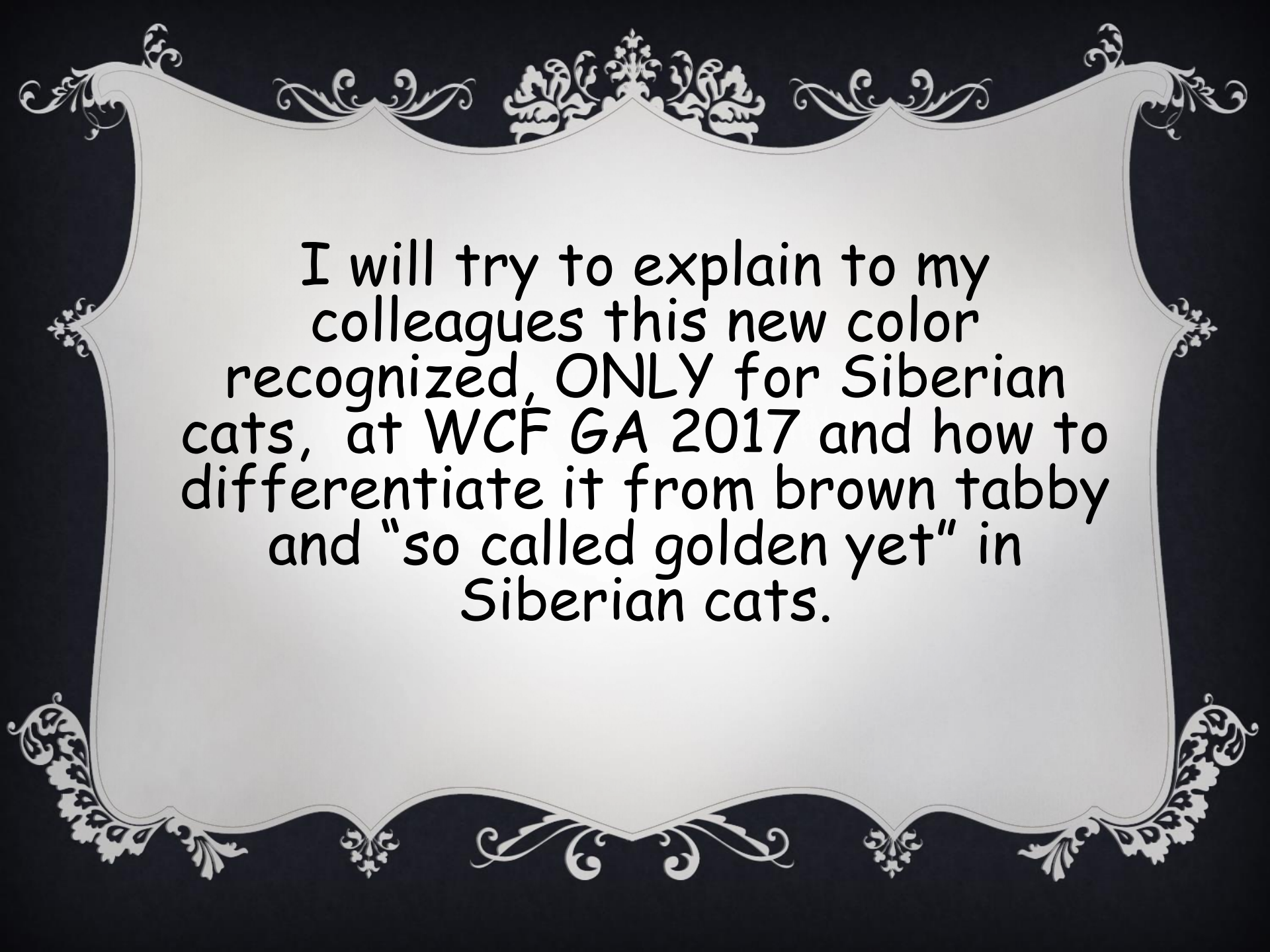





SIBERIAN SUNSHINE

*The new colour recognized for Siberian cats by
WCF at GA 2017*

Eleonora Ruggiero AB WCF judge AFeF



I will try to explain to my colleagues this new color recognized, ONLY for Siberian cats, at WCF GA 2017 and how to differentiate it from brown tabby and "so called golden yet" in Siberian cats.



I presented with my Italian club, AFeF, the project for this recognition, I organized the show for the preliminary recognition and I submitted the new proposition to WCF GA.



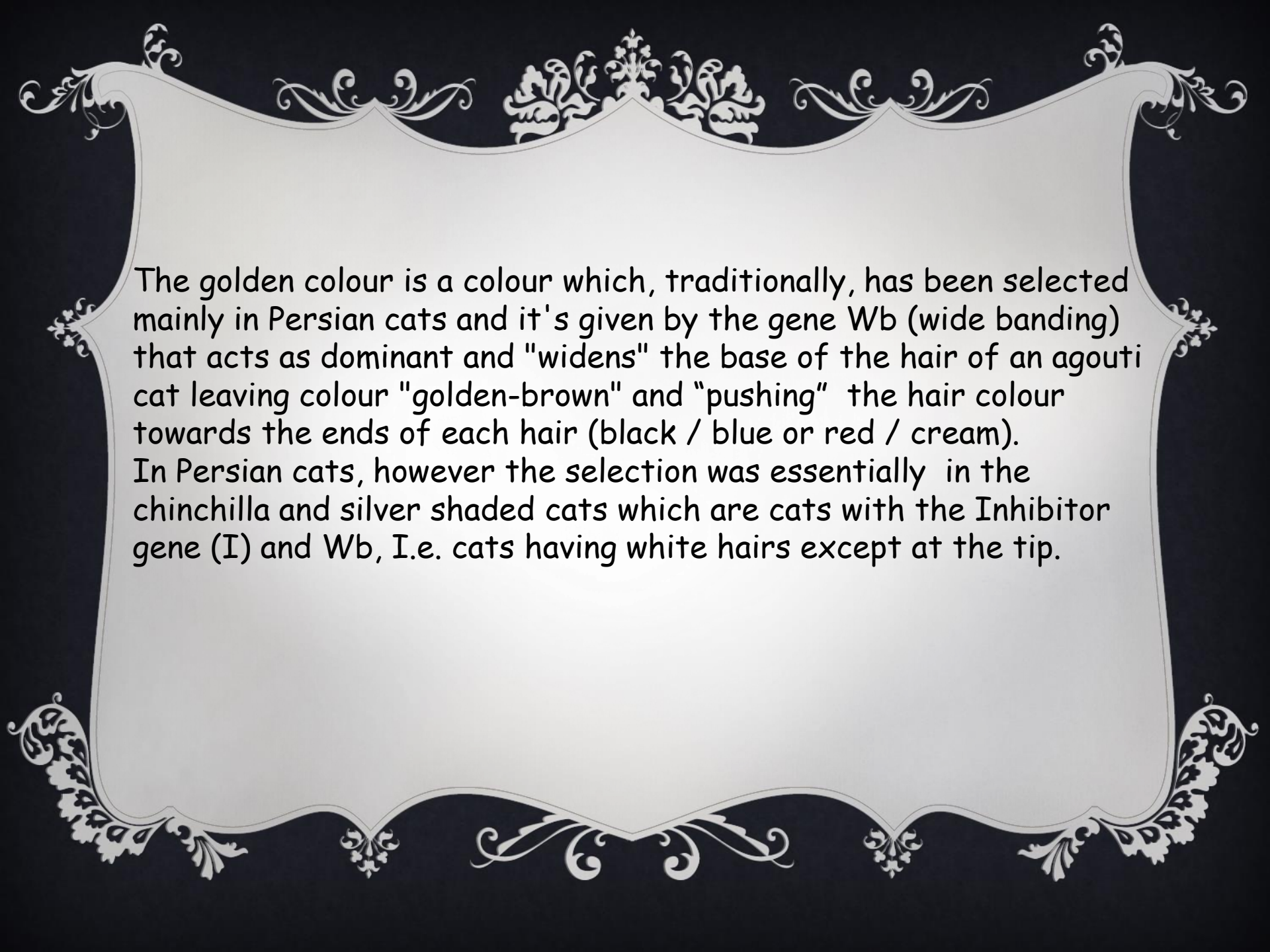
Black sunshine silver tabbby girl.
Look at the colour of nose, ROSE! Not like a normal tabby cat!



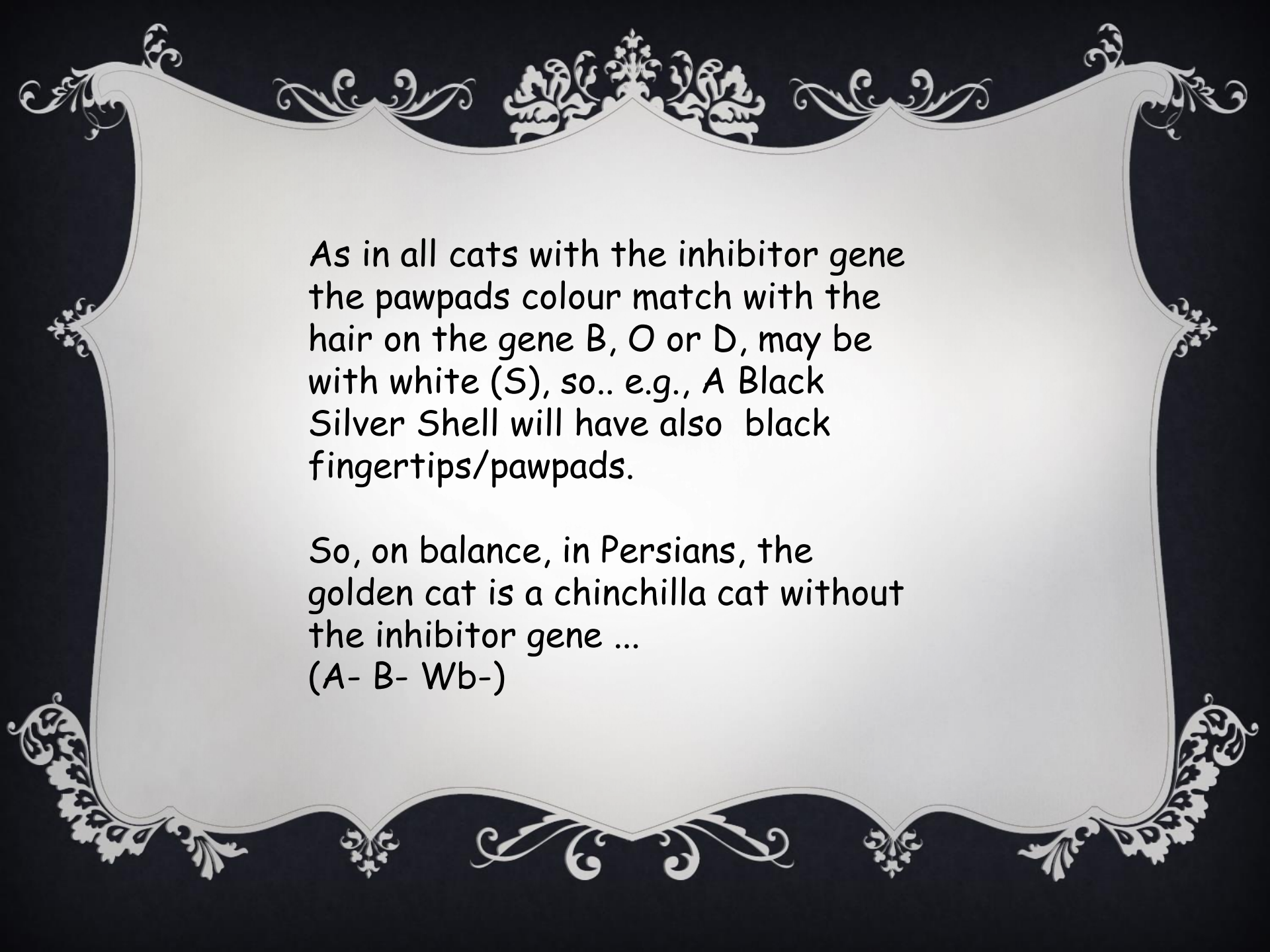
This is my first «strange» litter I seen when I went in
an Italian cattery for a colour control...
Because that was the first litter for the breeder I
think «May be it's a tortie girl...»...

What's surprise!!



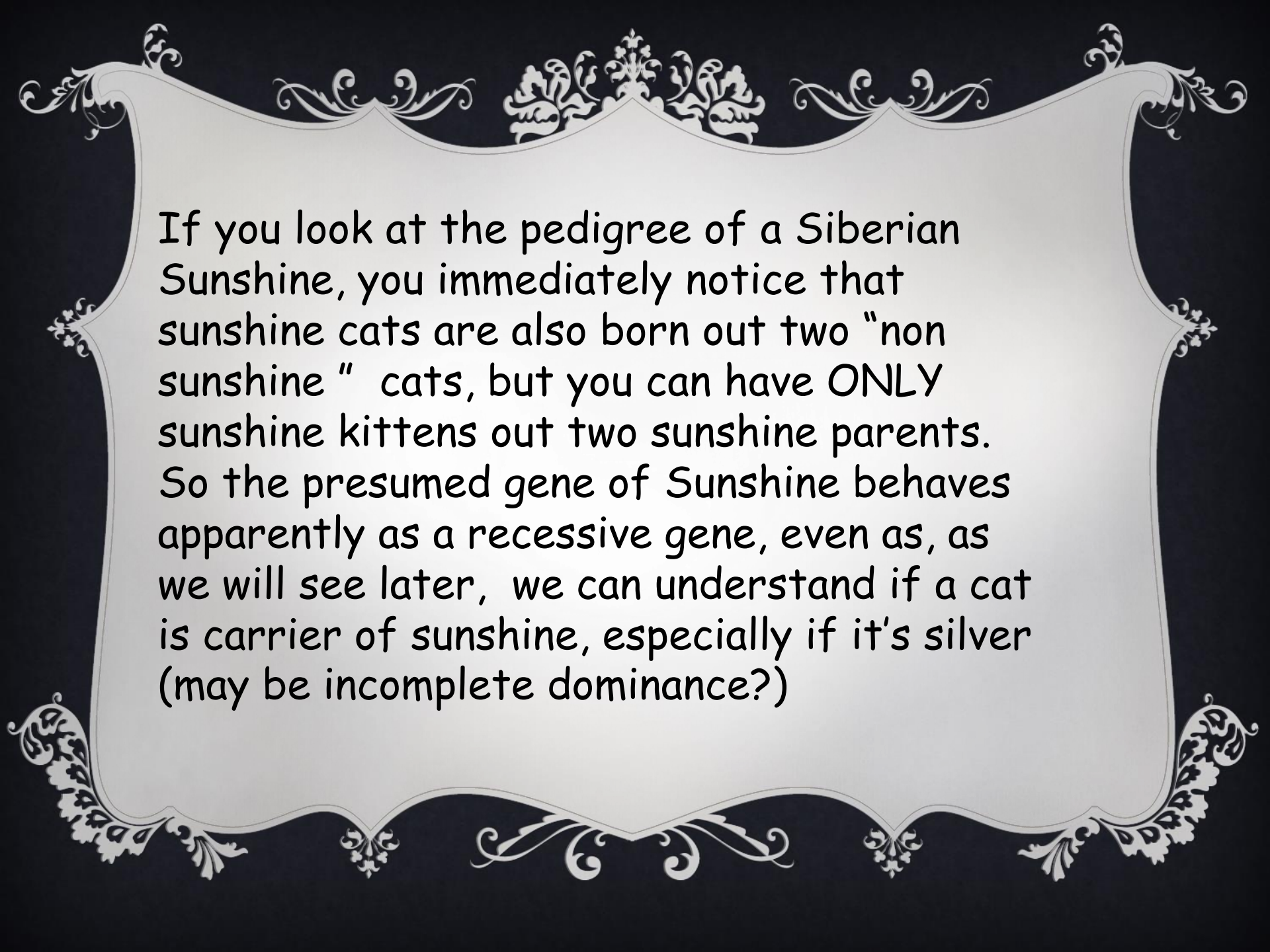


The golden colour is a colour which, traditionally, has been selected mainly in Persian cats and it's given by the gene Wb (wide banding) that acts as dominant and "widens" the base of the hair of an agouti cat leaving colour "golden-brown" and "pushing" the hair colour towards the ends of each hair (black / blue or red / cream). In Persian cats, however the selection was essentially in the chinchilla and silver shaded cats which are cats with the Inhibitor gene (I) and Wb, I.e. cats having white hairs except at the tip.

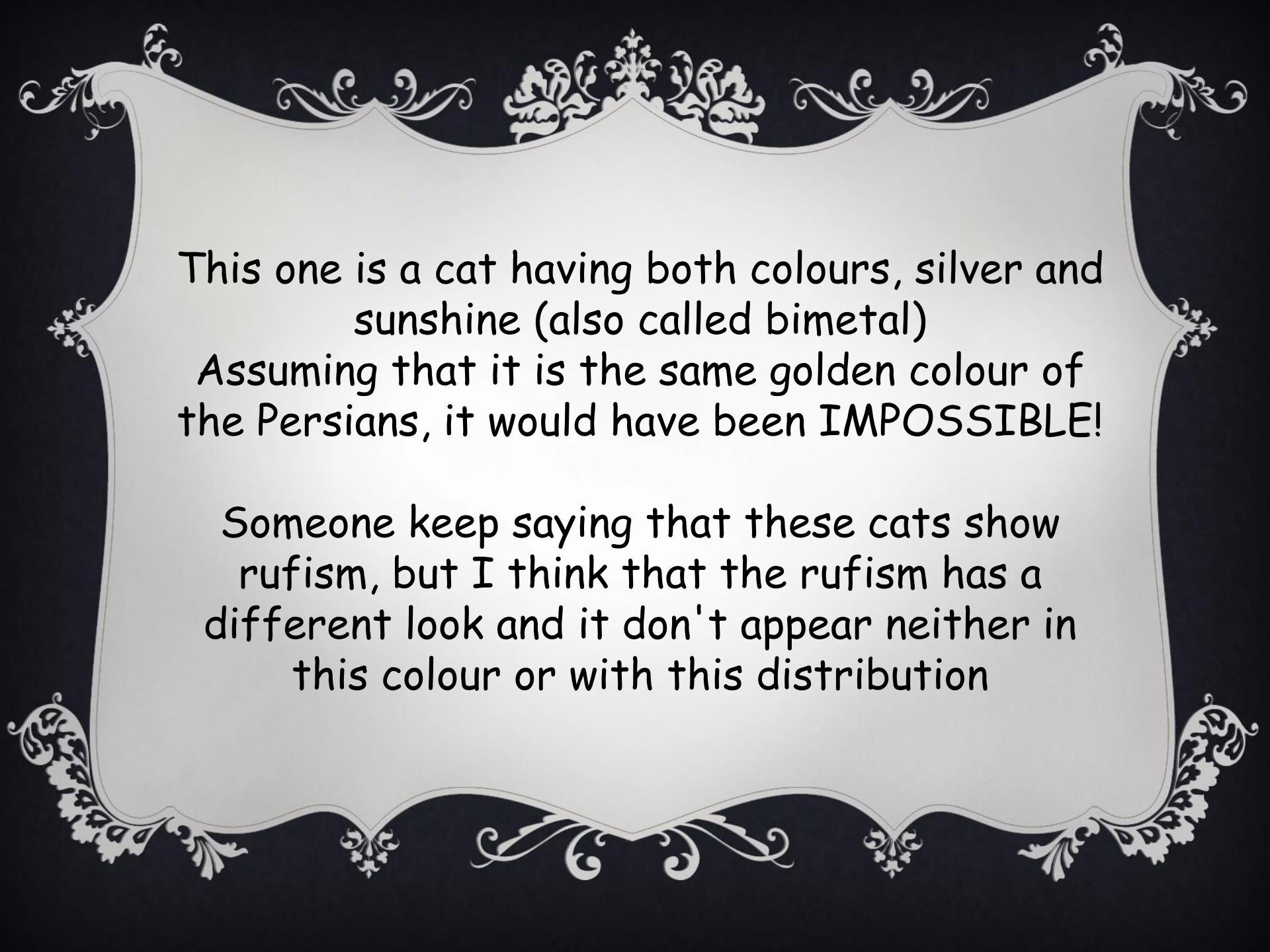


As in all cats with the inhibitor gene the pawpads colour match with the hair on the gene B, O or D, may be with white (S), so.. e.g., A Black Silver Shell will have also black fingertips/pawpads.

So, on balance, in Persians, the golden cat is a chinchilla cat without the inhibitor gene ...
(A- B- Wb-)



If you look at the pedigree of a Siberian Sunshine, you immediately notice that sunshine cats are also born out two "non sunshine " cats, but you can have ONLY sunshine kittens out two sunshine parents. So the presumed gene of Sunshine behaves apparently as a recessive gene, even as, as we will see later, we can understand if a cat is carrier of sunshine, especially if it's silver (may be incomplete dominance?)



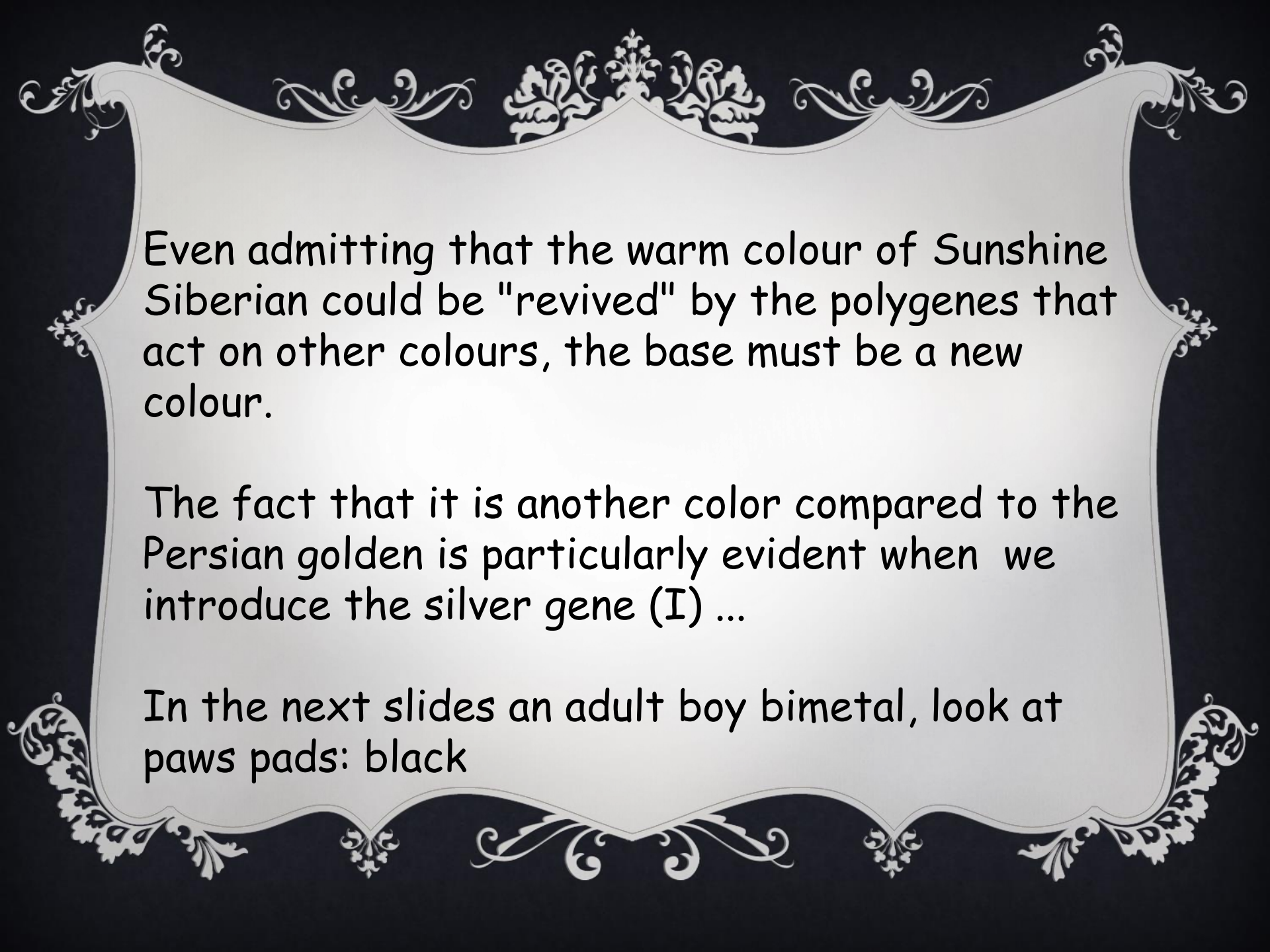
This one is a cat having both colours, silver and
sunshine (also called bimetal)

Assuming that it is the same golden colour of
the Persians, it would have been IMPOSSIBLE!

Someone keep saying that these cats show
rufism, but I think that the rufism has a
different look and it don't appear neither in
this colour or with this distribution



Black Sunshine silver tabby



Even admitting that the warm colour of Sunshine Siberian could be "revived" by the polygenes that act on other colours, the base must be a new colour.

The fact that it is another color compared to the Persian golden is particularly evident when we introduce the silver gene (I) ...

In the next slides an adult boy bimetal, look at paws pads: black



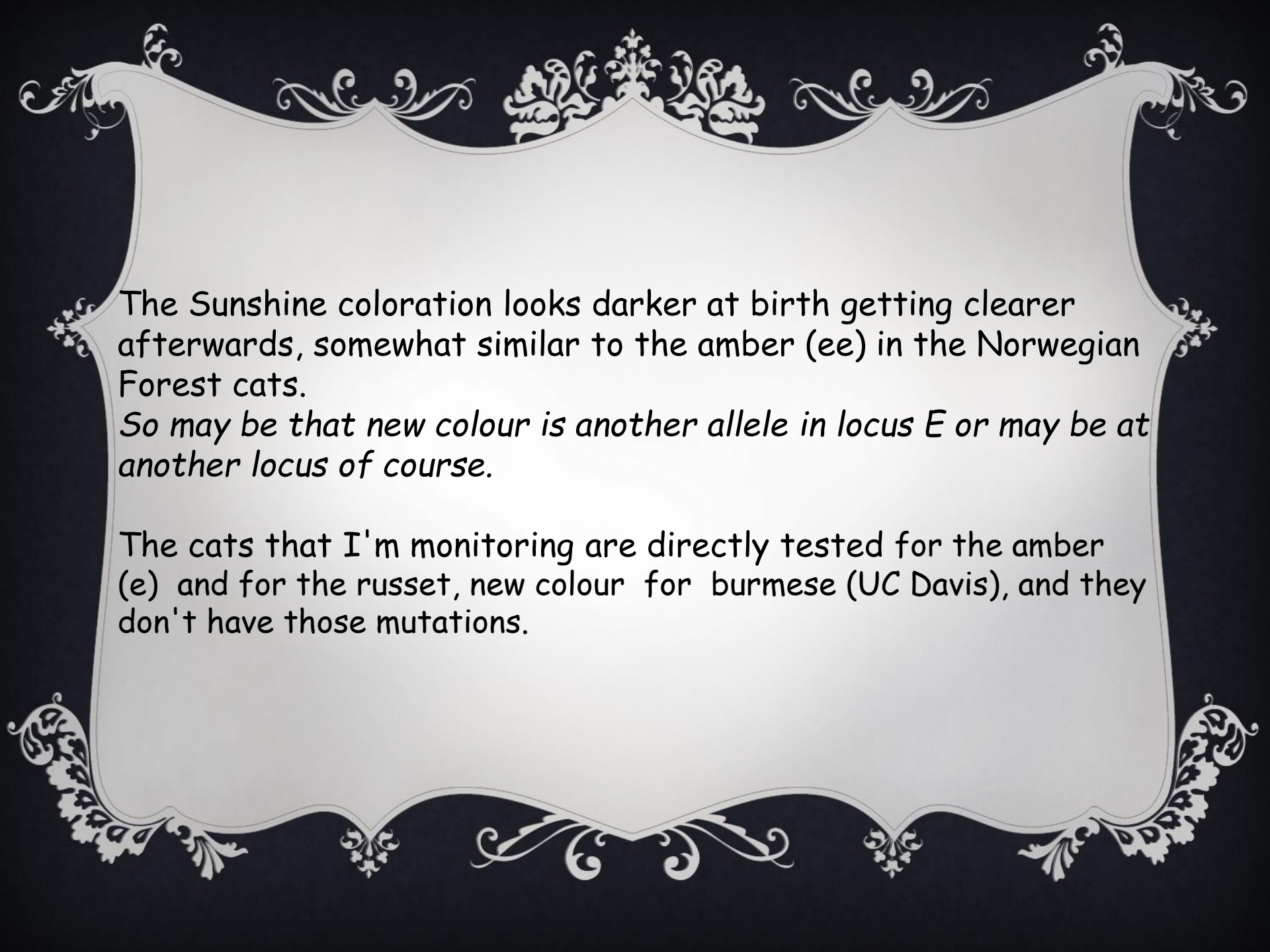
Black Sunshine silver tabby



The EMS code for sunshine colour in Siberian cats is "u"

At present there are no reported Siberian cats sunshine non-agouti (aa), but Siberian cats are mostly agouti (AA or A-), for check if this gene is similar to the amber gene where the non-agouti cats have the tabby pattern on the coat but the leather of nose of the full colour (black, blue, etc.)


!



The Sunshine coloration looks darker at birth getting clearer afterwards, somewhat similar to the amber (ee) in the Norwegian Forest cats.

So may be that new colour is another allele in locus E or may be at another locus of course.

The cats that I'm monitoring are directly tested for the amber (e) and for the russet, new colour for burmese (UC Davis), and they don't have those mutations.



I have seen the very SIMILAR colour (may be not the same mutation) in Kurilian Bobtail cats, also coming from ex-URSS countries, in some British and Scottish LH and SH, as well as in short-haired street cats in Ukraine, but more orange bright (sorry no pictures..).



We have some cats with a "strange" reddish patches , only in silver cats carrying "sunshine".
ALL silver cats carrying sunshine which I seen have this patch!

Our opinion is that, in some way, this gene of sunshine, in eterozygosis can show up some "sunshine" patches in combination with the gene I.

The first cat I seen with that is Yankee Silviassib*PL, now in Veselka Cattery in Italy.

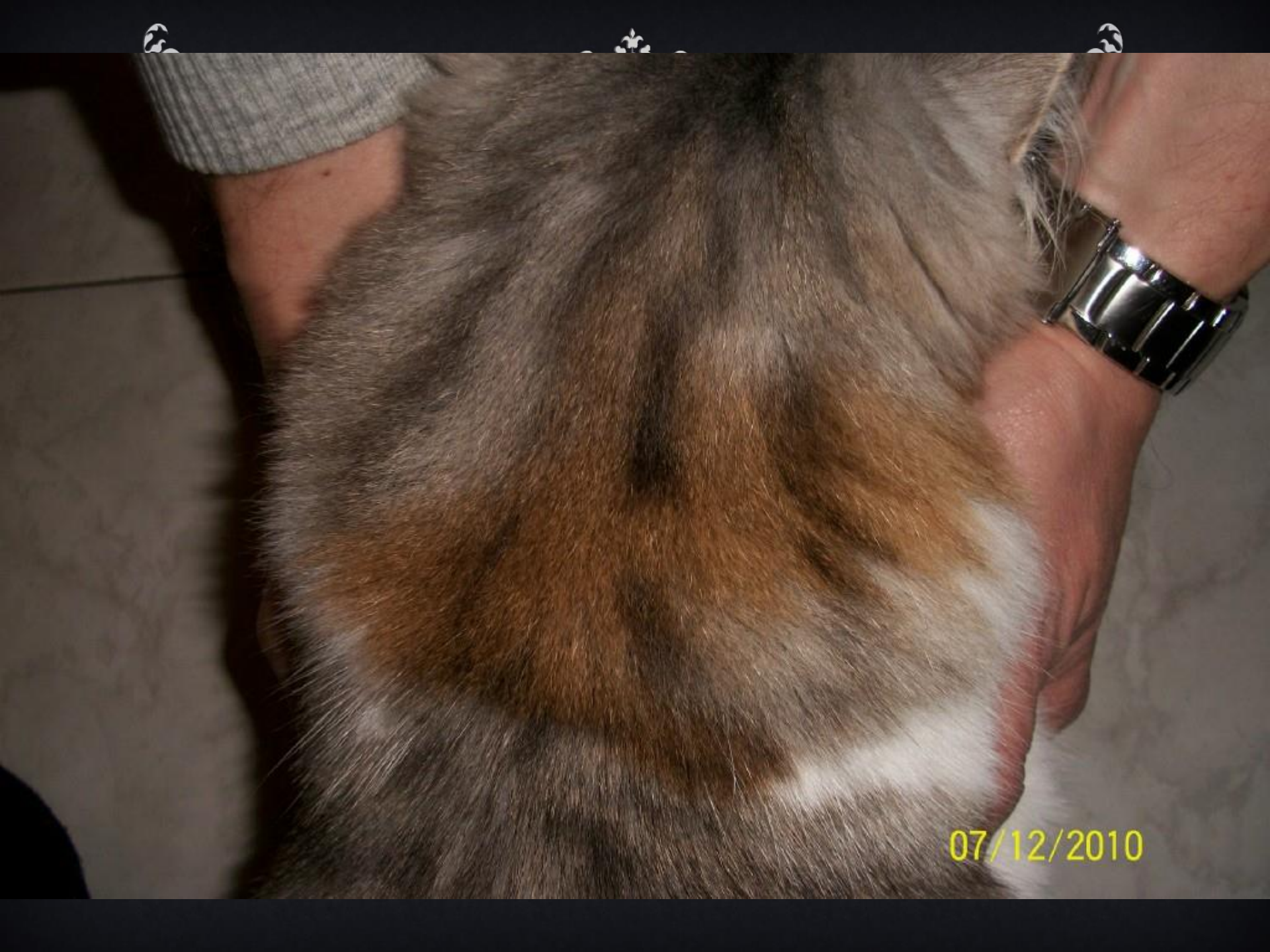
Look in the next slide the patch on his neck.



14/10/2010




and between his shoulders..



07/12/2010

Veselka Lady, daughter of Yankee

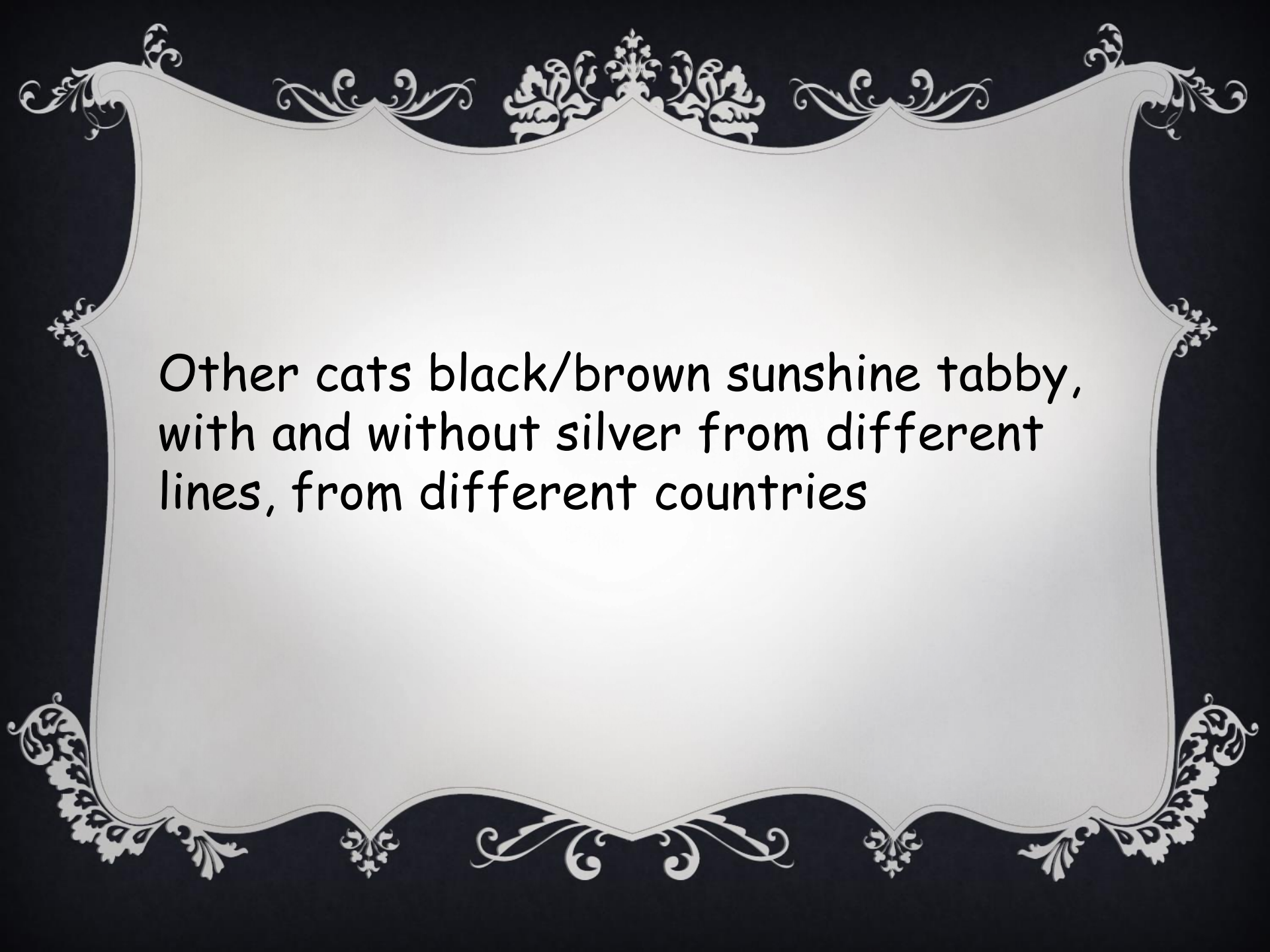




Veselka Lucy, another daughter of
Yankee, mother bi-metal







Other cats black/brown sunshine tabby,
with and without silver from different
lines, from different countries



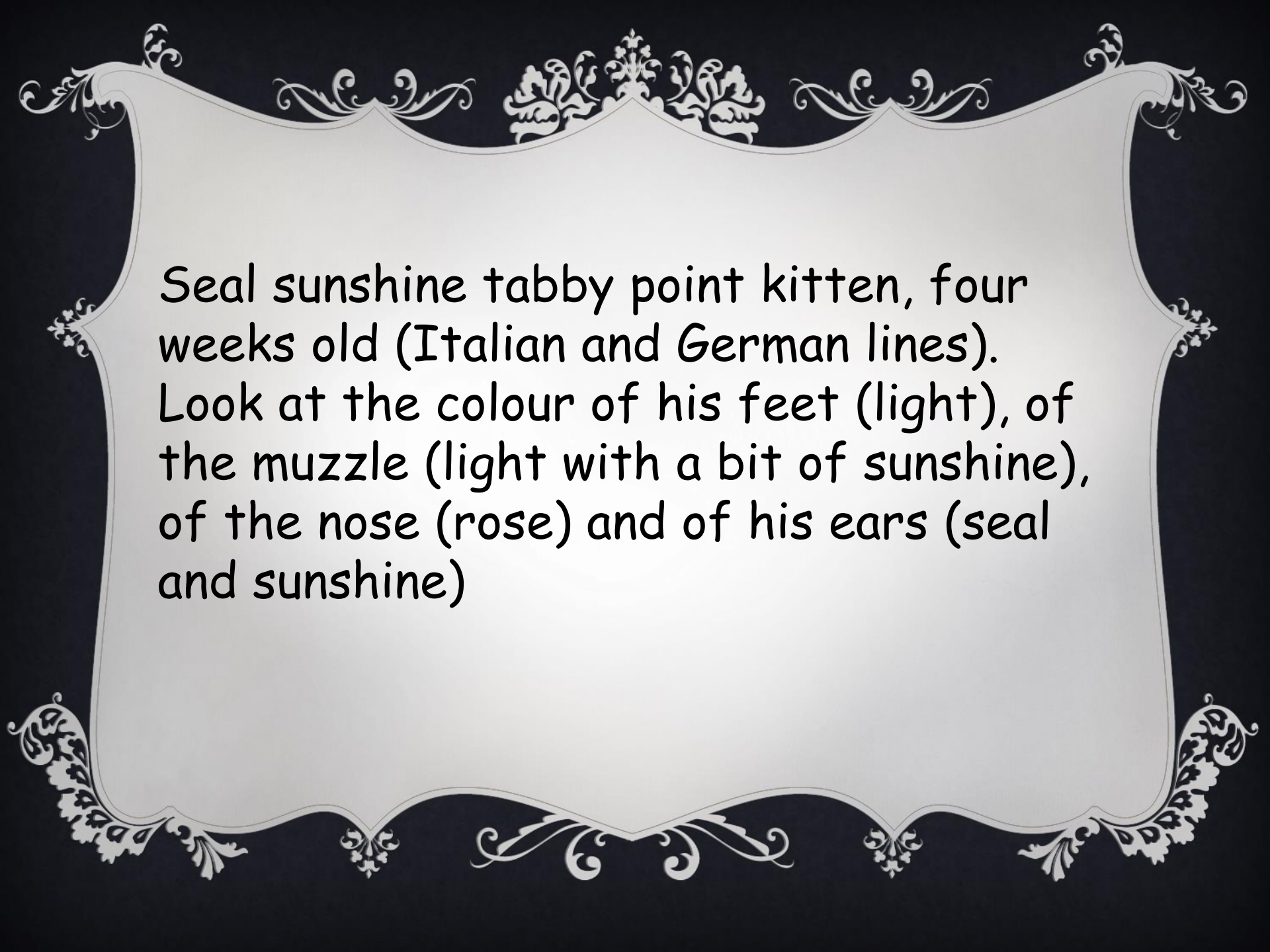
Black sunshine silver tabby boy from Poland



Brown sunshine tabby girl from Minsk



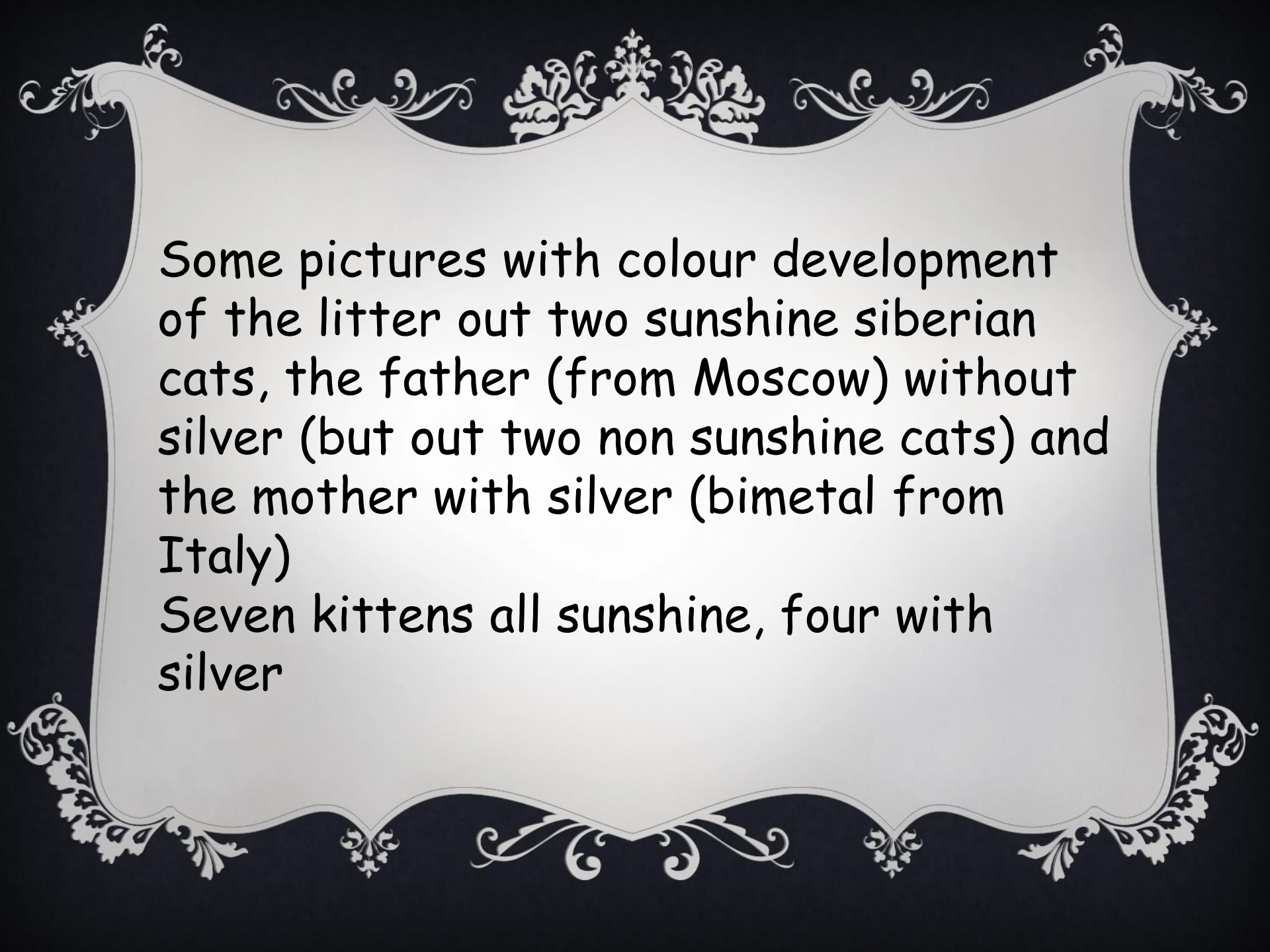
Brown sunshine tabby girl from Minsk



Seal sunshine tabby point kitten, four weeks old (Italian and German lines).
Look at the colour of his feet (light), of the muzzle (light with a bit of sunshine), of the nose (rose) and of his ears (seal and sunshine)







Some pictures with colour development
of the litter out two sunshine siberian
cats, the father (from Moscow) without
silver (but out two non sunshine cats) and
the mother with silver (bimetal from
Italy)

Seven kittens all sunshine, four with
silver



Father. Brown sunshine tabby & white from Moscow

Mother, Black sunshine silver tabby, from Italy





From the left: two kittens sunshine tby with silver and two kittens sunshine tby without silver (3-4 weeks old)



Boy black sunshine silver tabby, 3 weeks old, the same in the previous picture at three months of age



Girl brown sunshine tabby, two months old.



Boy black sunshine silver tabby & white 3 weeks old,



Two brown sunshine tabby, 3 weeks old,



Two brown sunshine tabby, two months old. Look at the ROSE nose



All sunshine kittens with and without silver & white, two months old




All sunshine kittens with and without silver & white, two months old



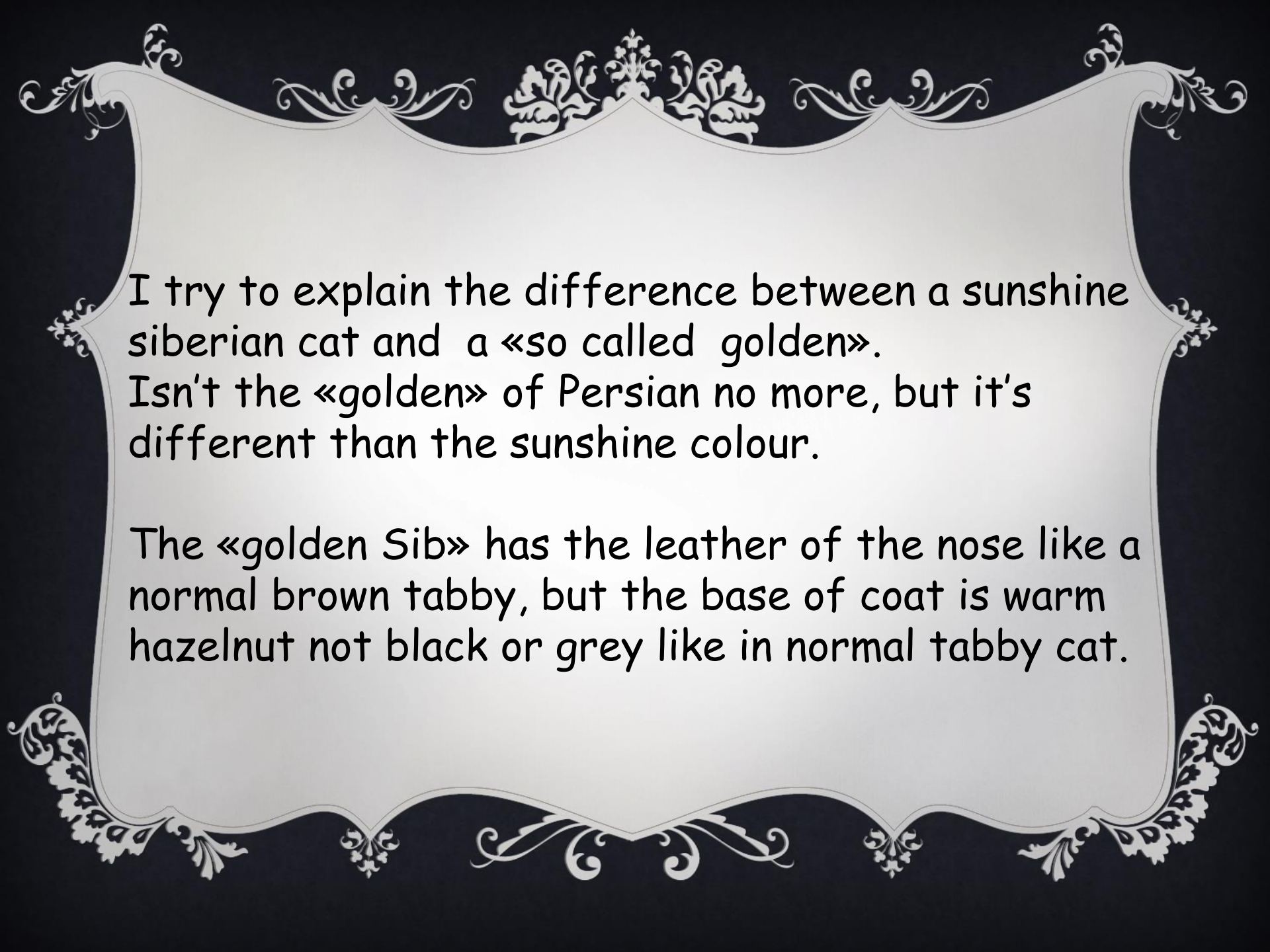
Black sunshine silver tabby and white boy, 14 weeks old



Black sunshine silver tabby and white boys, 14 weeks old



Black sunshine silver tabby boy, three months old



I try to explain the difference between a sunshine siberian cat and a «so called golden».
Isn't the «golden» of Persian no more, but it's different than the sunshine colour.

The «golden Sib» has the leather of the nose like a normal brown tabby, but the base of coat is warm hazelnut not black or grey like in normal tabby cat.




Adult boy brown «so called golden» tabby



The coat of the same «so called golden»: golden at the base of fur



The coat of the same «so called golden»: he isn't a tipped cat!



One kitten «so called golden» 12 days old and the same kitten 2 months old.

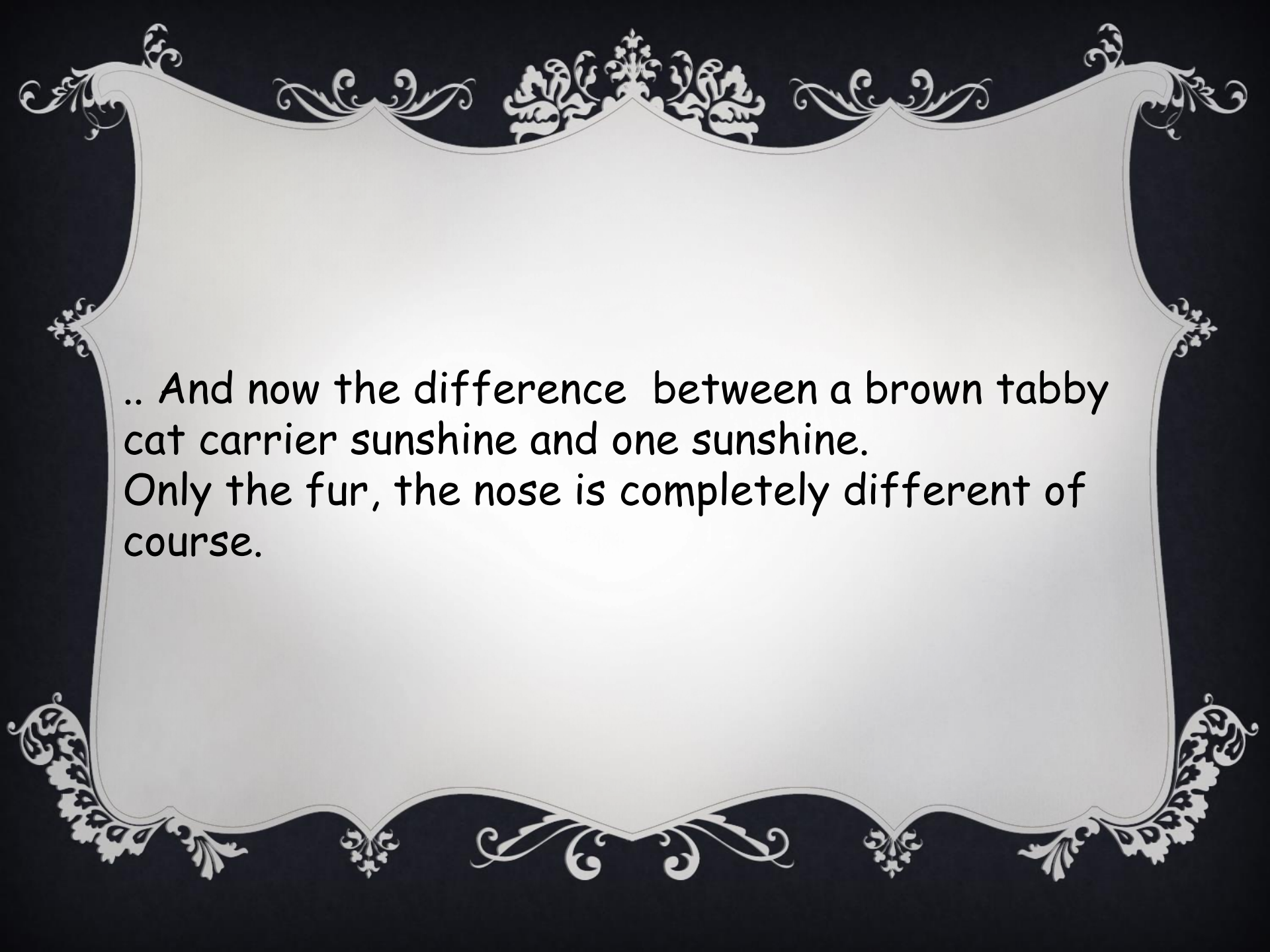
Look at the colour of the nose leather and the light paws colour



Kitten «so called golden» 12 days old. Light feet colour



The same kitten «so called golden» 2 months old. Look at the feet and nose colour



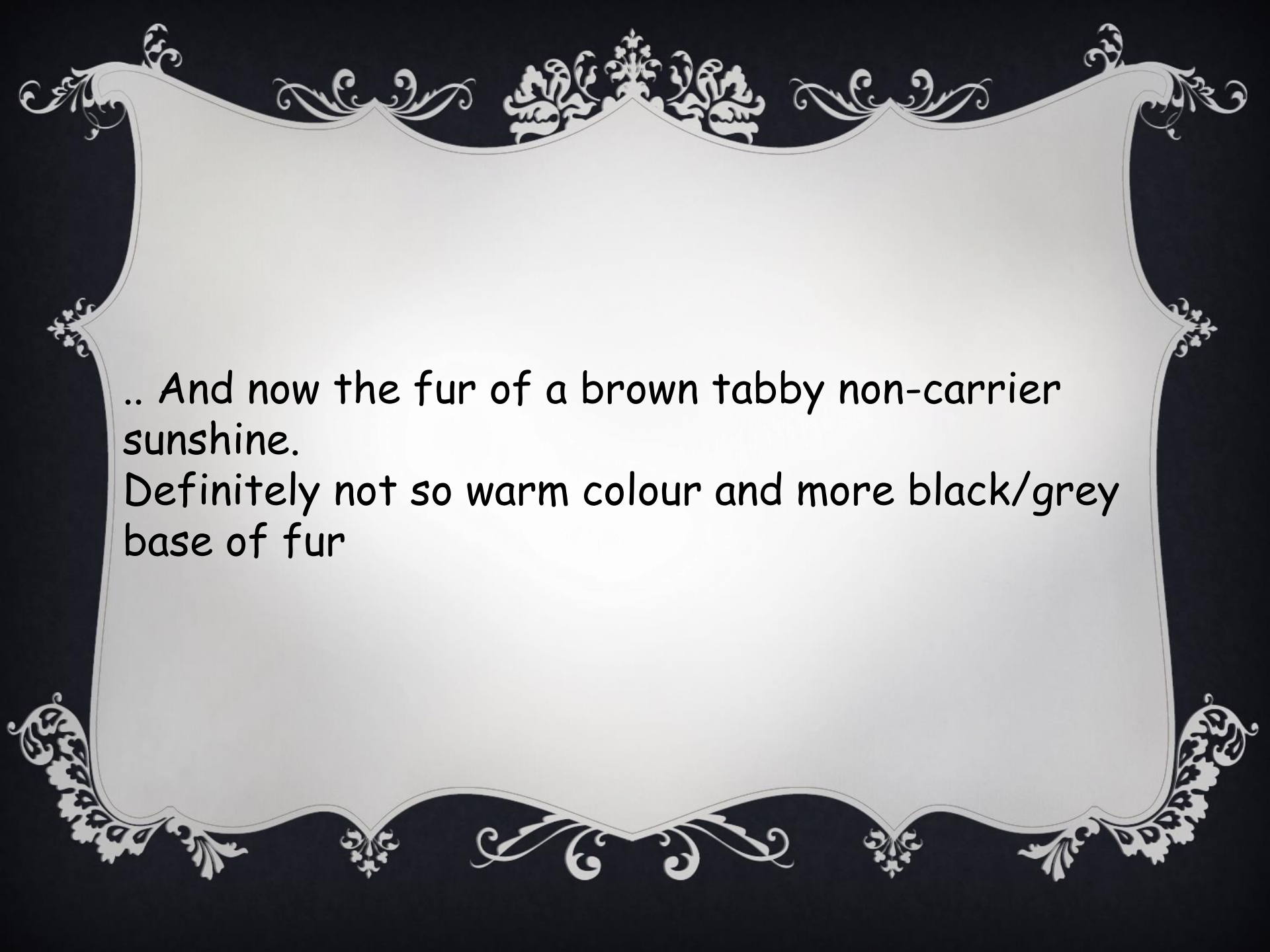
.. And now the difference between a brown tabby cat carrier sunshine and one sunshine.
Only the fur, the nose is completely different of course.



On the left carrier sunshine,
warm hazelnut,
base of fur grey or black



On the right sunshine,
lighter colour,
Base of fur apricot or light
hazelnut



.. And now the fur of a brown tabby non-carrier
sunshine.

Definitely not so warm colour and more black/grey
base of fur



Fur of a brown tabby not carrier of sunshine

Names of colours

The name for this new colour is “sunshine”.

EMS code “u” (nus 09 21 33 for ex.)

We can have Brown/blue/tortie sunshine tabby for the cats without the gene inhibitor and Black/blue/tortie sunshine silver tabby or silver shaded for the cats with the inhibitor gene, because the gene is always the sunshine one.

Those colours can be in blotched, mackerel and spotted variety, with or without white; or silver shaded of course.

The same colours can be in cscs variety for the Neva Masquerade.

The eye colour does not depend on the gene sunshine so, with exception of Neva cats, all eyes colours are admitted and, for sunshine silver ones, green eye colour is preferred.

Neva sunshine cats can only have blue eyes.

PLEASE MAKE ATTENTION

Because colour and pattern of coat isn't so important in Siberian cats (only 5 point) and the colour isn't so selected, we can admit some variability in distribution of sunshine, silver and base colour (Black, blue, tortie)

We don't have at this moment any sunshine smoke/ non agouti, but we breed for.

That isn't so easy because many Siberian cats are Agouti homozygous.

That is very interesting to see if, like the amber, those cats have the full color nose leather and ghost marking on the body, legs and tail.

We can have some orange bright colour (like in Kurilian cats too) a bit different than the classic sunshine with rose nose leather too, but , in my opinion this one is a different colour.

I suggest to check it for amber and russet colour and to check different mating.

Standard description of sunshine tabby colour without silver

The typical rose colour of nose leather is always present!

The typical lining of the tabby nose is not present in sunshine cats.

It's a tabby cat with ground colour very warm; the kitten born with many base colour (black/blue/tortie) hairs; with age the based colour hair became less and can disappear and the cat shows many warm apricot-reddish hairs with tabby pattern and few dark hairs.

The under parts are lighter. The tufts are light, almost white.

The paw pads are according with the base colour (black, blue, tortie) in cats without white.

Eyes rims black/blue/tortie.

Any amount of white is allowed

Description of sunshine silver tabby (bimetal)

The typical rose colour of nose leather is always present!

The typical lining of the tabby nose is not present in sunshine cats.

The cat is a silver cat, so the base of hair is white except in the sunshine hairs which usually are sunshine along all hair.

The cat can appear like it was divided in two along the body and its legs, particularly in the young cats

To explain.. like a blue abyssinian. Upper parts are darker than the under parts. Muzzle, chin, under parts are almost white with tabby marking warm apricot, without any black/blue/tortie hairs.

Front and rear legs can be longitudinally divided in two sides: the inside is clearly lighter than the outside. The outside is the only one with black /blue/tortie hairs. The under of tail is light too. With the age the sunshine colour can color the silver fur even in full. Paw pads on the colour base of cat (Black / blue/ tortie). Tufts in the ears almost white. Eyes rims black/blue/tortie.

The kittens can be born darker and with age the colour changes.

Any amount of white is allowed.

Silver carrier sunshine

Make attention: all silver cats which are carrier of sunshine have some patches “reddish” until at the base of hair. So they are silver not sunshine tabby, nose leather like a normal tabby, but show like in the previous pictures some patches on the upper parts.

To summarize:

A = agouti - existing genetic tests

B / b / bl = black-chocolate-cinnamon - existing test

O = red - test does not exist

D = dilution gene when mutated (d) - existing test

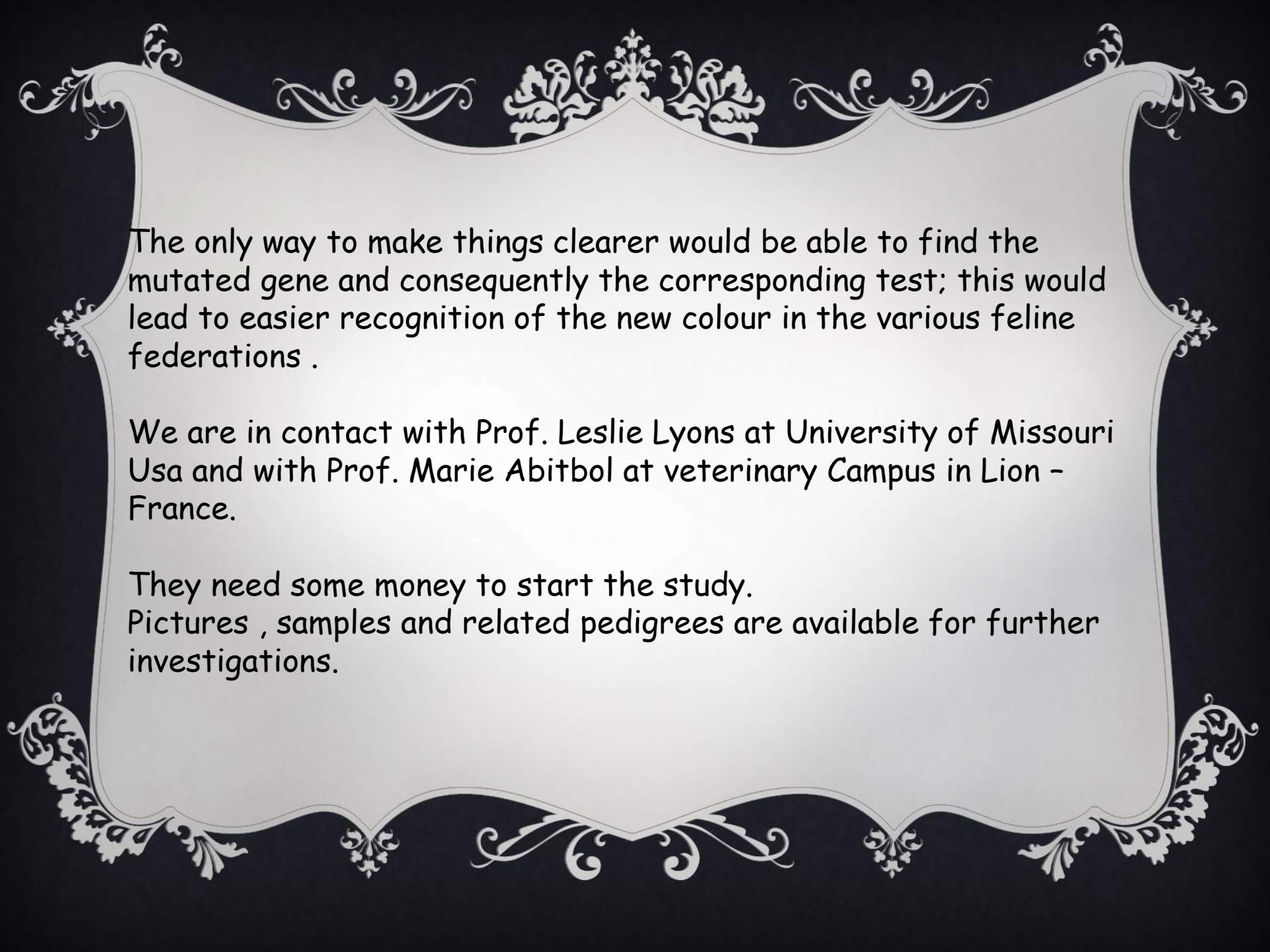
C / cb / cs = gene of the albino series - existing test

I = inhibitor gene (silver / smoke) - Test does not exist

T / Tb - Ta - Sp genes in various capacities related to the type of tabby - tests does not exist

Wb = Wide Banding (involved in the Golden Classic) - test does not exist

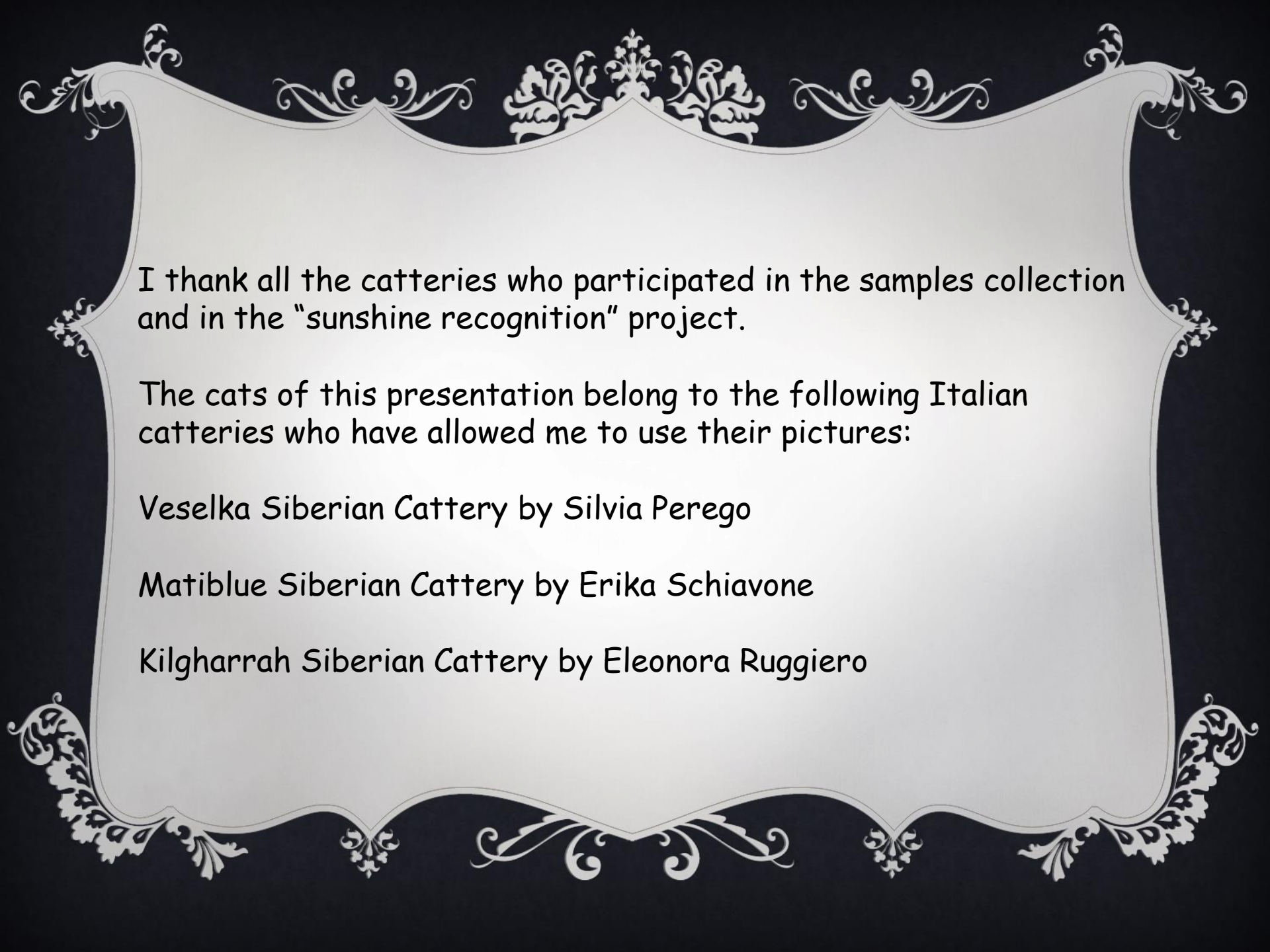
Siberian sunshine, assumed recessive mutation, may be another allele in locus E ? - could the gene and consequently the test be found?



The only way to make things clearer would be able to find the mutated gene and consequently the corresponding test; this would lead to easier recognition of the new colour in the various feline federations .

We are in contact with Prof. Leslie Lyons at University of Missouri Usa and with Prof. Marie Abitbol at veterinary Campus in Lion - France.

They need some money to start the study.
Pictures , samples and related pedigrees are available for further investigations.



I thank all the catteries who participated in the samples collection and in the "sunshine recognition" project.

The cats of this presentation belong to the following Italian catteries who have allowed me to use their pictures:

Veselka Siberian Cattery by Silvia Perego

Matiblue Siberian Cattery by Erika Schiavone

Kilgharrah Siberian Cattery by Eleonora Ruggiero



If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

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