



# THE METRO CATS

Life in the core of the Big Apple

Joanne de Simone

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Follow the adventures of a colony of cats living on the streets of metropolitan New York City, as they face danger, find love, and reunite with long lost family in the Big Apple. Lauren, a pampered uptown cat, becomes stranded in a snowstorm and is rescued by a tabby named Buster, a seasoned street cat. They fall in love, but tragedy tears them apart. Left to fend for herself, Lauren gives birth to three kittens, who are soon forced to survive on their own in Manhattan, after Lauren is captured and whisked away from them. When their sister, Blanche, is taken from them by a kind lady, Sally and Roger make a home for themselves in a secluded west side alley, and invite their new friends, Maxine, Veronica, and Walter, to form a colony, where they all live in harmony. Roaming the streets are the Scratches, a renegade band of antagonistic cats, recognized by their visible "battle scars." Always on the prowl for action, they are joined by a dejected, friendless, Buster. By chance, Blanche is reunited with her siblings. When Sally is caught by Animal Control, Roger enlists the aid of their estranged father, Buster, and his scrappy companions, to help the colony cats rescue Sally and to find their mother, Lauren.



**Joanne de Simone** was an author, dramatist, and film historian. Two of her seven plays, *The Suicide Angel*, and *Earthmen*, are in film pre-production, and several one-acts have been produced in NYC theatre festivals. Joanne's, *Judy's Dead*, took first prize in the Writer's Digest 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Stage Play Competition. Ms. de Simone's full-length play, *Olivia's Roses*, debuted at NYC's Thespis Theater Festival in September 2015. Her film review column appeared in the *Fire Island News* from 1998-2003 and returned for the 2015 season. Joanne's work was published in various magazines, publications, and film journals. She also wrote a young adult book, *The Peculiar Plight of Millicent Wryght*, an urban tale set in Manhattan. She was a member of the Dramatists Guild, the English Speaking Union, the Shakespeare Guild, the Episcopal Actors Guild, the Drama League, a board member of the Veronica Moscoso Foundation, and served as a judge for the Hudson River Classics Showcase Theater Playwriting Contest. Joanne passed away in May 2022.