Adonis struggled to crawl ashore after being thrown into Silver Lake.

In Connecticut. In February.

Bloodied and freezing, this beloved orange tabby fought for his 11-month-old life.

He lost.

With Animal Legal Defense Fund's help, abusers like this won't get away with it.

Dear Friend:

Each day abused and tortured animals are left to die. Each day their attackers—bullies of the worst order—get away with their crimes.

Adonis' short life began badly. A rescuer found Adonis and his four-week-old siblings—clinging to their underfed mother—abandoned on the streets of Hartford, Connecticut. A local shelter took them in and treated all six cats for illness, fleas and starvation.

Adonis received the care he so badly needed. He blossomed into a lustrous orange tabby with a dab of white around his eyes and nose. He did his Greek namesake proud—everyone fell in love with him.

Well, almost everyone.

The daughter of the family who adopted Adonis forged a strong, loving bond with him. So much so that she took him with her when she moved.

Adonis died because of a fight over rent: his owner's roommate refused to pay her share.

On the day she left, his torturer kidnapped Adonis and shaved off his long fur. At a dark, deserted lake she beat him repeatedly with a log until he could barely stand. She tried to get rid of the cat by tossing him in the water. Like garbage floating in a river.

But Adonis fought back. Confused, he paddled in the icy water until his paws found land. Two men witnessed the brutality—but did nothing about it. As the cat crept on shore his attacker smashed his head with beer bottles.

Until his life ended.

Without your contribution to the Animal Legal Defense Fund, Adonis' killer—and the two men who did nothing to stop her—would go free.

Now they're going to trial. And hopefully to jail.