

Chapter Forty-One

In Chapter Forty-One of *If These Wings Could Fly*, the narrator and her sisters find comfort in each other's company, wrapped in blankets on their bed, as they plan a movie marathon for the upcoming weekend while their father is away on a job. The atmosphere is cozy, with their long hair cascading over the mattress, creating a moment of sisterly bonding. Campbell suggests a movie marathon, leading to excitement for a cozy day filled with junk food and beloved films. Their choices include the entire *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, indicating a blend of fun and nostalgia.

Amidst the warmth of their gathering, the reality of their tight finances becomes apparent; grocery trips are infrequent, and the heat is off in their home, heightening the sense of urgency to cherish this weekend. The cold winter looms, threatening a stressful season as they remain confined indoors due to construction work. Despite these challenges, the sisters focus on the joy of the moment, finding pleasure in their planned movie day.

The lighthearted mood shifts slightly when Campbell asks if Liam can join their movie marathon. The narrator hesitates, feeling protective of their sacred sisterly tradition, but the playful teasing from her sisters nudges her to reconsider. Campbell argues that they need to meet Liam eventually to gauge his compatibility with their family. This raises concerns about her relationship and what it could mean for her family dynamics.

Ultimately, the narrator agrees to ask their mother about inviting Liam, marking the potential merging of her private and family lives, an idea that both excites and terrifies her. As the sisters continue to whisper and giggle, the narrator drifts off to sleep, momentarily setting aside her worries, including thoughts of the crawl space, suggesting a brief reprieve from their struggles and uncertainty.