Digby Hears a Why

**[Artists, you have artistic freedom to illustrate in whatever style you prefer. There are some exceptions, and that’s when I try to convey where I am going with this message-wise. Comments inserted below.]**

Digby was lying on the floor, paws outstretched, bathing in the sun, when a small shadow fell over him.

Standing above his head was some type of…caterpillar? A harness was strapped to her back, bearing heart-shaped wings. **[The harness has to look threadbare, as though Allie had basically improvised with cloth, wood, and rope.]**

“I’m sorry to bother you, Digby,” said the caterpillar. “My name’s Allie, and I was wondering if you could help me.”

Digby glanced at the harness. “To help you fly?”

“To help me change,” she said. “I’ve tried everything. I eat. I exercise. I take shape, hoping to speed up the process. Yet still I remain the same. I think there’s something wrong with me. **[A montage of scenes work best here. “I eat” – a shot of Allie eating a pile of leaves; “I exercise” – Allie working out; “I take shape” – Allie hanging upside down from a branch, her makeshift wings wrapped around herself like a chrysalis.]**

“But you’re the king of the animals, Digby! Everybody says that you’re clever and strong.” Allie looked up at Digby, her little boots brought together, begging.

“Please, can you help me change?”

Digby pondered for a moment before he straightened up, a smile on his face. “Why sure! I know just the thing.”

Allie was ecstatic, jumping up and down, shaking her makeshift wings and boots. “Really?”

Digby nodded smiling as he got to his paws. “Do as I do,” he said. “You’ll learn a thing or two!”

So Digby said ROAR **[Digby and Allie roaring, Allie being very pleased and happy]**

And Digby said STALK **[Digby pointing out a bird with their back turned to them, low on the ground. Allie also crouches down, not yet worried]**

And Digby said PLAY **[Digby attacks the bird, while Allie looks at him in horror]**

But when Digby said EAT **[Digby has the bird pinned beneath his paws while Allie continues to look stunned and terrified]**

Allie asked, “Why? Why are we doing these things?”

And then Digby said—