areas were only joined together fairly close to where they end. If they are joined together further into her body, then depending on how far in, would depend on if they could do anything to repair it.** I wasn't there to ask if that meant she would have to be humanely euthanized, but clearly this is not something she could live a long life with if nothing was done.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. *WARNING: Graphic image of Freya's rear end. Click to view.*

The costs for Freya's surgery far outweighed the couple's ability to pay for it. They faced having to put her down right then and there unless they could get a rescue group to take on responsibility for the kitten, so that's when I got the call.

When I saw Freya laying in Chelsea's arms I almost cried. She is so completely innocent. Fast asleep, probably exhausted and sick, she was nestled in her blanket. I took one look at the couple and knew they were loving, caring people who were really busted up that they had to give up their kitten to provide her with the care she needed. **They were really great about it saying they wanted what was best for her and that they were truly grateful that they could get help, even if that meant they would not be taking her home ever again.**



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. Freya likes belly rubs from her mom, Chelsea. Her tummy is wet because I just tried to kill off a few fleas.

I spent a long time with them, giving them tips about how to care for Freya's brother, treat fleas, where to get him neutered one day. They were so appreciative and I was glad to pass on what I've taken years to learn. We talked about next steps for Freya and after that I let them have some time with her to say their goodbyes. I promised I'd keep in touch and I told them I knew how hard it was to let her go. **They were doing the right thing and it really inspired me to do something for them and for Freya.**

I've only had an hour to think about how to say this, so this is the best I've got: Remember how you guys told me you had my back? Here goes:

I know we just did a miraculous fundraiser for Twinkle-Twinkle's surgery barely two weeks ago and I hate to ask for help so soon after we just did but that's how rescue goes. One week a kitten breaks a leg, the next week we had Fernando rip his eyelid up. Now it's Freya. We don't have deep pockets so we won't be able to help Freya unless we get some assistance.

Freya has been signed over to our friends at [Animals in Distress](#) (2), but we are partnering with them to raise funds and to hopefully provide a good foster home for Freya after her surgery is completed.

I've set up a fundraiser for this kitten's care and I'm **REALLY PUSHING hard to get the costs DOWN** as much as I can. Where we get stuck is due to how the billing works at NVS. They have to bill us for 75% of the high estimate amount THEN they refund 20% back as our discount, plus any other discounts NVS can give us. We're told that Dr. Andrews is going to donate a portion of his fees, but again, that doesn't get cut from the invoice until AFTER we pay it up front. Crazy? Yeah! (and we don't know how much he is donating yet...and BTW THANK YOU to NVS for giving us a generous discount in the first place and to Dr Andrews for being awesome-sauce!).



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. I love her little spot!

What does this mean in English? It means we need to come up with 75% of \$4832.00 which is \$3624.00. This doesn't include other surgeries if she needs them or after care, but if we can knock this down, it will really be a big WIN for a little kitten.

©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. A few seconds with Freya.

Ways you can help Freya

Call NVS and make a donation directly to Freya's Fund at 203-270-8387. Please note: you will need a PayPal account to donate. They can't take credit cards over the phone for security reasons.

We get more of your donation if you donate directly using our PayPal address: info@kittenassociates.org ^[3] or if you go through our **DONATE** ^[4] page on our web site.

You can **mail a check to Kitten Associates**, P.O. Box 354, Newtown, CT 06470-0354.

Just SHARE this with your friends who have kind hearts and love cats. That helps Freya, too.

Your donation is Tax Deductible. K.A. is a non-profit rescue and our IRS EIN is 27-3 597692.

Any funds we don't use for this surgery we will set aside for Freya's future needs. If there is still anything left after that, it will go into our general fund and help provide care for the 27 other cats in our program OR it will go to Animals in Distress. We are still working that out.

In my mind's eye I can see Freya, sleeping on a soft bed that is bathed in sunlight. She's comfortable and plump. She looks like she's smiling as she sleeps away the afternoon. She is healthy and well and these dark days are over for her. She didn't have to die, she got to live. That is my dream for Freya and I hope you can help me make it come true.



©2014 Robin A.F. Olson. I hope this is one of many happy moments little Freya will have.

UPDATE: DUE TO CHANGES MADE by PetCaring.com on how they process funds we have decided to shut our PetCaring Fundraiser down. PetCaring forces us to use WePay to process payments and they HOLD donations for UP TO A WEEK. We can't access any money we raised on that account last night! This is NOT acceptable. Please make donations directly through

our **DONATE** ^[4] page on the Kitten Associates web site so we get funds right away. **THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

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Comments

Thu, 2014-09-11 14:21 — jmuwj (not verified)

RE: FREYA ^[10]

Feeling frustrated because of my financial situation, but sharing on social media with *PRAYERS* that others more fortunate in that way will step up and help this tiny treasure. A friend adopted a little boy kitten who had something kind of similar some years back. She was able to get the operation he needed and he went on to become the star of her show. ;)

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Links

[1] <http://www.newtownvets.com/>

[2] <http://animals-in-distress.com/>

[3] <mailto:info@kittenassociates.org>

[4] <http://kittenassociates.org/donate>

[5] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/33>

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[10] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/9237#comment-9237>