Taro's Double Brush with Death

by Keiko Oda

That morning Taro looked queer. In the evening mother found him collapsed, breathing feebly and foaming at the mouth. We rushed him to the vet who diagnosed 'distemper.'

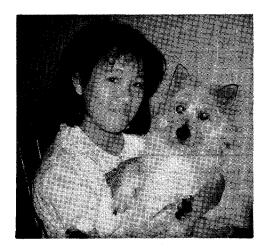
Taro is a white dog with brownish speckles given to my family when I was just a year old. That was 15 years ago. He and I were weaned on the same baby food and I can never remember a time when he wasn't beside me. I used to treat him like a baby and tuck him into bed with me on cold nights. When I was scolded, he came to me and licked my tears dry. He is terrified of thunder and we used to laugh when he dived into the closet at the first clap.

2度"生還"したタロー

その日、タローは朝から様子がおかしかったが、夕方、裏庭で泡を吹いて息も絶え絶えなのを母が発見した。急いで病院に連れて行くと、「ジュテンパーら」い、レック診断

「ジステンパーらしい」との診断。年前では日と茶のブチンパーられて、15年にものブチウンので、15年にもので、大ていり、15年にもの心では、一次のでは、一次では、一次のでは、一次のでは、一次のでは、一次では、一次では、一次では、一次では、一次では、一次では、一次で

It was when I was at primary school that Taro left the house of his own accord and went missing for three days. We searched endlessly and eventually found him in the Osaka dog pound at Morinomiya. At first mother couldn't pick him out as there were so many dogs crammed into the place but when she



shouted his name he crawled out from under a pile of dogs. Mother said she felt awful because all the other dogs became silent and gazed sadly at Taro, knowing that they had no one to come and rescue them from their terrible fate. Another day and he would have been destroyed.

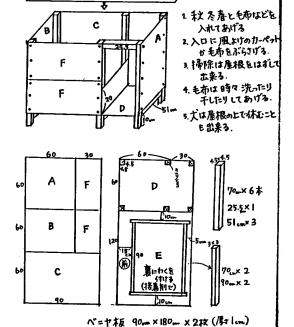
Taro stopped eating and grew weaker and weaker at the vet's. The vet said he could no longer keep him as his 'other patients' might become infected. We carried him home certain he was dying. A few days later however, like a miracle, he began to eat a little and to totter feebly around. My mother had fed him queen bee's jelly which she's convinced did the trick. It turned out the vet's diagnosis had been wrong all along. All the tension was suddenly released and I couldn't stop the flow of tears.

Now he's regaining his strength though still a bit skinny. Returning from the brink of death twice he's had double his share of luck. I'm determined to take better care of him in his old age.

タローはそれから日ごとに良くなり、げっそりやせてはいるものの、ほぼ元通りに元気を回復した。再び生還したタロー。老体だが、これからも一層大事にしてやりたいと思う。 小田 景子(大阪府枚方市)

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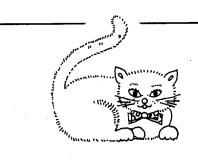
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避妊について

犬も猫も人間も赤ちゃんはとても 可愛いいですね。でも産まれた命に 責任を持てるから赤ちゃんを産むの でしょう。人間が計画をたてて避妊 をするように、責任の持てない命は 産まれる前に産まないようにして下 さい。

①犬も猫も生後6ケ月(早熟なもの)~8ケ月でおとなになります。犬は 生理があります。(人間と同じよう に出血があります)猫は人間の赤ちゃんが泣くような声でうるさく鳴き はじめます。

②発情期が終わったらすぐに避妊手術をして下さい。すでに妊娠しているのもいるでしょう。妊娠していても避妊手術はできますので、赤ちゃんが大きくならないうちに獣医に相談して下さい。



③手術費は関西の平均で、犬=18,000〜35,000円、猫=13,000〜20,000円。値段が高いから技術が良いとは限りません。良い獣医にちゃんとした手術をしてもらいましょう。

*避妊をすれば子宮ガン、子宮蕃の う症等の恐ろしい病気はなくなりま す。(良い獣医による手術が条件)

*犬も猫も妊娠したら60日で出産するので、注意してそれ以内に手術を受けましょう。

*よその犬、猫に迷惑をかけないためにも、また飼いやすくなるので、 オスの去勢もお考え下さい。

◎獣医さんを紹介しますので、ご相談下さい。