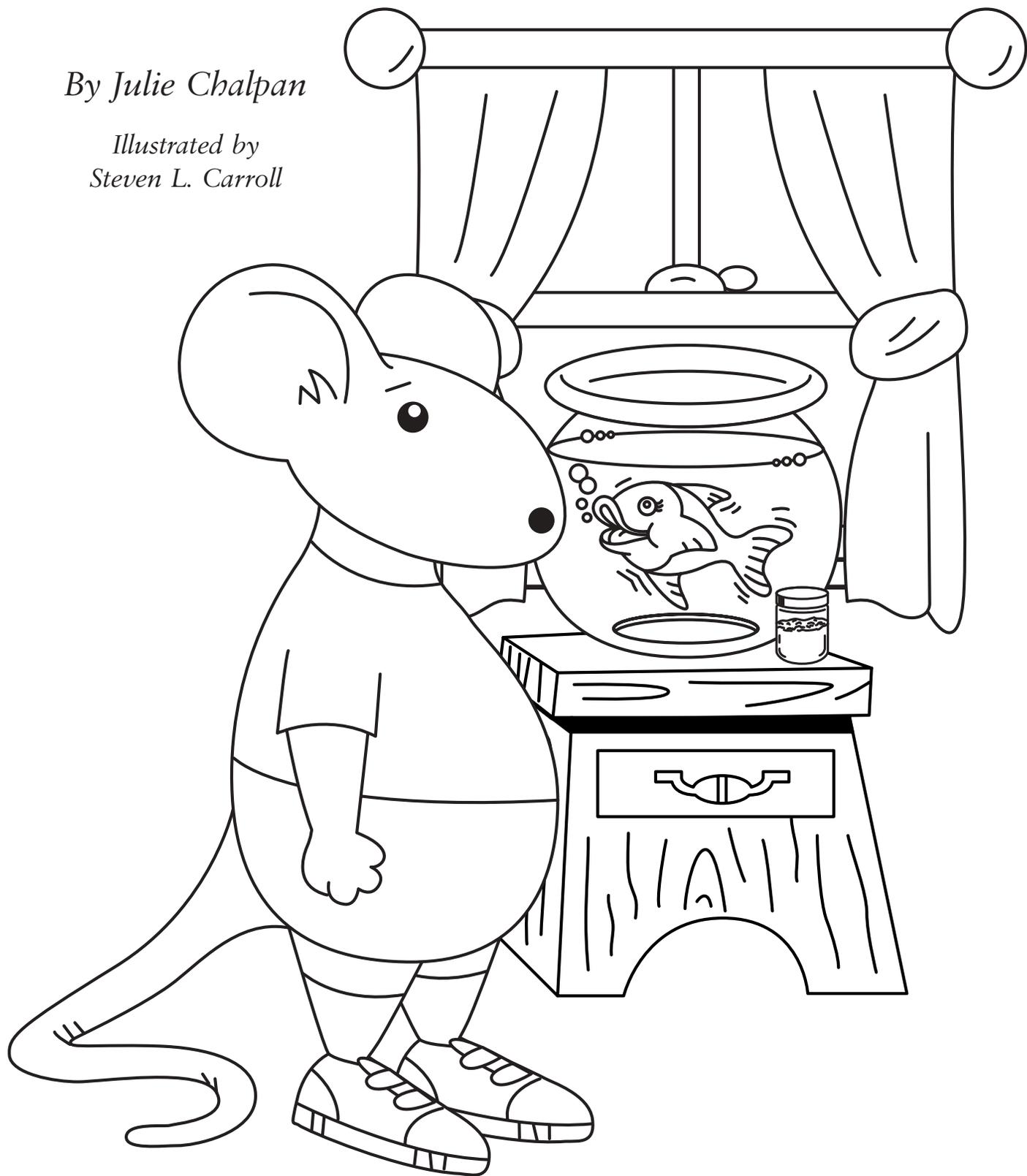


THE ADVENTURES OF LITTLE FAT RAT:
LITTLE FAT RAT ADOPTS A PET

By Julie Chalpan

*Illustrated by
Steven L. Carroll*



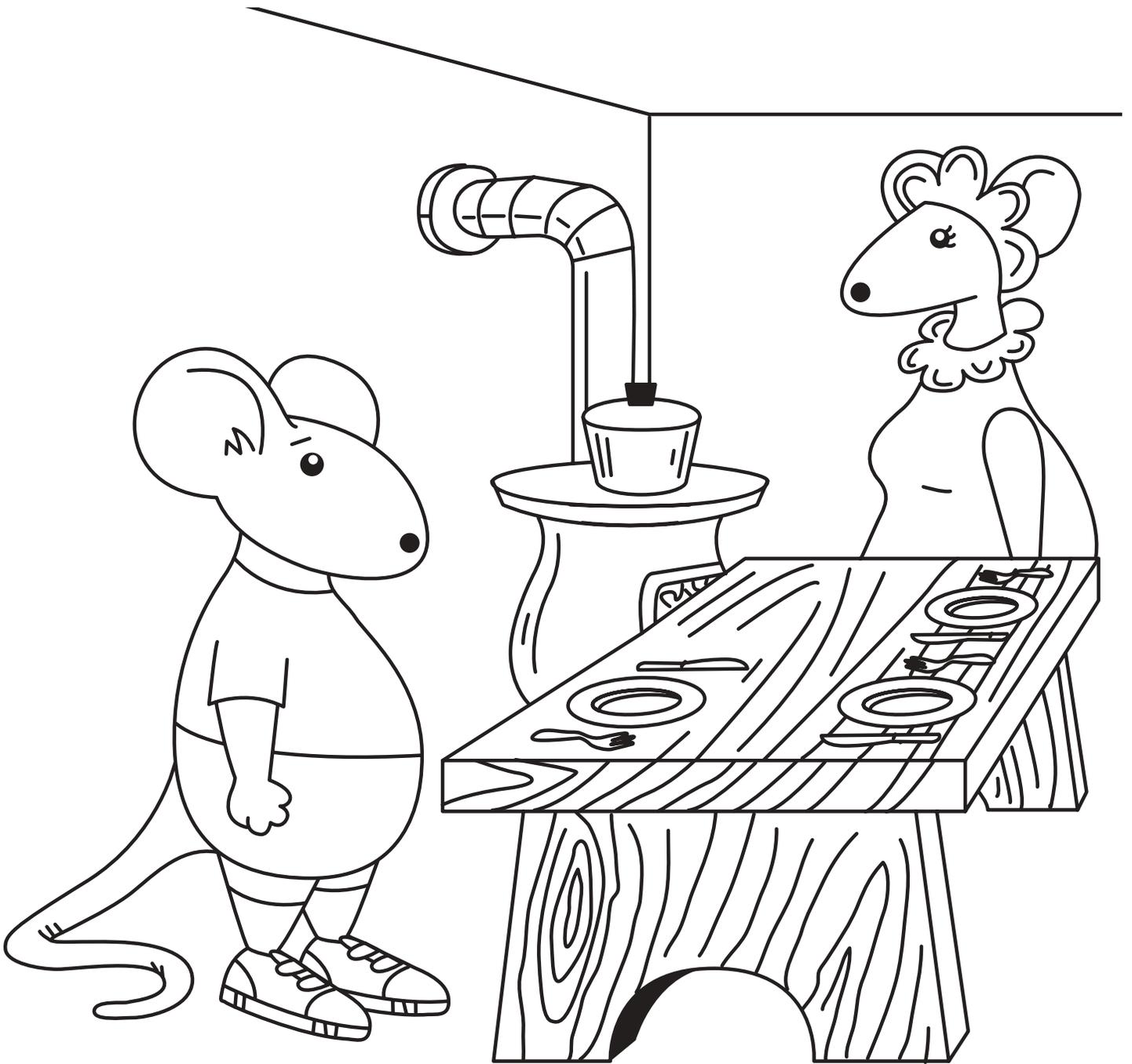


Little Fat Rat was sitting in his room one rainy day and did not have anything to do. It had been raining all day and Little Fat Rat had already watched TV and cleaned his room.

His mom came into his room to see what he was doing.

“Why don’t you help me cook dinner?” asked his mom. “Your dad will be home soon and you can set the table and help me in the kitchen.”

“Okay mom,” said Little Fat Rat. He quickly helped his mom get everything ready for dinner.



“You know, mom, I would like someone to play with on rainy days,” said Little Fat Rat. “I’m bored.”

“Are any of your friends home?” asked his mom.

“It is raining and we cannot play outside,” said Little Fat Rat. “I have been thinking and I think I would like to have a pet. It would be fun having a pet to talk to and play with on rainy days.”

“Pets are a lot of responsibility, dear,” said his mom. “Yes, they are good company, but they are a lot of work, too.”

“I know, mom. I am old enough now. I could feed it and take care of it myself,” said Little Fat Rat.

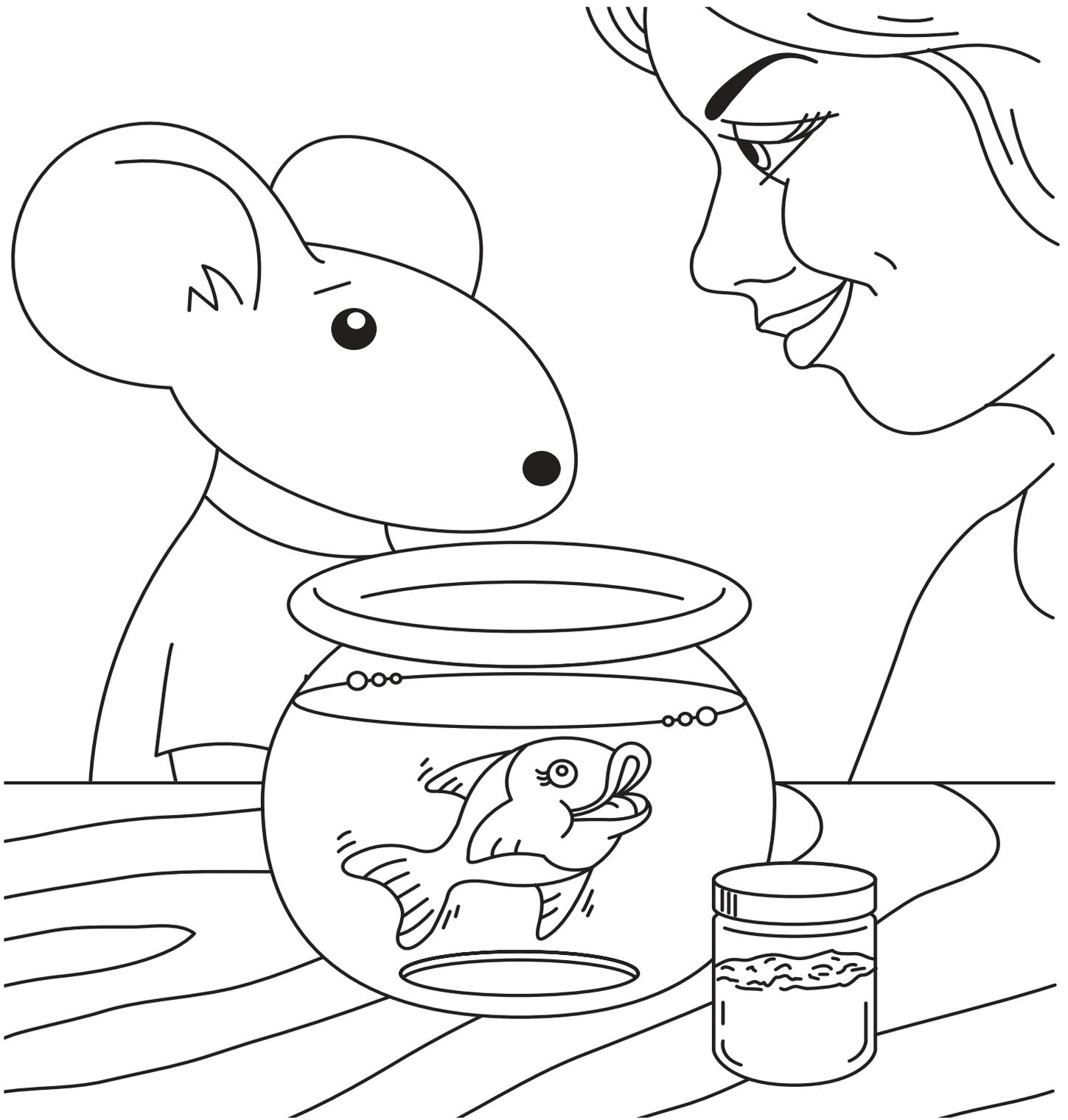
“Well, we can go down to the local Humane Society tomorrow and see what pet might need a good home,” said his mom.



The next day Little Fat Rat, his mom and his dad went to the local Humane Society. Little Fat Rat saw him the minute he walked in the door. There was a goldfish in a small bowl sitting on a table.

“That is the pet I want! I will name him Goldie!” exclaimed Little Fat Rat.

Goldie looked at the family with his big brown eyes. He was very hard to resist and Mr. and Mrs. Rat wondered why anyone would ever give up this wonderful fish. After talking to the helpful volunteers at the local Humane Society, they decided to adopt Goldie.

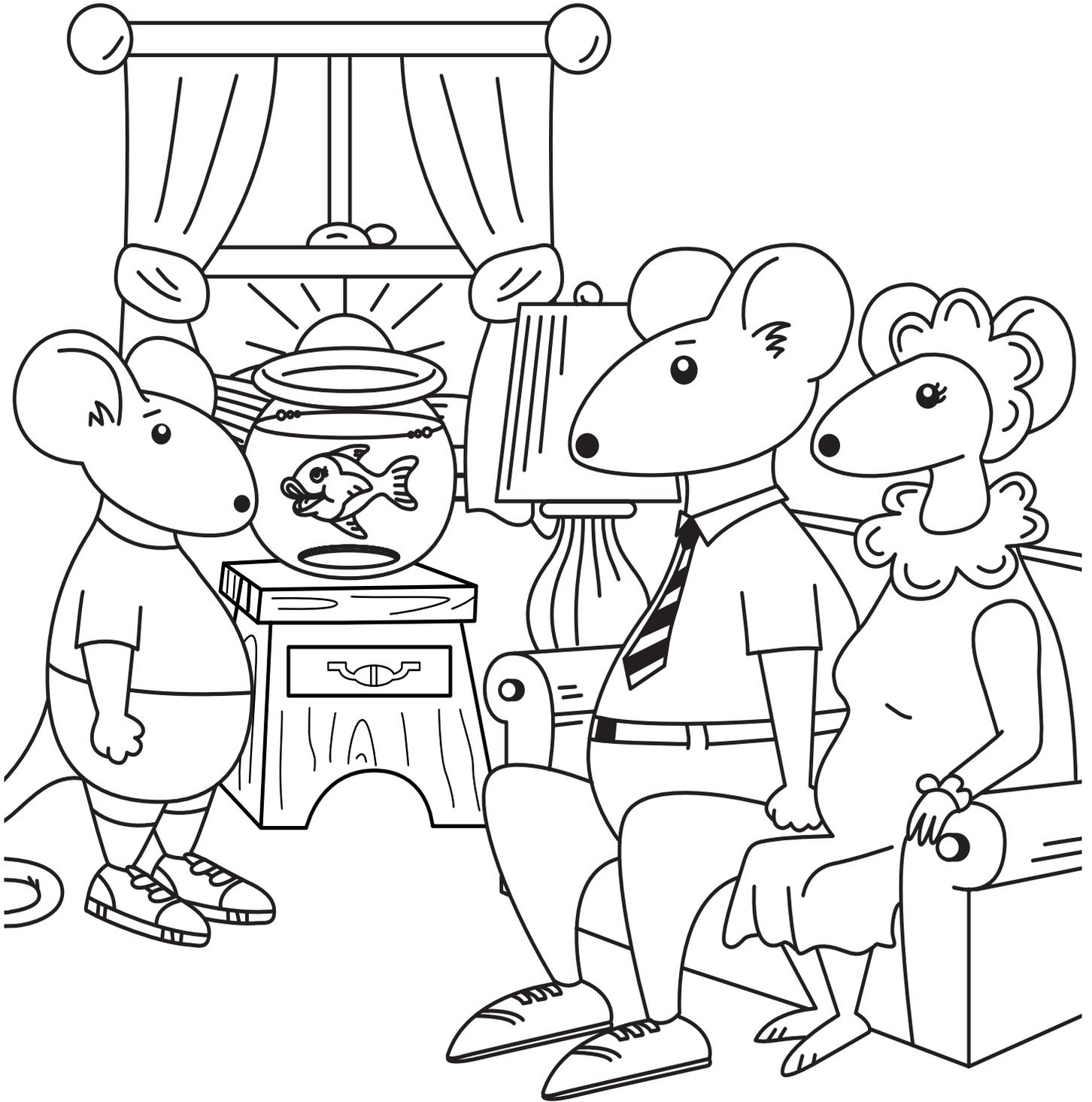


“You can have this bowl and we have some food for him,” said Pam, a volunteer for the local Humane Society. “His other family said that they could not take care of him anymore. Have you ever had a pet?”

“No, but I promise to take very good care of him,” said Little Fat Rat, hoping that the nice lady would let him adopt Goldie.

“Good,” said Pam. “Goldie needs a good home with a lot of love and you seem to be the perfect one for him!”

“Thank you!” said Little Fat Rat as his parents began filling out the papers to adopt Goldie.



When Little Fat Rat and his parents returned home with Goldie they found the perfect place to put him. They put him near the window in the living room. There was a place where there was not too much sun, and where Goldie could have plenty of light during the day.

“This is the perfect new place for his home,” said Little Fat Rat, happy to have his new pal. “We spend most of our time in here during the day, and at night I can take him into my room to sleep on my dresser. I want to be with him all of the time!”



Goldie seemed very happy in his new home. He felt lucky to have had such a nice family find him and take him home.

(Please note: Your local Humane Society or shelter is a wonderful place to adopt a dog or a cat. Unless you are Little Fat Rat, you normally would not find goldfish to adopt!)