

PUSS IN BOOTS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649310388

Puss in Boots by Josiah Wood Whympers

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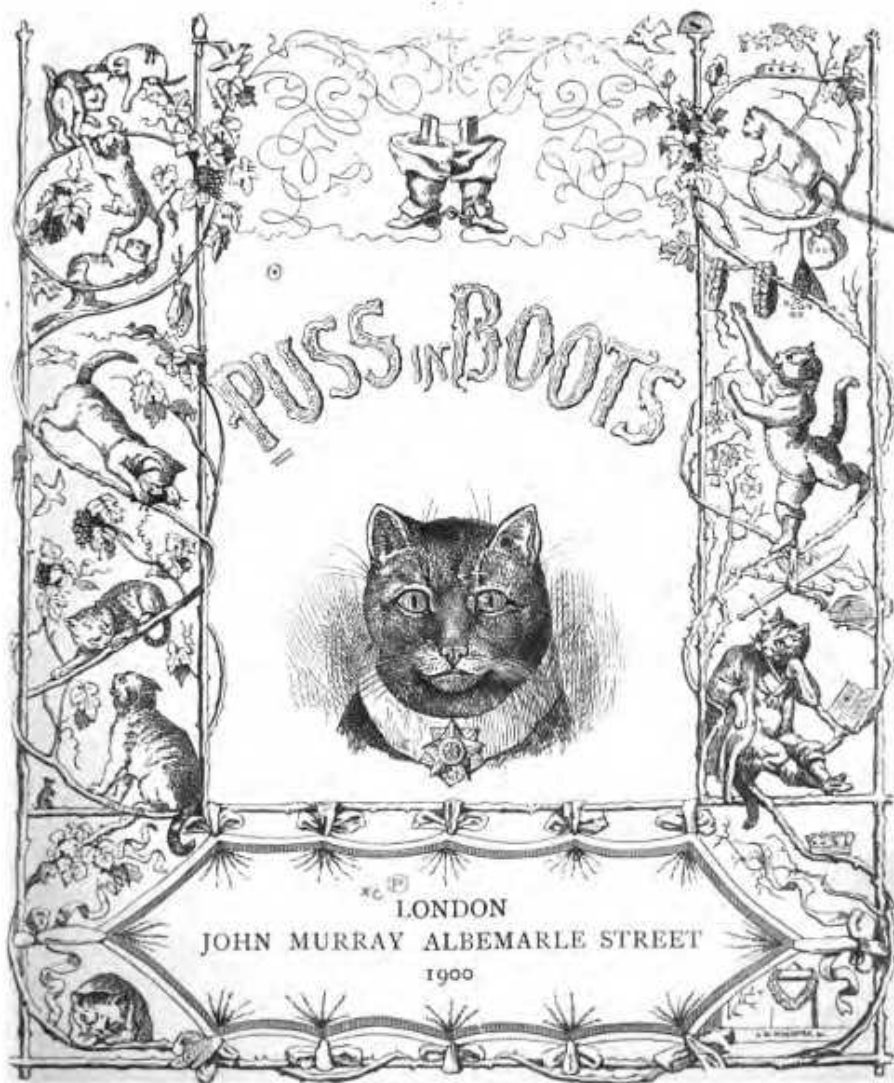
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JOSIAH WOOD WHYMPER

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PLATE II—THE MILLER'S YOUNGEST SON AND HIS CAT

PLATE II.

The Miller's Youngest Son
and his Cat

ON the death of an aged miller, his three sons proceeded to divide the inheritance among them. The eldest son took the mill, the second the ass, and for the third there remained nothing but the big grey Cat. You see here the eldest brother standing outside grinding his corn, and talking to the second brother, who is mounted on the ass; while the youngest brother is sitting indoors sorrowfully eating his breakfast, his Cat having gone to sleep on the bench beside him.

Theophilus (for that was the name of the youngest brother) said to himself, "My lot is indeed most miserable ; what in the world am I to do with my Cat ? If I make a pair of gloves out of his skin, there's an end of him ; nothing more is to be got from him." The Cat, who understood all that he said, hereupon arose, set up his back, and said, "Listen, dear Theophilus : you need not kill me in order to make a pair of worthless gloves out of my skin ; only order a pair of boots to be made for me, so that I may be able to go about, and may be fit to be seen by the folks, and your fortune shall soon be made." The miller's son was astonished to hear the Cat speak ; but, as the shoemaker happened to pass by at the moment, he called him in.

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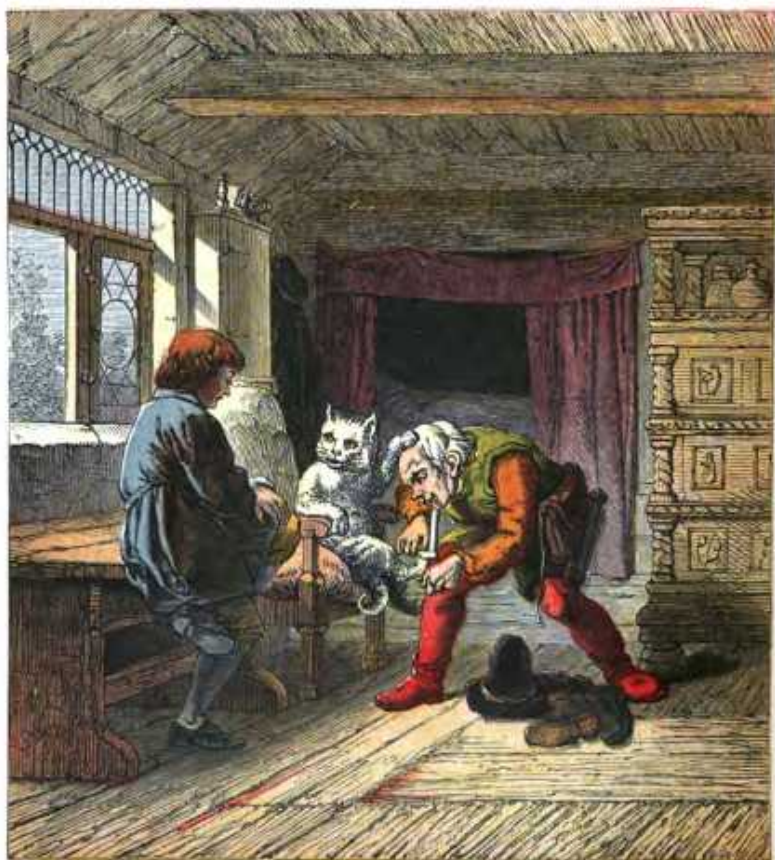


PLATE III—MEASURE TAKEN FOR THE BOOTS