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## Being Towed Along

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## Being Towed Along

*A portrait of Sarah at five and a half*

Robert J. De Smith

Her bike is powder blue  
With flared chrome fenders,  
Tires semi-balloon.  
It's a cheap antique  
Renewed for the purpose.

She rides it relentlessly,  
Sitting upright,  
Peddling non-stop  
(Hasn't mastered an easy coast),  
A purple helmet  
Lurched forward by a high ponytail.

She scribes large circles,  
Rolling against the grain  
Of lines freshly painted  
For orderly worshipers.

And me?  
I'm towed along in a smaller orbit—  
Worried about Yeat's gyres,  
Harking, Donne-like, to an arc  
Of which I make a wobbly center,

Staying close.