

# Right Approach

*Machiavellian - Abbey Strand by Shadeed*

The right approach to kin-breeding is to match sires and dams with closely related bottom-female line ancestors, and to keep doing this for successive generations.

**The first step is to identify a key ancestor in the bottom female line of a mare to be mated. The second step is to see which sires have been successful with the family members of that ancestor. Commonalities will soon become evident, and can be utilized to good effect, time and again.**

In the pedigree of Right Approach the key ancestor in the bottom female line appears to be his fourth dam Hypericum. Highly spirited, Hypericum had plenty of racing ability. As a 2yo she won the Dewhurst Stakes against the colts, and was less than a length second to Khaled in the Middle Park Stakes. She went on to win the 1000 Guineas at 3 (this after first dumping her rider and galloping the course).

Hypericum was by Hyperion out of 1000 Guineas runner-up Feola, an influential broodmare. Feola was by Friar Marcus out of Aloe, who failed to win from ten starts. Aloe was by Son In law out of Alope. The latter, born when her sire Gallinule was 25 years old, was 1000 Guineas runner-up. No lack of overall ability in this family! The successive kin-breeding leading to Hypericum goes like this, all through bottom female line mares:

**Alope:** 2x1 Moorhen x Altoviscar.

**Aloe:** 2x3x2 Mother in Law x Moorhen x Altoviscar.

**Feola:** 2x1 Prim Nun x Aloe (and 2x3x4x3 Prim Nun x Mother-in-Law x Moorhen x Altoviscar).

**Hypericum:** 2x1 Selene x Feola.

Interesting to note that close kin-breeding of this kind was common sixty or-so years ago, but is seldomly practiced by modern breeders.

Hypericum visited Borealis, a son of Hyperion-mare Aurora. Borealis is kinbred 3x3x3x3 Rondeau x Aquarelle x Selene x Marchetta. The resulting filly Highlight is kinbred 2x1 Aurora x Hypericum. Highlight won two maiden races before running unplaced in the Oaks, earning a respectable rating of 107.

Following the female line thread in the pedigree of Right Approach, Highlight was mated to highclass sprinter So Blessed (Timeform 130). The kin-link came from the third dam of So Blessed, Versicle, by Hyperion's half brother Sickle. The kin-breeding in the resulting daughter Christchurch is 4x3x2 Versicle x Aurora x Hypericum.

On to Right Approach's dam Abbey Strand. To get her, Christchurch visited 2000 Guineas winner Shadeed, a 'magnificent mover with great freedom of action', rated 135 by Timeform. Shadeed is by Nijinsky, and kinbred 3x4x5

Flaring Top x Blade Of Time x Highway Code. These connected with the mare's kin-breeding to give 5x6x5x3 Blade Of Time x Highway Code x Versicle x Hypericum. No surprise, perhaps, as Blade Of Time is by Sickle, and Highway Code by Sickle's half brother Hyperion.

Final step, Right Approach, by Machiavellian. Not quite so clear-cut as the previous generations. Machiavellian's dam is by Halo, who turns out to be the universal key. It seems that most of Machiavellian's best runners have kin-breeding involving Halo. Street Cry: 3x4x4 Halo x Hornbeam x Never Bend. Medicean: 3x3 Halo x Cocarde. Storming Home: 3x3 Halo x A Wind Is Rising. Almutawakel: 3x5 Halo x Attica (dam of Sir Ivor). Rebecca Sharp: 3x4 Halo x Courtessa.

Right Approach has not just one kin-link through Halo, but three: 3x4 Halo x Hypericum; 3x4 Halo x Flaming Page; 3x5 Halo x Kerala.

Pause for a moment to look at other big runners from the female line ancestors descending from Highlight.

Highlight's daughter Highclere takes centre-stage. Winner of the 1000 Guineas and French Oaks, she's by Queen's Hussar, giving kin-breeding 3x2 Fairy Jane x Hypericum (Queen's Hussar is 3x3 Permavon x Light Tacle, dam of Fairy Jane).

Highclere's daughter Burghclere (by Busted, and kinbred 3x4x3 Martial Loan x Fairy Jane x Hypericum) got Epsom Oaks runner-up Wind In Her Hair (by Alzao, and kinbred 2x4 Lady Rebecca x Hypericum). The latter in turn is dam of Japanese Horse of the Year Deep Impact, whose all-conquering sire Sunday Silence is kinbred 1x3 Halo x Edelweiss. In Deep Impact this extends into 2x4x3x4(5) Halo x Edelweiss x Lady Rebecca x Highlight (Hypericum).

Another daughter of Highclere is Champion filly Height Of Fashion (TFR 124; by Busted's son Bustino), kinbred 2x2 Shipyard x Highlight. Height Of Fashion produced three major sons. There's 2000 Guineas & Epsom Derby winner Nashwan (TFR 135, by Blushing Groom), kinbred 3x3 Aimee x Highlight (Aimee x Feola x Feola). There's King George runner-up Unfuwain (TFR 131, by Northern Dancer), kinbred 3x4 Lady Angela x Hypericum. And multiple Gr1 winner Nayef (TFR 129, by Gulch), kinbred 3x3 Rambunctious x Highlight.

## PICK OF THE BUNCH

*Suitable mares for Right Approach could include*

1. Mares with Blushing Groom (Jallad, Rainbow Quest)
2. Mares with Mixed Marriage (Gone West, Zafonic), Sharpen Up (Fine Edge), etc;
3. Mares with Swaps/Flower Bowl, Graustark/His Majesty (notably Danehill, Caesour)
4. Mares with Court Martial, Martial Loan (Elliodor, Busted)
5. Mares with Sir Ivor (Alzao, Sir Tristram)
6. Mares with Vilmorin (Zafonic, Mexico/ Harry Hotspur)
7. Mares with Damascus
8. Mares with Hail to Reason through Halo (Rakeen, Jet Master), Hail to Reason through Roberto, Hail to Reason through Bold Reason (Sadler's Wells, notably Fort Wood)
9. Mares with Mill Reef/Shirley Heights
10. Mares with Nijinsky (Dancing Champ), The Minstrel (Zafonic), Storm Bird; etc.

## Where From Here

Following the thought of kin-breeding to bottom female line ancestors, suitable mares for Right Approach should kin-link to equivalents of Hypericum/ Highlight. That means finding descendants of Alope, Aloe and Feola – combined with Selene. The latter is widespread, as she's the dam of sires Hyperion, Pharamond, and Sickle, and of the mare All Moonshine (who is kin to Feola, and appears with Halo's equivalent Sir Ivor in Sir Tristram).

From Alope come sire-son Foxlaw and daughter Aloe. From Aloe come daughters Aroma, Feola, Sweet Aloe. Aroma goes to highly influential granddaughter Mixed Marriage. Feola leads to sires Aureole, Round Table, Sideral. Sweet Aloe goes to Alcide, by Alycidon, which reminds us: Alycidon is half brother to Borealis and Acropolis, their dam Aurora kin to Hypericum.

Another way to find suitable mares would be to concentrate on the sires who have done well with Right Approach' female family. This is on the assumption that if they worked here, then other of their offspring may well carry the same suitable kin-lines.

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