

## **My Most Beloved Treasure**

By Noelani Sprecher

I was awakened in the night by a hand on my shoulder and a voice in my ear. “Master, make haste and come outside. Your mare, Most Prized Possession, has given birth to a beautiful little colt.”

Getting quickly out of bed, I grabbed my cloak and walked out into the moonlight. I was greeted by a cool puff of wind that made me pull my cloak more tightly about me. The moonlight illuminated the sand dunes in a soft glow, quite a contrast to the dark shadows on the sides away from the moon. I barely noticed the beauty of it, as I anxiously followed the stable boy to the horses’ corral.

My gorgeous mare looked tired, but lifted her head and greeted me with a gentle nicker. At first glance, I could not see any foal around her. It was the flash in his eyes that caught my gaze. And there, in the shadows, was a small black foal who had not yet gotten up. Then the young colt lurched unsteadily to his feet, fell over, and tried again. He gave a soft snort as he shakily stood there regarding me with interest. It reminded me of his sire, A Magical Knight, one of the finest and proudest stallions in the desert.

It was then that I noticed the foal shaking from the cool night air and I quickly commanded the stable boy, “It is too cold for them out here, bring my Prized Possession and her foal into my tent.”

The mare walked quietly in since she had been there before, and the foal followed. The stable boy spread some straw in the corner and placed some hay and water nearby.

It was in the lamplight that I got to examine the foal more closely. His coat was the finest black that I had ever seen. He had long elegant legs, even for a foal, which must have come from his dam. A perfectly dished head was nicely set on the end of his shapely neck. He had an air of intense pride yet calm dignity befitting for a future noble stallion. A more perfect foal I could not have imagined or wanted. “Ah, my Prize,” I whispered to the mare, stroking her graceful neck, “you have given me quite a treasure.”