


DOCTOR CATERPILLAR


WRITTEN BY ALISHA BOJJI ILLUSTRATED BY LAURA WANG

ONCE UPON A TIME IN A COLORFUL MEADOW, THERE LIVED A TINY CATERPILLAR NAMED CATE. CATE WAS UNLIKE ANY OTHER CATERPILLAR YOU'D EVER MET. WHILE ALL THE OTHER CATERPILLARS WERE MUNCHING ON LEAVES ALL DAY, CATE HAD A BIG DREAM – SHE WANTED TO BECOME A DOCTOR.





**CATE LOVED LISTENING TO THE BIRDS SINGING AND THE
BEES BUZZING IN THE MEADOW. SHE WAS
ALWAYS CURIOUS ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND HER,
ESPECIALLY WHEN SHE SAW HER FELLOW INSECTS FEELING
UNWELL. WHENEVER A FRIEND HAD A TUMMY ACHE OR A
BEE HAD A SORE WING, CATE WOULD TRY TO HELP BY
WRAPPING A LEAF AROUND THEM, LIKE A MAKESHIFT
BANDAGE.**






ONE SUNNY DAY, CATE GATHERED HER COURAGE AND DECIDED TO SHARE HER DREAM WITH HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS. SHE CALLED A MEETING WITH ALL THE CATERPILLARS IN THE MEADOW. THEY GATHERED AROUND HER, THEIR LITTLE ANTENNAE QUIVERING WITH CURIOSITY. "I HAVE A DREAM," CATE BEGAN, "A DREAM TO BECOME A DOCTOR AND HELP ALL OUR FRIENDS WHEN THEY'RE NOT FEELING WELL. I WANT TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE THEM FEEL BETTER, JUST LIKE WE DO WHEN WE WRAP LEAVES AROUND OURSELVES." THE OTHER CATERPILLARS EXCHANGED PUZZLED GLANCES. "BUT CATE," SAID HER FRIEND LARRY, "WE'RE CATERPILLARS. OUR JOB IS TO EAT LEAVES AND GROW INTO BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES. DOCTORS ARE FOR HUMANS AND ANIMALS, NOT CATERPILLARS." CATE SIGHED BUT DIDN'T GIVE UP. SHE WAS DETERMINED TO MAKE HER DREAM COME TRUE.




SHE DECIDED TO VISIT THE WISE OLD BUTTERFLY, BELLA, WHO HAD SEEN MANY SEASONS IN THE MEADOW. BELLA LISTENED TO CATE'S DREAM WITH A WARM SMILE. "CATE, MY DEAR," SHE SAID, "YOU SHOULD NEVER STOP DREAMING, NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL. IF YOU WANT TO BE A DOCTOR, THEN YOU MUST START BY LEARNING ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND YOU. OBSERVE, ASK QUESTIONS, AND NEVER STOP BELIEVING IN YOURSELF." WITH BELLA'S ENCOURAGEMENT, CATE STARTED HER JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY. SHE WATCHED HOW THE BIRDS BUILT THEIR NESTS, LISTENED TO THE FROGS CROAKING BY THE POND, AND EVEN CHATTED WITH THE LADYBUGS ABOUT THEIR SPOTS. CATE READ EVERY BOOK SHE COULD FIND IN THE MEADOW, EVEN THE ONES WITH BIG WORDS AND COMPLICATED PICTURES. AS THE SEASONS CHANGED, CATE GREW AND TRANSFORMED INTO A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY, JUST LIKE HER FRIENDS. BUT SHE NEVER FORGOT HER DREAM OF BECOMING A DOCTOR. SHE HELPED HER FRIENDS WHEN THEY WERE SICK, AND HER KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEADOW'S CREATURES MADE HER THE GO-TO BUG FOR ADVICE.





**ONE DAY, A YOUNG LADYBUG NAMED LUCY FELL FROM
A LEAF AND HURT HER LEG. SHE WAS IN A LOT OF PAIN.
CATE RUSHED TO HER SIDE, USING HER GENTLE TOUCH
AND NEWFOUND KNOWLEDGE TO CARE FOR LUCY. SHE
FASHIONED A TINY SPLINT FROM A FALLEN TWIG AND
CAREFULLY WRAPPED IT AROUND LUCY'S LEG. LUCY'S
SMILE RETURNED, AND HER LEG STARTED FEELING
BETTER.**





**WORD OF CATE'S HEALING TOUCH SPREAD
THROUGHOUT THE MEADOW, AND SOON, ALL THE INSECTS
CAME TO HER WHEN THEY NEEDED HELP. CATE MAY NOT
HAVE BECOME A DOCTOR IN THE WAY HUMANS DID, BUT SHE
HAD BECOME DR. CATEPILLAR IN THE MEADOW, THE MOST
CARING AND KNOWLEDGEABLE BUG AROUND. SHE PROVED
THAT NO DREAM WAS TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL IF YOU HAD THE
DETERMINATION AND BELIEF IN YOURSELF. AND SO, IN THE
COLORFUL MEADOW, DR. CATEPILLAR CONTINUED TO HEAL
AND CARE FOR HER FRIENDS, TEACHING THEM THAT ANYONE,
NO MATTER HOW SMALL, COULD MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE
WHEN THEY FOLLOWED THEIR DREAMS.**



Doctor
Caterpillar