

# The Cat That Barked

Holly McVeigh

Did you know, I once met a cat that barked?

I know you are thinking,

“That’s bizarre”

Well believe me it’s true

I hope it intrigued you.

But to my despair, you drag the cat apart.

You call the cat a freak

And her heart starts to break,

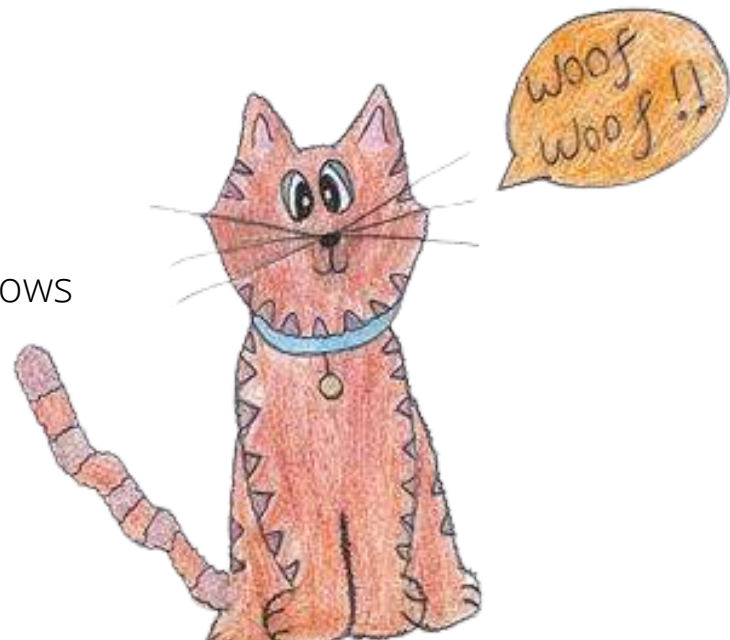
You call her weird

So she wants to change.

A burning desire to camouflage grows

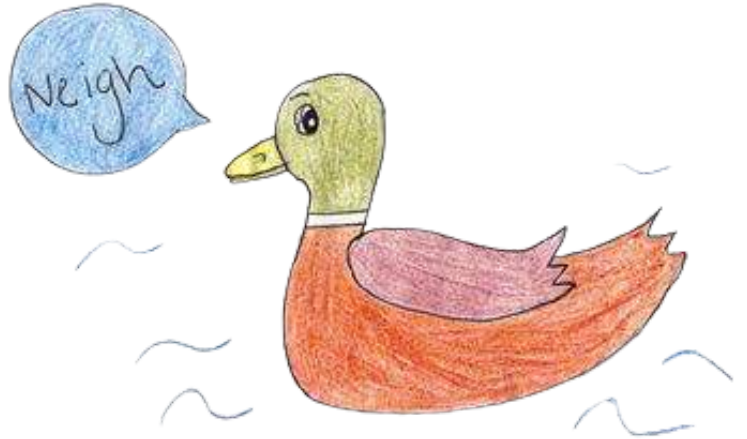
As whispers,

laughter and stares take hold.



Feeling out of place, a castaway,  
a reject,  
She dreams of conformity;  
Saying meow.  
Until one day,

She heard a neigh,  
From where do you think?  
No, not a horse.  
It was a duck, of course!



Empowered by her unique new friend  
The cat barks with pride and contentment  
No insecurity,  
Embracing her differences.

I admire in fascination,  
To find such an inspiration.