

Celebrating Animals



I adopted Bella seven years ago. I had been thinking of adopting a rescued greyhound for years, knowing so many needed homes. Bella was 2 and had raced for about a year. Our beginning together was kind of rough. She had housetraining accidents and separation anxiety. With patience and gentle training, she eventually came around.

Every day, Bella goes with me to the golf course where I work as a groundskeeper. She comes running when she hears my car keys in the morning. She'll run alongside my golf cart or sit on the passenger seat floor. In winter, I plow paths for us to walk along.

Bella's race history shows that she frequently fell. Even now, she gets ahead of herself and trips because she's so fast. A piece of her upper lip and nose are missing—maybe from a fight or a racing injury. She kind of looks like she's snarling at people, but she's not. In this photo I took, she's in her classic upside-down sleep pose; her tongue usually sticks through the notch in her lip. When she dreams, she whimpers and kicks her feet like she's running. She'll make a nest for herself from pillows and a blanket. She likes to put her head on my shoulder and have her ears rubbed softly. She's my best friend.

— **Rebecca Newman,**
Southington, Connecticut

Do you have an inspiring photo of a favorite pet or wild animal? Send it to us for possible publication in *All Animals*, along with an explanation of 150 words or fewer about why it's meaningful to you. Photos should be at least 300 dpi at a size of 5-by-7" and at least 2 MB.

**YOUR BEST
SHOT**

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