

The Fourth Monarch



In southern Mexico, Monarch Butterflies hibernate through the winter. Nearing March they awaken to mate and flutter northward to release their eggs on milkweed plants from Texas to Tennessee.

Each Monarch will die leaving her eggs, to hatch, be nourished on milkweed, grow as caterpillars that will weave cocoons to transform into new butterflies.



This “Second Monarch” will mate and carry its eggs further northeast through Virginia and Pennsylvania to plant her eggs on milkweeds and repeat the cycle in April or May – creating yet another butterfly.

The “Third Monarch” will mate and fly further through New England and Southern Canada and this voyaging Monarch will plant her eggs so a new butterfly will emerge in June or July.



Now, from three generations of effort, a most Majestic Monarch will come forth – who will no longer venture on an expanding serendipitous journey. This Fourth Monarch is a butterfly with a destiny, endowed with months of longevity it will cross a continent to return to its ancestral home in Mexico.

Four generations of Monarchs are linked in symbiotic-reincarnation as the earth makes a single orbit around the sun. What heavenly compass guides and protects these fragile Monarchs from wind and rain and predators? And how does this Fourth Monarch find its path home and have the strength to fly across a continent?

The subtle pleasure of wonderment humbles us to see the simplicity of a delicate Monarch butterfly alighting on your finger – with its radiating amber design and velvet touch. Of all the fascinations that we ponder – it is this Monarch Butterfly that touches our souls most gently of all.

