

Childrens Story:

Were you ever thankful for the wind? Could we do without wind. (Yes to the extent of the terrible storms we have heard of in the far south. But the wind is needed. In spring for drying the land for pollinating grasses & flowers. so that new seeds may form and grow. For making roots of trees strong and tough. so that when the trees are waving in high winds they are still strongly in the ground and even as the roots gain strength from the wind they themselves are loosening the soils by their movements and then the rain can penetrate away down and do the most good where it is most needed.

There were two trees that grew in a forest. One was tall with a big waving top. The other was a much smaller tree with plenty of branches but not nearly such a smart growthy good looking tall tree as the other. The big tree could peer down on the other and get so he was quite stiff and proud and he stiffened his back so that he would not even ~~turn with~~ the wind. The small tree took every

blow from the wind swayed round and
waved its branches which grew strong and shaded
the ground. People liked to lie under its
shade in a hot day & exclaim how cool it
was under there. The big tree way up high
just stiffened up some more & there was not
much shade from his top. He was way too high up.

One hot sultry day a terrible wind
got up. All the trees swayed and crashed
together but the tall pine just stiffened his
back & wouldn't move or he tried not to
move. The little tree beside him bent back
and forth and waved its branches almost
to the ground. Suddenly there was a sharp
crack like a rifle going off. ~~the~~ ^{the} tall
tree slowly leaned over then faster and faster
he fell till with a crash that shook the ground ^{with all}
he landed full length on the forest floor
killing or destroying many smaller trees in his
path. But his little neighbor was spared and
when the storm was over, ^{he} he stood
with all his branches ^{up} quivering and his roots
still firm in the ground. For when he had swayed
back & forth to the blowing wind he had
strengthened his roots deep down in the ground & was

not too proud when he knew he faced a force greater than
himself 11