

BLACKIE'S
Coloured-Picture
STORY-READERS
FOR INFANTS



Puss in Boots



PUSS IN BOOTS

Illustrated by

JOHN HASSALL

BLACKIE & SON LIMITED

LONDON AND GLASGOW

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Blackie's Coloured-Picture Story-Readers for Infants

Beauty and the Beast.

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The Games we Play.

By the Sea and In the Fields.

Little Red-Riding-Hood and
Jack and the Beanstalk.

Cinderella and The Babes in
the Wood.

Puss in Boots

1. "Will you please tell us a story, Mother, when your work is done," said Annie one day.

2. "Yes, dear, to be sure I will," said her mother.

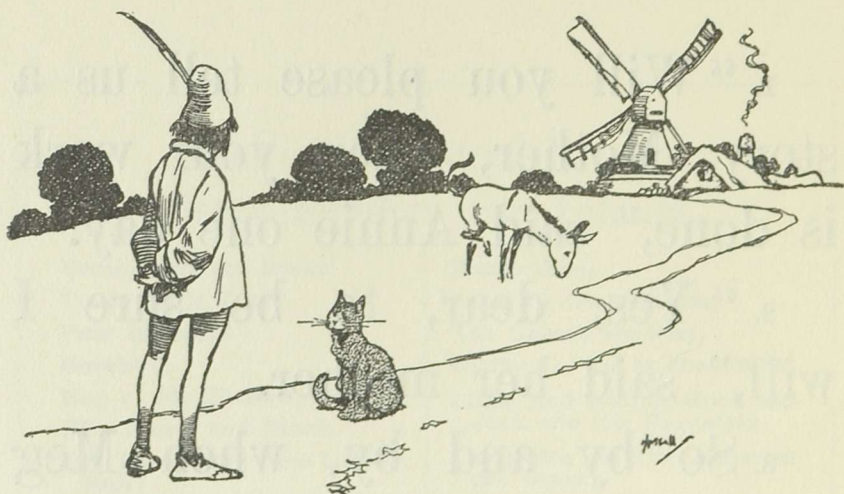
3. So by and by, when Meg and Ned came in from play, their mother sat down, and told them this story.

4. There was once a man who had a mill, an ass, and a cat.

5. And when he came to die,

he gave to one of his sons the mill, to the next the ass, and to the third the cat.

1. The son who got the cat did



not like it one bit. He wished to have the mill or the ass.

2. “For,” said he, “the mill can grind corn, and the ass can carry sacks; but what am I to do with a cat?”





PUSS SPRANG UP AND SHUT THE RABBIT IN

1. "It can only clear the mill of rats and mice. It will not help me to make any money."

2. Now the cat heard these words, and she came and rubbed her head on his legs.

3. "Do not be so sad, master," said the cat. "Buy for me a pair of boots and a bag, and I'll show you what I can do."

4. "I am sure I'll make you richer than your two brothers."

5. So the miller's son got the boots and a bag for his cat.

6. Puss put on the boots, and filled the bag with bran. Then, with the bag on her back, she went to look for rabbits.

1. When she came to a field, she opened the bag, and laid it down on the ground.

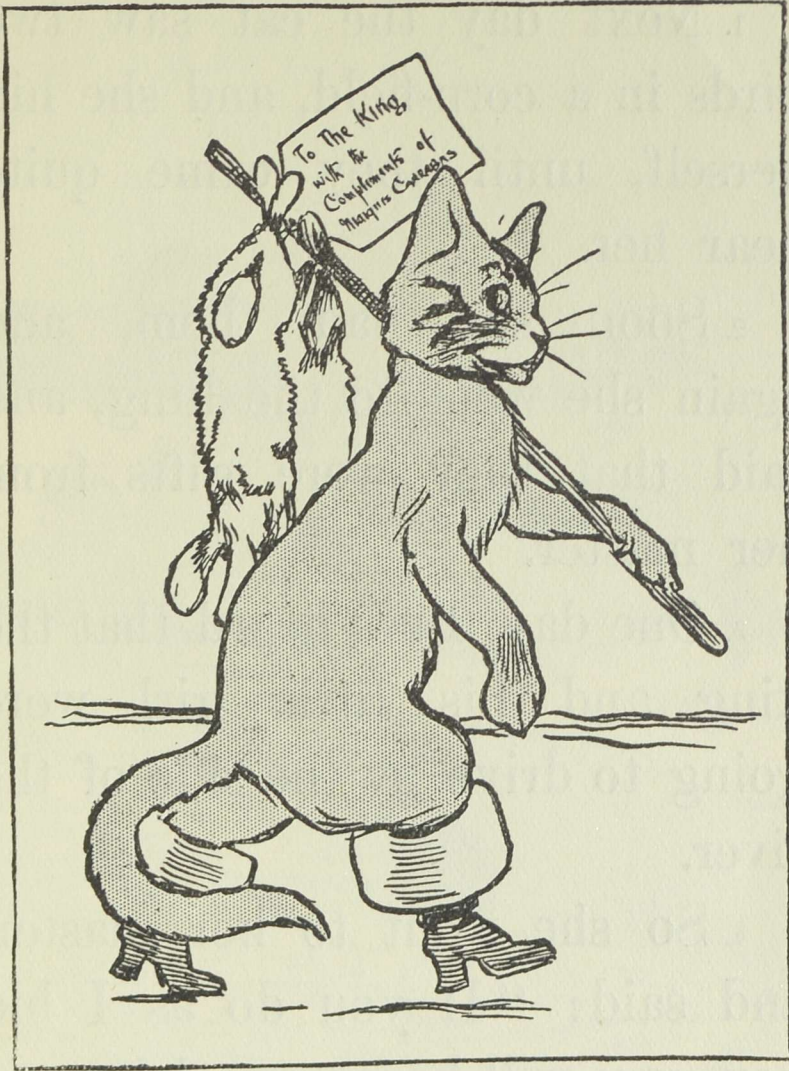
2. She then hid near by, with the string of the bag in her mouth.

3. Soon a rabbit ran into the bag, and began to eat the bran.

4. Puss sprang up, shut the rabbit in, and tied the bag with the string.

5. She now took up the bag, and set off to see the king. When she got to the palace, she bowed low and said:

6. "Sir, my master sends you this rabbit for your dinner."



1. "Tell your master, I thank him for his fine gift," said the king.

1. Next day the cat saw two birds in a corn-field, and she hid herself, until they came quite near her.

2. Soon she had them, and again she went to the king, and said that they were gifts from her master.

3. One day, Puss heard that the king and his little girl were going to drive by the side of the river.

4. So she went to her master, and said: "If you do as I bid you, you will become a rich man.

5. "You must go at once to bathe at a place in the river, that I will show you."



PUSS RAN AFTER THEM CRYING: "HELP!"

1. The miller's son went into the water, just where Puss told him, and Puss hid his clothes under a big stone.

2. Just then the king and his little girl came driving along, and Puss ran after them, crying:

3. "Help, help! my master is in the water, and sinking fast."

4. The cries were so loud, that the king put his head out of the window, to see what was the matter.

5. He knew the cat again, and asked: "What are you crying about?"

6. "Sir," said Puss, "my master was having a bath, and

someone has taken away all his clothes.

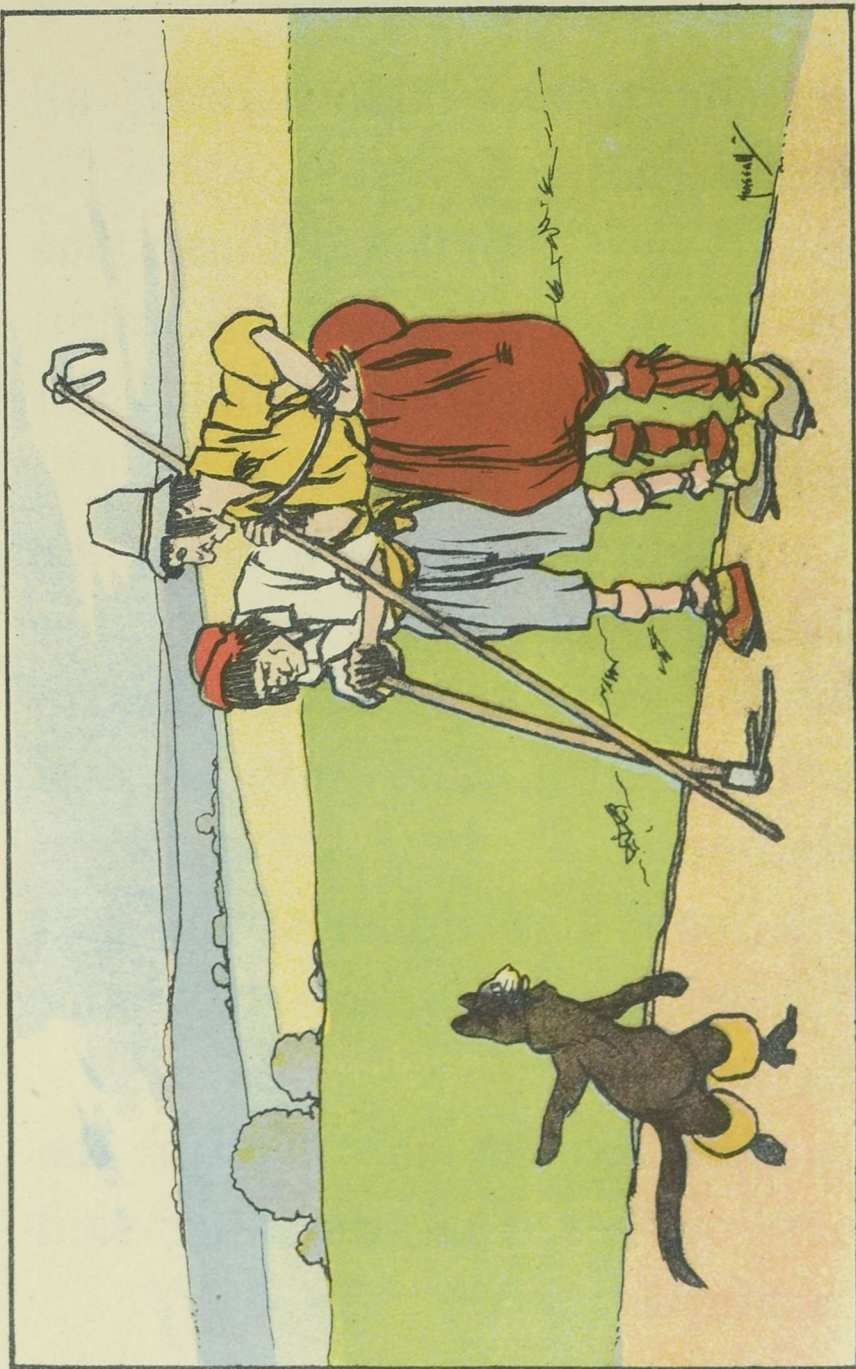
1. "Now," went on Puss, "he has been so long in the water, that he will be ill, if he is not taken out at once."

2. Then the king told one of his men, to help Puss to save her master. He sent off another to bring him a fine suit of new clothes.

3. Soon the miller's son was dressed, and he came to thank the king.

4. He looked so nice in the new clothes, that the king said to him.

5. "Come with us into the



"YOU MUST TELL HIM THAT THIS FIELD BELONGS TO MY MASTER"

coach, and have a drive along the riverside."

1. So Puss was glad, to see her master sit beside the king's little girl.

2. No sooner was the coach away, than Puss ran before it, as quickly as she could.

3. She came to a field, where men were cutting grass, and she said to them:

4. "The king is coming along, and you must tell him that this field belongs to my master. If you don't, you will be cut up into mince-meat."

5. So, when the king came up, he said to the men: "You have

very fine land here. Whose field is this?"

1. "Sir," said the men, "it belongs to the man sitting beside your little girl."

2. The king turned to Pussy's master, who only smiled; for he did not know what to say.

3. PUSS was now well on in front, and whenever she saw men working in the fields, she said:

4. "Be sure to tell the king, that this land belongs to my master. If you don't, you will be cut up into mince-meat."

5. They all said just what Puss told them, for they were afraid of being chopped up.

1. So the king was happy, to have so rich a man sitting beside his girl.

2. At last Puss came to a big house, in which lived a bad giant. All the land round about belonged to him.

3. Puss went in and said to the giant: "I hear you know a great deal about things, and that you can turn yourself into any beast you like. Is that all true?"

4. "Yes," said the giant.

5. "Can you turn yourself into a lion?" said Puss.

6. "Why, yes," said the giant, and he did it.

7. Puss was so afraid of the

lion, that she jumped to the top of a press.

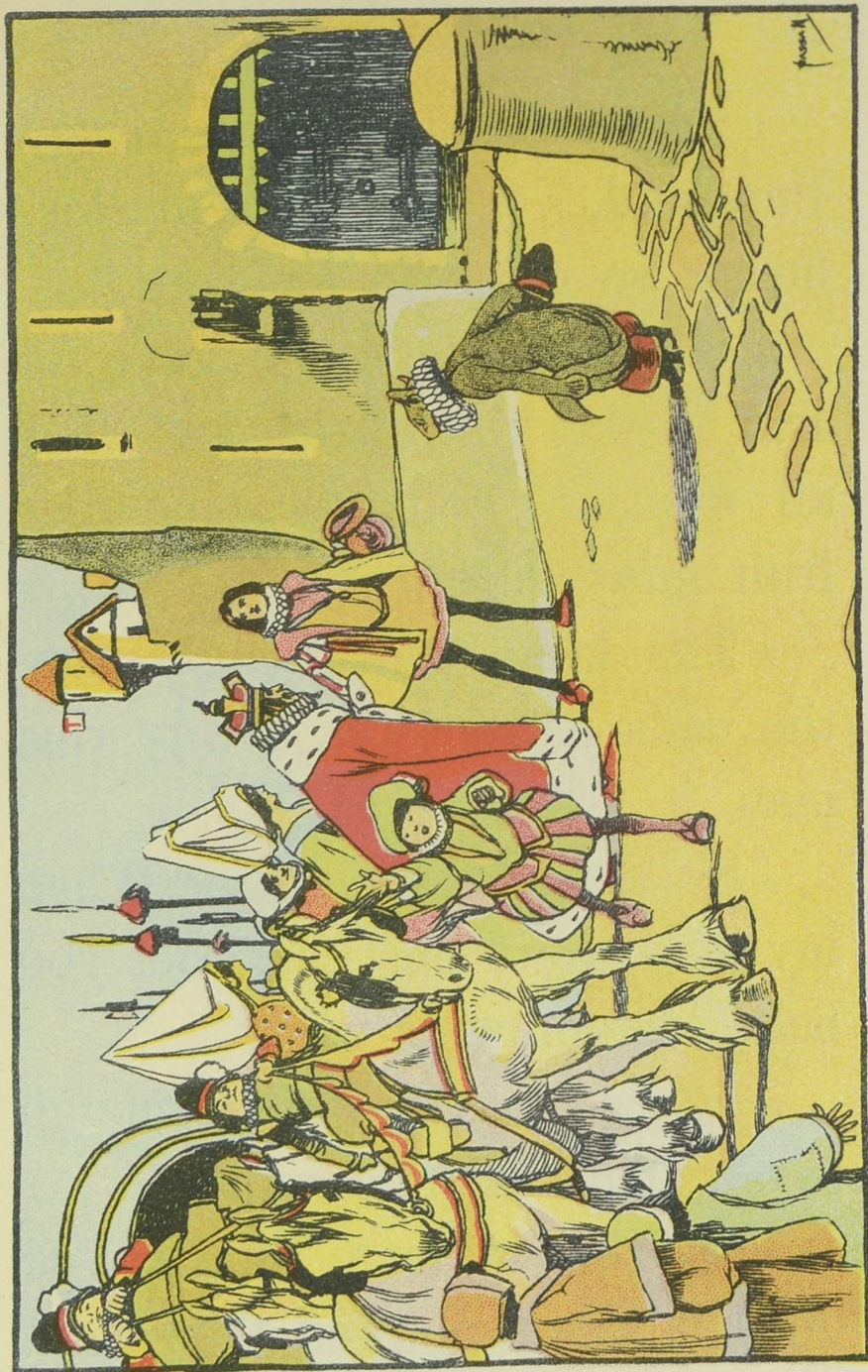
1. She did not come down again, until the lion was turned into the giant again.

2. "You are very great," said Puss; "but can you turn yourself into a little mouse."

3. "I will let you see," said the giant; and at once he became a mouse.

4. Puss sprang upon the mouse, and ate it up, before it had time to turn into a giant again.

5. Puss now went to the door of the house, to meet the king and his master, for she heard the sound of wheels.



"I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU, KING," PUSS SAID

1. "I am glad to see you, King," Puss said. "This is my master's house, so come in and rest."

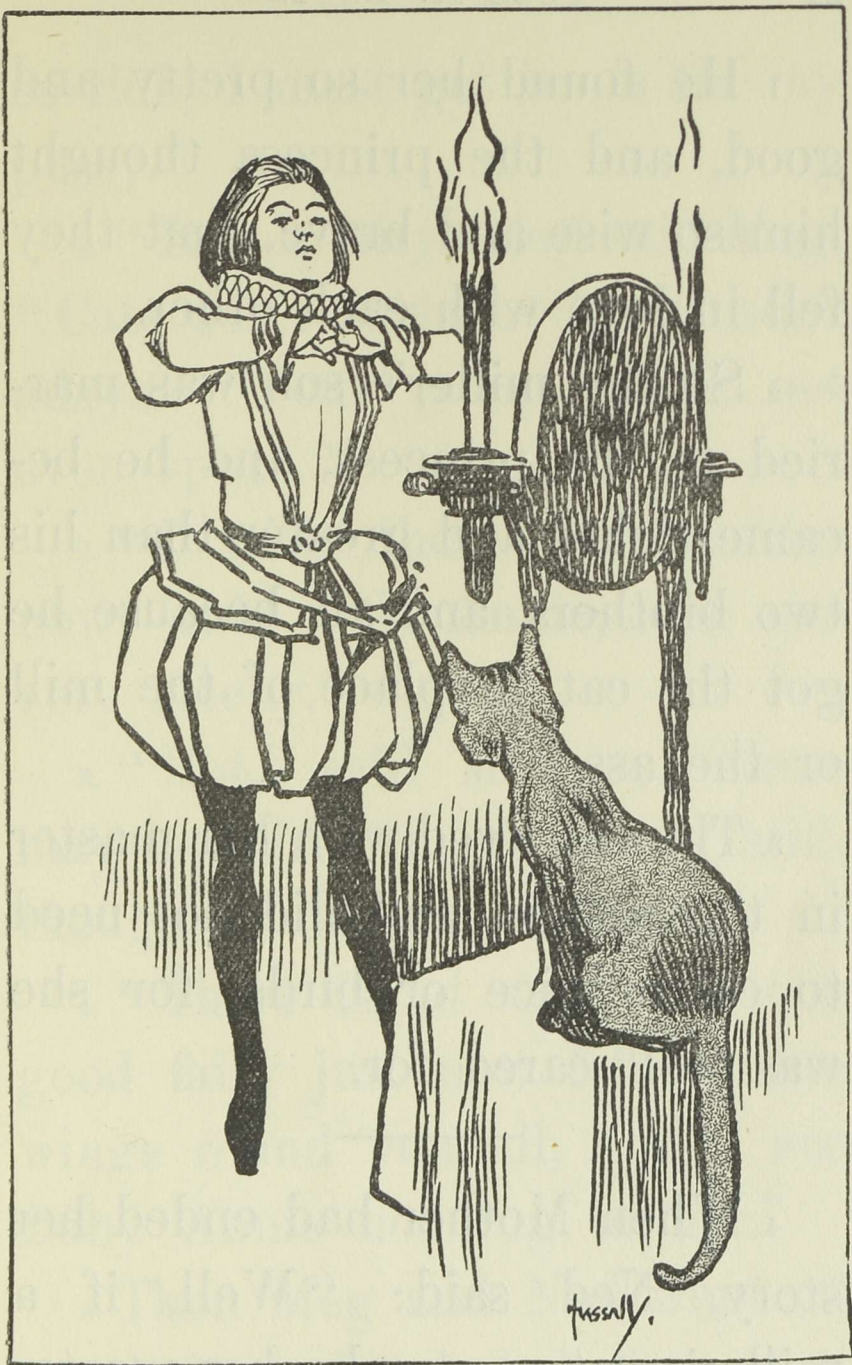
2. So the miller's son gave his arm to the king's girl, and they all went in, and ate some nice fruit and cakes.

3. The king now thought that the cat's master was a very rich man.

4. So he said to him: "When my girl grows up, I will let you have her for your wife."

5. "I see you are rich enough to give her all she wants."

6. So the miller's son waited until it was time, and then went to see his bride.



1. He found her so pretty and good, and the princess thought him so wise and brave, that they fell in love with each other.

2. So the miller's son was married to the princess, and he became richer and greater than his two brothers, and all because he got the cat in place of the mill or the ass.

3. The cat lived with her master in the palace, and did not need to catch mice or birds, for she was well cared for.

4. When Mother had ended her story, Ned said: "Well, if a miller's cat can make her master

so rich, I must get boots for my pussy."

1. "It is a fairy tale," said Meg. "Cats don't do such things nowadays. Your pussy could not even speak."

2. "I wish there were fairies now," said little Annie, who was very sleepy.

3. "But," said Mother, "there may be fairies in the world still, though we do not see them."

4. "There is, at any rate, one good fairy just now folding her wings round you all, and I see Baby Annie nodding to her."

5. Then Meg and Ned went off to their beds: but before they

went, they knelt at their mother's knees and said their prayers.

1. Mother then took Annie up, and sang in a low voice:

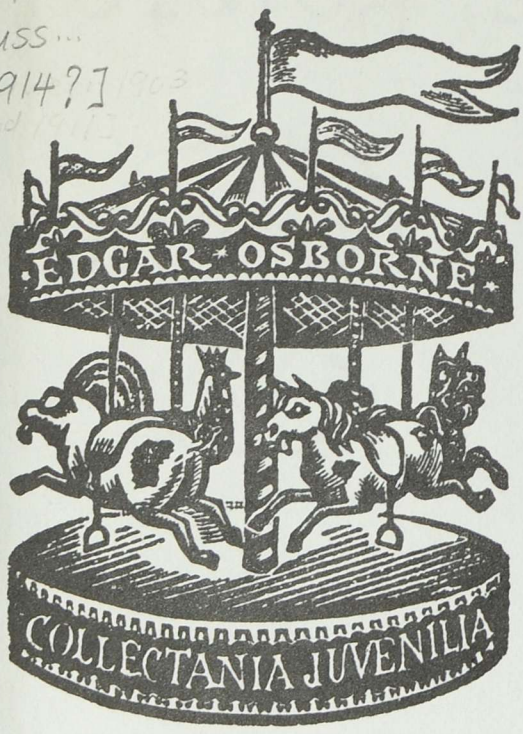
“Hush-a-bye, baby, on a tree top,
When the wind blows, the cradle will
 rock;
When the bough breaks, the cradle
 will fall;
Down will fall baby, and cradle and
 all.”

FT

dr

PUSS...

[1914?]



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