

Science fiction story about creating an army of cat creatures.

Jake the Beer-Belly Kitty or SUPERCAT: CLAN OF WARRIORS

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BOOK 3

*The saga continues...*

JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY  
or *SUPERCAT*

*Clan of Warriors*

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JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY

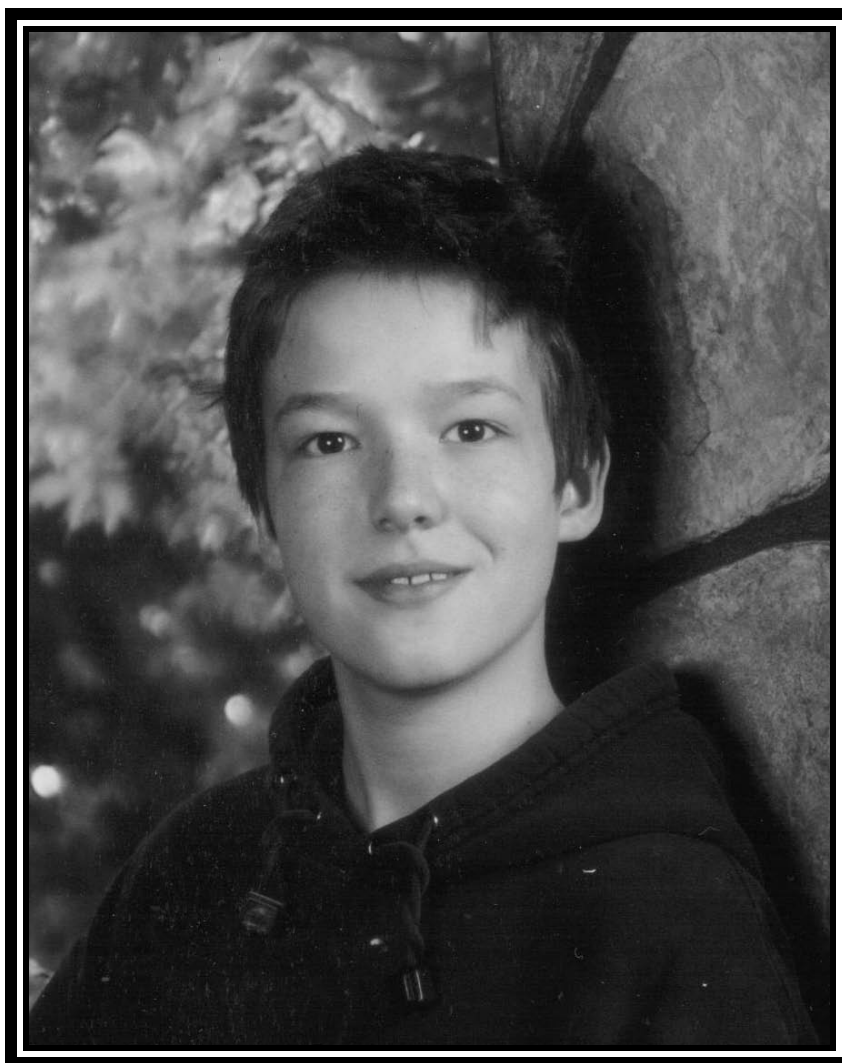
or *SUPERCAT*

*Clan of Warriors*

DEBORAH MIDKIFF

## DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my nephew, Lucas Midkiff. He is an extraordinary individual with diverse talents and interests. Some of his favorites are: his love for acting, cartooning and, also, “my dog Elijah”. He especially wants everyone to know that he loves Jesus and his family. We love you too, Lucas, and find you most delightful!



LUCAS MIDKIFF



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## CHAPTER ONE: WONDERS NEVER CEASE

“This has got to be the best day of my life!”

“Is that so? I would think that you would say the day that you met me was!”

“Well, *next* to that, dear.”

“I’m just teasing you, honey, isn’t she beautiful? I think that she looks like a Lola ...simply darling!”

“I can’t wait to tell *EVERYONE!*”

“I think that it would be best if you waited until morning ...it’s only four a.m.!”

“*Oh yeah*, you’d better get some rest Tina. It’s been a *LONG* night! I’m going to go back home and catch a few ‘zees’ myself. I’ll see you later this afternoon. ...*I love you!*”

“I love you, *too*, Sam.”

(“*Phew*”) what an experience that was. I would go home to sleep, but I’m too hyped. I know. *I’ll go see Jake!* ...

“Hey buddy! ... *JAKE!*”

“What are you trying to do ...wake up the whole place?”

*JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY or SUPERCAT*

“Sorry, I couldn’t sleep and I thought that maybe...”

“You’d wake up everybody else, too?”

“Tina had the baby. ...*It’s a GIRL!*”

“Congrats’ my good friend... No wonder you couldn’t sleep. This calls for a celebration; can I get you a soda?”

“That would be nice, Jake.”

“I just happen to have some cooling here in the lake. You know what my tastes are and being the connoisseur that *you* are...”

“‘*Heh-heh*’ you know *me*, Jake, I’ll drink anything!”

“And you know *me*. I won’t quit trying to give you some culture.”

“*Right...* You can have your sarsaparilla and I’ll take a common pop.”

“Aren’t you even going to tell me what you named the little tyke?”

“Oh, since that’s a *human-thing*, I didn’t think that you’d be interested. We named her Lola.”

“Well, since my best friend is human, I do care ...and that is very acceptable.”

“Well, I’m glad that meets with your approval. ...Now, back to my topic of discussion. How are you coming with the training of

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the special cats?”

“They are even smarter than we had hoped. They are doing so well that in addition to their ops training I am teaching them the *human-language!*”

“You are teaching them how to speak *ENGLISH?*”

“I thought that would be easier than trying to teach *YOU* cat-talk!”

“You are very wise in that assumption. How are the sessions coming?”

“Exceptional, although, I would like to start on the more advanced training, so I need you to get me a few things.”

“Name them.”

“For starters, I’m going to need a few of my training manuals. I can’t remember *everything* by heart. And, would it be possible for you to pick-up a few scuba tanks and gear ...you know, kids size?”

“Okay, I suppose so, as long as I don’t have to explain them to Tina!”

“Speaking of which, Sam, when are you planning on telling her about *ME?*”

“I know, Jake, I’ve tried on several occasions, but it just gets caught in my throat.”

*JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY or SUPERCAT*

“You know, she’s going to find out sooner or later. I just think that it would be better if it’s sooner ...*from YOU!*”

“Okay, *already*, I will! How are your ‘*young-uns*’ doing?”

“Like they say... *growing like a weed*. I think that they will be ready for training before too much longer. Did I tell you that I talk to them in human, also? I heard on TV that if you start kids at a young age, they learn as if it were second-nature.”

“You are full of surprises, Jake!”

“Oh, wait until I *clue you in* on my plans...”

“Hold-on, little buddy, I don’t know how much I can take all in one swallow. Besides, I’d better get home, just in case Tina calls me. I’ll keep in touch; you can count on that!”

“See you later, partner!”

One thing I’ve got to say about him is that he’s got spunk! As long as he’s busy with a project, I’m sure, it keeps his little mind from worrying. ‘*Heh-heh*’ imagine him teaching his cats how to talk. I wonder if I really *can* communicate with them. It sounds pretty far-fetched to me ...although, I would have never believed the story about Jake, had someone told me! ...

I have so much to do, my head is spinning. I need to get out my trusty notepad and try to get some kind of order to this. ‘*Hmmm*’ this is Friday and there’s no better time than the present to get involved with the fan-club. It has been growing so fast that I’ll have to work out a plan to make sufficient room for everyone who wishes to attend.

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Tina is relaxing comfortably in the hospital, but the moment she gets home, *I'll tell her everything ...this time*. Jake was right about it being my responsibility to be the one to tell her. *It's only right...*





## CHAPTER TWO: THE OFFICIAL INAUGURATION

“The *SUPERCAT FAN CLUB* will now come to order! My name is Sam Wingate and the generous Mr. Wilber Winslow has asked me to speak to you on his behalf. As you are aware of, he is the originator and creator of the *SUPERCAT* series along with this restaurant. He has graciously entrusted me to be in charge of his holdings.

We have a nice sized group here this evening. The first thing that I would like to do is welcome you to a whole new beginning of our organization! I am interested in knowing how many of you are serious fans of *SUPERCAT*?”

A loud applause breaks out in the auditorium (along with smatterings of whistles and hoots).

“You have answered my question clear enough! In order to organize our new format, I will have you move to place yourselves in your new groups. You will fully understand after I am finished explaining. The six to nine year olds can sit on these benches along the wall and we’ll put the ten to thirteen year olds at these long tables over here next to the window. Fourteen to seventeen years of age can sit on these chairs located to the left side of the room and eighteen to twenty-one or older on these to the right. And then after you get situated, I would like you to fill out a questionnaire to let me know about your interests and background. I’m going to designate one person at each table to count out how many questionnaires are needed at their table and then come forward. We are going to do this orderly and one table at a time. Okay, you can move to your new seats, quietly please, and while

*JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY or SUPERCAT*

you are relocating yourselves I will pass around this basket full of name tags as I explain why we are making new changes. It appears that we have grown beyond our capacity and will need to meet at different times and in different locations.

The one thing that I want to make perfectly clear to you is that this club is for serious members only! We do not have the room, *or the energy*, to waste on those who are not thoroughly committed. Now, if you have finished moving to your designated groups, I will continue. As far as I can tell, it looks *pretty-much* evenly divided. It would be great if I could get a few of the older members to help corral the youngsters and fill out their tags. Their name and age on the questionnaire is fine, for now.

This club is going to be run in the same fashion that the military handles themselves, and that is *ORDERLY!* I believe that once you get used to our new program, you will enjoy our brotherhood of friendship.

As I announce the name of your clan, print it legibly at the top of your tag above your name. I want you to use the colored markers for this purpose. I will chalk the spelling on this board along with the ages of each clan and also the days and time of attendance. You may jot down this information on the sticky-note paper that is on each questionnaire for you to take home.

Starting with the *BOBCAT CLAN* which is the six to nine age group, your job is to have fun and *recruit!* You will meet on the first and third Friday of each month between six and seven p.m. right here in the *Supercat Restaurant*. We will provide games and snacks for everyone in attendance, so bring your friends!

Next we have the *CHEETAH CLAN*, which are the ages of ten to fourteen. You will meet and start your training in Martial Arts which will take-place once a week in the *Party Hall* on Friday between seven and nine p.m.

The next one on my list is the fifteen to seventeen year age group over here. You are older and more mature, so more will be

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required of you. What I mean is you will be training in a more advanced form of Martial Arts and eventually be using *weapons!*

**“GASP!”** (From everyone in attendance)

You will meet twice a week, Wednesday and Saturday evenings between seven and nine p.m. and will also take place here in the Party Hall. As your abilities advance, you will be moved to the main facility, which we will discuss later. You will be referred to as the *TIGER CLAN*. And, last but not least, the older members will be known as the *LEOPARD CLAN*. I will discuss your special duties and times of service a little later.

Now, we are going to discuss the requirements of retaining membership in the new *SUPERCAT FAN-CLUB CLAN*. This organization is going to be known as trustworthy, polite, and helpful. There will be no rowdiness and unbecoming behavior allowed. If you have a problem, we will set-aside time at the meeting to address it. *Is that understood?”*

**“Yes, Mr. Wingate!”**(In unison).

**“GOOD!** And it will be required of each and every one of you to hold yourselves in the highest esteem. ...What I mean by that is that you will regard yourselves as leaders, both respectable and honest. You will attend your schools on time and with top honors... working toward the highest scores of academic achievement.

Finally, to your delight and, perhaps, astonishment there will be *no dues required* to retain membership as I realize with your chores at home and school work, time for an outside job would be scarce. *And*, there will be plenty of duties at the hall to earn your keep! Besides, I want to keep this club accessible to *everyone* that has a sincere heart. ...Are there any questions so far?

**“No Mr. Wingate”** (In unison)

“*Good...* Now, I haven’t forgotten about the older members. I have special requirements since you are out of school and, possibly, on your own. In order to retain membership, you *must* be in the workforce or attending college in our community. Come and see me in private if there are extenuating circumstances that prohibit this request. And, depending on your abilities and talents, your duties will coincide. I would like you to remain here after the meeting adjourns for a more in-depth session. ... But, right now, let’s enjoy the snacks and each others company. *I’m sure that you have a lot to discuss!*”...

Now that the meeting has been adjourned for the younger members, let me see who we have left... twenty-seven, twenty-eight ...twenty-nine. This is a good start for this division of the *Leopard Clan*. If you have finished filling out your papers, pass them to the front so that I can study who I have entrusted to this elite position. If any one of you feels that you can not commit to these standards, you are free to leave.”

“Mr. Wingate... Hi, my name is Chris and we are here because we believe in *SUPERCAT*. We want to be a part of this ...to help. We have been reading the cartoon-series and it is getting *intense!* What I mean is we all agree that something *has* to be done to stop the evil-forces at work on our planet!”

**“YES!”** (The room breaks out in loud applause and whistles)

“I hope that I can depend on each and every one of you, because, you see... *I CAN’T DO IT ALONE!* With what you said about the evil-forces and things getting *intense*, you don’t realize how true that is. So, does this mean that I have your undying allegiance?”

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**“YES!”** (Loud applause) ...

*“What a night”* ... I’m feeling really good about this bunch of adolescents. They really seem to have a head on their shoulders and are truly dedicated to the cause. I can’t wait to tell Jake about what has transpired this evening, but right now I’d better get home and rested. Tomorrow is going to be equally stressful... *A NEW BABY WILL BE COMING HOME!*



## CHAPTER THREE: TIME TESTED TRIALS!

“Sign here and you are free to go home, bundle in tow.”

“Thank-you, Doctor Bradley! Is there anything else that you can tell us?”

“‘*Fraid-not*’, the rest comes with practice!”

“Let me help you into the wheelchair, honey. You’ve deserved a ride to the car!”

“Thank-you, Sam, I’d better enjoy all the spoiling while I can.”

“You sit here in the lobby while I bring the car around.”...

**“SCRE-E-E-ETCH!!”**

**“HEY ‘FELLA’ - WATCH IT!”...**

“Did you see that, Tina? ...Some joker almost bought himself a Lexus!”

“I’m glad that our car has good brakes.”

“I’m glad that you and the baby weren’t in it! You sit there in the wheelchair while I get this car seat buckled into the backseat. It shouldn’t be *too* difficult to figure out...”



*JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY or SUPERCAT*

*“What’s that, Sam?”*

*“Huh. What’s what honey?”*

*“Something just rolled out from under the front seat ...it looks like a pine cone!”*

*“A PINE CONE... ‘Heh-heh’ I wonder how that got there?”*

*“SAM!”*

*“Tina, I was planning to talk to you about that... as soon as we get home. .... Here, let me help you out of the car ...now, are you okay?”*

*“You can just cut the act, wise guy. ...You’ve got a lot of explaining to do when we get in the house!”*

*“Now, honey, don’t be angry on such a glorious day as today. We have a brand-new baby girl!”*

*“You’re right, Sam, I’m just being silly. ...I’m sorry, honey.”*

*“That’s my girl! Now you get in the house and I’ll grab Lola and come back for the bags.”*

*I knew that I should have taken care of this nonsense sooner. That darned cat and his pine cones! ...*

*“Here she is, honey, one little bundle of joy!”*

*“Isn’t she precious, Sam?”*

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“I’ll run out for the bags and *then* we can drool all over her!”

“Oh, Sam!” ...

“Now, where were we... *oh yeah*, isn’t she precious?”

“*No*, you were going to tell me about that pine cone that was under the seat.”

“You see it’s like this, I thought that I’d bring home some souvenirs from my trip to Seattle.”

“Sam, I want the whole story ...*I’M WAITING!*”

“I’ve been meaning to tell you, but I didn’t know how to phrase it.”

“I will help you after I put the baby in her crib. ... Now, let’s start at the beginning.”

“Sit down, Tina, this will take a while.”

“Proceed.”...

“..... and so, you see, I was the only one he could turn to!”

“(‘*Gasp*’) Sam, why didn’t you tell me that they actually made a *freak* out of that concoction?”

“*TINA, don’t call him that!* He is a good-hearted individual that just so happens to be a friend of mine.”

“I’m sorry, Sam. It’s just that this is so weird to me. How can

*JAKE the BEER-BELLY KITTY or SUPERCAT*

it possibly be that he is human-like?”

“If you knew him, you would understand.”

“So, when do I get to see him?”

“I guess whenever you are feeling up to it.”

“Give me a little time to get used to the idea ...*oh-oh*, I hear the baby crying.”

I am sure good at this can-of-worms kind of thing. Maybe if I would have told her sooner she would have been warmed-up to this ‘Jake thing’ by now.

“Okay, Sam, I’m ready to meet this friend of yours.”

“What about the baby? *We can’t just leave her here!*”

“I called my sister and she wants to see her, so this is the perfect time for us to go and see this cat.”

“His name is Jake... and I’m going to have to set up a meeting place. Are you sure that you want to see him *now* and not next week after you’ve rested-up?”

“I have been resting in the hospital for *TWO DAYS!* You know, Sam, I could have come home sooner. No one stays that long any more.”

“I wanted to be sure that everything was okay, before releasing you to come home.”

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“I know it’s because you care about me and I appreciate that, Sam, but I am stir-crazy and really want to meet your friend, Jake.”

“Are you *sure* that you won’t be frightened?”

“He’s your friend, Sam.”

“I’ll go get him.” ...

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