

MY HOBBY NEEDED A HOBBY

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My hobby needed a hobby you know how you get a dog and you
have a dog
and then Kurt says we need to get the dog a puppy the dog needs
somebody

to play with her to teach and then you have a baby bossy baby
needs a little
baby and littler baby and then like you have a thing that you don't
get paid

any money for it's like an art you do it for the love of it sooner or
later
though it gets you know it starts to make you nervous you get
caught up

in politics it doesn't matter that there's not any money it's prestige
rankings and who's up and who's down so that thing you were
calling this

vocation the thing you did for art's sake you know you didn't want
to get paid for because you loved it so much it was like you loved

the work it felt like play I mean you looked up after several hours
you were so absorbed you didn't even know where the time went
then it

gets onerous because this currency is being traded and you know
it is starting
to get heavy it starts to be as heavy as coins people even use ex-
pressions

like coin of the realm my stock went up or my stock went down or
somebody
or other didn't use their political capital all that kind of crap so
now

your hobby your art needs a hobby that feels completely free and
doesn't
have anything to do with the buying and selling attaching your
worth to some

chips or tokens markers or whatever so you've got to get a new
free thing
where you get completely absorbed and work feels like play well
so I found

one my pet the pet little sister of my first pet is some horses well
then I get
to the stable forget about time waste like five hours at a pop after a
few years

start wearing a watch but am not going to worry yet so I am wash-
ing off
Berto the horse that I am helping to pay for but still it feels pretty
free I don't

go to horse shows I'm like sixty-three years old people consider it a
miracle
that I'm even staying on which I'm barely doing my trainer and I
spend half

the time gossiping to the point where we decide we probably have
to go
to lunch so I am washing Berto off and Berto is starting to squirm
a little about

his pet out in the pasture he can just make out through the fence I
can tell
he has a pet the horses all have buddies his pet is Vinny the don-
key and when

I went to get him before my lesson he was chasing the red horses
because
he thought they were bothering Vinny he does tolerate Love Bug
the white pony

though because Love Bug is Vinny's little brother his inseparable
companion
his familiar I go to get Berto he's in a herd of the black horses and
one starts

to pin its ears and foment a little stampede but I yell my hateful
yell and it stops
and Berto walks peacefully to the gate with me he acts sometimes
like I'm his buddy

which makes me shine all over never mind the transactional as-
pect the treats and
carrots I'm loaded down with most of the time ban the word
"transactional"

and also any consideration of the fantasy lovers mine and prob-
ably my husband's
not exactly pets or little brothers the priest tonight said we each
have an angel

this is really the first I'd heard of it and I started picturing my
crush
bathed in light oops no my angel I mean my real one though I
don't think

it he she is my pet but more like I'm its I'm surrendered as some-
body's distraction
from their day job their support poodle crossing buddy safe space
spice cake