

# THE PRINCE WHO HATED GREEN CATERPILLARS

## 討厭綠色毛毛蟲的王子

*The young prince's birthday wish is to make his most hated color, green, disappear, but when the color's disappearance starts causing harm to the kingdom and its people, what should the prince do?*

It's the prince's eighth birthday coming up! He hates green caterpillars so much that he makes a birthday wish for the color green to disappear, and so all the experts and palace officials come up with a series of brilliant plans to make the color disappear from the kingdom.

One day, the prince is curious and slips out of the castle on horseback but gets lost through his own carelessness. Luckily for him, a benevolent girl saves him and takes him back to her house. While they're hiding out in secret, the two of them share their deepest fears and the prince discovers that the girl has been separated from her family. What will happen in the end? Can the prince help reunite her with her family?

This book uses a fairytale-style fable to explore human rights issues and diversity, which encourages readers to think about the importance of respect and empathy for others.

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Huang Yi-Wen is a freelance illustrator and the author of several award-winning picture books. She has devoted herself to the craft of storytelling after attending a picture book workshop by Liu Hsu-Kung since 2018. Using her gift for mixed media, Yi-Wen creates books that she hopes will appeal to children and adults alike.



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She is the recipient of a Golden Tripod Award as well as the 2022 Openbook Book Award in the children's book category. Her illustrations were selected for both the 2021 and 2022 Bologna Illustrators Exhibition. Her other works include *Secrets at the Zoo* and *Once Upon a Time a Train Came to the Island*.

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Translated by Helen Wang

p.4-5

The prince was the king's favourite child.  
As his eighth birthday approached,  
the king promised he could wish for anything he liked.  
What is your wish?  
To get rid of everything green.

p.6-7

All the ministers and experts in the kingdom  
were summoned to the castle, where they  
clamoured to make suggestions to make  
the prince's wishes come true.

A public announcement forbidding people to own green things.  
A magic potion to turn everything green into the prince's favourite pink.  
Lock up everything green.  
Remove the word "green" from books.

p.8-9

Finally, everything green had gone!

People came from far away to wish the prince a happy birthday.  
They admired this greenless kingdom.  
They said it was the best kingdom in the world.

Everyone was talking about how different the kingdom had become.  
The prince was curious.  
He wanted to go and see it for himself.

p.10-11

He sneaked out on a white horse,  
and went further from the castle than he'd ever been before.

“This really is the best kingdom in the world!”  
He decided to go back to the castle and find  
an artist to paint everything he’d seen.

But he lost his way.  
He rode around for ages and eventually found an exit.

p.12-13

He found himself in an open stretch of land.  
Apart from a few chimneys, there was nothing else.

The prince began to feel tired.  
If he walked towards the chimneys,  
perhaps he might meet someone...

p.14-15

A girl wearing a hat took the tired prince  
and the white horse home.  
She gave them some water and the only food she had,  
and let the prince rest in her warm little bed.

The girl didn’t know he was a prince.  
And without his permission,  
she stroked his white horse.

The prince was about to stop her  
when he suddenly noticed a black shadow at the window...

p.16-17

“Quick, get rid of the green caterpillar!”

“I want to go back to the greenless kingdom,  
where there aren’t any scary green caterpillars,”  
said the little prince.

“Don’t worry, come with me.”  
“This is my secret hiding place.”

p.18-19

“Don’t worry,” said the girl, “it’s safe here.”  
She didn’t laugh at the prince, because she knew  
that everyone could be scared of something.  
The prince felt reassured.

“Are you afraid of something too?”  
“I’m afraid of the monster that stole Mum and Dad.”  
“A few months ago, Dad told me to hide in here...”

p.20-21

“After a long time, the shouting and arguing gradually  
died down, and I climbed out of the secret hiding place,  
and peeked from behind the door...”  
The girl looked down as she remembered.

“Mum, Dad and other people were being taken away.  
A monster on horseback said they had committed crimes,  
and would do hard labour for the rest of their lives to pay back.”

p.22-23

The prince responded excitedly.  
“I can save your family, and you  
can come and live in the best kingdom in the world.”

They’re locked up in a place with many chimneys.

p.24-25

Wait for us to come back!  
Don’t worry, I’ll protect you!  
It’s dark...  
This way!

Be careful!  
I can hear voices inside!  
Wait for me!  
Aargh!  
It’s OK.

p.26-27

The girl heard her mum's voice,  
and ran straight to her.  
But her mum looked serious, and said:  
"You shouldn't come here! You need to leave!"

Suddenly, a voice roared:  
"Nobody move!"

p.28-29

When the light came on, the prince  
and the girl saw the guards of the kingdom,  
and a group of people with green hair.

The prince understood immediately.  
"Let the green-haired people go home,"  
he ordered.

p.30-31

As he watched the girl walk into the distance,  
the prince called out:  
"Will I be able to see you again?"

The girl looked back and said:  
"We'll meet again in the best kingdom in the world."

p.32-33

The pink potion had made the green vanish quickly.  
The prince would have to spend a very, very, very long  
time returning the kingdom to how it used to be.  
But, as long as he worked very, very hard...

The day would come when his  
people would live in the best  
kingdom in the world.