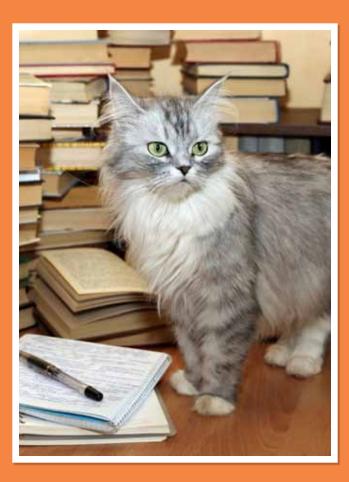
I Could Pee on This

AND OTHER POEMS BY CATS



BY FRANCESCO MARCIULIANO



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INTRODUCTION



For thousands of years, cats have strived to express to humans what it means to be feline. They have tried body language, plaintive meowing, even a filmmaking style best described as "fallen camera nudged across floor until forgotten or smeared with saliva." And for thousands of years, we humans have witnessed this unending struggle for true emotional and spiritual connection and said, "Wook at that wittle furry face! Wook at that wittle furry face! Who's got a wittle furry face! You've got a wittle furry face!"

But now, through the power of poetry and a publishing contract, cats everywhere can fully welcome people into their hearts, minds, and souls. Within these very pages, you'll find poems penned by cats that reveal their every desire, their every conflict, and their every epiphany. You'll also discover why cats do things like put their whole paw in your glass and then look at you as if you've never had a date over for wine before. Seriously, their whole paw. Like they think it's easy to get cabernet out of orange tabby.

POPOS PICHTON

In fact, by the time you've finished reading this poetry anthology, you'll not only completely understand everything your cat thinks and does but even applaud him for it. Maybe give him a medal. Or throw him a parade in your hallway, making sure to avoid staircases so all the tiny floats don't tumble down. Or you can just sit your cat down, look him straight in the eyes and say, "I get it. I really do get it . . . furry face."



I COULD PEE ON THIS

Her new sweater doesn't smell of me I could pee on that She's gone out for the day and left her laptop on the counter I could pee on that Her new boyfriend just pushed my head away I could pee on him She's ignoring me ignoring her I could pee everywhere She's making up for it by putting me on her lap I could pee on this I could pee on this





I LICK YOUR NOSE

I lick your nose

I lick your nose again

I drag my claws down your eyelids Oh, you're up? Feed me

CLOSED DOOR

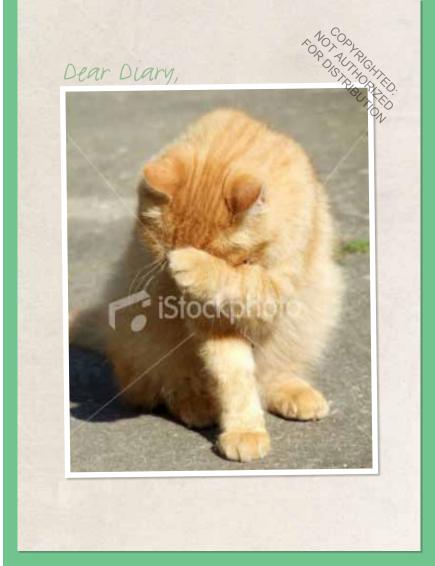
LET ME IN LET ME IN LET ME IN
LET ME IN LET ME IN LET ME IN
LET ME IN LET ME IN LET ME IN
LET ME IN LET ME IN LET ME IN
LET ME IN LET ME I—
Oh, uh, hello
I did not expect an answer
I did not expect an entrance
I did not expect this room to be
so unbelievably dull
So, uh, goodbye

WHY ARE YOU SCREAMANG

Why are you screaming?
What did I do wrong?
Why are you crying?
How can I make it right?
Would you like it in a different color?
Would you like it in a different size?
Would you like it in a different room?
I just wanted to show my love
I just wanted to express my thanks
I just wanted to put a dead mouse
on your sheets
But now you are screaming
And I don't know how to make you stop

WHO IS THAT ON YOUR LAP?

There's another cat in the house
A cat I've never seen
A much younger cat
You seem to know her name
You accidentally called me by her name
Right in front of the lamp
And my friend the throw pillow
I've never been so humiliated
I may never love again





SEPARATION

You can have the CDs, I will take the string You can have the TV, I will take this fuzzy thing You can have the kitchen set, I will take this crumpled foil You can have the car, I will keep this rug I soil You can have the beach house, I will take this tissue box You can have everything, Ooo I want those dirty socks You can go to hell, I will see to that For how dare you come home smelling of another cat?



SOMETHING'S WRONG

Something's wrong Why are the walls a different color? Something's not right When did we get these stairs? Something's off How did the kitchen move across the floor? Something's going on Who changed all the homes outside? Something's very odd Why are you mispronouncing "Georgia" as "New York"? Something happened When you put me in that carrying case And someday soon I will figure it out

UNBRIDLED LOVE

I knead your chest with my sharp claws To show you my affection I bite your arm and don't let go To show you adoration I walk across your throat at night Because I want to say, "Hello!" I leap from high upon your crotch Because I miss you so I trip you when you walk down the stairs So you know I'm always near I sit on your face and block all your air So my absence you need not fear I show my love in so many ways My devotion runneth over So I don't know why when I approach You duck and run for cover

BROTHERS

They say we are brothers though
we look nothing alike
They say we are family though
we differ so much
I am tabby, you are brown
I am long, you are short
I am thin, you are stout
I am lively, you are shy
I am a kitten, you are a hamster
But kin is kin
So let me run on your wheel

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Meowy Christmas!

FROM OUR LITTER TO YOURS

O CHRISTMAS TREE

0 please

0 come on

0 like you didn't know

What you were getting for Christmas Before I ripped open all your gifts

0 by the way

The tree looks better on its side

0 I really do think so

