

BEAR



**B**e sure to keep your cat safe!

**E**very cat loves to play pounce and catch.

**A**lways make sure your cat has plenty of food and water.

**R**emember: Your cat depends on you for everything!!



MEOW

# Bear's Story

Bear, the kitten, was six weeks old and living in the animal shelter. His mom and four other brothers and sisters were brought in by someone who didn't want to keep them and find them homes. Lots of people came to look at the little balls of gray and white fur. His brothers and sisters would all crawl up to the front of the cage and meow, "pick me, take me home!" But not Bear, he was very shy.

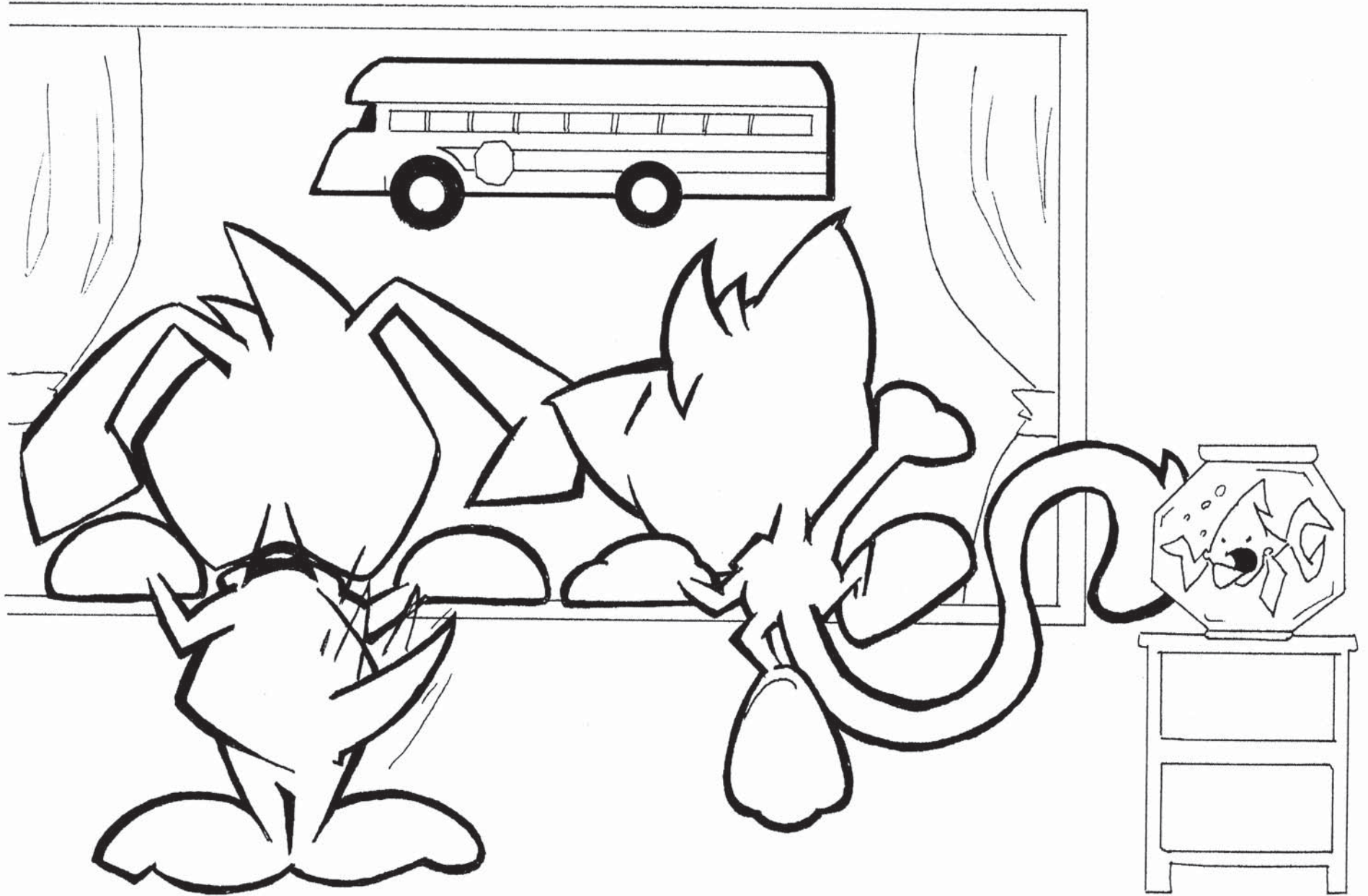
One day, Cindy and Craig came to the shelter. Their special cat had died and they were very sad and lonely without him. They wanted another little cat friend to care for. They looked at all the cats at the shelter. So many beautiful cats to choose from! They saw Bear and his family and loved all the cute little kittens that came to the front of the cage for attention. It was so hard to decide. Craig said, "let's go home and think about all the kitties we've seen today. We want to pick just the perfect one."

Several days passed and, one by one, Bear's brothers and sisters went to new homes. Even his mom found a home. Bear was left behind, all alone.

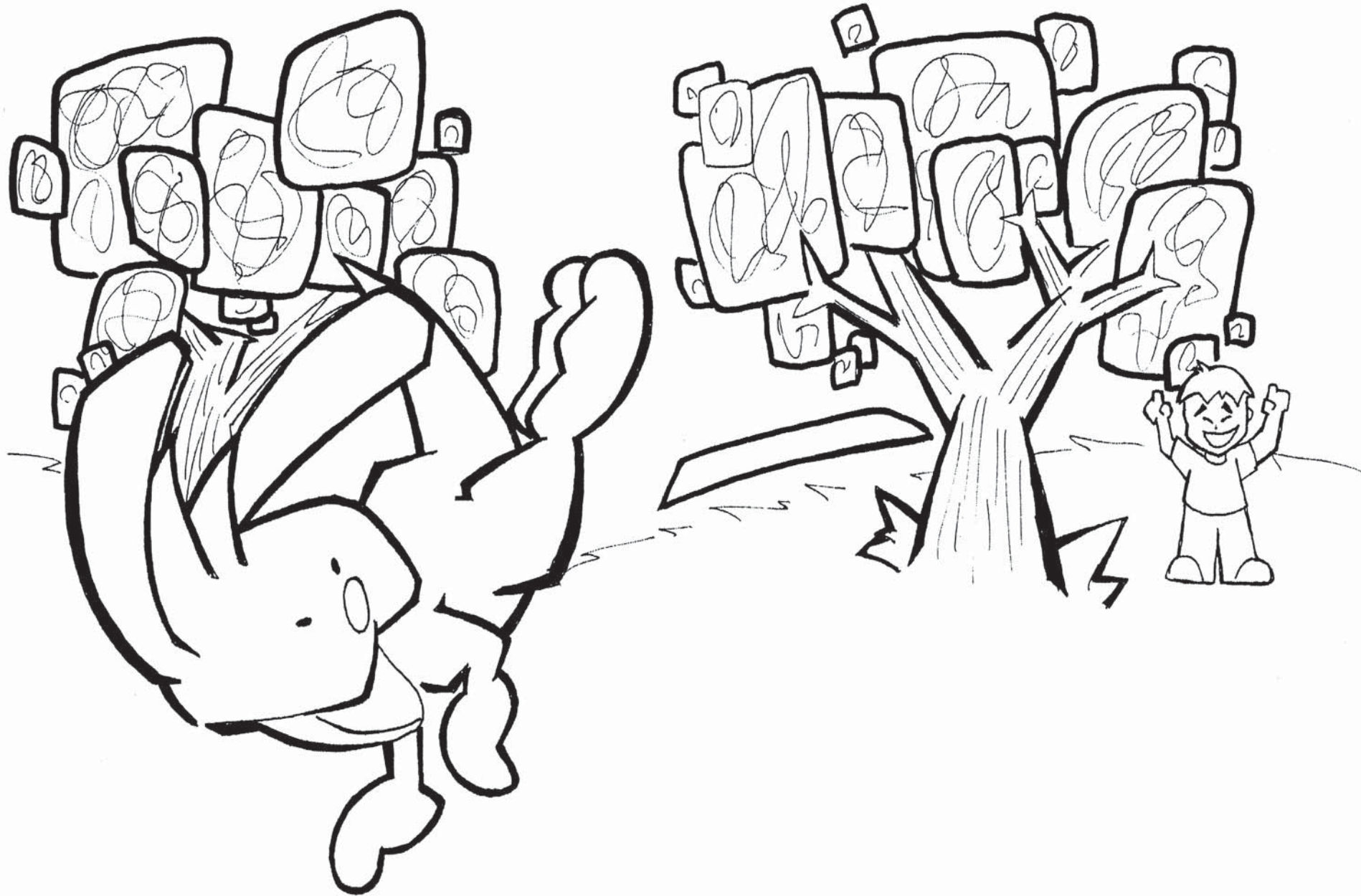
But then Cindy and Craig returned to the shelter. They had decided to adopt one of the little gray and white kittens. "Oh, dear," said Cindy, "they're all gone except for that little shy one. What should we do?" Bear looked up and saw Cindy and Craig looking into the cage. He got all his courage together and gave a big "meow" and walked towards them! "Look," said Craig, "I think he wants us to take him home!" And that is exactly what they did.

Bear's new home scared him at first, but he quickly learned to trust Cindy and Craig. He felt safe with them. They played with him and gave him yummy treats of cooked turkey, his favorite! As you can see, he has grown up to be a big, strong boy. He loves Cindy and Craig because they protect him and love him! He's a member of their family.

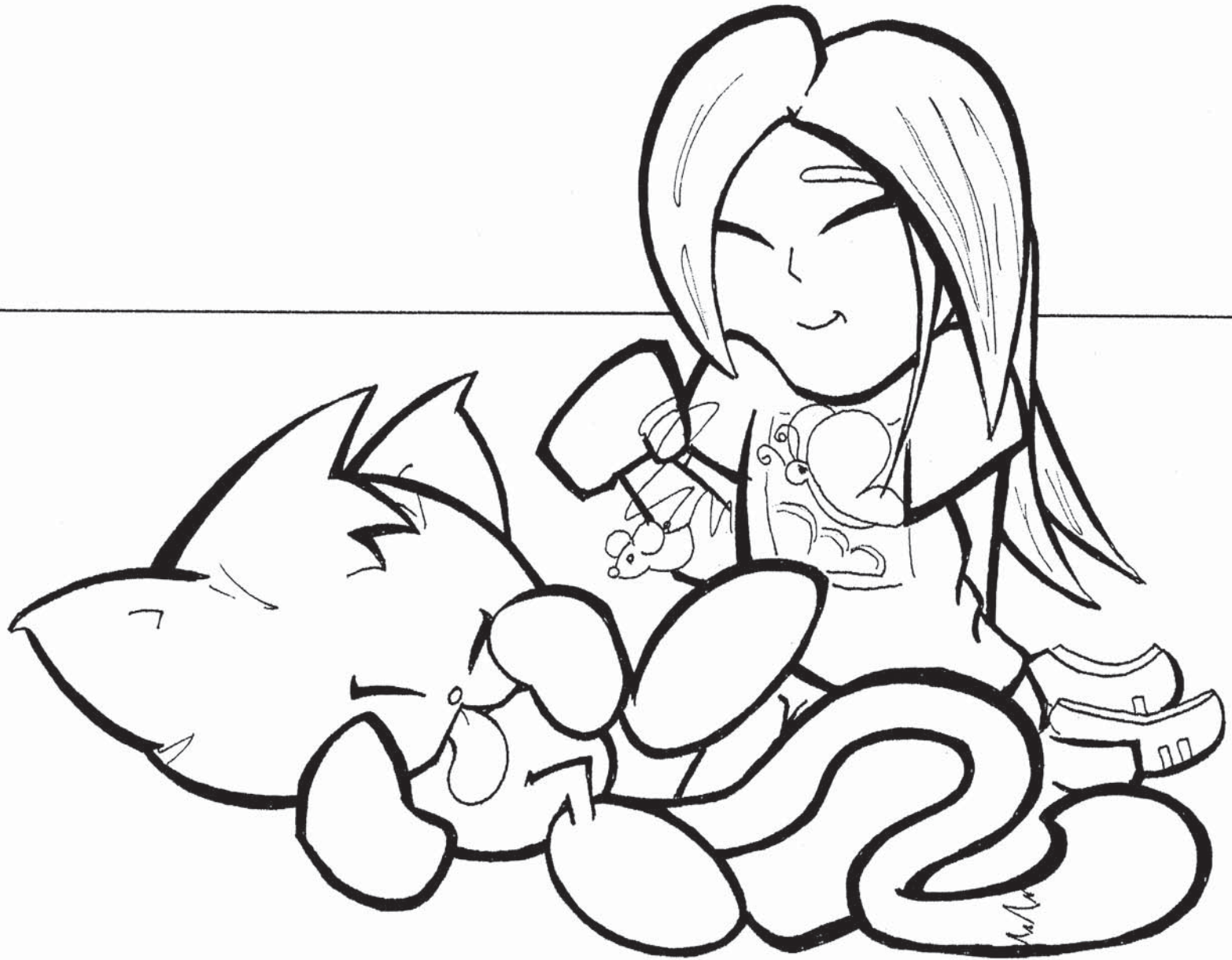
Bear hopes you enjoy his coloring book. His friends, Smitten the Kitten and Rascal the Pup, help him explain how to care for our dog and cat friends.



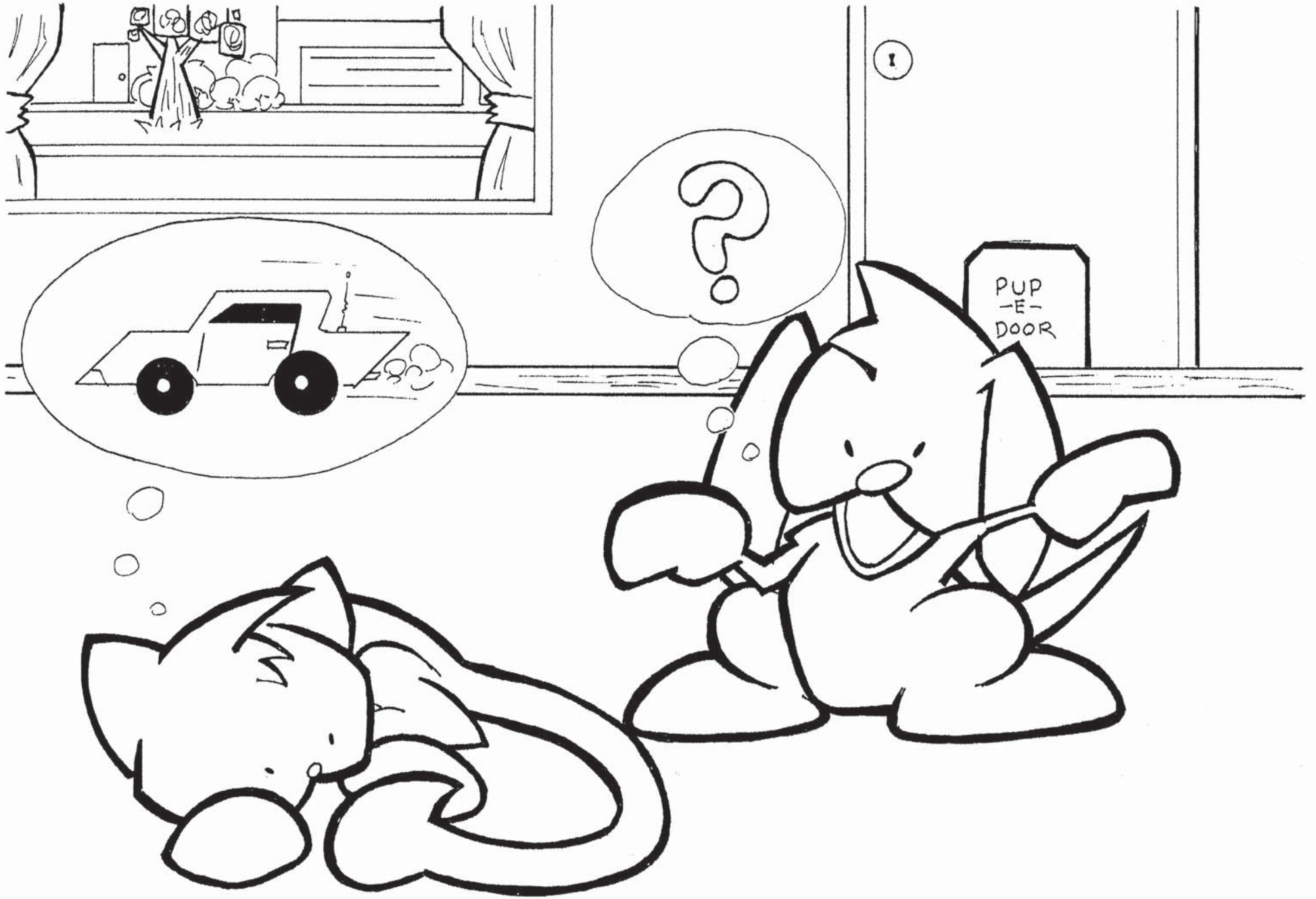
"It's time for school to be over Rascal," said Smitten.  
"Time for Amanda and David to play with us!" said Rascal.



When David came home he and Rascal played frisbee outside.



When Amanda came home she and Smitten played inside with his cat toys.



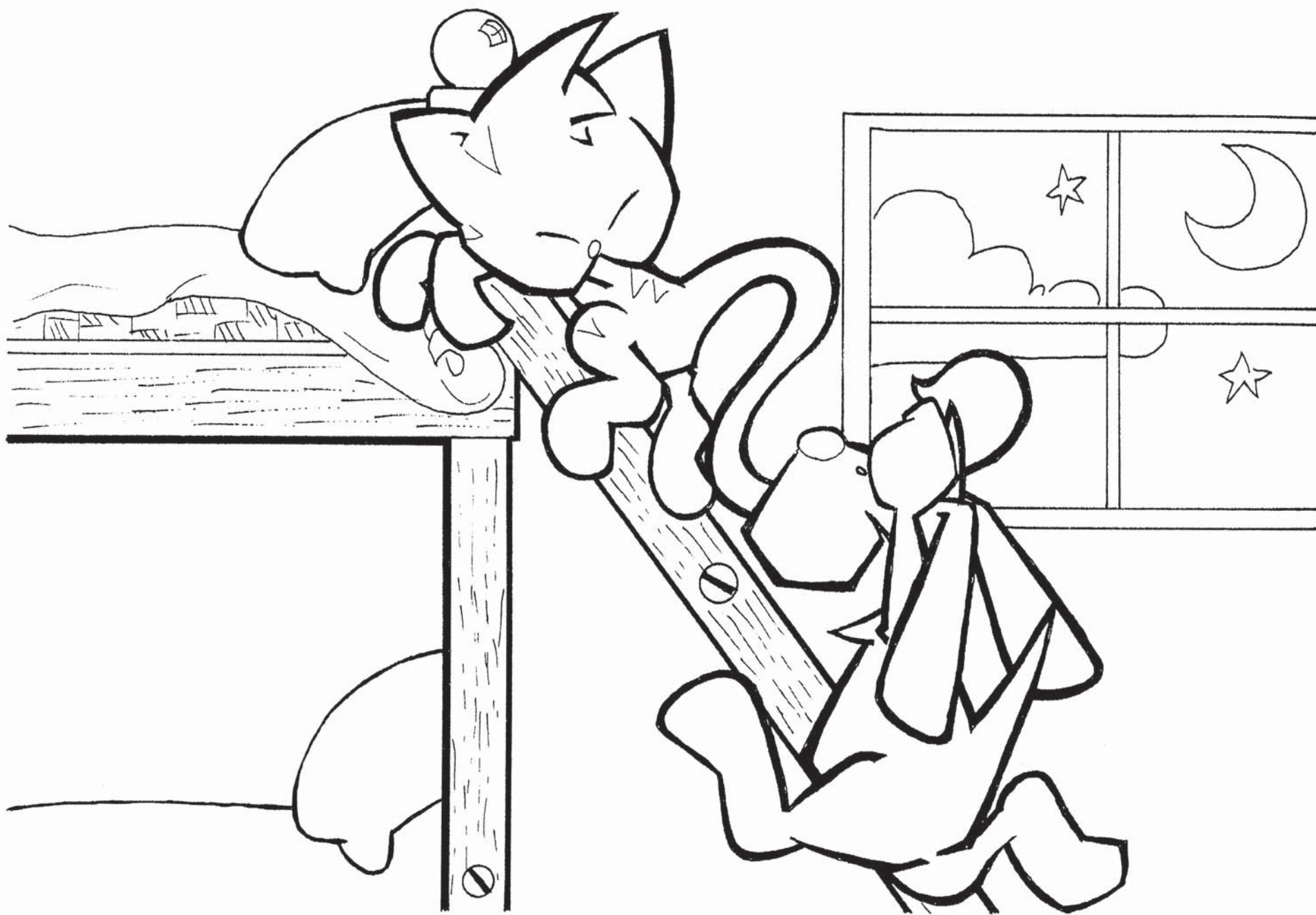
"Whew! That was fun! Say Smitten, do you get tired of staying in the house?" said Rascal.  
"No, I'm much safer here, though I know you'd try to protect me. There are too many cars out there!" said Smitten.



"I'm also safe from those dogs who aren't on a leash or kept in their yards," said Smitten.



"We're very lucky, Rascal," Smitten said.  
"We sure are!" Rascal said.



"Smitten, can you take the top bunk, again?"

Story by Vickie Fisher  
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