

Through Sirocco's Eyes: Awakening Inner Power

Sirocco, a palomino horse leader with a golden coat gleaming in the sunshine, stood tall in the pasture, his eyes full of wisdom beyond words. He was no ordinary horse. He had become a powerful partner in the work of healing, guiding people through unspoken truths, lessons only nature could teach. He never demanded—he simply *responded*, mirroring back to those who stood before him what they were too afraid to face within themselves.

One day, three women arrived at the farm. Each one carried a heavy burden—anger masked by politeness, a deep sense of being disrespected, and marriages that were unraveling. Anxiety hung over them like a cloud, a constant hum of fear and uncertainty. Two of the women were on the brink of leaving their careers behind, but had no idea what was next. All three felt lost, disconnected from their own strength, unsure of how to move forward.

Each woman had been told the same thing for years: Be nice. Don't make waves. Anger is ugly. But beneath their pleasant facades, resentment brewed, and in the quiet corners of their hearts, they knew the truth. They had been bending for too long—bending for their husbands, their bosses, for everyone but themselves.

As they approached Sirocco, the horse turned his head to watch them. His eyes seemed to see right through them, as if measuring their spirit, their willingness to be real. But when the first woman tried to approach, he swung his large frame around, offering them nothing but his backside. His tail swished in the breeze, and his broad, muscled rump faced them squarely.

The women were confused. "Why won't he look at us?" one asked, her voice tinged with frustration.

The answer came quietly: "He's waiting for you to take your power back."

Sirocco's stance was deliberate, a reflection of the way these women had been treated. Ignored. Disrespected. But here, in the pasture, it wasn't men or their circumstances turning their backs—it was this magnificent animal, showing them that without claiming their own worth, they would continue to be dismissed, like always.

Anger flickered in their eyes, but they hesitated. All their lives they had been taught to be accommodating, to smile through their pain, to never confront. They had learned to bury their

fury, to stifle their voices. But Sirocco wasn't interested in politeness. He wanted them to rise, to demand their space, their dignity, their power.

The women began to understand. This wasn't about being "nice" anymore. It was about owning the fire inside them, the raw, untapped strength they had been afraid to embrace.

One by one, they stepped forward—not as polite, quiet versions of themselves, but with the boldness they had buried for too long. They stood taller, breathed deeper, let the anger they had held back for years rise to the surface—not to lash out, but to finally claim their rightful place.

It was then that Sirocco turned around. His powerful body shifted, and he faced them, locking eyes with each woman in turn. There was no judgment in his gaze, only recognition. He saw them—really saw them—as women who had found their power again, who had decided that respect was something to be demanded, not politely hoped for.

The shift was palpable. In that moment, they understood that the change they needed wouldn't come from outside forces—it had to come from within. Their marriages, careers, and self-worth wouldn't be restored by asking for respect but by embodying it.

Sirocco lowered his head, nudging each woman gently, a silent affirmation of the transformation he had witnessed. They had taken their first steps toward reclaiming themselves, and Sirocco had shown them the way—not with words, but with his presence, his challenge, and finally, his acceptance.

The women left Winds of Change Farm transformed. From that day on, they carried with them the lessons of the palomino horse leader, a reminder that power is never given, only claimed—and that the first step in healing is recognizing the strength that's been there all along.

Mary Ellen Garofalo Sirocco Coach-Consulting, LLC

