

## Cinders

Cinders was, perhaps, the most beautiful dog I've ever known. She was a white and gray well-proportioned and slender Siberian Husky with magnificent, intense turquoise eyes and the daintiest features I have ever seen outside of a porcelain figurine. She had been surrendered to the SPCA at the age of nine years, and it was unfathomable to me why anyone had given up this exquisite creature. She certainly did not look or act like an older dog. She was agile and nimble and alert. I would have guessed her age to be three or four.

Not only was she gorgeous, but she was also extremely intelligent and keenly aware of her surroundings and the humans and other dogs who were at the Shelter. She had perfect posture, regal bearing and excellent conformation – it was obvious that she was a purebred dog. She was friendly, but reserved – affectionate but not overly demonstrative. One could not help but be entranced by her near perfect appearance.

My husband and I had previously adopted Shadow, a nine-year old Husky that had been owner-surrendered because of the sudden development of the owner's "allergies." Of course, it was discovered that Shadow had advanced heartworm disease, and it was this that prompted his owners to turn him in to what could have been a death sentence.

Shadow was gorgeous also – although he was larger than most Huskies and my guess I that he had some Malamute in him. He, like Cinders, was gray and white with blazing turquoise eyes. We adopted him and provided him with heartworm treatment to which he responded very well. When I learned about Cinders from my friends at the SPCA, I went to "meet" her. I walked with her, talked to her and spent some time with her. I decided to bring Shadow with me the next day. to meet her to see if they would get along.

I introduced them. They strutted, postured and posed and generally showed off for one another. Each was beautiful and aware of the fact. They recognized it in one another. The attraction was obvious. It was basically love at first sight.

I adopted Cinders and took my two breathtakingly beautiful magnificent Huskies for a walk around the Shelter to the accompaniment of praise and compliments by virtually everyone who saw these two gorgeous dogs walking together. I then placed them in the back seat of my car and headed toward home. They were happy dogs– and obviously infatuated with one another. They definitely had "chemistry," They were destined to become a "couple."