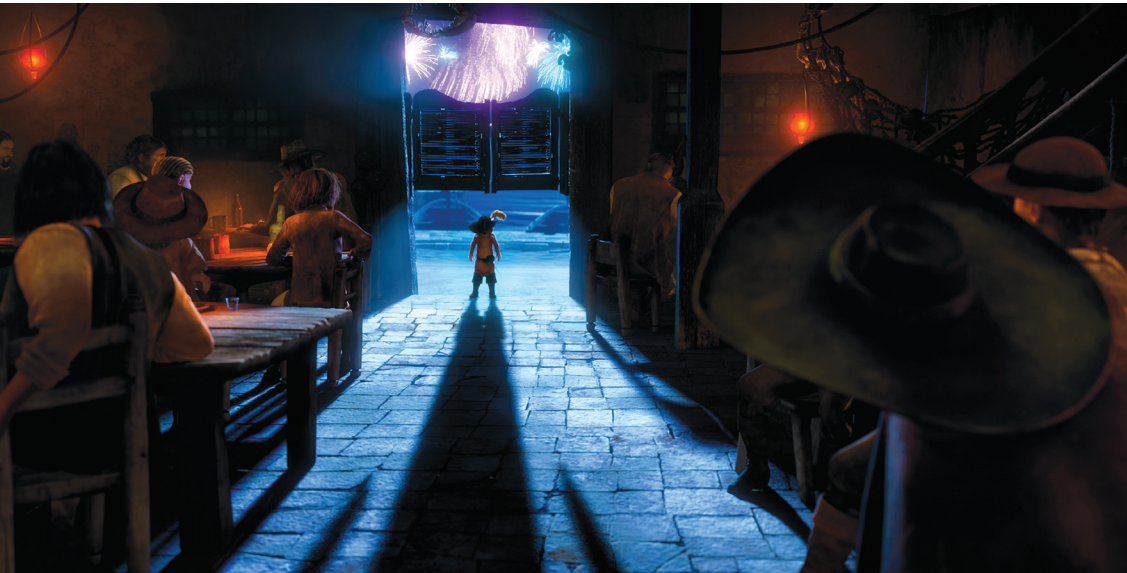


PUSS^{IN}BOOTS

THE OUTLAW

CHAPTER ONE

Magic beans



It was a dark night. A cat stopped at the door of a restaurant. There were a lot of men there. The cat walked in. The men started to laugh.

'Look!' said one man. 'It's a cat!'

'I am Puss In Boots,' said the cat.

The men were quiet.

'I'm hungry. Can you help me?' said Puss.

'Jack and Jill are in town,' said a man. 'And they have the magic beans. Go up the beanstalk and you can find the golden eggs!'

'There are no magic beans,' said Puss.

'Yes, there are,' said the man. 'I saw them. But no one can steal from Jack and Jill.'

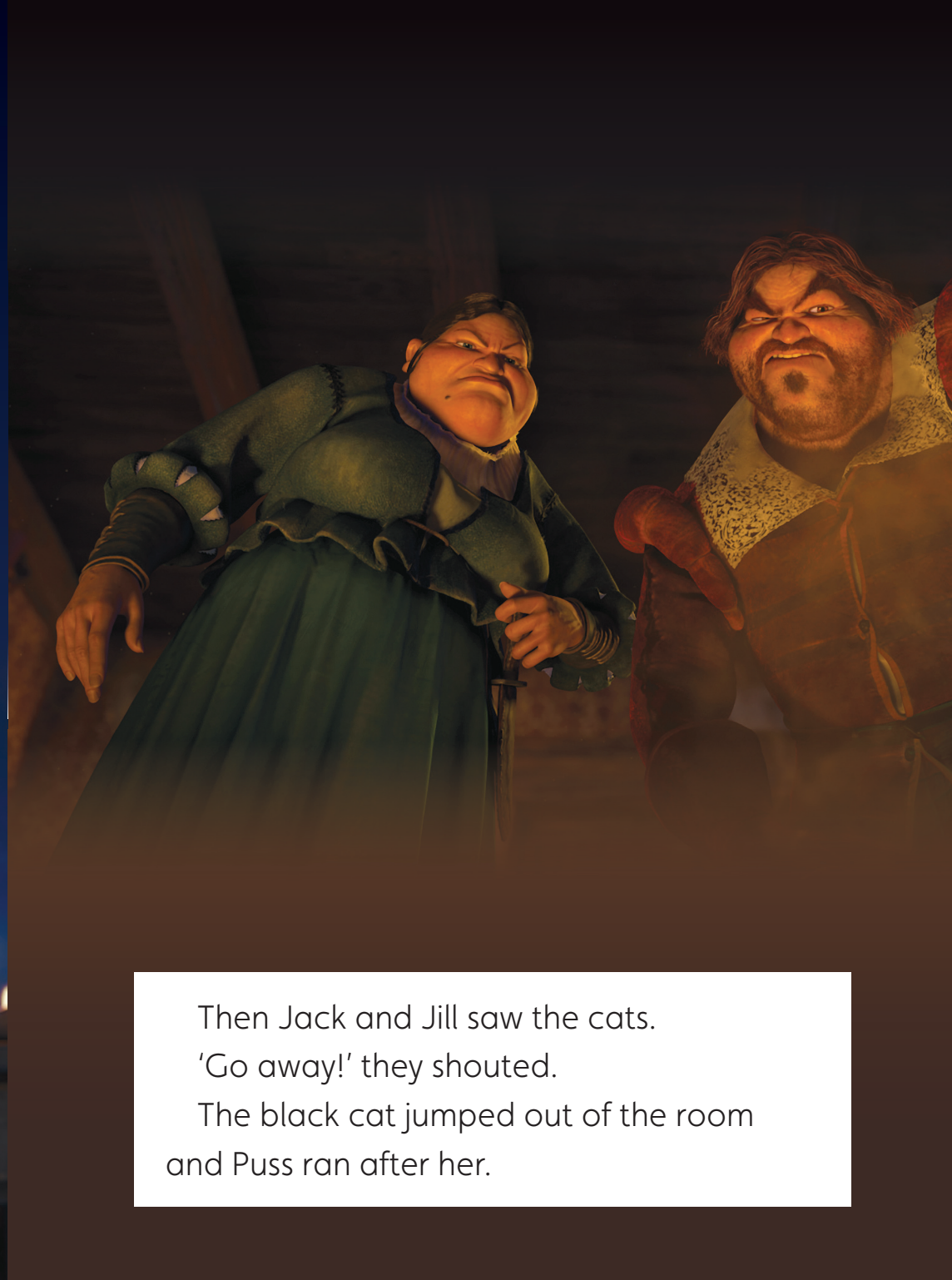
'I can!' said Puss.



Puss In Boots looked in Jack and Jill's room. Jack had the magic beans in his hand.

'Wow!' Puss said. 'I want those beans!' Suddenly a black cat jumped into the room.

'Stop!' Puss said.



Then Jack and Jill saw the cats.
'Go away!' they shouted.
The black cat jumped out of the room
and Puss ran after her.

The black cat ran to a big room. Puss looked around. There were a lot of cats.

'Those beans were mine,' said Puss. 'Fight me!'

'Don't fight!' said the cats. 'Dance!'



'I can dance!' said Puss.

When they stopped, Puss saw the black cat's face. She was beautiful.

'Who are you?' asked Puss.

'I'm Kitty Softpaws,' she said. Then she ran away.

Puss went after Kitty, but there was someone with her.

'It's good to see you, friend!' he said.



'Humpty Dumpty!' said Puss. He was angry.

'Listen,' said Humpty. 'You, me and Kitty can steal those magic beans! Then we can find the Golden Goose with her golden eggs. We're outlaws now, but soon we can be rich!'

'Not this time!' said Puss. He walked away.
Kitty went after Puss. 'Why are you angry?' she asked.

Puss looked at her. 'It's a long story ...'
he said.

