

Triggers sympathy and maybe a sense of guilt for dying while you have a cat

Cat in an Empty Apartment

Die - you can't do that to a cat. Psychologically effects a cat

Since what can a cat do Irony to a cat having 9 lives in an empty apartment?

Climb the walls? Irony because that's what cats will sometimes do normally

Rub up against the furniture?

5

Nothing seems different here,

but nothing is the same. The cat starts to realize something is not

Nothing has been moved, right

but there's more space.

And at nighttime no lamps are lit.

10

Footsteps on the staircase,

but they're new ones.

The hand that puts fish on the saucer has changed, too.

Something doesn't start at its usual time. The large schedule change of losing a person 15

Something doesn't happen as it should. Ominous feelings of change and not understanding why

Someone was always, always here,

then suddenly disappeared

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and stubbornly stays disappeared.

Every closet has been examined. another example of desperation,

Every shelf has been explored. acting upon that desperation

Excavations under the carpet turned up nothing.

A commandment was even broken. Implies an unspoken agreement between human and cat 25

papers scattered everywhere.

What remains to be done.

Just sleep and wait. A sort of acceptance in the stages of grief

Just wait till he turns up.

Just let him show his face.

30

Will he ever get a lesson you can't control when you die,

on what not to do to a cat. so the poem might be about the choice of suicide and the effects on people or things that aren't thought about much like pets.

Sidle toward him

family comes to take care of cat, but it's not the usual owner

desperation and sadness for the missing person

"Why did the human punish individual break any rules?"

angry connotation of "show his face"

as if unwilling ^{puts on a mask} and pretends to be offended,
and ever so slow to cover up the feeling or 35
on visibly offended paws, sorrow.
and no leaps or squeals at least to start.

Translated by Stanislaw Baranczak and Clare Cavanagh

expressions
of excitement
from a cat