

**Please enjoy this sample from
CONVERSATIONS WITH MY CAT...**

by

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With Ripley McKenzie

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Setting the Tone

MacReady: Hey! Watcha doing?

Chuck: Writing.

MacReady: Oh. Okay.

Chuck: Except that you have your paw on the keyboard.

MacReady: Yes?

Chuck: Well, I can't get to the 'A'.

MacReady: Yeah. Yeah, that's unfortunate.

Chuck: Well, could you move your paw?

MacReady: I mean, I *could*.

...

Chuck: You haven't moved your paw.

MacReady: Conserving my strength.

Chuck: Look, this is important –

MacReady: What are you writing?

Chuck: A book. It's all about –

MacReady: Sorry, I lost interest after I stopped talking. Feed me?

Chuck: Fed you already.

MacReady: Feed me again.

Chuck: No.

MacReady: Feed me?

Chuck: No!

MacReady: Look how cute I am.

Chuck: Writing. Move your paw. Go away.

MacReady: Want me to shit in your shoes?

Chuck: *WHAT?*

MacReady: I said, 'Why is this writing important?'

Chuck: Because I want to finish this book so I can sell it.

MacReady: So, you'll make a lot of money if you sell it? And you can buy lots of cat food?

Chuck: Um.

MacReady: In other words, 'No'?

Chuck: Well...

MacReady: I fail to see how this benefits me.

Chuck: It benefits *me*.

...

MacReady: I don't understand.

Chuck: Please move your paw?

MacReady: Your time really would be better spent if you went to work and earned decent cat food money instead of sitting here writing.

Chuck: Listen, I've just spent the past month unemployed, mooching around the house and lavishing you with attention. Last week I finally got a job, had one shift, and you threw a conniption fit because I wasn't home all day.

MacReady: Yes. And your point is?

Chuck: You want me to go out and slave for cat food, but you don't want me to leave the house?

MacReady: Yeah. That's about the size of it.

Chuck: I can't do both. You're being an arse.

MacReady: Hey, don't get pissy at me just because *you* can't multitask.

Chuck: Look, if I pat you and feed you now, will you let me write?

MacReady: No. The moment's passed. Tired now. I'll just lie down here.

...

MacReady: You weren't using this keyboard, were you?

Chuck: *ARRGH!!!*

MacReady: Didn't think so. No point using a keyboard if you can't get to the 'A'.