

Butter, Butter, Butterfly

By Usha

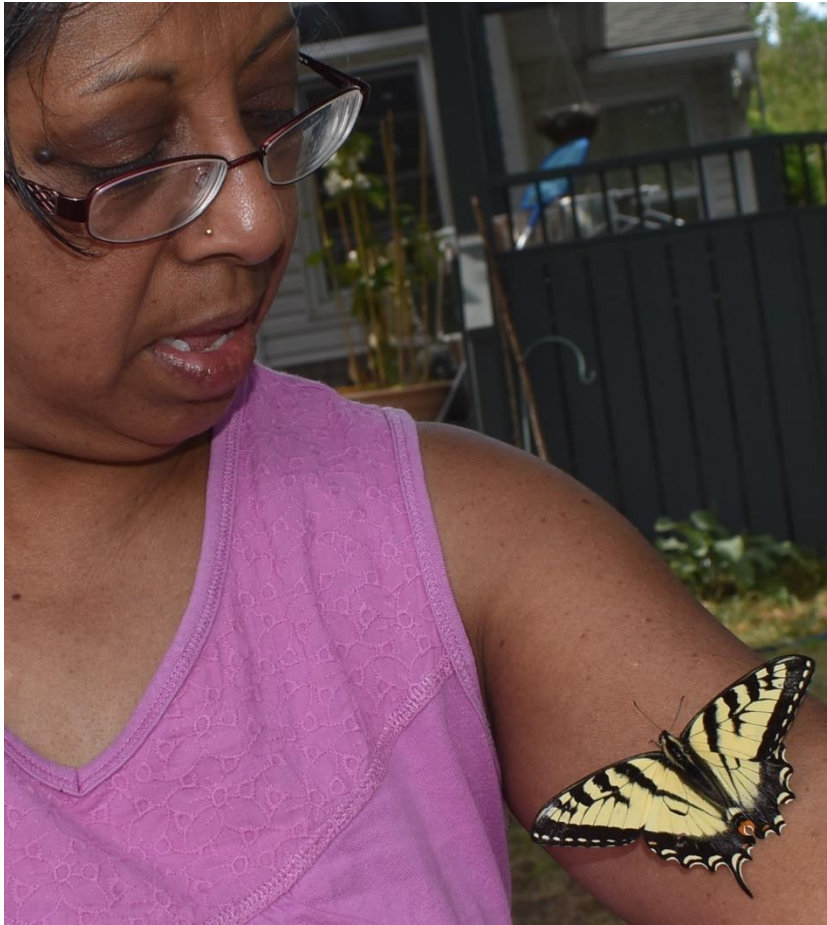


This evening, as I was walking by the canal, I saw a butterfly. A beautiful, cream and black butterfly with a bit of orange and blue at its tail. I watched it, fascinated, as it flittered around me in circles and settled on the tall grass by the water. I thought” A ha, it’s resting!” and watched it closer.





Do you know how butterflies rest? They sit quietly and open and shut their wings, fly a little and do the same thing again, till they feel really rested. My little butterfly did just that! When it had rested enough, it flew to a branch of a bush and sat on it. I said to myself, "it must be really tired, that's why it is taking so many little rests."



And then it flew around again and guess what ?!!! It sat on my arm! I was so surprised , that I dared not move . I stayed so very still, so that it would stay on my arm for a long time very still, for I did not want to frighten it away. I held my breath and really looked at it very closely. It was a beautiful butterfly, black and buttery. I was so happy it chose me to rest on.



It finally did fly away from my arm and to rest on little white flowers on a bush nearby. I took another close look at it and it was having dinner! Do you know how a butterfly eats its dinner? It has a long straw in its mouth called a proboscis. It uses this “straw” to suck up the sweet juice called nectar, from flowers. Isn’t that cool?!!!

So..., the next time when you see a butterfly in your yard, garden or on your walks, follow it very quietly and closely. You never know, it could choose you to rest on!

THE END