

## Paper

April Pameticky

*or the day we made paper pinwheels  
instead of shooting each other*

We folded carefully along  
perforated lines, to bend paper

into submission  
only to be blown about  
by Wichita Wind.

Prescribed in chaotic rolls,  
it's so easy in our pale protection

and privilege and innocence  
to play at peace  
with paper gestures

while Syrian refugees  
cross the Mediterranean to be

cast out on the coast,  
tiny babies wrapped  
in their fathers' turbans, blue

from cold and starving.

### Author Biography

April Pameticky received her MFA in Fiction and her teaching certificate from Wichita State University. After transitioning from nearly a decade's service in the middle school classroom, she teaches Reading Interventions and AP Language & Composition for Wichita East High School. A strong advocate for empowering the student writer, she involves her students in activities that develop academic voice and critical thinking. This means her students must become comfortable as contributors to the classroom discourse community. She has participated as a Site Team member for two secondary AVID programs and finds those strategies effective with students at all levels of development. In addition to her professional affiliations, she serves as Managing Editor of *River City Poetry*, an online e-zine focused on regional and national poetry. She also assists the organization of the Wichita Broadside Project and Poetry Rendezvous 2017. She can be reached at [aprilpameticky@hotmail.com](mailto:aprilpameticky@hotmail.com).