

# **FINDING A FRIEND; Woman whose dog fled downtown carriage crash elated to have pet back**

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## **Body**

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Renee Albrecq-Endy has been reunited with her dog after an absence that she said took her to emotional hell and back. The dog got only as far as Frisco.

"She's thin and tired, but she's up and around," Ms. Albrecq-Endy said of Sierra, her 3-year-old greyhound.

Sierra, as always, was accompanying Ms. Albrecq-Endy as she drove a horse-drawn carriage through downtown Dallas on the evening of Nov. 6. Some motorcyclists spooked the horses, causing the carriage to collide with a car.

The crash broke three of Ms. Albrecq-Endy's ribs, and she last saw the dog running south down Houston Street. Friends spent several days searching for the dog to no avail.

"I got out of bed the next day and put up posters," she said.

"I guess the pain hadn't hit me yet, and I was still on adrenaline."

Several days later, she subsequently learned, a passing motorist found Sierra curled up in a ball by the side of Stemmons Freeway.

"I think he thought she had been hit by a car, but he opened the door and she jumped right in," Ms. Albrecq-Endy said.

The man, who she believes is a postal employee named Doug Calloway, took Sierra to his home in Frisco in Collin County and kept her in his garage. On Nov. 18, the man's girlfriend called him to say she had seen Sierra's photo in the newspaper.

He called Ms. Albrecq-Endy with the good news that he had found her dog - and with the bad news that Sierra had again run away, the day before.

The postal employee, who works in Dallas, could not be reached for comment. But Ms. Albrecq-Endy said the phone call both raised and dashed her hopes.

"I can't even describe the roller coaster it was for me," she said. "I drove up there immediately and looked around for her all day."

But Sierra had not wandered far.

Travis Arnall, who lives near the postal employee, said his wife, Louise, was returning home from buying ice cream when the black brindle greyhound shyly approached her.

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Mrs. Arnall offered the dog the remainder of her ice cream. The dog not only accepted the offer, it followed her into the house, went upstairs and lay down on the couple's bed, Mr. Arnall said.

"It didn't bother us," he said. "We're dog people. We have five of our own."

At one point, Ms. Albrecq-Endy was nearer to her dog than she knew.

"She was outside walking up and down the street looking for her dog, and my husband was upstairs with Sierra watching television," Mrs. Arnall said.

"They were so close."

But Mrs. Arnall had already called the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to report that she had found the dog.

Lisa Hanson, an SPCA employee, recorded the call. She took some time off, and when she returned on Nov. 20, logged onto the office computer to find that another worker had taken a call from the postal worker reporting the loss of a black brindle greyhound.

"I put two and two together and called him immediately," Ms. Hanson said. "It was 8 in the morning, and I apologized for waking him up, but he was quite pleased."

The postal worker got in touch with Ms. Albrecq-Endy again - this time with nothing but good news.

She wasted no time in arriving at the Arnall residence to claim her dog.

"She was very happy," Mr. Arnall recalled. "Extremely happy. I mean, in-tears happy."

Ms. Albrecq-Endy said she can't adequately describe her feelings at being reunited with her dog.

"It's a happy ending," she said, "and there aren't too many of those."

## Graphic

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PHOTO(S): (The Dallas Morning News: Russell Bronson) Renee Albrecq-Endy has been reunited with her greyhound, Sierra. "She's thin and tired, but she's up and around," Ms. Albrecq-Endy says.

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