

The Cabbage Thief

Based on “True” Events

Do you have a food that you love very, very much? Is it a food that you are almost in companionship with? It may not be like that for you, but there is a cat that feels that way. Her name is Mavis, and she absolutely loves cabbages. I know, cabbages might not taste good to you raw, but Mavis loves them in almost any form. At least one of her 3 meals a day has cabbage as the main course. This is very unusual for a cat, but has any person reading this loved cabbages quite as much as Mavis? I suspect not. As such, you may not be able to completely put yourself in Mavis’s place and empathize. However, this is not the point of this story. The point of the story will be revealed if you choose to read on.

Mavis is a mother cat, with 6 healthy kittens. She loves them very much, but I am sad to say that Mavis might trade one away if she were bribed with a special enough cabbage. Many cats are appalled at this, and for good reason. However, Mavis would be quite worried if one or some of her kittens went missing. So, how would Mavis feel if one of her cabbages disappeared? You can imagine the effects, no doubt. And coincidentally, that is what happened today, on Sunday.

At 7:00 A.M. sharp, Mavis’s alarm went off and she opened her eyes. Mavis got up, she stretched, and then licked herself all over, to clean herself after a long night’s sleep. Mavis walked into her kittens’ room, carefully shook their shoulders, and then made her way to the kitchen, to prepare breakfast for herself. Mavis opened up the fridge that she used to keep her cabbages in, and got a very nasty surprise. Mavis always checked her cabbage balance right before going to bed, and last night she had counted 16 cabbages in her fridge. However, Mavis could only count 4. Someone, in the night, had broken in and stolen a dozen of her cabbages.

Mavis panicked. She picked up the phone and dialed her friend, Harvey’s, number. He picked up, but sounded very groggy. Harvey was an 8 year old cat with only 3 legs. His only major food group personally speaking was sugar. He also had a very strong attraction to Jeeps, which his son North could only describe as dangerous. Since Harvey was missing his left front leg, he couldn’t correctly steer a Jeep, let alone any car. Mavis told Harvey about her situation, and he came rushing as soon as he heard that there was a cabbage thief.

By now, Mavis’s kittens were trickling into the kitchen, wondering what the racket was all about. When they saw the fridge open with only 4 cabbages inside, Mavis’s kittens ran back to their room, trying to hide nervousness. Mavis didn’t notice, as she was too busy inspecting the cabbages that were still in her fridge. Harvey arrived soon after, breathless from his run to Mavis’s house.

“I just checked the fridge,” Mavis told Harvey, “and a dozen of my cabbages were gone!” She was almost hysterical, and for good reason. Mavis ate 5 to 6 full cabbages a day, and the markets were closed on Sundays, so Mavis couldn’t get any more. Cabbages played a large part in Mavis’s diet, and if she suddenly ate less, she could get sick. This was bad.

“Don’t you have that security camera?” Harvey asked Mavis, “we could check that and see who snuck into your house!”

“That’s a good idea.” Mavis intoned, voice bleak without any emotion. “I’ll check the footage from last night.”

Mavis quickly buzzed through the tape, until suddenly, at around midnight, some movement caught Mavis’s eye. She scrolled back on the tape, until reaching the spot with the little bit of movement. The camera footage was dark, but Mavis could just make out a small shape opening her fridge and taking out a dozen cabbages. They took them away, one by one, but finally, just as the small figure was taking the last cabbage out the kitchen door, they looked up near the camera. The form was the form of one of Mavis’s kittens, Baron. Mavis stormed toward her kittens’ room, and opened the door. In the far corner, all 6 of Mavis’s kittens were huddled, blocking the door of their closet. Mavis walked over, and opened the door of the closet with ease, pushing her kittens away with the door. Inside were her dozen cabbages, in perfect condition.

“Why did you steal them?” Mavis asked, feeling more hurt than anger, “you know I love them so much!”

“We...” Baron started, “We stole them because we felt like you loved them more than us!” And with that, all 6 of Mavis’s kittens burst into tears. Mavis went over to hug them, and Harvey excused himself.

“We won’t steal them again, I promise!” Baron told Mavis, who was busy hugging him and his siblings.

“No, you are right.” Mavis stood up. “I have been caring for those cabbages better than I have been for you. I’m sorry for that. But, who would like to make a special trip to The Wish for Fish to make up?” Mavis’s kittens’ eyes lit up. The Wish for Fish was the best place for fried fish in the city. And, it was usually only for dinner.

“Sure!” Baron answered Mavis, and then, mother and kittens hopped in the car and drove off.

The End