

Rescue Cat - Written By Will Snow

Chapter Five

He was utterly alone. Stranded on a desolate island of jagged rock amid a hurricane. The wind shrieked, lashing his pale white body with ice-cold brine. The sea heaved all around him, and the stormy sky boiled with anger.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Wait, what?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

What? Who?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Torn from his dream, Bill looked at the alarm clock with bleary eyes, his head pounding. 4:00 AM?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Bill looked at his bedroom door and saw a tiny white paw pulling it loudly against the doorframe from below.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

"No! No! No! Not again!" He lurched out of bed and opened the door wide. Once again, he was greeted by the sight of Cosmo lying on his back, stretching out his paw.

"What? What do you want? Your litter box is there for you. Why are you doing this to me?" Cosmo shifted into a sitting position and stared silently up at the confused human. "*I'm bored. Entertain me, human.*" Bill fell to his knees, raised both fists, threw his head back, and howled in frustration. Bill suddenly saw a light shine through the window of his next-door neighbor's house. He dropped his head sadly. There would be another note in his mailbox today.

"Excellent! Very amusing!" Cosmo seemed delighted as he waltzed downstairs with his head and tail high in the air. Resigned, Bill followed to put on some coffee and start what was apparently his new morning ritual.

After another day precisely the same as the one before, Bill staggered into his bedroom, shut and locked his door, and put some boxes of old photos from his closet in front of the door. That ought to keep it quiet tomorrow. He smiled as he crawled into bed and pulled the covers over his head.

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THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Wait, what?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

What? Who?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Torn from his dream, Bill looked at the alarm clock with bleary eyes, his head pounding. 3:50 AM?

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Bill looked at his bedroom door and saw a tiny white paw pulling it loudly against the doorframe from below.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

Bill wiped his bleary eyes and saw the boxes he had used to block the door pushed out of the way. How did that happen? It wasn't possible. It wasn't fair! He had another 10 minutes of sleep coming.

THUMP! THUMP! THUMP!

"OK! I'm up! Screw it!" Bill got up and slowly opened the door. Cosmo was sitting there, eyes and ears forward, wide awake and fully attentive. Bill walked past the amused cat and headed downstairs to attend to Cosmo's needs. *"Wonderful! Now we are getting somewhere."*

After their morning ritual, Bill retreated again to his office but rather than pulling up his emails, he looked online for local pet stores. He was going to find something to amuse Cosmo besides him. Maybe if he wore him out a little before bedtime...