

## **Rusi and Pussy**

Text and illustrations - V. Suteyev From STORIES AND PICTURES Progress Publishers, MOSCOW

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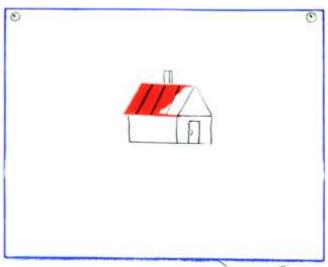
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A girl named Rusi had a pet cat named Pussy. They were great friends. One day Rusi was sitting at the table, drawing pictures.

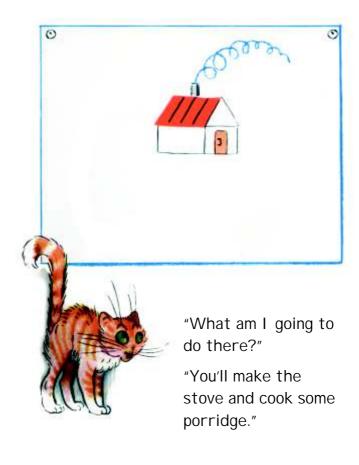


"What are you doing?" Pussy asked.

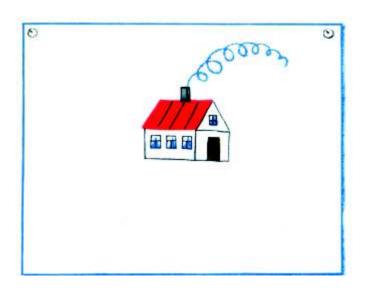
"I'm drawing a house for you," said Rusi.

"See, here's the roof and here's the chimney. This is the door."





Then Rusi drew some smoke coming out of the chimney.



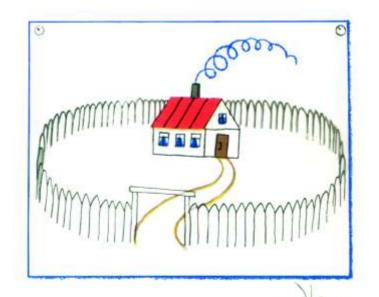
"But where's the window? Cats always jump through windows!"

"Here are the windows. One, Two, Three, Four," said Rusi and

drew four windows.

"But where will I go for a walk?"

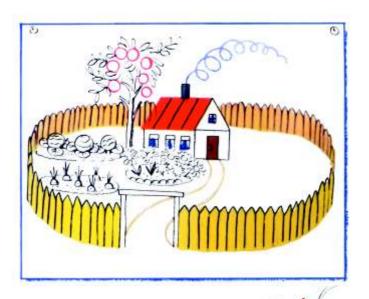




"Here." And Rusi drew a fence all around the house.

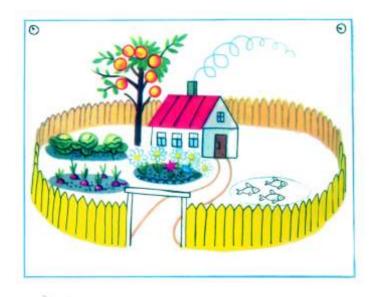
"This will be the garden," she said.

Pussy looked at it and sniffed. "What sort of a garden is that? There's nothing in it!"



"Wait," said Rusi. Here's a flower bed and here's an apple tree with apples growing on it. This is a vegetable garden: here's the carrots and here's the cabbages."

"Cabbages!" Pussy said and made a face. "But where will I catch my fish?"



"Here". And Rusi drew a pond and three fishes in the pond.

"That's nice....

And will there be any birds?" curious Pussy

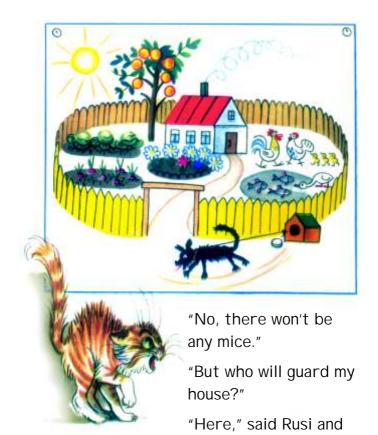
asked. "I like birds."



"Yes. Here's a hen, here's a cock, here's a goose, and these are three baby chicks."

At that Pussy licked her lips, purred and asked in a very soft voice: "And... ah... will there be.... mice in the house?"





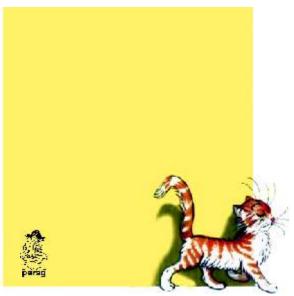
"This Doggie will guard your house!"

drew a dog house.

Pussy flicked her tail and all her fur stood on end. "I don't like your house," she said. "I won't live in it!"

And she left, feeling very offended. What a cross cat!

How do you think Rusi will make friends with Pussy again?



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