



days at
Dunrovin

June 2019

Dunrovin's Donkey DIVAS



Miss Maude

Miss Gertie

The DIVAS Dish—Animal Advice from the Wise Asses

Father's Day Gifts for Hal!



Dear DIVAS,

As I reign above, you reign below. As I soar in the expansive big blue sky of Montana, you trod her sacred ground. With your keen ability to observe and evaluate all manner of creatures, great and small, from your hooved perspective and with an instinct honed from eons on earth, I know you will be able to help me.

This may be a rather - excuse the pun - pedestrian request, but I am at a loss. How do I celebrate what I hear is a special biped celebration called Father's Day? Should I celebrate it at all?

No manner of high water or muddy churn delay Hal in providing abundant fish for us. He is such a diligent egg-sitter that I never worry about our eggs or offspring becoming chilled. He is a fierce warrior when intruders attack. If that isn't enough, he has an unsurpassed knack for decorating and is rakishly handsome whether in flight or while nourishing himself on the Sterling perch. In short, he is a gem—with a caveat. He never asks for directions and is always late in returning from his winter sojourn.

As perfect a mate as Hal is, how do I express my appreciation on behalf of myself and our newest chicks? What do you get the osprey who has everything?

With regards from "The Nest,"

Harriet



Dearest Harriet,

Father's Day is a hotly-debated topic in the Animal Kingdom. Seahorses are all for it, but praying mantises feel it's a cruel joke. Clearly, one's observance of the holiday reflects the respect paid to the role. As we've all witnessed, ospreys place high value on the paternal figure. So it seems some kind of celebration is in order.

Harriet, you know we are huge fans of your work. Your skills as a mother and hunter are unmatched in our tiny commonwealth. The drama that accompanies your arrival to the ranch every spring is thrilling indeed, not to mention the living soap opera that follows. We're referring, of course, to the gaggle of suitors that show up at your front door long before Hal returns to set things straight.

With that in mind, perhaps a paternity test is in order? Of course, we jest.

In all seriousness, the glaring problem to us is Hal's tardiness. Despite his champion fishing skills and rugged good looks, he is simply not the keenest navigator. Therefore, we heartily recommend you use this holiday as an opportunity to outfit Hal. With map, compass, and calendar in claw, not only will you satisfy the instinctual male craving for gear, but you will also allow the rest of us to breathe a little easier next season.

But take care not to damage the finely-tuned ego of your proud partner. We suggest offering your presents in such a context that will appeal to his sense of duty and responsibility. For instance, the compass could be explained as a teaching tool for the chicks. Or the map as an invitation to explore new routes next migration season (just be sure Dunrovin Ranch is highlighted and circled several times).

Whatever you decide on, make sure to serve it with a heaping portion of flattery. Chirp, cheep, whistle and peep the ways Hal does you proud. Then teach him the cardinal directions.

With regards from "The Corral",

Miss Gertie Miss Maude



Caption Contest

Email captions and
animal letters to
DunrovinDivas@gmail.com

Identify captions by month and
year of contest: June 2019