

IRONWOOD

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Atticus

PIG SANCTUARY

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

September 2016

Dear Supporter,

A few days ago we received an email from one of our supporters who had sent us a note saying she was not going to continue her sponsorship, not because she did not care about the pigs or Ironwood, but because she was going to support a different animal sanctuary now because there were so many in need. She changed her mind and will continue her sponsorship after reading about Mocha.

Another lady who is a monthly sustainer sent a large check for the entire year because she is not feeling well and wanted to be sure our pigs got her support.

Both of these stories really touched me. It made me think about how does one decide who to support among the thousands of organizations, big and small, all manner of species, and all in need and worthy of support. The decision is always difficult and the resources are limited. All of us here at Ironwood are so humbled by your continued support and so appreciative. We are supported by young children who send their allowance, elderly people on a fixed social security income and people with a wide range of resources. Your loyalty has been remarkable. We and our pigs are so grateful.

I also have seen an explosion of new venues to help animals beyond the traditional organizations. We are being contacted by people who are doing blogs for sanctuary animals, writing books, Facebook, doing media interviews, new web sites for animal care positions, and rescue web sites finding homes and foster care. Major progress is being made for animals by many of the big organizations because people who support them are making their voices heard.

Let us all do all we can to help the individual animals as well as adding our voice to the bigger picture of changing culture and laws that help to protect animals. We have seen many positive changes, but there is so much more to do. Gradually changing human consciousness through so much increase in the exposure of how all animals are so much like ourselves, I hope will slowly turn the tide to treat all animals humanely.

We sincerely thank you for choosing to help support our pigs among the myriad of groups to choose from.

Sincerely,



President & CoFounder



I picked cute little Wylie up from a nice family in Tucson who rescued him from coyotes who were attacking him behind their house. An immediate trip to our vet for a good cleanup and many stitches and he was as good as new, minus a tail. One lucky pig indeed.

RUBY & HER LITTLE ONES

In Joshua Tree, CA a woman was breeding (and inbreeding) a family of pigs. When she passed away, a family member herded the seven pigs into a horse trailer out in the yard and abandoned them there with no food, water or shade. A neighbor found them and got them to a small nearby rescue. The owner of the rescue was able to have her vet neuter the four boys but knew she was unprepared to care for the three females as well, especially since Ruby was obviously pregnant and near to term.

Ruby arrived at Ironwood on May 29, 2016 along with Pearl and Sapphire, her daughters from a previous litter. Pearl and Sapphire are rather shy, but Ruby is a sweetie! It wasn't too long



Ruby & Sapphire

before we were able to get the two younger girls spayed. We also got Ruby set up in a separate pen which had been baby proofed last summer for a litter from Jezebel, another pregnant California rescue. And so began the watch. We were waiting for Ruby to begin nesting frantically which is the typical behavior of piggy

moms about to give birth. On the morning of June 8th, just ten days after her arrival, everything seemed normal for Ruby. We went inside to take a short lunch break and not long after, Tressie softly said over the two way radio, "Mary, I think you need to come out to see Ruby." With no fanfare at all, Ruby had quickly and quietly given birth to a litter of six adorable babies.



As is typical for pigs who tend to have a 60% survival rate, only four of the little ones remain. Carlton, Jelly Bean, Londyn and Sharona are happy, healthy bundles of energy. Ruby is an excellent mother, taking wonderful care of her babies while also allowing us to be around them. When the babies were born we were going through a terrible two week heat wave with temperatures of 115-121



degrees. To keep Ruby and her family comfortable we moved them into the largest bathroom inside our Visitor Center. Some carpet scraps, a little bedding hay and a crate were added to make a cozy home for the piglets.



Thanks to a trail of animal crackers Ruby learned to trot through the kitchen then go up and down a ramp on the back stairs to take potty breaks in the backyard. Early on some of the babies developed diarrhea and needed Pedialite fed to them by eye dropper to keep them hydrated. Once the babies were stronger and the temperatures had



dropped below 110 degrees we let them go back to their baby proof pen during the early mornings. By mid morning, the kids were loaded back into a carrier and with Ruby trotting along behind, the



family returned to the air conditioned bathroom for the remainder of the day. A few successful days of this routine and they were ready to spend the nights outside. Their “pen time” increased until they were able to safely handle being outdoors all the time.

It wasn't long before the babies were rooting in the mud, running



circles around their mom and playing with toys. The next



milestone for the litter was nibbling on solid food. It didn't take long for all of them to get the hang of that and begin bouncing from bowl to bowl to gobble down the grain pellets. The next achievement in their growth was being allowed to go out into the



exercise yard with their mom. There was so much to explore! Huge mud wallows, wading pools, toys, a playhouse and room to run, run, run! The babies have a blast out there and Ruby is able to get little breaks to herself while they play. Carlton, the only boy enjoys nosing around through the fencing to “introduce” himself to other pigs. Even at just a few weeks of age, he is already posturing and posing as an adult boar would. The girls are fascinated with the playhouses in the yard and spend a lot of their time popping in and out of those.

Going out in the yard for recess is loads of fun but it doesn't take long before the kids are ready to head back to the pen for some milk and a nap.

As we've mentioned many times in the past, babies are not a part of our agenda. We spay and neuter to prevent pregnancies, but we occasionally get pigs like Ruby who need a safe place to birth their babies and raise a family. With your support, we were able to do just that for Ruby. Watching the growth and changes of Londyn, Carlton, Sharona and Jelly Bean has been fun for the staff, volunteers and visitors. By now the babies will have been weaned. Soon Ruby and the piglets can be spayed and neutered. Once they have healed and have grown up a bit more, everyone will be placed in a field to join a herd.

Do we want to do it again? No, not really. Will another pregnant pig enter our lives? Yes, most likely. It's not what we want to see happening out there, but trying to stop the breeding seems like trying to stop the ocean tide from coming in. It'll just keep on and on. But your donations make it possible for Ironwood to provide a home for whoever knocks on the door. Thank you from all of us.

---Donna

Staying Cool

It's been one hot tamale of a summer down here in the desert, but the piggies know how to stay cool! The wading pools, mud wallows and even their water bowls have become the common hang outs for the pigs as they seek out ways to cool off.



Moe



Roxanne & Oliver



Jelly Bean



Diamond



Patsy



Pierre



Vittles



Flash



Oliver



Winnie



Thelma



Sneezzy, Brad & Dwarf

Let The Tours Begin!

A very popular activity here at the sanctuary is our Saturday tours. We have not been giving regular tours during the summer because the intense heat makes it very uncomfortable and difficult for visitors, but the temperatures should be dropping soon. We will start having visitors again in mid to late September but the exact date is dependent on the temperatures.

During the walking tour of Ironwood, you will venture into various sections of the sanctuary to be greeted by pigs of all sizes and ages. There are 26 different fields to accommodate the variety of personalities, physical abilities and emotional status of the approximately 575 pigs. In the fields along the regular tour route, there are particular pigs that always come out to meet and greet visitors. In Sunset Field you are likely to have Slater throw himself at your feet in order to get a belly rub. He LOVES to have that done! In fact, I've seen Slater get



Slater



so relaxed after numerous belly rubs that he falls asleep and never even notices when the group has moved on. His siblings Tori and Screech as well as Big Charlotte



Big Charlotte

often line up near him to be petted too. When you enter the Princess Field, you can count on Doctor being there to welcome you. She was released to us by her owners because of her aggressiveness, but you would never believe that after meeting her. Doctor, whose full name is Dr.



Doctor

Charlotte Meatballs, is a total sweetheart who can't get enough attention from everyone she meets. She is a prime example of how an aggressive pig being raised as an "only child" can completely reverse her personality after joining a herd and living in an environment more suited to a pig. Walking through Doctor's



Buster

field on the way to the back gate you are likely to encounter Buster or Timmy, both waiting patiently for someone to notice them and provide a nice back rub.

Winning the popularity contest over in the Northwest Field is Dexter.

Everybody loves Dexter! Just like Slater, he'll drop at anyone's feet the second you start petting him so that you'll rub his belly. That is what Dexter lives for....well, other

than food which is his number one priority. One look at his big belly confirms that too! Moving into the Main Field next, you'll be sure to see Pamela. She is such a sweetie and loves getting



Pamela

attention from everyone she meets. Piglet is usually waiting by the gate where the tour ends in order to thank everyone for coming. She loves that saying, "Saving the best for last!"



Churchill



Miss Piggy

Schedule A Tour

If you are interested in coming out to Ironwood to meet the previously mentioned pigs and so many more, the best way to schedule that is by email. Your tour must be scheduled ahead of time...the sooner, the better so that staff can plan their day around ensuring that you get to see the pigs and the sanctuary. Here are some suggestions for you:

1. Check the web site, www.ironwoodpigs.org to find the opening date for Saturday tours as well as the starting time which varies from 9:00 to 10:00 depending on the season and the temperatures. Directions to the sanctuary are also available on the web site.

2. Email us at ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com with your name, the date you would like to come, the number of people in your party and whether anyone will need physical assistance. We do have a golf cart available for those who cannot endure the walking. It is helpful to have advance notice of that so we can have a driver available.

3. If you do not have email access, you may call 520-631-6015 to set up your tour. Email is preferable though, as we are most often out taking care of the pigs and doing chores rather than being seated at a desk where we can take notes of your phone call.

Since the entire tour takes place outdoors in full desert sun, please take into consideration the physical endurance and attention span of the members of your party. It is a walking tour through desert environment and takes 1½ to 2 hours. We ask that you do not bring treats to hand out to the pigs during the tour as having food available can bring out bad manners in some of the piggies. Bad manners can lead to bad behavior since a few pigs have aggressive tendencies when food is involved. Here are some suggestions to help you be prepared for your visit:

1. **Wear comfortable walking shoes that you don't mind getting a little dusty.**

2. **Wear a hat and sunscreen as you will be in full sun for the entirety of the tour.**

3. **Bring a water bottle. Refills are available.**

A tour of the sanctuary is informative and fun. You will get hands on interaction with lots of pigs. You will learn about the sanctuary, pig behavior, the needs and wants of pigs, having a pig as a pet, the overwhelming issue of unwanted or abandoned pigs and more. Please remember to schedule your tour ahead of time. We look forward to meeting you and sharing the pigs with you!

---Donna

Sponsor a S



Pickles

I was just supposed to come here, get neutered then go back home, but my mom never came back to get me or even call to check on me. Everybody here is nice though, so it's all good.



Frodo

I came from a hoarder along with 3 females. It may not have been an ideal place, but at least the owner had the good sense to have me neutered and there were no babies.



When I was a tiny pig in a condo. Grandma took me to the bathroom because she thought I was a rat. Then she tried to put me in the feed stall.



Sophie

My owner got in trouble with me in an area not zoned for pigs. You can see a mark below my eye. He kept a collar on me that was too tight.

There just always seems to be an endless supply of pigs coming here that need your support and help! Those pictured here and many others are hoping to be chosen by you. In exchange for a monthly donation of \$30 to



Prissy & Donna

sponsor a pig, you'll receive pictures and your pig's history with an update and new photos later in the year. Please consider joining our family of sponsors today!

---Donna

Special Pig!



Sprinkles

As a tiny baby I lived in a cage. My mama locked me in the cage because I was too noisy and she wanted to trade me off at the pet store for a kitten.



Agnes

I have some permanent damage to my foot that makes me limp badly. After coming here and getting on medication, it feels better and it's easier for me to get around.



Sam

My family moved away and didn't want to take me or my friend Cookie along. I'm timid and being around this many pigs was scary at first but I'm used to it and like it here now.



I had trouble for having a fenced area for pigs. You know how my neck where I live is that was way



Poppin

I came from a "petting zoo" but it was really just another hoarder collecting all kinds of animals. The owner had never even named me or my friends.



Mary Lue

I was a house pig with my own room until my owner's son moved back in and needed my room for his baby. Really! I was willing to share my stuff but....

Outreach, Part of Our Mission

Part of our Mission Statement says we assist owners and other sanctuaries. Over the years we have grown dramatically because we have taken the pigs from three other sanctuaries in AZ, including the one where we began our love of pigs where we volunteered and later acquired as our Annex.

We have assisted other sanctuaries as well by providing part or all of the grain for their pigs in order to keep the pigs in place and at the same time provide better care if their facility is not able to buy the food.

In May of this year we got a call to come pick up a pig from a woman in Phoenix. She had found him and could not keep him because she had big dogs and no other yard to keep him safe. Ben and Bob drove up to pick him up. She had put him on Facebook so his picture and location was quickly spreading through social media. Not long after Ben and Bob arrived home with him we got a call from the people who had lost him nearly six weeks before. They sent us pictures of him and for sure he was their pig. His name was Junior. He was about 1 ½ years old and not neutered so we offered to neuter him. He would be a better pet and not have the desire to wander. They agreed so little Junior was neutered and remained with us during his recovery while they did



improvements to their house and yard.

He was returned to his home on July 29th and the family was very happy to have him back. We are hopeful that Junior may get a friend from Ironwood soon.

While most of the work we do at Ironwood is rescuing pigs and bringing them here to Ironwood or to one of our foster homes, over the years we have done a great deal of outreach as far away as Florida. We try to keep pigs in their homes whenever possible by offering to help buy the grain or build fencing or spay or neuter or whatever is necessary for the pig to remain safe at home.

I wanted to let you, our supporters, know your donations have fingers that reach beyond the pigs here at Ironwood. It is part of our mission and always has been.

Going Home

In late December of 2015 we got a call for help. A couple had taken two adults and one young pig from Craigslist and were in big trouble. Precious had babies on August 28th and Lily had babies on Sept 11th. Lily was still very tiny. They adopted out Lily's babies but still had Daddy and three of Precious' babies and knew they would soon have many more if they could not get help.

They called us and we agreed to pick up all six pigs, spay and neuter them then return them once they were all recovered. They were certainly a group of sweet pigs. Drummer, Christie and Patch were only 14 weeks old and Lily was a baby herself even though she had already given birth. Precious and Mr. Pitts were the adults. By early February of 2016 all the pigs were ready to go home and thankfully all were well and there were no more babies. The owners were anxious and ready for their pigs' homecoming.

Sadly one of the owners who was recovering from a stroke had another stroke and is now in a nursing home so the pigs will have to be returned to us. We are now providing food for them and meds for Precious who is becoming arthritic until we are able to bring them back to Ironwood. ---Mary

Pigs Back to Their Home



Pigs at Ironwood Before Returning Home



Calling All Blankets

I Even though it's still hot here in the desert, we are thinking ahead to the cold nights that will be coming our way this winter. The piggies love to snuggle and nest in a pile of blankets once it gets chilly. Comforters are everyone's absolute favorite....nice, soft and fluffy! Yard sales and thrift stores are great places to find used blankets and comforters at good prices. If you know of a hotel or resort doing a remodel, that can be a fabulous source for bedspreads and blankets.



We have been stockpiling all summer with the help of your generosity but know the pigs will be needing and wanting lots more. Be on the lookout for blanket bargains! The pigs love those blankets and love YOU for sending them!!



Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Postage Stamps (Forever, Post Card Stamps, 47 and 34 cents)
 Other denominations can also be used
 Used Blankets are always welcome
 Peanut Butter, CREAMY ONLY
 Animal Crackers
 Probiotics
 Children's Multivitamins (NO IRON)
 Fig Newton Cookies (NOT individually wrapped)
 Mucinex
 Fiber Powder (NOT Metamucil & NOT Orange Flavored)
 Flaxseed Oil Capsules
 Stool Softeners
 Ranitidine Acid Reducer, 150mg
 Tarps, Heavy Duty 8X10 or 10X12
 Utility Knives
 Duct Tape (Heavy Duty Preferred)

GIFT CARDS

Walgreen's
 Home Depot
 Lowes
 Discover
 MasterCard
 Office Max
 Walmart
 Amazon
 Office Depot
 Target
 Fry's
 Staples

We have a wish list on [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com).
 They offer free shipping on many items if you sign up for Amazon Prime.



Thank You For Remembering the Sanctuary in Your Estate Plans.

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has been the recipient of Bequests from many of our supporters. These donors felt that they needed their assets during their lifetime, but decided to link themselves forever with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their wills. The

Mary C Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names (although it is okay if you've already used only the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary name), the post office address from the back cover and this tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to almost 600 Pot-Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated.

We appreciate all of our **Supporters** particularly the **Sponsors** who donate by credit card, debit card or e-check each month and also our **Sustainers** who do the same. We charge your account on the 8th or 22nd of each month. It is great for us to be able to count on these donations at those times. Just about the time our account is running low we say "all is well" because we are running the credit cards today!

You can be a **Sanctuary Sustainer** by making a monthly donation of \$5, \$10, \$25, \$100 or any amount you choose which is charged to your credit card, debit card or e-check each month.

The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for the Piggies. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution or go to the Support page of our web site and make your individual or monthly donation by PayPal (no PayPal account required).

You can make secure **One-Time donations, Sponsor, or Multiple Sponsor or Sustainer donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal using your credit card by going to the **SUPPORT** page of our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org. No PayPal account is required.**

We accept donations with the four shown credit or debit cards for your convenience.



Front and Back Covers



In 2007 we brought Molly and four of her babies to Ironwood. Molly was never released to us but we offered to spay her and take her remaining babies. Molly was a wonderful pig and I reluctantly returned her to a home that was not so good but at least we knew

she would not have other babies to care for.

Atticus and Seymour were two of those babies who were adopted to two of our supporters here in Tucson. They provided a good home but after a couple of years Atticus and Seymour outgrew their home, so we happily agreed to take them back to Ironwood. They had both grown into quite large animals and we knew, as Mario and George knew, that they needed a large area to run, root and play in. We had just the place for them in our Sunset Field. Atticus and Seymour have lived there together with many other friends for the past seven years. They never really got socialized since they were not real young babies when they were adopted and therefore more difficult to socialize.

Atticus is handsome standing here beside this grand old Saguaro Cactus that has been here hundreds of years before Ironwood arrived and is now beginning to crumble from age.



Seymour & Atticus



Agnes & Poppin

Page 16

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 72

Ben and I picked up Poppin, Frodo, Augusta and Agnes in March of this year. We got a desperate call from a lady who was helping to place many animals who had come from a hoarder near New River, AZ. She could no longer feed or care for them so all the animals were relinquished. The pigs had been temporarily taken to a nice lady who also runs a horse rescue, but she was not able to keep them.

They were all in reasonable condition except for severely overgrown hoofs and little Agnes who, we were told, was very crippled from birth. We put them in a small field so Agnes could stay with her friends and be able to get around the field. As you see they have settled in nicely here at Ironwood and are very content. They will never live in sub-standard conditions again. Sadly Augusta fell ill not long after their arrival. We took her to our vet and she was found to be in severe kidney failure and had to be euthanized.

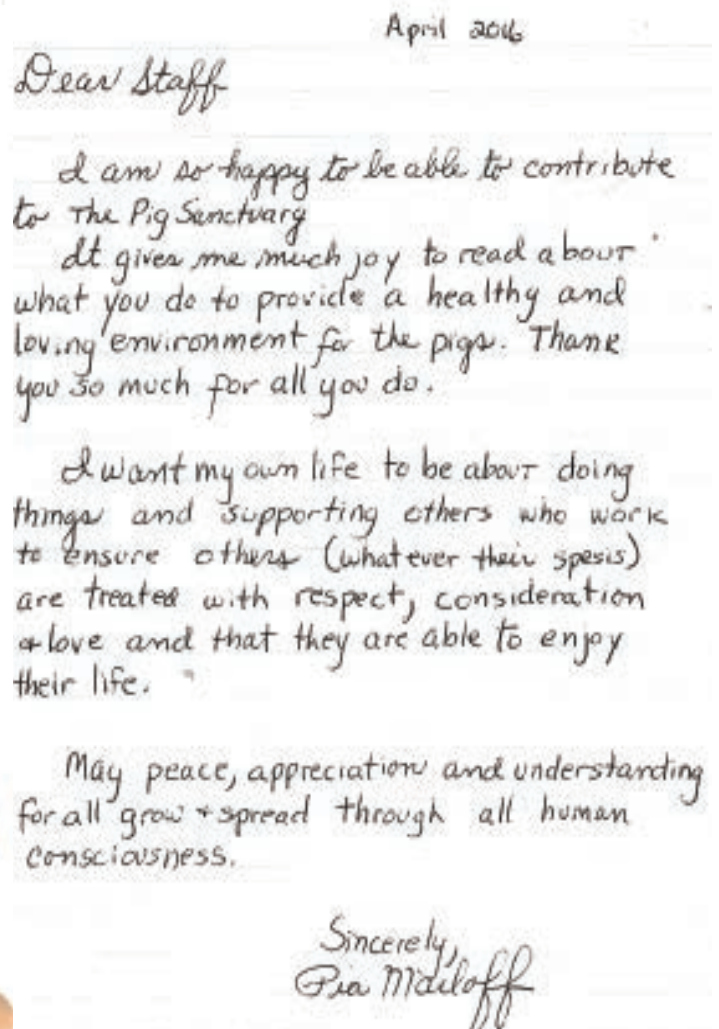
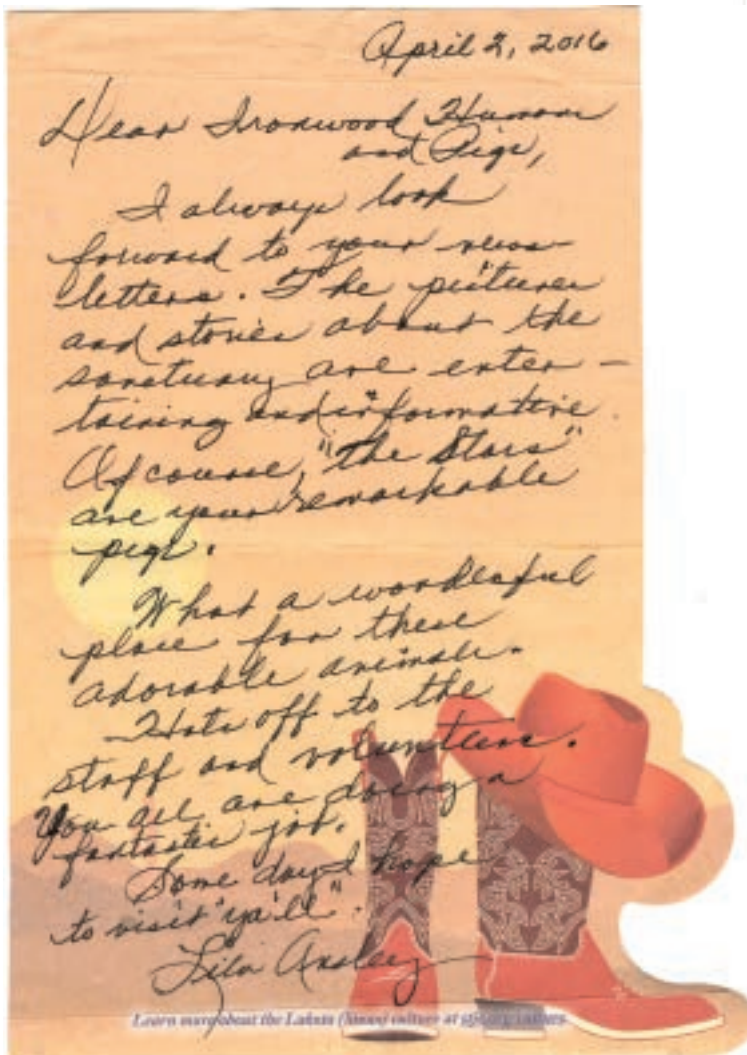


Agnes & Frodo

MISSION STATEMENT

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot-bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and other sanctuaries, and providing a permanent home in a safe, nurturing environment for those that are abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted.

- * Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association.
- * The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible.



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Agnes & Poppin