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## Living with Jackson Galaxy (the cat)

Tue, 2012-06-05 10:41 — Robin Olson

I brought Jackson home three weeks ago, on the heels of [Bobette](#) <sup>[1]</sup>, our former foster, being adopted (*and who's doing marvelously well with her new mama, JaneA Kelley of Paws & Effect*).

**Jackson wasn't interested in being confined to "his room" from the get go.** He was ready to meet everyone and get himself settled. After just two days to decompress, I followed his lead and let him out of his room. He'd already been vetted, tested, in a home-not a shelter. I thought it would be all right to give it a chance.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. My sad foster kitty, Jackson Galaxy, a few days after he arrived.

I had the Feliway diffuser plugged in and all the cats had already been on [Spirit Essences](#) <sup>[2]</sup> for a few weeks. I expected hissing and difficulty and was ready to calmly move Jackson back to his room if problems arose.

But they didn't...at least not right away.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Jackson LOVES raw food.

**Jackson began to vocalize, a lot. His powerful meow carried throughout the house.** Some of my cats reacted to it, but mostly they just ignored it. **After Bobette and her attacks on any cat who came close to her I think they were ready for anything** but Jackson just walked around with his tail up in the air, yowling. He didn't bother with any of the cats. A few tried to give him a quick sniff when he passed by, but he gave them a look which told them to back off.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Ever elegant, Jaks points his paw as he has his morning bath.

I took some time to get to know Jackson. **He's a tall cat with a big "Biscuit Head" from being neutered late in life. He weighs almost 14 pounds, but he's lean. He's quick to purr or "burble" when I pet him. He loves to give head butts, but he's not big on being held and so far he's not a lap cat.** In some ways he's a bit like a dog-he likes to follow me around the house. He likes to be near the action, but I could tell he was looking for a place to call his own within my home. With 8 resident cats that was not an easy thing to do.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Mr. Handsome settling in on the cat tree.

**I tried to find a balance between allowing Jackson his freedom to roam around and to give my own cats some peace and quiet.** I knew that having a new cat in the house would cause problems and it did. Nicky unleashed a torrent of urine all over the house. Even though he had no contact with Jackson, it didn't matter. He was distressed and displeased. **Again I had to search for balance while my cats worked out what to make of this stranger in white.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. High four.

Each night I "tucked" Jackson into his room, but after an hour or two he'd start to yowl and bang on the door to get out. I tried

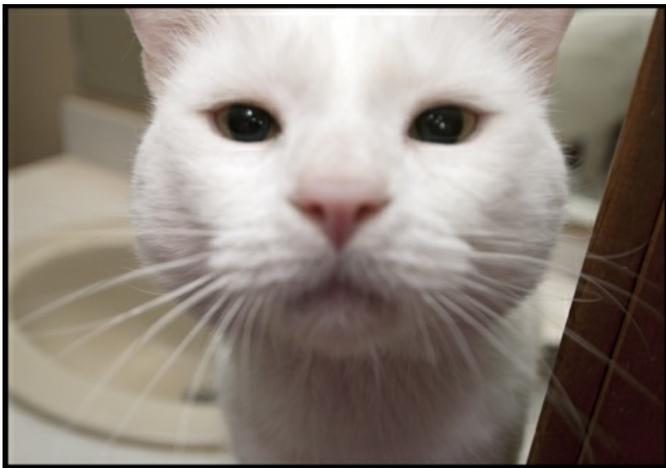
to tough it out. **If he made a fuss and I got up, I'd be training him to make a fuss so I would get up. Instead, I didn't sleep.**

**I didn't get much sleep for two weeks.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. *Feeling blue.*

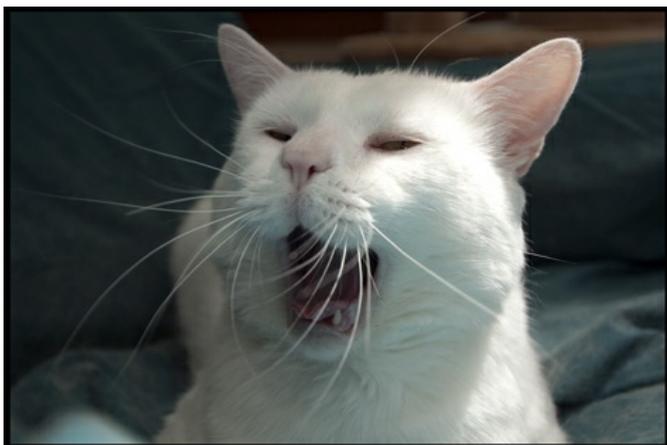
Then I started to wonder if Jackson was sick or that something happened to him in his last home. **He didn't care to be touched on his side and would warn me to stop with a nip to my hand. At rest, the rise and fall of his chest looked odd, not smooth and fluid but hitched. Jacks eyes were a bit runny-one stuck closed on and off for a day.** He was still eating well, but seemed down. I knew I'd have to run him to see Dr. Larry. My guess-list of what was bothering Jackson was growing. Did he have HCM [3]? Upper Respiratory? Allergy? Heart or lungworms? He's from the south. It's possible.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. *Kiss-face.*

**And then the fights began.** I didn't see them, but I heard them. One by one, Jackson was asserting himself with my cats, letting them know he was the boss. **Each confrontation lasted a few seconds, but it was enough to change the hierarchy of the cats for good.**

**None of the cats were injured, but there were plenty of clumps of fur on the rugs-none of it was Jackson's.** This surprised me because I'd heard that Jackson was picked on, which was why he was surrendered. Perhaps he'd had enough from being picked on before or the family wasn't up front with what really happened. **My cats gave him a wide berth, but as each day passes I see him sitting calmly in close proximity to one or more of the cats and the fighting stopped almost as soon as it began.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. *Life is so tough here in foster care. Don't let me keep you up, Jacks.*

**It wasn't easy for Jackson to find his place, but he carved something out for himself (and I helped by making some extra comfy spots he could use that the other cats hadn't claimed). He no longer gets shut away at night and his vocalizing is dramatically reduced. He met with Dr. Larry yesterday and they couldn't find anything out of the ordinary. Jackson wasn't the easiest patient and he expressed his anal glands onto Dr. Larry as his way of sharing his displeasure with having his temperature taken.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. *Burrito-boy.*

**Jackson's coat feels a lot better and his feline acne is almost gone.** He actually enjoys it when I clean his chin. When I'm done cleaning him off, I lean down and he gives me a few head butts, purring loudly. **Jackson's had some rough days. There are times when I reach out to pet him that he shrinks back in fear and runs off. I think someone must have hit him, which makes me sad and more protective of him than ever. When I think about all the care that goes into raising kittens so they never react like that to being petted, I wonder what sort of hellish life this cat may have had.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. This big guy just wants some love.

**Who could treat this big lug with anything other than loving kindness? If I have my way, he'll never be in harm's way again. Now I just have to find him the perfect forever home-one that will truly last.**

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**If you're interested in adopting Jackson, visit [Kitten Associates Adopt Page](#) [4] and fill out a [Pre Adoption Application](#) [5]. Also, please read our [Adoption Policies](#) [6] regarding diet, declawing and more. Jackson's forever family should live within or in one of the states surrounding Connecticut-United States of America. For the right adopter, we're open to discussing an adoption that's further out of state, but use your good judgement regarding appropriate distance. As an extra treat, [Mr. Jackson Galaxy](#) [7] has graciously offered a 15 minute consult to the person or family who adopts this marvelous kitty.**



**We're also still looking for a great home for [King](#) [8]. We've had NO applications for him and he's been with us for six months. King LOVES people, cats and dogs. He just needs to live with carpeting so he can get around. King was born without his hind paws, but is quite mobile and playful. He just can't "do" hardwood floors.**

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## **Comments**

Tue, 2012-06-05 16:18 — Susie (not verified)

### **Where are you located?** [27]

A friend may be interested in Jackson or King. :)

Tue, 2012-06-05 20:37 — [Robin Olson](#) [28]

### **Jackson's in Connecticut and ..** [29]

..King is in Georgia but he can be transported to CT and will be one of these days...thanks for your interest.

Wed, 2012-06-06 01:00 — KathyH (not verified)

### **Hope Jackson's feels better soon...** [30]

I have a question for you- Where is Dr Larry located? It's time for Goulie and Vinny to have their annual checkup, according to the notes Katherine at AID gave me. Since you think so highly of him, I'd like to take them there.

Wed, 2012-06-06 13:50 — [Robin Olson](#) [28]

### **He's a bit far from you...** [31]

He's a Maple Ridge Animal Clinic in Southbury, CT. Let them know I sent you. 203-262-0595

Wed, 2012-06-06 13:27 — Lauren (not verified)

### **I wish I could :(** [32]

I would love to adopt Jackson, but i think my two cats would be too aggressive :( Here is hoping he finds his furever home soon! :)

Wed, 2012-06-06 14:14 — Paulette (not verified)

### **How old is Jackson?** [33]

How old is Jackson?

Wed, 2012-06-06 15:29 — [Robin Olson](#) [28]

### **Jackson is about 2 years old.** [34]

:-) He's a big baby!

Mon, 2012-06-11 11:22 — Catnymouse (not verified)

### **What does 'Biscuit head'** [35]

What does 'Biscuit head' mean? :)

Thu, 2012-06-14 17:08 — [Robin Olson](#) [28]

### **Tom Cat Nicknames** [36]

It seems that male cats (tom cats) neutered later than kittenhood develop a BIG head-literally and figuratively! Here in the northeastern USA we call them "apple head toms"..in the south they call them "biscuit heads"! I never even heard that phrase until I trapped a feral tomcat and the trapper who helped me remarked about his big apple head! :-)

Tue, 2012-06-12 12:38 — [Dianda \(not verified\)](#) [37]

### **I hope he finds a loving home.** [38]

I saw this post on Jackson Galaxy's Facebook. And I thought I'd hop by to take a look.

I hope Jackson (the cat) find a loving forever home!

In meanwhile, I reblogged this on my cat-blog, and hope that will help!

Keep us updated about Jackson!

Wed, 2012-06-13 04:40 — [Animalcouriers \(not verified\)](#) [39]

### **Joackson sounds like he'll** [40]

Joackson sounds like he'll settle nicely in the end. King - well, he's special. Good luck in finding carpet and cat loving people - they don't necessarily go together ;-)

Thu, 2012-06-14 16:31 — [rumpydog \(not verified\)](#) [41]

## **What a lovely kitty! I hope** <sup>[42]</sup>

What a lovely kitty! I hope Jackson finds his perfect forever home real soon.

CICH @ [Google+](#)  
Robin @ [Google+](#)

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**Source URL (modified on 2012-06-05 10:43):** <https://coveredincathair.com/content/living-jackson-galaxy-cat>

### **Links**

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- [2] <http://spiritessences.com/>
- [3] [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertrophic\\_cardiomyopathy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypertrophic_cardiomyopathy)
- [4] <http://kittenassociates.org/available-cats>
- [5] <http://kittenassociates.org/node/add/adoption-application>
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- [7] <http://jacksongalaxy.com/>
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