

After Missing Out on Lunch - Early Dinner

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Segment 3

I never thought that so much could happen with two little spiders, But that's just as it went.

Even though lunch was not successful for Hans and Freddy yesterday, I didn't give up trying. "What is the method to feed one of these skinny green flies to the spiders" I pondered. They just kept annoying me like crazy. I tried all kinds of tricks to catch some, to no avail, because they are really fast.

Then I saw my chance come, when one of the fat flies sat on the very window ledge, just above where Freddy has his web fastened.

"Could it be possible that I can just swat it downwards with my hand, without destroying any spider housing? Hm, I will try." So I did. I moved in carefully and with one swoop knocked the fly; it went down. Freddy was alarmed and ran over, but the fly fell through his web and landed on it's back on Hans' web!!! Hans came running and claimed the fly by putting a little thread on its legs.

But Freddy though it was his catch, so he came down and tried to negotiate with Hans. "No, no, I'm here longer, said he "this is my meal." Freddy was a bit emotional, but backed off. Hans now ran around the fly who still made buzzing noises, but it was stuck. He came closer, touched the prey with his head, (I thought he injected something) after a few more seconds the fly was silent. Hans made sure it could not escape and then went inside his home. I thought, Lets see if Freddy dares to take over now." He didn't. He just moved more all over his web, repairing it.

I got busy in the garden and it took me a while to come back in. Next time I looked, the fly was gone and Hans was gone, too. Hans had pulled his meal into his apartment. He did not show up anymore for two full days!

But Freddy still had nothing to eat yet, and that should have been his reception banquet, because that's the day he had arrived. Remember, there was the second fly in the kitchen, too. The later in the day it gets, the wilder they become. I tried to chase it out, then I thought, I will just knock it half ways out and throw it in for Freddy. Well it took Mike and me several hours to do that. Not that we were actively running around the whole time, but the fly was so tricky that it hid out somewhere each time we tried to swat it. Long story short, I finally slapped it - a bit too hard because it was more dead then alive. But I immediately let it fall on Freddy's web. Ssssst, he was there and checked it out.

"Why does that thing not move as they usually do" he wondered. I blew a bit so it seemed to shake, and Freddy happily started to bundle it up with his thread. Later I saw him sipping as if it was a soda drink.....

I was glad that Freddy also got a good catch that day, and since it was late already I bade them good night and went to sleep.

Interesting stuff, hm? I wished I could catch a video of it. I was fascinated about what I was able to observe.

Next morning, Freddy was sitting in the middle of his web again and an empty fly shell lay tossed behind Hans' dwelling. Maybe he thought we have garbage pick-up service . . .

That afternoon while I washed some dishes, I saw how Freddy climbed down carefully, stepping over Hans' old sponge roof and came to the wiping-cloth I had laying near there. He literally put his mouth on it and sucked in the water for about two minutes! Wow. How intriguing! Then he went and tip-toed back up into his web. I was so surprised to see that.