



PEDIGREE DYNAMICS

***AT TALAQ'S DAUGHTERS SUIT PROMISING
YOUNG SIRES***

It seems remarkable that a Melbourne Cup winner could be the sire of this season's brilliant speedster Al Mansour, however At Talaq was a versatile racehorse whose progeny are also displaying ability over a wide range of distances.

A close look at At Talaq's pedigree reveals a strong background which, depending on the mating, can be influenced in a variety of directions.

His early demise at stud has left us with only seven full crops, his oldest now being nine year olds, however At Talaq's daughters should perpetuate his versatility in the mating stakes.

'At Talaq' may mean divorce in Arabic, but for daughters of At Talaq, matings with the following sires may well be marriages made in heaven.

HURRICANE SKY This grandson of Bletchingly through his outstanding son Star Watch has much on offer for At Talaq's daughters.

Bletchingly's compatibility with At Talaq is already demonstrated by his stakewinners Al Mansour (damsire Bletchingly) and Leica Smile (damsire Best Western, by Bletchingly). In my opinion, it's highly possible that the success of this cross can be attributed to Bletchingly's damsire Relic. Leica Smile's sire Best Western possesses another line to Relic through his dam.

Relic's dam Bridal Colors is bred on a Black Toney / PADUA cross. Black Toney got precocious horses and was the Leading Sire of 2 year olds in 1923 and 1929. Black Servant, sire of Blue Larkspur to whom At Talaq's sire Roberto is inbred 4 x 4, is also bred on a Black Toney / PADUA cross. Blue Larkspur himself traces to PADUA, reinforcing this prepotent line.

At Talaq's dam further compliments this genetic angle, as her second damsire Bimelech is by Black Toney.

Relic's sire War Relic also offers genetic boosts for At Talaq. War Relic is inbred to Rock Sand 3 x 3, who traces to the same taproot mare, ST. MARGUERITE, as Hail to Reason, grandsire of At Talaq.

Hurricane Sky's damsire **Nijinsky** is also a powerful compliment for Roberto. He is bred on a Nearco / Bull Lea / Blue Larkspur combination, as is Roberto's dam. Roberto's sire Hail to Reason further supports this pattern, being bred on a Nearco / Blue Larkspur cross.

Bull Lea is 'sex balanced' (represented through both a son and a daughter) in this match. This is regarded as a desirable pattern for speed.

Positive linebreeding is created by Nijinsky's contribution of Omaha, reinforcing Johnstown in Roberto. They are both grandsons of the influential mare FLAMBETTE.

BITE THE BULLET This young sire has a strong winners to runners rate and a high Average Earnings Index, making him good value at the lower end of the stud fee range.

A marriage with a daughter of At Talaq creates some interesting and powerful patterns and family reinforcement.

Bite the Bullet's dam Lassie's Lady has many ancestors and families in common with Roberto.

Her sire **Alydar** is a son of Raise a Native, who, along with Relic and Blue Larkspur, makes up the trio of famous members of the PADUA family. As mentioned in the analysis of Hurricane Sky, PADUA family members are highly desirable reinforcements for At Talaq, who, through Roberto, carries a duplication of Blue Larkspur. Another line to Blue Larkspur is present via Lassie's Lady's damsire, Buckpasser.

Raise a Native's second damsire American Flag meets with his three quarter brother Blue Swords in this hypothetical mating - he is present in At Talaq as Hail to Reason's damsire.

Alydar's dam is bred on a Nasrullah / Bull Lea / Blue Larkspur combination, mirroring that pattern in Roberto's dam, .

Turn-to is also common to both Lassie's Lady and Roberto and is additionally boosted by fellow MARCHETTA family member, My Babu in Lassie's Lady.

Bite the Bullet's grandsire Bold Bidder has Nasrullah and Johnstown prominent in his pedigree, as does Roberto's damsire Nashua. Spectacular Bid's dam adds another line to Johnstown.

At Talaq's dam also has something to contribute to the success of a Bite the Bullet / At Talaq mare cross. Her second damsire Bimelech is a 5/8ths brother to the second dam of Buckpasser in Bite the Bullet, both being out of the great ancestress, LA TROIENNE.

PERSONAL HOPE His oldest crop are now two years old and are already impressing track watchers with their speed.

Like Bite the Bullet, Personal Hope is out of an Alydar mare and therefore offers all of Alydar's genetic goodies as outlined in the Bite the Bullet analysis.

The other three quarters of Personal Hope's pedigree has further attributes which can be exploited by an At Talaq mare.

His sire Storm Bird traces to LADY HAWTHORN, who also happens to be the taproot dam of Vent du Nord, At Talaq's damsire. Battlefield, who appears through Personal Hope's second dam, also traces to LADY HAWTHORN.

Storm Bird's combination of Nearco, Bull Lea, Blue Larkspur and FRIZETTE (through her grandson Flares) is copied by Robertos's dam, her line to FRIZETTE being through her grandson Johnstown.

To coin an American pedigree term, this type of "commonality" could have powerful positive effects in a mating.

In addition, Personal Hope's second damsire, Bold Hour, is bred on a Nasrullah / Jamestown cross, duplicating that combination in Roberto's damsire, Nashua. Even further south in the fourth quadrant of Personal Hope's pedigree, a Royal Charger / Sir Gallahad III cross could give that pattern in Hail to Reason a kick in the ribs.

This high incidence of dynamic pattern reinforcement in this cross should provide the daughters of At Talaq with the opportunity to make the most of their sire's strong ancestry.

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