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Opening extract from
Philomena
The Cat Who Thinks She's a Dog
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Published by
Wacky Bee Books

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Published in 2016 by Wacky Bee Books

Wacky Bee Books
Shakespeare House, 168 Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TG



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ISBN 978-0-9931109-2-4 (paperback)
ISBN 978-0-9931109-7-9 (ebook)

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data
A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from
the British Library

Set in Goudy by Head & Heart Publishing Services
Printed by Dinefwr Press, Wales

To Roberta - C. B.

*To Ian, Jenny, Harry
& Kate - E. S.*

*With special thanks to
Cherith Baldry*

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Philomena Finds a New Home



Philomena's whiskers twitched. Her stomach felt as if it was full of mice, chasing each other's tails.

I'm going to a new home today, she thought.



She felt a bit sad to be leaving her mother Moby, her sisters and her brother Geronimo, but mostly she was excited.

I hope my new family are nice, she thought.

When Philomena heard the doorbell ring, she thought of going to hide under the kitchen cupboard. But instead she sat up straight. She was glad that Moby had given her a specially thorough lick to make sure she looked extra smart.



Mrs Plunkett and Dylan came into the kitchen with three other people following them.

“Philomena, this is Mr and Mrs Simpkins and their daughter Sophie,” said Mrs

Plunkett. “You’re going to go and live with them.”

Dylan scooped up Philomena and gave her a goodbye stroke.

“Take care,” he said.

“Mind you behave yourself.”



“I’m sure she will,” said Mrs Simpkins. “Do you like her, Sophie? She’s such a cute little cat.”

Philomena pricked up her ears. A cute little **WHAT?**

Sophie took Philomena from Dylan and cuddled her close.



“I love her already,” she said. “She’s the best little cat in the world.”



Yes, I did hear it right, thought Philomena as she rode with Sophie to the Simpkins’ car.

All the Plunkett family, Moby and the other kittens and Geronimo came to the door to see her off. Geronimo waved his tail like a big, hairy rope.

“Wave goodbye, little cat,”
said Sophie.

*These people seem nice
enough, thought Philomena,
but they must be a bit stupid.
Geronimo’s my brother, and he’s
a dog, so why can’t they get it
that I’m no cat? I’m a **DOG!***



Philomena Goes Shopping

