

Tangy's Tail

by Monika Kaushik

photos courtesy of Monika Kaushik

Y JOURNEY as an animal Reiki practitioner began during my quest for miraculous healing for my pet. In May 2019, Bolt, my golden-brown labrador, received a diagnosis of cardiomyopathy, an enlarged heart condition. Besides optimal medical treatment, I explored all other possible healing modalities for Bolt. As I delved deeper into spiritual healing, I came across Reiki. I felt drawn towards this form of divine healing since I believed it would help my pet. So, I completed my Reiki certification online in 2022, after which I began offering Reiki to Bolt.

My family and I began seeing positive changes as he could resume his erstwhile active life. He felt relaxed and less tired, and the stiffness, inflammation, and pain in his limbs because of arthritis also appeared eased. He continued his long walks, much against the advice of the veterinarian. Encouraged by observing this perceptible progress, I decided to further my knowledge of Reiki.

Impressed with the International Center for Reiki Training curriculum, I took Animal Reiki I & II, and the Animal Reiki Master class. I also completed the Usui/ Holy Fire® III Reiki Master. Equipped with specific animal Reiki knowledge, I intensified my sessions by offering Reiki to Bolt every night. He would fall asleep deeply within minutes of laying my hands on him. When Bolt woke up the following day, he was all energetic and spirited. I, too, became calmer, unfazed, and felt more positive as I gave Reiki to Bolt. Despite his advanced stage, the omnipotent Reiki healing helped my pet endure all those years without complications. Reiki's power was confirmed for me when I saw Bolt's unwavering vitality until his last moment on October 6, 2023.



Bolt, my pet son, who gave my life a meaningful purpose through Reiki.

In September 2023, while feeding my stray cat Snooky in the basement parking area, I fortuitously spotted an orange stray cat, fairly sized, with a bushy tail. The feral cat appeared famished and meowed, looking at me from under a car. I felt compassion for its situation, and being a caregiver to two cats, I immediately understood its desire for food. I grabbed a fistful of dry kibbles from my treat bag and walked toward it. Watching my approach, it instinctively receded beneath the car. I placed the dry food on a piece of paper and then gently pushed it toward my furry friend. Skeptical initially, it cautiously walked forward to eat and soon gobbled up all the kibble.

Looking at Snooky from a distance, eating nonchalantly from her bowl, was reassuring since it meant she had not disapproved of the presence of another feline in the territory. Heartened by the approval, I tore open another packet of wet food and poured it on the kibble. Probably starving for days, the orange tabby immediately took two steps forward and devoured the food. Finally,



Tangy, full tailed, underneath a car in the basement parking area.

feeling satiated, it looked at me in my eyes, turned, and walked away.

The following day, anticipating another encounter with the furry friend, I went down with its food. This time, the cat showed no trepidation and ate the food placidly. Watching him eat, the catchy name "Tangy" popped into my head because he was an orange tabby tomcat. Snooky's heartwarming welcome to the new kid on the block added to the special moment. She walked up to him, and the two hit it off as they touched one another's nose. From that day onwards, Snooky and Tangy bonded well as they ate dinner together in the basement parking area. A few days later, having explored the vicinity, Tangy also began accompanying Snooky for food in the mornings. Every morning, I started feeding them at the same designated place in the basement.

Over the next month and a half, Tangy became chubbier, stronger, and healthier. He also marked the basement and my car parking as his core territory. Both Snooky and Tangy had become good friends. They would be together, chasing and playing, but they parted ways later. I often saw Tangy perched on the boundary wall of the building or sitting beneath a car while Snooky hid in the bushes.

One night, when I went to feed both, I found only Snooky waiting. I called out to Tangy, but he was nowhere to be seen. Not making much of it, I fed Snooky and decided I would come later at night. After about two hours, when I called out to Tangy, I heard his faint meow. As I looked around, I saw him walking toward me with scratches and blood on his face, and his bushy tail had a gaping wound. I felt shocked seeing him in this condition, realizing he had fought with another neighboring stray cat.

I first gave him food in the bowl and tried tending to his wound. But he stepped back in fear. So, I let him eat in peace. Soon after he had finished eating, he walked away slowly. Since it was late at night, I could not take him to the vet. I felt lost, unsure of how to help him. However, practicing Reiki daily and fully aware of its potential, I immediately sent distance Reiki healing to Tangy. I prayed for his highest good as I intended to see Tangy heal and let Universal divine energy care for his well-being.

The following day, intuitively inspired, I took the carrier with me and went down to feed. Snooky was again waiting alone in the usual spot. She became scared seeing

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the carrier in my hand and ran away behind a car. When I placed the carrier next to a pillar, she came out from behind the car and devoured her food as I watched her from a distance. Soon after she left, I again called out to Tangy. Fortunately, I saw him coming from beneath a car beside the pillar. I walked up to him to give him food and saw an even deeper cut in the middle of his tail. The remaining bloodstained tail tip at the back hung and dragged down as he walked. I realized he had again picked a fight, as his wound was fresh. I stood appalled, knowing forcibly catching him would only worsen the situation and alarm him further.

Tangy's injury was critical. I felt disheartened, but at that moment, something struck me. I discerned Reiki was working on Tangy as I saw this "healing crisis" surface and immediately calmed down to get a grip on myself. Promptly, I beamed Reiki on Tangy as he ate his food and offered Reiki to the situation. I chanted all the Reiki symbols as I intended to see Tangy cured.

Taking him to the vet was arduous, since it was challenging to restrain him in the cat carrier. However, I quickly took out a creamy treat that did the trick. I tore open and emptied the packet into his food bowl placed inside the carrier. Following the irresistible whiff of the creamy tuna, Tangy walked inside the carrier to eat. As soon as all his four paws were in, I gave a gentle push on his butt and confined him by briskly closing the door. The moment he felt trapped, he turned around to escape. In twisting and turning, his tail brushed against the door, and in the blink of an eye, his dangling tail fell off inside the carrier on its own without a flinch.

Seeing Tangy inside the cat carrier without coercion was unbelievable, and witnessing his tail fall off naturally was miraculous. It was the sheer grace of Reiki that worked right there, and I could not help but thank the Divine energy for working for the highest good of the being.

My husband and I took Tangy to the vet straight away. On examining Tangy, the vet advised only dressing of the wound. He was glad that the tail fell off on its own. He explained to us further that had the tail not fallen innately, it would have had to be amputated. Tangy would have had to endure more pain via the surgical procedure besides being admitted and given anesthesia. Instead of undergoing surgery, all Tangy had to go through was the routine med-



Tangy, with his bandaged tail, in the crate at my home.

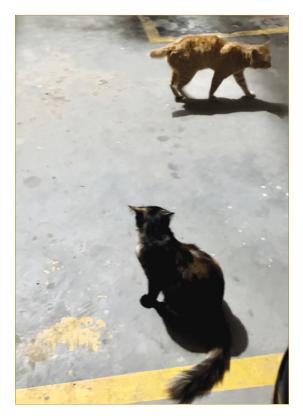
ical clean-up, followed by dressing. The vet bandaged his little tail from the base and advised him to come for clean dressings until it healed fully.

On my way home, I remembered the miracle of Reiki healing that allowed Bolt to cross the Rainbow Bridge pain-free and dignified in October 2023. Tears welled up in my eyes as I once again witnessed the sheer marvel of Reiki when Tangy did not need to undergo surgery.

I brought Tangy home and confined him to a big crate. Initially angry and frustrated, he meowed for hours. He seemed to miss his freedom. So, I began giving him Reiki from outside the crate. Within a few days, all his incessant meowing and growling stopped. One day, I even dared to open the crate and give hands-on healing. Instead of escaping out, Tangy purred and fell asleep. He enjoyed each time I offered him Reiki.

Besides Reiki, weekly visits to the vet for new dressings continued for about a month and a half. After several dressings, the vet gradually removed his bandage and let the wound dry. Reiki was not only healing Tangy, but also helping me cope with the deep sorrow and anguish I was suffering because of the passing of Bolt. I felt compelled to practice Reiki healing on other strays who suffered from minor issues like bruises, injured legs, fear, and anxiety. Finally, after the tip of his tail recovered, I left Tangy back in the basement, thanking the Universal spiritual energy

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Tangy with his short bushy tail, and his friend Snooky.

for blessing him and his tail with a benevolent outcome. Several months later, Tangy now walks with a short, bushy tail, and is healthy.

Reiki inspired me to dedicate my life to healing all beings—humans, plants, and animals alike. Each time I channel the divine light of love and healing, I am astounded by its unique, remarkable, phenomenal, and miraculous nature.

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Monika is a Holy Fire® III Reiki Master, and an ICRT Animal Reiki Master. She looks after stray dogs and cats in her vicinity and is actively involved in animal communication and practicing animal Reiki healing. Monika recently opened Reiki Sparsh, where she provides classes and

mentoring. She enjoys writing and has written two children's books and articles for parenting magazines. You may contact her by email at monicakaaushik@outlook.com.