

WINTER 2023

HEARTBREAKER



He was most likely someone's cherished pet, or maybe even a prized show horse at one point, but after years of loyal service, the people he trusted the most drove him to the desert, tied him to a fence post in the middle of nowhere and left him to die. This is Heartbreaker's truly heartbreaking story.

Summertime in the desert of Southern California is hot and the 4th of July 2023 was no exception. It was over 100 degrees when a few folks that were out enjoying the holiday came across a horse tied to a fence post, starving and alone with no food, shade, or water. Thankfully, the good Samaritans acted quickly and reported the horse to Animal Services and help arrived just in time to save him from dying of dehydration or heat exhaustion. Heartbreaker was taken to the local animal shelter where he received feed, water, and some immediate medical attention.

One week later, a past board member and supporter of Redwings, Kathleen Burr, heard about the little Arabian that was

abandoned in the desert and quickly reached out to Redwings. We had already accepted 19 horses in the first half of 2023 and were already at capacity, but when we heard Heartbreaker's story, we knew he belonged here at Redwings. Kathleen Burr generously donated her time, truck and her trailer to bring Heartbreaker on the four-hour journey to Redwings.

When he arrived, we were horrified to see how bad his condition was. Heartbreaker was a body score one, completely emaciated, and his mane and tail were completely matted. He would barely touch his feed the first night and spent most of the time laying down. First thing, the next morning our vet came out to examine Heartbreaker and helped us design a refeeding program tailored to his needs. After a dental exam, our vet determined that Heartbreaker was in his mid-thirties, and it was possible he was even older. We also discovered that Heartbreaker had few teeth remaining, but almost all of them were infected, causing him extreme pain. We wanted to act immediately and remove the abscessed teeth, but Heartbreaker was so weak and had a significant heart murmur, so our vet advised us to wait until he was stronger before sedating him for the dental work.

During his first week at Redwings, there were several times we thought that Heartbreaker may not have the strength to make it through. He barely ate anything and spent many hours laying down flat

in his stall. We questioned if we were doing the right thing for him, but something told us to give him a little more time. We ran blood work weekly for the first few weeks to monitor him and make sure he was not suffering from any organ failure or internal infection. After one week we decided to risk sedation and we moved forward with the much-needed dental work. Heartbreaker made it through the procedure but still was not eating very well and spent a lot of time laying down.

It took almost four weeks before Heartbreaker really started to show improvement, but we finally knew he was going to make it. He developed a great appetite and he suddenly had tons of energy, enjoying running and playing in the turnout paddock. He was feeling so good that at times he was even hard to handle. Heartbreaker has now been at Redwings for five months and he has beaten all the odds. He is a body score five and is full of energy, this resilient little Arabian has found his forever home at Redwings.



YEAR IN REVIEW

Friends of Redwings:

On behalf of our staff and Board of Directors, we are truly grateful for your support making 2023 a successful year! I'm so excited to have joined the Redwings team this year and can't wait to share a few wonderful highlights from 2023 at the ranch:

- Redwings continues to be an aftercare partner through California Retirement Management Account (CARMA), taking in 3 new off-track thoroughbreds in 2023, putting them through the retraining program, and getting them prepared for a second career and loving home.
- We are honored to continue accreditation through Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance(TAA) and the Global Federation for Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS.) These two organizations recognize after care programs and sanctuaries and hold them to the highest standards of excellence.
- We are thrilled to be named one of the 45 Thoroughbred aftercare organizations to receive a 2023 grant from Thoroughbred Charities of America. These funds will continue to help our retraining program thrive.
- The 3rd Annual Redwings Block Party raised over \$40,000 to help fill our barns with hay for the winter. We would not have been able to make this happen without our amazing sponsors, donors, and attendees! Don't worry, if you missed this year, mark your calendars for September 2024!
- We hosted two amazing Equine Photography Workshops through Essence Captured. Join us next year on May 18th and October 18th for one of these incredible experiences all while taking breathtaking photographs of our beautiful horses.



Photo Credit, Deb Hoifstetter



- We are truly blessed to have an amazing volunteer program that continues to grow. Redwings had nearly 100 volunteers through our doors in 2023 and continues to have waitlists for our volunteer orientations. How lucky are our horses to have so many people that love and care for them as much as we do?!

In total, Redwings Horse Sanctuary has saved 25 horses in 2023 and 7 lucky horses have been adopted into their forever loving homes. Each horse that comes through this organization is deserving of a second chance at love and we continue to work on finding more forever homes!

All of us here at Redwings wish you the happiest of holidays! Thank you for everything that you continue to do for us and our four-legged friends!

Best,

Sarah Parsons
Executive Director

Welcomed!



Jet



Speedy



Savant



Cassanova



Heartbreaker



Amia



Kanani



Ela



Doole



Copper

Adopted!



Mr. G



Nonnie



Gambini



Hank



Miller

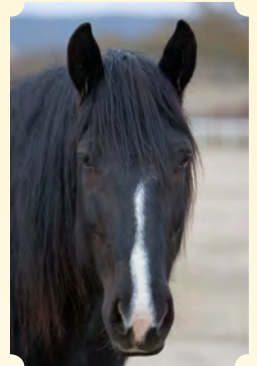


Rebel

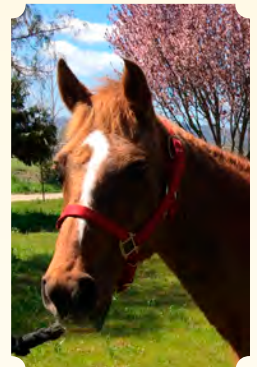
Farewell

*Until We Meet Again
Over the Rainbow Bridge*

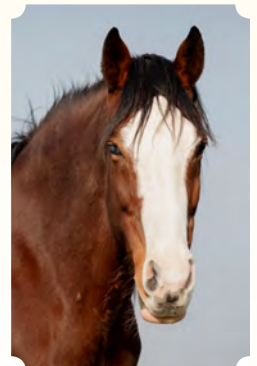
*Rest in Peace, Dear
Friends.*



Melissa



Oliver



Splash



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Every Horse Deserves Humane Care.

Featured Adoptable Horses



Savant

Savant is a sweet and gentle Thoroughbred gelding who will be four years old in the spring. Savant retired without making it to the track

because he prefers life in the slow lane. Savant is very laid back for a young Thoroughbred but is still not suitable for a beginner and would only be suitable for a child if they were in a structured training program. Savant is going very nicely under saddle in the arena but has no experience out on the trail yet. Savant trailers, clips, ties and is good for the farrier. He has excellent ground manners and loves attention.



Camille

Camille is a lovely Lusitano mare that will be 5 in the spring. Camille was started under saddle in the fall of 2023 and

currently has about 120 days (about 4 months) under saddle. Camille is a sensitive horse and would do best with a calm, confident and experienced rider to continue her training. She ties, trailers, is good for the farrier, and has good ground manners.

To request detailed information on an available horse, please fill out our "Adoption Application" on our website:
<https://www.redwingshorsesanctuary.org/adoption-process>

Your form goes directly to the Equine Care Manager and does not obligate you to adopt.