

Eleanor Crickette

Eleanor is a beautiful little 17-pound Dachshund/ Mini Pinscher (Min Pin) mix who we rescued from a local shelter along with her biological brother and littermate, Fritz Henry. Both weighed 3.5 pounds and were huddled together as far in the back of a large kennel as they could get. There had been other dogs with them in the kennel. But all the other Dachshunds and Dachshund/Min Pin mixes had been adopted. Only these two tiny and vulnerable little creatures were left and faced euthanasia.

A backyard breeder who couldn't and wouldn't care for them had surrendered them to the shelter. They looked so sad, frightened, lonely and helpless. My heart went out to them, and I decided to adopt them both on the spot. I had no idea if either one had a chance of being adopted, but I felt that I had to adopt both of them and keep them together. It was obvious that they were deeply attached to each other. They still are loyal and devoted to each other one year later. They share a deep and inspiring bond. We adopted them last July.

Ellie and Fritz are quite the pair. He is much more Dachshund in appearance – black and tan and long. Ellie is dappled – with grey, tan, black and white markings. She is tall and has very long, slender (actually spindly) legs. She is spirited, feisty and proud. Fritz is mellow, low-key, and rather shy. Eleanor is adventurous and fearless. Fritz is more conservative and safety (self-preservation) oriented. Eleanor will boldly leap into our pond – Fritz will take a sip or two of water from the pond. Eleanor will leap from high places for no apparent reason other than to experience the sensation. She will climb jagged rocks to pursue an errant frog or turtle. Fritz will watch her with wonder at her bravery. They dote on each other and look after each other.

Fritz and Ellie play with our other Dachshunds, but no how many other dogs are outside with them, they tend to stick together. They enjoy the companionship of the other dogs, but prefer to stay close to one another. They kiss and lick each other all the time. I do not know how or why the deep bond between them exists. I only feel privileged to be able to observe the love and affection they share.