**A Cat's World**

**Everything comes to those who wait … except a cat. *(Mario Andretti, race car driver)***

**Good week for: Aristocats, with news that the late Nancy Sauer, of Tampa, has bequeathed her $2.5 million, 4,000-square-foot mansion and a “substantial” inheritance to her seven Persian cats. Sauer’s estate will cover all their food and expenses in perpetuity. *(The Week magazine, June, 30, 3023)***

**Bad week for: Icons, with the death, at age 7, of Granny Cat, the internet superstar . Grumpy, who died of a urinary tract infection, was "a cherished member of the family," said he owners, who can continue to cherish the estimated $100 million that Grumpy's image has earned. *(The Week magazine, May 31 / June 7, 2019)***

**Nick’s mother stops for a moment as her son reads the Bible to their cat. “Isn’t that sweet?” she says. But an hour later, she hears a terrible racket. Running out the door, she finds Nick trying to drunk the cat in a bucket of water. “Nick, what are you doing?” “I’m baptizing Muffin,” she says. “But cats don’t like to be in water.” “Well, then he shouldn’t have joined my church.” (BLUERIDGENOW.COM)**

**Cats don't caress us -- they caress themselves on us. (*Rivarol)***

**Leonardo da Vinci called the cat “nature’s masterpiece.” *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A German shepherd, a Doberman and a cat die and go to heaven. They are greeted by God, who asks each of them what they believe in. The German shepherd goes first. "Discipline, training and loyalty to my master," he says. "Good," says God. "You may sit on my right. Now, Doberman, what do you believe in?" The Doberman answers, "Love, care and protecting my master." "Excellent," says God. "You may sit on my left. Now, cat, it's your turn. What do you believe in?" The cat replies, "I believe you're sitting in my seat." *(Merry Pruitt, in Reader's Digest)***

**Does it ever amaze and delight you that of all the places in the world – cool grassy nests under hedgerows, warm patches of sun on a carpet – the cat chooses to sit on your lap? *(Nevada Barr, in Seeking Enlightenment)***

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**In the beginning, God created man, but seeing him so feeble, He gave him the cat. *(Warren Eckstein)***

**One neighbor’s cat was run over by a car, and the mother quickly disposed of the remains before her four-year-old son Billy found out about it. After a few days, though, Billy finally asked about the cat. “Billy, the cat died,” his mother explained. “But it’s all right. He’s up in heaven with God.” The boy asked, “What in the world would God want with a dead cat?” *(Ross Sams, Jr., in Reader’s Digest)***

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**A cat's got her own opinion of human beings. She don't say much, but you can tell enough to make you anxious not to hear the whole of it. *(Jerome K. Jerome)***

**A happy arrangement: Many people prefer cats to other people, and many cats prefer people to other cats. *(Mason Cooley, aphorist)***

**Cats have it all -- admiration and an endless sleep and company only when they want it. *(Rod McKuen, in Book of Days)***

**Grandpa: "How long do cats live anyway?" Grandma: "Oh, not nearly long enough! Did you know that ancient Egyptians shaved off their eyebrows to mourn the death of their cats?" Grandpa: "Really? I'd be willing to shave off my eyebrows if it meant no more cat." *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**Garfield: “I feel like I have a skinny cat inside me, and he's hungry.” *(Jim Davis, in Garfield comic strip)***

**Cats are intended to teach us that not everything in nature has a function. *(Garrison Keillor)***

**God must have wanted everyone to have a kitten . . . because he keeps making so many of them! *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**Cats know how to obtain food without labor, shelter without confinement, and love without penalties. *(W. L. George)***

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**No matter how much cats fight, there always seem to be plenty of kittens. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**The first president to have a "First Cat" at the White House: Abraham Lincoln. *(Uncle John's Bathroom Reader: Extraordinary Book of Facts, p. 163)***

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**I swear it wasn’t my fault – the cat made me do it! *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Cats make inmates into better men: Chile’s most overcrowded prison has turned its cat infestation into animal therapy, said Paola Aleman. The michis, as cats are known in Chile, were introduced to Santiago Sur decades ago to hunt disease-carrying rats but quickly evolved into a health scourge in their own right. Without litter boxes, the hundreds of cats defecate “wherever they want in the prison, turning the place into a source of infection for everyone.” Yet the michis have worked wonders on the nearly 45,000 inmates, who are crammed into the facility nine to a cell. These criminals, many of them hardened gang members, play and cuddle with the cats, tend to their wounds, and even feed them from precious rations. When authorities recently carried out a three-day operation to spay and neuter the prison’s feline inhabitants, the prisoners sprang to help, catching and handing over their own cells’ pets. Some of the inmates “paced outside their cells for hours, waiting for the return of their cats, so they could take care of them in their post-operative process.” The behavioral benefits are so remarkable that officials have now begun allowing inmates who’ve served their sentences to take their kitties home with them. The prisoners’ “commitment and love for their pets” have put many “on the path to reintegration.” *(The Week magazine, January 19, 2024)***

**The cat could very well be man's best friend but would never stoop to admitting it. *(Doug Larson)***

**When I play with my cat, who knows whether she is not amusing herself with me more than I with her. *(Montaigne)***

**As a revered animal in Egyptian society and religion, the cat was treated to the same mummification process after death as humans were. Mummified cats were given in offering to Bast, the cat goddess. In 1888, an Egyptian farmer discovered a large tomb containing eighty thousand mummified cats and kittens outside the town of Beni Hasan. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 42)***

**The trouble with a kitten is THAT eventually it becomes a CAT. *(Ogden Nash)***

**They meow insistently, they shed all over the place, they're finicky eaters, and they never know whether they want to be inside or outside. But there is nothing more satisfying than when a cat shows you affection. *(Uncle John's Bathroom Reader: Colossal Collection of Quotable Quotes, p. 159)***

**Bad week for: Cat owners, after Japanese scientists found that felines have evolved to ignore their owners’ voices. “Cats, unlike dogs, have not been domesticated to obey humans’ orders,” said researchers. “Rather, they seem to take the initiative in human-cat interaction.” *(The Week magazine, December 13, 2013)***

**Grandma: "Look what I got. It's a photo frame with a build -in computer chip. I put a photo of Muffin in it and recorded her voice. (Meow. Meow)." Grandpa: That's great! You can see her and hear her, but you don't have to feed her or clean up after her. I say we keep this and get rid of the cat." *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**I asked my first-grade class to draw a picture of two sisters playing with a cat. When Kent, a twin, showed me his efforts, I asked why he had left the cat out of the picture. “Well,” he said, “if those two girls play with a cat the way my brother and I do, that cat left a long time ago.” *(Donald Kopnicky, in Reader’s Digest)***

**A dog, I have always said, is prose; a cat is a poem. *(Jean Burden)***

**The problem with cats is that they get the exact same look on their faces whether they see a moth or an ax murderer. *(Paula Poundstone)***

**Grandpa: "What are you rubbing the cat with?" Grandma: "A used dryer sheet. I read in my cat magazine that it keeps her hair smelling sweet and static free. Do you want to try it?" Grandpa: Sure." Grandma: "I meant on the cat!" *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**North Carolina's shrine to house cats: Some called him crazy, but Harold Sims knew that this country needed a cat museum., said Michael Schoeffel in USA Today. The 84-year-old retiree was right. Fellow cat fanatics have come from as far as China to visit the American Museum of the House Cat, which Sims built two years ago in Sylva, a small town near Asheville. His colorful collection -- advertised as "Catman's Lair" in large rainbow lettering on a sign out front -- includes all sorts of fun feline tchotchkes, as well as real exotica, such as a cat mummy from ancient Egypt, where cats were worshipped as gods. Sims, a former marine biologist, also runs a no-kill cat shelter and writes cat poetry that brings Dr. Seuss to mind. His vision isn't complete yet, though: He's already holding a new location across the street that'll be three times larger. "It's going to be a big "wow" for people when they walk in," Sims said. "Hopefully, it'll live on long after I'm gone." *(The Week magazine, October 4, 2019)***

**A man who was loved by 300 women singled me out to live with him. Why? I was the only one without a cat. *(Elayne Boosler)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Cats sleep up to 18 hours a day but never quite as deeply as humans. Instead, they fall asleep quickly and wake up frequently to make sure their environment is still safe. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**Your cat, if typical, sleeps away two-thirds of its life. *(L. M. Boyd)***

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**How to tame a distracting cat: "Cats don't care if you are in the middle of a Zoom meeting," said Tim Dowling in TheGuardian.com. Naturally curious, they just want to get involved in anything you're doing. Toys, puzzle feeders, and cat trees can help keep a bored feline occupied. But the next time your cat clambers over your keyboard, start training him or her -- yes, you can train a cat -- to settle in a designated area on your desk. Place a small towel in a corner. "Every time the cat jumps up, point to the towel using a word such as 'here' or 'towel.'" Have a treat ready for positive reinforcement, and don't punish a cat that does dance on the keyboard. It probably thinks it's helping. (*The Week magazine, December 4, 2020)***

**Ways teenagers arelike cats: Neither teenagers nor cats turn their heads when you call them by name. No matter what you do for them, it is not enough. Indeed, all efforts are barely adequate to compensate for the privilege of waiting on them hand and foot. No cat or teenager shares your taste in music. Cats and teenagers can lie on the living-room sofa for hours on end without moving, barely breathing. Cats have nine lives. Teenagers carry on as if they did. Cats and teen-agers do not improve anyone's furniture*. (Rocky Mountain News, circulating on the Internet)***

**Cats think about three things: food, sex, and nothing. *(Adair Lara)***

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**If animals could speak, the dog would be a blundering outspoken fellow; but the cat would have the rare grace of never saying a word too much. *(Mark Twain)***

**If man could be crossed with the cat, it would improve man but deteriorate the cat. *(Mark Twain)***

**A man who carries a cat by the tail learns something he can learn in no other way. *(Mark Twain)***

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**In 1879, thirty-seven cats were used to deliver mail to villages in Belgium. It wasn't long before they discovered that cats were not disciplined enough to do this. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 42)***

**A cat has about 19 million nerve endings in its nose, as opposed to around five million for humans. Every cat's nosepad, like human fingerprints, is distinct and unique to that cat. No two feline noseprints are ever alike. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 42)***

**Today is January 22, Answer Your Cat's Questions Day. Anthrozoologist Dr. John Bradshaw believes that cats view humans as large, useless cats. Change their minds by giving them vertical spaces to explore and plenty of things to scratch. (*The Daily Chronicle)***

**Cats can make over 100 vocal sounds, while dogs can only make 10. *(Charlotte Lowe, in Fact-O-Pedia, p. 42)***

**A man hates his wife’s cat, so he drives it to a park and leaves it. As the man arrives home, the cat is walking up the driveway. The next day he drives the cat to the next town, boots it out, and heads home. And there was the cat! Finally, he drives 20 miles, turns right, then left, and over a mountain to a thick forest, and leaves the cat there. Hours later he calls home: “Jen, is the cat there?” “Yes,” she says. “Put it on. I’m lost, and I need it to give me directions home.” *(CATSAREONTOP.COM)***

**The phrase "domestic cat" is an oxymoron. *(George Will)***

**In Britain, witches were once said to disguise themselves as cats, so many people refused to talk near a cat for fear that a witch would learn their secrets. *(Noel Botham, in The World’s Greatest Book of Useless Information, p. 124)***

**In ancient times cats were worshipped as gods; they have not forgotten this. (Terry Pratchett, author)**

**Wife: "Hello, you sweet kitty! Mommy loves you!" Husband: "Why is it that you seem to like that cat more than you like me?" Wife: "For one thing the cat doesn't shed as much!" (*Kevin Fagan, in Drabble comic strip)***

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