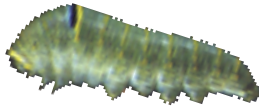


Cast In Order Of Appearance:

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 metamorphose?

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?

SLUG : Oh, you know these young'uns. They don't like to miss out on anything. Said she was afraid she'd miss all the latest news in the chat rooms on the Spider Web.

SFX: theme music except the very last note

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

EVERYONE (Slug comes in a little slower) : Caterpillar Cop!

SFX: bottom note of theme

(Fact: Butterflies - superfamily is Papilionoidea)