



# THE CATS' LOST BREAD



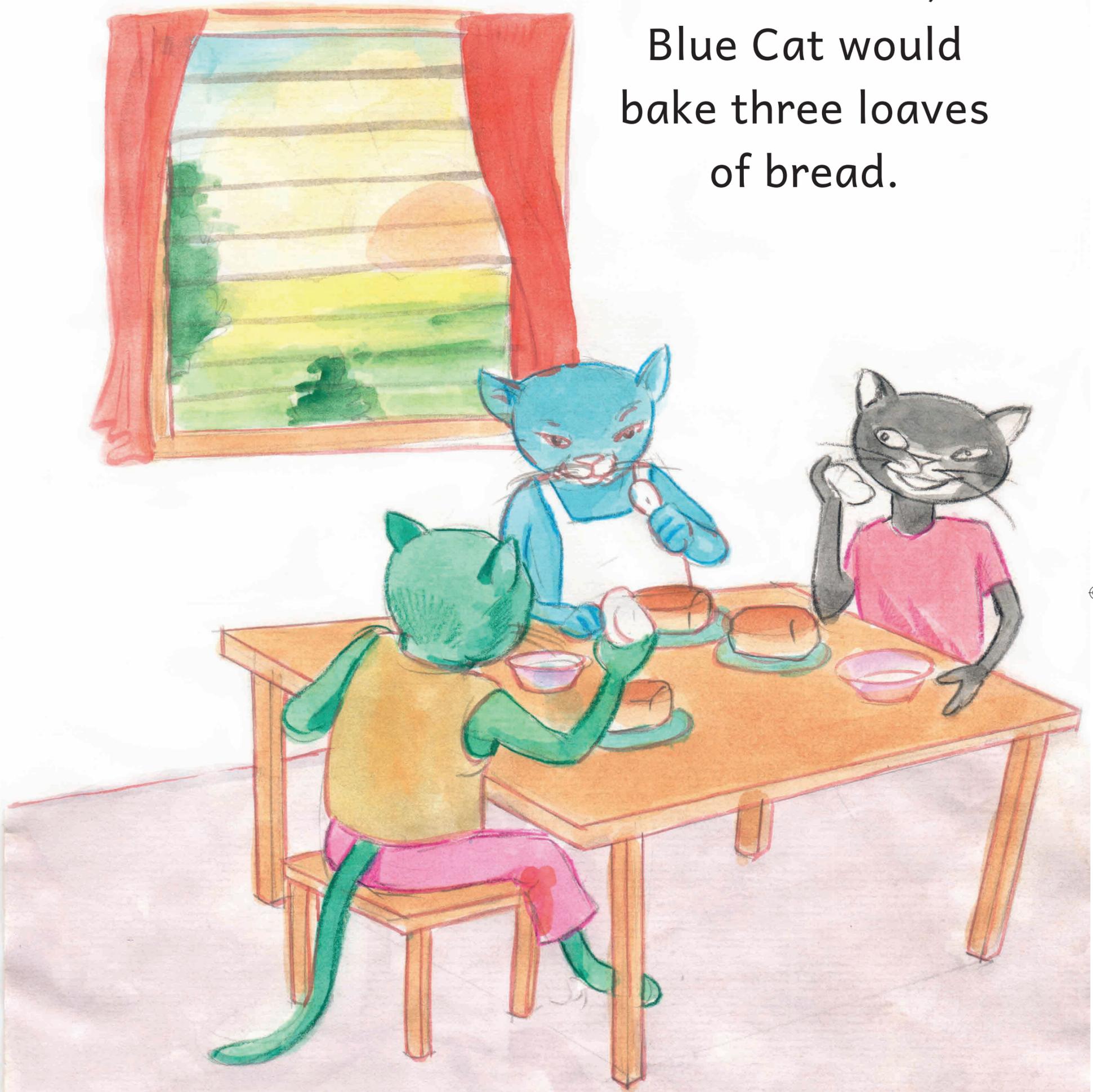
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Once upon a time, there were three cats who lived together in a house. Their names were Black Cat, Blue Cat, and Green Cat.



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 too much for dinner. They all fell asleep. Nobody guarded the bread.



The same thing happened the next night. Again, they decided to take turns guarding the bread. Again, they all fell asleep! This went on for a long time without catching the thief.





One day, Black Cat was cleaning and he saw a small hole under the bed. “Who dug this hole?” he asked.





“Come look!” he called to the other cats. “I think the thief comes in through this hole.”  
“We must catch him!” they cried together.

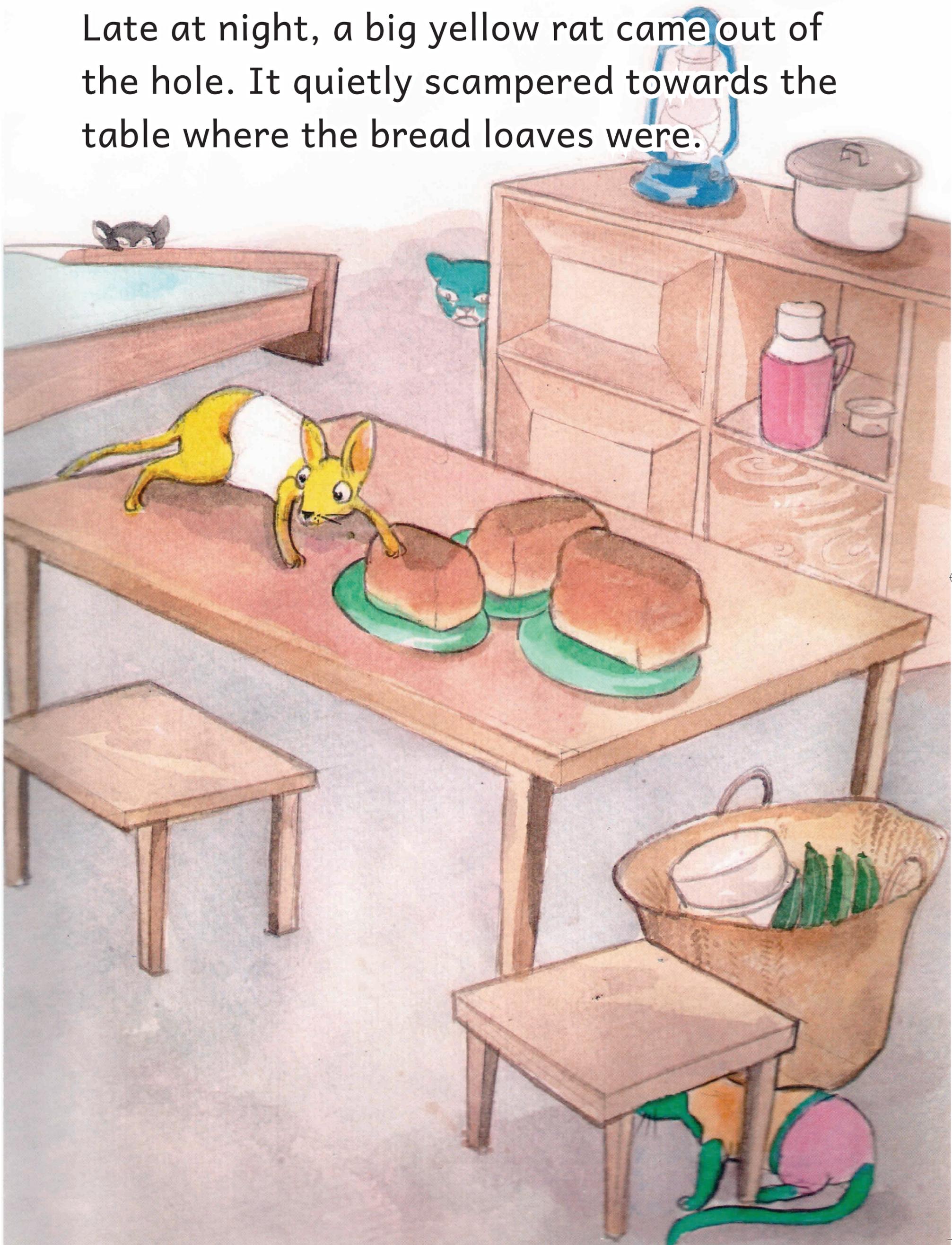




That evening, Blue Cat baked three loaves of bread. Then, all three cats hid inside the room.



Late at night, a big yellow rat came out of the hole. It quietly scampered towards the table where the bread loaves were.



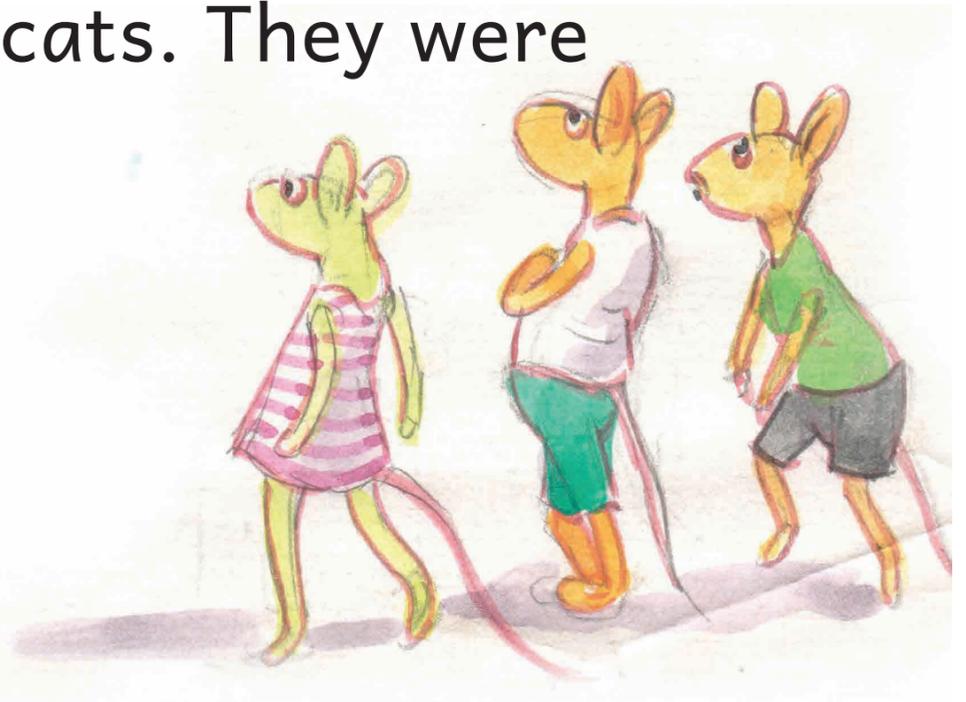


Just then, the cats jumped out of their hiding places. “CAUGHT YOU!” they yelled. “Give us back our bread!” They put the rat on the table and demanded an explanation. Its eyes widened with fear.





“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.

