

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

by Eric Carle





For my sister Christa



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PHILOMEL BOOKS



In the light
of the moon
a little egg
lay on a leaf.





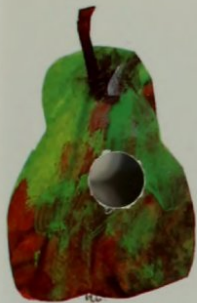
One Sunday morning the warm sun came up and – pop! – out of the egg came a tiny and very hungry caterpillar.







He started to look for some food.

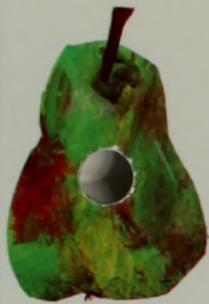


On Monday
he ate through
one apple.
But he was still
hungry.



He started to look for some food.





On Tuesday
he ate through
two pears,
but he was
still hungry.



He started to look for some food.





On Wednesday
he ate through
three plums,
but he was still
hungry.



He started to look for some food.





On Thursday
he ate through
four strawberries,
but he was still
hungry.



He started to lo





On Friday
he ate through
five oranges,
but he was still
hungry.

On Saturday
he ate through
one piece of
chocolate cake, one ice-cream cone, one pickle, one slice of Swiss cheese, one slice of salami,

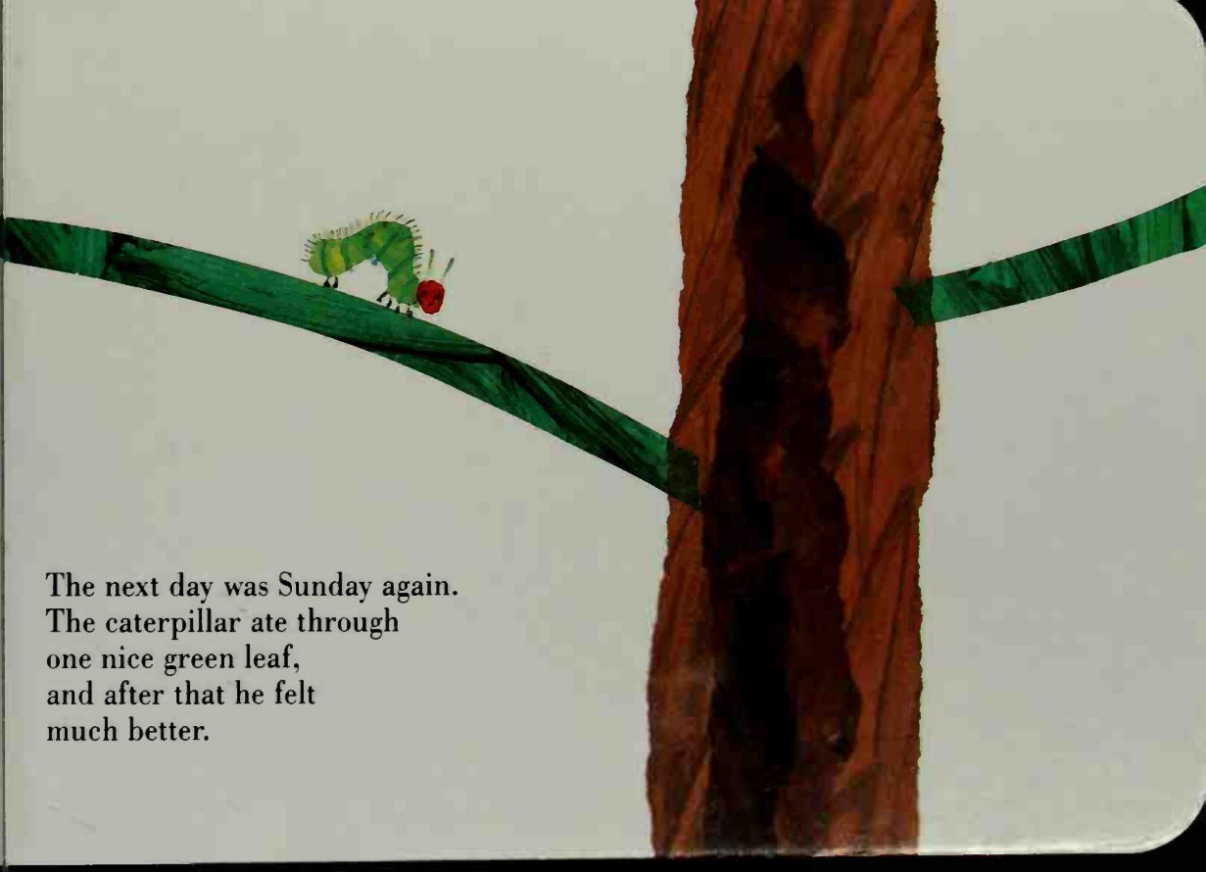


one lollipop, one piece of cherry pie, one sausage, one cupcake, and one slice of watermelon.



That night he had a stomachache!



A green caterpillar with a red head and small black legs is crawling on a long, thin green leaf. The leaf is positioned horizontally across the middle of the page. In the background, a vertical, textured brown shape represents a tree trunk. The overall scene is set against a plain, light-colored background.

The next day was Sunday again.
The caterpillar ate through
one nice green leaf,
and after that he felt
much better.

Now he wasn't hungry any more – and he wasn't a little caterpillar any more.
He was a big, fat caterpillar.



He built a small house, called a cocoon, around himself. He stayed inside for more than two weeks. Then he nibbled a hole in the cocoon, pushed his way out and...



he was a beautiful butterfly!







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