

6E

Sunrise Fairy Tales

# Puss In Boots







Once there was a miller who had three sons. Before his death, he wanted to divide his property among them. So he called them to take all that had remained with him - a mill, a donkey and a cat. The eldest son took the mill, the second took the donkey, and the third was left with the cat.



The poor youngest son sat down and thought of what he should do for a living because the eldest son had the mill to become a rich man. The second may get employment from his elder brother, who would require a beast of burden to carry sacks of corn to the mill and then to take the sacks of flour to the customers. "As for me, when I have killed my cat and made a cap of fur, I shall have disposed of all my property and must die of hunger," said the youngest son to himself. The cat who was listening to his master came forward and said, "Dear master, don't be so worried. Give me a pair of boots and a sack, and you will come to know that you have a better bargain than your brothers."

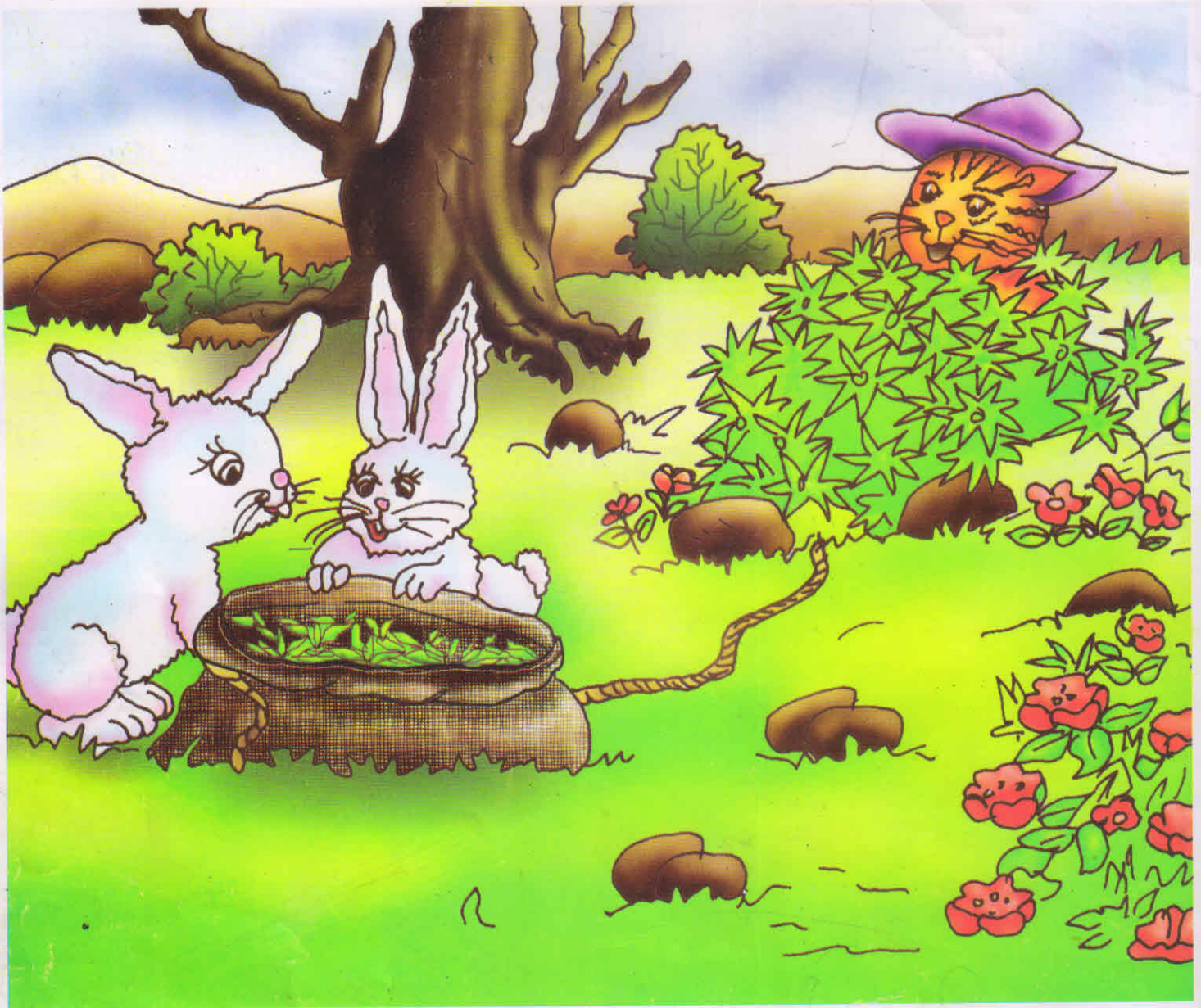




The miller's son was surprised to find that a cat could talk. He thought it is best to see what Puss would do for him. So with the little money he had, he bought a pair of leather boots and a sack. Next day, Puss got up early in the morning and pulled on his fine new boots. He put some leaves and grass into the sack and hanged it around his neck. He crept to a rabbit-warren, taking care no bunnies could see him.







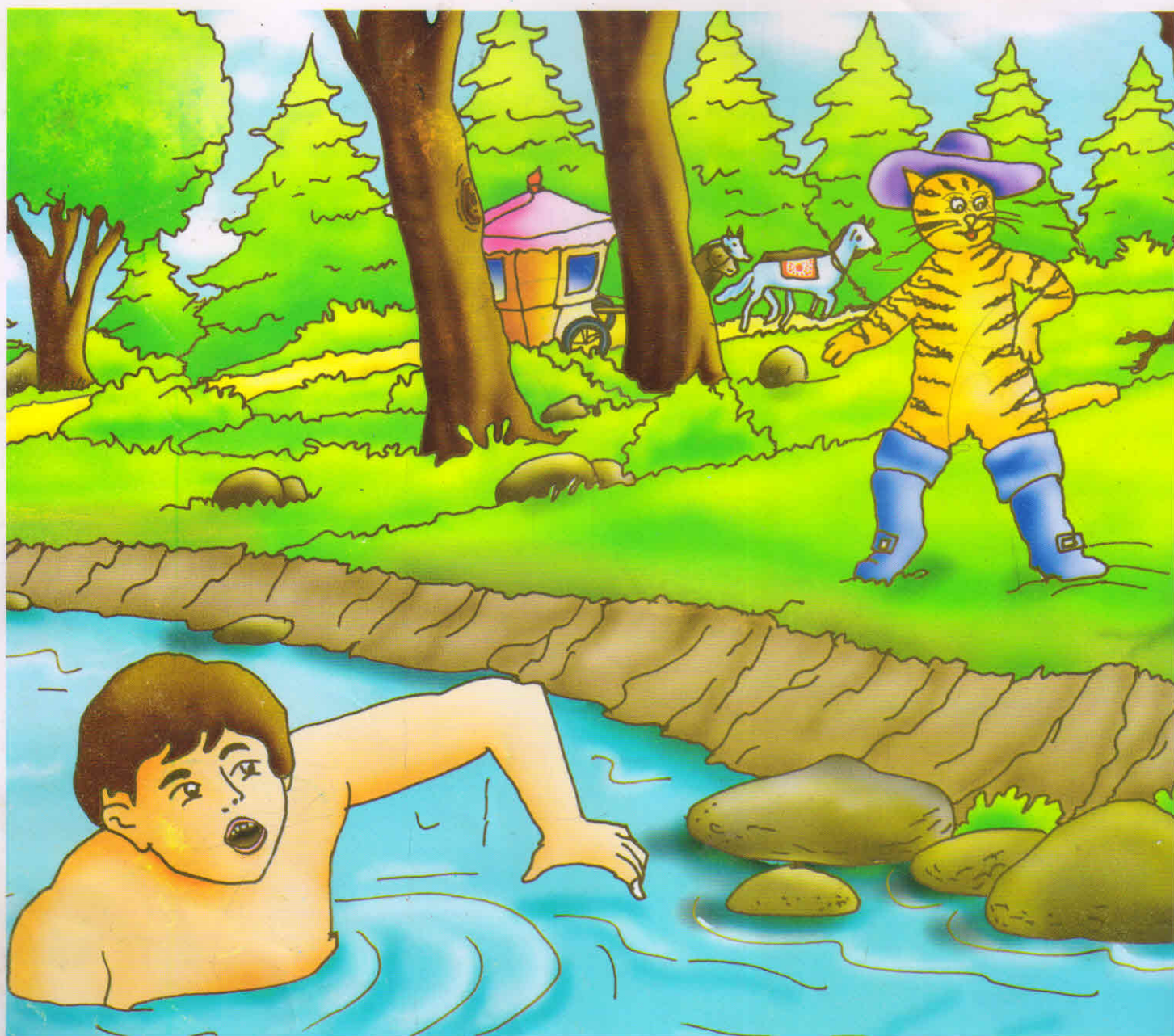
Puss in boots opened the sack with the loose string in his hand, and stretched himself under a bush and pretended to be fast asleep. Soon a couple of bunnies came hopping up and nibbled the leaves cheerfully. As the bunnies entered the sack to nibble the grass, Puss at once pulled the string. The poor bunnies were caught in the sack. The bunnies kicked to be let out, but in vain. Puss without losing time killed the bunnies and hanged the sack on his shoulder. He reached the King's palace.



Puss walked into the King's room and waving his tail said, "My master, the Lord Marquis of Carabas, humbly sends his small present to your Majesty." The King had never heard of the Marquis of Carabas, but he answered, "Tell Your Lord Marquis that I accepted his present with his pleasure." When Puss saw that the King was pleased with the present, he continued to bring a present such as partridges and hares to the King everyday.







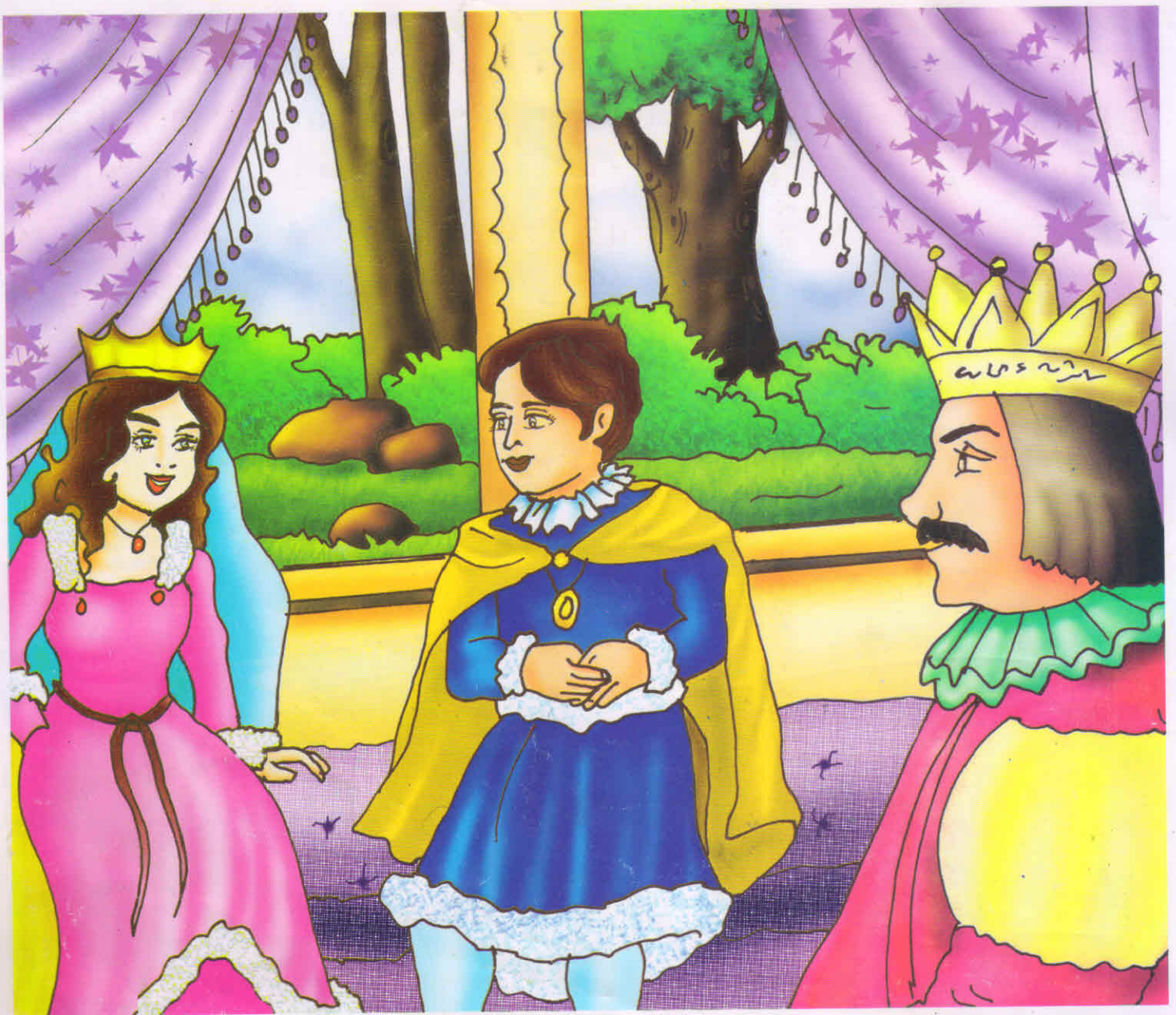
The King began to feel very friendly towards Puss, and he ordered that Puss should be given something to eat and drink whenever he called. One day Puss heard that the King was going to take a drive by the riverside with his beautiful daughter. He rushed to his master and said, "Come with me to the riverside. Today is a lucky day for you. Bathe in the river and leave the rest to me!" As the miller's son was bathing, the King came by with his daughter.



Seeing the royal carriage of the King, Puss cried in a loud voice, "Help! Help! Help! My master is drowning." The King peeped through the carriage window to know what the matter was. He saw the same cat, who brought him many presents, was crying for help. He ordered his guards to help the cat to save his master, the Lord Marquis of Carabas. "Thank you, your Majesty," said Puss, "Someone has stolen my master's clothes and he is shivering with cold." "Oh," said the King, and ordered his guards to bring a suit from his own wardrobe.







The miller's son was looking handsome in his new garments. He thanked the King for his kindness. The King invited the miller's son to come into the carriage. The young man stepped into the carriage and sat beside the beautiful Princess. The Princess was pleased to see such a handsome man sitting beside her. Puss wanted his master to be a rich man. He thought for a moment and ran across the fields by a short cut. He soon got a long way in advance of the royal party.



Puss reached a wheat-field where reapers were reaping grains. "The King is coming this way," said Puss, "When the King asks, say that this field belongs to the Marquis of Carabas. If you do not say this, I will have to cut you into pieces. " The reapers were so frightened that they promised to do as they were told. As planned, the royal carriage reached the wheat field. The King stopped his royal carriage and asked, "To whom does this fine wheat-field belong?" The reapers replied, "To the Marquis of Carabas, your Majesty."







The King was very much impressed with the Marquis of Carabas and said, "You have a fine crop of wheat, my Lord Marquis. I am rather a good judge of wheat." The Princess also was fast falling in love with him. The fields really belonged to an Ogre, who was a giant and a great magician. Puss had heard about the Ogre and his magic. He wanted a palace for his master, the Marquis of Carabas, so he made a plan and set off to the Ogre's castle. He knocked at the castle door. The Ogre himself came to open the door and invited Puss to come inside.

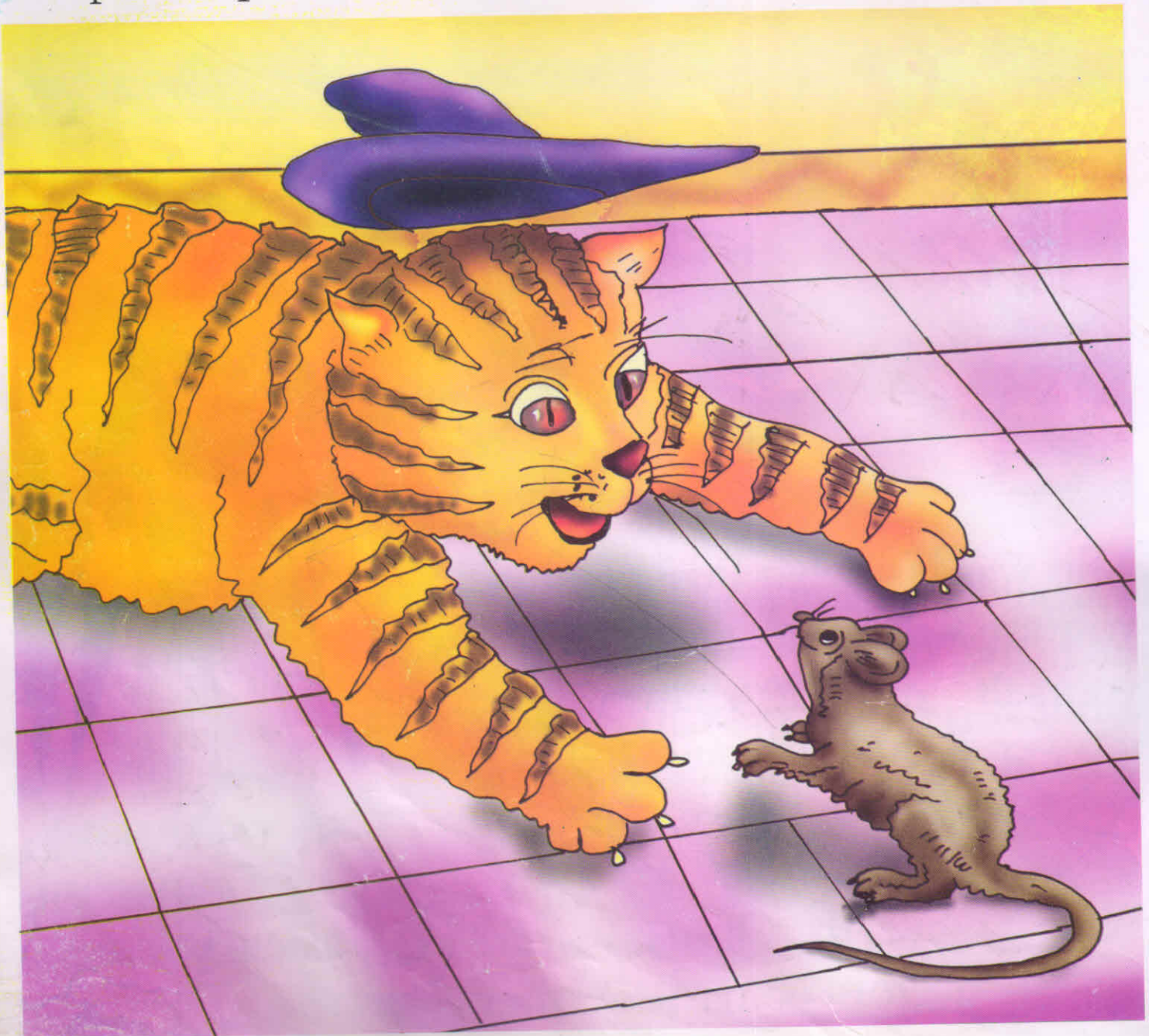




This was just what Puss wanted. "Sir, I have heard that you are a great magician and are able to transform yourself into the shape of any animal." "Indeed," answered the Ogre and transformed himself into the shape of a lion. Puss was astonished to see that and with terror scrambled up on to the top of a cupboard. After a while, the Ogre transformed himself back into his original form and Puss came down too.



"Really, I have seen what I have heard about you," said Puss. But I have also heard that it is very difficult for you to transform yourself into a tiny creature such as a mouse." The Ogre laughed very loudly and within a second he changed himself into a mouse, who was leaping about the room. This was the moment Puss was waiting for. He instantly caught the mouse and with his sharp teeth put an end to the Ogre.







Puss ran to the door when the royal carriage appeared in front of the castle. "Welcome, your Majesty," said Puss. "If your Majesty and the Princess will be pleased to take some refreshment, this will be a great day for my master, the Lord Marquis of Carabas." The King and the Princess entered the castle. A party was held in honour of the King. The King declared that the Princess and the Marquis of Carabas loved each other. So they should get married.



The King commanded Lord Marquis to give the Princess his hand and conduct her into his dwelling. The Princess raised no objection to the proposal of her father because she had already made up her mind to live with the Marquis of Carabas. The Marquis of Carabas thanked the King and the Princess for not objecting to his offer. Puss was so happy that he kicked his hind legs in the air with joy. The Marquis of Carabas lived with the Princess and made a good husband. Puss gave up running after the mice except for his own amusement.

