**Character Analysis**

*The Butterfly Circus* is a short movie by Joshua Weigel. It takes place in the United States during the Great Depression. In the movie, the main character Will, who is a man born without arms and legs, is facing the problem of overcoming the difficulties in his life. Will travels with the Butterfly Circus and learns how each person in the circus overcame difficulties like alcoholism, violence, poverty, rejection, and prostitution. Will slowly begins to face his difficulties and realizes that he too can be an overcomer. Finally, Will performs in the circus by lifting himself 50 feet into the air and jumping from a platform into a small pool of water.

Throughout the story, the main character experiences major changes. In the beginning of the movie, Will was very dependent on others to take care of him. He did not do anything for himself. For example, Will only sat on a chair and let people laugh at him at his job in a carnival’s sideshow. Also, Will expected his circus friends to help him across the river because he did not believe he could do it himself.

By the end of the movie Will changed. He became more independent. For example, when no one helped Will cross the river, he had to do it himself. But when he fell into the river, he did not drown. He taught himself to swim. Another example is that Will got a new job as performer in the Butterfly Circus. He used his abilities as a swimmer to earn a living and inspire others who watched him.

There was an event that changed the main character. That event was when Mr. Mendez told Will, “If you could only see the beauty that can come from ashes...”, and then Mr. Mendez showed Will the flashbacks of some of the other circus performers. They overcame difficulties, their “ashes,” to become better people, their “beauty”. At first Will did not think he could do great things like the other circus performers. Then Mr. Mendez said, “The greater the struggle, the more glorious the triumph.” Mr. Mendez wanted Will to know that even though Will was born with huge challenges, he could still become an inspiration. I know this event changed my main character because after this scene, Will taught himself to swim and became a Butterfly Circus performer, doing a stunt that no one had ever done before.

In conclusion, Will changes a lot throughout this inspirational movie. At the beginning, he was dependent on others to take care of him. By the end of the movie, Will overcame his difficulties to become more independent and work in the circus. The central idea in *The Butterfly Circus* is that people can overcome difficulties in their lives to become better people.
(title of book) is a novel by (author). It takes place during / in (setting). In the book, the main character (name) who is, (attribute), is facing the problem (problem/conflict). (most important events). (resolution).

Throughout the story, the main character experiences major changes. At the beginning of the book, (main character) was (attribute) (attribute). For example, (example from the book). Also, (example from the book).

By the end of the book (main character) changed. He / She became (attribute). For example, (example from the book). Another example is (example from the book).

There was an event that changed the main character. That event was __ (example from the book). I know this event changed my main character because ______________ (example from the book).

In conclusion, (restate main points from essay). The central idea / theme in (title of book) is ______________.

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