



# Ririro

READ ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

## The Thankful Mouse And Giddy The Cat

*Oliver Herford*

Once upon a Thanksgiving morning, there was a famished feline named Giddy. She had sharp claws, piercing green eyes, and a belly rumbling louder than thunder. She was lounging lazily on her cozy cushion when she spotted a delightful sight.

Over by the cornfield, there was a tiny mouse nibbling on an ear of corn. His fur was as brown as freshly baked bread, his eyes as bright as glittering stars. He was not just any mouse, he was Thankful, the most grateful mouse in the whole of Meadowville.

"If I made a meal of that grateful little mouse," thought Giddy with a devilish smirk, "how pleased he would be! He would have feasted himself only to become a feast for me. He would be thanking the corn for its deliciousness, and then I'd be thanking him for his!"

She chuckled at her thoughts, her purring echoing through the morning air. "His gratefulness for the corn, and then my gratefulness for him, oh, how delightfully thankful I would be!"

Thus plotted Giddy the cunning cat, on that bright Thanksgiving Day. But little did she know, her plan was not as secret as she thought. The little mouse, Thankful, had big ears and an even bigger heart.

Thankful had overheard the crafty cat's plan. His eyes grew wide, and his heart beat faster. But instead of running away scared, Thankful hatched a plan. He was known for his gratitude, but few knew of his wit.



"Perhaps I can teach Giddy a lesson about true thankfulness," thought Thankful.

With a swift twitch of his whiskers, he sprang into action. He picked the biggest, juiciest ear of corn he could find, and with all his strength, he pushed it towards Giddy. The golden kernels glinted in the sun as it rolled towards the cat.

Giddy was taken aback. "What's this? A gift from my meal-to-be?"

“Not a gift, Giddy, but a lesson,” squeaked Thankful, standing bravely. “True thankfulness isn't about being pleased to eat another. It's about sharing what we have, with those who have less. This corn, Giddy, is for you. May it fill your belly and warm your heart.”

Giddy was stunned. Her green eyes softened, and she looked at the tiny mouse in a new light. She tasted the juicy corn, and it was indeed delicious. But what filled her more was the warmth spreading in her heart.

So that Thanksgiving Day, the hungry cat learnt the true meaning of gratitude. And Thankful the mouse became the hero of Meadowville. From then on, the little mouse wasn't merely known for his gratitude but also for his wisdom and courage. And Giddy? Well, she became the most thankful cat you would ever meet.

---

Stories help us explore cultures, learn moral lessons, connect with nature — or simply have fun. That's why ririro.com offers 3,000+ free stories — fairy tales, fables, bedtime stories, myths and more — for every age, in 13 languages, with free printable PDFs and often audio. Reading should be a right, not a privilege. Share ririro.com and spread the joy of reading.

Instagram: @ririro\_reading · Pinterest: [pinterest.com/ririrocom](https://pinterest.com/ririrocom)