



The Tale of Tom Kitten

Beatrix Potter

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"The Tale of Tom Kitten" The much loved tale about playful Tom Kitten and his sister is charmingly retold and brought to life with exciting pop-up illustrations.

The Tale of Tom Kitten Details

Date : Published September 1st 1987 by Warne (first published 1907)

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Author : Beatrix Potter

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From Reader Review The Tale of Tom Kitten for online ebook

DD says

One of the books I will be teaching this year.

Mimi says

Ah, those silly kittens! Serves them right, the ducks waddling off with their clothes... ;)

Manny says

"His hat fell off, and the rest of his buttons burst." Isn't that a great line?

Gerry says

This edition of Tom Kitten is different in that the illustrations are not by Beatrix Potter but have been created for the 1990s TV series 'The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends'. This does not detract from the tale or its visual appeal, for the illustrations have their own charm and suit the book perfectly.

In this story there were three little kittens, Mittens, Moppet and Tom Kitten who used to roll about and play in the dust and dirt. One day their mother, Mrs Tabitha Twitchit, was expecting friends to tea so she decided that the kittens should be washed and well dressed before her guests arrived.

She scrubbed and brushed them and dressed the two girls in pinafores and tuckers and dressed Tom in a smart new suit and matching hat. They all looked delightful, so, while she prepared for her guests, Mrs T unwisely allowed them to go out into the garden so as to be out of her way.

What a mistake that was for all three of them got into mischief and ended up with their nice clean clothes almost ruined. Not only that but three puddle-ducks came along and donned some of their clothes that they had discarded. The kittens thought this hilarious and helped the ducks to put on the rest of the clothes.

It was all good kitten fun - that is until Mrs T went down the garden only to discover her kittens with no clothes on. 'Just look at you, you are not fit to be seen,' she told the kittens and took them in and sent them upstairs to their bedroom.

Her guests arrived and while they were having tea there were extraordinary noises overhead (the kittens were creating havoc in their bedroom) and this disturbed the tea party but Mrs T told her guests a little white lie - she said the kittens had measles. Meanwhile the ducks had lost their newly acquired clothes as the buttons had come off and they were last seen looking for their ill-gotten attire.

Much to my surprise, upon the page I saw anthropomorphic kittens, cavorting about in an idyllic springtime garden. I don't know what I was expecting, but it wasn't this. Before I could use any further clues, be they pictorial or textual, to construct some sort of sensical gestalt out of this, the book was retrieved by my mother.

I suppose it will be years before I have another opportunity to delve into the perplexing tale of this enigmatic Mr. Kitten. Until then, kittens, peonies, pinafores: all will haunt my dreams.

Stacy says

I love the Beatrix Potter stories, and this is no different. Tom Kitten and his siblings, Mittens and Moppet are sent outside to play until their mother's company comes for tea. They get dirty and lose their clothes. The kittens miss out on tea, and are sent to their rooms in punishment. Naughty kittens!

Calista says

A cute story about the kids getting all messy while waiting for their mom to have friends over for a dinner party. Very cute story. Enjoyable.

Mimi says

Those poor little kittens, expecting to walk on their hind legs in fancy clothes outdoors and stay clean! More than they can handle.

I chuckled when I realized what her explanation was for why ducks put their heads under the water with their tails up in the air.

I love how Potter's different stories connect in unexpected ways, carrying characters from one to another, here and there, popping up like old friends where you don't expect them.

Annet says

Traditionally I start the year with a Beatrix Potter, I believe this is my 7th story now... so several more to go. As a child, although loving to read, I was not familiar with the Beatrix Potter books, so I'm catching up. This is a sweet little story about three naughty little kittens up to mischief, helped by a couple of ducks, in short :-)

I admire Beatrix Potter for her career, her creativity and I love the cute little drawings. 3.5 stars for me.

Christy says

Firstly, I love the names of Mittens, Tom Kitten, and Moppet. I also like words like "pinafores" that take me

back to author Potter's time. As for the puddle-ducks, well aren't they clever, only Mr. Drake puddle-duck is cheeky to put Tom's clothes on himself rather than on Tom. Oh what fun to revisit these books that I loved as a girl :)

Leigha's Little Library says

I decided to do some rereads of Beatrix Potter. I loved them as a child, and still enjoy them as an adult.

Prashant says

Does someone remember the movie Despicable Me made by Disney. One fine movie and it had an adorable scene of the 3 girls being read a book by their despicable and conniving (adopted) father.

The story that was read to them had three little kittens who were forced to go to bed by their mother. Let me reproduce the little poem here.

*3 little kittens loved to play,
They had fun in the sun all day,
Then their mother came out and say,
Time for kittens to go to bed.*

*3 little kittens started to brawl,
'mummy we are not tired at all'
Their mother smiled and said with a purr,
'fine, but at least you should brush your fur'.*

*3 little kittens with fur all brushed,
Said we can't sleep, we feel too rushed.
The mother replied with voice like silk,
'fine, but at least you should drink your milk.*

*3 little kittens with milk all gone,
Rubbed their eyes and started to yawn.
'we can't sleep, we can't even try'
Then their mother sang a lullaby.*

*'Good night kittens, close your eyes,
Sleep in peace till you rise'
'Though while you sleep we are apart,
But your mommy loves you with all her heart'*

It seemed as if this poem was inspired by this book of potter.

The book reminded me of the above scene barring the fact that in the movie more than the kittens I found the girls more adorable.

3 little kittens are all dressed up by their mother to put up a good show before her friends. They got dressed well but started losing their clothes as soon as their mother stopped dressing them. In the end they had to put

into bed before the friends arrive because they have lost all the clothes.

They are cute, mischievous and adorable. I loved it!
