

The book cover features a dark blue, textured background. In the center is a large, circular, black hole with a bright yellow, irregularly shaped rim. The top and bottom edges of the cover are decorated with green, hand-drawn foliage. The top foliage includes a large, detailed leaf with prominent veins on the left and a smaller, simpler leaf on the right. The bottom foliage consists of several long, pointed leaves on the left and a large, textured, rounded shape on the right, possibly representing a bush or a different type of plant. The overall style is artistic and illustrative.

The  
**Dark Moon**

Daniela M. Miranda

In the middle of the Amazon rainforest, a green sea, full of different types of life and mysteries, there was the little scarlet macaw Ípi in his tree looking at the blue sky along with his grandma. She took care of him while waiting for his parents to return from work as usual.

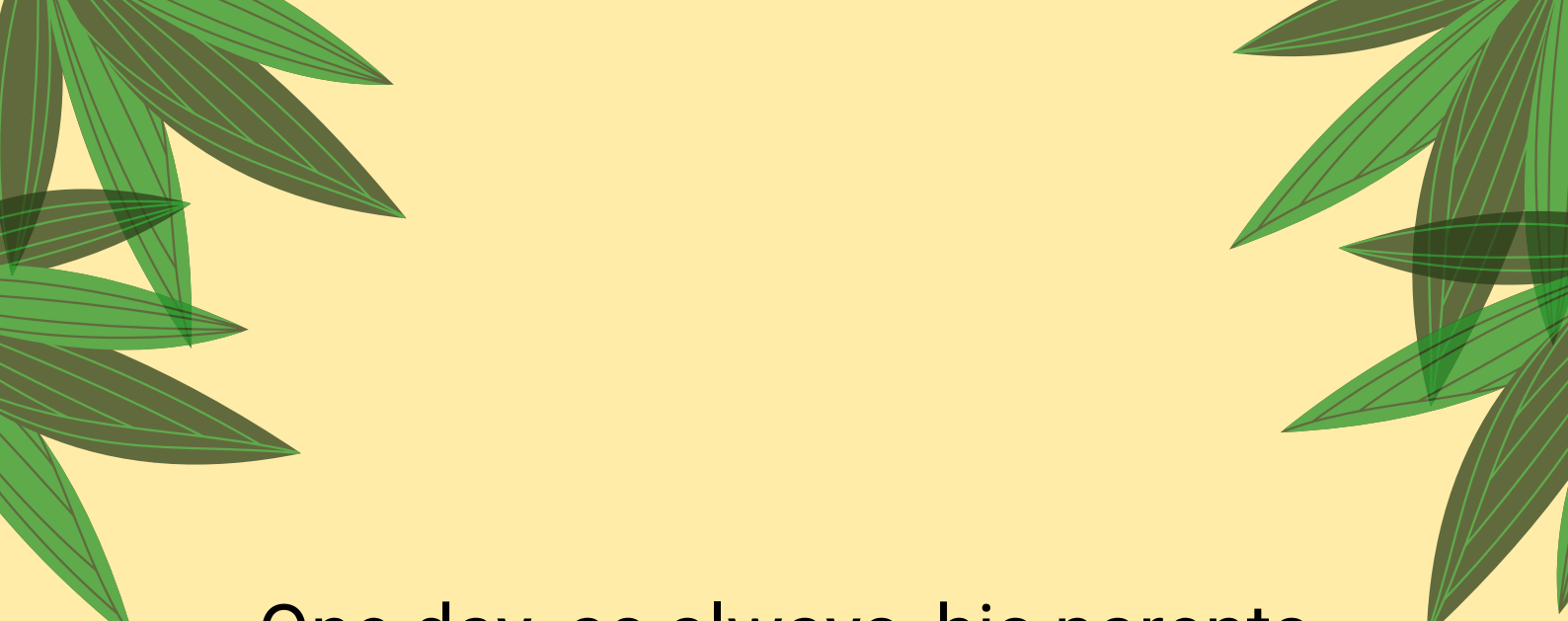




His grandmother was an old colorful macaw and an amazing storyteller. So, in the meantime, she always told him many stories about the mysteries of the Amazon rainforest. And, when his parents arrived, grandma scarlet macaw flew back to her tree.

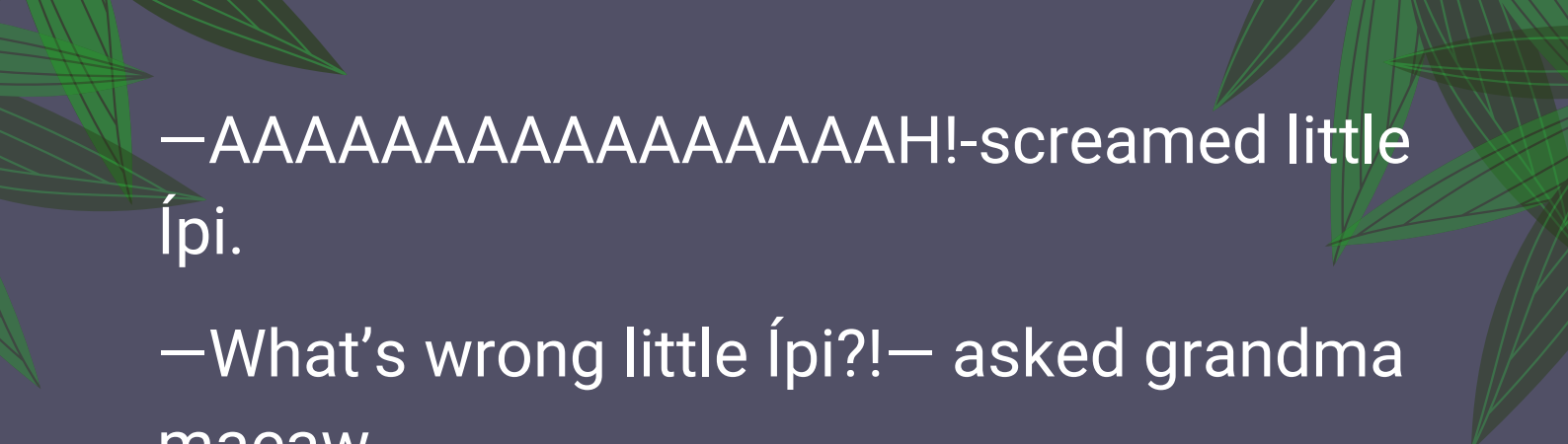
Every night, little Ípi slept under his mother's or father's wing by the light of some fireflies that lived near their tree. Little Ípi could not sleep without them, for him the darkness was terribly awful.





One day, as always, his parents went out in search of food, and his grandma arrived at his tree to tell him more stories about the Amazon, but that day something strange happened... The sunlight disappeared from the face of the Earth at noon ! Little Ípi was panicking and shocking.





—AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!—screamed little Ípi.

—What’s wrong little Ípi?!— asked grandma macaw.

—The light has gone, grandma! The darkness is coming for me!— little Ípi answered her almost breathlessly.

—Hah! Don’t you know the story of Light and Darkness?—The old macaw asked him calmly.

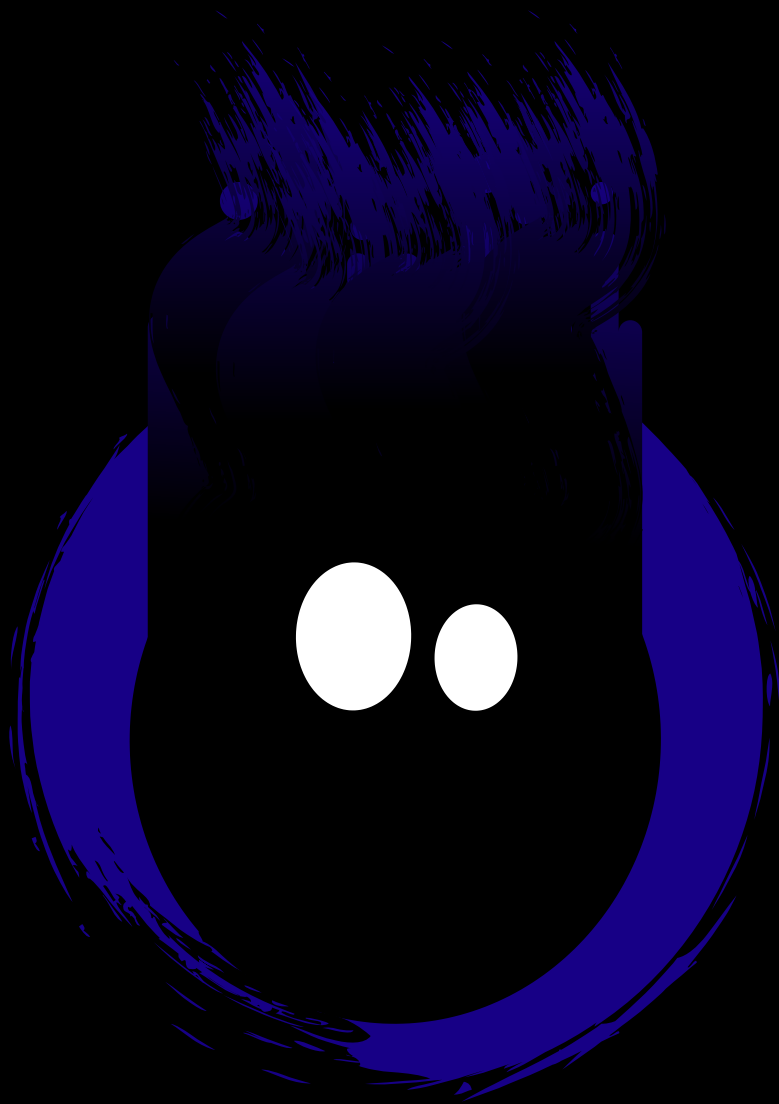
—No, grandma...—Little Ípi said in a frightened voice.

—I understand why you are so scared, my darling. This is a perfect moment for you to know this ancient story— said grandma macaw, and she asked some fireflies to perform the story.

–Before the moon and the sun existed, there was The Light and The Darkness. Both were the most powerful beings of the universe. Light was a big white sphere with yellow lava under her head floating in the space, she was always happy because she was in charge of waking all creatures up and giving them life as well.







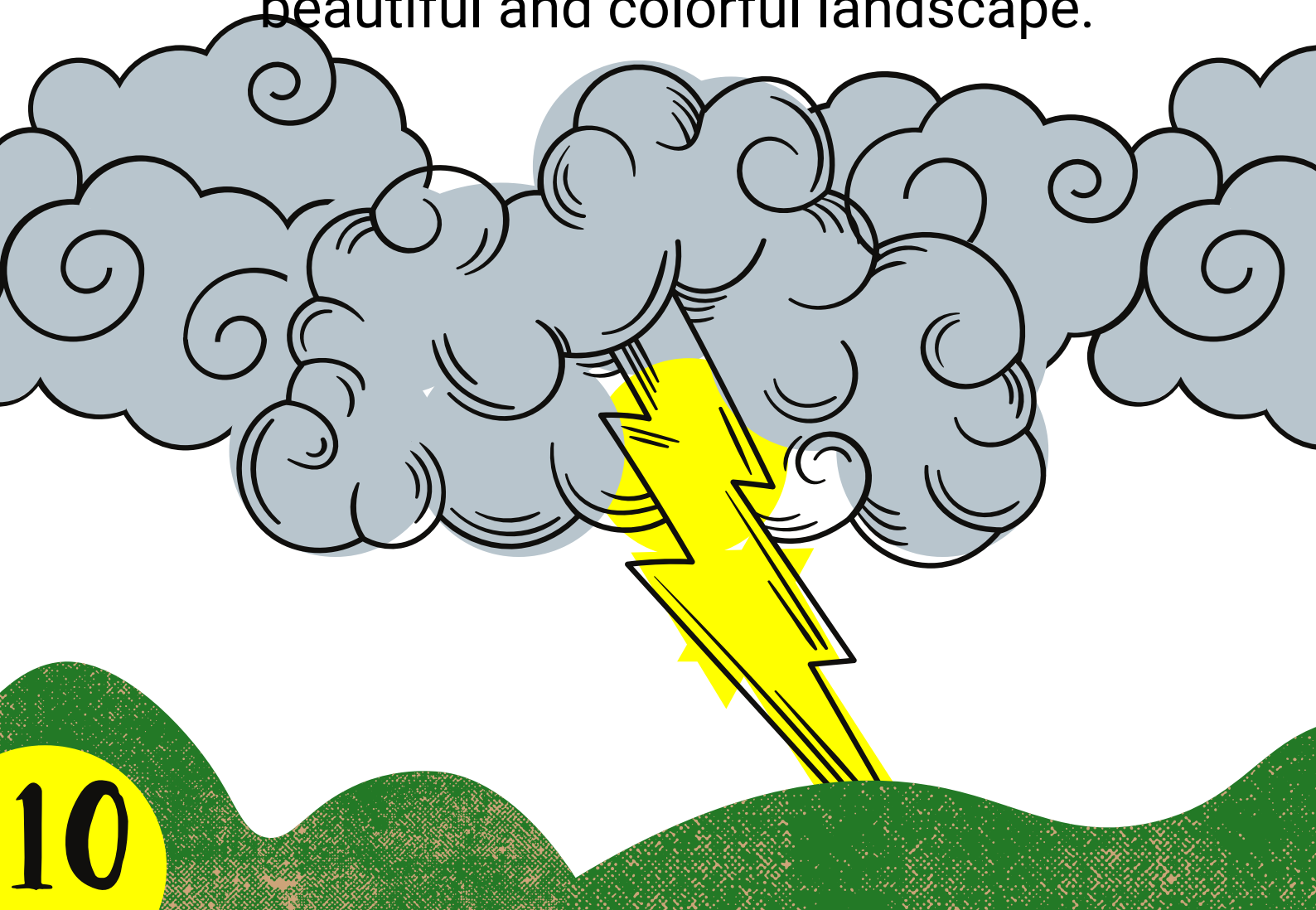
And Darkness was a big black sphere with blue flames over her head. She was always lonely and gloomy, seeing that everyone was afraid of her since she would send creatures to sleep...

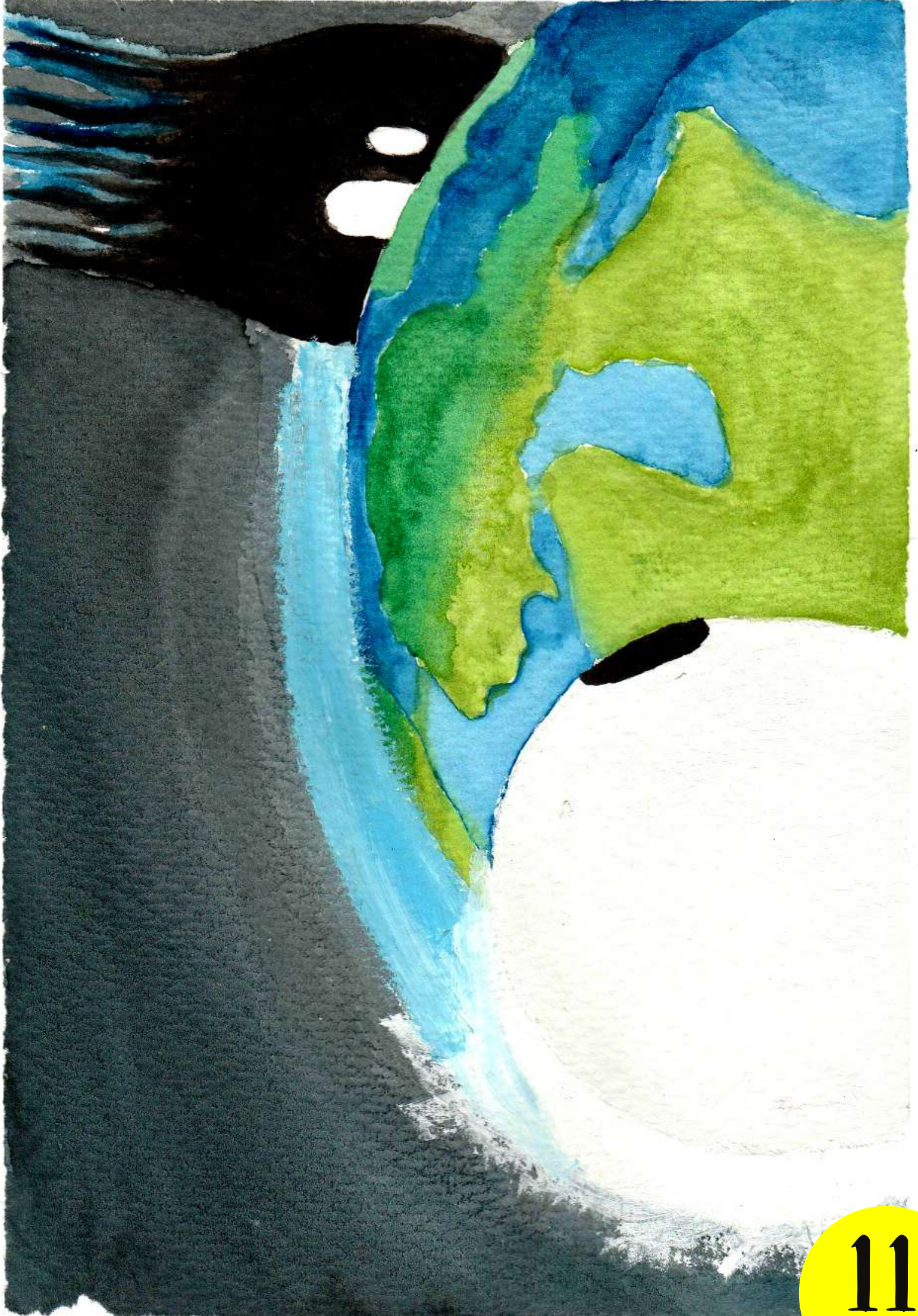


Light was glad to see all creatures on the Earth sharing happily among themselves. However, Light sometimes felt a little bit alone because when she tried to talk to Earth's creatures no one understood her language. The years passed and everything was exactly the same.



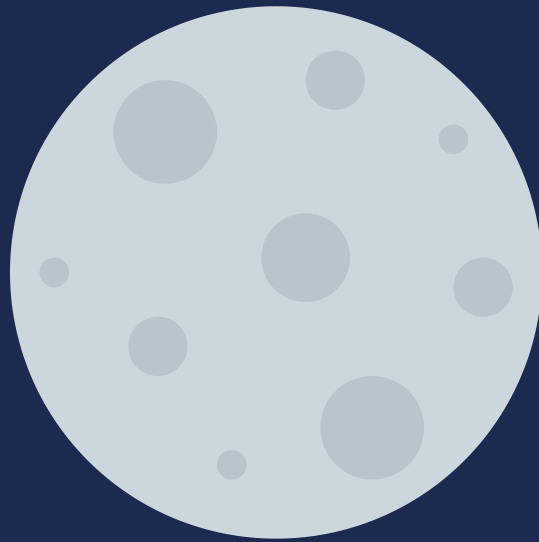
—But one day everything changed!—  
continued grandma macaw— A strong  
thunderclap was heard all over the world  
which made Darkness wake up. And do  
you know what happened there, baby? At  
that precise moment, the Light and the  
Darkness got to see each other for the  
first time for a few seconds, which  
accidentally created the first dusk of the  
world. All creatures were amazed by the  
beautiful and colorful landscape.





The time passed, and Light wanted to know more about Darkness, so Light made a plan.

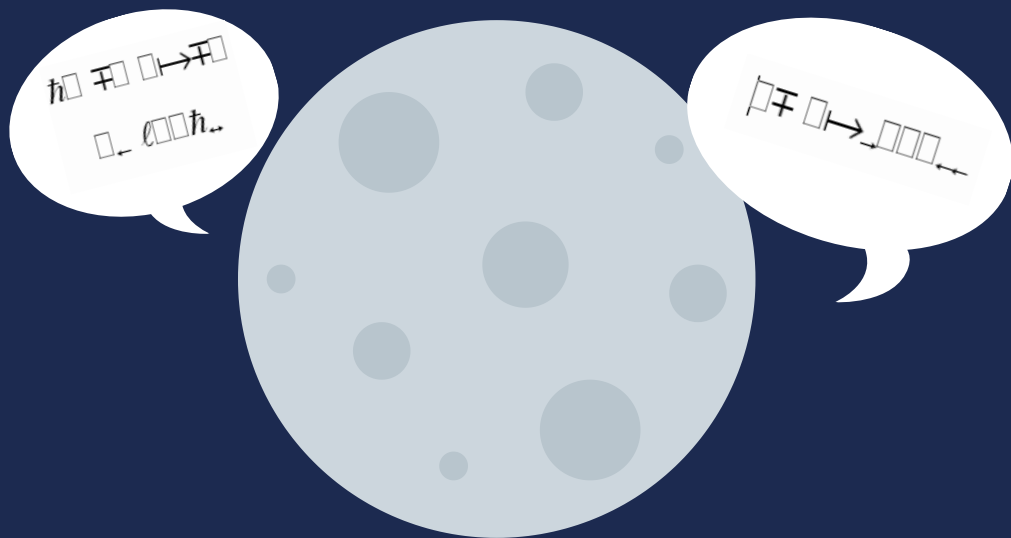
Light tried to wake up just at midnight to see Darkness, but Light carefully hid herself behind a great sphere that was floating near the Earth so she wouldn't wake anyone up.



However, it was impossible to ignore a light being. Therefore that great rock was illuminated, and such an invisible force disappeared as well. That sphere illuminated the Earth with soft light, perfect to light up the darkness of the night. When this event happened, all creatures woke up to see the amazing circle lighting up their land.



When Darkness saw the creatures getting out in the middle of the night, Darkness was terribly surprised and happy. She figured out that Light was hiding herself behind the giant rock. Then, Darkness shyly approached Light, and so they first met face to face.



They spent the rest of the night talking until Darkness had to go to sleep. They agreed to meet again at that point which they named Moon. After the Moon appeared, many creatures became nocturnal.

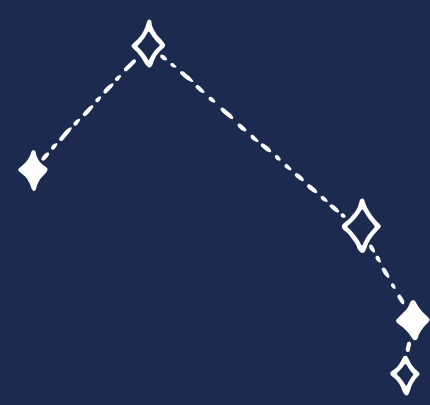
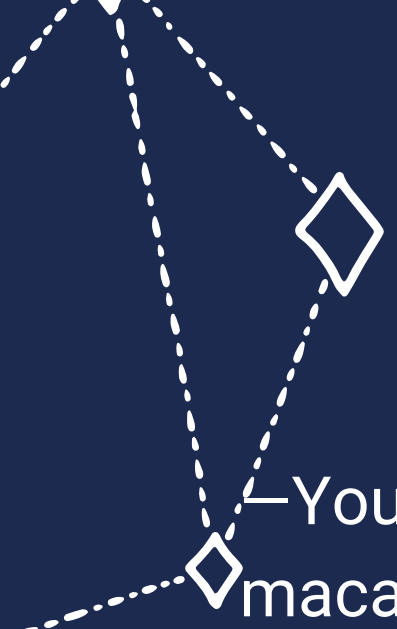
—Wooooow!— said  
Little Ípi, he understood  
why the moon occasionally  
shined a lot.



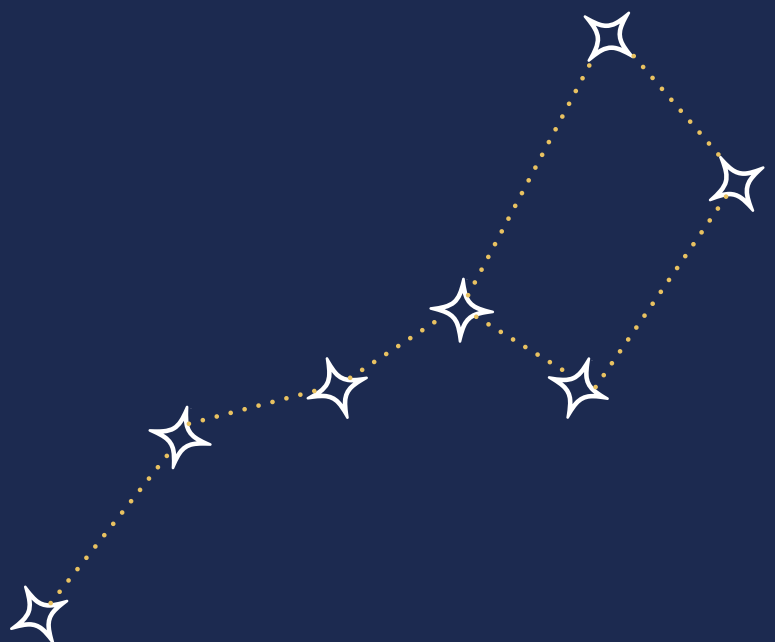
—Well, but there was a problem- said  
grandma macaw— such a big grey  
sphere did not stay at the same place all  
the time, so Light had to adapt herself to  
be able to see Darkness and not arouse  
suspicion.

—Is that why sometimes the moon looks  
like a smile, grandma?—Asked little Ípi.





—You are right, Ípi—said grandma macaw—. Unfortunately, one night the Moon was far, far away from Light to hide herself, and meet Darkness again. So, Light left many light traces in different spheres of the space, leaving a message to Darkness. Meanwhile, Darkness was waiting for Light, and then she saw the message in the sky, she understood why Light could not visit her that night.





—It means that the stars hide a message from Light to Darkness, grandma?—asked little Ípi.

—Yes, my love, we named them constellations, the language of spirits— answered grandma macaw.

—But, grandma... why did Light disappear at noon today?— asked Little Ípi.

—I am almost at that point, baby— said grandma macaw laughing—. One day, Light did not stop shining for two days, and Darkness could not get out to see what was going on.

The creatures on the Earth could not sleep because the light did not let them do so.

Darkness worried, she looked for a strategy to find out what was going on.

Suddenly, the Moon appeared and Darkness did the same thing as Light when she came to visit Darkness: hide herself behind the Moon.



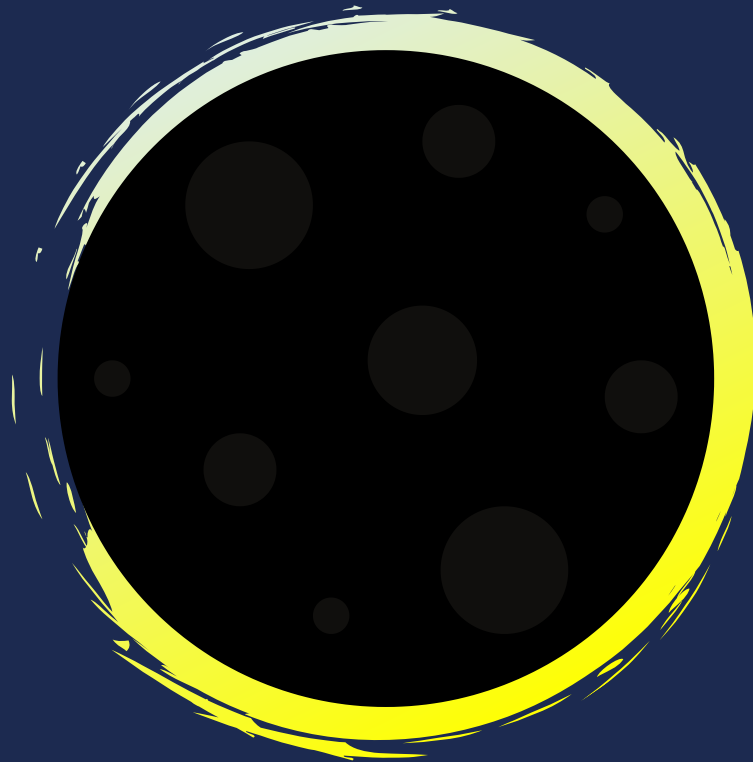


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Darkness lasted one day to arrive at Light position, and when Darkness saw Light, this was sound asleep because she took longer the last time they met each other. So, when Darkness was hiding behind the Moon, and she was in front of Light, everything became dark, then creatures could sleep again.



Darkness managed to wake up Light, and taking advantage of the moment, they talked as the Moon moved slowly. There were just a few minutes, but they were enough for them to talk after a long time. Creatures named this phenomenon “Eclipse: Light’s absence” – finished grandma macaw.



In that precise moment the sunlight was coming back.



—Look, grandma! — said little Ípi —  
Darkness is saying goodbye to Light.

The End



