

The Butterfly: Symbol and Meaning

1. The soul, rebirth, immortality ... as changing from the mundane caterpillar through the state of dissolution to the celestial winged creature – representing beauty, rebirth resurrection – From: An Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Traditional Symbols by J.C. Cooper (1987). London: Thames & Hudson.

2. A positive symbol standing for powers of transformation and immortality, and for beauty arising out of trauma, lifelessness (the seemingly lifeless cocoon) and apparent death From: The Secret Language of Symbols: A Visual Key to their Meanings by David Fontana (1997). Sydney: Universal International

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Contents

Preface	13
Venturing Out	16
A Great Longing	18
The Slightest Swell	37
Healing Touches	40
Spaghetti Bolognese	50
Out Of Calamity	53
No Heroics	71
Hurling	89
Dancing To His Own Tune	92
The Angry Man	107
Where He Belongs	118
A Chance To Live Again	130
A Carer's Life– Isolation	132
A Long Vigil	146
Enduring Love	155
George and Sally– Independence Now	159
I'm Not Lonely Now	167
Caged In	173
Must Sing	186
The Eisteddfod	189
I'm So Proud Of My Girl	193
The Ankh	211
The Big Dipper	218
Prescribe Me Baklava	233
Memory Flags	236
Life Change	239
Sailability	254
Glossary	265
Acknowledgements	273
Bibliography	276