

Helping you choose books for children



Opening extract from

Fee-Fee's Holiday

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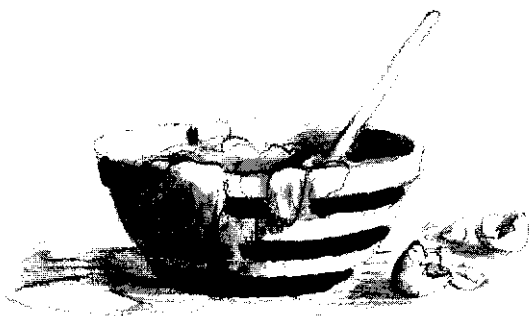
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Chapter 1

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Fee-Fee's Problem



Fee-Fee was a very busy mouse who had many, many children.

Her husband, Charlie, was a sailor. He spent most of his time at sea. So Fee-Fee had to care for her family all alone.

She did her very best. Three times a day, she made the children line up. Then she ticked their names off on a list, to make sure that no one was missing.

“Muffy, Fluffy, Buffy, Scruffy, Tilly, Milly, Billy, Lily, Nibbles, Tibbles, Gus, Fuss, and Naomi.”



The only one Fee-Fee didn't have to count was the baby, Sweetie-Pie. She carried him around with her, so she always knew where he was.



When she wasn't counting her children, Fee-Fee worked very hard.

She cooked and cleaned. She scrubbed and washed. She never seemed to rest.





“You need a holiday, Fee-Fee,” her friends in Squeak Street often said.

Fee-Fee agreed. She felt quite worn out. Her secret dream was to be all alone on a desert island for one whole week.

One night at dinner, Fee-Fee was so tired that she fell asleep with her head in her scrambled cheese.

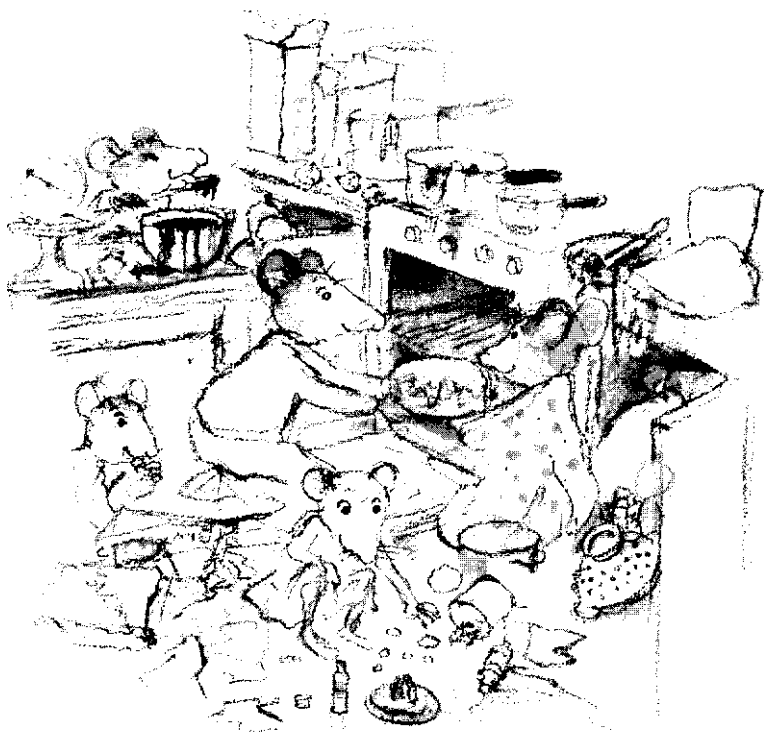


“Poor Mama,” said Tilly. “Let’s do something nice to help her.”

“Yes!” said Milly. “Let’s make a cake!”

Everyone helped to make the cake. It took a long time. When at last the pan was in the oven, the kitchen did not look the same as it had before.

It looked very, very messy.



Fuss looked very messy too. He'd fallen into the mixing bowl. He looked in the mirror and began to wail.

Fee-Fee woke up. She saw the mess and screamed. She saw Fuss, and screamed even louder.



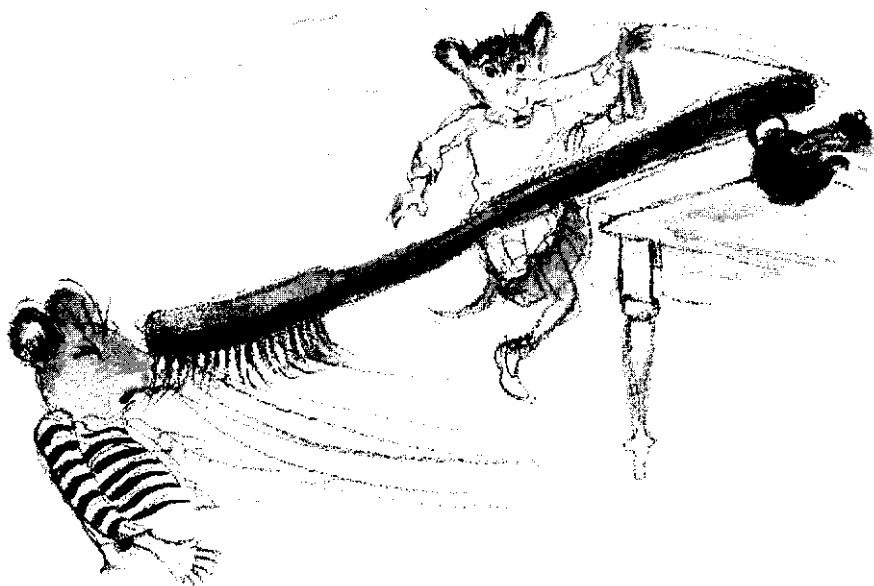
While Fee-Fee was running a bath for Fuss, Tilly and Milly tried to sweep the floor.

They were not very good at sweeping. Soon the mess was even worse.



“Stop that!” shouted Muffy.

She grabbed the broom, swung around, and slipped.



The broom flew out of her hand. One end smashed the teapot. The other end hit Buffy in the nose.

Buffy crashed into Fluffy.
Fluffy fell head first into the last
of the eggs.

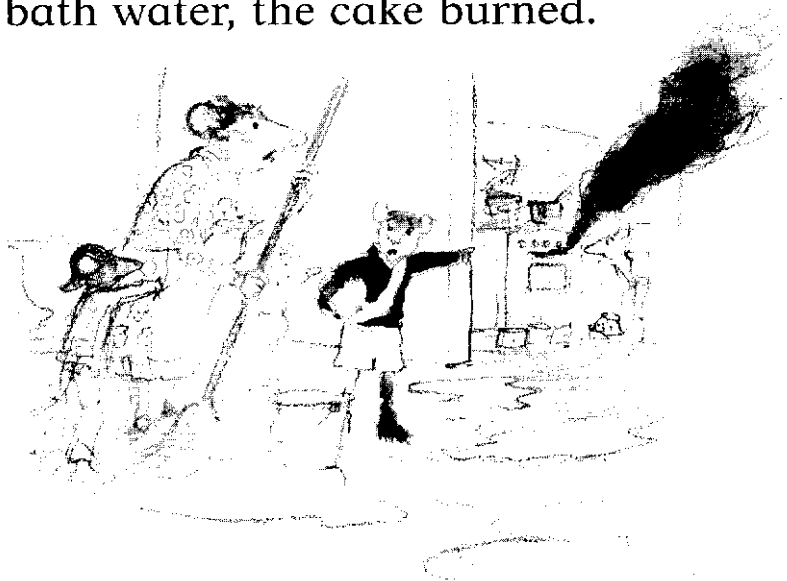


And suddenly everyone was
fighting.

While Fee-Fee was stopping
the fight, the bath overflowed.



While she was mopping up the
bath water, the cake burned.



There was a lot of smoke, and the fire engine came.

Three fire fighters rushed in with hoses, and fell over on the slippery floor.



Fee-Fee pulled off her apron and stamped on it. Then she shouted: "I NEED A HOLIDAY!"

