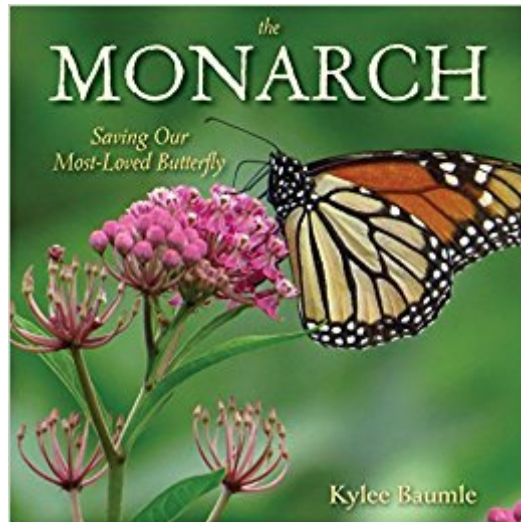




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The Monarch: Saving Our Most-Loved Butterfly



Synopsis

Every fall, spectacular orange and black clouds of monarch butterflies fill the skies as they migrate from across North America to Central Mexico. West Coast populations make a similar though much shorter trip to coastal California. The National Wildlife Federation calls the monarch migration “one of the greatest natural phenomena in the insect world.” Not long ago, monarchs numbered in the billions, but in the last 20 years their population has dropped by 90%, due to habitat loss from pesticides, modern farming practices, urban development and other human activity. An estimated one million acres of habitat are lost each year. But today, an army of citizen scientists, students and gardeners is engaged in restoring this beloved pollinator’s habitat – the wildflowers and milkweed and feeding corridors – so that one of nature’s most beautiful creatures will still be there for generations to come. And it starts in our own backyards. The Monarch showcases this magnificent butterfly with eye-popping photos, fun facts about a monarch’s life cycle, and things to know about the vital role that pollinators play in our ecosystem. Monarch enthusiast and nature blogger Kylee Baumle provides “action” projects for all ages, from planting milkweed and wildflowers to making butterfly watering stations to volunteer activism.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is an attractive book, chock-full of information, that would be useful to anyone from a teenaged student to a veteran gardener. If you love monarch butterflies or want to learn more about them, check it out! Illustrated by beautiful photos, Baumle packed this work with carefully researched facts,

online resources, projects and a road map of how to join the movement to save the monarch and other butterflies that are at risk in today's world. (Nancy Szerlag The Detroit News)

"The miraculous monarch migration must continue as a legacy for generations to come. This homage to the monarch helps guide the way." ~ Laurie Davies Adams, Executive Director, Pollinator Partnership

"Thousands of insect species are suffering from habitat loss and pesticide exposure, but none is more precious to our collective psyche than the monarch. In *The Monarch*, Kylee Baumle guides us through the all-too-fragile lives of these breathtaking pollinators and their epic journey, and hands us the tools we need to make a difference for not just this imperiled insect, but those thousands of others." ~ Jessica Walliser, horticulturist, radio host, author of *Attracting Beneficial Bugs to Your Garden* and *Good Bug Bad Bug*

"Kylee's enthusiasm for monarchs flies off the pages of this fascinating book. Her explanations, photographs and illustrations will inspire both young and old to do all they can to provide a rich and nourishing habitat that will help monarchs thrive." ~ Diane Blazek, Executive Director, National Garden Bureau

"Kylee Baumle is blessed with the magnificent obsession to be absolutely correct about everything she writes. Readers can rest assured that every fact within the pages of *The Monarch* has been subjected to the most rigorous research and analysis since Noah assigned seating on the ark." ~ Steve Bender, *Southern Living* magazine

"The Grumpy Gardener" ~ "Kylee not only shares her knowledge and passion about monarchs, but inspires us to join forces to preserve this important pollinator. She offers practical advice on how each person can make a difference to save this and other pollinators critical to our food supply and natural beauty." ~ Melinda Myers, horticulturist, garden book author, radio and TV host of *Melinda's Garden Moments*

Kylee Baumle's passion for the monarch butterfly has inspired me to pay closer attention to making my own garden and those of my clients a haven for this gorgeous creature. Her valuable information, stunning photographs and stirring prose will inspire you to do the same. ~ Jenny Peterson, landscape designer and author of *The Cancer Survivor's Garden Companion*

This is so much more than a book about a butterfly. Monarchs are a part of a larger pollinating system that supports our food system and the natural order of plant and animal life on earth. Growing up on a farm in central Indiana, I watched through my childhood as fence rows were burned and covered in pesticides in an effort to eliminate the native plants, which were the foundational support of our pollinator population. Knowing now what I saw as a little girl, I am heartbroken. *Kylee Baumle's The Monarch* is a powerful must-read guide to help you make

a difference as an individual to reverse the destruction of native species and save the monarch butterfly. ~ Shawna Coronado, wellness lifestyle advocate, author of multiple organic gardening books, media host, blogger at shawnacoronado.com ~ "Kylee Baumle is more passionate about monarchs (and saving them) than anyone I know. How fortunate we are that she's now sharing her years of study and monarch-saving wisdom from the trenches with all of us. I can't imagine a better person to write this book!" ~ Joe Lampi, Producer and Host of the PBS series Growing a Greener World ~ "Monarchs need our help now more than ever. All of us can do our part by planting milkweed and nectar plants. This book can show you how to help and protect the monarch butterfly population." ~ Holli Hearn, monarch enthusiast and founder of "The Beautiful Monarch Facebook group" This thoroughly-researched compression of Kylee's many enthusiastic years of passion and research is a carefully-crafted balance of practical facts, poignant philosophy and non-judgmental science, making it a must-read for everyone concerned about monarchs ~ one of the most gardener-friendly symbols of hope for our planet."

Kylee's dedication to and passion about the monarch is contagious! I'm a landscape designer and avid gardener, and until I saw Kylee posting about the monarchs last year, I hadn't really paid much attention to pollinators in my own garden. So I couldn't wait for this book to come out -- and it's every bit as engaging, educational and encouraging as Kylee's blog and social media posts. I've even given it as a gift to one of my design clients whose one directive to me as a designer was to "attract butterflies." The writing is superb, the content is spot-on, and the photographs are amazing. Thank you, Kylee, for encouraging so many of us to protect this butterfly!

This is a great book for families, teachers, and butterfly people. I read it with my kids so we could increase our knowledge of monarchs. Teachers, if you're looking for a great unit study book on monarchs, this is a perfect choice. We started trying to save monarchs after reading Kylee's blog. This book is a logical next step for diving into more about monarchs and their life cycle. My children had a blast with the activities at the end of the book. They're making the monarch bracelets for their friends. Nature-lovers of all ages, this is a must-add to your library.

Outstanding job Kylee. Obviously a lot of work, heart and soul in the production of the "The Monarch". What a great resource for anything related to the Monarch and its cousins! As I read through it, I was reminded of numerous articles in the National Geographic magazine that I have

taken for so many years. Like you, they cover so many important environmental subjects and if I remember correctly a number of years ago they did an article on the Monarch. Thanks for sharing your passion and another great reminder that we need to preserve our environment. I know I could be considered prejudiced, but I still think I can be objective when I say how much I enjoyed the book and how proud I am of my citizen scientist" niece. Congratulations on a job well done!Uncle Bob

Kylee Baumle's book is the most comprehensive book on Monarchs that I've ever read. This is one book that anyone who is working to help the plight of the monarch should have. After 3 years of helping rescue Monarchs I learned even more reading this beautiful book. Kylee writes in an easy manner that anyone can understand and her photos are incredible. Everyone who comes to my house finds themselves picking up this book and start reading. Make sure you add this book to your library.

Beautifully laid out information for quickly gathering information. Photos are breathtaking, too! Kylee is a very accomplished writer and Master Gardener.

Fact and fascination will make this book a favorite. The monarch butterfly, it's fantastic lifecycle and migration come to life on these pages. Through the love and experiences of the author you are drawn into science and mystery. You'll be glad you bought this book.

The photos in this book are stunning! I have learned many things about butterflies and their habitat and food sources. My kids love this book as well.

A beautiful book with comprehensive information that completely explains the life of a butterfly. Now I understand what I can do to help the pollinators.

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