



Cat's Tale: A Fairy Tale Retold

Bettie Sharpe

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Once upon a time there was a scheming, lying tart who cared for nothing but her own pleasures and her shoe collection.

Once the peerlessly beautiful Lady Catriona, consort to the king, Cat's fortunes fall far when her aged husband dies. The king's wizard turns her into a cat and tries to drown her in the mill pond. Fortunately Cat is a clever survivor and enlists the help of Julian, the miller's youngest son, in her plan for revenge.

She originally sees Julian as a mere pawn for her plans to break her curse, but as they work together Cat comes to know and care for him. Even if the curse can be broken, can a good-hearted man love a woman who has been as vain and selfish as Cat?

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From Reader Review Cat's Tale: A Fairy Tale Retold for online ebook

Hirondelle says

A while ago I chanced upon *Ember*, Bettie Sharpe's dark gritty and explicit take on the Cinderella story. It was (and I think still is) a free ebook, and I was hooked from the first couple of pages. It was excellent all through, I loved the writing, the setting, the voice and tone. I made a note to look for anything else by the author. And now after a false alarm, she takes on another erotic gritty fairy tale retelling (yes, it is a subgenre now).

This time the story is *Puss in Boots*, with an amoral heroine with the morals of an alley cat eventually finding true love (and an endless supply of shoes), all the while entertaining the reader with a deliciously snarky attitude.

I did not quite love it as much as I did *Ember*, but then again Cinderella is my favorite fairy tale. *Ember* was also darker, *Cat* is more satirical in tone. I love satire, but perhaps *Ember*'s raw emotion made for a more compelling romance. But nevermind that, this was still very enjoyable indeed, and very well written. I will keep reading anything by this author!

I read this courtesy of netgalley and the publisher, thank you very much!

Valona (acourtofbbooksandtea) Shala says

Cute story But an annoying main character:)
Loved that it was a retelling of puss in boots

Amanda says

This is a joint review with *Ember* and is cross-posted there.

I was hooked about two pages into *Ember*, a romance retelling of "Cinderella" featuring a heroine who is a (mostly) benevolent witch and a prince who is literally cursed by Charm -- everyone who meets him loves him, finds him salivatingly handsome, and can't help but do what he wants. I knew immediately I would want to read everything by this author, which, I'll mention now, is devastatingly little that is available: three novellas and one short story on Amazon and none published after 2012. What happened to you, Bettie Sharpe?

Anyway, Sharpe's writing is immediately arresting: lyrical without veering into purple prose, and highly sensual even without detailed descriptions of torrid encounters. Both books are unquestionably erotic, but the pages aren't filled with actual lovemaking so much as longing and artful imagining. Both female protagonists are unreliable and, though not completely unlikeable, they share little in common with the sweet, insipid heroines of the fairy tales that inspire them.

A Cat's Tale is a "Puss in Boots" retelling centered on Lady Catriona, who is a vain, manipulative liar. Considered by all to be the most beautiful woman in the land, she strives for little else than a wardrobe of opulent dresses and shoes. Knowing that she is equipped with the beauty to seduce the king, and that his wealth will provide her with all of her earthly desires, she schemes to marry him and, eventually, succeeds. The king is an old man, though, and after his death, Catriona runs afoul of the court appointed wizard, who curses her and changes her into a cat. Once in feline form, she befriends a handsome miller's son and resumes her scheming to depose the wizard and regain her pampered place in court. For all of this, though, some of her goals are actually noble, and she is undeniably clever. The partnership she forms with the miller's son is, at first, shocking to him -- beyond her being a talking cat -- given her utter lack of scrupulousness, but she quickly makes work of the naivete that undoes his potential and in the process, they grow to genuinely care about each other. The story is refreshing because it is not the tale of how a frivolous woman is cured by the stern, rational reproach of the right man; nor is it about the Manic Pixie Dream GirlCat who teaches a serious man how to have fun. It's, instead, an alliance between two people with complementary values and skills who respect the other's best attributes while appreciating and accepting their faults.

Aside from being very imaginative retellings that avoid the saccharine quality that often comes part-and-parcel with modern fairy tales, the novellas are decidedly feminist. Both stories celebrate "imperfect" women, and both include female allies for the heroines, even when they don't necessarily like each other (*A Cat's Tale*) or when there is a rocky beginning to the relationship (*Ember*.) Thank you, Bettie Sharpe, for acknowledging that women are capable of working together under inauspicious conditions without catfighting.

Though both stories were instant favorites for me, they each have a handful of negative reviews, so clearly this style doesn't work as well for everyone. But if you like a bit of fantasy in your romance and erotica that doesn't veer all the way into paranormal territory, and if you like heroes and heroines that are a bit of a work in progress, I'd have to think these novellas would work as well for you as they did for me.

✕Tabby✕ says

Received from: Carina Press

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Lady Catriona, consort to the king is not only shallow but also vain and selfish and only cares about what or who can benefit her. That is until her world starts to crumble and she became an enemy of the king's wizard and is turned into a cat. Determined to take down the wizard she teams up with Julian someone who is her complete opposite and finds herself falling inlove but can he ever love the real her? And will they be able to save the princess and break her curse?

“Forgiveness warred with anger on his face, but I knew forgiveness would win. He was too kind by half. Too kind to his brothers. Too kind to me. His brothers would have stolen his possessions, but if I’d my way, I would steal his heart. I was too much in love to let him alone, and too selfish to set him free.”

Cat's Tale: A Fairy Tale Retold is what you would call an adult fairytale re-telling of "The Puss in Boots" but

with a twist! I have to admit this wasn't what I was expecting at all when I requested this from NetGalley a few weeks ago, I expected a cute and sweet retelling ,but after the first chapter I soon realized I was wrong. With that said I really enjoyed it. First off I really liked the characters, sure Catriona aka cat could get annoying and yeah she didn't deserve Julian at all but she did have her moments. As for Julian let's just say if more men were like him it would be a better world

“Men may say they want a woman with a kind heart and a sterling character, but beauty never fails to turn their heads” “Is that what your beauty has taught you?” Julian's words were sad. “I believe that if a man truly loved his lady, he would not care for other women at all because he would compare them each to her and find them lacking.”

I also liked the fast pace of the story. I never felt liked it dragged or had parts that were unnecessary to the story; actually this was the first time I think a book really benefited from its short length. The romance was also interesting even though she didn't deserve him, I liked how she knew she didn't deserve him and wanted to become a better person. Most of all I liked how it stayed true to the the original fairytale but in a way was completely different.

overall an enjoyable fast passed read!

?Karlyn P? says

4.5 stars. Overall, I loved it. I listened to this one on audio, and the reader was fantastic. (I'm sad she hasn't recorded any other books.) Cat's Tale was a fun naughty spin off of Puss In Boots, a fairy tale I am not familiar with. I don't know how it compares to the original tale, but as a stand alone fantasy read it was great and easy to follow.

This is a reverse 'reform the rake' type story, where the heroine (not the hero) has a wicked and immoral character. I loved how the heroine gradually grew a conscience, and how she came to see Julian for the whole man he is and not just what he could do for her. It had plenty of dark humorous moments, a clever storyline, and some great steamy hot scenes with a YUMMY hero. :-)

If you read and enjoyed her book Ember, this is more of that same great dark humor and clever writing. I cant wait to see what the author does next.

Lynn Spencer says

I originally read this for the 2011 TBR Challenge, and it ended up being a real treasure. It's a delightful retelling of the Puss in Boots tale, with plenty of twists thrown in by the author. Here's the review I wrote for AAR:

For this month's TBR Challenge read, I decided to hit the virtual TBR pile. It's not as large as the dead tree one, but it still exists. I'm glad I decided to pick something from the Kindle because Bettie Sharpe's novella

Cat's Tale ended up being wonderful. This inspired retelling of Puss in Boots is definitely a Desert Island Keeper read for me.

The story, told in first person, takes us inside the head of the beautiful and very spoiled Catriona. In the beginning, the scheming, devious Catriona uses her looks as well as a few tricks to catch the eye of the widowed king. This marriage takes her from rural obscurity to a very pampered existence at the palace – until the king dies. At that point, Catriona tries to protect her position by getting mixed up in palace intrigue and after crossing the wizard Galfridus, she finds herself turned into a cat and tossed into a millpond to drown.

Fortunately, Cat survives her swim but remains trapped in cat form. She recruits the miller's youngest son to help her in her quest for revenge and to regain her rightful place. To those who have read the original Puss in Boots, it would not surprise anyone to learn that the grand plan involves the promise of wealth, a title, and the hand of a princess. Cat, of course, does not tell him about her own agenda, but the miller's son Julian is in a rather deperate position himself and he goes along with her plan. Given that Cat believes, "every grand plan begins with the right pair of shoes," she manages to convince Julian to outfit her with a little cat-sized pair of boots. And so it is that a boot-wearing cat and a miller's third son set off on a grand adventure.

This is a partial review, and you can find the full text at All About Romance:
<http://www.likesbooks.com/cgi-bin/boo...>

Rhianna says

Like Fairytale Retellings? Add Sharpe to Your MUST-HAVE List

Spoiled, manipulative, and downright wicked the only thing beautiful about the king's consort, Lady Catriona, is the body she inhabits. Being breath-takingly lovely has its advantages and she's used them to get everything she could ever desire and there are few things she loves more than her exquisite shoes. Yet when the king dies his fortune falls to his young daughter and his trusted advisors seek to get rid of her. When the king's wizard turns her into a cat and attempts to drown her in the mill pond. She isn't the only one having bad luck that day and when the miller's youngest son, Julian, becomes her companion she intends to use him to her own advantage just as she has every man before.

Yet this puss-in-boots might find herself having a change of heart as an unlikely friendship develops between she and Julian who has no clue of her real identity. If they can break the spell and Cat becomes human once more could kind, good-hearted Julian ever love the once selfish and spoiled lady Catriona?

I L-O-V-E, looove fairytale retellings. Classic stories lend themselves to all sorts of fun interpretations but few are as fun as those written for adults with a touch of erotic flavor. That said, Puss In Boots is probably the last story I would have expected to see retold in such a way. But Sharpe nails it. I anticipated some slightly awkward cat-as-love-interest weirdness to undertone the storytelling yet she kept it from crossing that line. Instead Catriona is a very strong—though very selfish and downright slutty—character that translates into the personality of a feline well enough that the sexual side doesn't need to enter for it to work.

The writing is superb, Catriona's voice distinct and amusing. The story follows the traditional tale pretty closely and has the happily-ever-after ending romance readers will look forward to. I very much enjoyed this one and look forward to reading more fairytale retellings from Sharpe in the near future!

Rachel says

I knew from the summary that the main character is not nice at the beginning, but I didn't expect her to be so totally without morals and unlikeable. When there was a sex scene partway through the first chapter, this clearly is not a book for me. I didn't even get far enough to find out it's a spin off of the Puss in Boots fairytale.

Summer says

It wasn't as good as Ember. I liked that the author intentionally made the main character so morally ambiguous and atypical. Despite the attempt to make her seem unlikable I found her to be fun to read about. While I wouldn't want to be anywhere near someone like her in real life, in fiction someone like that can be entertaining. I am sad that there isn't much more works by Bettie Sharpe and you can't really find any information on her. I really like her work.

Jenn says

RECEIVED FROM: Net Galley For Review

NOTE MY REVIEWS OFTEN CONTAIN SPOILERS

Lady Catriona, the daughter of a poor Count and Countess who'd betrayed their king, had but one virtue. She was beautiful, more beautiful than any other in the land. She was also clever and devious, greedy and ambitious. She used these traits to ensnare a King into wedding her and when he died it was these same traits that caused her downfall. Now she's a cat who the King's wizard, a man more evil than herself, tried to drown, but through chance she survives. She enlists the miller's youngest son to aid her in regaining her form and saving the princess from marriage to the wizard. He's brave, kind and honorable. She's a cunning and devious cat with a plan, but somehow despite their difference they click like Cat has never clicked with anyone before. He becomes her first friend, but he doesn't know the truth about who she really is or what she's done. Will he still help her if he learns the truth? Can a cat and a peasant save the kingdom even if he does?

I requested this off Net Galley a very long time ago and while it was my best of intentions to read it right away, that didn't quite happen. When I was deciding today what to read I came across this again and decided it was time I opened its pages. I was disappointed in myself for having put it off so long, because this is most definitely a story worth reading. It's told in a first person narrative which surprisingly enough moves between a close and distant voice. I didn't really think that was possible, but somehow Sharpe manages to move between bring us up close for an engaging scene and withdrawing to tell the story like a fairytale while remaining in Cat's first person point of view. I didn't think there was such a thing as a fairytale for adults either, but Sharpe managed to prove me wrong on that account as well. Many parts of this reminded me of a Disney movie, while others scenes were well past pg-13. Because it's a romance it does involve sex scenes,

but they're not graphic and what's interesting is they're not all used to enhance the love story between the leading couple. Through the fairytale Sharpe gives examples of the different ways that people join their bodies or maybe the different reasons. She gives us scenes of sex for lust, for power, and for depravity. She gives us scenes of sex out of sheer loneliness and of course like any true romance she gives us scenes of sex for love. None of them are overly detailed as would be slightly uncomfortable in a first person point of view. The scenes aren't portrayed like some teen sharing too much of her sexual adventures with her friends. I'd almost say they're told with class, enough detail to know what happened, but not enough to feel like a voyeur or like you're stuck in one of those TMI conversations. And even though the story does include various scenes of this nature, because they're not extremely detailed or really even a focus they don't dominate the story. The scenes are short and they're there for a reason. First they demonstrate Catriona's character, then they show the lengths of her depravity – just how far greed has driven her, they demonstrate how lonely being attractive but poor has made Julian, how empty and finally they demonstrate how difference sex can be between people who truly love one another. While some of the things Sharpe includes in the story are a little clichéd, it's almost endearing how she includes these things. Cat is sarcastic, conceited and jaded, because of this she's almost snarky at times when she speaks or tells us about what's happening and I found myself quite often laughing at her. The story has adventure, excitement and love with an evil wizard added in for good measure. It's well written and fast paced, a pure joy to read. About the only thing I have negative about the story is that people accepted a talking cat in books entirely too easily, a few characters had initial surprise, but easy acceptance, but after that everyone else acted like it was normal. Other than that I can't think of anything I didn't like about the story or that could be found detracting. I'd have maybe liked a little bit more of the story but it was a well written and enjoyable read.

The characters were fairly well developed, especially Cat. You not only felt as though you knew her, you saw what shaped her into the person she's become. Julian was decently developed, but most other secondary characters were more stereotypical than well developed. However with the way the story was told I don't feel the lack of character development detracted from the story. The story is a fairy tale and fairytales aren't supposed to bring you up close and personal with each character.

Overall I'd definitely recommend this story to someone who enjoys a good fairy tale and a good romance.

Robin (Bridge Four) says

2.5 Booted Stars

After reading *Ember* I thought why not check out a few more sexy little novellas written by Bettie Sharpe? This is an interesting and erotic retelling of *Puss in Boots*. Sharpe has no trouble writing a woman who is morally ambiguous to be sure. Catriona is not really likable until after she is cursed to be a cat and even then...well she isn't exactly likable but she is better.

She is a user of people for her own gain. She is deceptive, cunning and cruel and it makes it very difficult to want to root for her. She has played the game well and becomes consort to the king. He might be a little old and wrinkly but what is it to put up with that in your bed when you can have all the pretty gowns, shoes and take any other handsome courtier to your bed as well. Until you kill him with your passion that is. And it is here that Catriona makes a fatal mistake and tries to con a wizard however it backfires and she ends up a cat thrown out like trash.

Julian is actually the only likable character in the book. He is the handsome miller's son that glimpsed the

beautiful Catriona once upon a time. There was a zing of lusty looks between them but nothing more until she decided to use him to be able to get back at the wizard.

I thought of Lyell, of the true heart I'd had and tossed away. Much as it shamed me to admit it, Julian was lucky he hadn't met me. I would have broken his heart, just as I'd broken Lyell's—not from coldness or from cruelty, but from carelessness, which was the harshest reason of them all.

Cat changes a little in her time with Julian. It is the first time in her life that she has been completely herself with a man. A friendship develops between them and where he is so kind he balances out some of the nastier traits that Cat has used her entire life.

This is an okay story re-telling. There are some things that happen in the sexually explicit parts that I don't like even in erotica. If a guy is sleeping and he is not your current lover, it is not okay to stroke his member until he comes. It wouldn't be okay for a guy to do that to a girl and it is not okay vice versa. I did like that actual few hook ups we get between Cat and Julian but most of the sex is between them and other people which really isn't much of my thing either.

The pluses are that I liked the twist to the original fairy tale, Cat isn't a wholesome virginal twit and Julian is a fantastic Hero in the story.

The Negatives are I didn't like some of the sexual exploits in the story and Cat is a difficult character to like in the beginning.

Suggestions - If you haven't read Ember then I'd check that out first it was a really cool take on Cinderella. If you've read that already then perhaps this or one of her other novellas might work for you too.

Heather *Awkward Queen and Unicorn Twin* says

"Puss in Boots" is one of my least-favorite fairy tales. I don't know why, but the story doesn't appeal to me in the least. Still, I decided to try this retelling because I really enjoyed EMBER.

Whereas EMBER struck me as a fresh take on Cinderella, CAT'S TALE seemed close to what I remember of the original tale, just with some details changed and a lot of sex added. Other than that, it was pretty ordinary. I enjoyed the fact that Cat was an extremely unlikable heroine, and I wanted to know more about the wizard. Julian wasn't as interesting or fleshed out as I would have liked. This was a quick read, and I might have enjoyed it more if it had done something radically different with the source material.

2.5 stars.

Wendy-Lynn says

Cat's Tale by Bettie Sharpe is a retelling of the Fairy Tale Puss 'N Boots. Lady Catriona (Cat) is determined to become Queen prior to the King's demise. In her efforts to continue on her quest for the throne, she enlists

the help of the king's wizard, Galfridus (who is really an ogre in disguise). Galfridus has other plans as he wants to marry the Princess Etheldred. Catriona wants none of this and decides to tell the Princess Galfridus' true identity. In a rage, the wizard turns Catriona into a cat and tries to drown her in the mill's pond. Cat escapes and enlists the help of the mill keeper's son Julian. When Julian finds out that the cat is really Lady Catriona (because she can talk, and wants her boots), he's in for one wild adventure. This was a really fun and light read. Received courtesy of Net Galley.

Stella says

I loved every minute of this story so much that I have a hard time deciding where to start...

Let me say before anything else, that I never really cared for Puss in Boots (the classic fairy tale whose modern retelling Cat's Tale is) as I never considered it a true fairy tale: it didn't have a princess or prince as main character but a miller's son, and the story wasn't about the romantic storyline but about how the miller's son thanks to the cat's cunning made his fortune. So I was curious to see why someone would choose to retell this tale which isn't heavy on the romance and magic aspect of classic fairy tales, and Bettie Sharpe made me understand.

Bettie Sharpe spins surprising twists on the original version of the old classic Puss in Boots: here the Cat is actually Catriona, a noble young woman, who is extremely vain and selfish but as her beauty is legendary it enables her (and her strategic cunning as well) to marry the old and widowed king. It is only after the king's death that problems arise as everyone wants to seize the power and Lady Catriona messes with the wrong man: the kingdom's most powerful wizard, who as revenge of Catriona's meddling turns her into a cat and throws her in the river, intending for her to drown.

But luck is on Catriona's side: she escapes and discovers that not only she can talk in cat form, but that at moonlight she can revert back to her human form.

I won't recount how things happen from here, because it follows pretty truly the original tale, but I will tell you what I found so extraordinary about Bettie Sharpe's retelling.

I LOVED that her heroine was flawed. Big time! And she knows very well that she is vain, a liar without morals or goodness of the heart.

"If he was not besotted by my beauty, what hope had I of keeping him? I had nothing else to offer—I had neither virtue nor kindness, nor any of the domestic skills expected of most wives. And as clever as I thought myself, I had to admit my cleverness owed more to innate cunning than trained intellect."

It was refreshing and highly unusual to meet such a negative heroine, and yet her honesty and realistic acceptance of her faults was what made her sympathetic to me despite her shortcomings. Even though Cat evolved a lot throughout the novel, mostly thanks to the hardships she had to overcome and Julian's beneficial influence, I loved that Bettie Sharpe didn't belie the basis of her character and make her out to be a sweet and shy maiden, because Cat is most certainly not that!

"Will you mind, very much, being the Marchioness de Carabas? It is a step down from Lady Catriona, Consort to the King." It was on the tip of my tongue to say something endearing like, "I would not mind being Catriona Miller, so long as I were with you." But it wasn't true.

I cannot applaud Bettie Sharpe enough for not sacrificing realism and Cat's character on the altar of redemption by completely transplanting her basic character. It was amazing how true and realistic Cat remained to herself, she didn't get a complete change just became better by loving someone.

Cat's Tale was full of humour: the tongue in cheek kind and winks to the original version, as well as intelligent, witty lines.

"What shall I call you?" It was on the tip of my tongue to tell him my name, but then I thought better of it. The Lady Catriona was a dream to him, a prize to be won. He would not want her if he learned she had been turned into an animal by her ex-lover. I did not want to alter the image of Catriona he had in his head—the glimpse of my face through the carriage window those years ago. And so, I did what I have always done in order to get what I want. I lied.

"We cats, among ourselves we do not have names."

"Well, then, I shall have to make up a name." He was silent for a moment. "I know. Let's call you Boots."

"Let's not."

"Puss—"

"Definitely not. 'Puss' isn't a name, it's an invitation to ribald puns."

"What am I to call you, then?"

"Call me Cat."

And what was lacking in the original, is aplenty in Bettie Sharpe's version: Cat's Tale has romance! Yay! :-D
The kind of sweet and heart wrenching romance

"Please say you forgive me," I whispered. "Please." Forgiveness warred with anger on his face, but I knew forgiveness would win. He was too kind by half. Too kind to his brothers. Too kind to me. His brothers would have stolen his possessions, but if I'd my way, I would steal his heart. I was too much in love to let him alone, and too selfish to set him free.

as well as plenty of steamy, tingling romantic scenes - make no mistake Cat's Tale is definitely a tale for adults! *fans herself*

Julian the hero was dreamy. His innocence, generous heart and goodness made him unique in the sea of jaded and experienced heroes. In Cat's Tale the traditional gender and romance novel roles are reversed: it was the hero who was good and innocent and it was the heroine who was in charge and protecting the hero by her machinations.

Again I must repeat what a fascinating character Cat is. Her blunt honesty, strong will as well as modern and feminist independence make her real and a true woman of the 20th century.

No! I chased the thought from my head. I wanted to live. Not for Julian, but for myself. We have all read tales of love where each would die without the other, but my love was not some sorry, sniveling substitute for self-hatred. I would not wither for want of him. I would live and love him though he loved me not. I would live and love again, now that I knew how. I would fight. And fight I did.

And to conclude: Julian's words summing up Cat the best:

"Most people merely live in the world, but you change it to suit your wishes."

Verdict: Through Cat's Tale Bettie Sharpe showed me that the story of Puss in Boots has so much more to

offer than a classic "prince meets princess, they fall in love, have to vanquish a villain and live happily ever after" story. And for that I thank her!

Bettie Sharpe's writing has everything one would wish for in a great story: wittiness, humour, emotions and great characterisations, all packed together through excellent and fluent writing.

Cat's Tale is an amazing modern fairy tale retelling, one that I believe every fairy tale fan should read!

Plot: 10/10

Characters: 10/10

Writing: 10/10

Ending: 10/10

Cover: 10/10

Habrewer says

If Cat's Tale reminds you of a popular child's fairy tale, it should. It is a take on Puss in Boots but in this version Cat is female. It follows typical fairy tale format with a pretty maiden, an evil sorcerer and a happily ever after at the end.

Catriona is the most beautiful female in the land. Her parents don't have anything to offer a suitor so they rely on Catriona's beauty to land to catch the King's eye. Cat has her own plans to become Lady Catriona but little did she know that her time in court would be short.

Catriona is shallow and self centered and only concerned with her own pleasure. She spends her time in court either buying shoes & gowns or seducing the young men. Her ladies in waiting are scared into silence regarding her dalliances; she believes no one knows about them but she is proven wrong.

The evil wizard, Galfridus has his own political aspirations and plans on ruling their kingdom. His plans are spoiled when Catriona reveals his them to Princess Etheldred. He is determined to be king so he uses his magic on Cat and literally turns her into a Cat. He just never expected it to come back and bite him in the butt.

The story is a very fast, fun read. Cat can be a little annoying because she is so self centered, just want to yell at her to "get a clue". She is smart and wily when it comes to getting what she wants, even as a cat. As the story progresses, we see a visible change in Cat as she realizes that there is more to life than possessions.

Julian is good for her because he teaches her that friendship is one of the most valuable gifts you can give someone and it can't be bought.

Through her scheming, Cat plans on getting Julian a title and provide Princess Etheldred a husband. She doesn't count on the wizard's magic and almost loses everything. In the end, Cat proves to herself as well as everyone else that she is worthy of Julian's love.

Overall I enjoyed this story. I give Cat's Tale: A Fairy Tale Retold 3½ Flaming Hearts.
