



# PURIM AT LAST

Ah, finally I know what dressing up means. It means wearing all kinds of funny clothes, which make the child wearing them look like somebody else!

I'm lucky that I can recognize people by their smell, or else I'd be completely confused. On Purim morning, Yitzy didn't look like Yitzy at all. He wore something called a mask on his face, and the children said, "Yitzy is dressed up as Kitty!"

Besides for the mask, which had a line a bit like my whiskers, and ears, which in my opinion don't look like mine at all, Yitzy was also wearing a black outfit with a tail with a white tip, just like my tail. But it was so funny, because he couldn't move his tail the way I can move mine, as it's only connected to his costume! I thought Yitzy would start walking on all fours and perhaps he would even slip out of my little door, but he continued walking on his two feet like a person and he didn't become small enough to get through my door. He just walked through the regular door that people use! So what was the point?

I was also a little afraid that Yitzy would start catching mice and leave me with no work. But Yitzy didn't even look for mice. He didn't know where their holes were and he didn't wait near a hole for a mouse to come out. He also didn't sniff at people, nor did he crawl onto the couch or sleep in the basket, and he didn't move his funny ears when he was trying to hear something. I always move my ears when I listen, and I can even hear when a mouse moves a tiny bit in his hole!

Everyone told Yitzy he looked like Kitty, but I didn't agree! He didn't look like me at all. Even his whiskers on the mask were just drawn and didn't have real hairs like mine!

Before Purim, Yitzy and Mendy had fought all the time over who would get to wear the cat

costume, until they decided that Mendy would wear it at the Purim party in cheder and Yitzy would wear it on Purim.

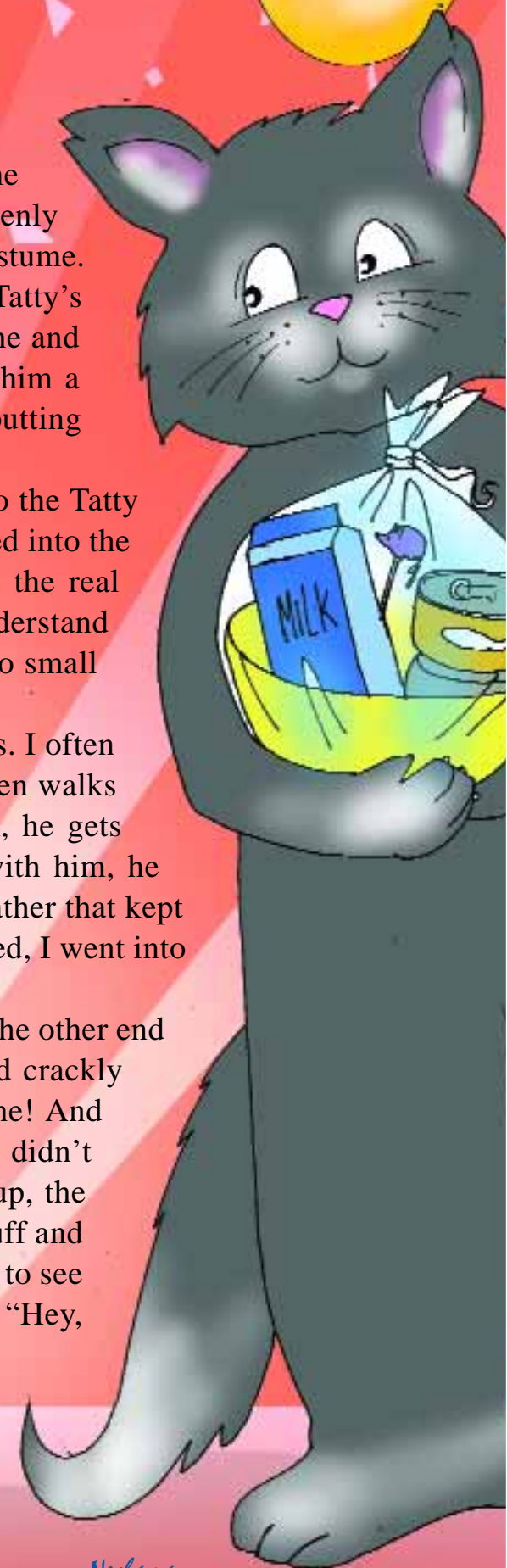
Motty said he didn't want to dress up, but when it came to Purim morning, and he saw all the fun, he suddenly changed his mind and did want to put on a Purim costume. Mommy thought quickly and took an old hat from Tatty's closet, popped it onto Motty's head, painted a moustache and beard on his face with some black make-up and gave him a longish black coat to wear. "Who are you?" she asked, putting Motty in front of the mirror.

"Tatty, Tatty!" cried Motty happily and tried to run to the Tatty in the mirror, without realizing it was himself. He peeped into the mirror, then he looked behind it, but he couldn't find the real Tatty who was hiding somewhere. Motty couldn't understand why he saw a small Tatty in the mirror but there was no small Tatty in the room!

The truth is that I also don't really understand mirrors. I often see a kitten in the mirror that looks just like me and even walks like me on all fours, but whenever I get close to him, he gets closer to me, and when I stick my paw out to play with him, he disappears! I also wanted to help Motty find the little father that kept vanishing, but I didn't manage to find him. Growing tired, I went into the kitchen to see what was going on there.

Oh dear! Somebody moved my basket all the way to the other end of the kitchen. And there were all kinds of baskets and crackly paper on the table! And look how many bottles of wine! And what a good smell of fish came out of the oven! I didn't recognize the house at all. The children were dressed up, the ceiling was full of balloons, the table was laden with stuff and I felt very mixed up. I started to turn around and around to see what else was different in the house, when Yitzy said, "Hey, look at Kitty! He's already drunk!"

Feeling hurt, I raced out of my little door and decided not to return until Purim was over. Purim might be a great day for people who dress up as cats, but not for real cats! ◉



*Nechama*