When I was invited by friends to go visit Lions Tigers & Bears three years ago, I was very skeptical. I am NOT a fan of zoos. I am not a fan of animals in captivity of any kind. And even after I was assured that this was not a Zoo I still had my doubts.

I have been an OVER THE TOP animal lover since I was a child. I had cats, dogs, turtles, rabbits, horses etc. and learned from a very early age how precious and magnificent all God’s creatures are, great and small. Also, I was born in Zimbabwe, so I was particularly fascinated with the amazing and majestic big cats of Africa.

When my husband and I arrived at Lions Tigers & Bears for our visit, Bobbi was there to greet us with such enthusiasm, and energy that you couldn’t help but feel the positive atmosphere. As we went through the guided visit, it quickly became apparent to me that this indeed was NO zoo.

Bobbi’s knowledge of all the animals at the sanctuary was extraordinary. They are family to her—each and every one of them.

Many of their stories are devastating, heartbreaking, and truly shed light on the cruelty that most of them had endured before coming to Lions Tigers & Bears to live out what is left of their lives. Some had many years, some, sadly did not.

We chose to donate to Lions Tigers & Bears because it is a sanctuary. It is a place where animals are truly loved, respected, and all of their needs are met with the highest standard of quality and care. I applaud Bobbi and her amazing staff for their tireless work every day to maintain the level of excellence they have created. We are proud to be able to give back to this world class organization.

— John and Kerry Bowlen