

Aria's Testimonial for Black Thai Cattery
Cain and Hunter ("Jack" and "John")
The Tom Cruise Litter
Born 3/20/2018

Before detailing our amazing new kittens, I'll set the stage as to how our family decided to adopt our precious boys: In December of 2017, the day before New Years' Eve, our beloved flame point Siamese cat, Harley, suddenly fell ill. After emergency care, running numerous tests, and keeping him at the clinic overnight, he showed no improvement—in fact, he had increasingly declined. With heavy hearts and overwhelming love, we decided to put him down to end his obvious pain.

I had never known a life without Harley. He was a member of our family before I was born, and I had always thought of him as like another sibling to me. Not only was he a fun and mischievous boy, who loved to play (even at age 15), but he was the epitome of the term "unconditional love". As a child, I remember running and screaming after him around the house with my brother, just to see how quickly his tail would puff up. We would throw things at him (we thought it amusing when he hit it back to us), and poke his nose, and ruffle his fur, and squeeze him until I'm sure he could barely breathe. But through all of this, not once did Harley attempt to hiss, bite, or growl at me and my brother. He was always relaxed, lying on the floor in the middle of constant commotion from dogs, people, hamsters, you name it. It was his floor, and if you wanted to get through, you had to go around him because he definitely wasn't going to move. My mom liked to call him "The Greeting Committee" because he was extremely vocal, and would come running to the door every day when we came home—even if he was sleeping. We also considered him something we call a "Cog", or a dog trapped inside a cat's body, because he displayed so many dog-like characteristics. These included: knowing his name and coming when he was called, loving food perhaps a little too much, performing tricks, and being extremely happy-go-lucky. I loved curling up with him when it was cold, or when I had a bad day (he always seemed to know). Harley was also extremely beautiful, with burnt orange stripes concentrated at his forehead and cascading down his back and tail, and clear, sea-blue eyes that could melt anyone's heart.

One can hopefully imagine the hole that he had left in our family; to this day I still cannot believe that he is gone.

After Harley's sudden passing, our family thought that we would wait a little while before possibly considering a new edition(s) to the family. However, it became increasingly clear that we were all lacking severely in kitty love, and my mom began to look online for Siamese cat breeders in our area. This proved to be a difficulty because many breeders were too private about how they raised their cats, or they did not reply to us. Additionally, some breeders just didn't have the right look of cats that we wanted. That is, until we found BTC. I remember how excited we all were when we looked at all of the amazing photos and read countless testimonials on the website. They seemed perfect, and I could not believe how tolerant and well-conditioned the cats seemed to be.

Tom replied immediately to our emails, and after learning more about his kittens, it was pretty much unanimous amongst my parents, brother, and I that we were all in. My mom informed him that we were looking to adopt two male kittens, and we were put on Tom's ever-growing waiting list. We were soon thereafter invited to their house to meet the current

cats/kittens and to observe how they were raised. All of the cats were so beautiful and playful, I wanted to take every one of them home with me that night. I was extremely impressed by how the kittens looked up to both of Tom's daughters and how loving the girls were in return. After our visit, Tom offered to allow us to observe the birth of our kittens. We readily agreed, and when we got the call weeks later that Phoenix had already given birth to one kitten, we arrived at their house as fast as we could. I'll never forget that experience. Over the course of the weeks that led up to the adoption of our kittens, our family looked forward to the weekly updates and numerous adorable pictures and videos. We enjoyed seeing how they grew up little by little.

Eventually, the day came when we were to choose our two out of the litter of four males. My mom and I were going to choose the kittens and then we were going to come back later with my dad and brother to pick them up. Altogether, my mom and I spent about four hours just trying to pick (sorry Tom)! At that point, one had already been taken home, but our decision was still hard (we wanted to take them all home). Eventually, we chose our two and later that day, we came by to pick them up. They were each wrapped in a blanket that had been with them since birth, and we received two kitty packages of food, toys, and the boys' information and heritage. I had never experienced such well-behaved and calm cats (let alone kittens) in the car before. They just sat on our laps the whole way home, and eventually fell asleep! When we got home, it took them both a little while to get accustomed to the house and they were shy at first, but later that night when they thought we were asleep, we could see them walking around and getting into everything (which they still do).

We, being the devoted Giants fans that we are, decided to name our boys Hunter and Cain, and let me tell you that they have been one of the best decisions we could've made. They are both so sweet and loving, and they come when they are called. They are so, so playful, and you can hear them tearing around the house chasing each other at night. They follow us around and meow at us too (especially when it's time for food). Our older cat, Shadow, fell in love with them too. We at first thought that there would be problems with him and the boys (he was a grumpy old man at times), but to our delight, he treated the kittens like a mother. We would often see them rub up against him, or lay with him, and Shadow would be constantly cleaning them. They are not afraid of our busy, noisy, household, and fit right in. I am so glad that we have gotten two because they have bonded so well to each other, and they pretty much do everything together. Hunter and Cain are also just beautiful to look at; I often will just sit and watch them during the day. We constantly take them in the car with us, when my mom is dropping us off or picking us up, and they are a wonderful surprise whenever I see them!

We thank Tom and his family so much for the loving, well-caring home that they have brought our boys into. You will not be disappointed should you make the much-encouraged decision to adopt from them. Thank you Black Thai Cattery!