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Opening extract from

One Cool Cat

Written by

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Published by

Egmont Books Ltd

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Lovereading4kids.co.uk

First published in Great Britain 2008 by Egmont UK Limited, 239 Kensington High Street, London W8 6SA

ISBN 978 14052 XXXX X (Hardback) ISBN 978 14052 XXXX X (Paperback)

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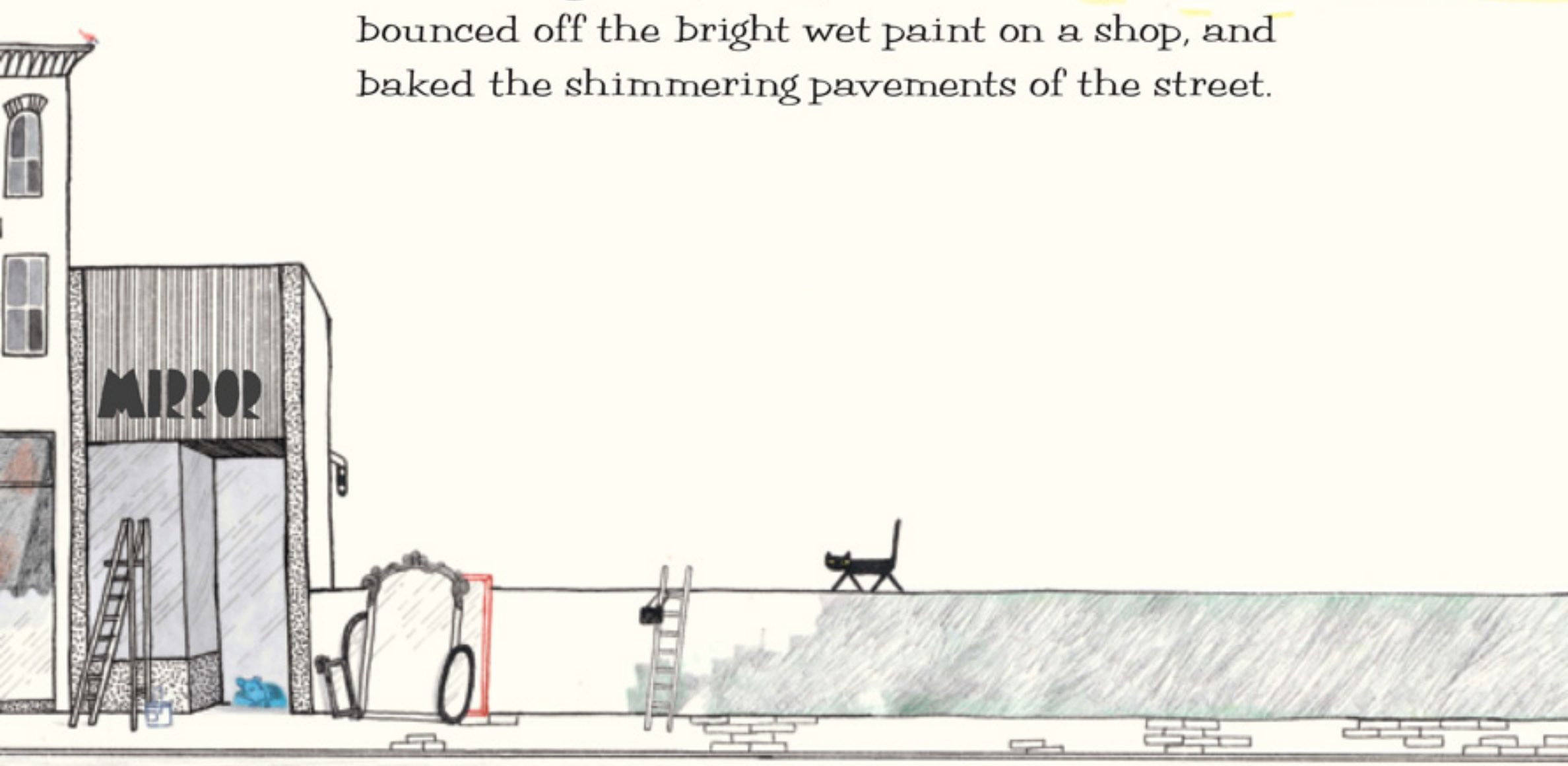
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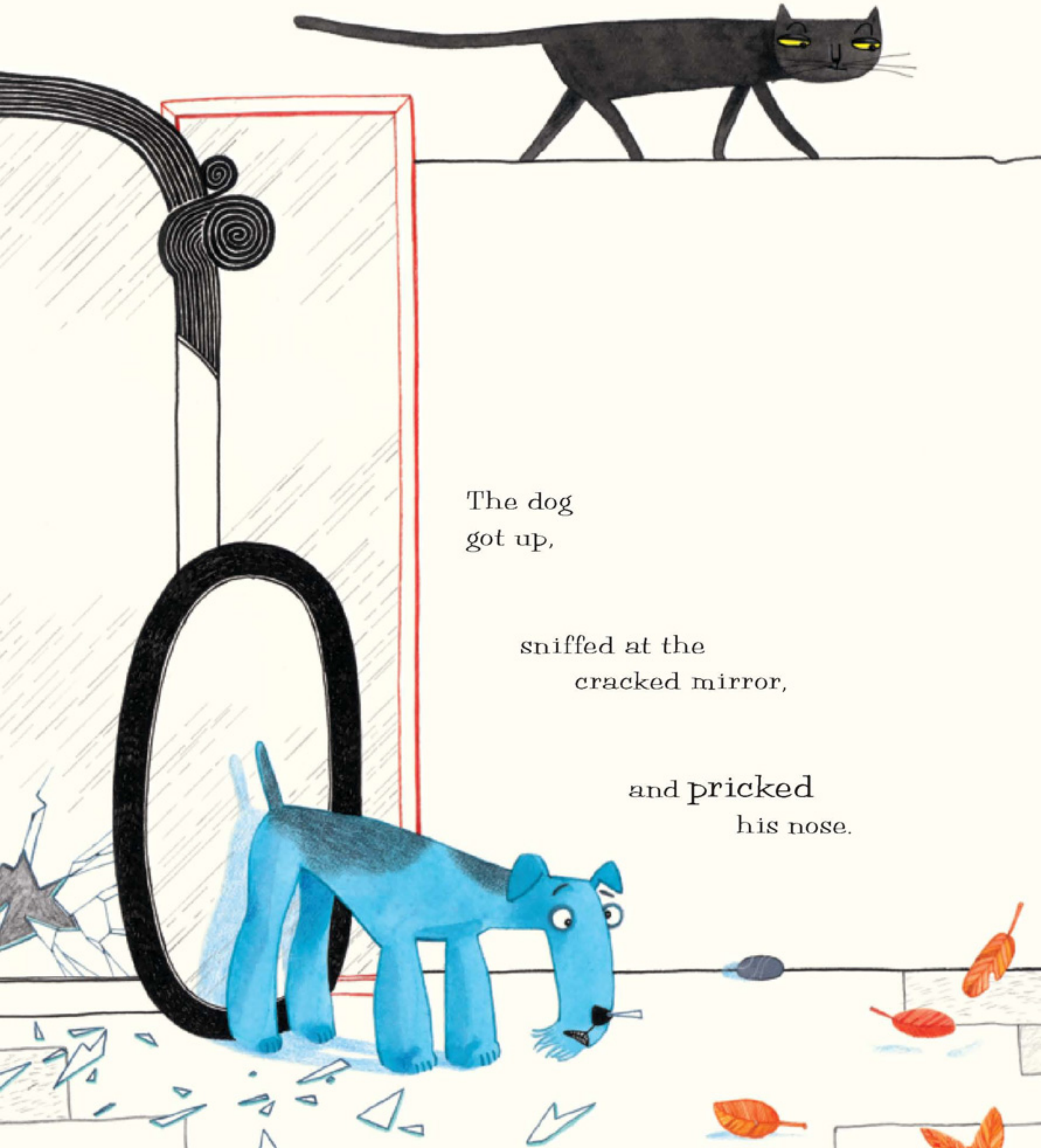
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For Dan, Lily and Elena S.C. *To Mr and Mrs Roberts-Maloney D.R.*

On a long, hot, lazy afternoon, the sun bounced off the bright wet paint on a shop, and baked the shimmering pavements of the street.





The dog
got up,

sniffed at the
cracked mirror,

and pricked
his nose.

The black cat padded
along the wall.

The white cat went to
play with some leaves
skitting in a breeze
at the foot of the ladder.

They watched
each other
for a while,

as only cats can.



"Don't go under it,"
said the black cat.
"Terrible
bad luck
if you go under
a ladder,
something could
fall on you."

"Oh pur-lees,"
smirked the white cat,
as he rubbed his cheeks
on the ladder's
smooth wood.
"Use your brain.
I'm nowhere near it.

Look pal,
when you're this smart,
you don't need luck!"