



Shantree

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Intro

Passed from this life Tuesday, April 17, 2001 at 1530. Over Easter weekend she became so weak she could barely stand. The vet diagnosed a bleeding abdominal tumor, and with her age the only real choice was to ease her passing. It was not an easy decision, I cried for two days prior knowing the path to follow, and fell apart the day of. I firmly believe that we assume a certain responsibility to, and duty for our charges, to whitt she did not pass on among strangers, nor alone, or suffering in pain.

Shantree Krystal's Hope was named after her two predecessors combined names.

My first Shetland Sheepdog was Velveten's Blue Shantree (a blue merle) and her daughter, Shantree's Midnight Krystal (a tri-color), their picture is on page 16.

Shantree was a tri-color; mostly black and white with splashes of brown. Her unusual coloring was the white forehead spot had trailers of white to both her collar and nose. Most tri's have the white spot but not the connecting trailers.

Though she was with me about fifteen years I vividly remember the first time I saw her, she was part of the only litter available in San Diego County at the time I was looking. Sheri went with me and she preferred her brother, but I immediately took to Shannie and brought her home.

She helped me through a lot of times, a loving gentle personality. I trusted her judgment of the girls I dated during that time period, if she didn't warm up to them, I didn't either.

With my upbringing, she was not an animal nor a pet, but, a valued member of the family. I grieved as much for her as I would for anyone else I know. It was even harder at the end when you could see her dignity was hurting her as much as her illness. As much as it hurt, it is the way she would have wanted it. Her passing has left a deep hollow in me, and I will always miss her. May she rest in peace. If there is a dog heaven, I know she is playing there. . . On her last few days she was pretty wasted and just laid there. Not in pain, just wore out.



During the end she went lethargic, abdominal aneurism, spent her last two days together before taking her in to ease her transition to the next life.
Her ashes sit on my desk to be added to mine when I pass on.



JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER

You could tell she wasn't feeling well, she wouldn't move herself or even lift her head, but no pain.





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER

She was around
when we got Y2K.





JACKSON KOLLER



This is one of those situations where you can tell Shantree just tolerated someone I loved.

Needless to say, it didn't work out between us.



JACKSON KOLLER

Shantree, with Haley
and Y2K.

Shannie loved
children and other pets
in the house.





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER

Whose playing with
whose toys?





JACKSON KOLLER



This is the original
Shantree on the left,
with her daughter
Krystal.



JACKSON KOLLER

We were inseparable.





JACKSON KOLLER

Very close, how many dogs would stay there just to be close?





JACKSON KOLLER



Even close to other
pets, here with my cat
Samantha.



JACKSON KOLLER

Her favorite spot.





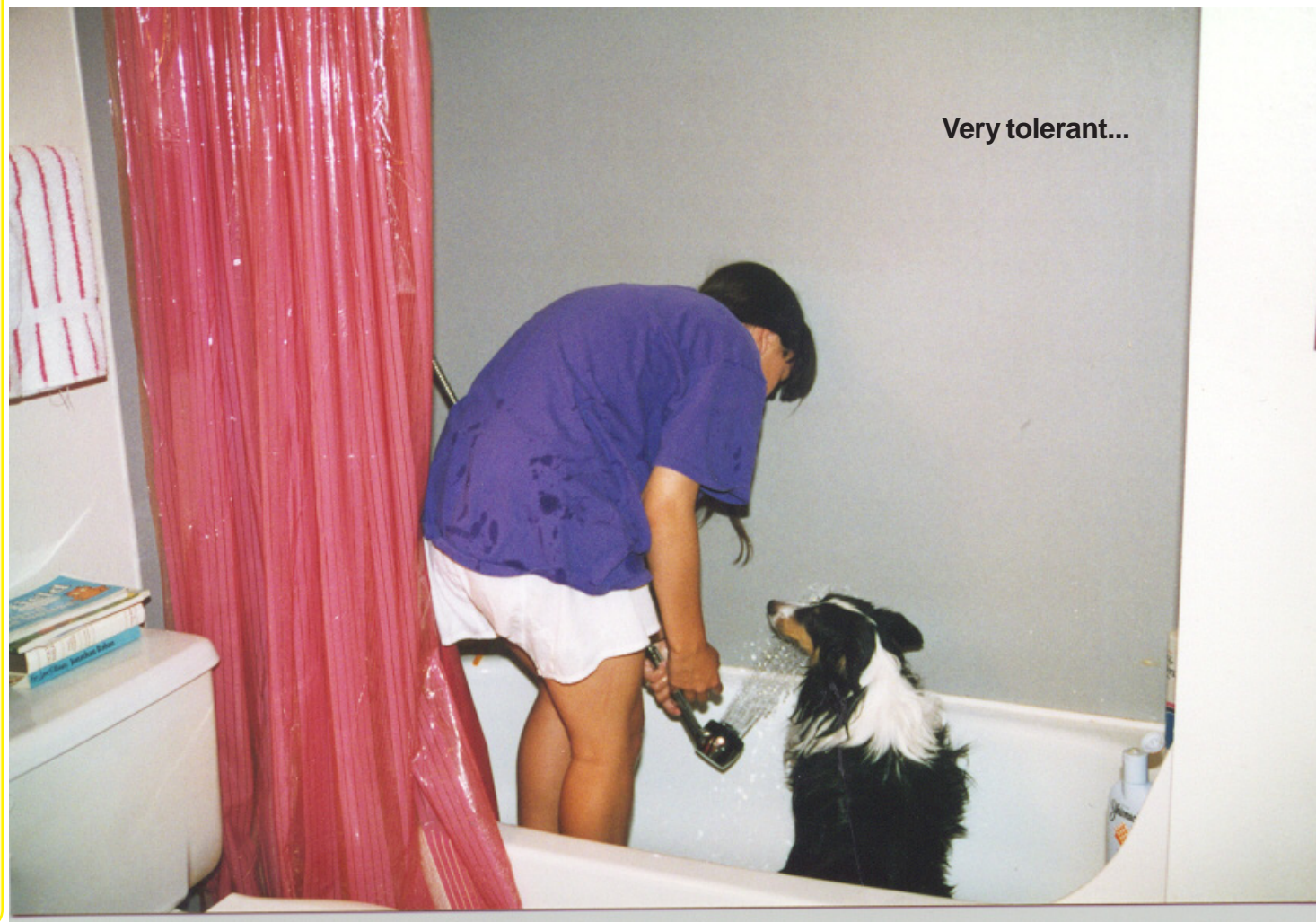
JACKSON KOLLER

Went on a lot of hikes together.





JACKSON KOLLER



Very tolerant...



JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER

In my first apartment in Kirkland.





JACKSON KOLLER

They were inseparable too. Neither knew they weren't supposed to get along.





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER



She would throw a fit if we were in the pool without her.



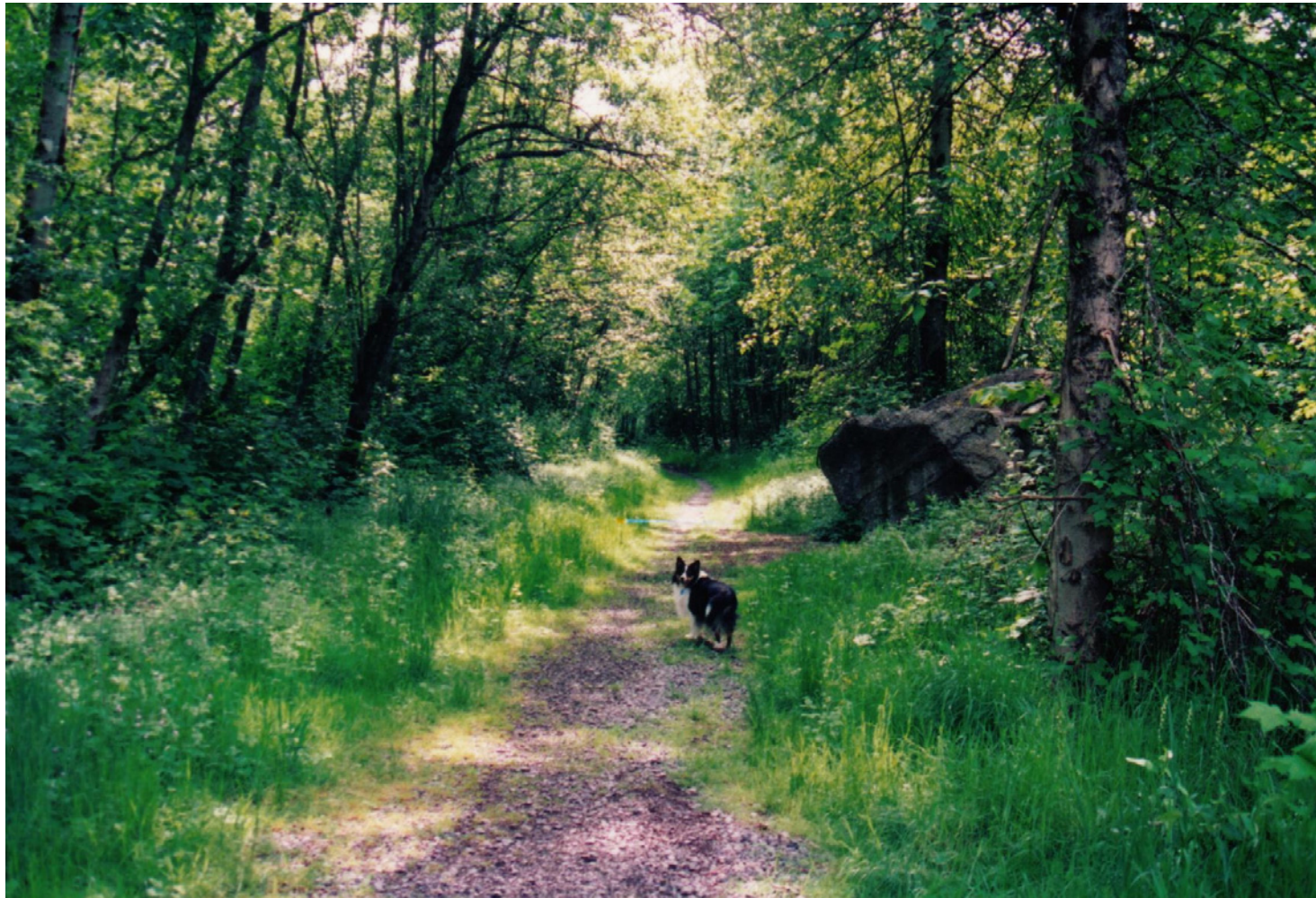
JACKSON KOLLER



Surveying her
kingdom...



JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER

Our first home together.





JACKSON KOLLER





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JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER



Playfull...



JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





JACKSON KOLLER





Shantree

I did not lose an animal,
I lost a companion.
I did not lose a pet,
I've lost a friend.
My voice chokes
when I talk of you.
My eyes water
when I think of you.
My heart fills
with the hope your in a better place.
I stood by in your hour of need
as you did so many times for me.
I miss you so terrible,
never another to equal.
Rest easy, my friend,
I will join you when my time comes.
I loved you, I love you,
always a place in my heart.
Rest in peace, Shantree,
your toil is done.



Prologue

I held my best friend as she went to sleep for the last time...

May she rest in peace, she is greatly missed and I look forward to throwing airballs for her to chase again someday when I join her in the next life.