



THE BLACK CAT

ONE BEAUTIFUL SUMMER MORNING, SOOT THE CAT, WENT INTO THE FOREST. SHE SOON MET A GREY DOG, "OH NO! A BLACK CAT CROSSED MY PATH! I HAVE BAD LUCK NOW!" WITHOUT WARNING, THE DOG RAN RIGHT PAST SOOT WITHOUT SAYING HELLO. "WAIT!", MEOWED SOOT. "THAT'S A SUPERSTITION!" THE DOG DID NOT STOP TO LISTEN AND KEPT RUNNING. ANYWAYS, SOOT CONTINUED WALKING THROUGH THE PATH TO GET BACK HOME.

IT WAS SUNSET BY THE TIME, WHEN SOOT CAME ACROSS A LITTLE BOY WHO OWNED THE GREY DOG. "AHH!", SCREAMED THE BOY. "A BLACK CAT!" HE RAN AS FAST AS HE COULD. SOOT TRIED TO STOP HIM AND TELL HIM THAT IT WAS JUST A SUPERSTITION, BUT IT WAS TOO LATE AND SHE HAD TO GET HOME SOON.

SOOT WENT INSIDE TO HER MISTRESS'S ROOM. SALLY WAS IN BED, SO IT MUST HAVE BEEN BEDTIME. SO SHE JUMPED IN HER BED AND CURLED UP. SOON SHE FELL ASLEEP TOO. MEANWHILE THE GREY DOG, CALLED LUCKY, THOUGHT ABOUT HOW HE HAD TREATED THE CAT "IT IS A SUPERSTITION. WHY DIDN'T I LISTEN TO THAT CAT?", HE ASKED HIMSELF.

SOOT WAS HAVING A NIGHTMARE ABOUT DOGS. "SUPERSTITIONS OR NOT, YOU'RE A BLACK CAT! YOU ARE BAD LUCK!", YELLED THE DOGS. SHE QUICKLY WOKE UP AND DID NOT GO BACK TO SLEEP.

WHEN IT WAS MORNING, SOOT DECIDED TO GO TO THE BIG CITY. AS SHE WAS WALKING ALONG, A CAR CAME UP. IT STOPPED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD. "AHHH", THE DRIVER SCREAMED. "BAD LUCK! BAD LUCK!" THEN HE DROVE AWAY WITHOUT GETTING OUT TO PET POOR LITTLE SOOT. SO SHE JUST CONTINUED HER WAY. SOOT WASN'T VERY HAPPY THAT PEOPLE KEPT THINKING SHE WAS BAD LUCK. LITTLE DID SHE KNOW THAT THE DOG THAT CROSSED HER PATH YESTERDAY, KNEW IT WAS A SUPERSTITION. HE WAS JUST FOLLOWING WHAT HIS OWNER DID.

SOOT SOON CAME UP TO THE FLUFFYVILLE POLICE STATION. A POLICE GUARD STOOD OUTSIDE THE BUILDING. SOOT RUBBED UP AGAINST THE POLICE OFFICER, BUT EVEN THE POLICE THOUGHT SHE WAS BAD LUCK!

POOR SOOT WALKED AWAY. SO INSTEAD OF EXPLORING THE CITY INSIDE OUT, SHE STRUTTED HOME IN DISGUST BECAUSE EVERYONE IN FLUFFYVILLE WAS TORMENTING HER.

AS SHE WAS WALKING HOME, SHE MET UP WITH THE DOG SHE HAD SEEN YESTERDAY. "I'M SORRY FOR BEING SO MEAN TO YOU YESTERDAY. CAN WE BE FRIENDS?", ASKED THE DOG. "SURE, AS LONG AS YOU MEAN IT", REPLIED SOOT. "WHAT'S YOUR NAME?" "MY NAME IS LUCKY. WHAT'S YOURS?" "SOOT", SAID THE CAT. SO, SNEAKING AWAY FROM



HIS OWNER, LUCKY JOINED SOOT ON HER WAY HOME. "WE HAVE A SPARE BED IN THE SHED", SAID SOOT. "I'LL CONVINCED MY OWNERS TO LET YOU STAY, THEN THEY WILL MAKE A ROOM FOR US AND PUT THE BEDS IN IT."

THE ROOM WAS FANTASTIC. THEY BOTH LAY DOWN AND SLEPT THE WHOLE NIGHT THROUGH. THIS TIME, SOOT DID NOT HAVE ANY NIGHTMARES SINCE SHE HAD A NEW FRIEND. SHE HOPED SHE COULD MAKE MORE NEW FRIENDS TOMORROW. MAYBE SHE COULD MAKE A DEER FRIEND! OR SHE COULD MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE NEIGHBOUR'S CAT, LANA.

NEXT MORNING, WHEN SOOT AND LUCKY WENT INTO THE KITCHEN, THEY REALIZED HER OWNERS HAD SUITCASES. "WE'RE GOING ON VACATION, SOOT!", EXCLAIMED SALLY "YOU TOO, LUCKY!" THEN THE FOUR HEADED OUTSIDE, GOT INTO THE CAR AND HEADED TO THE AIRPORT. "WHAT'S AN AIRPORT?", SOOT ASKED. "IT'S A PLACE WHERE YOU GET ON A PLANE TO GO SOMEWHERE. I HATE FLYING", REPLIED LUCKY. "IS IT SCARY?", SHE ASKED. "ONLY IF YOU GET INTO SOME TURBULENCE OR IN A STORM." THIS MADE SOOT WORRY.

WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE AIRPORT, THE LADY TOLD THEM, "I'LL TAKE YOUR LUGGAGE. YOUR FLIGHT NUMBER IS 12390." SOOT WAS SCARED. SHE WONDERED IF SHE'D EVER COME BACK HOME AGAIN. "COME ON EVERYONE. LET'S GO TO THE WAITING SEATS", CALLED SALLY'S DAD. LUCKY BARKED IN FEAR AND SOOT MEOWED IN FEAR. SOOT TRIED TO REMIND HERSELF IT WAS SAFE, BUT SHE ENDED UP STILL BEING SCARED.

"FLIGHT NUMBER 12390, YOUR PLANE IS BOARDING. I REPEAT, FLIGHT 12390, YOUR PLANE IS BOARDING." IT WAS TIME FOR THE PLANE TO GO. SO IN A FLASH, EVERYONE QUICKLY GOT ON THE PLANE. THE WHOLE FAMILY WAS FLYING TO NEW JERSEY! AS SOOT AND LUCKY BOARDED, THEY LOOKED AT EACH OTHER. "I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD ABOUT THIS", SAID SOOT. "ME NEITHER", SAID LUCKY. THEY WEREN'T SURE IF THIS PLANE WAS REALLY SAFE, OR IF IT WOULD CRASH.

AS THEY WERE FLYING, THE CAPTAIN SAID, "WE'RE APPROACHING A THUNDERSTORM, PLEASE BUCKLE YOUR SEAT BELTS. WE WILL BE LANDING JUST ABOUT NOW." THE PLANE LANDED AT THE NEW JERSEY WILDWOOD AIRPORT.

EVERYONE GOT OUT AND HEADED TO THEIR HOTEL. THE HOTEL WAS CALLED "ANYTIME JERSEY HOTEL." EVERYONE PUT ON THEIR SWIMMING SUITS AND HEADED TO THE BEACH.

AT WILDWOOD, SOOT MET A BEAUTIFUL CAT. THE TWO FEMALE CATS AND LUCKY PLAYED TOGETHER ON THE BEACH WHILE SALLY AND HER DAD PLAYED IN THE WATER. AFTER STAYING A FEW NIGHTS, THEY WENT HOME AND WENT ON MANY OTHER

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VACATIONS. BEING A BLACK CAT COULD BE THE BEST LIFE, ONLY IF YOU TELL EVERYONE THAT TYPE OF BAD LUCK IS A SUPERSTITION!