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Whiskers' Wish

by Guy Belleranti

Whiskers the cat leaped out of the tree,
almost landing on Molly the Collie's long nose.

"Careful!" Molly cried.

"Is that all you have to say?" Whiskers asked.

"Didn't I scare you?"



"Scare me? Of course not."

"I wish I was bigger and tougher," Whiskers grumbled. "Then I would've scared you."

"You mean BIG like a collie?" Molly asked.

Whiskers giggled. "No. I could never be a dog like you. That would be too embarrassing."

"Humph!" said Molly. "Maybe you could be a Saint Bernard."

"No, no, NO. I couldn't be any dog."

"How about a rhinoceros? They're not dogs, but they are big and tough."

Whiskers curled his nose. "They're also stinky."

Molly nodded. "You're right. I wouldn't like living with you if you were stinky. How about being a giraffe?"

Whiskers hunched his shoulders. "No again. Then my neck would be so long I'd hit my head on things."

"Yeah, that wouldn't be much fun. I know! A shark. They're really tough."

Whiskers shook his head. "They live in water. I can't stand water."

"An eagle?" Molly suggested.

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"No, all that flying would make me dizzy."

"A polar bear?"

Whiskers shivered. "Brrrrr! They like cold. I like to be warm."

Molly thought hard. "Of course!" she cried. "How could we have missed it? A lion! They aren't too stinky, their necks aren't long, they don't like water, they don't fly and they love the sun."

"And they're cats! Big, tough cats." Whiskers clapped his paws. "Molly, you're pretty smart for a dog."

"Thank you," Molly said. Then she frowned. "Of course, being a lion will mean big changes."

"Changes?" Whiskers asked.

"Yes. You won't be allowed in the house anymore. You won't get to sit on the couch and be petted. You won't get tuna or warm milk."

"I won't?"

"Nope," Molly said. "And worst of all - you'll have to live far away, not in the city."

Whiskers scratched his chin. "I don't wish to be a lion after all. But I do know what I want to be."

"Great!" said Molly. "What is it?"

"ME," said Whiskers. "I like me just as I am. And if I keep living here we can still be friends."

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Whiskers' Wish

1) Whiskers wants to be bigger and tougher...

- a) to scare Molly.
- b) to scare all his friends.
- c) to live happily the way he is.
- d) to fly.

2) Why doesn't Whiskers want to be a shark or an eagle?

3) Did Whiskers finally want to change into any other animal? Why?

4) Write the adjectives used by Whiskers to describe the two animals.

rhinoceros - _____

lions - _____

5) If you were given an option, who would you like to be and why?

Whiskers' Wish

1) Whiskers wants to be bigger and tougher...

~~a)~~ to scare Molly.

b) to scare all his friends.

c) to live happily the way he is.

d) to fly.

2) Why doesn't Whiskers want to be a shark or an eagle?

Whiskers doesn't want to be a shark, because it doesn't like water and flying like an eagle makes it dizzy.

3) Did Whiskers finally want to change into any other animal? Why?

No, Whiskers gave up the idea of becoming someone else and was happy being itself.

4) Write the adjectives used by Whiskers to describe the two animals.

rhinoceros - **stinky**

lions - **big tough cats**

5) If you were given an option, who would you like to be and why?

Answers may vary.