



## Archie, the Amazing Left-Tailed Cat

**By: Jonathan Losos**

Archie (a.k.a., Mayonaka's Sammy) is a beautiful red EB. He's generally acknowledged (by everyone in our house) to be the world's smartest cat, but he has another distinction: he's left-tailed. You've probably never heard of a left-tailed cat. Neither had we, until Archie showed us.

Now two-years-old, Archie rarely goes anywhere with a straight tail. It's almost always curved, and always to the left. Sometimes just a little curve at the tip, sometimes wrapped tightly at his side like a cinnamon bun. When his tail is up in the happy-cat pose, it's always got a little left-leaning question mark toward the top. When lying down, it curls...to the left. Occasionally it's even rolled upward.

Does he ever curl his tail, even bend it slightly, to the right? Never. He's a left-tailed cat.

Archie arrived at our house at 4 1/2 months of age. We can't remember when we first noticed Archie's sinistral tendencies. In reviewing our photos from his first few months, we did find a few snaps with the tail curled to the left, but not many, and none like the extensive, omnipresent curvature that has become so regular.

You might be wondering: is it physically possible for Archie's tail to curve to the right? The answer is: yes. If you gently pull the tail rightward, it bends and curls. Archie doesn't object, doesn't show any sign of discomfort. But as soon as you let go, within a moment, the tail straightens or even reverses to the left.

We've done some internet search, even posted on social media, but can't find anyone who's heard of a left-tailed (or right-tailed) cat. Have you ?

