



Sir Rat.

A
COMEDY.

Persons of the Drama.

Mr Thomas Cat
Mrs Thomas Cat

Master Tommy Cat
Miss Fluffy Cat

Sir Rat

Scene: The Barn. A basket in one corner.

Master Tommy (*looking out of the basket*).

How very big the world is after all!
Compared to it our basket seems quite small,
We never dreamed, dear Fluffy, till our eyes
Were open, that our world was such a size.
I'd like at once to see it all. Let's go
And take a walk around it





Fluffy

No! No! No!

Mum specially told us not to stray
Outside the basket while she was away.
Something might happen if we disobeyed.

Tommy

Oh, you're a girl - of course you are afraid!

Fluffy

Suppose - oh dear! Suppose we meet a Rat!

Tommy

Suppose we do, dear Fluffy, what of that?
I will protect you with my strong right paw.
The sight of it would fill a Rat with awe.

Fluffy

Would it?

Tommy

Of course it would. I'd like to see
The Rat who'd dare to mess with me,
I do not think he'd live to try it twice!

Fluffy

You are so brave! It really would be nice
To see the world



Tommy

It will be great. Here goes!

There, take my paw, and jump! Look - mind your toes!

(Fluffy jumps.)



Now we are off. Tread softly, Sister dear,
If we're not careful, all the world may hear.

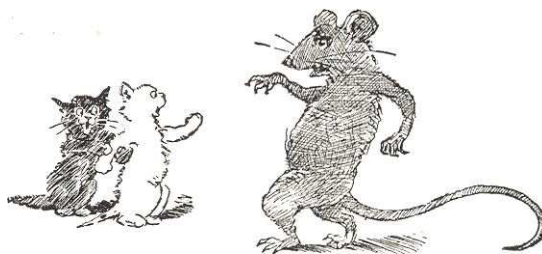
Fluffy *(jumps)*

Oh dear, what was that noise? I wish we'd stayed

Tommy *(trembling)*

Be brave dear Sister - see, I'm n-n-n-not afraid.

Whatever happens, do not make a sound.



(Enter Sir Rat!)

Sir Rat

Aha! What's this?



Tommy

Help! Murder! Mi-ow-eow!

Fluffy

Tommy, be quiet. *Dear Mr Rat, good day.*

Sir Rat (*jumping up and down*)

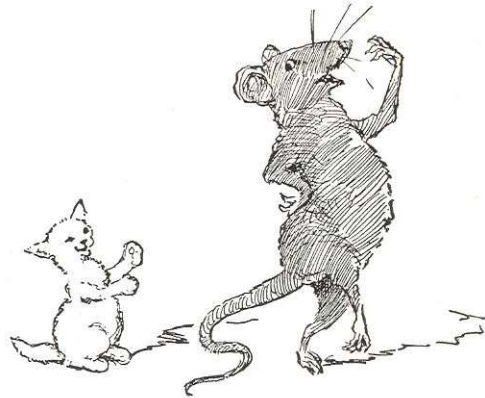
Enough! Enough! I did not come to play.

Fluffy

Dear Mr Rat, how beautifully you dance.

Sir Rat

You flatter me.



Fluffy (*aside*)

It is my only chance.

(*To Tommy*)

Run Tommy! Run and bring dear Father-cat,
While I remain and flatter Mr Rat.

(*Exit Tommy, in haste.*)

(*To Sir Rat*)

It's very plain you learned to dance in France.
I wish, dear Rat, you'd teach *me* how to dance.



Sir Rat

I do not often dancing lessons give;
But as you haven't very long to live,
And you are *so* polite, this once I'll try.

Fluffy

Thanks! Thanks dear Rat - one dance before I die.

(Dance music. Sir Rat dances and Fluffy applauds)

Fluffy

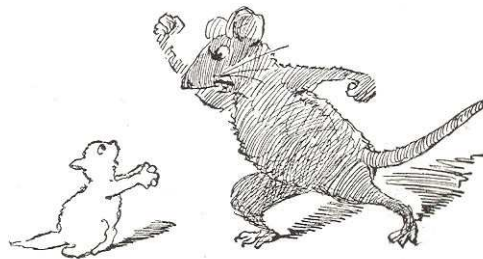
Hurrah! Sir Rat, I never saw before
Such perfect dancing - won't you dance once more?

Sir Rat

Don't be so silly Kitten! Now at last
Your time has come. Reflect upon your past!

Fluffy

It won't take long my past life to unfold!
Truly Sir Rat, I'm only nine days old.



Sir Rat

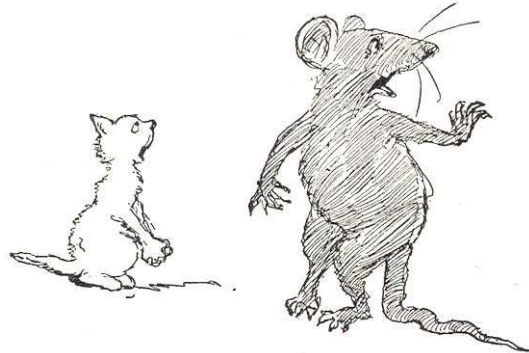
Be quiet Kitten! Hold your tongue - your time is past.

(leaps upon her)



Fluffy

Miaow! Miaow!



(Enter Mr and Mrs Cat and Tommy)

Mr Cat

Aha! Sir Rat, at last

I have you; and this barn will soon I'm sure

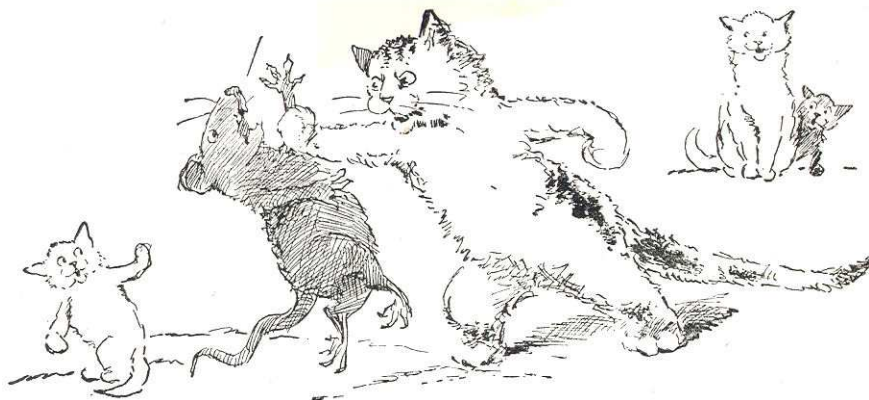
Be rid of you - you'll lie dead upon the floor!

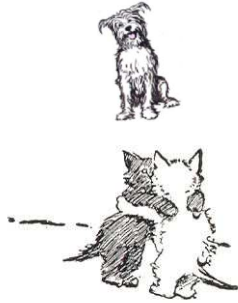
(they fight - Sir Rat falls)

Mr Cat *(sheathing his claws)*

It's lucky I hurried, had I not, I fear

We would have seen the last of Fluffy dear!





Tommy

Oh dear, to think what might have been her fate.

Fluffy (aside)

I learned to dance at any rate!

Mrs Cat

But lunch is ready, come into the house.

Your father caught today a fine spring mouse.

And, children, when I tell you not to stray

From home, in future, do not disobey!

CURTAIN





Stories for Reading Aloud

A good selection of stories for reading aloud can be found at Scruffy's Bookshop.

www.continue.to/storiestoreadaloud

New stories are added regularly, so keep checking back – remember you need a good choice of stories to suit your mood, and you can never have too many!!

How to tell Stories to Children

If you enjoy this, you'll love the full text of "How to tell Stories to Children" which gives you simple, step-by-step instructions to becoming the story-teller everyone wants to hear more from!!

Learn more www.continue.to/storyteller

Kids of Character

If you are looking for stories and activities that will develop strong ethics and high moral standards in your children, then visit www.wakeup.to/kidsofcharacter This is a dedicated part of Scruffy's Bookshop filled with beautiful stories communicating traditional values like trustworthiness, responsibility, respect and caring, together with carefully chosen activities based on the books to reinforce the messages they contain.

These activities are both interactive and printable and include:

- * jigsaws
- * cooking
- * crafts
- * matching games
- * short plays to act out,
- * crosswords,
- * quizzes
- * word searches
- * songs
- * sudoku.
- * and many more over 100 to choose from.



They're all hosted online so you don't have to use up valuable computer memory – and of course you are free to download them whenever, and as many times, as you want.

Learn more at www.wakeup.to/kidsofcharacter

Books on CD



If you like our vintage illustrated children's books and want to use them for storytelling, then it makes sense to buy them as CD collections – the savings are enormous and with 25 books on each CD there's lots of material to keep you going.

Visit www.continue.to/scruffysbooksoncd to find out more.

About Us

Scruffy's Bookshop is based in deepest rural Devon, England where Ellie Dixon lives with her dogs, Scruffy and Polly. Ellie has brought up her own daughter, and now spends her time restoring and editing vintage children's literature to appeal to today's kids. When not busy with her business, she can usually be found on the beach or getting involved with local community activities.



Copyright Information

Copyright statement

Copyright © 2007 Scruffy and Friends Ltd

This book may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium without requiring specific permission. It may not be reproduced for sale by any other party except Scruffy's Bookshop.

This is subject to the material being reproduced accurately and in its entirety, without any alterations or deletions (including the website links) and not in a misleading context.

Where any of the material is being republished or copied to others, the source of the material must be identified and the copyright status acknowledged.

Explanation

We're happy for you to distribute this book to your friends, or if you own a website, then we're happy for you to make it freely available to your website visitors as long as you do not alter the content in any way whatsoever.

Additionally, you must not charge for this book, the copyright of which remains with Scruffy and Friends Ltd.

If you have any queries, then please email ellie@scruffysbookshop.com