

LITTLE STORIES FOR LITTLE PEOPLE**KITTY KAT PRACTICES HIS MUSIC LESSON**

ADAPTED BY PANCITA FLORES

"DOLORES! DOLORES!" called Mother. "It's time to get up and do your practicing before breakfast."

Dolores pretended she didn't hear. It was more fun to lie in bed than to practice her piano lesson. So she just rolled over and snuggled her head deeper into the pillow.

In a minute Dolores heard a strange sound. It sounded like tiny feet pattering over the keys of the piano. Quickly she jumped out of bed, got into her slippers and dress, and tip-toed into the room where the piano was.

What do you suppose she saw? Little Kitty Kat, her kitten, walking on the piano keys. His eyes were dancing with excitement. His tail switched.

First he put one paw down carefully. Then he stopped and pricked up his ears and listened. Then he tried it again. Every step that he took, he played another key.

Kitty Kat was puzzled. He turned his head this way and that, but he could not find out where the music came from.

Suddenly Kitty Kat scrambled right up on the music rack! There he sat, his plummy tail curled round his paws, and purred and purred.

Then—O dear!—he tried to turn around. He slipped and tumbled. CRASH! BANG! THUMP! He fell right onto the piano keys. It made a terrible noise. Poor little Kitty Kat was very frightened.

One leap and he was on the floor, scampering away to safety behind a big chest.

Mother hurried to the door. "What's

the matter?" she asked.

Dolores, as soon as she could stop laughing, told her.

Mother laughed, too, adding with a twinkle in her eyes: "Well, Kitty Kat, you've done your practicing. Now you can have your breakfast. Come."

Kitty Kat crawled out from his hiding-place and scampered after her.

Dolores looked very surprised. Then she went to the piano, and in no time was hard at work on *her* practicing.

Before long Mother called Dolores to breakfast. While Dolores ate her toast and drank her orange juice, what do you suppose little Kitty Kat did?

Well, he sat on the window sill and washed his face all nice and clean, using his little pink paw for a wash cloth.

SOME QUESTIONS

1. Why did the mother of Dolores want her to get up?

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