

ADVERSITY

An original adaptation by Eva Grayzel
from a story by an unknown author

A man sat and watched the cocoon of a butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through the little hole at the end. Eventually, the butterfly stopped making progress. The man decided to help the butterfly by snipping off the remaining bit of the cocoon. Happily, the butterfly emerged easily, but its body was swollen and its wings were shriveled. The man expected the wings would expand, but they never did. The butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling. Although his intention was kindness, the man did not understand that the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny cocoon opening was nature's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so it would be ready for flight. If nature allowed us to go through our life without obstacles, it would cripple us and prevent us from 'flying.'