

The Ant and the Caterpillar

Once upon a time there was an ant and a caterpillar that were very good friends.

The caterpillar was always kind and funny, and the ant liked the caterpillar very much.



One day the caterpillar became very still within his hard brown blankets. He appeared to have fallen into a deep sleep and would not wake up.



Ant was worried about his friend, Caterpillar. He visited the caterpillar frequently and would call out, "Caterpillar! Caterpillar!" But the caterpillar would not reply.



Ant would not give up. He cut a piece of cabbage and brought it to the caterpillar. "Wake up, Caterpillar!" Still, the caterpillar did not wake up.

After many days, when Ant once again went to see Caterpillar, he found the blankets had been ripped apart and his friend was gone. "Something very bad must have happened to Caterpillar," Ant said.





"Maybe he was taken by the crow!" cried Ant, terrified. "Dear Caterpillar, where have you gone?"

The ant became very sad while looking at his friend's now empty bed.

What Ant did not know was that Caterpillar had wriggled out of his cocoon of brown blankets and had become a butterfly that was able to fly high in the sky. "Wow, the world is so wide! Flying is so much fun!" Caterpillar exclaimed.




Below, a beautiful world stretched around him. The butterfly was very happy.

*I wonder where Ant is? Caterpillar thought.
I want to show him my wings!*

The butterfly fluttered around looking for the ant. Then he saw Ant standing sadly beside his empty cocoon of brown blankets.

“Hello, Ant!” the butterfly called.





"Who is calling my name?" The ant looked around but could not see anyone.

The butterfly called again.
"Ant, it's me! Look up!"

Looking up, Ant saw a bright and colorful butterfly. But Ant did not recognize his friend at all.

"Ant, it's me, Caterpillar!"

"You're not Caterpillar! Caterpillar crawls and inches on the ground. He can't fly. Don't make fun of me!"

But the butterfly replied, "Do you remember when we went on a picnic together? We had lunch on top of a mushroom in a flower garden. You brought my favorite cabbage leaf."



Only Caterpillar would have remembered that day, thought Ant, his heart beating quickly. "Caterpillar, is it really you?"

"Yes, I'm still here! I'm me, just a different me!" Caterpillar looked very happy indeed.



Ant finally realized that the butterfly was Caterpillar. Caterpillar had become a butterfly, and he was happy and alive and transformed into something beautiful.



The End

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