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## This Precious Life. Chapter 2. More Hurdles for Chapstick the Kitten.

Wed, 2014-04-02 14:27 — Robin Olson

*Today "Chapstick" celebrates reaching the second week of life. During that time there have been many struggles. After being thrown into a dumpster like a piece of meaningless garbage on a cold early spring afternoon, with a sibling kitten who didn't survive, this poor little creature was lucky to have Guardian Angels on its side.*

**We're fairly sure that Chapstick, whose given name has been changed to Miracle, is a girl.** At her age and stunted size, it's tough to tell, but for now we can think of her as a little girl who, so far has lived up to her name.



©2014 Jeannie Garrison. Our first glimpse of Miracle beside a tube of Chaptstick® to show just how small she was.

**Miracle is finally bigger than the lip balm she was photographed next to and in the latest photos from her foster family Christal and Jonathan, you can see her limbs look thicker and more robust and her fur looks like it's growing softer.** In fact, Christal believes that Miracle may be a long haired cat. It's another one of those things where it's too soon to know for certain.



©2014 C. Peruzzi. The same age as her step-siblings, Miracle is dramatically smaller, indicating it's very likely she was born premature.

What we do know is last week Miracle was not doing well and Jonathan realized he hadn't gotten her to pass stool for far too

long. How he did this or how he KNEW to do this, is beyond my knowledge of neonatal kitten care, but Jonathan managed to give Miracle an enema with a small amount of mineral oil. He also fed some to the kitten to see if he could get her to function normally.

It worked. The next day Miracle passed very hard stool and after that she began to struggle less and thrive more.



©2014 C. Peruzzi. Able to sit up on her own.

**Miracle doesn't fight off attempts to feed her any longer.** She goes for her bottle and is happy to latch on to her new stepmom-kitty a moment later. She's eating like a champion and we hope this means the worst days are over for her.

Her step-siblings are about the same age as she is, but compared to her they are gargantuan. They are healthy, happy, thriving, as all kittens should be, growing lovelier every day.



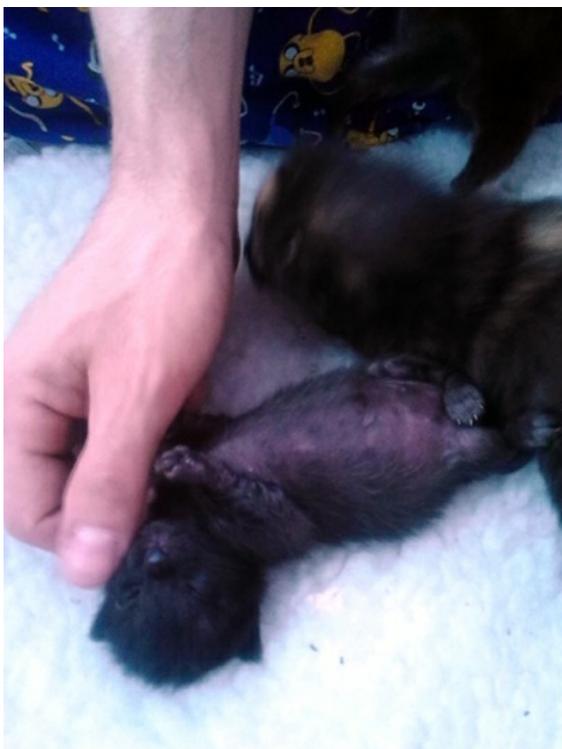
©2014 C. Peruzzi. Miracle's eyes are opening, yet another good sign.

**The other mama in the home is going to give birth soon, too. Though I welcome this news, it also adds to the shocking number of pregnant cats I'm aware of. My friends at Animals in Distress <sup>[1]</sup> have FOUR pregnant cats and are desperate to find good foster homes ASAP (contact me at [info@kittenassociates.org](mailto:info@kittenassociates.org) <sup>[2]</sup> if you live in Connecticut and work with a rescue group or want to foster).**



©2014 C. Peruzzi. The results of round-the-clock care are clear. Miracle IS living up to her name.

We just took a pregnant mom into [Kitten Associates](#) <sup>(3)</sup>, my rescue, and she gave birth two days ago to five healthy kittens (more on that in a future post). **I fear “kitten season” is going to be brutal this year, which shocks me because the winter was fairly harsh yet kittens are being born barely moments after the first day of Spring.**



©2014 C. Peruzzi. She feels so good she accepts belly rubs now, too.

I still think about the person who put Miracle and her sibling in the garbage, assuming they would die fairly soon. **I wonder if they regret what they did and feel badly about it.** I wonder if they don't sleep well realizing what a horrific thing they did. I wonder if they knew one of the kittens still lived and was possibly going to make it if they would be relieved or just not care. Sometimes I imagine telling them she's still with us, but they don't deserve any chance to feel relief. **Every day that Miracle is loved and grows bigger and stronger is proof that her precious life DOES matter.**

Plus, if I ever met the person who did this I would skip any updates and go straight to hurting them with all I've got.

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