



Bon Bon Gives Birth: Part 1

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Martok

Monday, May 4, 2009

If you think Mom was worried waiting for Ursula to have Lambie, you should see her when one of the goat girls kids. She says sheep are really good at making lambs, but goats tend to mess things up.

Uzzi and I don't know about this because after all, we're guys. But we keep an eye on things and listen when the goat girls gossip.

The Boers say they had lots of problems when they had babies (except Tallulah, and she's pretty smug about that) and that's why they don't get bred any more. I tell them it would be different if they made babies with a big, strong Nubian buck—but they snicker and Uzzi turns his face.

So, Mom gets nervous when goats get pregnant. But the dairy girls can't make milk unless they do. So this year I helped Latifah and Bon Bon make babies and Latifah had my big boy, Hutch.

Bon Bon's due date was May 1. Mom has been obsessing about that.

She's been balancing Bon Bon's diet just so—alfalfa hay and grain to keep her calcium and phosphorus in perfect balance, a handful of yummy Calf Manna in one meal and black sunflower seeds in the other, and fistfuls of luscious fresh-picked blackberry leaves twice every day (Mom says they're to tone Bon Bon's uterus and help her make more milk).

Uzzi and I were put out. We thought we'd like to be pregnant goats too.

That was until this morning. It was 3 AM and Bon Bon stood very still, as though she was listening to something far away. She said she felt weird—so Mom spent the night in the dairy girls' barn.

Uzzi and I live in the buck run (Uzzi likes to think he's a buck). It adjoins the dairy girls' barn on one side. If we put our front feet up on the fence we can see what's happening inside. And we can hear everything, and what we heard was pretty scary stuff!

Bon Bon started moaning. Not loud, just under her breath. She wandered around the stall until daybreak nibbling hay and digging in the straw. Sometimes she napped in her turtle sandbox (it's her favorite nest), but never for very long...

What happens to Bon Bon? Read more next week!

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