

Gergely RÁKOSI

CAT ON TERRITORIAL WATERS

A satire for broadcasting

Rákosi is an author of subtle humor and of individual style. An ardent explorer of every social awkwardness, he criticizes the outsider's or the "kibitzer's" attitude in this well-built satire, based on excellent psychological observations and a striking bang at the end. The main hero is a writer, a complete prig who, consistently shutting out the facts of reality, is incessantly revolving around his petty affairs, and does not cease to speak about humanity, though definitely refuses to do anything. One winter evening, looking through the window in his luxurious villa, he catches sight of an abandoned, shuddering cat. Taking a closer view through his fieldglass, he settles that the creature in the snow is not a cat, it is a dog. Reclining on his comfortable couch, he begins lamenting over the common lack of compassion. Later he rings up the animal hospital. A tired and indifferent doctor on duty listens to the writer's oratory, then tells him that they do not deal with abandoned animals, for there is nobody to pay for them. Dax, the writer, then wakes the house-porter up, and causes him to bring the dog in. Filep, the house-porter promises to build a house for the puppy.

The work done, Dax dissatisfiedly surveys it. At last, just to prove that the timber is mean, he kicks the ready dog-house up, breaking its side. Filep cannot bear this arbitrary action and gives Dax a kick in the pants.

Duration: 39 minutes