

Our Happy Beginning Story...



Since the time we were kids, my husband and I have always had dogs. I wouldn't say that I was ever really a 'dog person' until I met my husband and fell head over heels... for his beagle Fletch. I think Fletch sealed the deal for me on marrying his dad! After we got together ten years ago we slowly ended up with a collection of three beagles and after getting married eight years ago even fostered a few dogs through the beagle rescue as well. Three years ago after returning to Colorado after living in Las Vegas for a few years we lost one of the foster dogs (my dad had adopted him) and one of our beagles within two weeks. My heart was broken and I was in no mood to get another dog.

Last year it started becoming obvious that our beloved Fletch wasn't going to be with us much longer. Our youngest beagle, Baron, had never been an only child so we decided to get a lab puppy. In September, two months after bringing Chase the yellow lab into our home, we did end up losing our dear Fletch. Since then we have been noticing that dear Baron is not a fan of his younger and now bigger brother Chase. They play but Baron mostly just barks at his brother and hides from him. Of course the puppy thinks this is a game and just continues to torture his brother.



So how does all of this tie into Rayne? I promise I'm getting to that. About a month ago, one of my dear friends posted on Facebook that they had to get rid of their dog. He is about 1 and needs a buddy to play with. We talked it over and thought it was a grand solution to the problem! We would get Chase a buddy to play with and then Baron could be left alone. Unfortunately (or fortunately) someone adopted their dog before we had the chance. But the idea of expanding our family was now in our minds.

While driving around one day we saw that there was a pet adoption event at the nursery right next to our house. We showed up with our girls in tow without planning on actually adopting but just to see. As we walked in there were several different breeds but for some reason I was instantly drawn to the Dalmatian Rescue table. We have never had a Dalmatian nor really discussed one. As we walked over, the girls (ages 7 and 5) went to pet the dogs and instantly were greeted with kisses all over their face from Rayne. As we walked around and looked at the other dogs, cats, rabbits and birds, I kept walking back to the Dalmatian table to pet Rayne. Jonathan and I looked at each other and we knew we wanted to adopt her. We filled out our application right then and there.

Since we obviously couldn't take Rayne that day, it made us really determine if we wanted her. There was not even a question. We were so worried that someone else applied to adopt her that day as well that we would lose out. And trust me when you have two girls that are 7 and 5- they do not want to wait on a dog once they have fallen in love.

Rayne came and joined our family on July 20th. We were through the moon from the minute she stepped foot into the house. As I stated before, we have had a few dogs over the years and Rayne is the first dog (and only dog) since Fletch that I have fallen instantly head over heels in love with. Chase and Rayne enjoy playing in the yard and Baron is so happy to be left alone to sleep. The girls love cuddling with her and letting her give kisses.

It was as if she was meant for us. I genuinely do not know who is the happiest with our new family: Rayne, us, the girls or the other dogs. Maybe it's all mutual across the board!

With love,

The Thoma Family

Cat, Jonathan, Sophie, Aurelia, Baron, Chase, and Rayne

