

## Raised by Dogs



Some legends tell of people who were raised by animals. One of the most famous is a Roman myth. In it, a wolf found twin brothers Remus and Romulus by a river. She took care of them. She fed them. When they were older Remus and Romulus founded ancient Rome.

There's no way to know if that story is true. But there are true stories about children being raised by animals.

Oxana Malaya was born in the Ukraine in 1983. She lived in a small village. Sadly, Oxana's parents were alcoholics. They did not take good care of her. Oxana says that her mother wanted a boy, not a girl. So she threw Oxana out of the house to live with the dogs. Oxana was cold, scared, and lonely. She began to think of the dogs as her family.

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No one came to check on Oxana. Not even her parents. She stayed in the shed with the dogs. It was warm in the shed. And they brought her scraps of food and raw meat. Oxana soon forgot how to speak like a human. She began to speak and even behave like a dog.

Five years later, the neighbors finally noticed. They told the police. When the police came, they were shocked by what they found.

Eight-year-old Oxana walked on all fours. She couldn't speak. Instead, she barked, whined, and growled like dog. She ate and drank from dishes on the floor. She picked things up with her mouth rather than her hands. She even shook herself off like a dog when she got wet.

Authorities moved Oxana to a special home. There, she learned how to speak and behave like a human. But even though she was born normal and healthy, Oxana will always be a bit different.

These days, Oxana lives in a home for people with special needs. There, she takes care of cows. She loves working with other animals, too, like horses.

Oxana has a pet dog. But these days she prefers to be with people. She enjoys being the center of attention. She enjoys making people laugh. She says her biggest dream is to meet her mother again one day.



## Raised by Dogs



There are several myths and legends about abandoned babies being raised by wolves. One of the most famous is the myth of Remus and Romulus. These twin brothers were raised by wolves and founded ancient Rome.

There's no way to know if that story is true. But there are true stories about children being raised by animals.

Oxana Malaya was born in a small village in the Ukraine in 1983. Sadly, Oxana's parents were alcoholics and did not take good care of her. Oxana says that her mother wanted a boy rather than a girl, so she threw Oxana out of the house to live with the dogs. Cold, scared, and lonely, Oxana came to depend on the dogs as her family and caregivers.

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No one, not even her parents, came to look for Oxana. She stayed in the shed with the dogs. It was warm in the shed with the dogs. And they brought her scraps of food and raw meat. Oxana soon forgot how to speak human and began to behave like a dog.

Five years later, the neighbors finally noticed and told police. When the authorities came, they were shocked by what they found.

Eight-year-old Oxana walked on all fours. She couldn't speak, but she barked, whined, and growled like dog. She ate and drank from dishes on the floor. She picked things up with her mouth rather than her hands. She even shook herself off like a dog when she got wet.

Authorities moved Oxana to an orphanage. There, she learned how to speak and behave like a human. But even though she was born normal and healthy, Oxana will always be a bit different.

These days, Oxana lives in a home for people with special needs where she takes care of cows. She loves working with other animals, too, like horses.

Oxana has a pet dog, but definitely prefers the company of people. She enjoys being the center of attention and making people laugh. She says her biggest dream in life is to meet her mother again one day.



## Raised by Dogs



There are numerous myths and legends that tell of abandoned children being raised by wild animals such as wolves. One of the most famous is the ancient Roman myth of twin brothers Remus and Romulus. The story is that they were raised by wolves and later founded ancient Rome. While there's no way to know if the story was based on actual events, true stories do exist about children who were raised by animals.

Oxana Malaya was born in a small village in the Ukraine in 1983. Unfortunately, Oxana's parents were alcoholics. They did not take good care of her. Oxana says that her mother wanted a boy rather than a girl, so she threw Oxana out of the house. Oxana crawled into the shed to live with the dogs. Cold, scared, and lonely, Oxana came to depend on the dogs as her family and her caregivers.

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No one, not even her parents, came to check on Oxana for many years. She stayed in the shed with the dogs where it was warm, safe, and dry. The dogs fed her scraps of food or raw meat. Oxana also brought them any scraps of food that she could find. Oxana was isolated from human beings and soon forgot how to speak and behave like one. She began to communicate, and even behave, like a dog.

After five long years, Oxana's neighbors finally noticed her situation and told the police. When the authorities came, they were shocked by what they found.

Eight-year-old Oxana walked on all fours like a dog. She couldn't speak. Instead, she barked, whined, and growled like dog. She ate and drank from dishes on the floor. She picked things up with her mouth rather than her hands. She even shook herself off like a dog when she got wet.

Authorities moved Oxana to an orphanage. There, she learned to speak and behave like a human once again. But extended isolation from humans at such an early age changed the way her brain developed. Even though Oxana was born a normal, healthy child, she will always be a bit different.

These days, Oxana lives in a home for people with special needs. She she has a job taking care of cows. She enjoys working with other animals, too, such as horses. She even has a pet dog.

Although Oxana likes animals, she definitely prefers the company of people. She enjoys being the center of attention and loves making people laugh. She says her biggest dream in life is to meet her mother again one day.

