

Cici Drzik  
[cicidzikwrites@gmail.com](mailto:cicidzikwrites@gmail.com)

Picture Book Ages 4-8  
599 Words

THE WINTER KITE  
(Sample)  
By Cici Drzik

One winter morning Rosemary woke up before the sun.

(Page 1)

The wind was blowing hard outside.

*Illo: Wind whips over a dark-but waking-rural apartment complex. It's that time in winter when the holidays are long behind but the spring is still just a rumor. What little snow there is lies in patches here and there, dirty and mixed with gravel.*

(Page 2)

It was scary.

*Illo: Four-Year-Old Rosemary hides under her blanket. Her room is small and tidy. Beside her bed is a framed photo of herself as a baby, sitting in her mother's lap and playing with mom's braid. This is the only time we will see mom. She has passed.*

(Page 3)

Her Daddy said not to be afraid of the wind—

It was just the air singing a song, and was good for all sorts of things—

*Illo: Dad is a mail man. We see his uniform hanging with all the coats as he gets Rosemary and her two-year-old brother Ronnie up and ready to go. The routine is chaos, but the apartment isn't. It's small and efficiently furnished. The only thing that doesn't reflect Dad's neatness is Rosemary's hair—She's crowned by a mass of tangles.*

(Page 4)

Like blowing sail boats around—

(Page 5)

Or turning the turbines that they pass on their way to Ann's house—

(Page 6)

‘—to make electricity!’

*Illo: Their little car drives past three wind turbines in an open field with a highway running along its other side—rolling New England hills beyond that. Grey winter morning is still dawning*

(Page 7)

But when they got there, the wind was so strong that her Daddy had to walk them one at a time to where Ann was waiting at the door.

If the wind was just singing, then how could it push your body around?

*Illo: Ann's house is a home daycare with a small play yard enclosed by a chainlink fence. Ann herself is an earth mother/care taker in her 50's*

(Page 8)

*Illo: Ann's house is warm and homey—strong divine feminine energy—a sanctuary, but Rosemary's thoughts are still outside. She's looking out the window as her father walks through the wind back to the car to go deliver the town's mail*

It was still scary.

(Page 9)

Ann understood.

She used her phone to check the weather report for the day.

She said that the really strong wind would calm down by the time the big kids got home from school—

*Illo: In the kitchen. Ann has served oatmeal and fresh fruit to a still visibly anxious Rosemary, Ronnie, and another child, the 20-month-old 'Little Lori'*

(Page 10)

—and that until then they could be grateful to be inside of a nice cozy house.

Illo: Ann brushes the tangles out of Rosemary's hair

(Page 11)

After lunch, when no one was looking, Rosemary went into the hall and whispered—

'Thank you, House.'

*Illo: Her hair is tamed into a neat braid*

(Page 12)

*This is just a sample of the manuscript,  
please email if you are interested in reading the whole thing.*