



In A Clearcut

I was so focused on finally getting a photograph of a Western Tiger Swallowtail that
—even after I catalogued the photos two days later—

I didn't even notice the bee,
whose name I may never know
maybe one-fifth the butterfly's length and one-twentieth its weight,
perched on the adjacent thistle
in angled mimicry,
transparent wings spread wide
to catch the morning sun.

1 July 2016

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Off the 1501, H. J. Andrews Experimental Forest