

PI Jamie Katz Lost and Found Pets

August 1, 2016

<<<<<<<>Look Who's Home<>>>>>>>>

Roaming for 3 days in Key West, FL...
Ketzel is now SAFE & HOME!!! Here is Ketzel's story.

Ketzel was taken to a shelter with her brother as kittens. She remained in the shelter and foster care for 6 years until she and I met and made a forever home together; as a result, she has always been an indoor cat and not especially curious: she bores of toys very quickly and has never been mischievous. While in our summer home in Key West, I leave the front door open when I'm on the porch in the morning drinking coffee - she comes out, sniffs around, goes inside, comes back out, gets a scratch on the head, goes back in. When I work on the back patio, she will come outside and sit under a chair - she does like to go under the deck & house, but only to explore for a few minutes before returning. On Wednesday night, she had been in and out and I kept an eye on her. I was inside working and thought I heard a loud cat sound - when I went outside, no Ketzel and no sign of disruptions. I called to her and looked around, but couldn't find her. I tried sleeping on the living room couch - I kept the back door open and got up to look for her with a flashlight throughout the night. No return. I began researching how to find her, and emailed a contact request to PI Jamie Katz at 3 in the morning. There was no question I would engage Jamie's assistance to find Ketzel and bring her home as quickly as possible.

As directed by PI Jamie Katz, I was walking down my street calling for Ketzel, while a friend followed 100' behind me. About 60 yards from my house, I saw a cat walking behind a car on the opposite side of the street. As the cat walked under the car in front of me, I realized it was Ketzel and called out to my friend to come closer. I then called Jamie for advice - she said to grab her! Ketzel then walked from the car right to me, and after handing the phone to my friend and getting a good angle, I was able to grab Ketzel by the scruff and hold her to my chest. I was still wearing my headlamp and a group of bicyclists rode by - it was a stressful moment, and Ketzel scratched and squirmed away from me, running down a walkway between a house and fence (Ketzel is an Egyptian Mau - her breed is exceptionally fast and has been clocked at 30 mph). Per Jamie's direction, I got a humane trap from home and sat behind the neighbor's house where I saw Ketzel run. I softly called to her and read magazines out loud for over 4 hours, in an effort to get her to come back to me. When I was running low on water and my cell phone battery was dying, I decided to return home. I noticed a neighborhood tabby in the street run into my yard - I suspect this Mr. White Legged Tabby Cat may have encouraged Ketzel to sneak away from my yard for a 3 day rendezvous! I entered the house and saw Ketzel in the back yard - she came right up to the back door and I joyfully let her in; reunited at last!

Ketzel returned home in good spirits and hungry, but not famished. Her coat looked good, she did not have fleas or injuries. As Ketzel is a happy indoor cat, I do not expect we'll have a runaway experience like this again, but if so, I feel confident that I now have the tools to appropriately deal with the situation and secure community support to help find her. I'm grateful for my experience with PI Jamie Katz and appreciate the guidance she offered to help bring Ketzel home safely!

- Abbey Weiss in Key West, FL