

Juan Rioseras

Juan and the stars

Illustration: Marta Ballestín Pinilla



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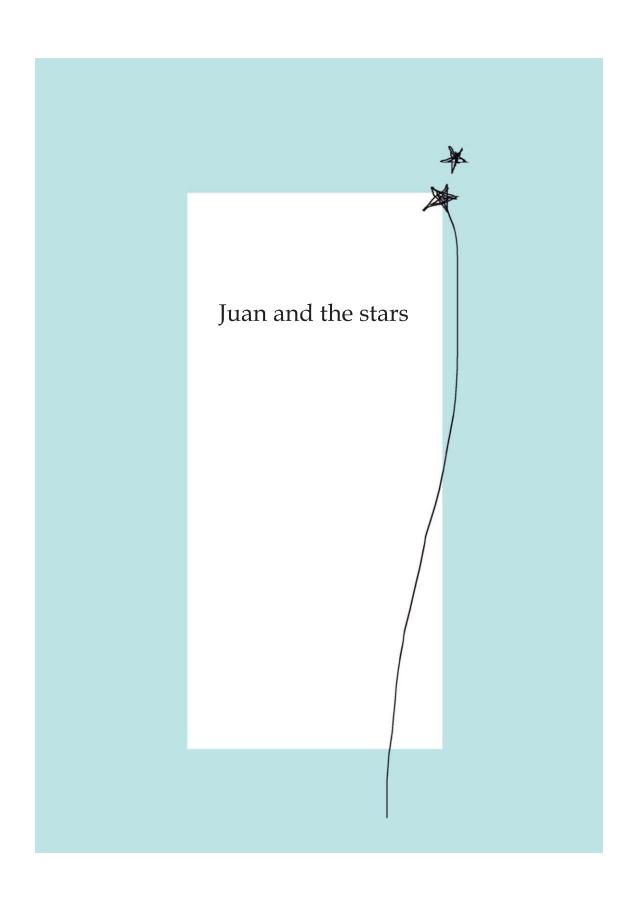
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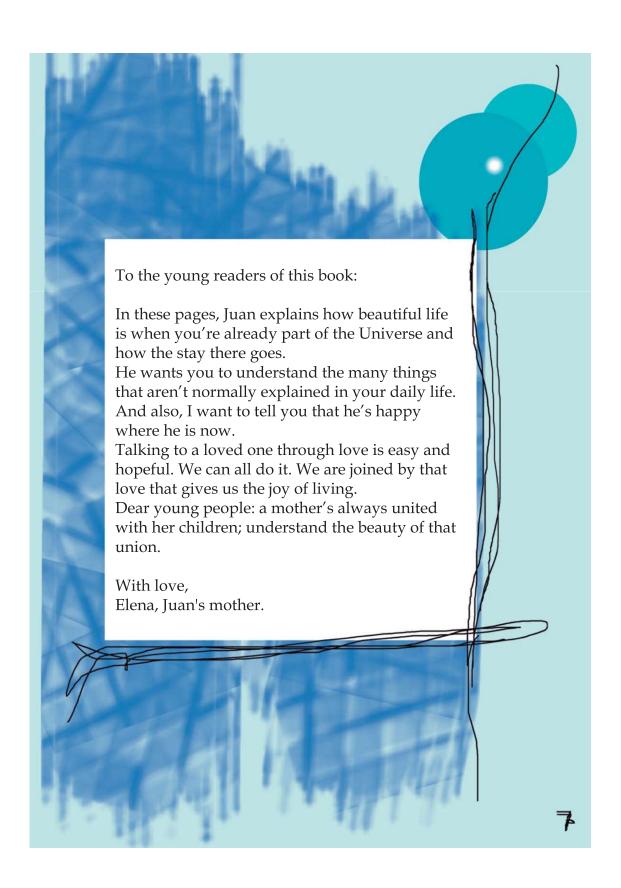
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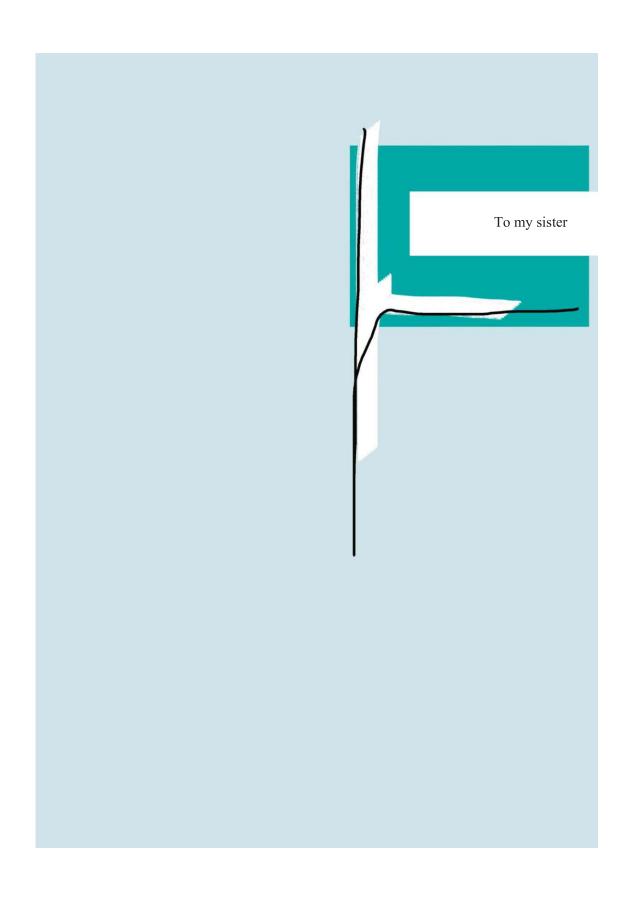
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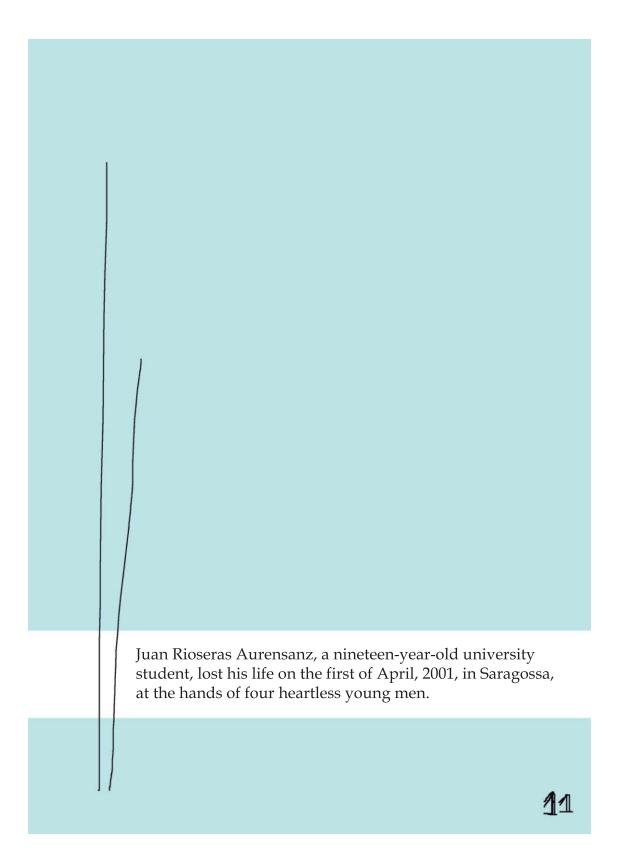
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When they put Juan's body into the brown box, "La Estrella (The Star),"-what a curious name!-that his parents got at the funeral home, Memora, they sent him to be part of the Universe. Then, Juan started a new life. Juan always wanted to travel to the stars and this would be a very fun trip; well-enclosed and very fluffy. How nice he was lying on the soft fabric covering the box that was going to be the ship to take him into space! He did not feel like getting out of there.



He never would have imagined that he could travel this way and that it was going to be his last trip. What peace . . . besides, since it was dark, he would not have to study. What a good life he would have from now on!

He would walk all over the galaxies, but he would think of some way to get out of the box during the journey, because he wanted to fly and jump from cloud to cloud and be free and shout: I'm in the Universe, I can see you from up here. I'll come back one day!

Phew . . . how many things Juan thought inside his box. He did not know he was never going to get out of there. How handsome he was with his dark skin and cheerful eyes.

Society had lost a great man.

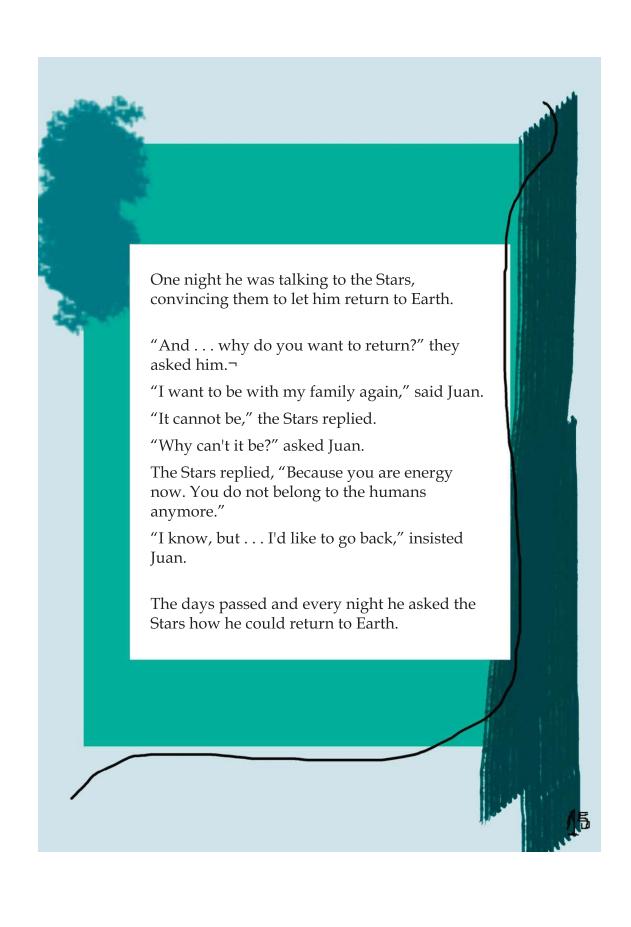
The Stars had taken him, those very clever beings. What would they do with him now?



Juan's body is kept on Earth, but his energy lives in the Universe and travels jumping from cloud to cloud. Flying and flying.

Although he does not miss Earth, he does remember that he left people very dear to him.





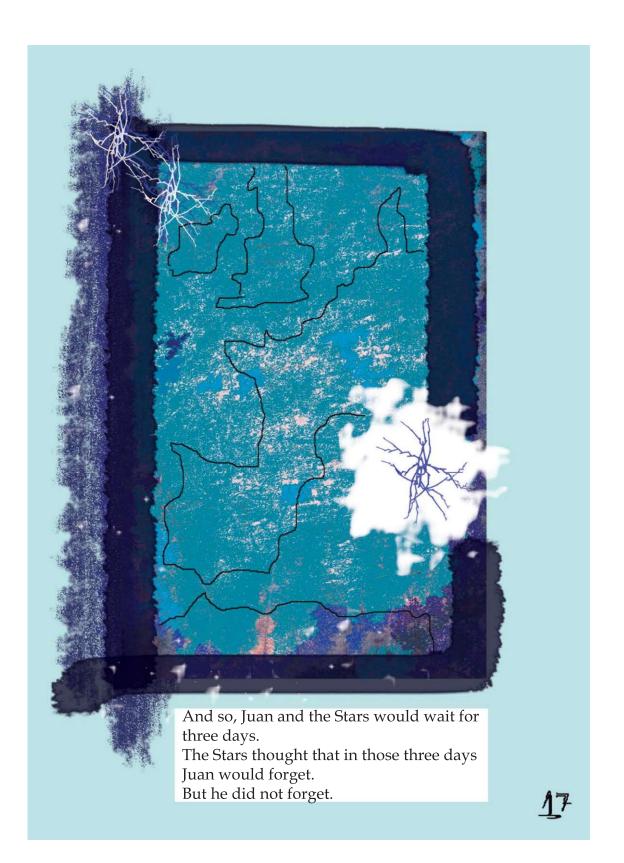


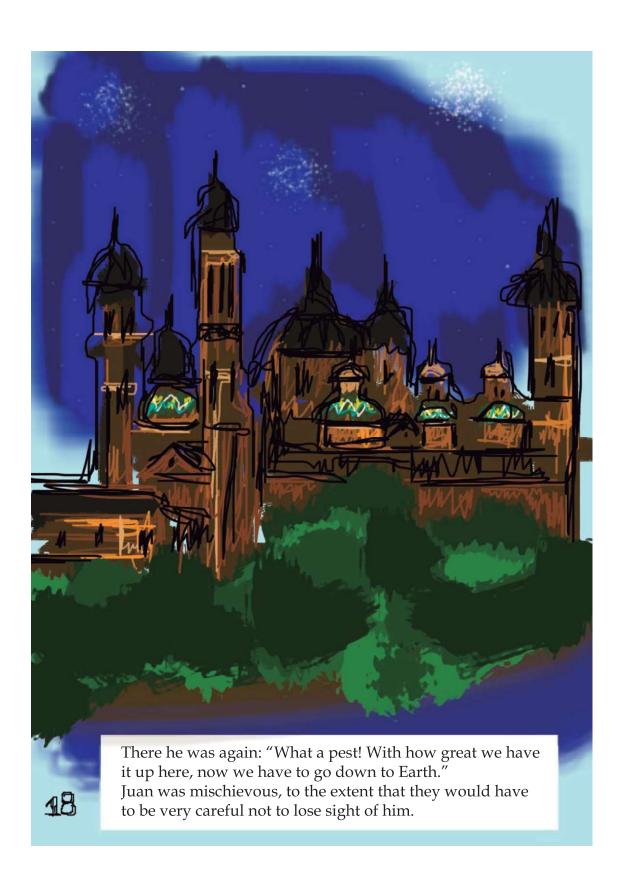
So, finally, one night the Stars answered him: "Juan, you are giving us a lot of trouble with wanting to go back to Earth. You do not let us rest with your behavior. Why do you want to go back, if life is better here?"

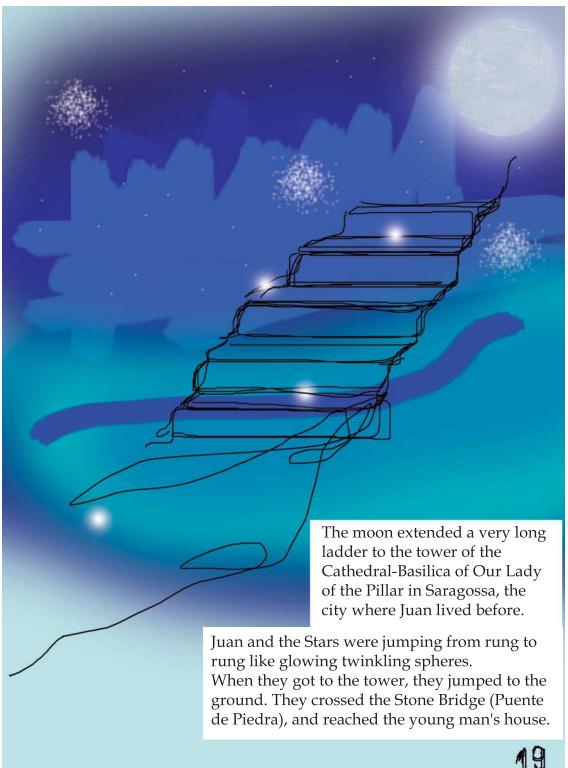
"I know, but I miss my family a lot," replied Juan.
"That is normal. And if you go back, what will you do?
Yeah, yeah...laugh under your breath. If we let you go, you have to promise us that you will behave," said the Stars.

"Yes, yes, I'll behave," said Juan.

"We will come up with a plan. When the moon is full, we will go down to Earth," replied the Stars.





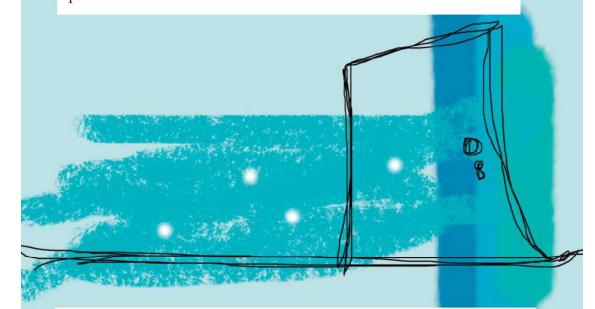


"We will not be long," the Stars told him.

"Well, well, we'll see about that," said Juan.

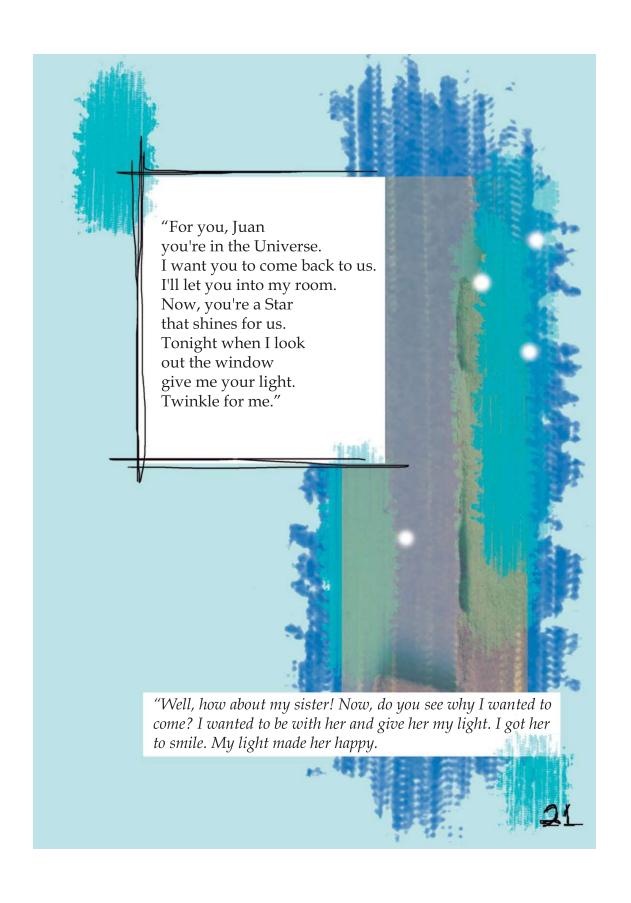
They knocked on the door. Violeta opened the door, but did not see anyone and closed it, but the little twinkling spheres of light had sneaked by. They were already inside!

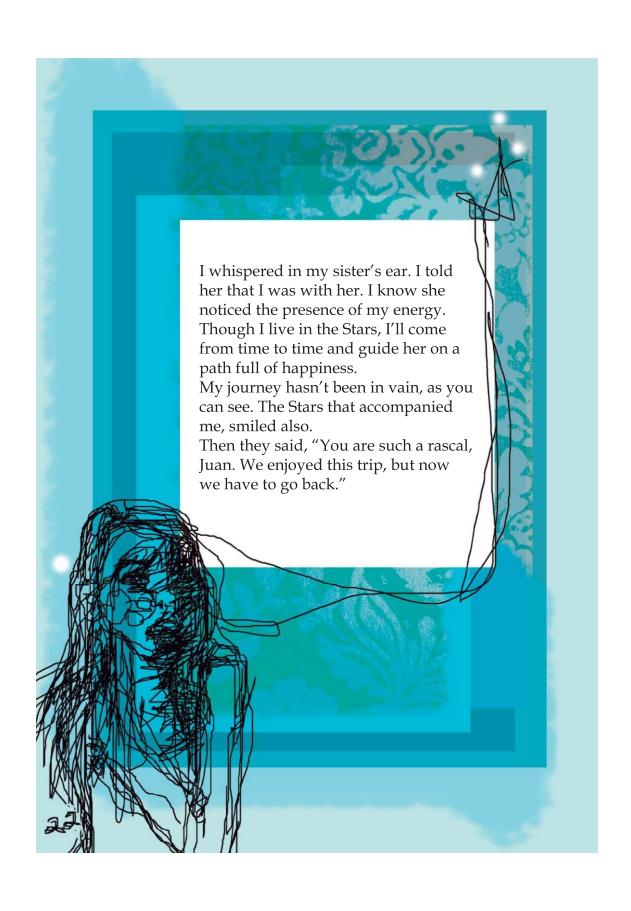
"What will he do now?" the Stars were wondering. They were not sure because Juan was very stubborn and they might have problems.

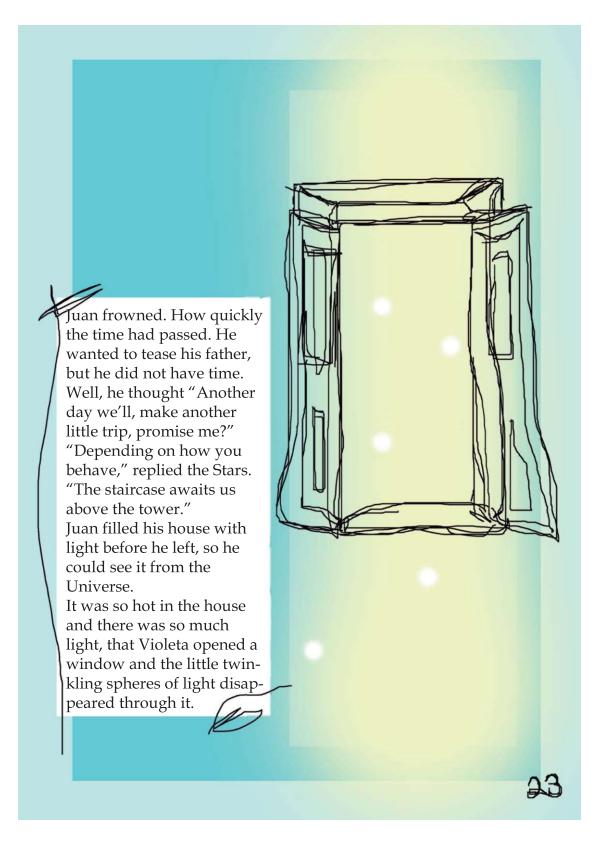


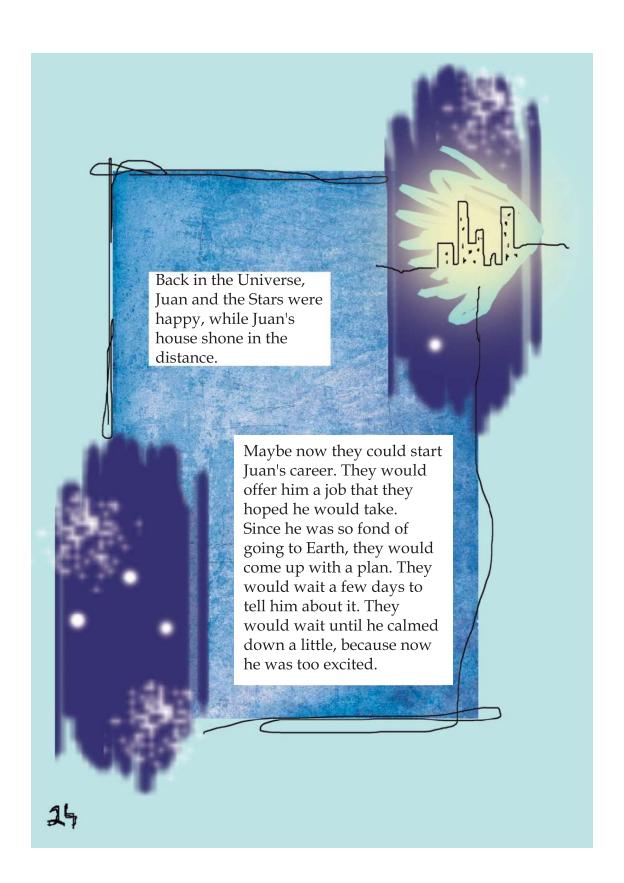
Violeta was studying and didn't realize that the little twinkling spheres of light were flying around her. Juan's little sphere landed on her table. Sitting on a corner, he watched his sister write. For a moment she stared at the corner where Juan was sitting. She smiled and tickled him with her pencil. Juan laughed.

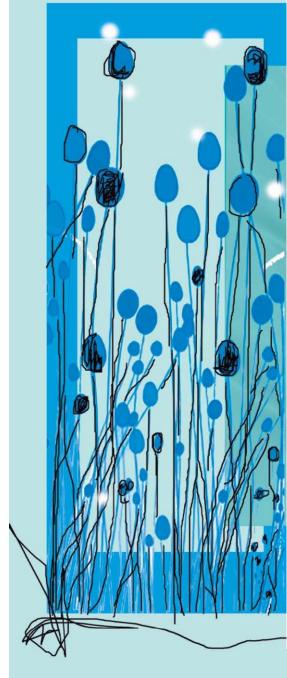
Violeta's pencil went back to writing, but this time instead of numbers she wrote a song.











Then the Stars called Juan one spring morning, saying, "You could go back to Earth and work there."

"And what am I going to do?" Juan asked them.

"You will write and help people who are sick," answered the Stars. "And how am I going to do that if I'm just a ball of light?" asked Juan. "Very simple, Juan. We will find a person on Earth who will be your channel," replied the Stars.

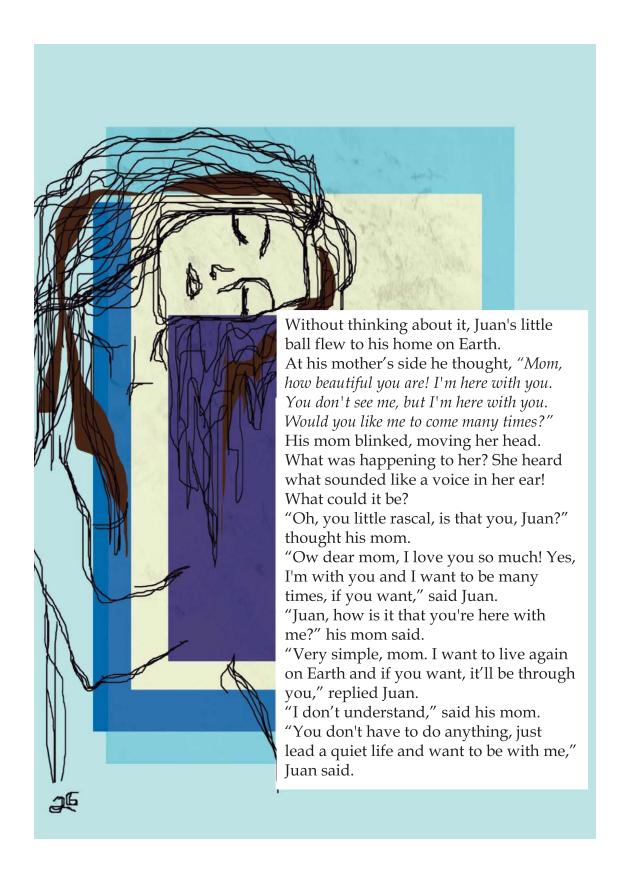
"Yippie!" Juan leaped with joy. He could return to Earth and be with his family, so he would continue to make fools of the Stars, he thought. The Stars, who know everything, answered him, "Just a moment Juan, we know your thoughts. You will go, but you will not make any fuss."

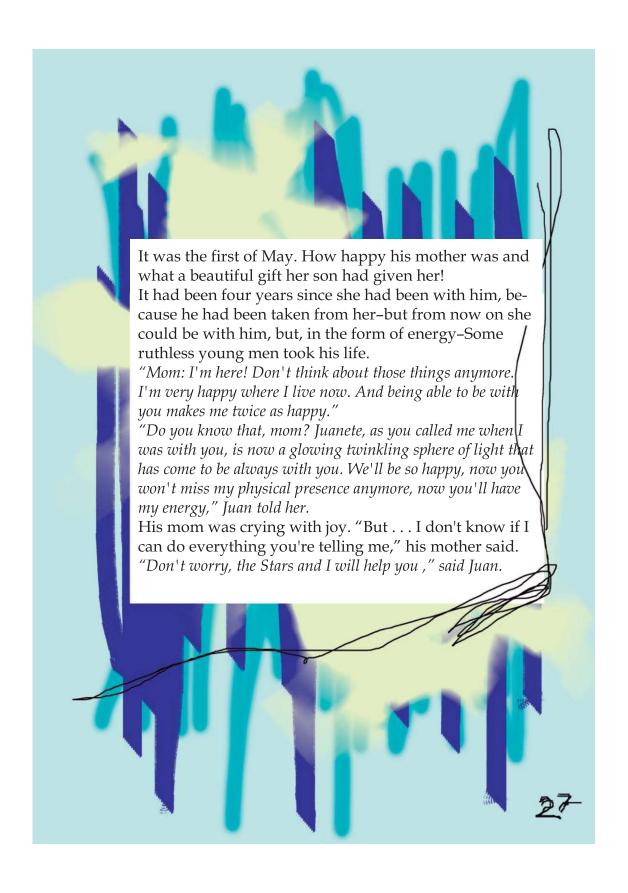
"All right," replied Juan.

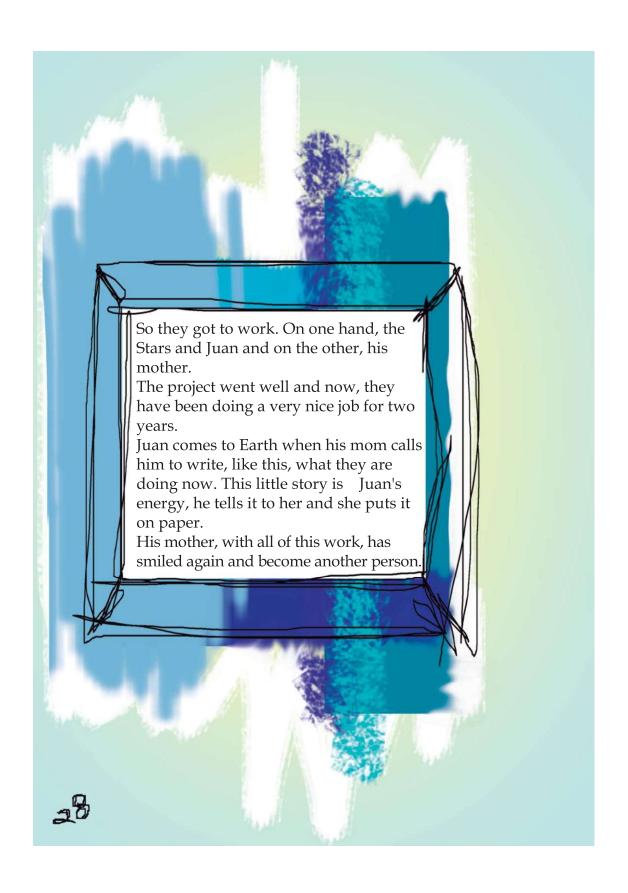
"You're going down by yourself today," said the Stars.

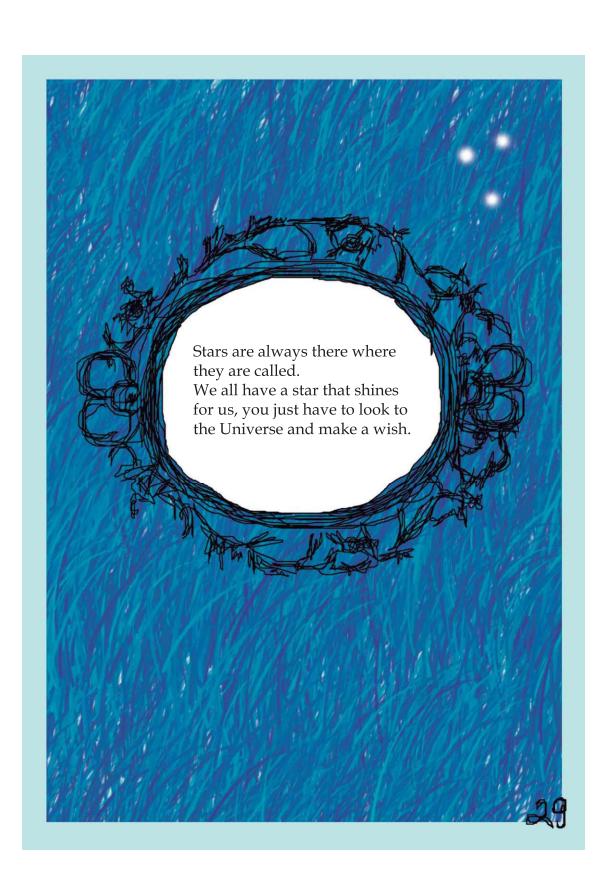
"And how am I going do that?" replied Juan.

"Do not be afraid. You are already Light and part of the Universe. Your mom, is thinking about you right now. Take advantage of that and fly to her. Whisper in her ear like you did to your sister," said the Stars.











The benefits obtained through this book will be destined to the Juan Rioseras Foundation in order to help youngsters from unstructured families.



