

Aug. 9, 1964 P.M.
After Twischen feeding.

Dearest Patricia:

Beautiful word - "Dearest" - rhymes with nearest, kindest, fondest, sweetest! I'll stop on that one, but you'll never know (or maybe you will) what you did to my spirits when you began your sweet little note to me in the same way.

An old childhood rhyme and song that doubtless you know - deserves paraphrasing. - Its beginning:

"I'll give to you a paper of pins
For that's the way that love begins", etc.

The paraphrase

"Then I will stroke you under the chin,
For that's the way for love to begin,
Cause you are so cuddly and all of that -
And you are Patricia's wee little cat."

Twischen and I got along superbly this evening. He was expecting me, for he meowed repeatedly as soon as I opened the front door. As soon as I was in the kitchen and while he was rubbing against my legs, he told me in no uncertain terms that what he really wanted was some fresh chow. What little (a tablespoonful) he had left over from his breakfast had

lost its savor. So I washed his two little dishes, helped him to a liberal portion of his chow mix + filled the other dish with water. He seemed most grateful and promptly gulped several mouthfuls of chow without waiting for it to warm up. (Later he went back for more) Then he took a good drink - performed his duty in the sandbox - and was ready for play.

We played ball for quite a while (15-20 min.) under the chair, up in the chair + out in front of the chair. I kept the ball in motion much of the time to make it more tantalizing but part of the time he'd play with it no matter if I ignored it. A few times he got the rubber just above the ball in his mouth + ran straight across the floor till the stretched rubber stopped him + took the ball away.

He also played at polished rock spin-ning, attacking paper bags, finger-chewing (mine, of course), finger licking + whatever else he could think up. Then he was ready to be picked up, + cuddled, + have his chin stroked, + his ears scratched, his paws rubbed gently underneath between his spread toes (kittens - and grown cats^{too} - like that, you know. And - he purred for you, Patricia And he purred some for me He purred for both of us together And he purred quite purrfectly!