



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

[Home](#) > The Squee Diaries. Chapter 5. The Last Days of the Blue Bathtub

The Squee Diaries. Chapter 5. The Last Days of the Blue Bathtub

Mon, 2013-07-08 11:46 — Robin Olson

The blue bathtub is empty. Once home to our little foster nuggets, it's now devoid of life, still lined with a soft thick blanket, a few motionless toys, and a tiny litter pan with kitten-safe non-clumping litter inside it.

As all kittens do and should do, they have grown quickly, and in their urgent desire to explore a slowly expanding world, the tub could no longer contain their curiosity.

But before that happened, let's take a look back on the last days of the Blue Bathtub.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. Minnie's milk bar is still open for lunch.

As the kittens reached 4 weeks of age, the "drunk walk" they did began to become more confident strides. I was glad to see those days pass. Although endearing to see, it also reminded me of Fred's last days of not being able to walk at all. **Seeing the kittens sure-steps gave me some relief, too. It meant their muscles and bones were growing stronger and more capable.** With each day, another small miracle. Their weight continued to increase as their awareness of the world expanded.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. Passed out pile of cuteness.

I placed a few simple toys in the tub with them, but they didn't understand what they were for. They were happy to use each other as a toy or alternatively a pillow when play time was over. They were still focused on mama-Minnie for everything and had no interest in any tempting foods I set out for them.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. Stan washes his face while brother, Joe sleeps.

With Minnie being so painfully thin, my hope is to get the kittens weaned as soon as possible, so she can work on getting her health back. She's a devoted, focused mother who is gentle and friendly, but fierce if threatened. My day-to-day relationship with her is very good and affectionate, but one night I learned Minnie's true colors when out of curiosity, I played a cat meowing sound effect on my iPhone that mimicked Minnie's own cry to her kittens. **Minnie heard it and immediately went on alert. She jumped towards the sound, landing on the counter near the bathroom sink.** She'd never jumped that high before and quickly began to growl, flicking her tail, anxiously looking for a threat. I played another sound, that of a kitten crying and she really flipped out-racing around the room, frantically searching for the intruder. **Her behavior was quite startling.**



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. Lil Gracey dreams her little kitten dreams.

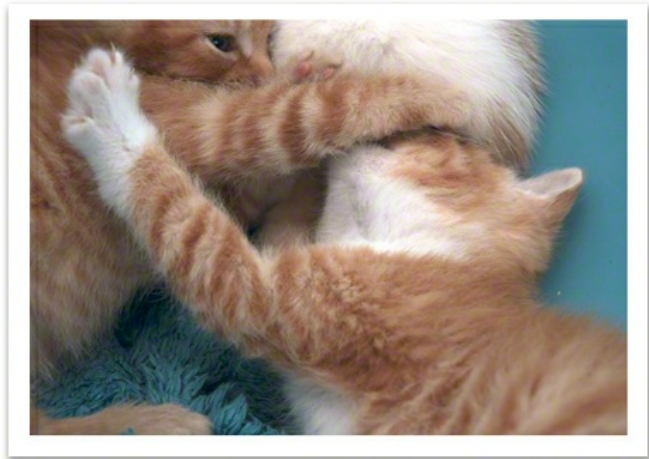
I told her it was okay and felt like a complete idiot for testing her like that. Her tail was puffed out and her pupils dilated. She was on high alert and ready to fight, but just as quickly as she alerted, she began to calm down. I was afraid to touch her, but soon realized it was probably safe to do so. Within a few minutes, Minnie was back to watching over her "flock."



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. *Shhh...nap in progress.*

Minnie's appetite has also been difficult to predict. One day she's ravenous and will eat what I give her, but most often she's picky and reluctant to take a bite. I've used all my tricks, warming the food, sprinkling dehydrated chicken on it, mixing in some raw chicken liver, but it doesn't often help. I'll even put some on my finger and rub it along her teeth to get her to lick some of the food and get a taste for it.

If she eats at all, she can take more than 20 minutes for her to get the idea that it's food and start to eat, some times even longer. I find myself running up and down the stairs to get the food back into the microwave to re-warm it up, thinking the warm food will help her smell it. **I can't seem to find the perfect food or combination of food that she will eat each time.** I've been adding goat milk to the food or bringing her a small bowl of it and she seems to like that a lot and I do know it's helped keep her hydrated and given her some extra Vitamin D.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. *Hey! Do not disturb!*

The kittens seem to be doing very well. Their weights are all in line if not ahead of what I would expect them to weigh at their age. Petey was the smallest so I worried about him. Stanely and Mellie are the big boys, each hitting a full pound in weight before the others. I was grateful that none of them were so off the mark that I had to intervene with syringe feeding.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. *Mel (left) and Petey (right)*

The kittens are starting to get their teeth and their eyes are blue, instead of dark orbs. They're starting to sort out what a litter pan is-besides a fun place to play. They seem to be okay with me in the room, but I always wonder if I'm handling them enough or too little. I want to keep them safe and calm until they're another week older. Then I need to get more people to visit so they don't get spooked at newcomers.

I should try not to worry so much about being perfect with them and just enjoy these precious weeks. I can't believe how they've grown and how it seems like overnight they've become little cats racing to see who the first will be to explore the world outside the tub.

And not surprisingly, Gracey seems to be leading the way.



©2013 Robin A.F. Olson. Gracey, leader of the pack, begins her attempt to bust out of the blue bathtub.



Stay tuned for Chapter 6.—coming soon.

CICH Content Categories:

[Cute Photo](#) ^[2]

[Foster Cat Journal](#) ^[3]

[Kitten](#) ^[4]

[Litter Pan](#) ^[5]

[Kitten Associates](#) ^[6]

[You Rock!](#) ^[7]

[Foster Mom](#) ^[8]

Comments

Mon, 2013-07-08 12:47 — Kathy (not verified)

The Squee Diaries ^[9]

Hi Robin.

First time responder here. I love your entries and all you do for the furbabies lucky enough to come into your life. These kittens are such cuties (but aren't they all)! I want to take them all home with me. We have lost 2 furbabies over the last few years. I miss them dearly and have a hard time passing by all the kitties in need of loving homes... we have a 7 year old rescued tabby and a wonderful, deaf, 21 year old who is not much interested in welcoming a newcomer. We tried a year ago and after a difficult 6 weeks, we unfortunately (and tearfully) had to return him to his foster home. We have decided to let her remaining years be peaceful for her, but it is so hard to pass by sad eyes staring at you from a shelter cage, wishing for some love.

I'm so grateful that there are people like you who do so much for our voiceless, furry friends and companions.

Kathy

Wed, 2013-07-24 02:46 — [Maryellen \(not verified\)](#) ^[10]

The Squee Diaries. Chapter 5. The Last Days of the Blue Bathtub ^[11]

Excellent blog post. I definitely love this site. Keep it up!

Mon, 2013-07-29 23:29 — [incense sticks \(not verified\)](#) ^[12]

The Squee Diaries. Chapter 5. The Last Days of the Blue Bathtub ^[13]

I visited multiple sites except the audio feature for audio songs current at this website is truly fabulous.

Mon, 2013-07-08 13:19 — [jmuhj \(not verified\)](#)

RE: Minnie's Family ^[14]

What balm for the soul it is to read this happy "tail" ;) I look forward to reading about Minnie post-weaning -- it will be wonderful to know that she is gaining weight and thriving <3

Mon, 2013-07-08 15:37 — Catnonymouse (not verified)

Squee-alicious! ^[15]

Great story! If I didn't live across country I would glad come over to help socialize the little sweeties. I'm sure you can find a few volunteers locally! Thanks for sharing them with us.

Wed, 2013-07-10 09:00 — Kay (not verified)

Kittens ^[16]

They've grown up so quickly and all look happy and healthy. You and Minnie did a wonderful job. I hope that all of them have been spoken for (adoption wise). The webcam was a wonderful addition! Thank you for all that you do for our feline friends.

CICH @ [Google+](#)

Robin @ [Google+](#)

Source URL (modified on 2013-07-08 11:46): <https://coveredincathair.com/content/squee-diaries-chapter-5-last-days-blue-bathtub?page=6>

Links

[1] <http://petties.dogtime.com/finalist-voting>

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

[3] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/57>

[4] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/63>

[5] <https://coveredincathair.com/taxonomy/term/94>

[6] <https://coveredincathair.com/category/cich-content-categories/kitten-associates>

[7] <https://coveredincathair.com/category/cich-content-categories/you-rock>

[8] <https://coveredincathair.com/category/cich-content-categories/foster-mom>

[9] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6362#comment-6362>

[10] <http://press-release-distribution.net/all-press-releases/119910-ndei.org-wins-outstanding-achievement-award-from-the-interactive-media-awards.html>

[11] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6407#comment-6407>

[12] <http://incensesticks.velahosting.com>

[13] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6423#comment-6423>

[14] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6363#comment-6363>

[15] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6366#comment-6366>

[16] <https://coveredincathair.com/comment/6375#comment-6375>