

Paolo Cossi

Massimiliano
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The Bewitched Cat



Lavieri

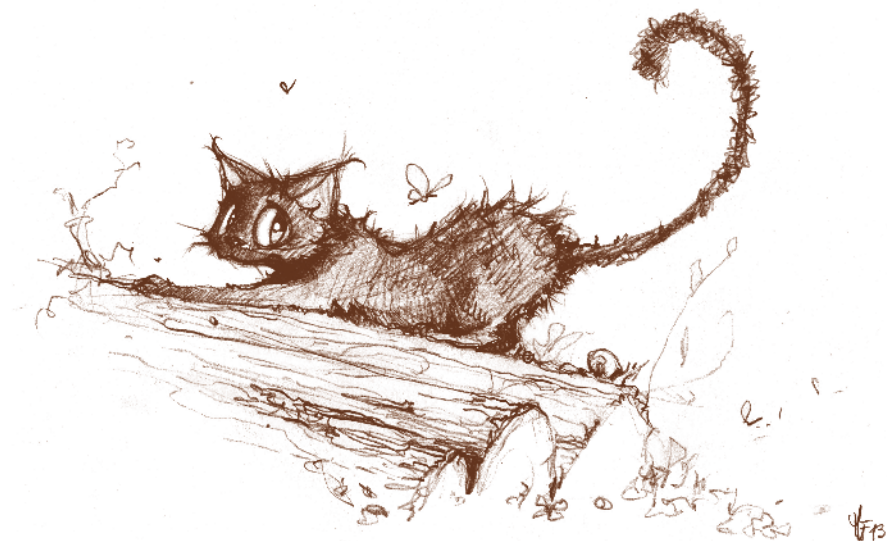


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Il gatto stregato

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In an endless forest
there was a glade pretty enchanted
just right in the middle
springs up a very fine cottage.

It was lying on a big grassy field
and the roof was all coloured,
also the balcony was painted
yellow and red finely died.

In that place almost crazy
lived a witch with her Kitty.

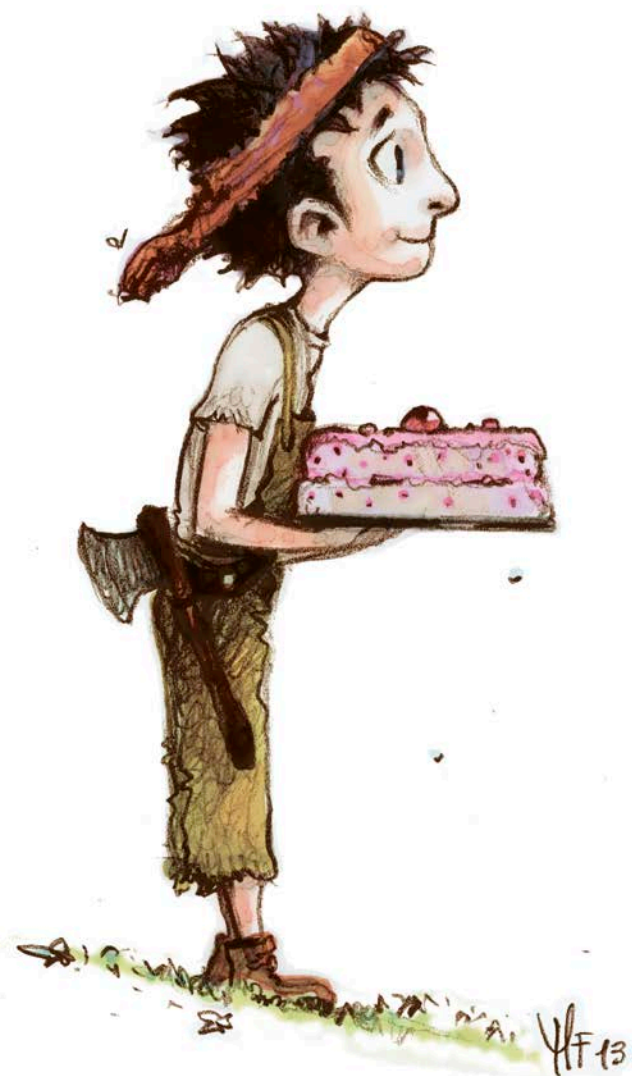
She was a witch so young and pretty
and she used magic as a medicine.
Her name was Juliet, the sorceress
and she'd help anybody restlessly.



Her Kitten was all blacky,
and it was not a real beauty,
so funny, skinny and scruffy
as a chick just woken up.
His name is Ringaround
and his heart is as big as the world.

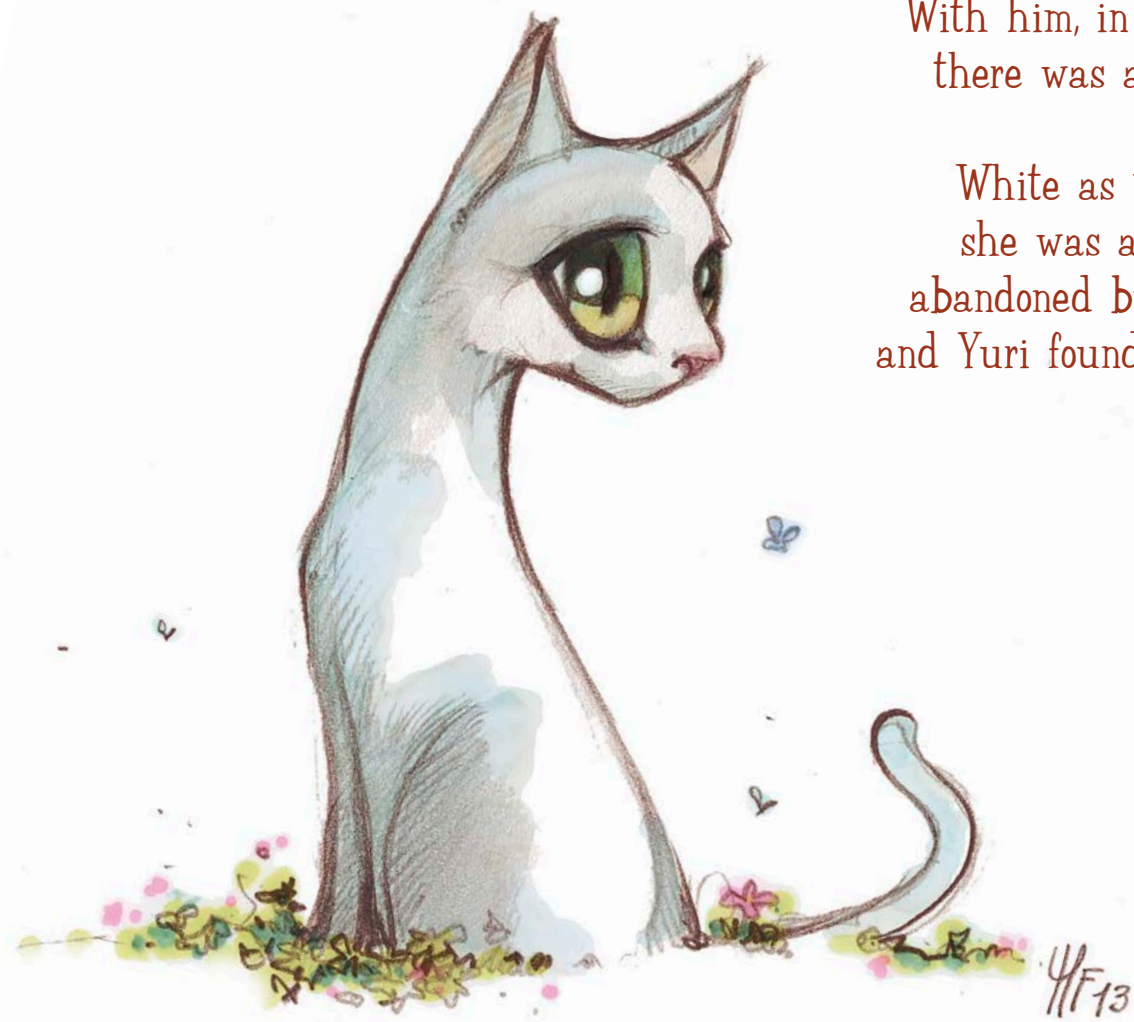


Every week, punctually on Monday,
a guy used to pass by.
It was Yuri, the good lumberjack
whose smallpox was healed by Juliet.
And with gratitude and devotion
he brought her a delicious cake with emotion,
a little to say "thank you" for saving him,
a little because he fell in love with her.



So it happened that on a sunny nice Monday
Yuri was not alone, but in good company.
With him, in fact, that morning,
there was a beautiful Kitty.

White as the purest snow,
she was a sweet creature
abandoned by a heartless man
and Yuri found her under a flower.



bon appetit, said Yuri, offering the cake.
please come in, said Juliet pointing at the door ...
But the lumberjack and his little friend
postponed the invitation to new date
and as soon as they were out of sight...
Ringaround did not feel all right.



My heart is beating fast ...
if this continues it will make sparks!
I feel weird and torn ...
Am I falling in love?

Poor me, what happened to me,
she is so beautiful, and I'm scruffy.
She'll never look at me, oh please!
This is the sad truth!



But of course! I found the solution,
I'll prepare a magic potion!
Witch Juliet has to teach me ...
I want to prepare an elixir of love!

So the Kitten, without hesitation,
went to Juliet to asking for lessons.
Juliet, Juliet, please,
teach me the witch craft



Ringaround was happy with those teachings
that took him amongst stories of wizards and seers.

In the morning they picked artemisia and vervain...
after dinner mullein and plantain.
Also mushrooms were searched on spot,
especially the red ones with white dots.

The apprentice prepared then a cauldron
to boil every concoction and potion
A big cloud often rose from the pot
followed immediately by a big explosion.

Ahh, careless cat!
I guess some herb you did forget ...
said Juliet feeling a little astounded
with her face all black and burned.



Ringaround learned many tricks
like riding a flying broomstick.

The witch finally gave the lovely Kitten
a white sickle and a black little Knife.
The first one to pick medicinal herbs,
the second one to draw astral signs and circles.

Ringaround began to respect anniversaries:
Yule, Beltane and other magic festivities.



One day, while Juliet was on the veranda
the Kitty decided to ask the big question:

*I have to ask you something important, Juliet:
Can you teach me the love potion recipe?
I fell in love with Yuri's cat
and without a potion I feel lost.*

The witch looked at him and laughed:
My Kitten, she said, the potion has never existed!



Look in your heart. Can't you understand
that love is already a magic in itself?
Don't be afraid of your feelings
it is useless to keep them inside ...