

Stronger Pedigree Analysis - Kristen Manning

Stronger is bred on a 3 X 4 cross of Danehill via his Gr.1 sons Redoute's Choice and Nothin' Leica Dane, carrying another three strains of the legendary Northern Dancer via Nijinsky II, Grand Chaudiere and Nureyev.

Northern Dancer's prolific dam Natalma is the third dam of Danehill and her dam Almahmoud is also the grandam of Arctic Tern whose son Khairpour is Stronger's fourth dam sire.

This Natalma/Almahmoud family has been one of the strongest line-breeding forces of recent times and further strains can be sourced via Almahmoud's grandson Halo and Natalma's great grandson Machiavellian (whose dam is by Halo).

Both of those stallions have been represented by highly successful descendants in Australia - namely More Than Ready (by Halo's son Southern Halo) and Street Cry (by Machiavellian).

More Than Ready and Danehill have combined in the pedigrees of 163 stakes winners with 23 of those horses being successful at the elite level. Of that impressive tally, 43 of the stakes winners and five of the Gr.1 winners combine More Than Ready and Redoute's Choice whilst the more specific combination of More Than Ready and Stronger's sire Not A Single Doubt has produced 67 winners from only 101 runners with eight of those being stakes winners including the Gr.1 filly Miracles Of Life.

More Than Ready's multiple strains (including his dam sire Woodman) of his own ancestress, the famed matriarch La Troienne, are also of interest with Stronger line-bred to her via Buckpasser and Hitting Away.

There is further La Troienne in More Than Ready's son Better Than Ready whilst daughters of Pluck match up nicely with his dam being a member of the Sadler's Wells sire line - and that horse relishes strains of his 3/4 brother Nureyev, grandsire of Stronger's dam sire Starcraft.

It is also worth noting that Better Than Ready has Seattle Slew whose sire Bold Reasoning is a great grandson of the wonderful mare Marching Home - also ancestress of Stronger's third dam sire Genghiz.

Another strong branch of the Halo sire line is Sunday Silence - he and Not A Single Doubt are doing a good job together; only 39 runners so far but 29 of those are winners including two stakes winners. Strains of particular interest are Fuji Kiseki (from the family of Khaled who features in Stronger) and Deep Impact (descendant of Feola who features in Stronger via Round Table, Tell and Doutelle).

The Street Cry and Danehill combination has yielded 99 stakes winners - 25 Gr.1 winners. Of those there have been 22 stakes winners and five Gr.1 winners (including the current star Anamoe) via Street Cry and Redoute's Choice whilst the Street Cry/Not A Single Doubt combo has provided us with nine winners from only 14 runners so far... and two of those are stakes winners including the Golden Slipper hero Farnan.

Street Cry's son Street Boss brings in La Troienne as well as strains of Blushing Groom (related to Khaled) and Iron Liege (Stronger has his close relation Swaps). Also nice for Stronger are daughters of Per Incanto (his second dam sire Try My Best is a grandson of Redoute's Choice's influential fourth dam Best In Show) and Jakkalberry (son of a Sadler's Wells line mare).

Sadly there won't be too many mares around by Aquis' late stallion Spieth but they are of great interest for Stronger - he is out of a Machiavellian line mare whilst his grandsire Spinning World is a descendant of Best In Show. And his third dam sire What A Pleasure is a 3/4 brother to Not A Single Doubt's third dam sire Misty Day - the great mare Grey Flight duplicated.

Mares from the line of Street Cry's close relation Shamardal are good prospects also with that horse being out of a Machiavellian mare with a 6 X 4 Halo cross. Sixteen of the 108 stakes winners combining Danehill and Shamardal are Gr.1 winners. Nine of those are Redoute's Choice/Shamardal whilst the Not A Single

Doubt/Shamardal combo is also performing - just twelve runners so far, ten of those being winners; three stakes winners including the Gr.1 galloper Seasons Bloom.

Daughters of Shamardal's WA based son Gingerbread Man are of particular interest as he is out of a mare by Redoute's Choice's close relation Hurricane Sky whilst his second dam sire Snippets is a son of Not A Single Doubt's grandam Easy Date (more on her to come). The Lope de Vega branch is also of great interest as he is bred on a close 3 X 3 cross of Machiavellian. The New Zealander Ghibellines brings in another Danehill strain (he is his second dam sire) but also provides for a cross of his fourth dam Jesmond Lass - dam of Redoute's Choice's dam sire Canny Lad.

A number of descendants of Natalma and Almahmoud have stood in Australasia (Supido at present) over the years and it is worth seeking out strains of Catrail, Youthful Legs, Nuclear Freeze, Gleam Machine, Shedad, El Moxie, Diatribe and Eagle Eyed as well as Exit To Nowhere.

We have mentioned the terrific broodmare Easy Date - Not A Single Doubt's grandam who has proven a classy line-breeding subject. Her son Snippets has appeared along with Not A Single Doubt in the pedigrees of eight stakes winners from 80 winners - amongst that tally being the big race winners Miracles Of Life and Espiona.

Of particular interest for Stronger are strains of Pins (his dam sire Pirate King hails from the same family as Starcraft's third dam sire Bellborough whilst his second dam sire Nilo is a son of Dodoma to whom Canny Lad's grandam is closely line-bred 3 X 3) and the brothers Snowland and Snippetson whose second dam sire Thatching hails from - and is line-bred to - the family of Nureyev.

Another great mare within Stronger's pedigree is Best In Show, Redoute's Choice's fourth dam. The most successful method of her duplication in Australia has been via Redoute's Choice and Last Tycoon - son of Best In Show's grandson Try My Best. Two of Not A Single Doubt's Gr.1 winners (Shout The Bar and Espiona) are bred on this cross as are another eight of his stakes winners.

Last Tycoon also combines very well with Starcraft (the Gr.1 winners Star Witness and Startantes) - Last Tycoon's Irish Derby winning second dam sire Sayajirao is a full brother to the Epsom Derby winner Dante, dam sire of Starcraft's second dam sire Battle-Waggon. Also of interest is Stronger's sixth dam sire Dogger Bank whose grandam Schiaparelli is Last Tycoon's fifth dam.

The two proven Last Tycoon branches over Redoute's Choice are Written Tycoon and O'Reilly.

Written Tycoon is out of a mare by Kenmare whose high achieving sire Kalamoun is a son of the stakes winning classy broodmare Khairunissa whose grandson Khairpour is Stronger's fourth dam sire. Written Tycoon has a number of nice sons at stud including Rich Enuff (out of a granddaughter of Snippets), Written By (bred on a 6 X 6 cross of Best In Show) and Winning Rupert who has La Troienne and Marchetta family strength as does Stronger.

Daughters of Written Tycoon's sire Iglesia have also fared well with Not A Single Doubt... three stakes winners from just seven runners.

O'Reilly's dam sire Pompeii Court is also the dam sire of Starcraft and he is no turn-off as a line-breeding subject when there are other forces at play - such as the Best In Show cross. A mare whose other descendants include Spinning World, Masterclass (whose sire The Minstrel is a 3/4 brother to Redoute's Choice's dam sire Nijinsky II), Xaar (whose sire Zafonic is out of a mare by The Minstrel), El Gran Senor, Denon, Good Journey and Gielgud as well as Redoute's Choice's closer relations Umatilla, Hurricane Sky, Niagara, Echoes Of Heaven Manhattan Rain and Rubick. The latter four are by Encosta de Lago...

Another great mare we have already mentioned is Special - dam of Starcraft's grandsire Nureyev. He and his 3/4 brother Sadler's Wells combine exceptionally well and he also does a good job with another of his 3/4 brothers in Fairy King - sire of Encosta de Lago out of whose daughters Not A Single Doubt has sired four stakes winners.

And that stallion's dam sire Star Way combines very well with his relation - another descendant of the influential Selene - Sir Tristram, dam sire of Stronger's second dam sire Nothin' Leica Dane.

Of particular interest from this line is Northern Meteor (bred on a 6 X 4 cross of his own fourth dam Rough Shod II, Special's grandam), Eurozone (out of a Don't Say Halo mare), Deep Field/Shooting To Win (they have Feola/Aloe, Flower Bowl, La Troienne and Mumtaz Mahal family influence as does Stronger), Von Costa de Hero (has Fairy King and Sadler's Wells), Fighting Sun (his second dam sire Geiger Counter is a half-brother to Special) and Zoustar (out of a Redoute's Choice mare and fares well with his duplication). As well as Fairy King's son Falbrav... all six Not A Single Doubt runners out of his daughters are winners including the dual Gr.1 winner Kenedna; he also has Buisson D'Or to whose dam Rose O'Lynn Stronger is line-bred.

A highly successful method of line-breeding is to pick up on the influence of a stallion's own family - and Stronger hails from one of the great ones, the Gold Vink branch of the prolific Eulogy family.

Several of his relations have ended up at stud - such as Elvstroem (further Danehill but also has Zamazaan to whose grandam Rose O'Lynn Stronger is line-bred 7 X 6 via Buisson Ardent and Venture VII) and his Danehill free half-brother Haradasun, Highland Reel (out of a Danehill mare but is a member of the Sadler's Wells sire line) and Starspangledbanner (Danehill line but a bit further back).

Other descendants of Eulogy to have stood in Australasia include Plush, Kingdom Bay, Elounda Bay (Not A Single Doubt has sired two stakes winners from just four runners out of daughters of Elounda Bay's son Final Card) and Zephyr Bay and - at present - Dundee who is bred on a 4 X 5 cross of Special via Sadler's Wells and further Nureyev.

And Dundee has sired the dual stakes winner Ain'tnodeeldun out of a full sister to Stronger's dam.

Another mare worthy of duplication is Grey Flight whose son Misty Day is Not A Single Doubt's third dam sire. Look for strains of her in First Consul (Lonhro's second dam sire), What A Pleasure, Gray Phantom, Sovereign Dancer, Priolo and Secret Savings.

And with Stronger being line-bred to Danehill, it is worth looking at the family of that great horse's dam sire His Majesty - the Boudoir II clan which is so prolific in regards to line-breeding. Whiskey Road hails from this family - noting that he features in All American who has done well with Stronger's family (sire of his dam's Gr.3 winning half-brother Bachman). As do Majestic Prince, Crowned Prince and Graustark.