Special's (Momo's) story

'Last year we adopted Special, now renamed Momo, from ARK and Oliver san brought her to Ehime (in Shikoku) by airplane. This April we revisited ARK together.
When Momo, who has one front leg missing, first arrived, she was very over-anxious and fearful. She remained hidden in her kennel, not allowing us to touch her and never eating when we were around. After two weeks we tried to take her out of the kennel but she totally panicked and to our shock escaped through the gate. We chased after her but she had disappeared. Although we searched everywhere we couldn't find her that day.

The following day we started the search in earnest. We put up posters, adverts in the newspaper, asked everyone; newspaper delivery boys, police, hokensho, city office officials, milk deliverymen, electrical company employees and an animal professional who thought she might be heading back to Osaka and ARK. So the search area became much wider. We could only hope and pray she would come back.

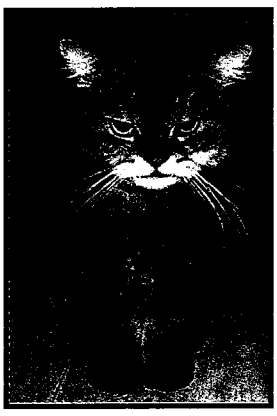
On the fifth day there was a call, " she's in my garden." We rushed to the caller's house. I was trembling with happiness to see her again. She kept running away when I tried to touch her. This happened several times so I decided to grab her. She started biting my hand, I suppose out of self-defence and finally the pain made me loose my grip of her. My husband wasn't at home and the caller, an old woman, was of no help so I rang the police but all they said was " Catch her yourself, it's your dog." I asked the old woman to shut the gate so Momo couldn't escape. Now in great pain and almost fainting I called an ambulance.
After treatment at the hospital I reached home and although it was 2 am, I called the animal professional who said she'd go first thing in the morning. I hardly slept, worrying about Momo.
In the morning she arrived with a puppy in tow, (use a dog to catch a dog) and was successful in catching Momo. So after such drama, Momo came home again.

When Momo had originally arrived from ARK, she never barked but after her escape she began to bark. I think she finally feels at home with us. My hand took over a month to heal but I believe it was a test God gave me to live without one hand, like Momo.

I think Momo's escape was a good lesson for us, we will never push her to do something too quickly. The neighbours are very friendly and ask ," what happened to her leg," while some school kids call "Momo-chan," when they pass the house and say " that dog's cool, she's got guts." Momo seems to listen to what they are saying about her. She has lots of doggy friends and will sit and wait for them to come up to her. Through Momo we have made a lot of new friends and I like to think of this as the 'Momo effect.' Momo loves to go out in the car, even to the vet, where she is well-behaved, though she clings to me like her mother.
Momo was happy to return to ARK on our visit. The round trip was 800 kilometres. This homecoming strengthened our relationship and we like to feel that Momo has two homes, ARK and ours. We want to tell you how much Momo means to us, how much happiness she gives us and how much we love her.

「ライオン」にされたネコの話 CAT TALE

私の義妹はオクラホマ出身で、少しばかり訛りがあります。猫を数匹飼っているのですが、南部に住んでいたときには、美容室に連れて行って、いわゆる「ラインカット」をしてもらっていました。すなわち、猫のお腹から下に垂れている被毛を（放っておくともつれるため）全部切ってしまうのです。彼女がシカゴの兄の家に引っ越してきたとき、１匹の猫の毛が移動中にくしゃくしゃに乱れたので、ラインカットをしてもらいに行きました。ところが、代金を請求されてびっくり……なんと南部の２倍もしたのです。彼女は美容師に確認しました――「LINE CUT ですよ。おわかりでしょうね」と。「LION CUT でしょう。わかってますとも」というのが相手の答……南部訛りのせいで「ライン」ではなく「ライオン」と聞こえてしまったのです。かくして、猫はこんな姿にされてしまったというわけ。（写真をご覧下さい。）義妹は１週間泣き続けました。でも、もっと悲しかったのは猫の方。シカゴの１１月といえば……猫には保温用の毛皮が必要だったのです。



義妹が支払ったのは：
移動用キャリー代……３２．９９ドル
グルーミング代……８０ドル
そして、あわれな姿にされてしまった猫の苦痛……その代償は金銭では測れないものです。

（クライヴ・ラヴロック）

My sister-in law is from Oklahoma and has a slight accent. She has cats and when she lived in the south she would take them to the groomers and have what is called a Line Cut. To her a line cut is when all the fur hanging down below the cat's tummy is taken off (because it gets matted or snarled).

When she moved to Chicago with my brother, one of the cat's fur got all tangled up during the move so she took it in for a line cut. She was quite surprised when she heard the price as it was twice as much as it was down south. She confirmed with the groomer that he understood what a line cut was and he said "yes, I know what a LION cut is." It seems her accent came out sounding like LION not LINE and this is how her cat was returned to her. (see photo) She cried for a week...but not as much as the cat. It was November in Chicago and the cat needed all the fur it had.

Cat car carrier - $32.99
Grooming fee - $80.00
Getting the look from one seriously aggravated cat... Priceless.

Clive Lovelock