



Welcome, Dark

Charis St. Pierre

Illustrated by
Rachel Wada

Welcome, dark Cool and gray. Come and tuck The world away.

AS A YOUNG CHILD FALLS ASLEEP, the night comes alive. Animals hide and leaves blow, seeds are spread and crops are watered, and the world wakes anew in the morning. In this poetic book, young readers are invited to explore the sometimes scary sounds of nighttime and find comfort in them instead of fearing them. Stunning illustrations from an award-winning illustrator complement each spread as the poetry balances the magic and mystery of nighttime with the comforting stillness of being tucked away safely indoors.

Charis St. Pierre grew up in British Columbia surrounded by blackberries and cedar trees. She is a parent of young children and a graduate student focused on environmental issues in children's literature. Charis is fascinated by how picture books depict the natural world, and the sorts of relationships they invite children to form with the environments around them. She lives in Edmonton with her family.

Rachel Wada was raised between Japan and Hong Kong and is currently based in Vancouver, British Columbia. She has created illustrations for children's books, magazines, newspapers, advertisements and murals. *The Phone Booth in Mr. Hirota's Garden*, her debut as a children's book illustrator, received the Freeman Award for Children's Literature and won the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Award. Rachel's multicultural background and her experience as an immigrant to Canada continue to inform and inspire her artistic practice. She loves creating artwork that empowers and amplifies Asian cultures and communities. Her artwork is often defined by intricate details, bold colors and texture, utilizing both traditional and digital mediums.

For more information,
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PICTURE BOOK

AGES 3-5

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THE FINAL BOOK WILL BE A HARDCOVER

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Welcome, Dark

Author: Charis St. Pierre Illustrator: Rachel Wada

September 13, 2022

A stunningly illustrated picture book that introduces young readers to the importance of night as a time for animals to thrive, rains to fall, winds to blow and the world to rest.

Format:	Picture Book	PDF	EPUB
9 x 9"	9781459831315	9781459833159	9781459833166
32 pages	\$19.95		

KEY SELLING POINTS

- This is a bedtime book that focuses on how wild and active nighttime can be.
- This story celebrates some of the scariest parts of night for young children: darkness and the sounds of wind and rain. It lets caregivers emphasize the importance of these natural elements in helping our world live and grow.
- By exchanging the common “good night” bedtime formula for “welcome,” children are invited to embrace everything that is exciting and mysterious about the world at night.
- The illustrator won the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award in 2019 and the Freeman Book Award for Children’s Literature on East and Southeast Asia.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Photo credit: Penner
Portrait Photography



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

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Photo credit: Sanna Woo



PROMOTIONAL PLANS INCLUDE:

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- Promotion at national and regional school, library and trade conferences
- Extensive ARC distribution, including NetGalley
- Blog and social media promotion
- Outreach in Orca newsletters

BISACS

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JUV070000 – JUVENILE FICTION / Poetry
JUV057000 – JUVENILE FICTION / Stories in Verse

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AGES

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PUBLICITY

For more information or a review copy, please contact Kennedy Cullen at kennedy@orcabook.com

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Welcome, dark
Cool and gray.
Come and tuck
The world away.



Hide the squirrels
Still the cars

Close the flowers
Wake the stars.





Welcome, rain.
There's work to do.
Come and wash
The world anew.



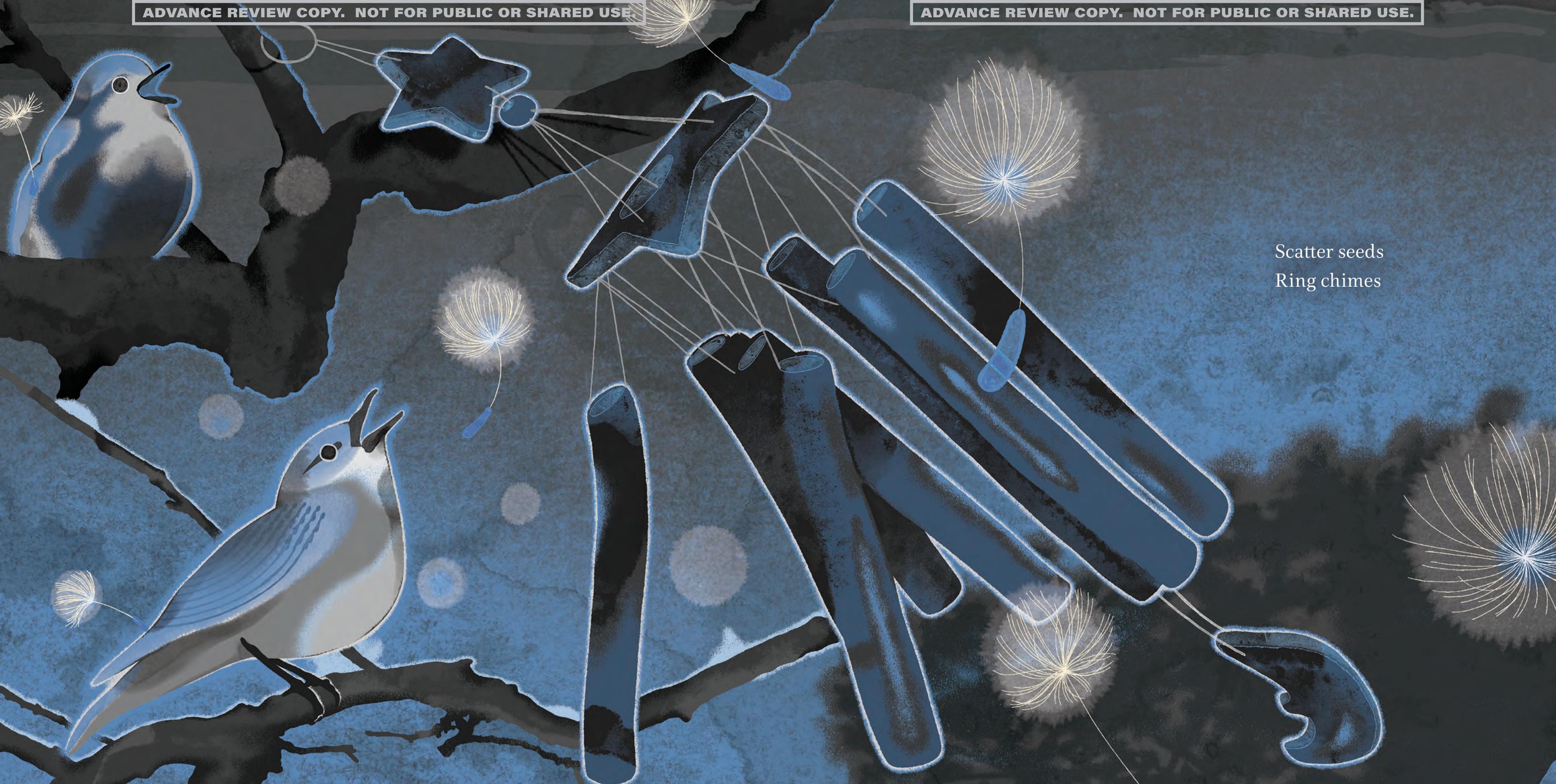
Pour puddles
Rinse the trees



Water crops
Fill the seas.



Welcome, wind.
Stir the sky.
Teach the twirling
Leaves to fly.



Scatter seeds
Ring chimes

Spread the clouds
Shake the pines.





Welcome, night
Wild and deep.
Hum your music
While I sleep.

For Calvin and Thomas.

—C.S.P

*I love the silent hour of night,
For blissful dreams may then arise,
Revealing to my charmed sight
What may not bless my waking eyes.*

—Anne Brontë

—R.W.

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Summary: A stunningly illustrated picture book that introduces young readers to the importance of night as a time for animals to thrive, rains to fall, winds to blow and the world to rest.

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Art for *Welcome, Dark* was created primarily with digital mediums, but inspired by traditional mediums and techniques from graphite and watercolor painting.

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