All the children in the village loved to settle down on Babba Zarrah’s big old blanket to listen to her stories.

“Charming illustrations make this sweet tale of a close-knit community even more special... enjoy this sweet story again and again.” — School Library Journal

“Arresting illustrations... sweetly vivid...” — Booklist

“Storytellers and readers aloud will appreciate the text’s graceful yet restrained language and children will enjoy the plot’s cozy circularity...” — Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books

Parents’ Choice Silver Honor
• Bank Street Best Children’s Books of the Year
Deep in the snow-covered mountains was the tiny village where Babba Zarrah lived. The children loved to settle down on Babba Zarrah’s big old blanket to listen to her stories.
One day Babba Zarrah noticed there was a hole in Nikolai’s shoe. When the children left, she decided to knit Nikolai some nice warm socks. But so much snow had fallen that winter that no one could get through to the village to deliver wool yarn. How could she knit warm socks without wool?

“Every question has an answer,” said Babba Zarrah. “I just have to think of it.”

She poured herself a glass of sweet tea to help her think. Before she had taken three sips, Babba Zarrah knew what to do.

“I will unravel a little of the story blanket and use the wool for Nikolai’s socks!” she said.
Late at night, when everyone was asleep, Babba Zarrah trekked through the snow and left the socks on Nikolai’s doorstep.