





Room to Read[®]

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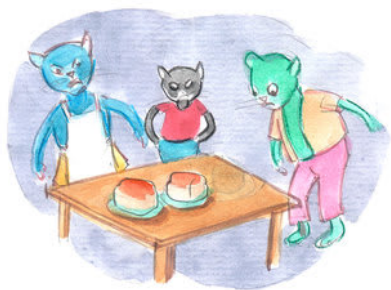
Once upon a time, there lived three cats in one house. Their names were

Black Cat, Blue Cat and Green Cat.



Every evening after dinner, Blue Cat would bake three loaves of bread.

The next morning, all of the cats would have bread, milk and porridge for breakfast.



One morning, they could only find
two loaves of bread!



The next morning, another loaf was gone! “What should we do?” they

wondered. “There must be a thief.”



“Let’s take turns all night to guard the loaves,” suggested Black Cat.



But they ate so much that night that they all fell asleep. Nobody guarded

the bread.



The same thing happened the next night. Again, they decided to take

turns in guarding the bread, and again, they all fell asleep! This went on for a long time, and the thief remained uncaught.



One day, Black Cat was cleaning and oh! He saw a small hole under the

bed. “Who dug this hole?” he wondered.

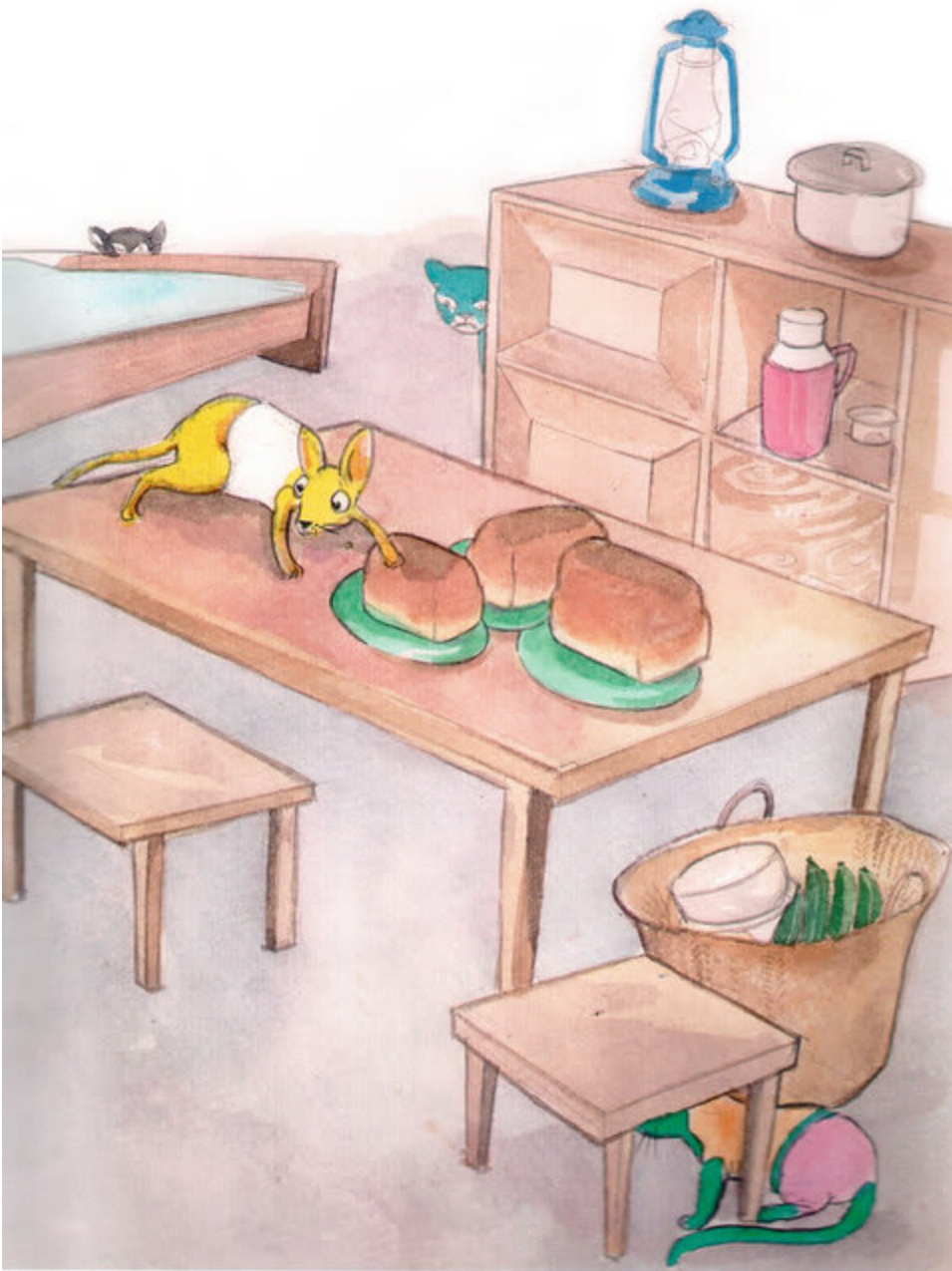


“Come look!” he called to the other cats. “I think the thief comes in

through this hole.” “We must catch him!” they cried together.



That evening, Blue Cat baked three loaves of bread. Then, all three cats hid inside the room.



Late at night, a big yellow rat emerged from the hole. It quietly

scampered towards the table where the bread loaves were.



Just then, the cats jumped out of their hiding places. “CAUGHT YOU!” they yelled. “Give us back our bread!” They put the rat on the table and demanded an explanation. Its eyes widened with fear.



“I'm very sick and can't buy any food,” the rat told them. “My kids are hungry, and I need this bread to feed them.”



The rat showed his children to the cats. They were very weak and sad.



The next day, Blue Cat baked many large loaves of bread. He baked enough for all of the cats, the rat and

his children. The cats and the rats ate merrily ever after.



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Page 16: Cats and mice sitting at a table eating and drinking, by Godwin Chipenya© Room to Read, 2014.

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The Cat's Lost Bread (English) Three cats always make sure they have three pieces of delicious sweet bread for dinner. But one day they find that a piece of their sweet bread has gone missing. The next day, the same thing happens! Can you help them find the thief? This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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