

YOU AND YOUR PET

If dogs could cry...Dante tells his story



Who's that Lady?

By **JUDITH-ANNE KOLU**
Upper Credit Humane Society volunteer

Lady is so aptly named, a healthy three-year-old short-haired smoke blue female, who surveys life with a regal air. But she is a very sweet lady and definitely is a "real" cat— intelligent, beautiful, friendly, loving, funny and poignant who knew what living in a family was like and is bewildered by her continuing run of bad luck.

Lady was surrendered to the shelter in October when her owners moved to a nursing home and no family members could take her. Lady nearly spent all her "nine lives" with the shock of realizing that this Shelter was meant to be "home".

Lady may be shy and a little stressed at first but would be a joy once settled and would soon, with gentle care, become her friendly self. Lady, like a lot of women, likes to demonstrate her talkative side; she will meow away while enjoying "sweet lovin'" and even while eating when she is contented. Lady loves playing with toys with feathers and enjoys grooming with her zoom groom brush. Her favourite treat is MediCal Dental kibble but others are acceptable!

It cannot be stressed enough that Lady needs to get a home quickly, as the caregivers are aware that "stress shock" could return. Lady is hoping that someone could offer her a quiet home with no other cats or dogs. Contact the Shelter, 519-833-2287 or email adoptions@uppercredit.com

By **JUDITH-ANNE KOLU**
Upper Credit Humane Society volunteer

Sometimes an animal's story is so compelling that author Judith-Anne Kolu feels it's best that he tell you about it himself.

If dogs could cry...

Well we can, I can tell you from personal experience...do you know what it feels like months of waiting, stress, other dogs here for two minutes and gone...well I do!

My name is Dante and I am four-year-old male Rotti who, I am told, has captured many hearts during his neverending stay at the UCHS Shelter which is nice and shows I am a good boy but I still haven't got a home.

I am a compact Rotti weighing in at 80 lbs and I call myself a "pocket-Rott" because I am at the low end of the height scale but that's all positive because it makes me not only attractive, but easier to handle and I would assess my energy as medium.

I was surrendered because my family was moving, however, I don't think they wanted me as I lived in the house for a year and then I had to make my home on this horrid chain thing in the backyard for three years. This was not an easy adjustment, I felt abandoned and the "pack" did not have much time for me but I survived. I am housetrained, do not soil my pod or bed, crate-trained, know my "basic" commands and walk well on a leash.

My name means "enduring and determined" which I have tried hard to live up to because life has certainly thrown a few curve balls my way. I actually have a joyous, friendly spirit and love people,

Pet of the Month



and ball play but I am a Rotti and need firm, determined but gentle guidance.

I long for people with Rotti experience who know I am not a dog to just pat on the head for 30 minutes and ignore for 23 hours— I need to be with YOU and you had better realize that I will happily follow you from room to room (yes even that one if I can)...you are the star in my Universe whoever you are... a life on that chain with no one was like a knife through my heart.

I love playtime but need an adult family as even a smaller rotti is a strong dog and we tend to be a little clumsy and could accidentally harm a tiny human by treading or bumping into them also like all dogs it is wise not to tease us which many children are apt to do. I have shown I am tolerant of other dogs, (also cats); like car rides and if I can snuggle with someone I love that is heaven, a body massage bliss!

I had one opportunity of a new family but it did not work out. I was totally confused at unclear direction and two weeks is not enough time for me to learn to love and trust after what I have been through. I am sure a resident dog companion who knew the ropes would help me settle in and know how to please you (you would have to bring him/her to meet me) which would be



DANTE

fun or life as an only is fine.

The caregivers ask me not to give up and sink into depression and I am told to keep dreaming of better days, the warmth of a loving home and all the love I am going to give you.

Author's note: We do not want Dante to become even more stressed so give him a call at 519-833-2287 or email adoptions@uppercredit.com to visit. A home visit will be required.

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