

THE CONCEITED LITTLE RAT- A traditional Spanish Tale

Storyteller:

Once upon a time, in a pretty little village, there was a tiny cottage which was known for miles around as being the cleanest and shiniest of them all. In it lived the likable little rat who was very, very conceited.

Little Rat:

Tralala, tralala, tralala

Storyteller:

One day, while she was cleaning the steps of her house, Mr. Mouse passed by:

Mouse:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look happy today.

Little Rat:

Yes, Mr. Mouse. I'm happy. How are you?

Mouse:

Not bad

Little Rat:

Look! What a nice surprise!

Mouse:

What's that?

Little Rat:

It's a gold coin!

Mouse.

A gold coin? Oh! You are lucky!

Little Rat:

Yes, indeed. I'm very lucky. Now I can buy many things. But ... what shall I buy?

Mouse:

Why don't you buy some sweets?

Little Rat:

Sweets? No way! They'll ruin my teeth.

Mouse:

Why don't you buy some apples?

Little Rat:

Apples? No way! I'm not ill.

Mouse:

Why don't you buy a brooch?

Little Rat:

A brooch? No way! I can prick my fingers with it.

Mouse:

Well, Little Rat, it seems I can't help you with this, so I'll be off to work now. Good Bye.

Little Rat:

I know! I'll buy a ribbon. I'll buy a beautiful, red ribbon to wear on my tail. It will match the spots on my shirt. Oh, yes. And everybody will see how beautiful I look! I can't wait!

Storyteller:

The conceited little rat went to the village shop and bought the prettiest ribbon they had. She put it on immediately and went singing out of the shop.

Little Rat:

Tralala, tralala, tralala, I ought to clean my house so that everybody in the village will see me.

Storyteller:

Mr. Cock was passing by at the very moment, seeing the little rat so very smart, he said to her:

Cock:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look beautiful today.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Cock:

I'll sing my song, cock-a-doodle-do, cock-a-doodle-do, cock-a-doodle-do

Little Rat:

No way! I won't marry you, you would frighten me!

Storyteller:

Sad and looking down, the cock went off.

Then a dog came by:

Dog:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look lovely today.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Dog:

I'll sing my song, woof, woof, woof

Little Rat:

No way! I won't marry you, you would frighten me!

Storyteller:

The dog went off barking in a fury.

Next, a horse met the conceited little rat.

Horse:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look pretty today.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Horse:

I'll sing my song, neigh, neigh, neigh

Little Rat:

No way! I won't marry you, you would frighten me!

Storyteller:

The horse went off not feeling happy.

A few minutes later, a duck walked in front of her door.

Duck:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look beautiful today.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Duck:

I'll sing my song, quack, quack, quack

Little Rat:

No way! I won't marry you, you would frighten me!

Storyteller:

The duck went away shaking his head.

The little rat went on sweeping and moving her tail when she saw Mr. Toad

Toad:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look pretty today.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Toad:

I'll sing my song, riddit, riddit, riddit

Little Rat:

No way! I won't marry you, you would frighten me!

Storyteller:

Very unhappy the toad jumped away.

Then Mr. Cat came close to her and whispered very softly in her ear

Cat:

Good morning, Little Rat. You look awesome today. The most beautiful rat in the world.

Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

That depends. What will you do at night?

Cat:

I'll sing my song, meow, meow, meow

Little Rat:

That sounds like heavenly music to me.

I'll marry you

Cat:

Let's celebrate it then! Let's go out for dinner tonight!

Little Rat:

All right, Mr Cat. Let's go out for dinner!

Cat:

I'll see you then at eight o'clock. Good Bye.

Little Rat:

See you later, Mr. Cat.

Storyteller:

The cat left and Little Rat started jumping and singing with joy!

At eight o'clock in the evening she was dressed up for the occasion, wearing her red ribbon tied to her tail.

Cat:

Good evening, Little Rat. You always look pretty but today you look even prettier.

Little Rat:

Thanks, Mr. Cat

Cat:

Are you ready for a smart dinner this evening, Little Rat?

Little Rat:

Of course, I am, Mr. Cat. Are we going to an expensive restaurant?

Cat:

Yes, indeed

Little Rat:

Please, please, tell me which

Cat:

Wait and see, Little Rat.

Little Rat:

I can't wait! I just can't wait to sit at a table in a really expensive restaurant for a really special dinner.

Cat:

You must wait, Little Rat. I promise that you will have the most important place in the dinner. Let's go, just hold on to my arm and we'll be there in the blink of an eye.

Storyteller:

The Little Rat held on to the cat's arm and off they went. They arrived to a nice restaurant where they found a table nicely laid for dinner. It was nicely set with a table cloth, a candle, a plate, a fork, a knife, a glass and only one chair.

Little Rat was confused

Little Rat:

But the table is set just for one, Mr. Cat

Cat:

Yes, because only one of us is having dinner, Little Rat

Little Rat:

But that's a mistake. There's two of us. And you said that I would have the most important place in the dinner.

Cat:

And you will. Because Dinner is you!

Little Rat:

Help, help!

Storyteller:

The cat chased the little rat, fortunately a dog saw the cat and started to chase him and so little rat could escape.

Next day, she was sweeping the floor feeling sad when the mouse passed by

Mouse:

Good morning Little Rat. How are you today?

Little Rat:

I am happy to be still alive, Mr. Mouse. The cat wanted me for his dinner.

Mouse:

Cats are no good company for rats or mice. They can make us no good

Little Rat:

Well, I know now, Mr. Mouse.

Mouse:

You look fantastic today. Will you please marry me?

Little Rat:

I don't know. What will you do at night?

Mouse:

Why? Sleep in silence, Little Rat.

Little Rat:

Sleep in silence? Then I'll be really happy to be your wife.

Storyteller:

Soon after they got married and lived happily ever after.

That's all!!!!!!