

Veronica's Two-Year Adoptaversary

By Amber L. Spradlin

November marked the second anniversary of Veronica's adoption. My husband, Adelmo, and I give thanks every day to Rabbit Rescue & Rehab and Animal Care & Control for bringing her into our lives.

Veronica is a licensed therapy rabbit and shares our home with her companion, Thumperino. The two are madly in love and are very attentive to each other. Veronica is a very strong little lady for only weighing around three pounds, but she does have some special comfort needs due to scoliosis. Recently the bunnies worked together and figured out that Veronica can drape her front paws over Thumperino's back to use him as a pillow while they lounge around.

Rabbits are more creative and industrious than I ever imagined. Veronica and Thumperino have become masters at jumping through a hoop and dancing around in a circle to get a mini carrot. There is a ritual to this dance that they have created themselves. She runs clockwise, while he makes a larger counter circle around her, and then they switch.

Photo: Adelmo Guidarelli



Thumperino and Veronica.

Most often they use their talents for good, but sometimes I sense they are plotting to take over the household and gain control of the treat jar. Their incredible teamwork inspired me to add Veronica as a character in the latest installment of my book series for young readers. The latest book is titled "Thumperino Superbunny and the Christmas Star Caper." Veronica is the rabbit riding a skateboard on the cover.

Part of my mission in writing this series is to donate portions of the proceeds to help buns in need. Through the sale of



Cover of "Thumperino Superbunny and the Christmas Star Caper." Illustrator: Ron Borresen.

"Thumperino Superbunny and the Christmas Star Caper," I plan to make donations to Rabbit Rescue & Rehab so that more bunnies like Veronica find their fur-ever homes. The book is available for sale from www.HocksOut.com, as well as at retailers like Barnes and

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Noble, Amazon and even as an e-book from iTunes. I've included a tidbit of the story below. I hope you enjoy my tail...er, I mean tale. Bunny love to you all.

Book Excerpt:

"Thumperino Superbunny and the Christmas Star Caper" by Amber L. Spradlin, published by Hocks Out Press. Copyright © 2012. Illustrator: Ron Borresen.

I am lounging on the floor with my yellow towel cape rolled up in a ball like a pillow. There is an old Christmas movie on TV, and I drift in and out of sleep during the commercials....

...I have gotten so used to being a city bunny that the afternoon the Red-Haired Lady and the Singing Man came to adopt me seems like a lifetime ago. To them I am an ordinary house rabbit with a special place in their hearts. So I must keep my super-vigilante life a secret in

order to protect them. A crime-fighter acquires a lot of enemies in the quest to stop injustice and do the right thing.

During my last adventure, I tangled with a mad scientist and an army of robotic roaches. I combed the city for clues and spent hours at the library researching ways to crack the case. Several times I was in great danger of being shot with laser beams, and I almost drowned in the river while wrestling with a toy helicopter. I have to protect the Red-Haired Lady and the Singing Man from the pitfalls of a hero's life. It's a tough job, but I have been blessed with super-powers, and I have a duty to make the world a better place.

I am halfway through eating my treat and savoring my memories when a news report interrupts my Christmas movie.

"This is Channel 19 News reporting to you live from Christmas Tree Plaza. You can see in the background that the Christmas tree has been blocked off with neon police tape. Earlier this evening, chaos ensued after all of the lights

suddenly went out here on the Plaza. When the emergency lighting finally came on, it was revealed that the star atop the tree had been stolen. It appears the crooks made a clean getaway."...

...I keep my ears perked up to listen as I munch big mouthfuls of hay. I will need my strength later to fly out and investigate, so I had better eat a good dinner.



We are grateful to all of our wonderful hay donors. A special thanks to **Best Pet Rx** and **Robin Sternberg** for donations of large bales of hay to the shelter. Also, a heartfelt thank you to volunteers and others who purchase hay for our bunnies on a regular basis. Your generosity is inspiring.