

Who will bell the cat by Aesop

**Who will Bell the Cat?**

THE CAST

THE FARMER . . . .  
THE YOUNG MOUSE . . . .  
THE MUMMY MOUSE . . . .  
THE OLD MOUSE . . . .  
THE CAT . . . .

PROPS

A bell

**Music: mouse music and faint farmyard noises.**

**(When the actors are ready, music off and stage lights on)**

THE SCRIPT

**SCENE I: A Barn**  
**BACKDROP: A barn**

**Enter the farmer.**

FARMER

My barn is full of mice. They eat everything.

**(The mice are eating everything they can)**

FARMER

I have a great idea! I will get a cat!

**Exit the farmer.**

YOUNG MOUSE

My life is fantastic.

MUMMY MOUSE

Yes, fantastic!

OLD MOUSE

We live in a beautiful barn.

YOUNG MOUSE

We have fantastic food.

**Enter the farmer with a cat.**

CAT

Yummy yummy in my tummy!  
Mice with rice are twice as nice.

**(applause)**

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MUMMY MOUSE  
Oh no! A cat!

OLD MOUSE  
Run, run!

Exit the mice.

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Scene II: INSIDE THE MOUSE HOLE

Backdrop: interior of the mice's house

YOUNG MOUSE  
We have a problem.

MUMMY MOUSE  
What a disaster!

OLD MOUSE  
What can we do? The cat will eat us.

YOUNG MOUSE  
I have a great idea!

MUMMY MOUSE  
What? What?

YOUNG MOUSE  
**(holding up a bell)**  
Put a bell on the cat.

OLD MOUSE  
Why?

YOUNG MOUSE  
So that when the cat is near, we will hear the bell ring.

MUMMY MOUSE  
You are a genius!

OLD MOUSE  
So, who will bell the cat?

YOUNG MOUSE  
Not me. I am too young to risk my life.

MUMMY MOUSE  
Not me. I have 300 children.

OLD MOUSE  
Not me. I am too old and too slow.

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YOUNG MOUSE

I think my idea was a bad idea.

CAT

**(At the side of the stage)**

Miaow!

**THE END**