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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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COBWEBS

When cobwebs are seen on the grass in the morning it is said that the day will be fine. But why should spiders know enough about the weather in advance to spin their webs for clear days only? During the summer months the webs lie on the grass almost all the time; they are noticeable only when their ~~meshes~~ are covered with a fine network of dewdrops. Presumably, also, the spider is better able to form a web when it has had water to drink and when the air is humid. Dew forms abundantly only when conditions of the air are such that rain can hardly occur, that is, when the sky is clear, and the air, except that immediately in contact with the ground, dry. On the other hand, when the sky is overcast or when the air is generally humid, the grass will not cool very much, little or no dew will form, and in the morning the cobwebs will not show.

(Tomorrow: Where Nights Are Cool)

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