

2000 A WTR MILLENNIUM CHRISTMAS



Hi there!!! My name is Maggie 1st Wayfarer. I'm what they call a cria llama. That means that I am a baby llama. My mom is Lilly of the Valley. She is a really neat mom. Mom told me I was born on July 29th of this year, and I was one of those hard births. She said the humans that take care of us, Mike & BJ, had to help her to deliver me. I remember that I kind of small and scrawny. My right front leg didn't feel right. I couldn't stand up, nurse, and recover. Mom says she wasn't too happy having Mike & BJ milk her so I could have that good colostrums. But hey!!! I found out that goat's milk is great!!!!

Now I'm 4 months old and I've experienced a lot of things. It's been as hot as +105 and just a few weeks ago it got kind of cold. Mom said it got -9 below, but with my wool and a bunch of aunts and uncles around me to keep me warm it's OK. I'm also an aunt already. Another llama mama, named Mandarin Chocolate, had one like me, only brown. Her name is Tymico 2nd Wayfarer. She's neat to be around and play with. I'm acting like a big sister to even though she is bigger than I am now!

There seems to be a bunch of us on this ranch. Mom has been helping me learn my numbers and I've counted 28 of us. There are some big furry things called St. Bernard's. One is called Meiko Wayfarer and the other is called Koncho Wayfarer. They kind of keep track of us. I like to play tag with them when they come out to the pasture. Mom gets upset that I do that but my Uncle llamas put a stop to things when it gets out of hand. But we have fun anyway.



When I was born there were 2 smaller furry animals around. Mom calls them cats. The one they call Searcher came to see me when I was only a few hours old. Mom was concerned, but Mike & BJ said it was OK and I wouldn't get hurt. Then a



week later I saw this big fat cat called Misha. I tried to sniff her, but she got scared of me. My uncle Radar said that Misha generally doesn't come around and visit like Searcher. When I was 2 months old we had a big snowstorm here. On the 3rd day of the storm there was a strange sound coming from the llama trailer. It was another cat. Mike & BJ took

it in because it was cold and hungry. It's been with us now 2 months and is a real neat friend. It comes out and climbs the fence of our corral and lets me sniff it. She said her name, given her by Mike & BJ, is Kalico Wayfarer. So, I figured that all our names were "Wayfarer", but Kallie straightened me out. She said the Mike & BJ had the last name of "Carlson". They own the ranch, which we live on, and it's called the **Wayfaring Traveler Ranch**.



I've been listening to my uncles, like a good little cria should. They have told me some stories of why we are on this ranch. My Uncle Magnus, whom I was named after, told me BJ & Mike use us to pack stuff. Uncle Magnus said he took a trip to an area called the Big Horn Mountains. He said that it was a neat place; lots of tree and bigggg meadows he could eat in. All he had to do was carry about 60# of stuff. He was able to go with some of my other uncles. They've told me they play games with BJ & Mike, by acting like they don't want to be caught and go on these trips. But, they really think it's neat to go there and see new things. I hope, when I grow up, I can go along with them.



The other ventures BJ & Mike are trying to do are use our poo-poo to fertilize the crops they grow. They say its called organic way to raise crops, and I'm glad I can help. They say I do a good job. If I eat weed seeds I can digest it so the weeds will not grow again, and when they apply my poo-poo

directly to plants it doesn't burn the plant. Soooo I help out the best I can. Mike says his official job title is Waste Management Engineer.

We have a guesthouse for people to stay at. BJ & Mike treat humans to a healthy life still, and use the setting to show people how to work with us before they take us on trips to the mountains and desserts. My youngest uncle, Bridger, said there have been some neat humans that have been to the ranch this past summer, before I was born. There were 2 young humans that worked with him and Dinwoody Glacier, another uncle of mine. They thought they were the neatest ones.

My mom's boyfriend, Zasu, said that back in February another llama, Zorac, injured BJ. He said BJ had llama trauma. My other aunts said that BJ had to go through a lot of physical therapy to get her knee back in shape. But, I heard Mike say that it was "ranch therapy" that got the knee better. This happened all before I was born so I'm relying on what others say.

Mike & BJ like to talk with me. They seem to like being here a lot. Mike says it's like "Shangri-La". He wanted me to tell you he retired January 14th of this year. He took a class in Farm/Ranch Management at Northwest College in Powell last spring. He did it to make a business plan for the ranch so he would know how much he was going to be in debt. He seems to be doing a lot of things. I see him working a lot in the field that the rise crops. He also has a bigggggg field that he does something called bale. Whatever he does to it I've found out that it tastes goooood. So I hope he keeps doing it. I did see him bring a in a big trailer. He piled a bunch of these bales on it and took it off the ranch. There have been some people who come to the ranch and pick up the bales for themselves. I get worried that there might not be enough for me to eat, but my uncles tell me there are some big round bales in the front part of the ranch that they go past when Mike & BJ take them for training walks.

I see BJ once in a while. She seems to be around only on weekends now. During the summer she was here every day. She goes to Cody, WWY, and helps out kids, who are a bit older than me, learn how to talk right. Mike says she brings in the money to pay for all the llama feed. I like that!!!

Mike says I've got to show our newcomers in the small corral how polite llamas are, and I can't spit at them. There are 2 things called horses there. They are just 2 months older than I am and they are big!!! Mike calls them Belgians. They look kind of like me but they have bigger faces and legs. I'm supposed to give them time to get adjusted to us before I can go over and visit with them. Mike says they will get bigger then 4 llamas put together. I think he's kidding me, nothing can get that BIG!!! He wants to train them to pull something called a plow. I don't think that's something I would want to do.

If you get a chance to come out west, and plan to visit Yellowstone Park, Mike & BJ want me to tell you it's OK to stop in and see us. I would like to meet you, and, if you have kids, I'd especially like to be with them; we could be friends.

There is something really nice out here I think you should see. Most warm nights I'm up near the main house and I see BJ & Mike with the dogs and cats on the screened porch. They are there to see the beautiful sunsets. They are really neat, and I think you'd enjoy them too. I hope you can stop by, I'm sure Mike & BJ would like to see their old friends, and I can show you the new barn we are going to get!!!!.

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From the Wayfaring Traveler Ranch

(Me) Maggie	Lilly	Mandarin Chocolate	Tymico	Jenny	Tenacious
Dark Rain	Seneca	Katarina Spit	Turret	Nichaja	Titapa
Zasu	Bridger	Mt. Osborn	Radar	George	Esparado
Ethan	Bola	White Knight	Coco Man	Sinara	Chico
Harpo	Groucho	Black Knight	Spunky	Magnus	Howard K

Meiko and Koncho. Kalico, Misha, and Searcher. Thunder and Lightening

And the two humans that got this menagerie together BJ & Mike

P.S. - Hopefully soon you will be able to visit with us on our website. Look for something with llamas and guesthouse I WY when you do your search. It's amazing how fast crias' pick things up. Maggie was able to type this Christmas letter with her for toenails. Se Ya!!! - Mike

Happy Holidays!!!

