

King Kahn

The Little Persian That Could

A dramatization of what probably happened to this Miracle Cat

March 6, 2006

The car came around the corner like a flash, unmindful of the wayward Persian cat that had begun to cross the road. In a mind numbing moment as metal hit flesh, he was flung to the side of the road. The driver may have glanced back, but most likely, merely drove on, late for their appointment.

The little black cat lay in the ditch, broken and bleeding. Who knows how many hours or days passed before he dragged himself to the shade of a nearby tree or how many more before he managed to find a few remaining drops of water?

Perhaps the second or third day he managed to stand up and assess his situation. His mouth burned from thirst. It didn't look good. His jaw was broken and it hurt so bad! His teeth were embedded into the roof of his mouth, leaving only a few intact. His left eye hung in its orb and he looked quite fearful he thought.

On wobbly legs he advanced to a public building, walking slowly along its perimeter. People stopped and gawked but no one intervened. A passerby threw him a piece of chicken from his lunch. He sniffed at it and wanted to eat it so badly but his jaw would not work and he could not, despite his best efforts, get the food in his mouth.

This probably went on for a while. No one knows how long. Would the infections from his eye and jaw kill him or would he die an even slower death from starvation?

Finally, after an unknown amount of time with very little water and no food, Round Rock Animal Control was called. Mercifully, he was picked up by their officers and given immediate medical attention. This little cat's luck continued. He was then brought to Shadow Cats Rescue in Round Rock where he was hospitalized at Central Texas Cat Hospital. The doctors there labored over him for hours working to reconstruct his face and make some sense out of his altered anatomy. His eye was removed. Packing gauze filled the empty orb. A feeding tube was inserted into the esophagus. His tongue protruded from his mouth but his newly attached jaw opened and closed more normally. More surgeries would be required at a later time.

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He spent the first night in a deep drug induced sleep. The steady rise and fall of his breathing encouraged those watching over him.

The next day, he was groggy and moving about, but more pain medications were given to help him.

On the second morning he slept peacefully, but now we could see him making biscuits in his blanket — even though he appeared to be asleep. By that afternoon, he was walking slowly about the veterinary hospital with his IV pole and staff member in tow. And even though his appearance was still disturbing, this little Miracle Cat was proving he had a strong Spirit and might make it.

It has now been five days since King Khan was rescued and has been under veterinary care. He continues to improve each day, but the cost of his care is going to be high. He will need future surgery on his jaw and some additional reconstructive work. At present he is unable to eat and is being fed through his feeding tube.

Khan is a little five pound Warrior Cat. His determination and resiliency are strong. He WANTS to live. How can we say no?

