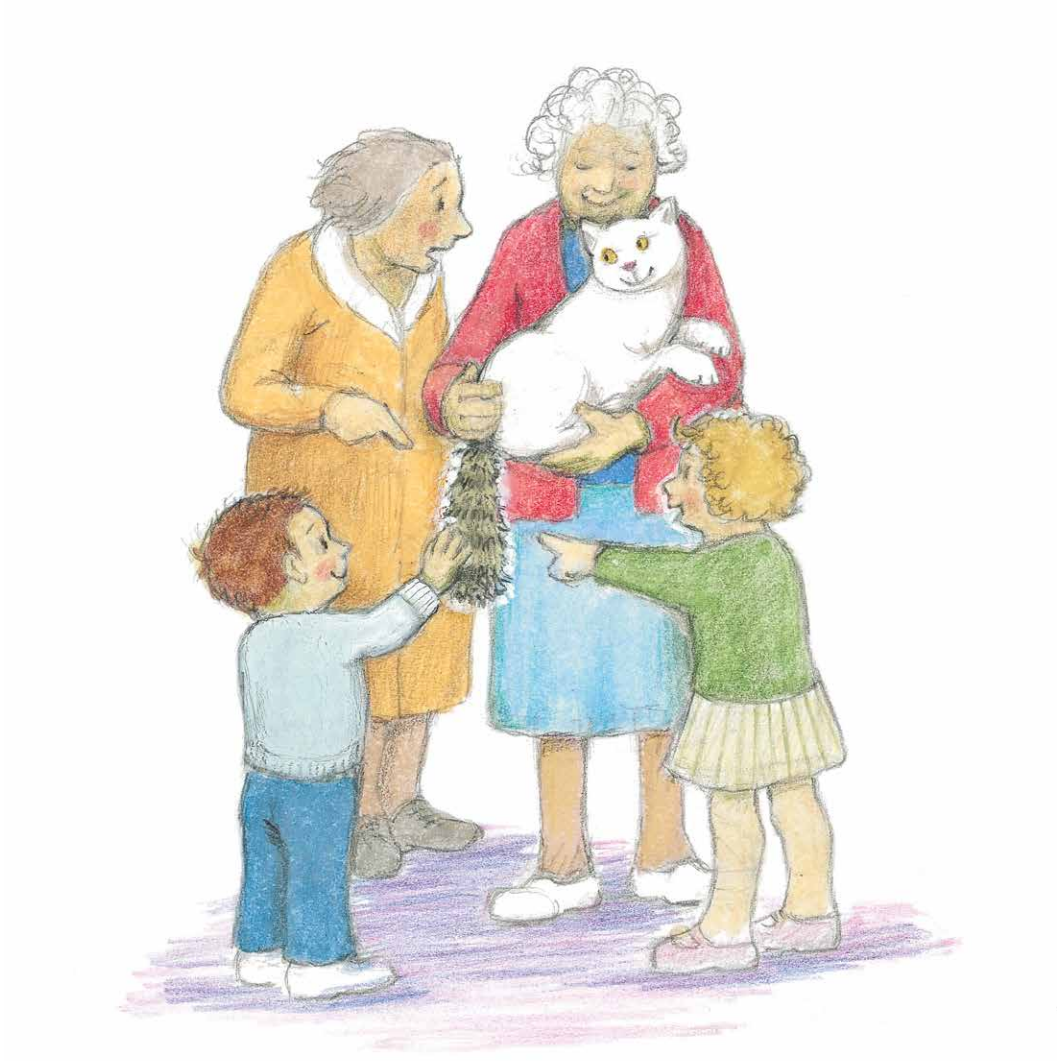
Katinka's Tail



Judith Kerr

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This is my cat Katinka.
She is a lovely, perfectly ordinary pussycat.

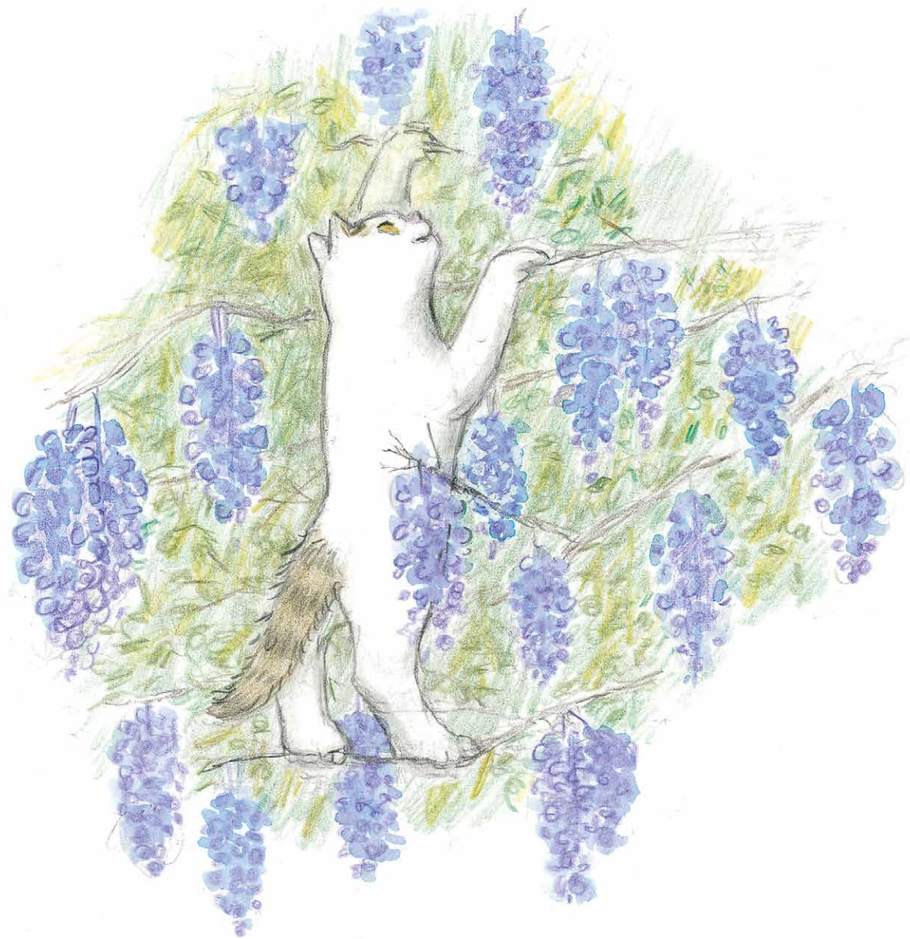
People always notice Katinka.

They say, “Look at that cat with the funny tail.”

Then some say, “That tail is really magic.”

Others say, “What a peculiar cat. Is she peculiar in other ways too?” This makes me very cross, and I say, “She’s just a lovely, perfectly ordinary pussycat.”

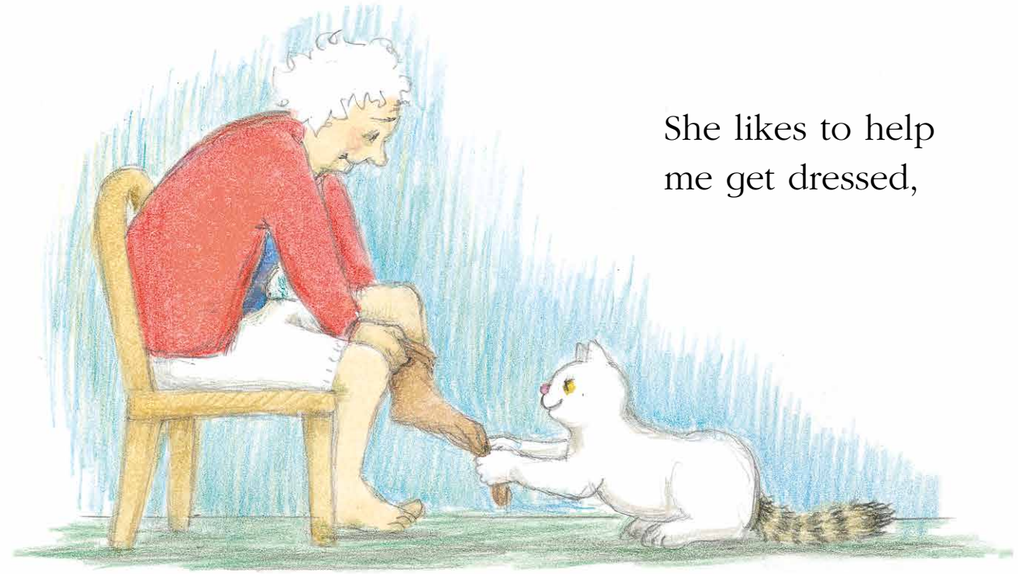
First thing every morning
Katinka climbs up the
creeper…



to my bedroom window…

and when I draw back the curtains, there she is!

Sometimes she has been playing in the woods, and she is a bit grubby. Then I give her a nice brush.



She likes to help me get dressed,

But she won't let me brush her tail.

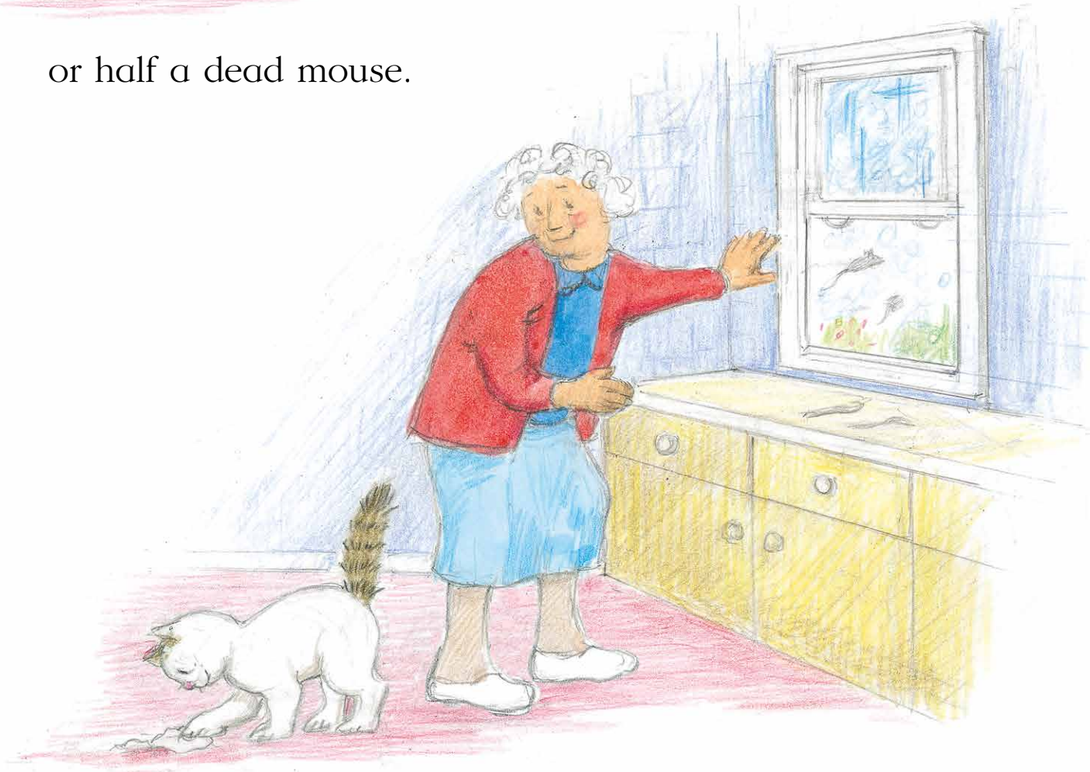
She knows that her tail is special.

and always checks my shoes for spiders.

Then we go down
to the kitchen.

or half a dead mouse.

Sometimes there is a dead
mouse on the floor…



I throw them out when Katinka isn't looking.