

*As I talked to him. He looked at me with such eyes. His eyes just spoke to me asking for help.*



*This dog was in a bad spot way down a steep and sandy river bank.*

### **Emergency Donations needed for a critical case!**

Novel version of the story (read below)... *By Melissa Shelton*

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You know how people say “take it easy, you’re healing”? (Note: I am recovering from a recent horse riding accident.) I’m pretty sure that just got thrown out the window this morning! Monday night Winston saw a dog about a mile up our road. It looked pretty rough. But he could not get near it. Then two days ago, a person stopped at our house and asked if we had a big white dog, because they just hit it in the rear end with their car. But it ran off. We hadn’t heard more about if anyone found it and didn’t see any local posts looking for a dog with its description. And of course I’m still not up to full speed yet, so definitely can’t do as much to help as usual.

Then this morning. Kane (our German Shepherd) was running back and forth on our river bank (which is actually about a 100 foot cliff down to the river) - and alerting. Sure enough. Winston sees the big white dog down the cliff on the rivers edge! And it’s definitely injured 😞 So now... how to save a potentially 100# Great Pyrenees and get it up a cliff. Literally there is no great option to move the dog to safety. The river is still quite fast and high. And even with a kayak we were concerned about coordinating getting the dog safely on board, and not being swept down river!

We decided to sedate him as we knew he was scared and injured, but for sure I was not going to be able to hike down to help. Even if I was 100% it a difficult “fall” down the cliff. This section just doesn’t have viable paths down or to and from. Thankfully our son Reiker and daughter Ramie were able to help. And Winston has been well trained as my veterinary technician for a very long time. So with a few quick reminder lessons on IM injections and tying and emergency muzzle. Winston sedated the poor pup under my watchful eye from the cliff’s edge and once able transferred him to our dog stretcher.

Then the fun began. I’ll post the pictures that show how difficult this rescue actually was. It doesn’t show just how steep and crumbly the sand is that they had to crawl up with a huge dog! Reiker and Winston were an amazing team. And I couldn’t be luckier to have raised such a big strong teenager! At the last moment of the cliff edge. Reiker just tapped into his hulk mode, and heaved the dog right up the edge of the cliff to safety. ❤️

Since this post is so long, I’ll just say one back leg is quite damaged, there were hundreds of ticks of all sizes all over this poor matted pup, burrs everywhere and also maggots on the rear with hotspots and worse in terms of smells.

I’ll post another post describing this dogs needs. But I will say. Adrenaline and huge caring overrides broken rib pain pretty well! Once almost done shaving (yes this was 100% fully necessary) - I took pain meds to get through the rest. Heck. I wasn’t operating heavy machinery. But was pretty happy to have that kick in!

I’ll complete the 5 day stray hold in hospital. Definitely this sweet boy who wagged his tail at me once his sedation started to wear off (😱😱😱) needs some major care. It looks likely that his leg will need to be amputated. And he is getting IV fluids, antibiotics, pain meds, treatment for maggots and ticks... and his face is a bit swollen as well.

I am asking for emergency donations to help this poor guy. I anticipate that we will need \$3000-5000 to fulfill his immediate needs. And we definitely were not expecting this to be thrown into our backyard. Literally.

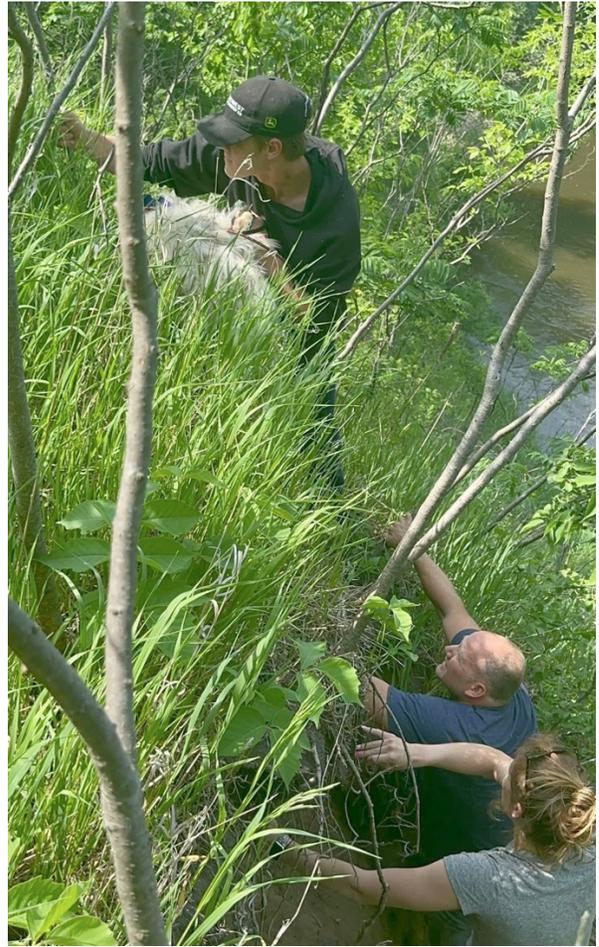
(Note: Thanks to wonderful people we received many online donations per our emergency request for this critical case. Can’t thank everyone enough for coming through for this rescue Pyrenees who found us.)

*Please continue reading to view more photos  
from this Pyrenees dog rescue >>*

Pictures Ramie took from down the cliff. Really shows the insane terrain of the rescue. Thank goodness we have a doggy stretcher.



The footing is sand. Really not easy going!  
Literally carrying a sedated broken huge dog up a sand cliff.



On safe ground. The muzzle was just in case. He did growl at Winston at first. But with his injuries definitely we wanted to avoid any chance of being bit while hurling him up the river bank. You are on good ground now sweet boy.



At Crow River Animal Hospital exam room for evaluation by Melissa Shelton, DVM.



His back end is in very rough shape.



Filled a garbage can with matts and ticks. Definitely not the best shave job I've ever done. But hey – pretty good considering my own broken ribs from a recent horse riding accident.

I'll clean up the shave job later. This was functional only. Get all the ticks off. Evaluate injuries and infections. And get the maggots and matts off!



Let me just say...The smell. Was. Awful.

And finding maggots in the matts is always barf worthy

Sweet baby wags his tail at me even while sedated.



**Treatment and cares for this rescue Pyrenees.**



Skin Spray Base  
And French Green  
Clay from animalEO  
is absolutely  
awesome for  
his hotspots  
and traumatized  
skin on his rear  
(also due to  
Fur mats and  
maggots 🤢)



Getting some IV fluids now too. Starvation has taken this poor guy's Weight down to 55.8 lbs. Weight for a healthy adult male Pyrenees can often tip the scale at more than 100 pounds.



Every time I try to leave him he tries to convince me to stay. With all he's gone through, it just moves all the feels to have him lay his paw on me and rest his head on me for love.



Sometimes the best part of a hospital stay is the ice cream...



Pup cup for the rescue Pyrenees because you're so special. You definitely deserve one. Not too fast now, take a breath so you don't get a brain freeze! There ya go...say "yummy!" There you go young man, all done. Good boy. Don't worry there will be more of those to come!

It's hard to see, but his hip bones and vertebrae are quite prominent.



We have to support his hind end with a sling so he can move around.

He's not sure what a leash is or what we are asking of him quite yet.

But he's very happy to EAT!



Resting like he hasn't in a long while.



I have a good excuse now for not being able to complete mowing and trimming!

The sweet baby only likes to potty in tall grass! So proud of this guy to keep trying to stand and walk. He has no clue what a leash means. And it's certainly a strange thing to have humans hovering by him while he does his business 🍒

You can see how skinny his back is in this photo. I can't wait to see what his ideal weight actually is.

And also I should have weighed what we clipped off of him! I bet it weighed at least 20 pounds!

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*Beyond Sanctuary Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization located in Minnesota started by Holistic Veterinarian Melissa Shelton.*

*Beyond Sanctuary*

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visit the website:

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