



director's statement

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the tippy story (2005)

DIRECTORS STATEMENT

I believe that relationships have been a prevalent theme in my life. I know that I have not fared well in the one on one people kind of relationships.

Some might say that my passion for dogs is an exit strategy for not being able to have a one on one human relationship. But I say no.

I have so much passion for the wonderful little people I sleep with every night, see and touch all day . My little people are dogs. More specifically, they are white Maltese dogs, whose whole being is there to make a human like me happy.

The truth is I love lying next to them , being with them and going places with them. They are always excited about everything. They are always happy to go anywhere. Most important, they constantly make me smile.

It is hard to be upset or even in a bad mood when you are around a little dog that's kissing you.

When Tippy, the mother, got pregnant, i started taking pictures of her and her babies for a period of four years. I saw their personalities develop. I saw how family dynamics worked in this unusual family of mine.

At times, I felt like I lived with ducks, who followed me everywhere, in an orderly fashion. When I moved, they moved. When I sat, they sat. When I simply stood up to try to fool them, they just looked up waiting for a direction. A couple of them tried to guess.

Living with 5 Maltese dogs, was like being in a comedy show. It was funny. The dogs were simply charming. I am and always was happy in the company of my little pals.

I rarely spoke openly about my passion as I suspected I would get some weird looks from people. More recently, i have seen that there are others like me. The secret lives of dog lovers is coming out of the closet.

No longer do I only get GASPS OF HORROR, when i go on about my dogs or show the pictures I carry in my wallet.

My mother did comment that I had more pictures of my dogs than she had of her grandchildren. HMM. I guess she likes smaller wallets.



It is time now for those of us who recognize the joy of being with dogs to share our experience. Tippy, my oldest, was my ZEN dog. She just knew everything.

If I had a date with someone she knew, I could see her staring at me saying, "why are you bothering?" Tippy had definite view on my life and habits. She had no problem expressing those feelings through her eyes. Maltese dogs speak through their eyes. They can stare right through a person.

It was through my life with Tippy that I knew that if Tippy could talk, her advice would have been sage. Tippy was simply wiser than me.

I was compelled to write her story to do it from her perspective. This was the only way I could honor my beloved, wise, always loving and knowing dog.

tippy