for parents than the loss of a child is the unexpected loss of a child. So much is left undone; the child has undergone suffering and had to take a break; they pick it up later, when they can, and use its advice. This is the kind of book that someone in the family should have, whether it is in mother’s briefcase, or in that bag that is always ready for an unexpected trip to the hospital, or on the bedside table for sleepless parents to peruse at 3:00 AM. For those families in which the stress level is just too high to allow the parents to concentrate on a book, Shelter from the Storm would be an excellent choice to give to the father’s best friend, or to that trusted aunt who knows when to advise and when to be quiet, so that when the moment is right those loved ones can transmit the book’s help and advice in a personal way. Truthful, compassionate information presented in a practical way is always helpful. Shelter from the Storm does exactly that.

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REFERENCE


This picture book, targeted towards young children, features a kindly child, Sillwee Wobbert, who has a heart-shaped head. Sillwee Wobbert helps his friend Wheezing Will participate in a soccer game despite Will’s mid-game asthma attack. The book is part of a series of picture books designed to boost self-image of chronically ill children and to empower them to participate in normal childhood activities. The book also illustrates to healthy children that their peers with chronic illnesses can contribute to team activities.

The book is appealing to children, colorfully illustrated, and with likeable characters. The heart-shaped head of Sillwee Wobbert is particularly endearing. Unfortunately, Wheezing Will appears to not have his asthma under control, and the book does not address the possibility that he has any choice other than to have asthma attacks in the middle of soccer games. Thus, though the book may teach children better acceptance of children who have health problems, the book does not empower the asthmatic child with the knowledge that it is possible to participate in sports without the interference of an asthma attack.

The illustrations, though appealing, contain some inaccuracies. Will says, “I need my spacer so just sit tight.” The book goes on to say, “Will breathed it in with deep breaths,” and the illustration depicts Will using something resembling a Terbutaline inhaler placed in his mouth without a spacer. On the next page, Wheezing Will is depicted sitting down with an inhaler and his peak flow meter, and the text reads, “My spacer and inhaler are from my doctor, who knows best.”

The major strength of this book is the likeable characters and illustrations. It teaches children tolerance of other children who have health conditions. Unfortunately, the medical inaccuracies regarding asthma weaken the value of the book.

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This CD-ROM is a wonderful resource by which to learn or review how to take a pediatric patient’s pulmonary history and to learn or review physical examination findings of pediatric patients with common pulmonary disorders. It was designed for medical students, physicians-in-training, nurses, physiotherapists, respiratory therapists, and general practitioners. The video clips of airway pathology and audio clips of auscultation...