

Thank you, Joyce, for your review of Cesar Millan. I love watching his show. It is not the dog owners that are interesting; I love to watch how the dogs respond to Caesar. "Whoa, the crazy guy is here, he wants me to do what? Mom never makes me do that!" Eventually, they do what he asks and then you see the very Airedale look, "What are you looking at? Nothing happened! Who, Me? Never! Nothing to see here, move along."

What impresses me is that he can adapt to whatever collar or training style the dog owner uses. I've wondered if he has dealt with the stubborn terrier temperament.

I can say for a fact that Aeryn has changed her ways since I have been walking with her behind me. She would always crowd and surge on heel and not pay particular attention to me. She would heel for half a block, then lose interest in it. I was constantly popping the lead and redirecting her. It only took two long walks to set the new heel position. I had to use a really funny looking arm position to keep her head behind my knee, but it paid off.

Aeryn likes to watch The Dog Whisperer, too. There was one particular pit bull that Aeryn looooooved! Aeryn "knows" that the dogs are not behind the television; she has done a thorough search of the area. So, they must be behind the wall in the backyard! "Yay, friends!" She will run to the backdoor and ring her bells to go out!

Cesar allows the dog the space to gracefully change his or her attitude. So, Aeryn and I have been having short sessions, rather than long, stern lectures about her behavior. Now, instead of having a sulky dog, I have a very cheerful companion who's a joy to work with. Not to worry: She's as goofy as ever; that Airedale sense of humor never dims.

Carol and the Airedale