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Where Was I?

Tue, 2011-09-27 15:01 — Robin Olson

Last week sucked the life out of me. It was a cumulative effect of the stress of caring for Bob during the last weeks of his life, then watching Bob lose his battle with cancers, then the three little orange kittens dying and so many other things. **Pretty much everything that's not an emergency has been kicked to the wayside.** I'm just wiped out and sick with a nasty chest cold. After 10 days I think I'm finally starting to feel somewhat better, but now I have a mountain of things to catch up on. I'm still trying to write "thank you" notes to donors from months ago and catch up on posts for cats in need and somehow try to figure out how I'm going to pay the mortgage next month.



©2011 Maria S. Mikey!

Yesterday I sat in bed and felt guilty, but I really needed to zone out. Things have been very difficult in the house since before Bob died. Everyone needs a break and there's just no way to get one.

Right after Bob died, many of the cats started peeing all over the house. It's been a nightmare. We know that Nicky, one of the big boys, is peeing and pooping inappropriately. He's peed into a cat food bowl that was sitting on the floor. Great aim, but shocking, since he did it right in front of me. Of course, he needs to go to the Vet. We have to rule out illness, but we also just dropped \$800. on Nora's (Nicky's sister) emergency dental. Nicky is due for a wellness exam, blood work and urinalysis. Maybe he's not feeling well, but odds are this is the result of the "pecking order" in the house changing.

I upped the number of [SSScats](#) ^[1] and Feliway diffusers. I ordered [Spirit Essences](#) ^[2] from Jackson Galaxy. Sam and I are working with the cats to keep them calm, but Sam and I have not been getting along at all. We don't fight, but we don't talk, either. I know it stresses the cats out. If for no other reason, we had to fix that, too.



©2011 Robin A.F. Olson. Free at last, the DOOD relaxes on a cat tree in the living room.

Then there is the DOOD. **Finally freed from two-month quarantine and not sick with Feline Leukemia, his debut into the rest of the house was probably going to spark more flare ups between the other cats and cause even more peeing.** I knew it would probably be temporary, but that didn't make the fact that Nicky peed onto my family's heirloom oriental rug any easier to take.

Life is about managing change. Things are always in flux, but how do you deal with it when it all feels like too much?

Shutting down doesn't help and I can't just sit in bed with the cats and watch reruns of [The Big Bang Theory](#) ^[3] for the rest of my life. I have to pick myself up and get to work and plow through some things. It's been a rough time, but I have to have faith that it will get better.

Sunday afternoon, Sam asked me if I wanted to clean the rug (again) or put clean sheets on the bed next? He was placating me. I don't think he wanted to do either, but he feared my wrath since the house is getting really messy and I was very angry about Nicky spoiling the rug. I don't know why I chose that moment, but I asked Sam to sit down so we could "talk." I was done with being silently furious-it was time to just let it out and be done with it.

We had a long talk. **We both let each other know we were fed up with the relationship, or lack thereof.** It wasn't overly emotional. There wasn't any yelling. I think we were both to a point of either; "let's just get this over with" or DO something to fix it. I felt dead inside. I figured Sam probably felt about the same way. No reason to be afraid of being hurt. We've been in each other's life for 18 years. It's not always going to be smooth sailing and maybe we had grown apart so far there was no turning back?

I had no feeling about any outcome. However it worked out was fine, as long as something is worked out. **I couldn't live like two strangers in the same house any longer. I really thought this was the end.**

But...it wasn't. The turning point was when I told Sam I really wanted him to be my friend and he said he wanted the same from me. I had to tell him things that have really hurt me and about things I really need from him and he shared his feelings about what he needed, as well. **We didn't try to be something we're not, but we did agree to just try to be friends. Our lives are intertwined in so many ways. We have to keep trying.**

I'm glad Sam and I talked. Things are better and the cats seem more relaxed, as well. I realized you can't just plow forward and hope things will work out. They don't. You have to do the work or you can just suffer in silence.

As for the cats, there have been a few surprising updates. More on that in my next post, but first I gotta get some work done.

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Comments

Tue, 2011-09-27 16:40 — [AbbyManx](#) ^[15]

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Am glad to hear that things are improving.
Have missed your postings.

purrs
>^,,^ ♥Abby♥Boo♥Ping♥Jinx♥Grace♥

Tue, 2011-09-27 18:52 — [Catnymouse \(not verified\)](#) [17]

Thank you for sharing that [18]

Thank you for bearing your soul to us, your fans. I can relate to the relationship issues. Communication is key. All of your household has been going through so many changes and so much sorrow. It's a part of growth, although it certainly doesn't feel very good when we are going through it. Be good to yourself...giving to Robin half as much as you give to others...your fans included! Blessings, dear one, feel better soon.

Tue, 2011-09-27 20:15 — [Marilia \(not verified\)](#) [19]

Hello [20]

Hi friend!
I missed your posts and I continue to send my good vibrations to you and your family!!!
Kisses and hugs

Wed, 2011-09-28 09:25 — [Lori Morin](#) [21]

Hugs [22]

Wishing you all the best - I truly know how you feel - sometimes everything is just so overwhelming and sticking your head in the sand seems like the only way to deal - you have done more than enough and need time to recharge! I pray that things improve SOON for everyone in your household. Keeping the Angels in my prayers as well...

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Links

- [1] <http://www.amazon.com/Innotek-SSSCAT-Cat-Training-Aid/dp/B000RIA95G>
- [2] <http://www.spiritessences.com/>
- [3] http://www.cbs.com/shows/big_bang_theory/
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