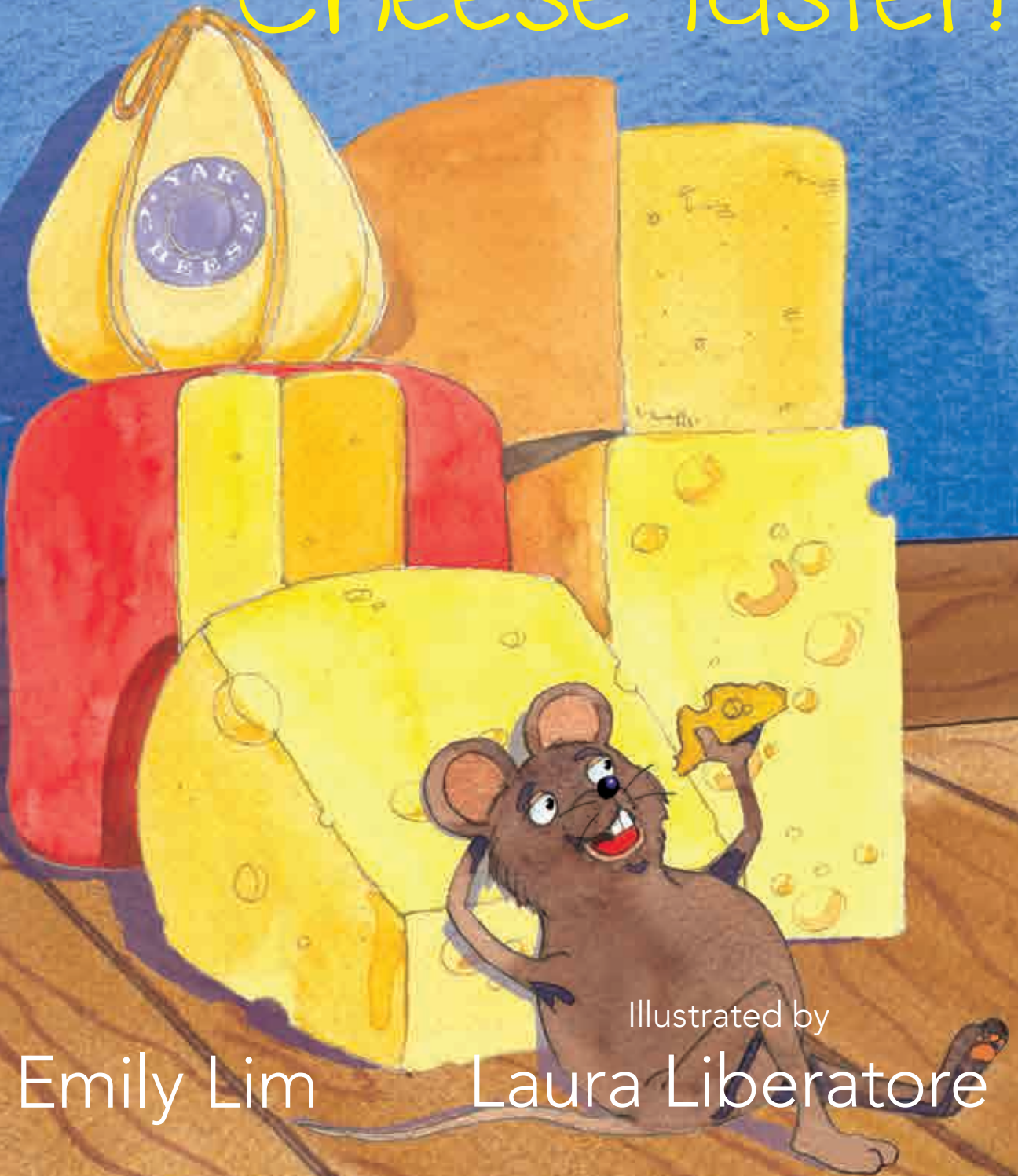


I Want to Be a Cheese Taster!



Illustrated by

Emily Lim

Laura Liberatore

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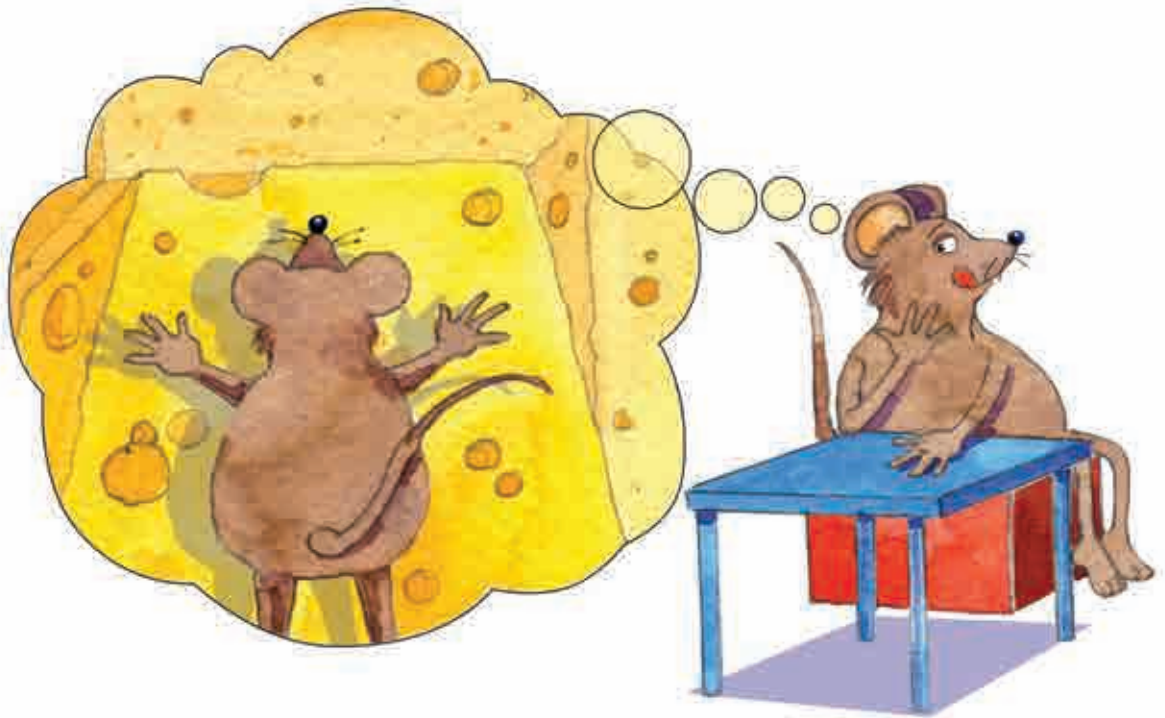




Somewhere in the corner of a house,
there was a big conversation going on.

“Let’s talk about what you want
to be when you grow up,” said
Mr Whisker, the teacher.





"I want to be a cheese taster!" said Cheddar.
"I want to visit all the cheese factories in the world to taste the best kinds of cheese!"

"Ooh!!" Everyone cried.

“I want to be a mouse trap expert,”
said Paneer. “I want to be able to
take apart all kinds of mousetraps!”

Everyone clapped hard.
Nobody liked mousetraps.





"I want to be a cross-country runner and outrun all the cats," said Nacho.

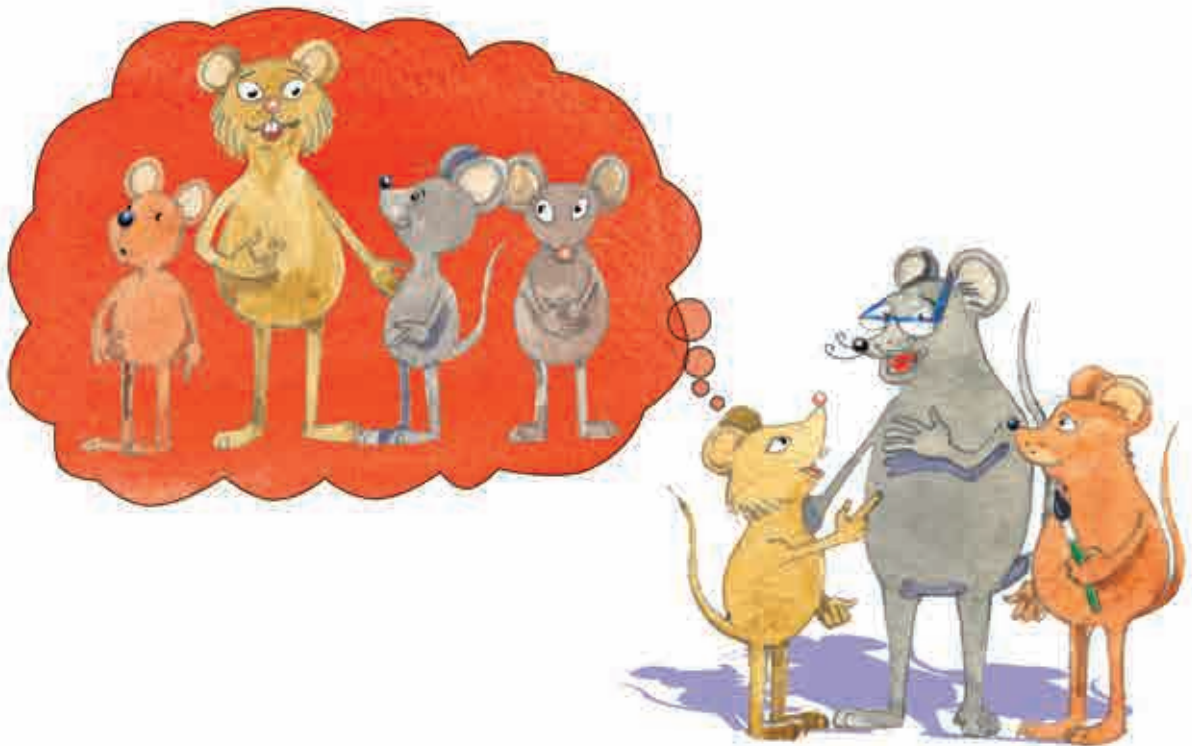
"And I want to be a watchmouse!"
said Parma. "I will sound the bell
each time these cats come close!"

"I want to be a teacher," cried Mozza. "I will teach young mice how to outsmart cats and learn about all the cheeses in the world!"

"That's wonderful!" said Mr Whisker.

"What about you, Feta?"

"Well," Feta said, "I want to be an artist."



“Are you going to draw all the escape routes in this house?” asked Mozza. “It will help us avoid those terrible monsters!”

“No,” said Feta. “I want to draw something more beautiful.”





"Are you going to draw cheese?" asked Cheddar.
"What can be more beautiful than cheese?"



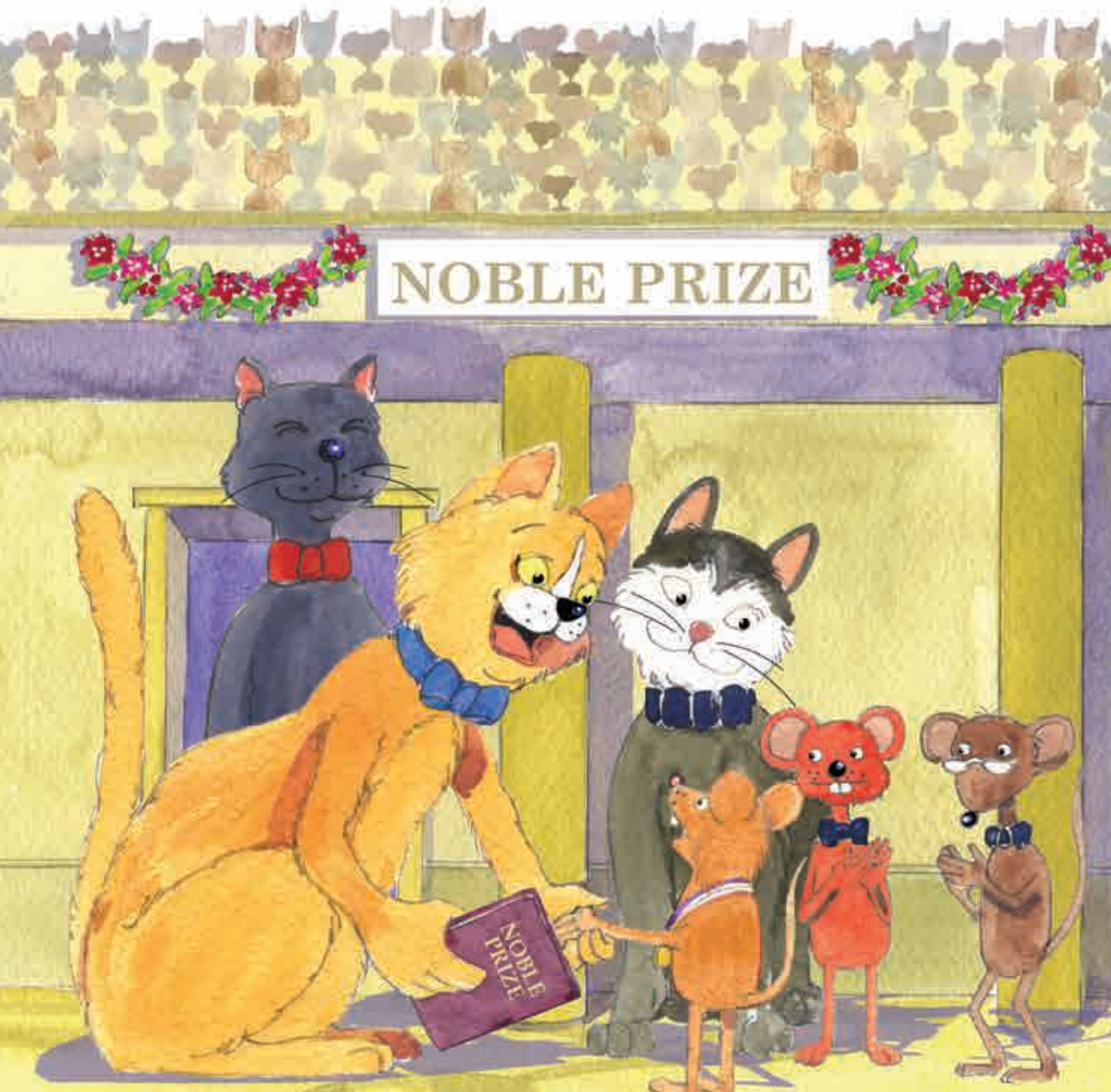
“Actually, there are many things,” said Feta.
“I want to paint pictures of the most beautiful
buildings and places in the world!”



“But what does that have to do with cats and cheese?” asked everyone.



"I have a different dream too," said Brie. "I want to be a peacemaker and help others to get along. Perhaps one day, we may even be able to get along with cats once we respect each other enough."



“That is a big dream, Brie,” said Mr Whisker.

“I believe that no dream is too big or too small,” said Brie.



“Actually, I do have a bigger dream than being a cheese taster,” confessed Cheddar.



“I’ve always wanted to be a pastry chef!”

“Do you know how many ways you can bake a cake with cheese?” Cheddar continued.



“I would still like to be a teacher,” said Mozza. “And I will teach all my students to respect each other’s dreams!”

“And when we do,” said Brie the peacemaker, “we will find it much easier to get along...”





"Yes, getting along will be a piece of cake," said Cheddar dreamily, "blueberry cheesecake."



And everyone knew exactly what Cheddar was dreaming of at that moment!





Children should be allowed to express their opinions, especially in matters concerning themselves. They have the right to have their views heard and taken seriously.

– Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

In this story, a class of mice give typical answers of what they would like to be when they grow up. Feta shares about his dream job and everyone laughs at him. When Brie speaks up in support of Feta, the other mice come to respect and value different views and also realise that no dream is too big or too small to be expressed.





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The Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) aims to bring a sharper focus on enhancing social safety nets for the needy, improving the delivery of social services, and further strengthening families. At MSF, we are professionals with passion for people. Through our policies, community infrastructure, programmes and services, we hope to nurture resilient individuals and families, and play a part in helping our citizens achieve their hopes and aspirations for themselves and their families.

Emily Lim is an award-winning author of numerous children's books. She is the first outside North America to win three medals for children's books at the IPPY Awards, the world's largest book awards. She is also the first in Southeast Asia to win the Moonbeam Children's Book Award.

Laura Liberatore is an award-winning illustrator of over 20 books. Her awards include *Best Children's Book of the Year* awarded by the Venezuela Book Council and *Best Book of the Year* by the National Library in Venezuela.

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Story concept and art direction by Emily Lim

Illustrations by Laura Liberatore

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A class of mice are discussing what they want to do when they grow up. Feta surprises everyone with his dream job, which is very different from what mice typically do. Will the other mice be able to accept Feta's viewpoint?



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