

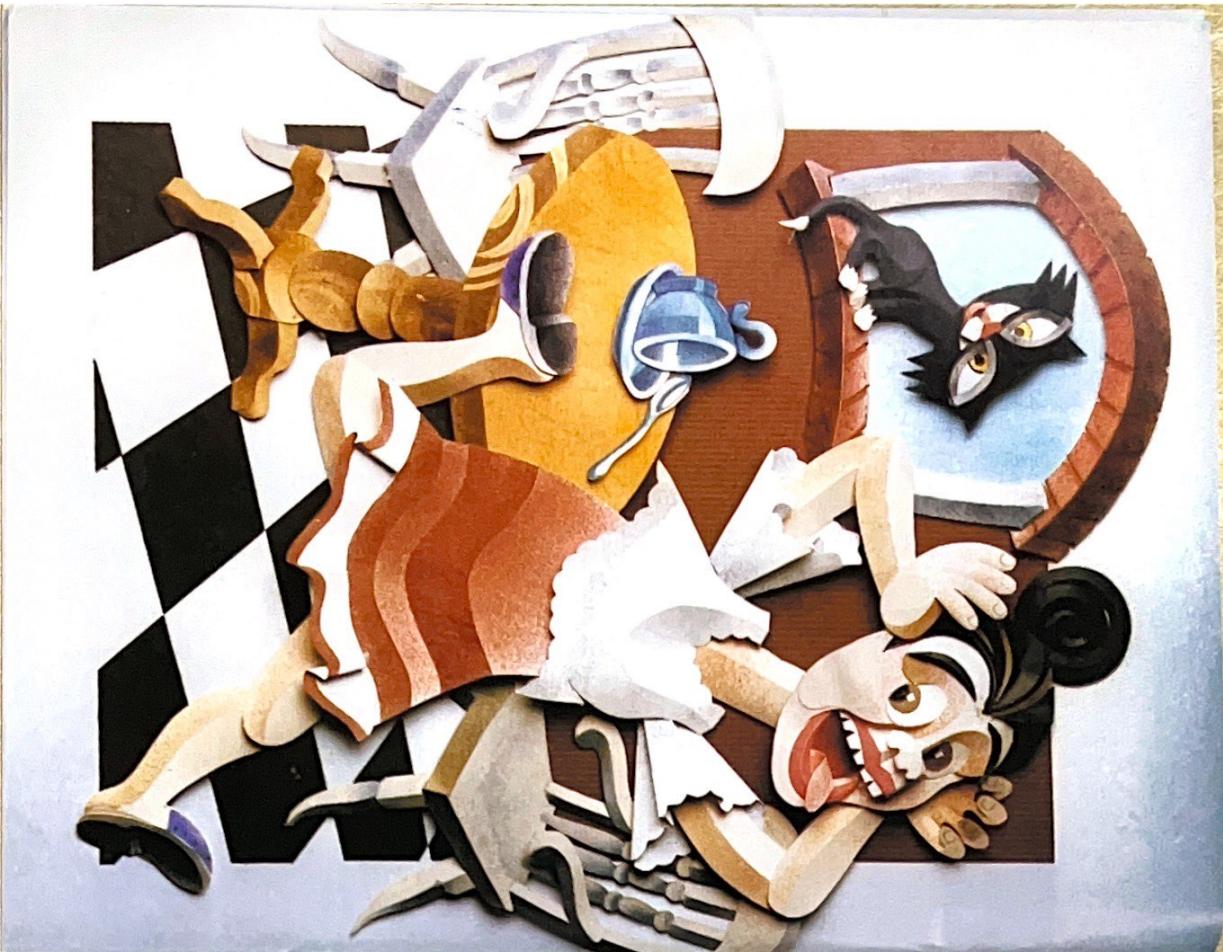
A Book
in 2
Languages

ang iTIM na **KUTING**

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Kuwento ni NATASHA VIZCARRA
Guhit ni FERDINAND GUEVARA



Akala ni Ignacia, ang itim na kuting,
ay wala nang aampon sa kaniya.
Sa isang bahay ay tinawag siyang, "Multo!"

Now, thought Ignacia, the black kitten,
no home would ever take her in.
In one house, they called her, "Spook!"



Sa isa naman ay, "Malas!"
Sa isa, "Uling!"
"Hindi ako uling," halos hikbi ni Ignacia.
"Hindi ako mala at hindi ako multo.
Isa akong itim na kuting."

In another one, "Bad luck!"
In still another, "Charcoal!"
"I am no charcoal," Ignacia half-sobbed.
"I don't bring bad luck and I am no spook.
I am a black kitten."



May mga tumama naman.

Sabi ng nagawalis sa isang bahay:

"Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!

Puuuuusang iiiiim!"

At ang sigaw ng ale sa malaking bahay

ay "Aaaaaaaaa!!! Pusaaaaal!"

Pero, hindi naman siya kinukkop nito.

There were those who got it right.
Someone sweeping at one house screamed:

"Aaaaaaaaaaaa! A black cat!"
And a woman at a big house shouted,
"Ackeeeii! A cat!"

But, Ignacia found no home there either.



"Hmmmm... Kailangan ng espesyal
na pagpapakilala sa susunod na bahay."
Kaya si Ignacia, ang itin na kuting,
ay nag-isip at nangarap,
nagplano nang nagplano.
Nakakita siya ng pangkulay at malaking papel.
Siyá'y nagsulat, nagdrowing, at nagkulay.

"Hmmmm... I guess I must introduce myself at the next house."

So, Ignacia, the black kitten,
mused and dreamed.

She thought and she planned.

Finding a crayon and a big sheet of paper,
she wrote, she drew, and she colored.



Sa dulo ng daan kung saan maraming puno
at mga bulaklak na kampupot,
nakikita siya ng simpleng bahay.
At dahil maliit lang siya at napakalaki naman
ng tarangkahang sumigaw na lang
si Ignacia ng isang malakas na "Ngiyaw?!"
Lumabas ang isang batang babae.

At the end of the road, where there were many trees
and jasmine flowers, she saw a nice-looking house.
But because she was small and the gate was so big,
all Ignacia could manage was a loud "Ngiyaw?!"
A little girl came out of the house.



Tuwang-tuwa na kakargahin na sana niya si Ignacia

ngunit biglang nagtalumpati ang kuting.

"Magandang umaga ho! Ako si Ignacia,

isang kuting na itim, gaya ng nakikita ninyo.

Hindi po ako malas, hindi uling, at hindi multo,"

ang sabi ni Ignacia habang itinuturo

ng kaniyang mahabang buntot

ang kaniyang mga drawing.

Delighted to see the kitten, she was about to pick her up when Ignacia began her speech.

"Good morning, ma'am! I am Ignacia, a black kitten, as you can see. I don't bring bad luck, I am no charcoal, and neither am I a spook," Ignacia said, pointing with her long tail to her drawings.



"Alam ninyo po ba? Masarap at mainam
ang mag-ampon ng kuting.
Kapag inampon ninyo ako, puwede akong humiga
sa mga importanteng papeles ng nanay
at tatay mo para hindi tangayin ng hangin.
Puwede rin akong pampaint ng paa
kung maikli ang kumot.
Puwede ring bandana;
tagagising twing umaga;

"Did you know, ma'am, that adopting a kitten is an excellent idea?
If you adopt me, I can hold down important papers for your mother
and father and keep the wind from blowing them away.
I can also keep your feet warm
when your blanket is too short;
Warm your neck like a scarf;
wake you up in the morning;

ilaw kung brownout;
kausap kapag malungkot; masahista;
tagakilili; tagakamot (yung hindi masakin);
mas magaling akong magtantiya ng panahon
kaysa PAGASA; estatwa; bantay sa kusina;
at siyempre, tagahuli ng daga.”

help you see when the lights are out;
talk to you when you are lonely; give you a good massage;
tickle you and make you laugh; scratch you (but not hurt you);
tell you what the weather will be like better than the weather bureau can;
I can sit on your shelf like a statue; help in the kitchen;
and catch mice, too, of course.”





"Paglaki ko, puwede rin akong manghuli
ng ibon... Ka-ka-ka..."
Medyo hiningal ang kuting.
Magsasalita na sana ang batang babae
nang nagpatuloy si Ignacia.
"Puwede ko po ba kayong maging nanay?"
"Puwedeng-puwede."
Sa tuwa ni Ignacia, nagsinighas ang balahibo
niya sa likod ng tainga.
"Prrr-mmmrrr-rrrrrr..."

"When I grow up, I can also catch birds... (ka-ka-ka)..."
The kitten was out of breath.
The little girl was about to speak when Ignacia went on.
"Will you be my mother?"
"Of course."
Ignacia was so glad even the hair behind her ears quivered with joy.
"Prrr-mmmrrr-rrrrr..."



Kaya lang, nang pinapasok na ng bata si Ignacia,
kung saan-saan siya nagtatakbo.
Kung ano-ano ang itinanong.
Hinanap niya ang kawato ng bata.
"Ano'ng oras n'yo gustong magpagising?"
Hinanap niya ang kusina.
"Dito na lang po ako matulog."
Itinanong niya kung saan tumatambay
ang mga daga.
"Gaano kalaki po ba ang mga daga rito?"

When at last the little girl showed Ignacia into the house,
the kitten scampered here and there.
She was full of questions.
She wanted to know where the little girl slept.
"What time should I wake you up?"
She looked for the kitchen.
"This will be my bedroom, ma'am."
Ignacia asked where the mice
could usually be found.
"How big are the mice in this house?"



"Ssshhh... Huminahan ka muna," ang bulong ng bata.
"Pero, ang mga daga." "Magandang kuting, wala kaming mga daga rito."
Kinamot ng bata si Ignacia sa likod ng tainga.

"Ssshhh... Be still for a while," the little girl whispered.

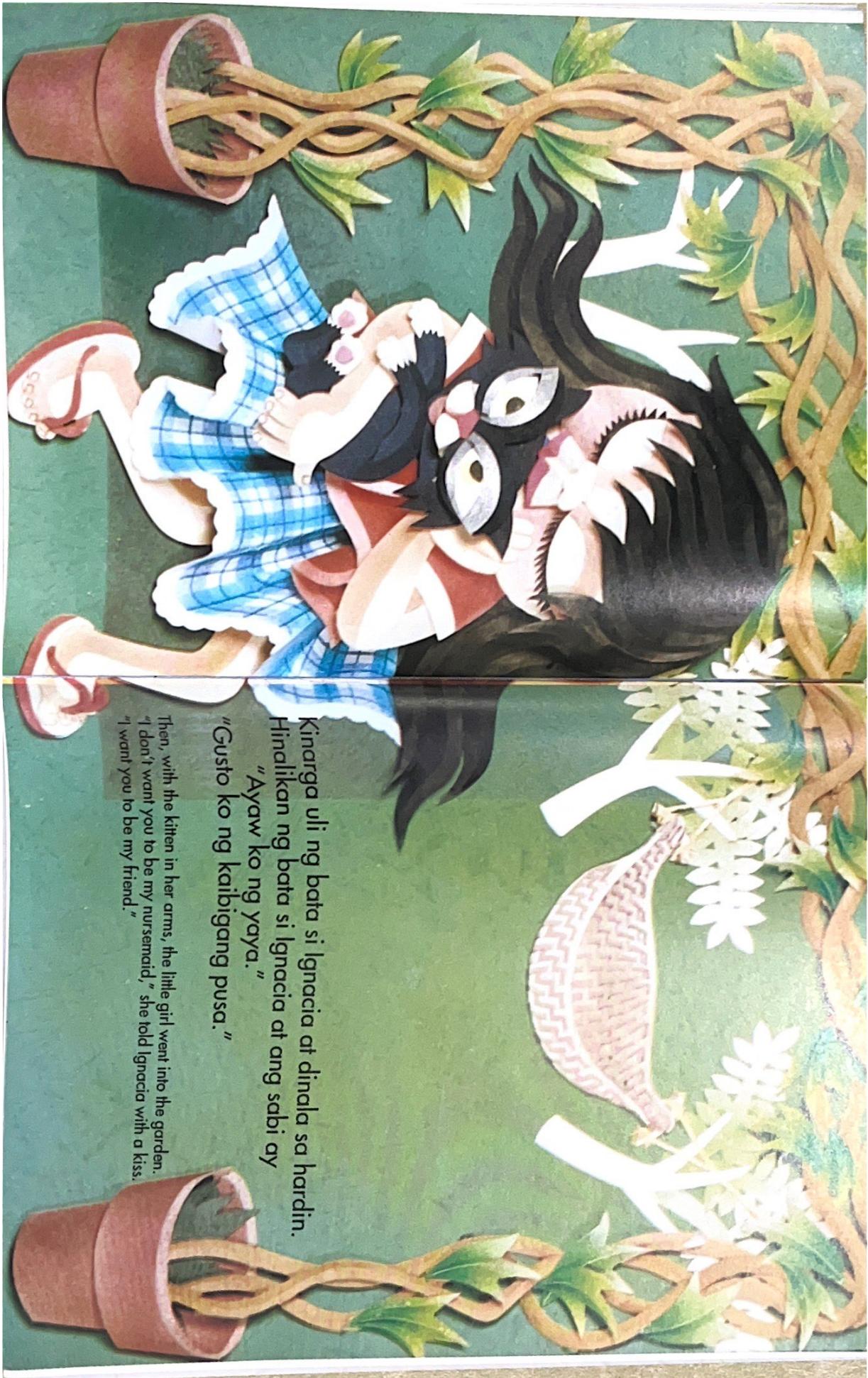
"But, as for the mice."

"Beautiful kitten, we have no mice here."
She scratched Ignacia behind the ears.



Kinarga niya si Ignacia sa kusina.
Pinainom niya ang kuting ng mainit-init na gatas.
Nang nabusog na si Ignacia, finulungan siya
ng bata na maglinis ng katawan.

The little girl brought Ignacia to the kitchen.
She gave the kitten some warm milk.
When Ignacia could drink no more,
the little girl helped her clean herself.



Kinarga uli ng bata si Ignacia at dinala sa hardin.
Hinalikan ng bata si Ignacia at ang sabi ay

"Ayaw ko ng yaya."
"Gusto ko ng kaibigang pusá."

Then, with the kitten in her arms, the little girl went into the garden.
"I don't want you to be my nursemaid," she told Ignacia with a kiss.
"I want you to be my friend."



At kontento at mahimbing na natulog si Ignacia
sa piling ng kaniyang bagong nanay.
Sa hardin na mahangin,
sa lilim ng maraming puno. ♪

And, in that airy garden, shaded by many trees, Ignacia,
pleased and purring, fell asleep beside her new mother.