



# *Lightfoot Ragdolls*

## *and Cherubims*

### RAGDOLLS AND CHERUBIMS

What is all the new rumble about Cherubims? One breeder recently told me, "A ragdoll is a ragdoll is a ragdoll. Traditional, mink, sepia or solid, it's still a ragdoll." Ultimately, yes that's true. At some point in time, there was an outcross breeding in order to get the darker coloring, most often with one of the breeds that Ann Baker originally created the Ragdoll breed with. Once that outcross is over 5 generations back (I believe), the kittens can be registered as ragdolls.

In TICA, minks, sepia and solids have been able to be registered as ragdolls, but were not allowed to be shown in shows, and rank as champions because the ragdoll standard includes "blue-eyed, pointed." A traditional ragdoll will have blue eyes. The others can have aqua, green, gold, etc., depending on if they are mink, sepia or solid. There has been a battle going on for many years about whether to amend the breed standard to include mink, sepia and solid ragdolls or to create a new "breed" that could then be shown at cat shows and championship. There was a big vote and the latter is what passed, creating a breed called Cherubim. I, and many other breeders, feel that it should be either Ragdoll Cherubim or Cherubim Ragdoll, because Ragdoll is the basic breed. But alas, it is what it is.

### The History

Cherubims were an offshoot of cats developed by Ann Baker in the 1960's, as she developed the Ragdoll breed. When the kitten didn't meet the blue-eyed pointed qualities she was looking for in the development of this breed, she called them Cherubim. Many breeders over the years have developed Ragdoll cats with non-traditional characteristics. They still have wonderful coats (some say softer than traditional ragdolls) and the "ragdoll personality." They are ragdolls in all those wonderful things that are important qualities in a ragdoll.

Cherubims are born with color. Those colors may also deepen over time, like a traditional ragdoll. There are three different color types: mink, sepia and solid. A solid Cherubim is very pigmented at birth (most basic domestic cats are like that).

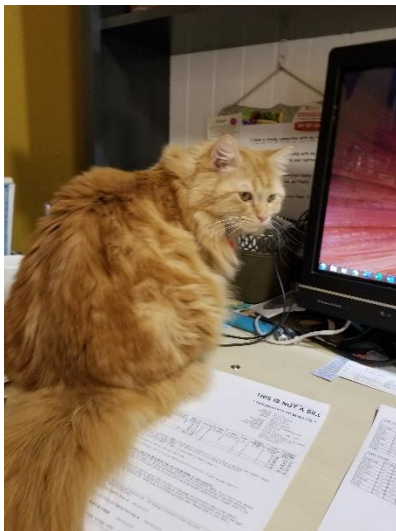
Cherubim can be black, seal, blue, chocolate, red, cinnamon, lilac, cream and fawn. They can be any of the patterns. They may not be pointed and almost never have blue eyes. The eyes may be aqua, green, yellow/gold or??

It will be exciting to be able to show these cats in the arena and have them rank!

We have a mink and a sepia mama. Ember is a cinnamon mink. Merida is a sepia seal torbie. They both produce traditional and Cherubim kittens with our traditional male. Merida will be retiring in 2026. Ember will retire in 2027. The traditional kittens produced by Ember will have to be registered as Cherubim because there needs to be 5 generations without a mink in the pedigree before a kitten can be registered as Ragdoll. I won't be breeding long enough to breed out the mink in that line, and all of Merida's kittens will be mink because she is sepia and my male is traditional. The rest of our cats are traditional and only produce traditional kittens.

Many years ago we had a few solids. I was very unaware of the battle going on with many breeders between traditional Ragdolls and non-trationals. There are many breeders that still consider all these different kinds of ragdolls as "Ragdolls" and don't agree with the Cherubim classification. Other than TICA, the other registration organizations don't recognize non-traditional ragdolls. I know some breeders that think there may be a lawsuit coming about the change. Time will tell.

From our past cats:



Nutmeg was a red solid Mackerel (swirly stripes)



Rina was a seal lynx sepia



Shavi- black tortie solid. Yes, there is a head and eyes in there!



Jossa was a blue mink mitted. She is here with Nutmeg as a kitten.



Tucker a seal mink as a baby and an adult. He had really light eyes.

Bentley is a chocolate mink. He also had very light eyes.

