

CATS ILLUSTRATED

Judy's left chubby foreleg has become lame!



Late Monday night, Judy's chubby foreleg stopped responding. And, when Judy got an x-ray in the morning, doctors confirmed that Judy now had a lame chubby foreleg. Judy was broken. She has not eaten anything, and has had only a small glass of wine to drink. Max and Judy's kittens are trying to comfort her, but Judy is inconsolable at the loss of her use of her left chubby foreleg. However, there is a small bit of good news.

Image above - Harvey and Coffee, who both feel horrible for Judy's sake.

"When you have a chubby foreleg that has just become lame like this," one of the hospital staff has pointed out, "there are still a few options. It is possible that a surgery could be done on the chubby foreleg, and repair the nerve that was damaged from the outside. However, this is a very

dangerous surgery, and 3 out of the 5 times that it has ever been performed, the chubby foreleg had to be amputated. Oh, yes, we could also just amputate the chubby foreleg now, but that would be just giving up hope. However, there is a third option. In recent years, cats have been working on braces for and even a mechanical chubby foreleg. If Judy could wait for a couple months, we could probably get her a brace for her chubby foreleg, or, if she wanted it, we could amputate the leg and wait for a whole mechanical chubby foreleg. There are many options.”

Judy got a bit of happiness when she heard this news, and started to think about what she might want to happen. She was able to eat something and drink some water, and has now come up with her plan. “I want to do the surgery,” Judy has announced to the hospital, “and, if my chubby foreleg has to be amputated, I’ll wait for a mechanical chubby foreleg.” A lot of the hospital staff were nodding, but Judy wasn’t finished yet. “And, if I do complete the surgery and my chubby foreleg is back and running again, I might still want a special brace to help it.” More cats were nodding now, and Rudy had tears in her eyes. Rudy knew how much Judy’s chubby forelegs meant to her. Now that her chubby foreleg was lame, though, Judy might not ever tussle in the same way again.



Image above - one of the older versions of a mechanical chubby foreleg on a cat.

“When was the last time that I had a partner who liked sugar cubes... never?”

- HARVEY, WHO IS STILL PERPLEXED BY THIS

Judy, who is still quite sad, has set up therapy sessions with Harvey twice a week. Hazel is currently a therapist in training, and Judy may be one of the first patients to get therapy by her. Harvey is proud of her progress, and Hazel has rather taken a liking to sugar cubes. Judy already blames Harvey. However, Hazel will be in disguise when she and Harvey give Judy therapy. Judy can’t know that her kitten is the one giving her therapy, or else Judy will not tell her things that she would if she were with a different therapist.

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