**Kirby’s Journal**  
*Backyard Butterfly Magic*  
**Charlotte Caldwell**

"Kirby's Journal blew me away with its seamless combination of pertinent information on butterfly gardening, life cycles, and habitats mixed with other tidbits about insects and backyard wildlife in an interesting, well-rounded story of one child's summer. The result is a wonderful guidebook, resource, and story."—Amanda Segura, horticulturalist and garden education coordinator, Riverbanks Zoo and Garden

"To a child, nearby nature can be a universe. Through Kirby’s Journal, Charlotte Caldwell provides children with a portal into their own backyard galaxy."—Richard Louv, journalist and author of *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*

On an eventful summer spent in Charleston, South Carolina, eleven-year-old Kirby, Grandma, and Grandpa plant a butterfly garden, and Kirby documents the wondrous adventures in learning that follow. Their observations, excitement, and curiosity are vividly captured through Kirby’s Journal and newly acquired hobby of photography as together the three discover an abundance of life just outside their own backdoor.

Including more than one hundred color photographs and a helpful glossary, *Kirby's Journal* inspires children of all ages to go outdoors, to watch and listen inquisitively, and to share in the magic of nature. With a playful attitude and a love of learning new things, Kirby discovers a whole new world of caterpillars, butterflies, spiders, snakes, squirrels, and more—as well as the importance of identification, classification, and conservation in learning about flora, fauna, and their natural habitats.

**Young Palmetto Books • Kim Shealy Jeffcoat, series editor**

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Author and photographer of *Visions and Voices: Montana's One-Room Schoolhouses, The Cow’s Boy: The Making of a Real Cowboy, and The Cow’s Girl: The Making of a Real Cowgirl*, Charlotte Caldwell has been a member of the North American Butterfly Association, the Xerces Society, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, and the North American Nature Photographers Association. Ten photographs from Kirby's Journal were chosen through a jury of professional photographers for presentation at the 2010 North American Nature Photographer's Annual Summit Show. A graduate of Middlebury College, she holds master’s degrees in environmental studies from Antioch University New England and in special education from the University of Hartford.

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