

An Amazing Heroine

by Kenita Gibbins

I followed my cat, Sammy. He was stalking a mouse, I suspected.

I started back to the cabin porch when I just happened to turn around. There stood a pronghorn about 30 feet from me. I started talking to the animal, and much to my surprise, she made mewing sounds to me. I was sure she was a female since she looked big enough to give birth any minute. I swear we developed a relationship immediately. I think my Heroine saw me every day when I roamed around the cabin. Maybe she needed relative sympathy from me. I talked until she went back into the forest.

Three days later, George and I drove to Fairplay. I looked out to a vast field and saw four antelope: three adults and one baby. I think the girlfriends were sheltering the new mother and child from the enemy, plus me and my camera. These animals prefer to crawl under a fence rather than jump one. In an emergency, they can dash and go over a barrier a lot faster than a dangerous coyote who also likes the property. I felt sure the group could take care of themselves.

I happily sat on the porch two weeks later. I spotted my Heroine and her baby. I choose to believe she wanted to show her baby to her human relative.