

# Igniting a Spark

“Gypsy”

Welsh/Morgan  
d.o.b. Unknown

Gypsy was our first rescue horse, before Winding Road was even in existence. She's the one who started it all.

Gypsy came from a nice family, but was suffering from lack of shelter and proper nutrition. They did not know anything of her history. Upon arrival, she was a virtual bag of bones and was not at all fond of people, and nearly impossible to catch in an open pasture.

She has some broken teeth which precludes determining age. Her back is swayed; her face grows whiter each year. She has cataracts. She's old....and she's beautiful!

With time and treatment that included worming, dental work and a switch to a senior diet, Gypsy changed. She not only gained weight—she became fond of treats and back scratches and learned to trust again.

She's a feisty ride under saddle, but as a lead line pony, she's a rock. On the road, she'll test her rider, but she's all bluff. Once she's settled in, she's a joy to ride as she's gaited. I call her “my little black Cadillac.” She has slowed down over the years and would only be suitable for occasional light riding. Mostly her days are spent out on pasture, enjoying the companionship of her pasture mates.

Gypsy likes to rest her head on my shoulder and close her eyes, and have me scratch both sides of her neck; feeling that plush black body so relaxed and trusting always fills my tank. She epitomizes what rescue can do for a horse—restore their health and create (or re-create) a positive relationship with people. It's really Gypsy who is the founder of the rescue, the one who opened the door to a dream for me and a haven of safety for all those who continue to follow her.

**Gypsy needs a sponsor to help with the cost of her special needs as a senior horse. Would you commit to sponsoring her? Sponsorships start as low as \$10 per month!**