

# Chapter Forty-Two

In Chapter Forty-Two of "If These Wings Could Fly," the day begins with a serene winter scene. The narrator wakes up to a sunlit room, filled with the beauty of untouched snow outside, and feels comforted snuggling with siblings, Campbell and Juniper, under a dragonfly quilt. Briefly appreciating the snowy exterior, the narrator notices a lack of crows in their yard—an unusual sight compared to Mrs. Stieg's yard across the street, which is overrun by them.

As the narrator tiptoes out of the room, careful to avoid waking the girls, they encounter their mother in the kitchen, pouring herself tea. The warmth and tranquility radiating from their mother signals a promising day ahead. After enjoying a quiet moment together, Campbell and Juniper appear, caught between sleepiness and excitement over the snow.

A brief conversation about breakfast ensues, but Juniper is eager to go outside instead. The narrator heads to the attic to fetch winter clothing, navigating the cozy chaos of the space. While searching, they stumble upon a box filled with their mother's old high school memories, including yearbooks and letters. Buried within the box is *\*Amethyst\**, a literary magazine from twenty years ago, of which their mother was editor-in-chief. This discovery reveals a hidden side of her—her passion for poetry, as the pages contain her works.

Feeling inspired, the narrator leaves a note inside the magazine, encouraging their mother to write more. Returning to the kitchen, the atmosphere is joyful, with Juniper eagerly wearing matching gloves and hats.

After a brief discussion, the narrator seeks their mother's permission for Liam to come over. She agrees, showing a comforting normality in their routine. The conversation shifts to Liam's arrival, with playful banter suggesting a snowball fight looms. The light-hearted exchange indicates a budding connection between the narrator and Liam, highlighting the joy and simplicity in their lives.

The chapter encapsulates warmth, nostalgia, and the excitement of a snowy day, showcasing the familial bonds and budding relationships intertwined within these fleeting moments of happiness.