

# Maggie & Marcus Monarch



a loving book by Alive

This book belongs to

---

---

*A gift to you from Alive.*

Copyright © 2014 Alive Hospice, Inc.  
1718 Patterson Street, Nashville, TN 37203  
615-327-1085 | [AliveHospice.org](http://AliveHospice.org)

Written by Ruth R. Williams, LCSW (*Licensed Clinical Social Worker*)  
and the Alive Grief Support Counselors

Illustrated by Marci Blattenberger

Layout and Design by Christine Stiles

Once there were two tiny eggs resting on a leaf.  
As the weather grew warmer, the eggs started to hatch . . .  
and out popped two tiny caterpillars!

One caterpillar was named Maggie.



The other was Marcus.



This is Maggie.

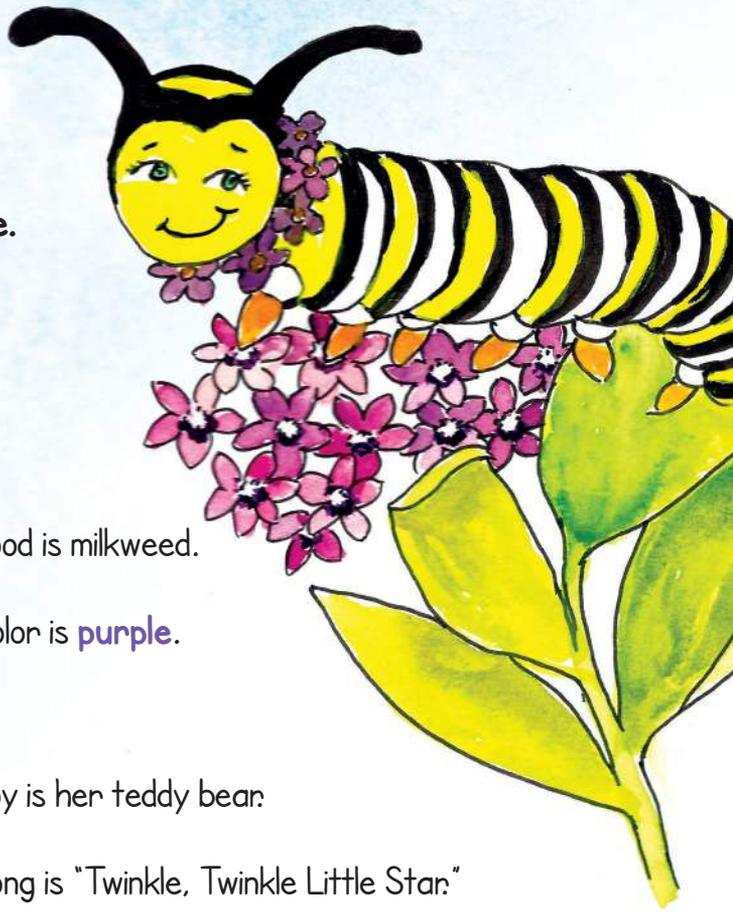
Her favorite food is milkweed.

Her favorite color is purple.

Her favorite toy is her teddy bear.

Her favorite song is "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star."

Her favorite story is "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."



This is Marcus.

His favorite food is also milkweed.

His favorite color is **orange**.



WOO  
HOO!!!

His favorite toy is his skateboard.

His favorite song is "Old McDonald  
Had a Farm."

His favorite story is "The Little  
Engine That Could."

**Now tell Marcus and Maggie about you.**

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

Here's a picture of me. *(Please tape or draw a picture of yourself here.)*

My favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite toy is \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite song is \_\_\_\_\_.

My favorite story is \_\_\_\_\_.

A perfect day for me is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Caterpillars have all kinds of different feelings.



ANGRY



HAPPY



SCARED



SAD



SILLY



WORRIED



CONFUSED



TIRED



SHOCKED



SICK



GUILTY



LONELY



STRESSED



BORED



LOVING



BRAVE

# How do you feel today?

Feelings change. How you feel today may change tomorrow.

Draw a picture of the different ways you sometimes feel.

Right now

Yesterday

Hope to feel soon

My favorite feeling



Each caterpillar is one of a kind and very special.

What is special about you?

Write or draw something on each line.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

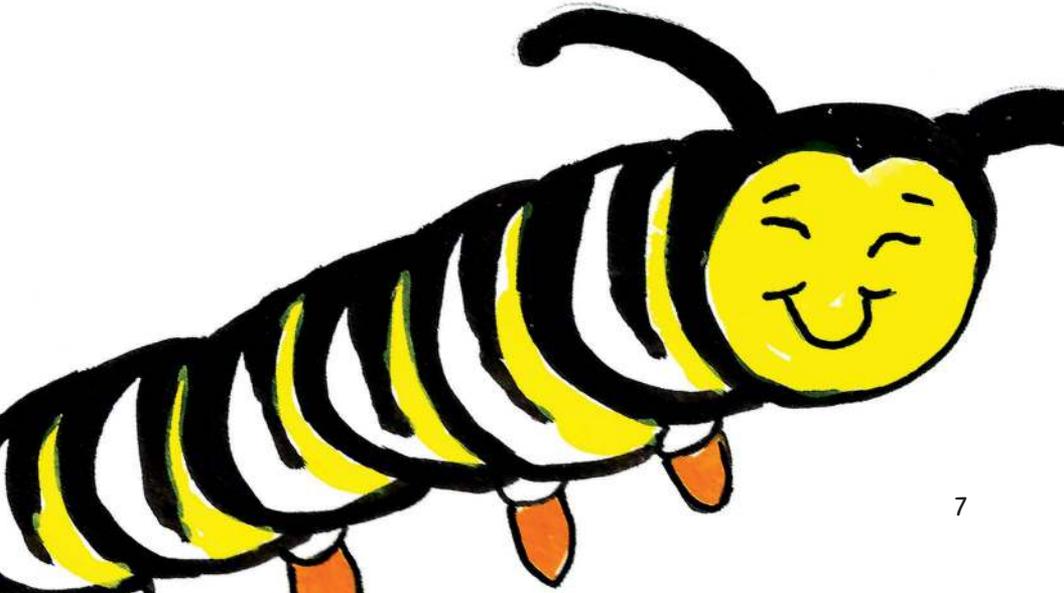
2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

These special things make you just the way you are!



Maggie and Marcus loved to play in the sunshine, drink up the rain, and eat lots and lots of milkweed leaves.



What are some things you like to do? *(You may draw them here.)*

As time passed, Maggie began to grow very bright and plump. But Marcus was still very small. His stripes were not as bright as Maggie's and he felt a little sick. There were lots of times Marcus told Maggie he was tired, but he still loved to sing and laugh with her and the rest of the caterpillars.



**Which one is Maggie? How can you tell the difference?**

When you feel sick, those who care for you do their best to help you feel better. And almost ALL the time, you do get better and are quickly back to feeling good.

When summertime came, it was time for the caterpillars to build their cocoons. Maggie built hers quickly - it was beautiful and strong. But it took a long time for Marcus to build his cocoon, because he had to stop and rest a lot. And when he finally finished, he was very, very tired.



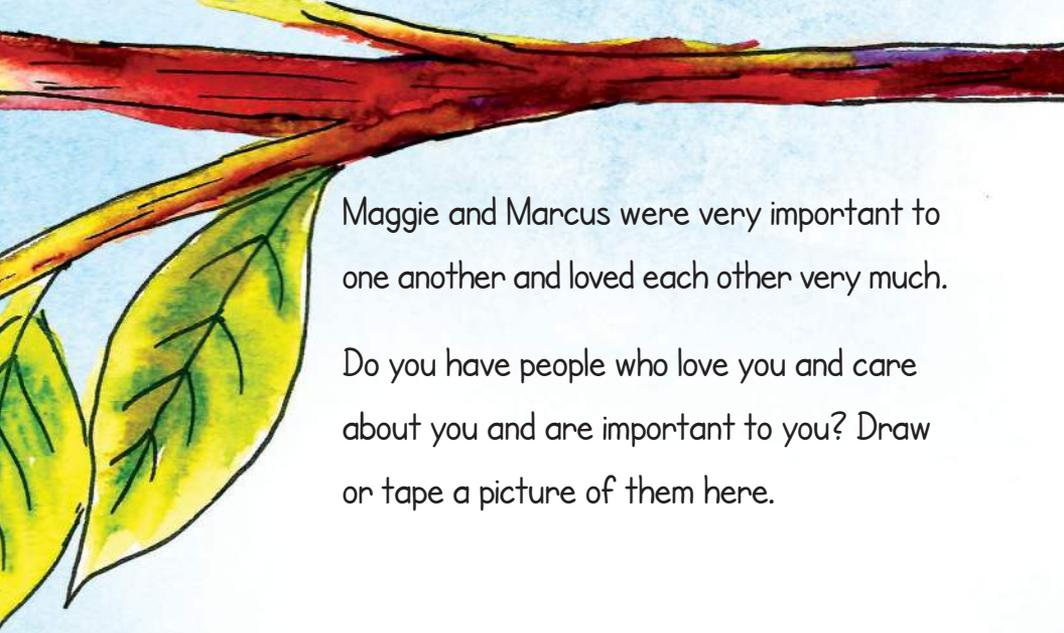
**Which one is Marcus' cocoon? How can you tell?**

Do you have any ideas to help Marcus feel better and get stronger? What do you do to help yourself feel better if you're extra tired?

Mother Nature protected Maggie and Marcus from the wind and the rain while they were inside their cocoons. But Marcus still felt very sick. Instead of feeling better, he kept getting worse.

Even though they couldn't see each other from inside their cocoons, Maggie knew Marcus was very sick and wanted to help any way she could. She knew how much he loved her singing, so she sang songs to Marcus and told him stories about when they were caterpillars playing together. And as sick as Marcus felt, he still knew that Maggie loved him. He could hear and feel her stories and songs in his heart.





Maggie and Marcus were very important to one another and loved each other very much.

Do you have people who love you and care about you and are important to you? Draw or tape a picture of them here.

**What are some ways you show your love for each other?**

We \_\_\_\_\_.

We \_\_\_\_\_.

We \_\_\_\_\_.

Even though Marcus was sick, he was still very special.

Name some things that are special about someone you love who is sick or not feeling well.

---

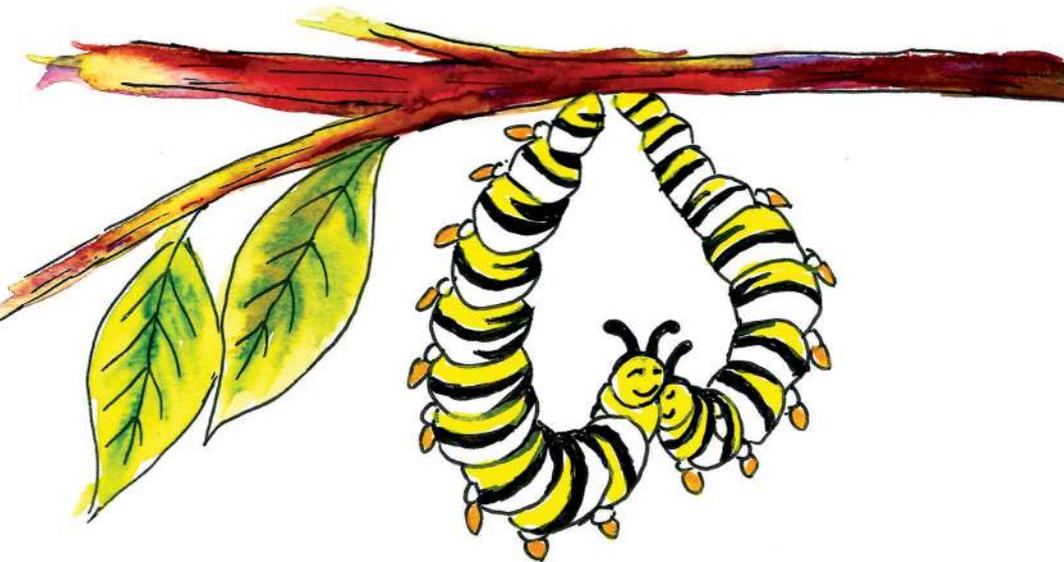
---

One day, when the time was just right, Maggie came out of her cocoon as a beautiful Monarch butterfly! She flew over to Marcus' cocoon with her brand new wings and waited . . . and waited . . . but his cocoon never opened.

When she realized he was not coming out, she told him over and over how much she loved him. She told him she would miss him terribly and hoped to see him again someday. His cocoon dropped to the ground, and she waved goodbye as she flew away.



Maggie Monarch and the rest of the butterflies missed Marcus, but they always remembered his smile and his laughter and what a good friend he was.



They thought about all the ways he was special and how they loved him.





And every evening, when they looked into the sky, something in the stars reminded them of Marcus.

**Maggie smiled, imagining that Marcus finally had his wings.**

Here are pictures of Maggie and Marcus for you to color.







# Alive

hospice | palliative | grief

---

1718 Patterson St., Nashville, TN 37203 | 615-327-1085

*AliveHospice.org*

**Our Mission:** We provide loving care to people with life-threatening illnesses, support to their families, and service to the community in a spirit of enriching lives.

*Alive is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit. Alive is a trademark of Alive Hospice, Inc., and is registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*