

TESTIMONY: Emmie Abadilla's visit to Tiger Touch: John and Barbara Williamson

We are not open to the public and are primarily engaged in behavioral research with respect to big cat and human interaction. Our policy is not to accept visitors on an Intern basis. She was not here as an Intern. Our only reason for agreeing to Emmie's visit was that she declared that as a top ranking journalist with the Manila Bulletin Newspaper she would be in a position to offer us favorable media exposure to raise Asian funds for the Tiger Touch University Resort, a future project to amplify our findings toward public understanding. She claimed she was assigned to the Business sector of her newspaper and personally knew the richest people.

On October 6th we drove to the Reno Airport to pick her up and bring her to Tiger Touch. She planned to spend nearly five weeks with us. Her new temporary home was to be what we call our Catatat, with "roommates" Kicky Cougar and Nikki Tigress.

On day one we acquainted her with the character and personality traits of the various cats. We also stressed that our Sanctuary rules, which are conspicuously posted, must be followed. And we warned her specifically that Kicky Cougar would bite her if she put her hand in the cage. We also warned her not to visit the cats in the compound after dark. She disobeyed immediately and was warned again.

She told us how she disobeyed the rules at Tiger Temple/Thailand by going out late at night in total darkness. She complained that she couldn't go in with the tigers that had not been out in 1 ½ years. She said "in her opinion" the cats were mistreated and she was sneaking around the guards late at night to console them because she "knew in her heart they loved her." Her web postings "confirmed her belief that they loved her and wouldn't hurt her." Apparently, she has a select memory and chose not to hear our instructions about how to relate with the cats.

We use Combination locks on all cat entrances specifically to record any attempted tampering. Shortly after her arrival I noticed the combination lock to the Lynx cage had been seriously tampered with. I wondered what she wanted to do, release the cats or try to play with them. We became suspicious of her.

It soon became clear during our evening talks that she was only interested in our sex lives which seemed to be prompted by her reading a best selling book about us written by Gay Talese published forty years ago. To our annoyance her sole interest became focused on our sex lives. For reasons unknown, she became increasingly nervous and her excellent command of English deteriorated to the point we were barely able to understand her.

Emmie's behavior when we went shopping was to lock her arm inside mine. It was very embarrassing to me and I gently reminded her that in the USA this behavior was generally construed to be lesbian in nature and that was not my sexual preference.

A week later Oct. 14th early Monday morning, I was in the kitchen making coffee and Emmie came in holding her bleeding hand. She had gotten Kicky cougar excited and in a playful mood and the Cougar grabbed her hand and tore open a wound. Of course, **this could not have happened without her sticking her hand in the cat's cage.**

The next two hours we spent attending to Emmie's wounded hand. We use the same treatment for our own cat bites. An antiseptic and a natural antibiotic 99.9% effective in preventing infections plus some Ibuprofen to keep the swelling down. She didn't have money to pay for medical treatment and neither did Tiger Touch. We told her that if she reported this to the police they would generally kill the cat. She expressed that she didn't want this to happen to Kicky.

For several days she had been using our phone for 1 to 1½ hours, talking with a virtual friend, Sharlene in Toledo, Ohio, who claimed to be a nurse. Sharlene claimed she always used Silver Solution to treat bites and wounds successfully. However, if Emmie wanted to see a doctor for medical treatment she would pay for it. Emmie still wanted us to drive her to ER at the hospital and she would make up a story that she cut herself while cutting deer meat. The next day we took her to the hospital. They treated her wound and she did not have to pay.

Each day we helped her clean and redress this wound. It was healing nicely. After a week or more with her long phone calls with Sharlene, whom she had never met, we asked her to stop them. Sharlene seemed to go nuts with this request and rang our phone continuously early Saturday A.M. (before we were even out of bed). Emmie was out on our property somewhere but nowhere around to answer her virtual friend's phone call.

Sharlene then called the Fallon Police department and reported a Cougar had attacked Emmie as well as other foul play and demanded the Sheriff to come out to Tiger Touch and check on Emmie. I answered the front door at 8 A.M. The Sheriff asked for Emmie. She was out wandering around the property. We got dressed to meet the Sheriff and discussed the need to report a Cougar bite since there hadn't been a case of Cougar rabies in the country for forty years. The Sheriff knows all the cats at Tiger Touch and is grateful for the superb care we give them. He thought Kicky's health looked fine and scheduled a date to look at her in a week. If she still looked good he would not harm her. **The Sheriff informed Sharlene never to call our phone again and recommended we remove Emmie from our property as quickly as possible.** Fallon case report 14385-08. After the Sheriff left we told Emmie to call her virtual friend, and have her wire money so she could leave our property as soon as possible.

Later in the morning we drove her to Western Union to pick up the cash, came back to Tiger Touch, and we requested she rebook her flight out of Reno. Early next morning, October 18th, we helped dress her wounded hand, drove her to the Reno Airport, and dropped her and her luggage off. **We noted then that her wounded hand was practically healed.**

Emmie's cell phone# 011 632 9166442760 Sharlene's phone number from our caller ID: 720 206-7316

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