

Magic in the Backyard

by Elaine Hutchison

Continued from Spring, 2018 . . .

At the end of our last story about Magic, he was at Tempel Farms, a place where he was reacquainted with the wonderful horse-human interaction of riding. Because of the care and attention from Tempel Farms and working student Larissa Holmes, Magic was ready for a new home.

Not long after he was available for adoption, a trainer named Laurie Hedlund came to meet him on behalf of one of her students. After meeting Magic, she was smiling. He was a great match for her student, Jillian Martinez. And very soon, Jillian was getting ready to welcome this very special Lipizzan to her place in Oklahoma, New Future Farm.

Leader of the Herd

Soon after his arrival, Jillian saw evidence of Magic's backyard



Magic and his girlfriend, Ginger

"I want Magic and I to change that," she says. "That's where we're headed. I want to advance up the levels of Western dressage and I want to give some exposure to this amazing breed within the Western dressage community." Watch out, Western dressage horses of Oklahoma...there's a new boy in town!

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Trainer Laurie Hedlund and Magic at Tempel Farms

history. "He was such a pet. He didn't know how to be in a herd," she says. There was a lot of social ineptness. But as Magic got accustomed to this new way of being, another big change happened. The leader of this small herd died, and Magic had to adjust again.

Magic emerged as the leader of the three remaining horses and was soon showing his leadership qualities. "He's such a generous leader," Jillian relates; "very gracious. When they visit the horse trough, he makes sure that everyone drinks together."

There's also a very social corner of the farm, a place where Magic can meet his friends for some buddy time. The corners of three other farm pastures meet near a small tree, providing a perfect shady spot for a friendly circle of animals consisting of five cows, three horses, six alpacas, and a miniature donkey.

There's a new boy in town

Although Jillian had owned Lipizzans prior to Magic, she wanted to explore a different discipline with this new boy – Western dressage. Jillian became interested in Western dressage after she moved to Oklahoma, but she didn't see any Lipizzans being used.



A majestic Magic in his pasture



Lipizzan Rescue Foundation

Please consider adopting or fostering

Donations always welcome!

Pasture Mate Program

<https://lipizzanrescuefoundation.org/sponsor-or-foster>

Please consider becoming a Foster Parent, or Sponsoring, an older, retired Lipizzan. Every empty field needs at least one beautiful white horse grazing contentedly.



STELLA

STELLA IN CALIFORNIA

Stella is a big, beautiful girl! At 14 years old and standing 16.3 hands tall, this gorgeous Lipizzan and Swedish Warmblood cross is a good brood mare prospect. She can do some light riding although she does show signs of intermittent unsoundness because of arthritis in her front feet.

Stella would be a lovely addition to any barn. How about yours?

SPARKEY AND LONNIE IN WASHINGTON

Sparkey and Lonnie, two 11 year-old registered Lipizzans, are in search of their forever home. This mare and gelding are closely bonded to one another so they must be kept together. Sparkey and Lonnie are handled together for their farrier appointments and grooming, but they have no other training. They are both 14.1 hands tall, a closely matched pair that makes them great candidates for driving.

If you think this cute couple could find a spot in your heart, please submit an application to adopt them!



SPARKEY & LONNIE



FAITH

FAITH IN MARYLAND

Faith is a half Lipizzan, and we are uncertain of the other half. She is approximately 22 years old and is 14.3 hands tall. Faith is sound and enjoys a good run in her pastures. She willingly does what is asked of her. She understands cues easily but is still a bit unbalanced in her gaits. She is currently being ridden in a hackamore. She loves treats and being ridden outdoors.

Is your barn the forever home for Faith?

If you have questions about adopting Faith, please reach out to us.

SOPHIA IN SOUTH CAROLINA

We'd like to introduce you to one of our charming ladies of the South, Sophia. Sophia is a 21 year-old registered Lipizzaner mare who stands 15 hands tall. Although she cannot be bred, she can be ridden and needs a confident rider. Trail riding is one of her favorite things to share with her human. Sophia is sound but does require occasional chiropractic work to maintain her soundness.

This lovely gal could be just the horse you are looking for!

Other Lipizzans also available — visit www.LipizzanRescueFoundation.org



SOPHIA

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Still a Backyard Boy

The story of Magic started out in a backyard and he has returned to a backyard, but one with a few more features including a couple of barns, a new riding arena, and acres of pasture.

Jillian loves having the horses just out the back door of her home. "I can sit at my dining room table having my dinner and watch them having their dinner," she laughs. "I guess Magic is still a backyard horse."

When asked how she feels about Magic, Jillian giggles, and says, "Are you kidding? I'm totally and completely in love with him!"

The story of Magic is far from over. He has new horizons to explore in Western dressage, new friends to meet in Oklahoma, and a human who wants nothing more than to make this horse as happy as possible.

When horses are up for sale or adoption, some say that horses reach out on an energetic level to the humans they want to be with. Others say that it's the humans who subconsciously call out to the horses of their dreams, letting the horse know they are on the way. Perhaps it's a bit of both.

In the case of Jillian and Magic, it makes no difference. No matter who called out to who, they were meant to be together. Well done Jillian and Magic, we say--well done!