

## Conversation With My Cat

Catling, what do you think about, sitting there on the window ledge all day?

*About how I must observe the world to ensure it keeps spinning. About that nice fish morsel you are going to give me later. But right now I am replete.*

Replete – that’s a sophisticated word for a cat.

*Don’t you think I’m sophisticated?*

Well yes, of course, but that’s the sort of word a person would use and you aren’t really a person are you?

*Define person.*

Well, a sentient creature that has self-awareness and is able to interact with those around it.

*Well I’m clearly sentient because you are talking to me. If I wasn’t then you’d be talking to yourself. That would mean you are mad and could not perhaps be considered a ‘person’ yourself. And do I not interact? If you are nice to me am I not nice in return?*

Only on your own terms.

*Aren’t most ‘people’ like that?*

Well look at you, you have a tail.

*So do some people.*

And you’re covered in fur, you’ve got whiskers and eyebrows that stick out.

*So do some people especially when they are old, and some of us are hairless just like most people.*

You kill other creatures for sport.

*So do you.*

You like to sleep in my bed.

*So do you.*

You abandon your young when they can barely manage.

*So do some humans.*

You are always getting into territorial fights

*(Sigh)*

You sometimes shriek and hiss.

*I've heard your wife when you've either pleased her or annoyed her.*

You can be gluttonous.

*I've seen you going at your rare bloody steak hammer and tongs.*

A sniff of catnip and you're anybody's.

*Don't you have those things called alcohol and LSD?*

You don't give a stuff about anyone except yourself.

*And you?*

I don't go out and come home with fleas.

*Didn't you have to go to the STD clinic that time?*

You vomit over the carpet.

*I've seen people vomit in taxis.*

You'll do anything to get stroked

*You'll do anything for a trip to the local massage parlour.*

You don't really serve a purpose.

*What's the meaning of your life then?*

To serve you.