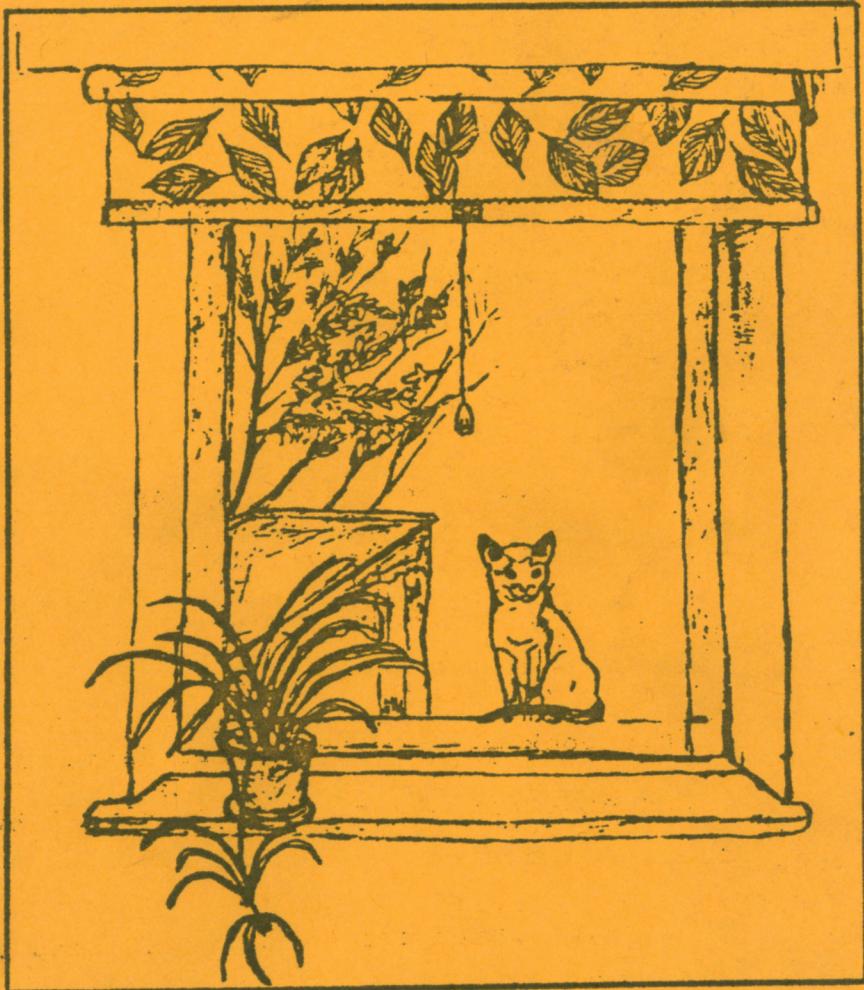


The cat at the window



Paulette John - Baptiste

Paulette

To Irene

Love from Paulette

© Paulette John-Baptiste 1983

Published by Hackney Reading Centre

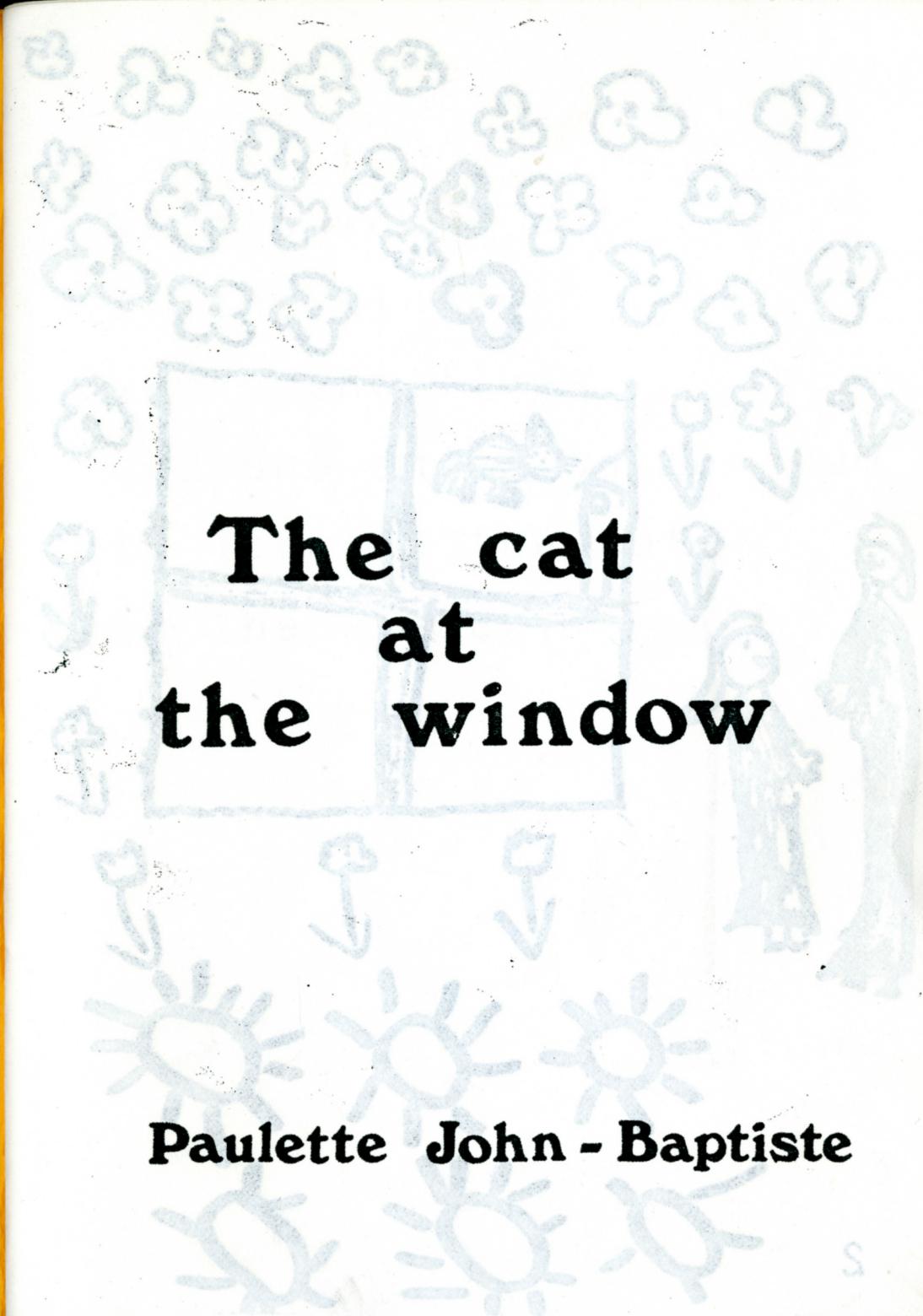
136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.

This book was made by Doris Cannon,

Paulette John-Baptiste and Irene Schwab.

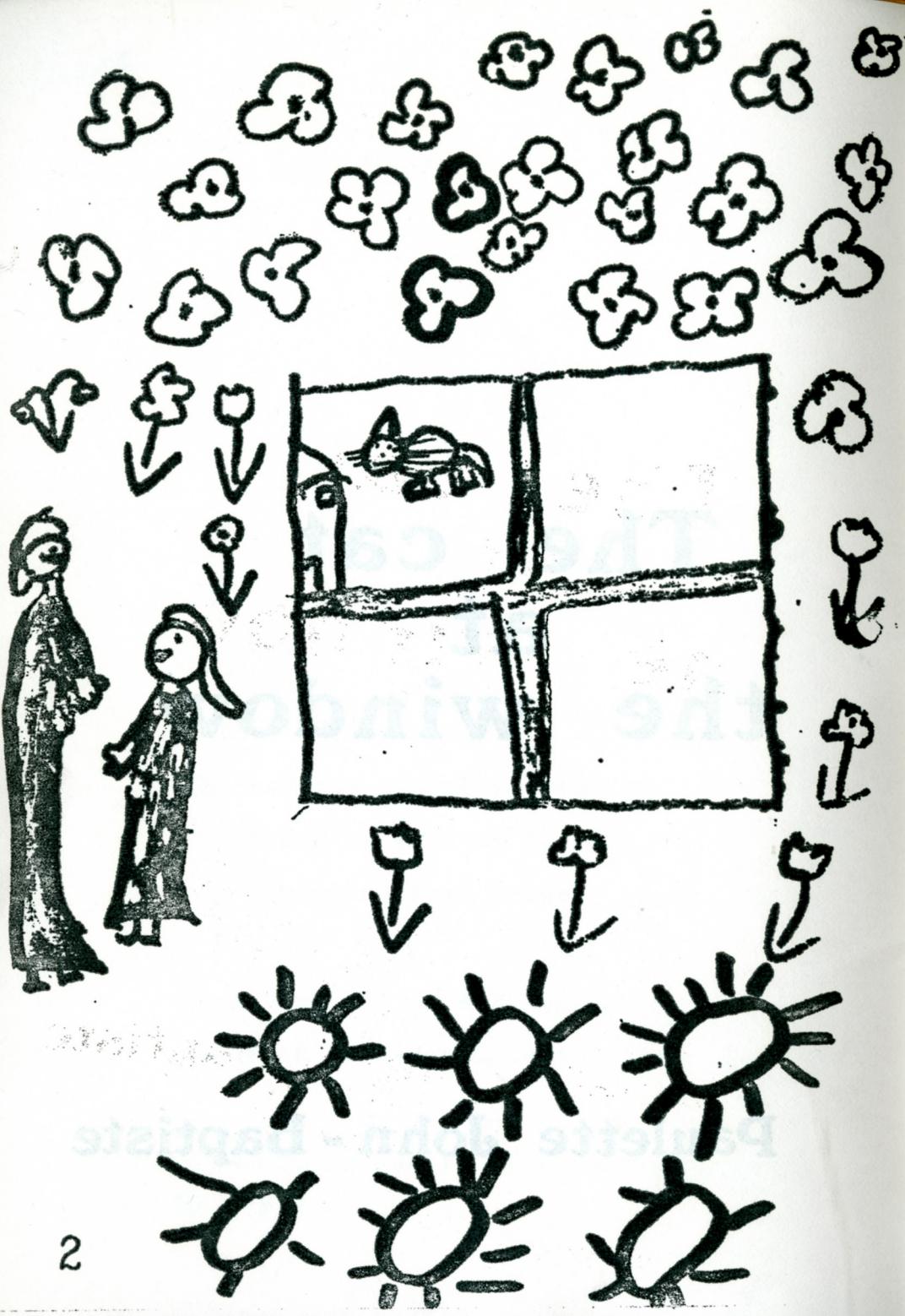
Drawings by pupils of Gayhurst School

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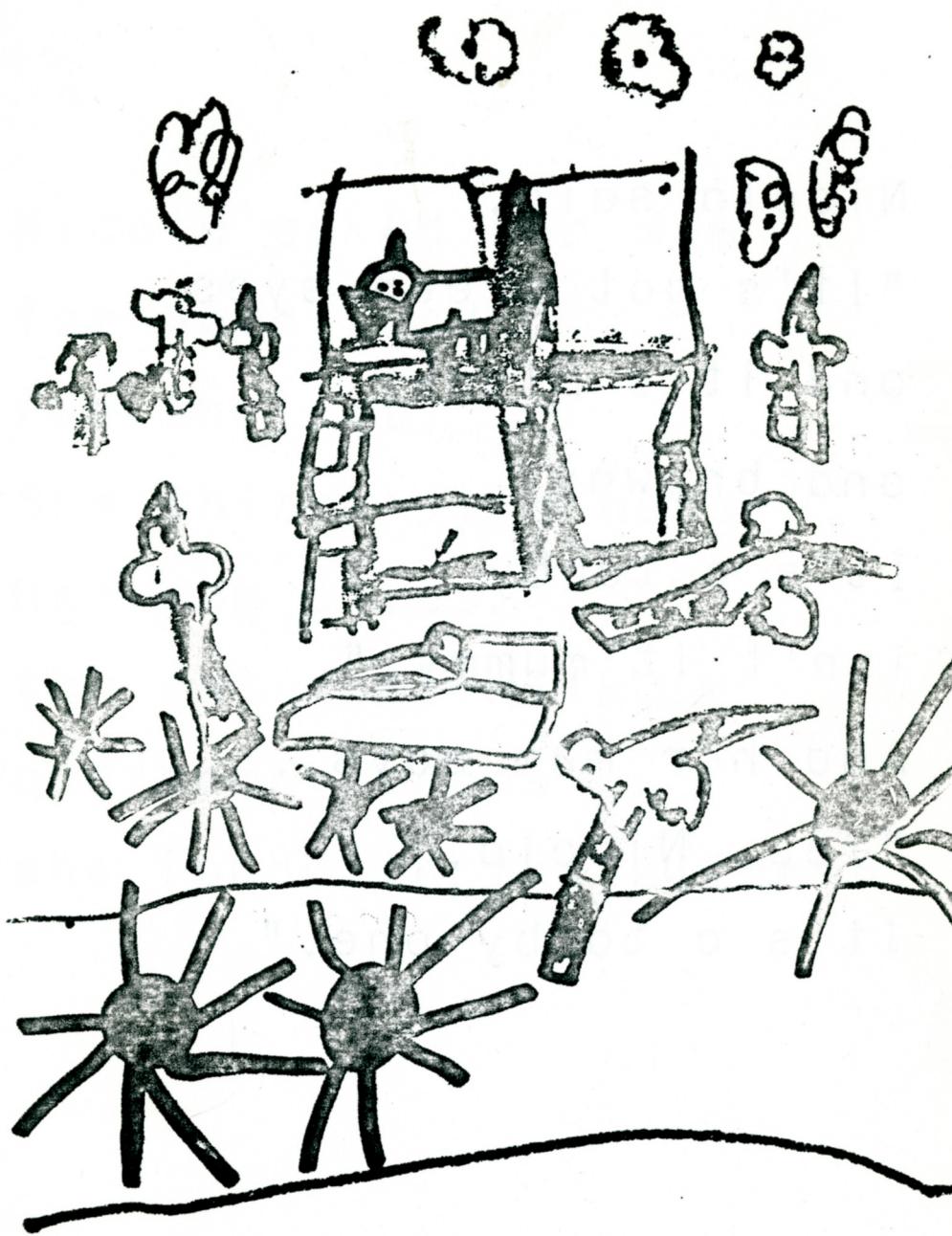
The cat at the window

Paulette John - Baptiste



Nicola looks out
of the window
where she lives
and she calls to her mum
to look at the cat
by the window.

Her mum comes
to see what is there
and her mum sees the cat
and she says,
"That's a nice cat
Nicola".



Nicola said,

"It's got green eyes
and it's blacky
and browny.

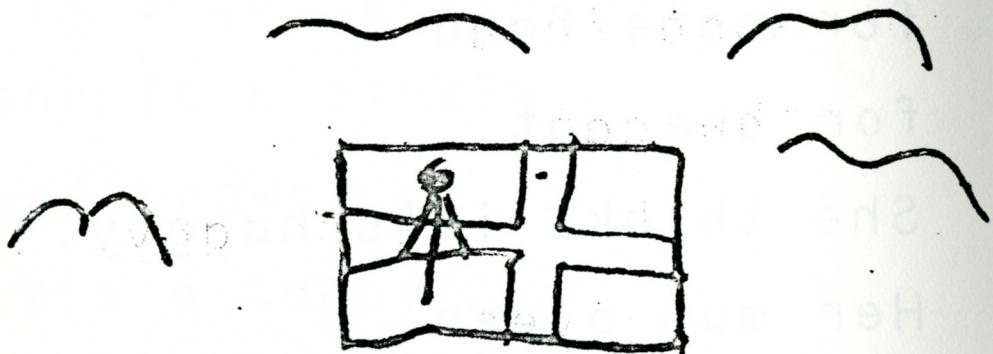
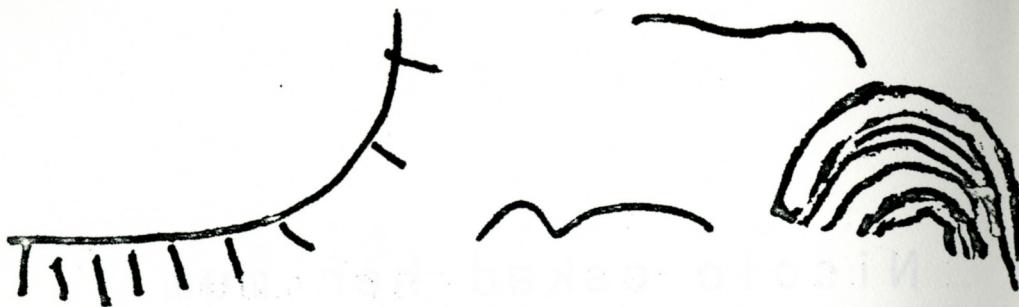
It's a tabby
isn't it mummy."

And her mum says,

"Yes, Nicola,
it's a tabby one."

Nicola asked her mum
for some food
for the cat.

She thinks it's hungry.
Her mum gives
the cat some milk
and some scraps
she found in the kitchen.



The cat liked it
and licked the plate
clean.

Nicola was so glad
that the cat
liked the food
and she told her mum
that the cat's gone away
now.

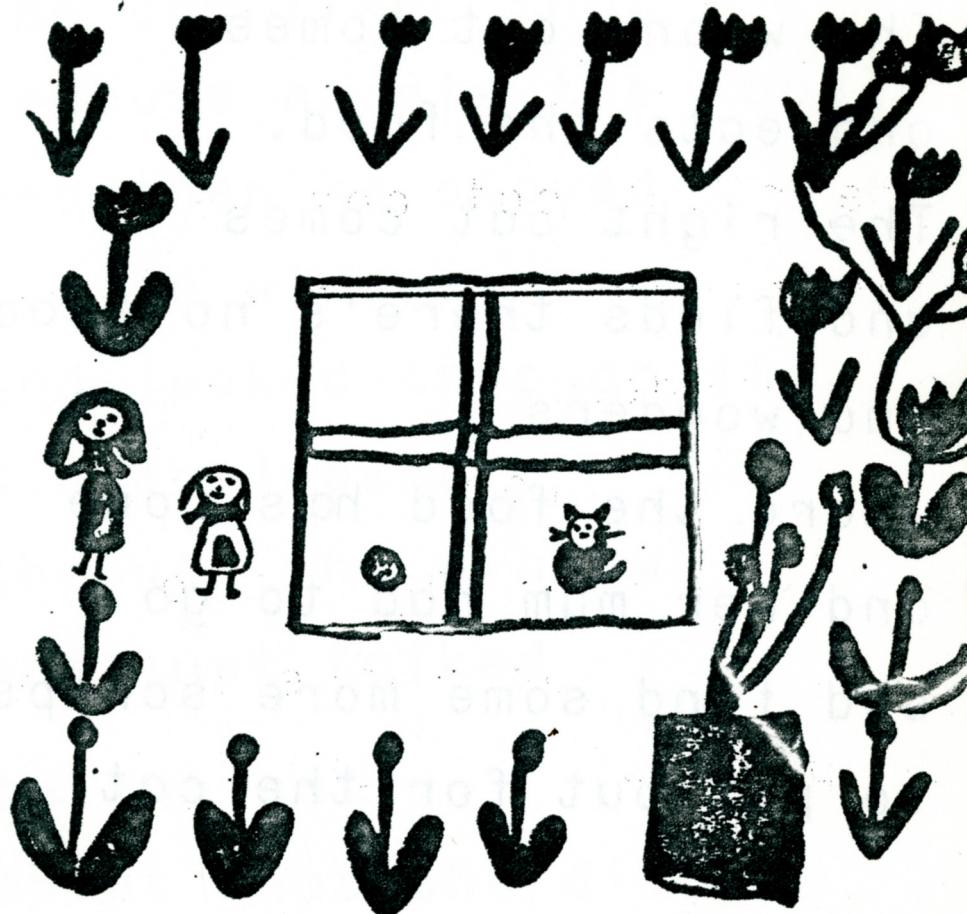
It was time for school
and so her mum
started to get her ready.
When Nicola got to school
she told her friends
about the cat
she saw by the window.

And her teacher said,
"You can draw a picture
of your cat."

So she drew a picture
and she brings it home
and she showed her mum
and dad,
and then she showed
the cat
outside the window
what she drew.

The cat comes
to the window
and peers through
the glass.

The cat's too frightened
to come in
and runs away
when the food goes out.
It comes back
as you close the window.

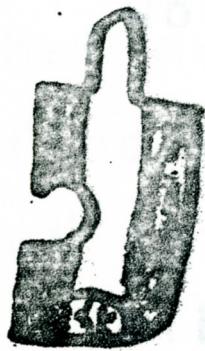
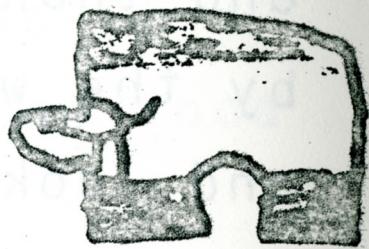
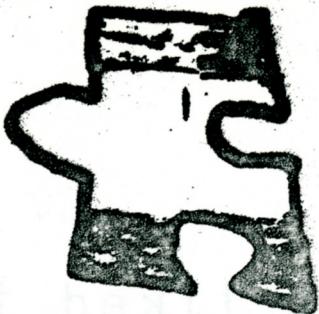


The wrong cat comes
and eats the food.

The right cat comes
and finds there's no food
and wonders
where the food has gone
and her mum had to go
and find some more scraps
to put out for the cat.

The cat liked that
because he ate the food
and then he stayed
by the window
and looked through it.

Nicola looked
through the window
and just talked
to the cat
about what she did
at school.



She left the window
and started to play
puzzles on the table
and she asked her mum
to show her how to do it.

Her mum said,

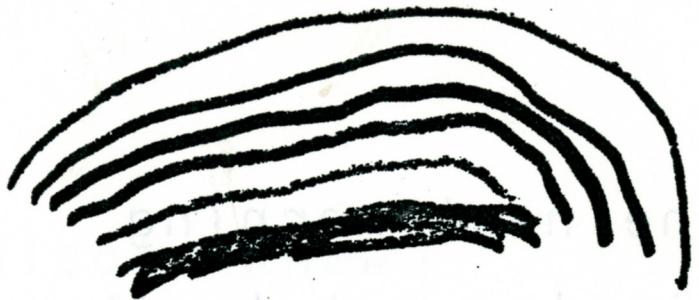
"You must learn
how to do the puzzle."

Nicola got fed up
of doing the puzzle
and she went
in the living room
to watch the television.
And Nicola's mum
said to her,
"Let's get you ready
for bed
because it's bedtime."

Nicola asks her mum,
"Will you read me
a story."

Mum says,
"Yes Nicola
you go in the bedroom
and pick a book for me
to read you a story."

Nicola and her mum
went in the bedroom
to get her ready
for bed
so her mum
could read her the story
Her mum read her
the story
and then Nicola
was sound asleep
and her mum
went back out
and looked at
the television.

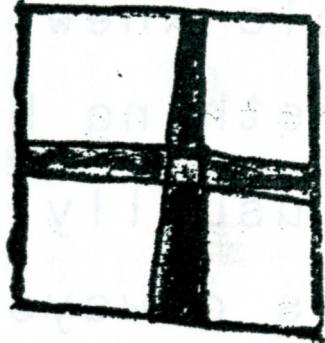


The next morning
Nicola went to the window
to look for the cat
but it was not there.

Her mum said,
"Must be gone
for a walk, Nicola."

But Nicola knew
that something happened,
because usually
the cat's always there
in the morning.

Her mum said,
"No, nothing can happen."
So Nicola went to school.



When she came back
she thought
the cat would be back
by the window.
But the cat
was not there.
She got more worried.
"Mummy, where's the cat?
Where is that cat?"

Her mum said,
"It's there Nicola,
outside."

Nicola said,
"No, it's not.

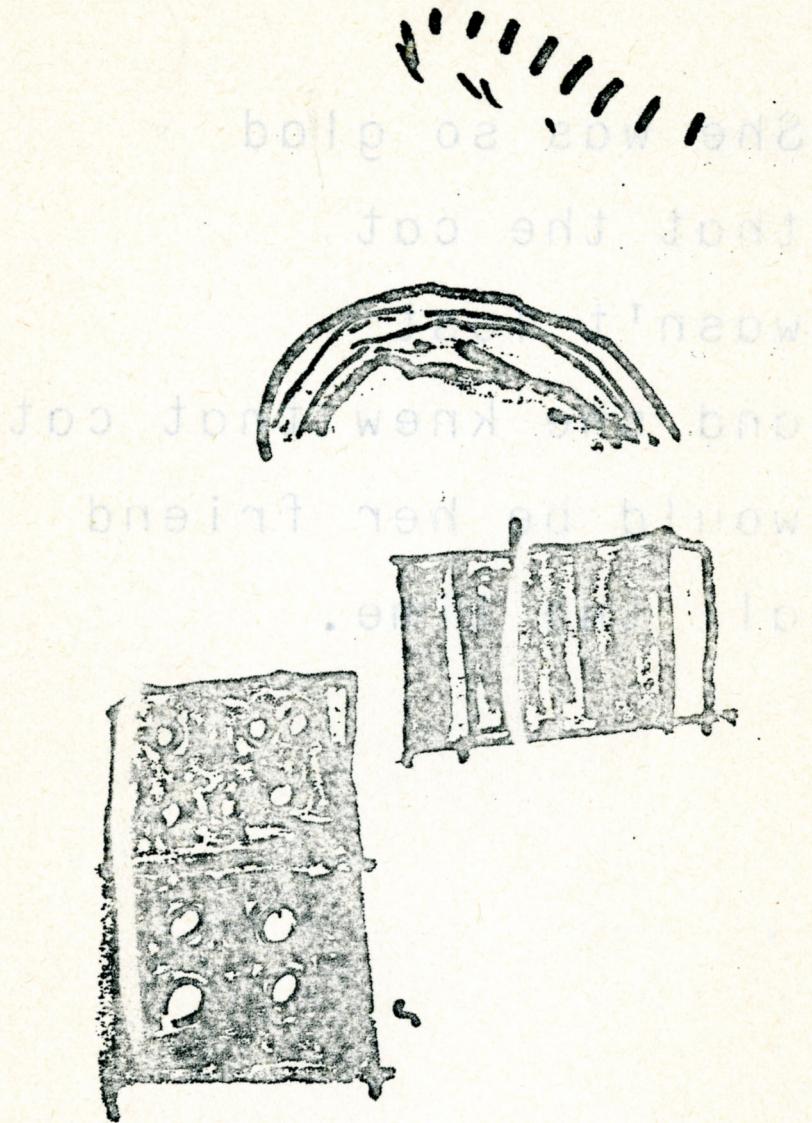
That's not our cat.

The cat we know
is all fluffy
with green eyes,
a tabby."

"No mum,
that's not our cat."

And Nicola was worried.
She did not play
that night.
She just kept on
being sorry for the cat.
And she went to bed.

Nicola thought
the cat got lost,
but it didn't
because in the morning
when she got up
she opened
her bedroom door
and come in the kitchen
and saw the cat
by the window.



08

29

She was so glad
that the cat
wasn't lost
and she knew that cat
would be her friend
all the time.

