

Adventures of Boemba the Housecat



11

Boemba's wintertale

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Layout: Irrik Xinsky

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**Look at the snow that has fallen!
The city of Leyden is dressed in white.**



**The snowman did not skip Wilhelmstreet.
It is snowing still!**



**On this beautiful winterday Boemba is distressed.
He needs to clean up his house at once, because:
Boemba expects visitors!**

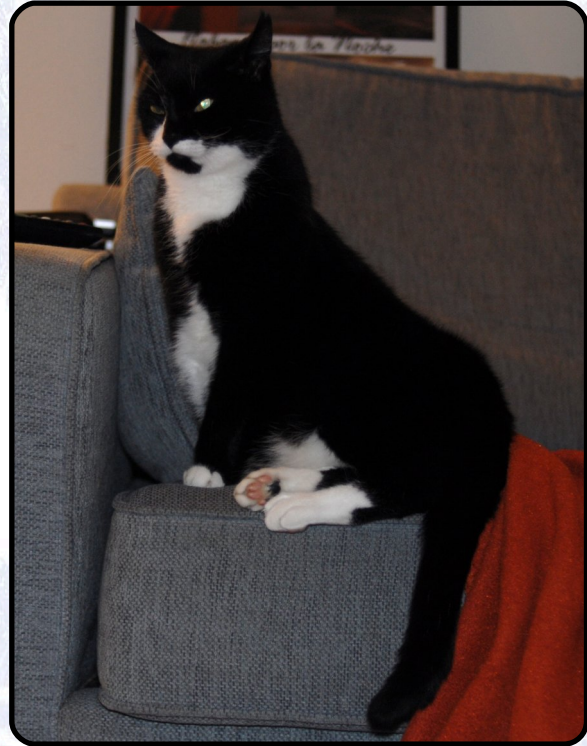
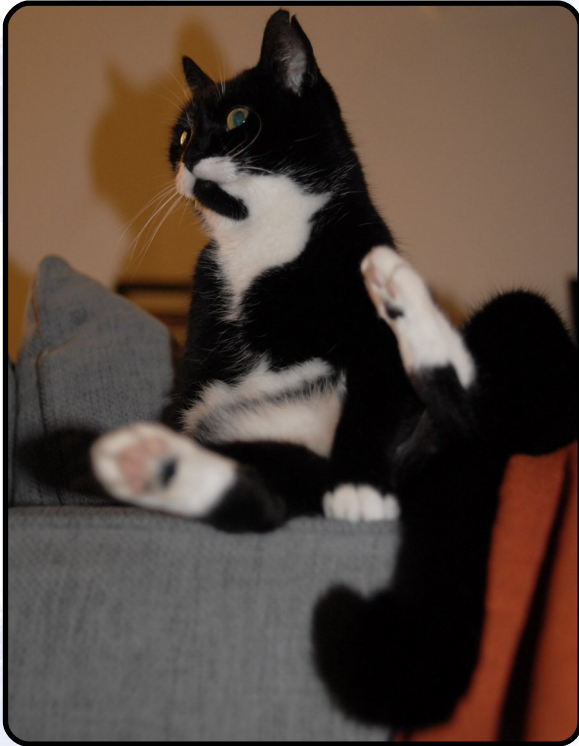


**Once a year Boemba's family gathers.
"Today is an *important* day!" Boemba realizes.**



**The first visitors arrive!
They are...**

...Boemba's dad and mom!



**"We saw you on television,
and we're very proud of you, my little boy," mom says.
"*Estamos muy contentos,*" dad repeats in Spanish.**

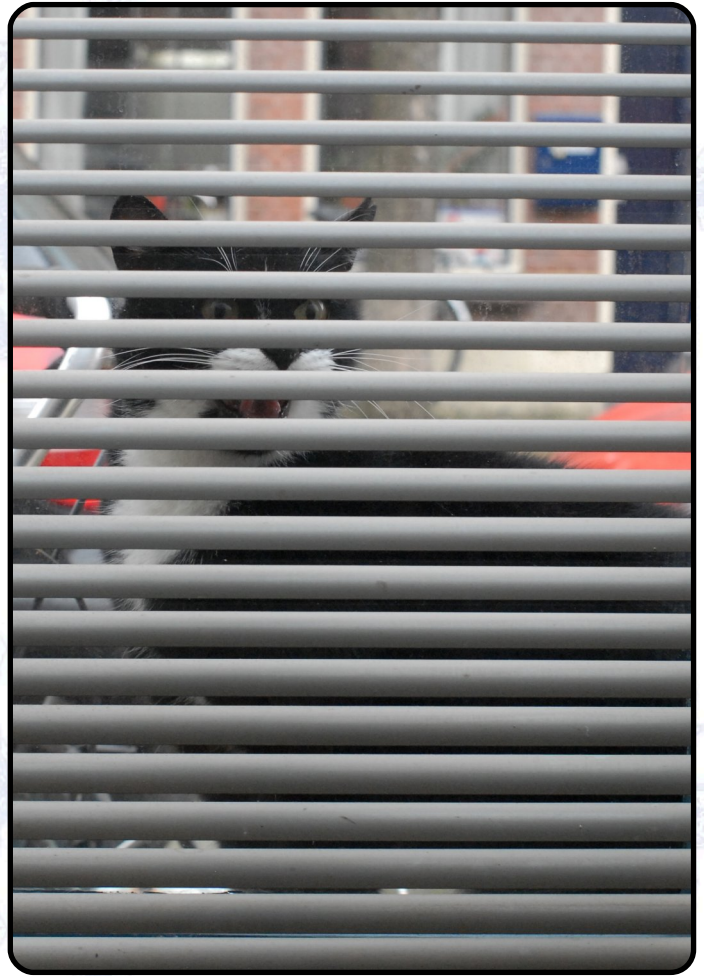
**Boemba's conversation with his parents is rudely disturbed
by a deafening meow!**



"Who'd that be?" Boemba wonders.

**It is cousin Boenkie.
He wants to be let in!**

**“Well well, so he still
doesn’t know where to find
the doorbell?” mom says
mockingly.**





Boemba's mongrel sister Jutty also attends the gathering. She suffers from inexhaustible appetite and is always hungry! "Jutty is coloured like *demerara sugar*," Boemba tells to anyone pretending to be interested in this fact.



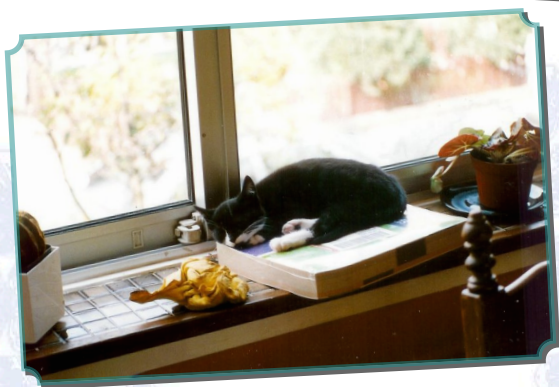
**Boemba's niece Bloemby is a professional mannequin.
Last year she won the Miss Pussycat contest!**

Traditionally, the family's pictures are taken out of a well-hidden box, and are passed on to every member of the family.



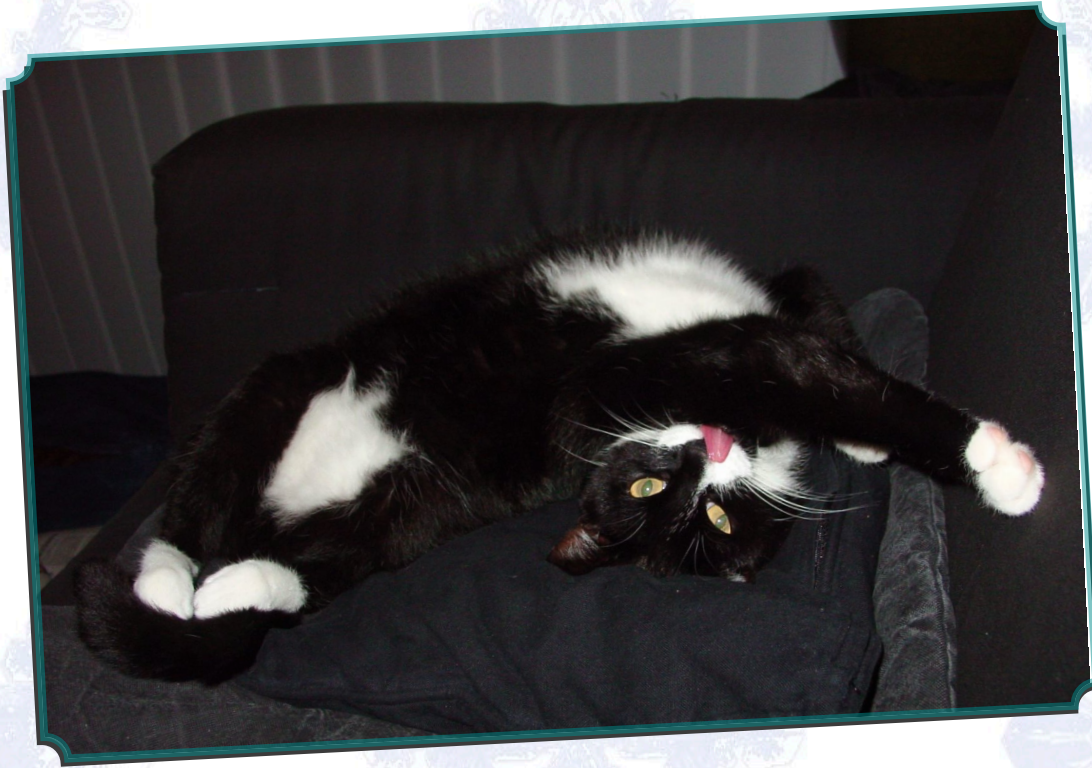
**Behold: Boemba's granddad and grandma!
"Boemba's resemblance with his granddad is stunning,"
mom cries out.**

“In your early days you were nowhere as sharp as you are now, Boemba,” mom says.

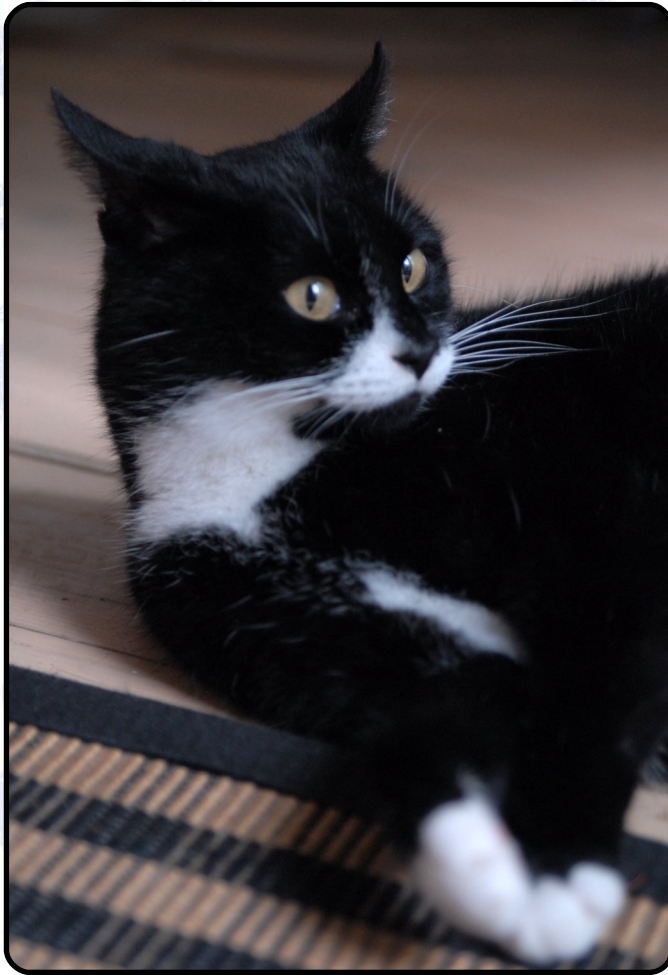


“Albeit just as curious as you’ve ever been!”

“During puberty you were lazy and rebelling!” mom continues.



**Yes-yes, that’s an all too familiar sounding story to Boemba.
It is recited everytime the family gathers: year in — year out!
Boemba puts the photographs back in the box.**



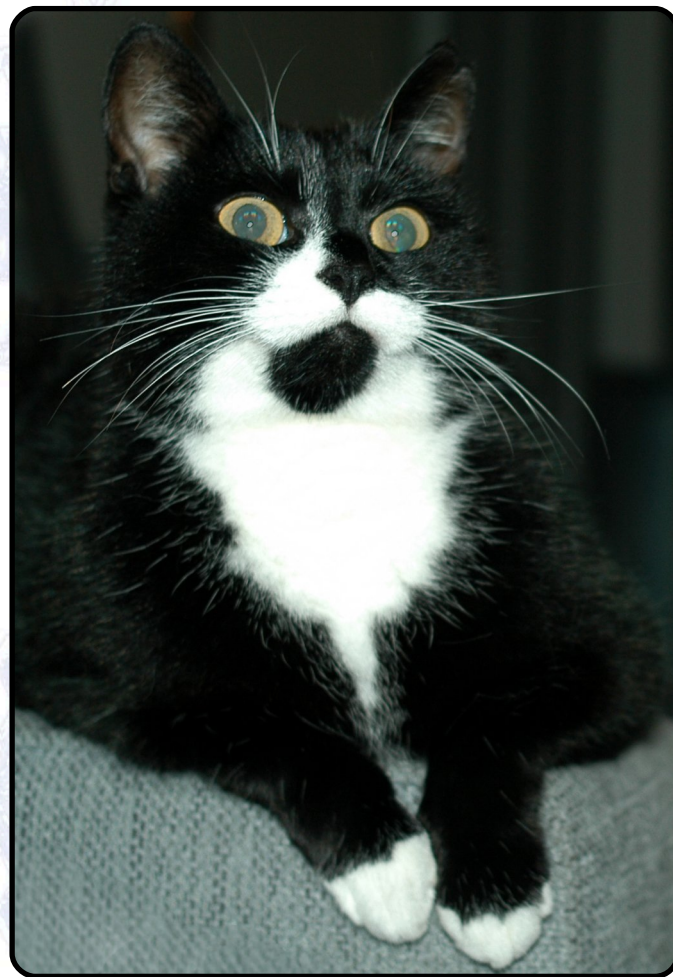
**“Back in the days of granddad
and grandma the winters
were really cold,”
Boenkie says.**

**“Earth’s temperature
has risen quite a lot,
recently.”**

**“The polar bears
on the North Pole
do not consider
this temperature
comfortable at all!”**

**“Oh Boenkie,
you’re such a character!”
auntie Bomba giggles.**

**“You just keep on talking
about them fat and cuddly
polar bears!”**





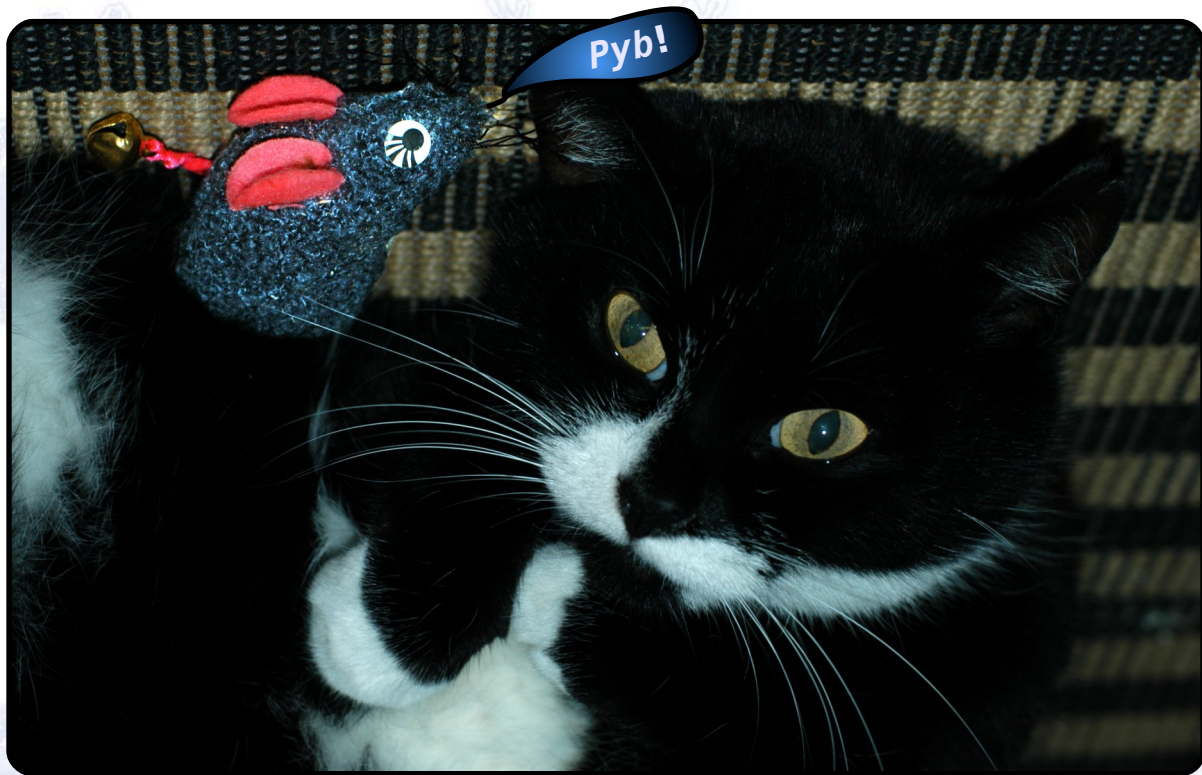
**Unexpectedly,
uncle Loekie drops by!**

**Loekie is a retired cat,
he returned from
a wild safari with
Roger the Adventurer
not long ago.**

Boemba's niece Spoeky is the last one to arrive.



“All of you are here, already?” she shouts, with a fake hint of amazement in her voice. Boemba thinks Spoeky is a pretty weird name.



**Spooky took her son Poemba with her.
Poemba is very young and has not yet mastered the ability to
speak. Instead, he likes to play with his mouse.**



“I’m so glad you’re here, all of you!” Boemba shouts.

“Are we ready?”

“Yes, we are!” the family cries out.



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Snowflakes in the background — <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:SnowflakesWilsonBentley.jpg>

Polar bear — http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Polar_Bear.jpg

Young Boemba — Yacy Yovy