

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



GOTHAM STAKES (G3)

Three Year Olds
1 Mile
PURSE \$300,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS	TOP PICKS
1	Dial Operator	10-1	5 Firenze Fire
2	Cove Blue	30-1	6 Free Drop Billy
3	Beautiful Shot	8-1	3 Beautiful Shot
4	Whereshetoldmetogo	15-1	
5	Firenze Fire	5-2	
6	Free Drop Billy	9-5	
7	Old Time Revival	15-1	
8	Nine Route	30-1	
9	Enticed	7-2	

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\$20 WIN

5 (\$20)

\$10 EXACTAS

5 over 3,6 (\$20)

\$1 TRIFECTA PART-WHEEL

5,6 over 3,5,6 over 3,5,6,9 (\$18)

One thing that seems apparent on paper regarding Saturday's \$300,000 Gotham (G3) at Aqueduct is that there is sufficient pace in the field to ensure the major contenders will have a proper setup to deliver their runs. None should have an excuse for not showing their best in that regard.

The two morning line favorites, Free Drop Billy and Firenze Fire, met twice before as juveniles. Firenze Fire came out on top in the Sanford (G3) while Free Drop Billy out-finished that rival in the Hopeful (G1).

Both are solid around one turn, but Firenze Fire has enjoyed more clear-cut success with a four-for-five mark at a mile, the distance of the Gotham, or less. He might have found 1 1/8 miles in last month's Withers (G3) a tad too far, but still ran respectably to finish second. The turn back in distance might prove key.

Free Drop Billy was a clear second in the Holy Bull (G2) last time, and should progress off that season opener. Jockey Dylan Davis is doing well at this meet, but will be handling riding duties on the colt for the first time.

Enticed, the third leading player, lost fairly decisively the previous times he met the top pair. He did not run well at all in the Holy Bull as the favorite. Though he could rebound, the others seem to be better at this point.

West Coast invader Beautiful Shot hails from the dangerous Keith Desormeaux barn and belongs on exacta and trifecta tickets. He's traded decisions with the talented Mourinho and is another that should benefit from the expected pace scenario.