A purr-fectly adventurous love tail

**By Imogen Lamb**

“HAHA look it's Fat cat, he’s so fat he could and would eat every one of our breakfasts in one go.” screeches one of the cats. All the tomcats had gathered next door and were planning to escape for an adventure, of course Fat cat wasn’t invited like every other time.

They were going to the lake and that may not be his favorite place but it would feel good to at least get an invite. They were going to catch fish down there while Fat cat was about to be fed his 5 pound dinner from nonna that was just delectable.

The next day Fat cat woke up from his nap and walked outside for his daily sun bake to find a new cat he had never seen before.

He stared at her in confusion “what is a beautiful cat like her doing in my yard?” he wondered. Once he built up enough courage he asked her what her name was. She replied “My name is Ezzy, what’s yours?”.

Fat cat was surprised as no one had ever asked him what his name was but he politely answered “my name is Axel but usually people just call me Fat cat.” Ezzy felt sorry for Fat cat and wondered how people could be so rude.

”Well I heard in the Forest there is a catnip treasure and I’m going to find it. Do you want to come and help me?” “I would love to come but the Forest sounds quite far away and catnip treasure is tempting but I don’t know if I can make it all the way.” “ Come and we will take it step by step.

Slow and steady wins the race right.” “ Right, let’s go!” Axel was so excited to go but even more excited that she asked what his name was.

Butterflies flew around in his stomach as he had developed a big crush on her.

Before they left they took a bag full of treats just for the trip but of course they were gone before they left the house. Axel followed Ezzy through the back gate towards the street away from the neighborhood where they stopped at a park for water. Ezzy led Axel down an alleyway he insisted not to go down but they did regardless.

The alley opens up at a corner where overgrown trees covered the edges of the building and the smell of mould overpowered everything else.

When Ezzy saw the towering trees shivers went down her spine, when axel saw he screeched **so** loud. Ezzy dragged him through with her he hissed and hissed as she ushered him through.

He looked around the last tree happy as ever until he saw massive scratching posts ten times taller than the trees. They both spent the next half an hour flexing their claws and scratching the posts, Axel was so tired he passed out.

When he awoke Ezzy was there waiting next to him ready to continue.

They crept through the maze and got lost in its complexity, especially since Axel's hefty frame could barely fit through but his determination matched his size. Meanwhile Ezzy’s lithe form weaved effortlessly through the mazes passageways, her curiosity driving her through.

As they journeyed deeper into the maze, the scratching posts seemed to multiply, creating a complex network of paths and dead ends slowly draining their energy. Suddenly they lost sight of each other.

Despite their separation they continued to rely on their keen senses to keep them on track, finally at the mazes heart Axel's emerged from one passage, while Ezzy leapt out gracefully from another, their gazes met.. reflecting relief, victory and happiness as they were reunited with only one straight passage in front of them. Their bond was forged so strongly after making their way through the labyrinth.

In the heart of the maze, Axel and Ezzy found themselves unexpectedly put into a mischievous game made by a mysterious figure wielding a laser pointer. With each flick of the beam that cats were sent jumping around corners their tails twitching as they chased the bright dot. Axel’s chunky frame barreled through the maze, while Ezzy’s agile leaps carried her effortlessly over obstacles in pursuit of the shining light.Yet, as they zigzagged around the beams began to multiply, leading them on a very dizzy chase. Once they were puffed out they sat defeated but remembered the real challenge they stood back up and went onward ignoring the distraction next to them.

Walking out of the maze they were proud they could overcome the mysterious figure

with a laser beam. Axel and Ezzy found themselves facing a new challenge.. A rickety bridge stretched over a roaring river below, Axel cautiously tested the creaking planks, trying to not let his nerves get ahead of him. Ezzy trembled, her tail fluffed up with anxiety as she peered down to the running water below, both determined to find the catnip treasure. They pressed forward with each shaky step.

Together they braved the dizzying heights, their fears disappearing into the background as they focused on their shared goal of reaching the other side.

Ezzy and Axels journey took a huge turn as they stumbled upon a cave entrance guarded by a scary pack of 7 large dogs, their hearts sank at the sight, but they knew turning back wasn't an option.

Nerves made of steel they approached carefully only to be met with growls and razor sharp teeth, thinking quickly they made a plan.

Axel using his large body charged forward to distract the dogs whilst Ezzy sprinted around attempting to dodge their sharp senses.

It was a hard battle as they maneuvered past snapping jaws and loud barks.

Each step brings them closer to the catnip treasure hidden in the deepest part of the cave.

Together they wandered down the dark cave, in corners of the cave were purple, blue, green and pink shiny crystals. It was beautiful to see this display of colours until they turned a corner. It was pitch black and in the middle of the room was a huge treasure chest. Two ear splitting clicks sent fear down their spines as the chest opened, all they could see and smell was catnip. They were so happy.

Suddenly they realised the true treasure was the bond they had formed, an unbreakable bond.

Axel and Ezzy wasted no time in heading home, their hearts raced with excitement. As they arrived they were greeted by the group of tom cats from their neighborhood “They did it! Look at all that catnip!” “I can taste it with my eyes” said one of the tomcats. They were intoxicated by the smell of the catnip.

Axel and Ezzy decided to share their catnip with everyone and the Tomcats were so grateful, they felt guilty for how they had treated Axel.

What started as a treasure hunt ended in a joyous gathering where friendships blossomed with the sound of laughter being heard as far as two towns over.