

AGGIFANAKAPAN

THE ADVENTURES OF A WITCH AND HER CAT SAMANTHA

Aggifanakapan lives in the beautiful Aussie bush up in the true *how d ya do* Blue Mountains, tiddly bush hush, hush. She lives in a shack with Samantha and Roo, and how did she get there? Well, I'm telling you, she once lived in the city, and more was the pity, it was noisy and bustling and all in a rush. Tiddly city, rush, rush. Everyone busy with no time to chat. No 'How do you dos?' for a witch and a cat. It made them both sad, so they left. That was that.



They went down to Central and caught them a train, and then headed for Lithgow to look for some sanity. 'What's sanity?' asked Sam. 'Well it's somewhere that's still, where you don't have to worry. Somewhere where everyone's not in a hurry!' 'Sounds special,' said Sam, purring round Aggi's broom. 'I'm with you Aggi dear, let's find us some space. Tootle pip catch you later, we're out of this place!'

So they set off for Lithgow or someplace between, somewhere amazing where they'd never been. They had tired themselves out, so they slept on the train, and when they awoke it had started to rain. 'Sprinklewood Station, hey this sounds OK.' Aggi picked up the luggage and they were away. They stood on the station looking into the street, lots of coloured umbrellas and shuffling feet. 'Looks busy,' said Aggi. 'Have we found it?' asked Sam. 'Have we found sanity?' 'Don't think so Samantha, but come follow me, that Deli looks good. Let's have us some tea.' 'Aggifanakapan, how can I go? They don't allow cats in a Deli you know.' 'No problems,' said Aggi. 'We'll cast us a spell and make you invisible, no-one will tell!' 'ABRACADABRA, tin cans and onions. slippery jellyfish, wellies and bunions. Make Sam invisible, do it for me, and then we can go to the Deli for tea.' 'Am I gone Aggi dear, can we go to the Deli? Only thing is, I smell sort of smelly.' 'Not to worry,' said Aggi. 'It's the onions and jellyfish. I'll buy you some strawberry milk in a special dish.'

And off they dashed through the Sprinklewood rain, Aggi carrying invisible furry friend Sam, and they sat in the Deli and ate scones and jam. Yummo! And when Aggi put strawberry milk in a dish on the floor, some people stared and thought why, and what for? And Sam with strawberry whiskered mouth purred, 'Aggi, may I have some more?' The rain had stopped in Sprinklewood, the sun came out, they felt so good, and Sam remarked, 'Hey Aggi dear, you know I really like it here. It feels like sanity to me.' 'Well we'll see,' said Aggi. 'Wait and see.'

The shop Frou Frou sold old and new. 'Oh wow!' said Aggi, 'So, so cool! Let's step inside and look around.'

In a basket Aggi found a fifties, flowery frilly dress. She tried it on, and called to Sam: 'What do you think, how do I look?' The shop assistant said: 'Superb!' but Sam, she never said a word. Aggi answered, 'I agree, I think it's just the thing for me, but now I need to find a hat to shade me from the summer sun.' 'I'm sure I have the very one for you, a gorgeous floppy French chapeau, tres fashionable now you know.' 'Oh yes!' said Aggi. 'That's for me, it's just the thing for scones and tea!'

The lovely lady went away to find the French chapeau and Aggi turned around to see a dolly's hat drift by on Samantha the cat. 'No Sam, please go and put it back, who ever heard of a cat in a hat?' 'But Aggi, that's not fair you know, why can't I have the dolly's hat to shade me from the summer sun? You have your floppy French chapeau.' 'We'll see, now Sam please disappear in case somebody sees you here. My spells don't last forever dear.' Just then the lady came back with the floppy French chapeau, brim full of flowers of every hue. 'I think it's waited just for you!' she said. 'It has,' said Aggi. 'Let me try it. Perfect dear, I have to buy it. I'll wear my dress and chapeau now, please put my old rags in a bag. I'll also take this dolly's hat.' 'For a special doll?' 'No, it's for my cat.' The lady smiled, 'Well fancy that!'

As Aggi stepped through Frou Frou's door, she felt transformed from old to new. Amazing what new clothes can do! 'Oh wow!' said Sam, 'Is it really you? What's in the little Frou Frou bag? Oh Aggi dear, please let me see. You did! Oh thank you Aggifan, you bought the dolly's hat for me!' Sam put it on, and instantly the spell wore off. There she sat resplendent in her dolly's hat with a cheesy grin from ear to ear. 'Let's go,' said Aggifanakapan. 'Go where?' said Sam. 'I like it here. It feels like sanity to me.' 'I know dear, we'll just wait and see.'

JOANNA JENSEN

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