

HOW I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE SHILOHS

My best friend Michele called one day to invite me to a Kennel function at our local Mall. She was taking her little Sheltie and was a bit nervous since she hadn't met anyone from the club yet. I wasn't able to go with her, but planned to meet her afterwards to find out how it went. When I arrived at her house that evening, she was so excited, she didn't even wait for me to get

into her house before she was handing me information about this beautiful dog at the mall with her owner Wendy Fullerton. All I know was it had to be something special to get her that enthusiastic. The flyer was about the Shiloh Shepherds and had Wendy's phone number on it. I called Wendy immediately and she promised to send more literature. Michele could not say

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enough about the lovely Trinkka. She talked at great lengths about the size, temperament, color, and hair coat of this exotic dog.

I should explain at this point that I have always loved Shepherds and have had two as devoted pets, both of which had to be euthanized because of hip problems. Nevertheless, I believed that someday I would finally find the perfect dog. I almost

bought a German Shepherd puppy in September, but something told me to wait. That something was Shiloh Shepherds.

Less than a week after talking to Wendy, I received this huge package in the mail from her. I read everything from cover to cover and felt that someone had read my mind. Superior dogs with excellent temperaments just sounded to good to be true. But it was.

Calling Wendy back was immediate and easy. Talking to her just one time, I felt like she was already a friend. I wanted to meet Trinka. Wendy opened her home to me without hesitation and I met Trinka the next day. The moment I stepped into the house, I fell in love. A beautiful, friendly but reserved (classy) Shiloh met me at the door. After a thorough inspection, Trinka decided I could stay. All questions that I had were answered by Wendy and Trinka.

Watching Trinka move, running outside, was the final question. She was absolutely fluid in a way you don't see anymore. At least in Shepherds.

The next move was to meet Tina and Shep. They came with Wendy and Trinka to our farm on a cold, sunny day. Both Shep and Trinka were in our home and were as calm and laid-back as if it were their own home. Of course Shep is as masculine and handsome as Trinka is feminine and pretty. After a question and answer session, we decided to go outside to visit with our

miniature horses. Both Shep and Trinka were calm and sweet with the horses. The horses on the other hand were little snots with the dogs. After Tina showed the intelligence level of the Shilohs by letting me pick a word, instead of heal (I picked car), and then healing Shep with this new word on a loose leash, we decided some pictures were in order. The Shilohs saw the



Which one is the horse?

camera and heard the clicking and were ready to smile and pose. The horses were only interested in grass, but between Tina and me, we managed to get some cute shots.

When it was time to leave, I made a last ditch effort to buy Shep. I wanted a male and his color and temperament were perfect. Tina did quote me a price, I think One Hundred Million which was a little out of my price range, so I opted to wait for one of his pups.

My husband and I bought our farm in

1985 and started fulfilling our dreams of having certain animals which some people may find unusual. Those were Clydesdales, mini horses, mini donkeys, and a llama. We are near the main highway and have found out the hard way that some people don't have any respect for others. That is the reason I've wanted a dog with presence here to deter the people who don't respect our property or animals. I should add at this point that my husband has always been leery of Shepherds and has made it a point to remind me of that each time I thought about getting one. When Shep and Trinka were on our farm, my husband got a chance to deal with them on a one to one basis and has agreed that the Shilohs may be the right dog for us. I have explained to him that these dogs are the direct result of a superior breeding program which didn't just worry about a pretty face but more importantly temperament and conformation. With some of my friends being so involved with the AKC, I at first had a concern that

the Shilohs weren't registered in that club. But after researching and checking and reading, I now feel that if each individual breed governed their dogs and their breeding the way the Shiloh Shepherd people do, there would be only good dogs out there. No mutts, no children with broken hearts because of defective puppies and no one of any age getting ripped apart by the family pet. This may seem extreme, but think about it. The more you know about the International Shiloh Shepherd Registry, the more reasonable it sounds.