



Something sits on a branch.
It looks like a leaf.
The color is green.
This is no plant though.

It's a praying mantis.

This one is male.

He is eating.

Then a female shows up.

The male moves toward her.

His wings flap.

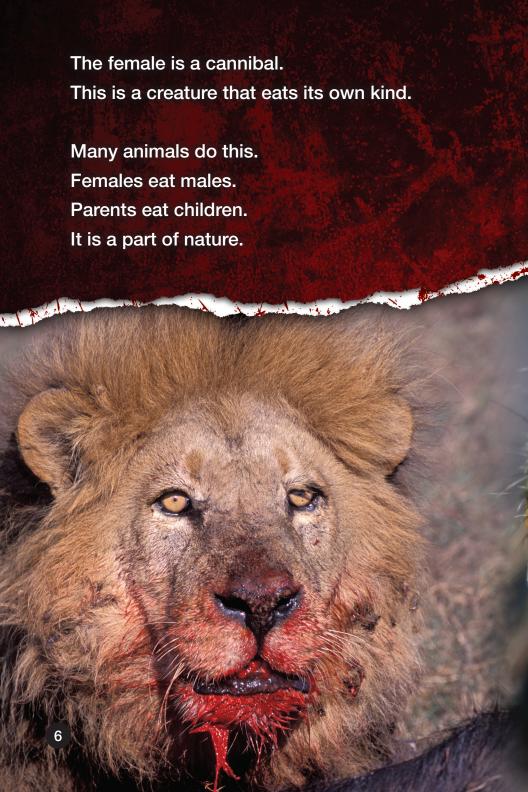


The female turns her head.
She jumps on him.
Her legs pin him down.
He can't move.
Then they mate.

An odd thing happens next.
The female bites his head.
Her jaw rips and chews.
Next come his eyes.
These are pulled out.
She swallows them.
Her mate stays still.
He won't fight back.
Death comes slowly.











amphibian: an animal that lives on land and in water, such as a frog

amphipod: a small sea or freshwater animal with a hard shell and a tall, narrow body

copepod: a tiny sea or freshwater animal with a hard shell and six legs

defeat: to win over someone or something

defend: to fight to keep or protect something

embryo: an unborn baby in the first days or weeks of growth

energy: the strength that allows you to do things

global warming: increase in Earth's temperature caused by trapped greenhouse gases

mammal: an animal that feeds milk to its babies and usually has hair or fur

