

**Mewzings
Cat Tales
A Cat's-Eye View of
Their World and Ours
Entertaining Short Stories**

Tygo Lee

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Note from the author:

This 2019 ebook is a *composite* second edition of the previously published first editions of *Cool Cat* and *Cool Cat 2* (2017). Some of the cat tales in these two previous editions had been published before 2017 as a part of other books by this author dating from 1999.

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Cat Tale 04: My First Scolding

Ya know, I got sort of lost once when I was a little kitty and that was one of the scariest experiences of my life! Did that ever happen to you when you were a miniature human? Did you ever get lost real bad?

In my case, it was early one morning when I was only maybe three months old. I was stretched out with my brothers and sisters enjoying some of the milk that our mama cat so generously made available to us several times a day when suddenly I heard a strange sound out in my backyard. The rest of my furry family either wasn't aware of the curious noise or simply ignored it, but I immediately took off on my still rather shaky legs and unstable balance to check out what was going on.

Coming down one of the trees headfirst (wow!) I saw this animal that was either a very strange-looking cat or something totally new to me at my young age. It had nice, soft, brownish fur all over its body, a fluffy tail, and a pointy, whiskered nose. I strolled over to the tree and attempted to greet her.

Mew, mew. Who are you? Mew, mew. What are you? Mew, mew. Do you know that this is *my* yard? Mew, mew. Do you want to play with me?

Well, she gave me a rather surprised and annoyed look, and then completely ignoring my friendly greeting, grabbed a little rock in her mouth that I assumed might be some kind of food and went running off into the nearby bushes.

Wondering what could be of interest in those bushes that I had never explored before, I followed her path until I suddenly found myself nose to nose with her. Shockingly, she began hissing at me and exposing her long, sharp teeth that I had not been aware of from my first sighting.

Yikes! That sent a shiver through my whole body, but I tried to quickly calm myself down to see if I could do something about this unexpected reaction of hers.

Mew, mew. I only want to *play* with you. That's all. And I've never been in these bushes before so I wanted to get to know this unexplored territory. Mew, mew. And what did you have in your mouth, huh? Is it a rock, huh? Mew, mew. Why did you have a *rock* in your mouth? Do you *eat* rocks, huh? Mew, mew. Are rocks pretty tasty? Are they? Mew, mew?

"Hiss!"

She took a swipe at me with one of her front paws, with her claws fully extended, just missing my head due to my leaning back in fright.

"Hiss! Leave me alone! Go away! Why are you following me and asking about my acorn? Hiss! Maybe you want to steal my acorn! Is that it? Do you want my acorn! Hiss! Go away, now!"

Well, that attempt at starting up a friendly conversation obviously didn't go too well at all. Yikes again!

Just when it appeared she was about to attack me with full force, my mama cat showed up out of nowhere with her fur fully fluffed out to the max, her eyes gleaming with a penetrating rage, and her claws extended menacingly. She immediately jumped in between us, hissing and moaning loudly in a ferocious fighting stance that I had never seen before.

"Meow! Back off! Leave my kitty alone!"

"Meow! Go away, now, or I'll turn your soft, fur coat into a pile of shredded hair and whap you upside the head again and again until you're so dizzy and aching that you won't be able to walk in a straight line for days!"

"Meow! Meow! This is your only warning. Go away, now!"

With that, my uncooperative playmate went running off in a flash and my mama cat spent the longest time sniffing me out and checking every part of my body to be sure I hadn't been injured in any way. Once she was satisfied that I was okay, I got the biggest *scolding* you could imagine!

"What were you thinking, Freddy! First of all, you are *never ever* to leave my side to somewhere I can't see you until you are older! Stay *close* to me, and always be cautious of unknown objects or creatures."

"Secondly, we do *not* play with *squirrels*, at any time, in any place. Do you understand! *No* squirrels, ever!

And thirdly, you scared me half to death!"

"I couldn't see you anywhere around the house, and then when I finally found you, you were about to be viciously attacked by an animal that can be very dangerous for a little kitty like you."

"Now *pay attention* to what I am telling you and *behave* yourself! My heart is still pounding heavily. I don't know what I would do if something happened to my little Freddy, so you'd better..."

And on and on and on she went for the longest time. And then on and on some more!

Wow, I got in lots of trouble when I was just innocently going to check out a strange noise and then be friendly with someone I met while doing so. Who would have thought there'd be so much disturbance over a simple thing like that?

But you know what? That was my *first* scolding and maybe the *best* scolding I've ever had. It became clear to me at that moment, and only being three months old, that my mama cat loved me a lot. A *whole* lot. And even though she was scolding me in every way she could, all the while it gave me a wonderful, warm feeling inside that I can still fondly remember to this day.

Thanks, mama. You're the best! And I love *you* a whole lot too.

Mew, mew. Mew, mew.