

## Monarch -



Monarch, a stunning and athletic 11 yr old Canadian Thoroughbred has been in his new home almost a year now, and is doing Fantastic. [Click here](#) for an beautifully written story on how Monarch and his new owner have come full circle.

*"I have been riding since I was about 10 or 11 years old, I have always had a very strong passion for horses. If you know me...you know my life revolves around them. I have always loved riding but I never felt like it was my strong point, I have always focused on stable management and horse care because I have always felt like being a good rider was a struggle for me. Many times I have cried with frustration because I was unable to accomplish something or struggled with something I should be able to do with all the lessons and wonderful coaches and trainers I have had. Confidence has always been my biggest issue, I wish I was braver. Don't get me wrong, I am not a bad rider...but I have always felt like I should be better by now.*

*Until this year.*

*I have loved many horses, I have loved them to the max. I have never resold a horse, all of mine are lifers. I have had Jellybean 12 years...though we have a very special bond, and words fall short when I try to explain how much I love her...I have always fought with her, and never excelled at anything other than pleasure riding .*

*On October 31st 2011 the first horse I have ever purchased on my own, walked off the trailer and was all mine.*

*I had tried him out about a week before, after riding him for about 5 minutes...I knew I was stupid to walk away from him, he was calm and kind and though nursing an injury he was spectacular. I found him at Circle F horse rescue in Abbotsford, my wonderful friend Lindsay came with me. Within minutes of dismounting we were on the phone working on making him mine. I transferred all the money I had saved and arranged hauling. They were so amazing to work with and I can never thank them enough for making all of this possible.*

*That first week was hard...my first ride I was bucked off...of course I got back on... but... I felt awkward, this huge 17hh lean, long boy is very different from my 14.3hh compact tank of a pony. I felt like my arms and legs weren't connected. At one point I wondered if I had bit off more than I could chew with him. So I called in my good friend Lisa to help me, she also fell madly in love with him. (trust me it isn't hard to do)*

*June 1st I moved to the most amazing barn with my big boy and my bff Lisa in tow and this is when it all started to come together. He is living the dream life for a horse, during the night he has a double wide stall with run in and during the day a huge grass feild all for him. He is happy. We have an amazing arena with beautiful handmade jumps ;) and the best group of gals and my riding coach.*

*Suddenly, I didnt feel awkward in my saddle anymore, And low and behold every single ride is my best ride ever! Canterng down the longside sitting tall I feel the most confident I have ever felt, It makes me feel like I can do anything. Though they are baby jumps I started jumping again, and I can do flying changes (well I can look pretty while he does them). He has taught me so much, and given me a confidence riding I have never had before! I feel like a good rider, HELL! I feel like a GREAT rider!*

*After our rides I take my boy to the creek and let him stand in the water and splash, to have a good roll and follow the dogs around. When I walk him back to the barn I feel this overwhelming joy, that at times has brought tears to my eyes.*

*Like I said...I have loved many horses...and many horses to the max. But this horse, makes me so happy. He never frustrates me and he takes care of me. He tolerates when I struggle and when I get it right he lets me know. Everyone who has ridden him loves him. I feel like I have been waiting my whole life for this horse, and after a rough year he was what I needed in my life. I am so thankful to everyone who has made every step possible for me.*

*This yearfor my vacation I got to watch my boy be a star, Lisa (whom we call his other mother now) rode him in a show and in every single picture she has a smile on her face and most importantly he looks so*

*happy. I have never met a horse so eager to please, and when we got to the show we were in his territory, it's like a switch went and he was saying "let me show you girls how it's done". People recognized him and told me how lucky I was to have him, and how good of a horse he was. NOT that I needed reminding but it sure made me proud!*

*I am so excited to see what is in store for us, I am happy he will get to grow old, loved and cherished.*

*I am so thankful and blessed to have such a wonderful power in my life, and wonderful friends to share it with.*

*Not only was he what I needed but I am pretty sure he needed to find a home like ours where he isn't just a way to a ribbon but a friend and part of our rockin' family. Where he has a brood of beautiful mares and a second mom and a bunch of wonderful aunties to love him.*

*Not only is he special but he makes me feel special every day.*

*More men should be like him. ;)*

*We are moving forward "Full Throttle"!"*





