RETRO BOOK REVIEW

Buffy the Butterfly

Written by: Ted Landkammer

THE READING GLASS CRITIC'S REVIEW
Persistence and ambition may take us places—literally—but, at the end of the day, we all journey back home with lots of stories to tell.

This, in a nutshell, captures the theme of the little adventure story about how Buffy, driven by curiosity and boldness, flew from one country to another to experience the world and met friends along the way. Not only will this make for a great bedtime story, but this Ted Landkammer tale is something that kids could easily tell playmates and other folks themselves.

Buffy was born curious. As he was wiggling out of his cocoon, the first thing he said was, “I wonder what the world is like.” That and the opportunity to ride a giraffe and an elephant, the giants of the jungle, set off a series of trips that only an ambitious and spontaneous butterfly like Buffy would appreciate. After singing with a jungle band, playing a reed horn, and seeing elephants playing at a watering hole, Buffy told himself, “What a sight, and what a world. I would like to see more of it.”

And see more he did. He had a chance to ride a boat to Hawaii, bond with a friendly mouse, and dance in a hula outfit with similarly clothed girls on stage under big lights at a pink hotel. Emboldened by that “grand” experience, Buffy wanted to visit another country and set out to become a “world traveler.” Later on, he would come home an experienced traveler and spend time with his grandchildren telling stories about his rich adventures.

_Buffy the Butterfly_ is as fascinating and entertaining as it is incredible, loaded with ideas that transcend the conventions of the material world. It is filled with clear and attractive illustrations worthy of their space in the book, if not framed and hanged on a wall of a toddler’s bedroom. What a way to spark children’s interest and creative thinking! A story that fragile creatures like Buffy can travel the world and bring back nothing but stories is sure to inspire young minds and make them aspire for the same adventure-filled life.