

THE KEY TO FREEDOM



The Clever Mouse and the Fat Cat

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In a sunlit, cozy living room, a very plump cat named Billo lounged on a velvet cushion. She wore a smug expression, believing she was the undisputed queen of the entire house because of her size.



Not far away, a tiny mouse named Chintu peeked out from a small hole in the baseboard. Though he was small, his bright eyes sparkled with mischief and sharp intelligence as he watched the cat.



Billo loved to puff out her chest and parade around the kitchen, showing off her strength to intimidate the other small creatures. She truly believed that being big and heavy meant she was the most powerful.



One afternoon, Billo managed to corner Chintu near the pantry and hissed loudly. She told the little mouse that today was the day she would finally catch him and eat him up for her lunch.



Chintu did not panic or run away in fear; instead, he gave a playful wink and stood his ground. He challenged the cat, saying that she would have to be fast enough to catch him first.



The chase began as Chintu bolted across the floor and skidded under the low dining table. Billo charged after him with a roar, but her large head bumped into the heavy wooden table leg with a loud clatter.



Chintu then zig-zagged behind the heavy curtains and around the legs of a tall chair. Billo struggled to keep up, her large belly making it difficult to make the sharp turns required to follow him.



Suddenly, Chintu hopped into an empty cereal box lying on its side in the middle of the floor. When Billo pounced on the box with all her might, it slid across the polished wood, sending her sliding into the wall.



Breathless and dizzy, the big cat finally stopped chasing, her legs wobbling until she fell onto the soft rug with a heavy thud. She was far too tired to take another single step or even growl.



Chintu stood safely by the entrance of his hole and whispered that true victory comes from wit, not just from being big. Billo realized then that her strength was no match for Chintu's clever and quick mind.