

Cast In Order Of Appearance:

Black (Black Swallowtail - larva feeds on carrots, parsley and related plants)
Zebra (Zebra Swallowtail - larva feeds on pawpaw)
Spice (Spicebush Swallowtail - larva feeds on spicebush and sassafras)
Tiger (Tiger Swallowtail - larva feeds on various trees)
Caterpillar Cop
Everyone
Sidekick
Judge
Slug

BLACK : Come! Come and eat with us.

ZEBRA : No, no, I can't. It isn't the right food.

SPICE : Please. We worry about you.

TIGER : Psst. Hey you! Come over here. I've got something you might like.

ZEBRA : Are you sure? I mean, I can't even find it locally and HEY!

BLACK : Oh my gosh! Where did that Zebra Swallowtail Caterpillar go?
Where, oh, where is the Zebra?

SFX: theme music

CATERPILLAR COP : When the larva get loathsome and unlawful, who ya gonna call?

EVERYONE : Caterpillar Cop!

CATERPILLAR COP : Okay. Now, when was the last time you saw this Zebra Swallowtail Caterpillar?

BLACK : Well, we were all hanging out in front of the Papilionoidea Pub.
(pronounced pah-*pee*-lee-oh-noh-i-dee-ah)

CATERPILLAR COP : And then?

SPICE : Well, our friend was very hungry and we were trying to find some food.

CATERPILLAR COP : So what was the problem?

BLACK : It wasn't easy to feed this caterpillar.

CATERPILLAR COP : And why is that?

SPICE : Well, all that was available were some carrots, parsley and various trees.

BLACK : Stuff we like to eat.

CATERPILLAR COP : And?

BLACK : And the only food that would suffice for her was pawpaw.

SFX: transition music

CATERPILLAR COP : Okay. This Caterpillar has been missing since last Tuesday. Any ideas as to what happened?

SIDEKICK : How should I know? She was with some friends and got hungry. The next thing they know, she's gone.

CATERPILLAR COP : Zebra Swallowtail Caterpillars basically eat a diet of pawpaw.

SIDEKICK : Yeah? So?

CATERPILLAR COP : So it's not that easy to find pawpaw at this time of year in New England.

SIDEKICK : You think someone deliberately led her astray with the promise of pawpaw?

CATERPILLAR COP : It's a possibility.

SFX: transition music

TIGER : C'mon, sweetie. I know you want it.

ZEBRA : No, no, I can't eat it like this. Please, please take it away.

TIGER : You'd rather starve?

ZEBRA : I - I -

TIGER : Listen, if you don't eat, you'll never metamorphosize and you know the family expects you to.

ZEBRA : Please don't make me go through with this!

SFX: door slams

CATERPILLAR COP : Stop where you are!

TIGER : Who are you?

CATERPILLAR COP : Caterpillar Cop. I'm taking you in.

TIGER : What's the charge?

CATERPILLAR COP : Masquerading as a Metamorphosis Marauder.

SFX: transition music

SFX: gavel sounds twice

JUDGE : Order in the court. How pleads your client, Slug Caterpillar?

SLUG : Your Honor, my client is innocent of all charges.

JUDGE : So what's the evidence, Caterpillar Cop?

CATERPILLAR COP : Your Honor, we caught this Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly restraining this poor Zebra Swallowtail Caterpillar against her will.

SLUG : Your Honor, my client -

SFX: gavel sounds twice

JUDGE : Sit down, Slug Caterpillar. Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly, is this true?

TIGER : Yes, your Honor. I was only trying to get her to eat.

CATERPILLAR COP : To eat? Wasn't that how you lured her into your trap? By waving pawpaw in her face?

JUDGE : What is pawpaw?

CATERPILLAR COP : It's a member of the custard apple family, your Honor, and the only member that grows outside the tropics.

SLUG : Your Honor, speaking of family -

JUDGE : Yes, Slug Caterpillar?

SLUG : The Zebra Swallowtail Caterpillar went with my client because they are in the same family. The grandmother is having a birthday soon and they were worried that their cousin here wouldn't be able to make the journey.

JUDGE : Is this true, Zebra?

ZEBRA : Yes, your Honor. I'll need wings to get there in time.

JUDGE : So why won't you metamorphosize?

ZEBRA : I can't help it. I'm a lazy larva and I know it. But I understand now how important it is that I make this change.

JUDGE : Spider Bailiffs? Take this lazy larva back to her family. Case dismissed.

SFX: gavel sounds twice

SFX: transition music

CATERPILLAR COP : Wow. I never saw a caterpillar tear through a pile of pawpaw so fast in my entire life.

SLUG : It's a good thing my clients brought it with them.

CATERPILLAR COP : Did they tell you why she was so reluctant to change?

