

## *Dear Heavenly Creatures,*

You have never met me but still you decided to help me and my new owners.

My name is Will. This wasn't always my name and I didn't always have a nice warm house with food, water, or a family that loved me. But that doesn't matter anymore. The past is in the past. Right now my days consist of naps on the couch, sleeping in comfy beds, rub downs from John and kisses from Courtney. I remember how I came to this home of two very loving people and their two kittens Duncan and Piper. It was in September when Hurricane Igor hit. I had hid in a shed for shelter from the wind and rain. After three days of a vigorous storm, the sun finally appear to dry the earth. I was out and looking for food when I spied two little kittens in a window. One was an orange ginger colour who was really fluffy and the other with long multi-coloured white, black, tan and orange fur haphazardly placed every which way. I was curious about them and they were just as curious about me. These people must love cats... I wonder if they would love me?

I stayed around for a couple of days until finally Courtney spoke to me, she was wary at first and I, too, was wary about her. We didn't know what to think of each other. Our love started out as a head scratch, some food and fresh water and then it bloomed into ritual visits. Every night when she would get home from work I would hear her call "WILL!" I guessed that was me, because a great big smile would come across her face as I would slip out from under the patio and come to her. For nights, then weeks, this love affair continued until we became so comfortable with each other that I would let her scoop me up and cuddle me. She began introducing me to the kittens.

As a month had passed, winter was in the air. The leaves had changed and some were already on the ground. The nights had got longer and colder. Courtney was becoming really worried. I would hear her say to John "but what are we going to do, he can't stay out here, he will freeze and we can't afford it right now with the kittens' vet bills!" One day, while she was out on the step enjoying a cuddling nudge from me and talking on the phone, I remember her calling and talking to people saying things like 'euthanize,' 'shelter,' '5 to 10 days.' I don't know what any of this meant but I do know she was really upset about it. Finally she called a place called HEAVENLY CREATURES. I don't know what Heavenly Creatures had said to her but her eyes lit up, her voice changed, and she was getting happy. What was she happy about, must be me. I am getting really good at this cuddling thing I do.

A couple of days later, Courtney captured me and put me in a cage. I didn't like it at all. I cried and meowed but she said "don't worry, I'm helping you." Then she placed me in her car. I was so scared that I couldn't stop crying but she told me "don't worry, you will be fine." Out of the car into a well lit place that had many different smells of other cats and dogs. Oh God! Please don't leave me here Courtney! I hate dogs! Please Courtney let me out of this cage, I cried but she insisted and kept saying "don't worry Willy; you'll be ok, I will be back to get you tomorrow and bring you home." Home? What's a home? I was confused and I really didn't like where I was. But when the next day arrived and just like she had promised, she came back. "Now, Will, time to go home and see how you like it," she said. I was still confused about this 'home' thing but I didn't care; I just wanted out of that place and that cage. You know what? Home had a bed, food, water, toys and love. I liked this home thing!

This was a long time ago. I don't know how long exactly but fall had turned to winter, and winter into spring. Courtney said "thank God for Heavenly Creatures, only for them who knows where you would be today." So thank you, Heavenly Creatures, for helping Courtney and John in getting me a check-up and neutered. If there wasn't a Heavenly Creatures I could still be roaming the streets of St. John's fighting with other tom cats, digging through garbage for food, trying to find shelter or even worse, I could be dead. Thank-you to everyone who has helped put me in a loving home.

**Note from the owners:** John and myself both love animals very much but after adopting two kittens previously and paying their vet bills of shots, spayed, and neutered we weren't really looking for another cat, nor could we afford it. When Will came to our home we couldn't help but fall in love with him. The most common words used to describe Will by our company would be "he is so happy and loving" "nice" "cuddly" and "friendly". Will truly is an amazing cat. I can't believe how someone could have abandoned him. He has really made our home complete.

I would like to thank Heavenly Creatures for their generosity in helping to save another life of an animal that had been tossed onto the city streets to fend for himself. Without the aid of Heavenly Creatures to help have this cat neutered I don't know what would have happened to him. But John, Will and I are truly grateful to have such a loving animal rescue organization. You have helped in aiding all animals that are in need of good homes, care and love. You all are truly remarkable in the endeavors that you take on. God bless you. You are loved by every animal in which you have saved, and by their owner.

*Lots of Love,*

*Courtney, John, Duncan, Piper & Will*

