



AN EKLAVYA PUBLICATION

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A picture story



V. SUTEYEV

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Picture and story

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One day a little mouse was looking for something to eat. He found a pencil.





The mouse ran off to his hole with the pencil. "Do let me go!" begged the pencil. "What use am I to you? I'm only a piece of wood, I'm not good to eat."





"I'm going to gnaw you! said the mouse.  
I have to gnaw something all the time to keep  
my teeth sharp. Here I go!  
And he bit the pencil hard.



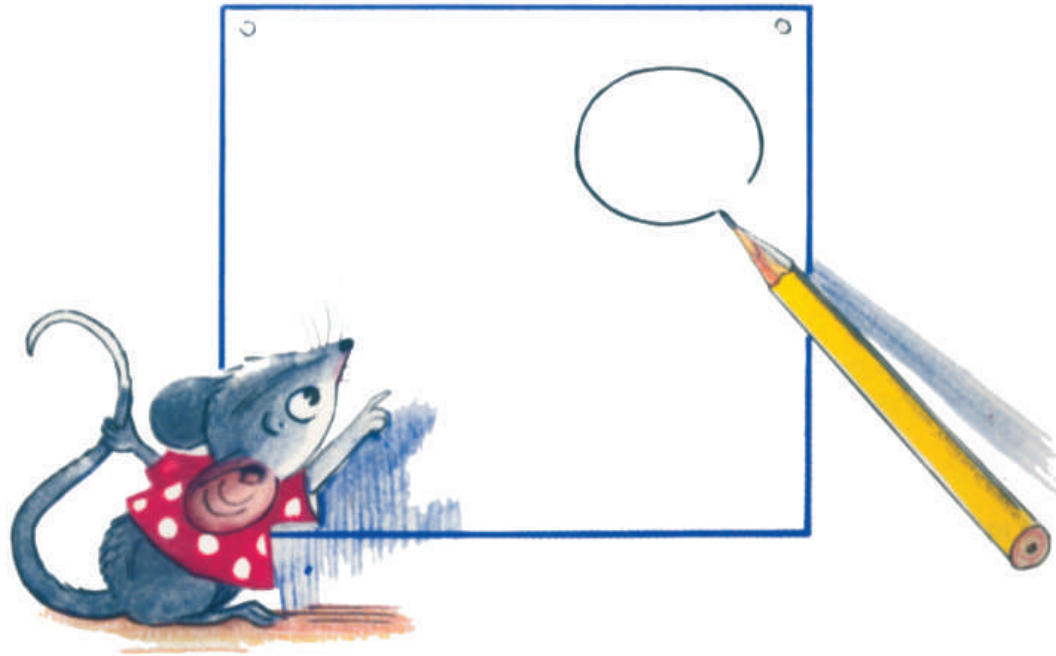
"You're hurting me!" said the pencil.

"Let me draw you one last picture, and then you can do what you like!"



"Very well," agreed the mouse. "You draw something. I shall gnaw you into tiny pieces afterwards!"



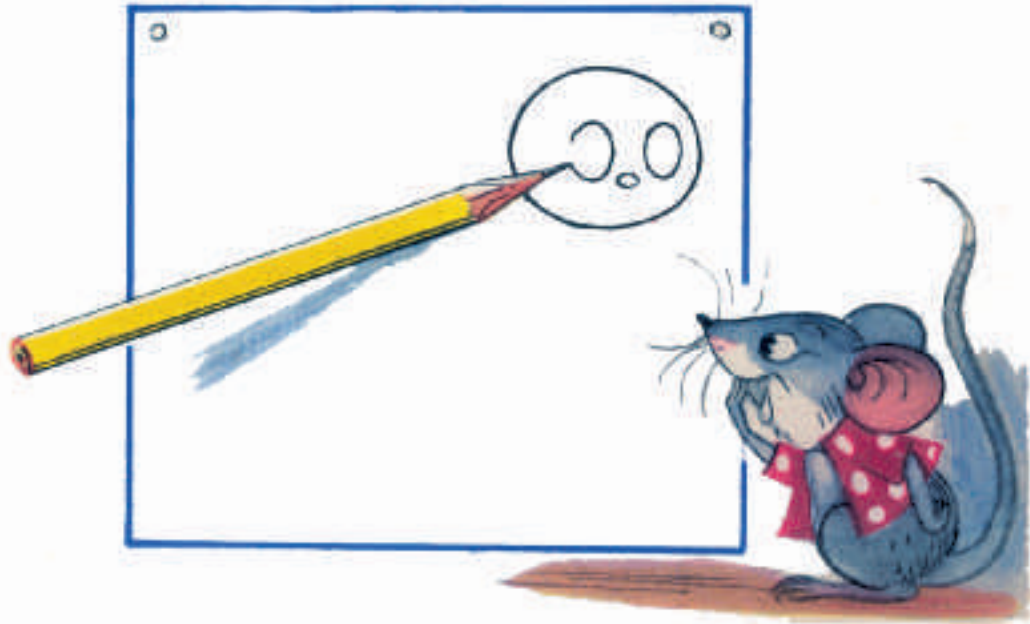


The pencil sighed heavily, and drew a big circle.

"Is that a cheese?" asked the mouse.



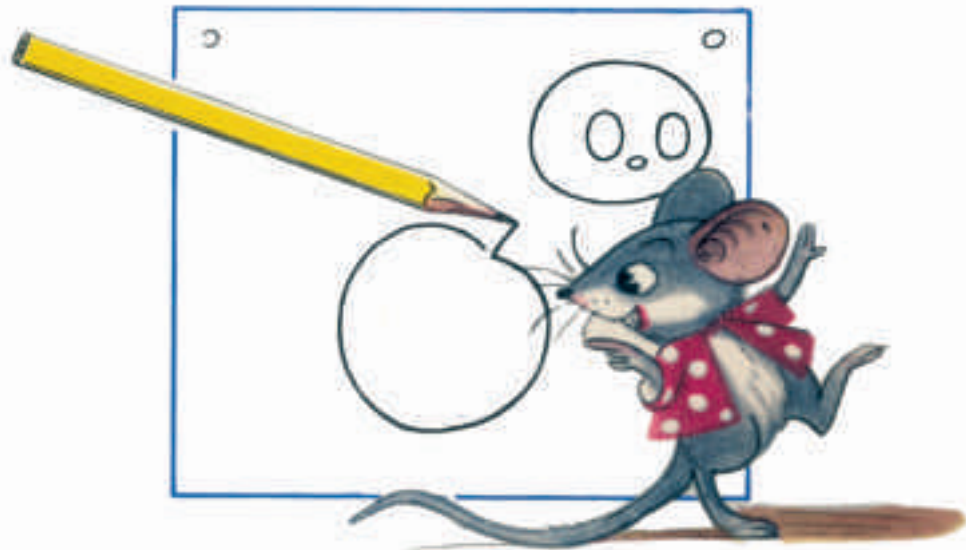




"We'll call it a cheese," said the Pencil, and it drew three little circles inside the big one.



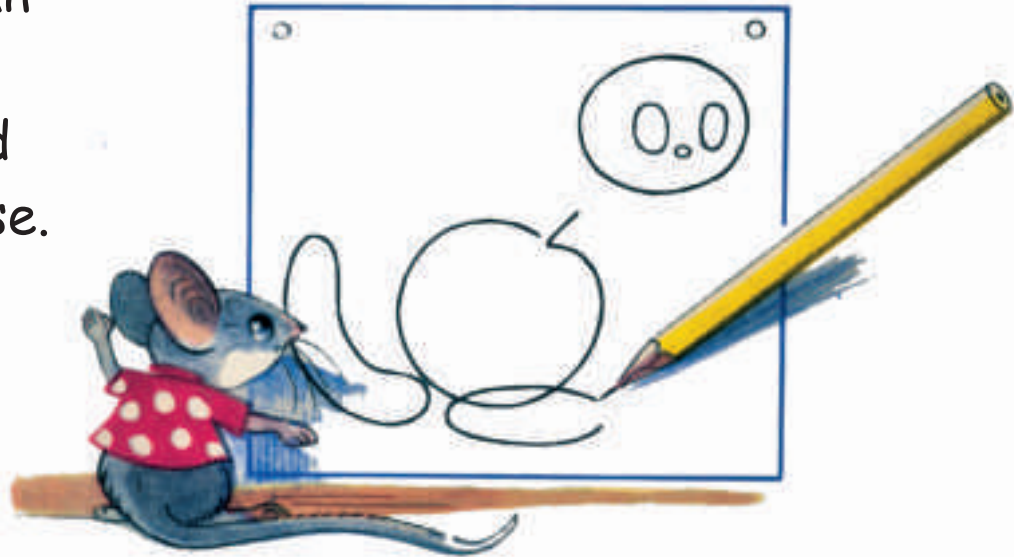
"I can see  
it's cheese  
now," said  
the mouse.  
"Look at  
those holes  
in it."



"Let's call them holes in the cheese," agreed  
the pencil, and it drew another circle under  
the first one.



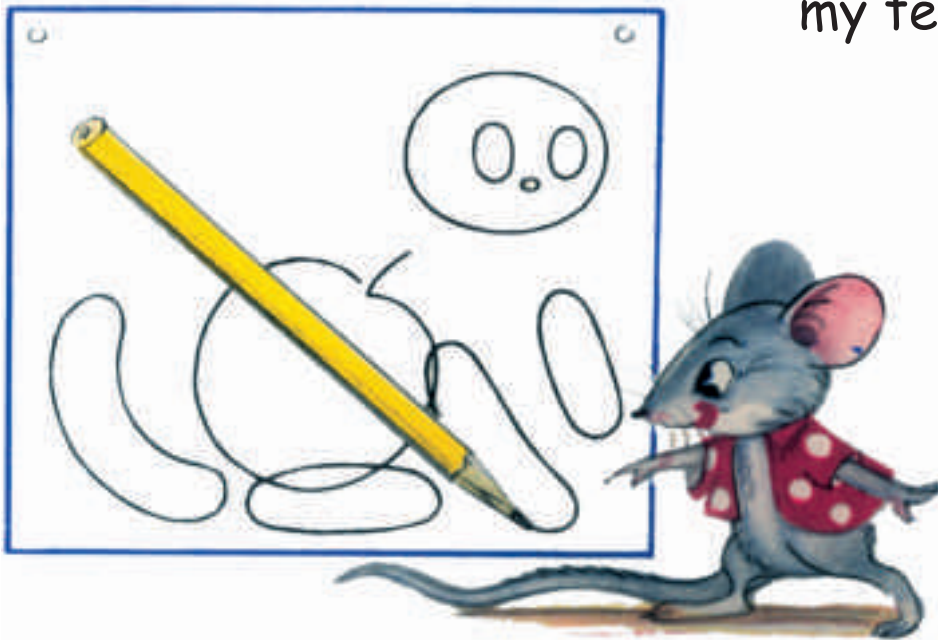
"That's an  
apple,"  
squeaked  
the mouse.



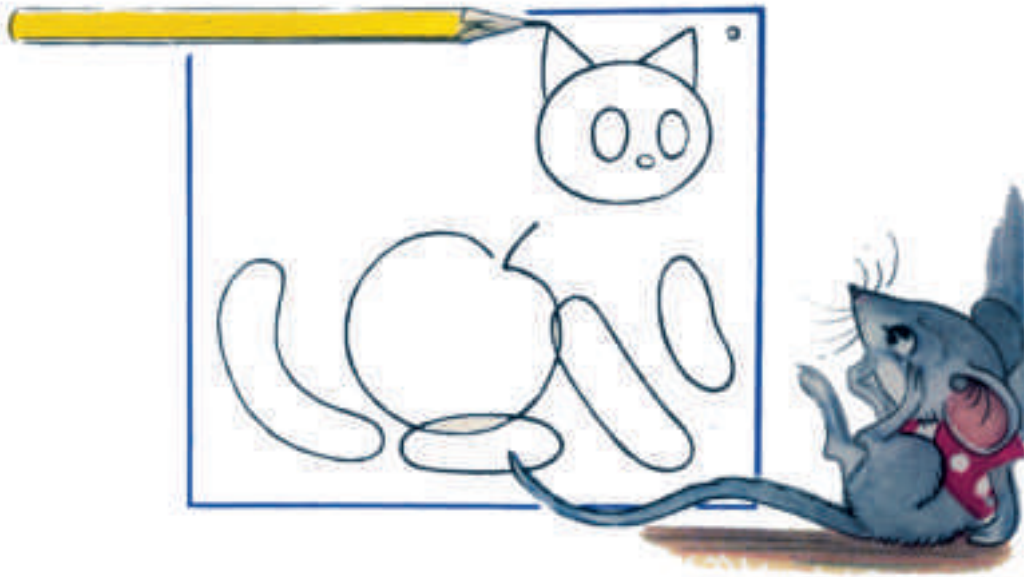
"Let's call it an apple," said the pencil, and it  
began drawing some funny curved things near  
the second circle.

"Why, those are cucumbers," said the mouse, licking his lips.

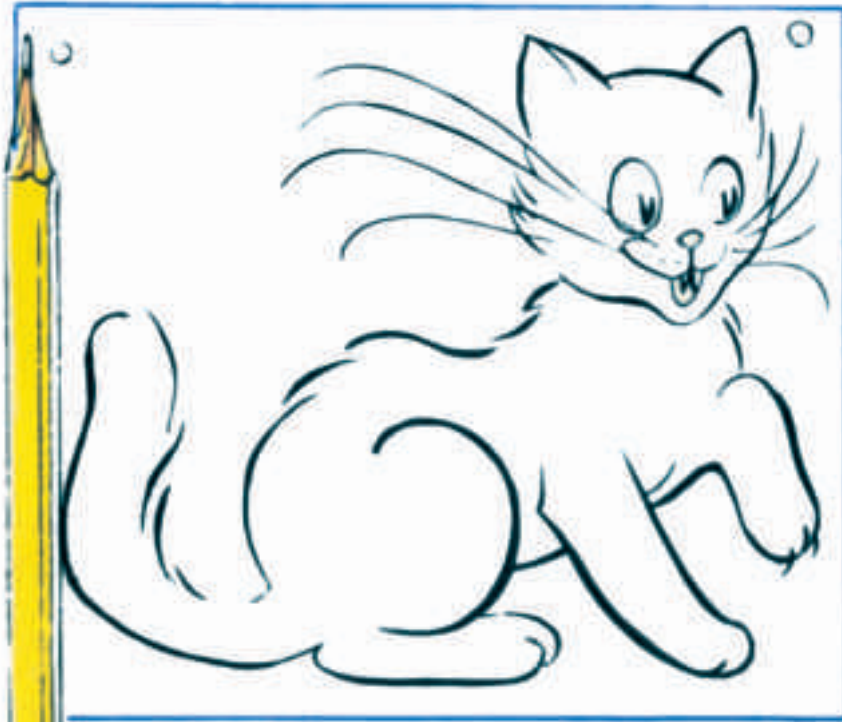
"I wish you'd hurry. I simply can't wait to get my teeth into them!"



The pencil drew two little triangles on the top circle.



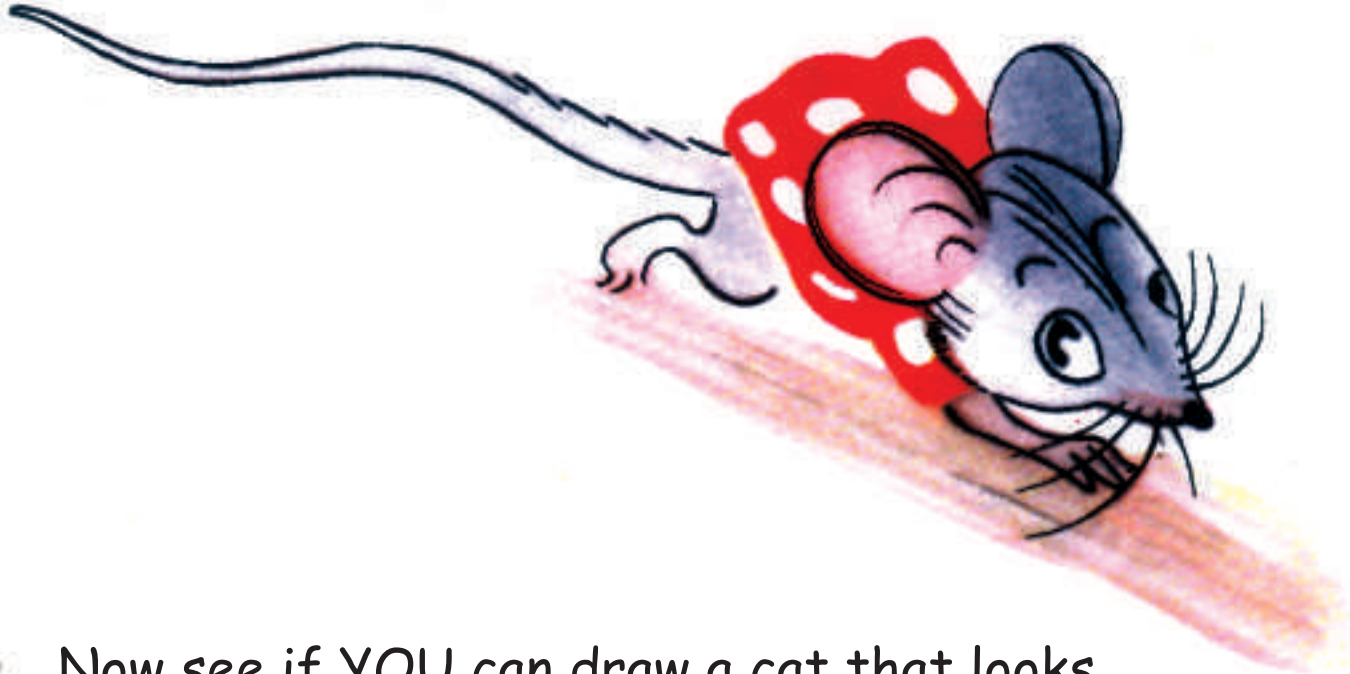
"Oh, oh!" squeaked the mouse. "Now you've made it like a cat! Don't go on!"



But the pencil went on, till it had drawn long whiskers and a mouth on the top circle.



And the mouse cried out in terror, "It's a real cat!  
Help!"



Now see if YOU can draw a cat that looks  
real enough to frighten away the mice!



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