



Here in this house...
I will never know the loneliness I hear in the barks of the other dogs
'out there'.
I can sleep soundly, assured that when I wake my world
will not have changed.
I will never know hunger, or the fear of not knowing if I'll eat.
I will not shiver in the cold, or grow weary from the heat.
I will feel the sun's heat, and the rain's coolness,
and be allowed to smell all that can reach my nose.
My fur will shine, and never be dirty or matted.

Here in this house...
There will be an effort to communicate with me on my level.
I will be talked to and, even if I don't understand,
I can enjoy the warmth of the words.
I will be given a name so that I may know who I am among many.
My name will be used in joy, and I will love the sound of it!

Here in this house...
I will never be a substitute for anything I am not.
I will never be used to improve peoples' images of themselves.
I will be loved because I am who I am, not someone's idea
of who I should be.
I will never suffer for someone's anger, impatience, or stupidity.
I will be taught all the things I need to know to be loved by all.
If I do not learn my lessons well, they will look to
my teacher for blame.

Here in this house...
I can trust arms that hold, hands that touch...
knowing that, no matter what they do, they do it for the good of me.
If I am ill, I will be doctored.
If scared, I will be calmed.
If sad, I will be cheered.
No matter what I look like, I will be considered beautiful and known
to be of value.
I will never be cast out because I am too old, too ill, too unruly,
or not cute enough.
My life is a responsibility, and not an afterthought.
I will learn that humans can almost, sometimes, be as kind and as
fair as dogs.

Here in this house...
I will belong.
I will be home.
(Author unknown)

Season's Greetings

Dear Friends,

Please remember the animals 'out there' who do not have a warm and loving house. Never shop, only adopt from a shelter or rescue group. Rescues and shelters are running out of space to house the unwanted and discarded pets in our community and are desperately trying to save them from death. If you have room in your home, please open your heart to fostering. If you have time, consider joining feral cat caretakers in their mission to spay, neuter and feed the countless homeless cats who seek nothing from us but compassion.

Our work is dedicated to reducing the number of animals born every day, many who end up in shelters at some time in their short lives. We believe by helping senior citizens and low income pet owners, we can prevent yet one more pet from being sent to the shelter because their owner has met hard times. We are proud to be able to provide these needed services through our Animal Rescue Fund (ARF) and Orange County Cares About Cats (OCCATS) programs which are completely funded by public donations.

Please add the Orange County SPCA to your gift list this holiday season. Together we can make a tremendous difference.

Happy holidays and our sincere best wishes for a wonderful new year.

The Orange County SPCA Board of Directors and Office Staff.

ORANGE COUNTY SPCA

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