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## I LIKE CATS THAT CATCH THINGS

i never discourage a cat's natural instinct to catch things.

i love it when a cat catches a rat. who wouldn't? our cats probably spare us many plagues. we have three cats in our house and it is not a popular getaway-weekend for rats.

i don't even mind it when a cat catches a bird. there seem to be many species of birds that are not endangered. generally a cat will bite right through the top of a bird's skull and puncture its brain. it ain't pretty, but it's effective. and, after all, since birds can fly and cats can't, it's quite an accomplishment for a cat to catch a bird, even though many birds, pigeons in particular, can be mighty stupid. i would never discourage a cat from catching even the most beautiful of birds (excluding the kids' parakeet). birds are a cat's proudest trophies, like santiago's big fish was his.

i just wish they wouldn't insist on bringing all the bloody, furry, feathery fuckers into the house for our dinner guests to admire.