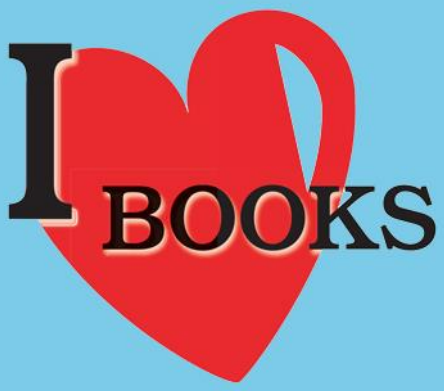


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Opening extract from

What the Ladybird Heard on Holiday

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What the Ladybird Heard on Holiday



MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS

One fine day, in the middle of May,
The ladybird went on holiday.
She flew to the town, to see the sights –
The streets and the shops and the bright, bright lights.
She saw the parks, and the palace too,
Then off she flew to visit the zoo.




And the crocodile snapped,
and the tiger growled,
The elephant trumpeted –
trump, trump, trump!
"Humph," said the camel
with the great big hump.
The lion roared
and the monkeys howled,
The hyena laughed and
the humming bird whirred,
But the ladybird
said never a word.

But the ladybird saw, and the ladybird heard . . .





She saw two men she already knew.
They were Lanky Len and Hefty Hugh,
And she heard them chuckle, "Ho ho ho!
We're going to kidnap Monkey Joe."



"We'll hide till there's no one else about,
Then we'll pick the lock and we'll get Joe out,
And if we give him lots of fruit
He'll do the job and he'll get the loot.
The palace isn't far at all.
Monkey Joe can scale the wall.





He'll find out where the Queen's asleep,
Then – tiptoe – into her room he'll creep.
He'll open the sack and steal the crown.
We'll soon be the richest men in town!"