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Tue, 2010-07-06 16:13 — Robin Olson

I'm sitting here at my desk. It's 102°F outside. It's a bit warm in the house even with the A/C on, but none of that matters. All I can think about is Chester.

I just went to Dr. Larry's to visit Chester. It was quiet there today. The usual sounds of construction were thankfully absent. There weren't any clients. The mad rush had just ended. I wasn't sure I wanted to know how Chester was doing, but there I was, anyway. Lauren, one of the very nice lady-Vet techs, smiled when she spoke of how Chester was doing. I couldn't wait to see him.

Over night Chester had made some sort of great improvement. No longer laying down and eating out of the side of his mouth—he was sitting up and eating furiously. He was sleeping, not like a damp rag, spread out on a table, but curled up as any normal cat might do. Not only that, but when she brought him out for us to visit, I gasped when I saw him. He was standing on all fours!



©2010 Robin AF Olson. Chester looks like a cat again. Hurrah!

Chester is still weak. It's to be expected, but he was UP and reacting to being petted. He was looking around and appeared to be much perkier than even the day before.

I was simply, astonished.



©2010 Robin AF Olson. Chester gets a bit of help to keep him steady as they take his weight for the day.

I bought Chester a catnip mousy toy. This catnip is REALLY strong and there isn't a lot available to purchase. I felt lucky to get some. I wanted to see if Chester would react to it at all; another way to gauge how he's doing.

I should have brought him a napkin because once he got a whiff of the catnip he started to drool a bit! It was clear he liked it very much. Seeing him do something, so completely normal, something I would never think twice about seeing, was truly remarkable. This cat is a cat again!



©2010 Robin AF Olson. Chester digs his catnip mousy toy.

While Chester was rubbing against his mousy, Sam, Lauren and I petted him. His coat feels much cleaner and softer. Though he is still quit thin, he appears to have gained some weight. His eyes were almost zombie-like on Saturday and now they react in a more normal way. It was a blessing to witness this transformation.



©2010 Robin AF Olson. A little bit stoned from the catnip (the tail of the mousy is under his arm), Chester enjoys his pets.

I spoke with Dr. M., who works with Dr. Larry. She was also very impressed with Chester's improvements. I asked if he was going home tomorrow and I think there is a good chance of that happening. It's not for me to discuss or decide-that's up to his family. I might give him one more day of Vet care since traveling in this terrible heat might be very hard on him, but again...that is out of my hands. One way or the other, I think Chester will be home one day soon (*KNOCK WOOD, no jinxing here!*)



©2010 Robin AF Olson. Chester, you ARE amazing!

We had a nice visit with Chester. It may be our last before he leaves for home. I told him I loved him and that I was proud of him for doing so well and to keep up the good work. I could tell that he was getting tired and needed to rest more. He probably has a long recovery period yet to go.



©2010 Robin AF Olson. Chester loves the attention from his new friends, as he thinks of home and his family who are waiting to see him.

It dawned on me just as we left-that Chester has been receiving Vet care for almost as long as he was lost in the woods. In my minds' eye, I can still see his face, the eyes dark, his body unmoving, under that fallen tree, perfectly blended in with the dead leaves he was about to become part of, forever. For the rest of my life, I will never forget rescuing Chester and his remarkable recovery. There are so few things to be happy about these days. For once, it's nice to take a moment and have something to smile about.

Chester is out of the woods, in more ways than one.

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Comments

Tue, 2010-07-06 16:29 — [Dorian \(@YourDa... \(not verified\)](#) ^[7]

[Yay, Chester!](#) ^[8]

Awww... I love the picture of him looking straight at the camera. What a face Chester has!

I'm so glad this is all good news. Good boy, Chester. Keep it up!

Tue, 2010-07-06 16:31 — [Janiss \(not verified\)](#) ^[9]

Wonderful news! Keeping ^[10]

Wonderful news! Keeping fingers crossed that he continues to recover! His resilience is nothing less than amazing.

Tue, 2010-07-06 17:38 — Chiplover (not verified)

You are a true hero!!! ^[11]

You should be so proud of yourself! You are a true hero!!! Thank you so much!!!

Tue, 2010-07-06 22:04 — [thethumbedinden...](#) ^[12]

what great news. ^[13]

Just the thought of either of my cats being lost and far from home rips my heart out. I remember when I moved from NY to Florida with them, the only time I got out of the car while driving was to put gas in. The meals were drive thru. The motels pet friendly, but still the mere thought still gives me shivers. Chester's guardian angel is you Robin!

Tue, 2010-07-06 23:01 — [IHAVECAT](#) ^[14]

thank you ^[15]

?for the updates on Chester. what a lucky kitty for having you in his life (his parents are so lucky toO!). have they come to visit him yet??!!!

Wed, 2010-07-07 02:25 — [rumblepurr \(not verified\)](#) ^[16]

We're both purring for ^[17]

We're both purring for Chester, such a handsome fellow.

Wed, 2010-07-07 07:19 — [Daisy the Curly Cat \(not verified\)](#) ^[18]

I am so happy to hear how ^[19]

I am so happy to hear how much better Chester is doing! Go, Chester, go!

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