



## Starberry's Metamorphosis

Entirely because of you and your generous outpouring of support, a special horse was healed after tragedy and settled into her new forever home at the sanctuary. For seventeen years, Big Sur residents and visitors had admired her and her sister, Caroline, roaming the fields near Pfeiffer Beach. Until the day, more than a year ago, when an act of violent cruelty left both mares with 3rd degree chemical burns and nerve damage. In the shock of this physical trauma, Strawberry witnessed the death of her sister and was relinquished to Sea Star Horse Sanctuary.

You, Strawberry's community, rallied with support, covering all her expenses for a full year! She was surrounded with love, protection, and the highest level of care, made possible by your donations. Your contributions provided outstanding veterinary care from Matt and Tiffany Durham, a specially formulated diet enriched with best-quality orchard grass and supplemental nutrients, and the structural alteration of our facilities to comfortably accommodate our new arrival.

She responded to the holistic healing modalities of applied zoopharmacognosy, medical qi gong and healing touch. She found comfort in the immediate bond she formed with Jane, our eldest mare.

In the beginning, indoor stalls, farrier and dental care were all alien to her. With time, routine, and groundwork, her confidence grew. The entire herd accepted her with surprising speed and ease, providing an essential sense of security and well being that can only be found among other horses. In this healing cocoon, we watched her metamorphosis from Strawberry into Starberry.

Starberry's transition is celebrated in a beautiful plaque on her stall door. A gift from a master carver in Indonesia, it is handcrafted out of teak wood salvaged from a barn in Central Java. It expresses so much more than dear Starberry's name. It says she is loved, she belongs, and she is home. Thank you for the critical support that made her recovery possible and secures a good life for the rest of her days at Sea Star Horse Sanctuary.