

Tabby McTat - The Musical Cat - Part 1 of 3

- written by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler

Tabby McTat was a busker's cat
With a meow that was loud and strong.
The two of them sang of this and that
And people threw coins in the old checked hat
And this was their favourite song:

“Me, you and the old guitar,
How perfectly, perfectly happy we are.
MEEE-EW and the old guitar.
How PURRRR-fectly happy we are!”

One morning while Fred ate some bacon and bread,
McTat took a stroll around the block, then stopped.
For there on a doorstep sat
A gorgeously glossy and green-eyed cat
She was black with one snowy white sock.

Sock and McTat had a cat-to-cat chat
And that's how their story began.
For while they were chatting of this and of that,
A thief had his eye on the old checked hat.
He eyed it! He snatched it! He ran!

The busker gave chase but he tripped on a lace
And CRASH, in a flash he was down.
He broke his leg and he banged his head
And he ended up in a hospital bed
In a faraway part of town.

“Goodbye”, McTat said “I must get back to Fred”.
But where had the busker gone?
The sun went down and the sky grew black,
The stars came out but he didn't come back.
McTat lingered on and on.

A week later Sock took a stroll round the block
And found her new friend looking thin.
“He's gone off and left me” said Tabby McTat.
And Sock said “My people, Prunella and Pat,
Would gladly find a room for a fine Tabby cat”.
She was right and they took McTat in.

(... to be continued ...)

