

THE DREAM PILLOW

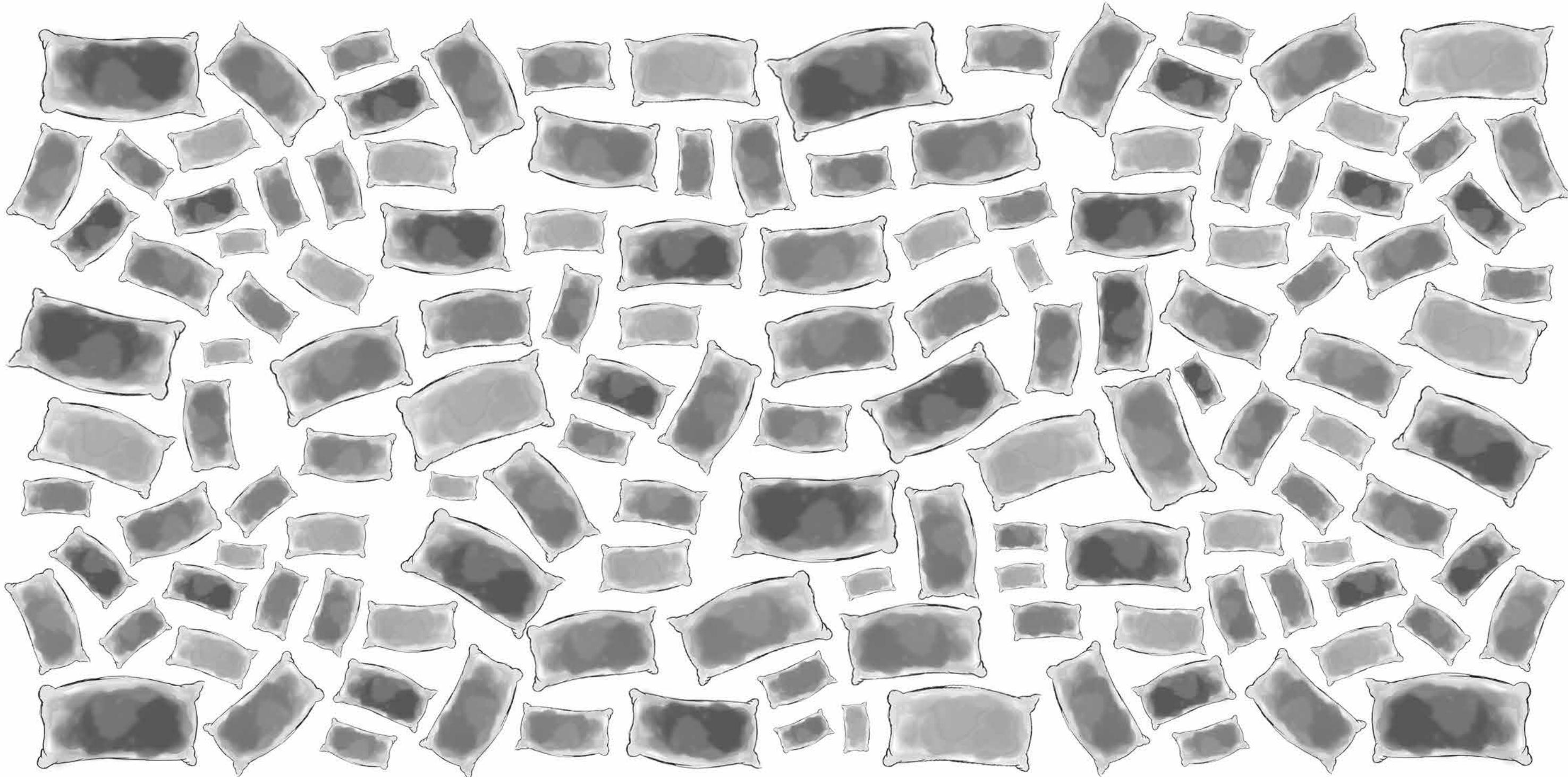
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The Dream Pillow

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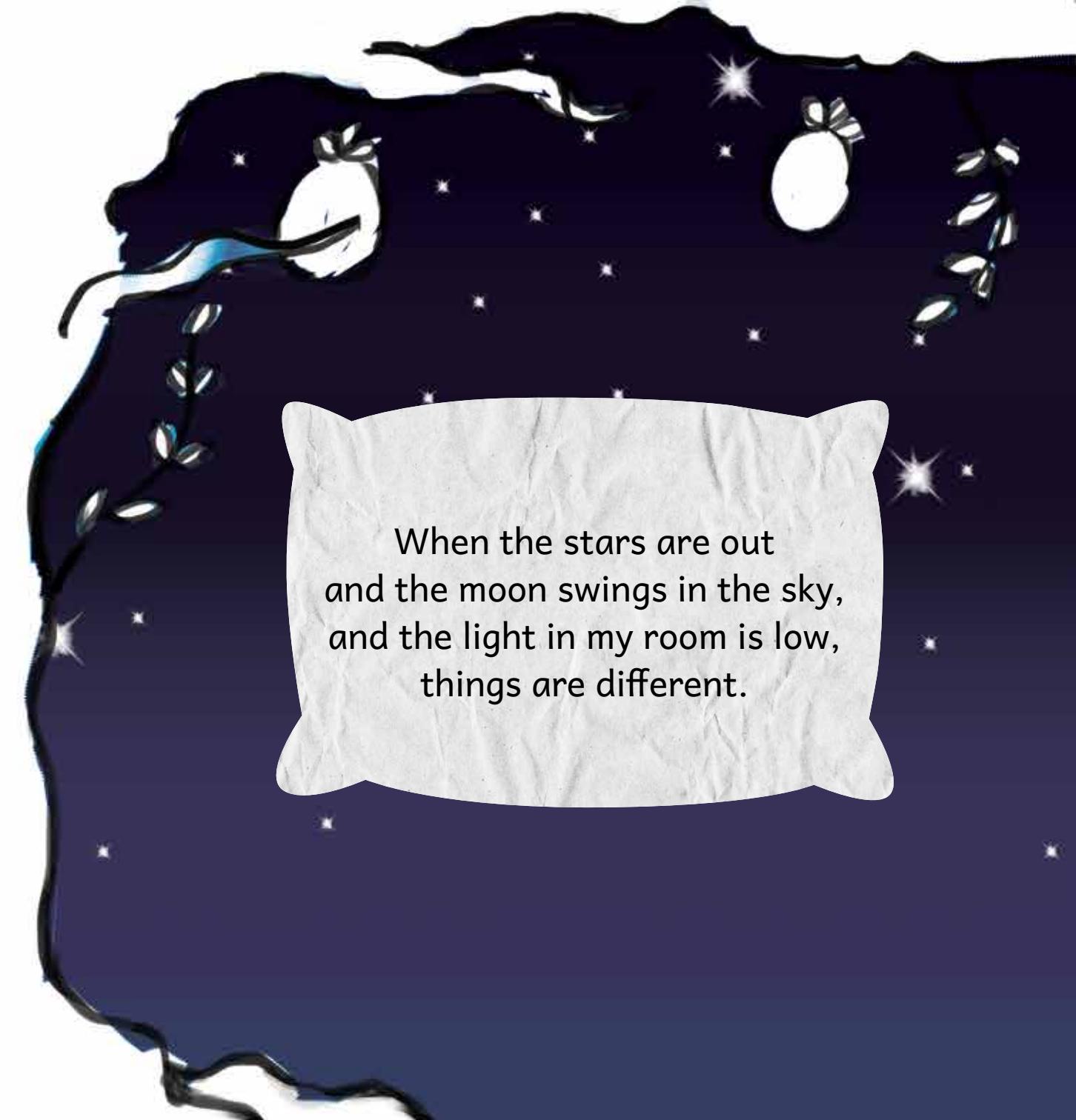
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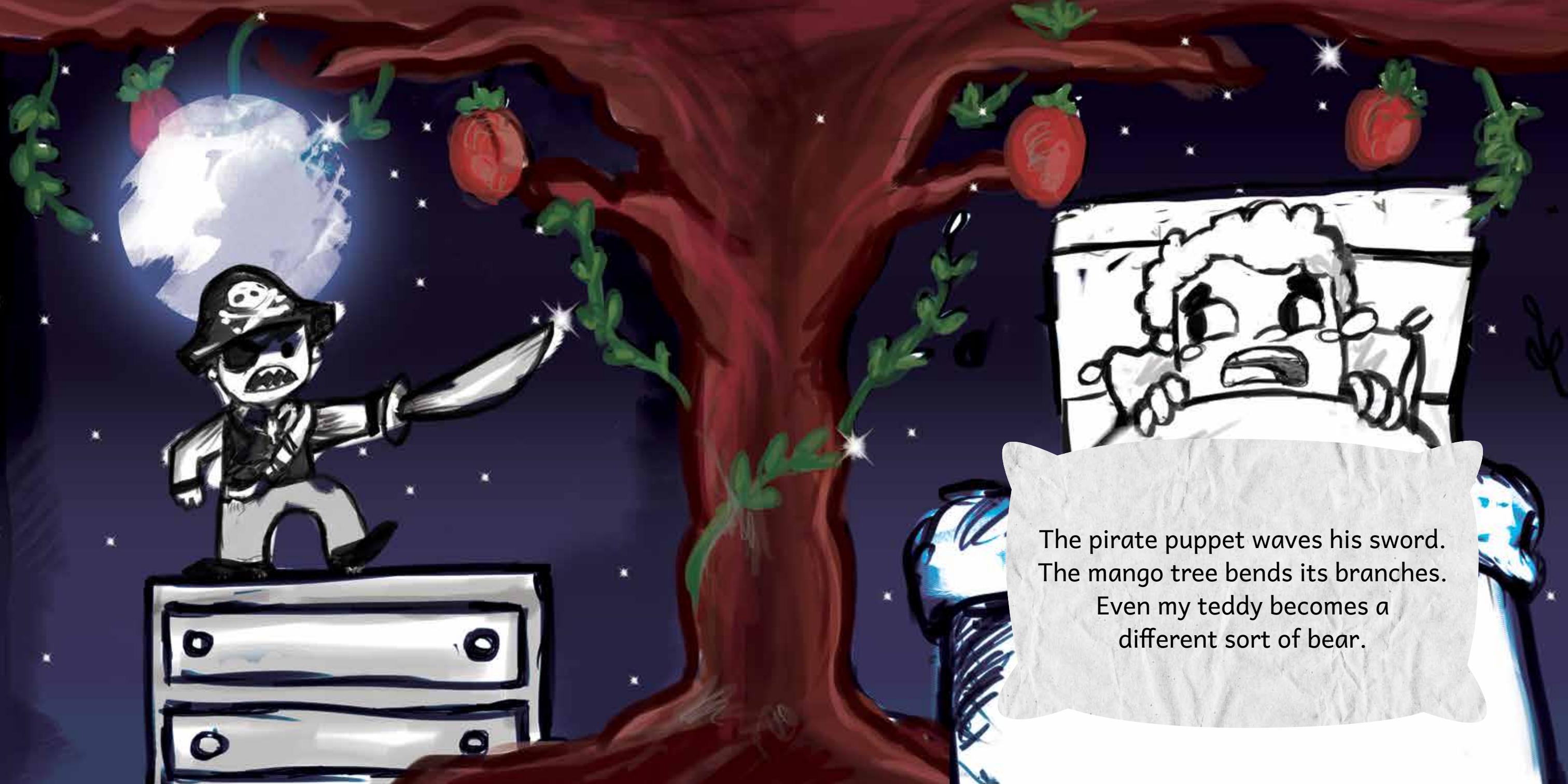
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When the stars are out
and the moon swings in the sky,
and the light in my room is low,
things are different.



The pirate puppet waves his sword.
The mango tree bends its branches.
Even my teddy becomes a
different sort of bear.



I keep very still in my cave of blankets or I call, "Maaamaaa! Daaaddy!" or I jump into their bed.

An illustration of a woman with white hair and a black collar sitting on a chair, talking to a child who is sitting on a bed. The child has their hands over their eyes and a distressed expression. They are under a large tree with red branches and green leaves. Several red tomatoes are hanging from the branches. The background is dark blue with white stars and a large, bright, glowing orb on the left. A white, crumpled paper bag is on the left side of the image.

I tell Mama about Pirate
and Tree and Bear.

A whimsical illustration of a woman with white hair sitting on a bed, talking to a young child with curly hair who is sitting up in bed. The scene is set in a dreamlike environment with a large, gnarled red tree in the background. Several red tomatoes with green leaves are floating in the air around them. The background is a dark blue night sky with white stars. The woman is wearing a white dress with a dark collar. The child is wearing a white shirt and pants. The bed has white pillows and a white blanket. The overall style is simple and illustrative.

“You had a really bad dream.”

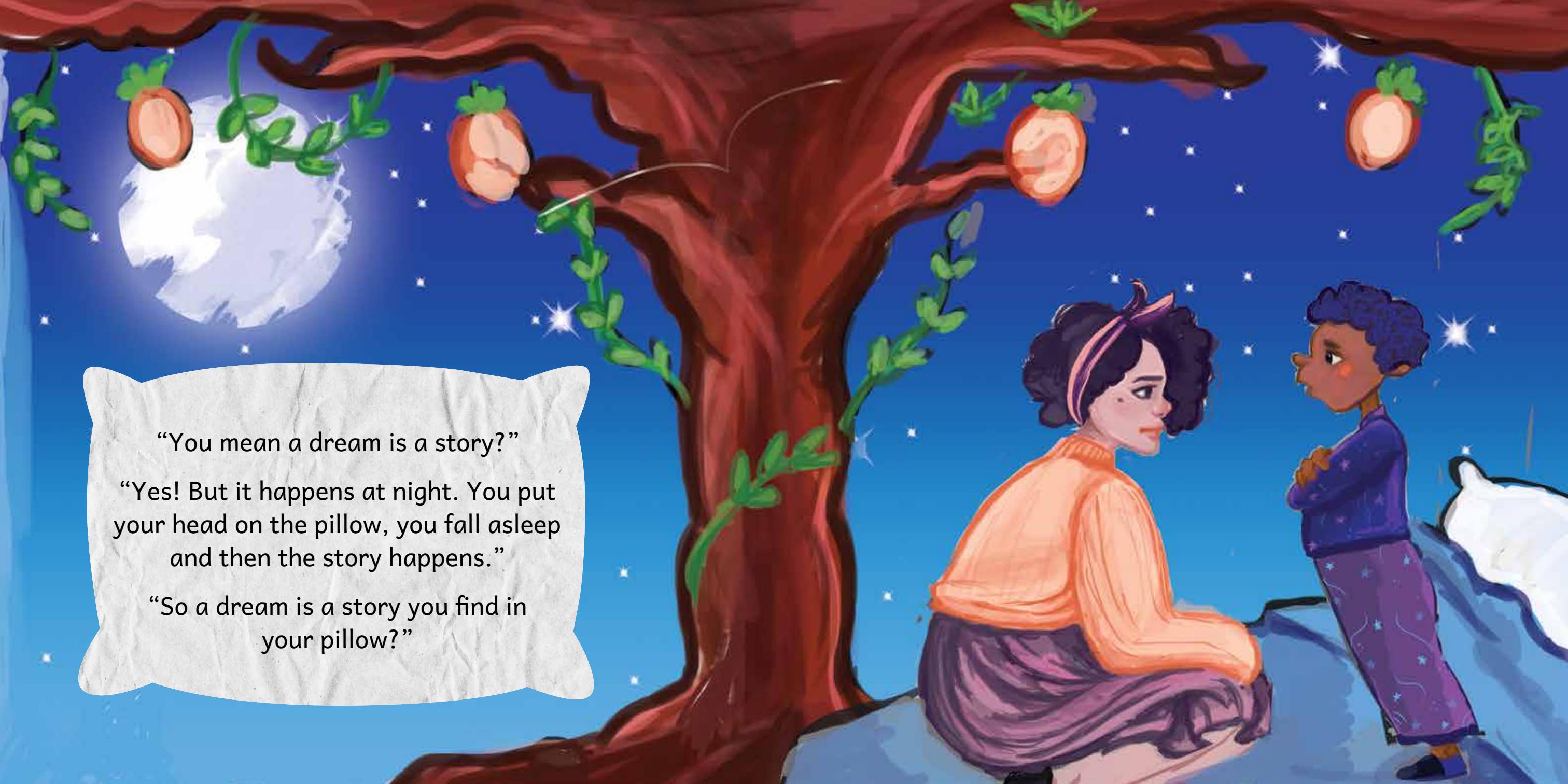
“What’s a dream?”

“When we sleep we think about our day, but everything gets mixed up. It feels real, but it’s not real.”



“It *is* real!”

“You know when we read a story together, it’s made up, but we laugh, or get scared or excited? A dream is the same.”

An illustration of a woman and a child under a large tree at night. The woman is kneeling on the left, wearing an orange sweater and a purple skirt. The child is standing on the right, wearing a purple long-sleeved shirt and purple pants with white stars. The tree has a thick brown trunk and branches with green leaves and several round, orange fruits. The background is a dark blue night sky with a full moon and many small white stars. A white pillow is visible on the right side of the scene.

“You mean a dream is a story?”

“Yes! But it happens at night. You put your head on the pillow, you fall asleep and then the story happens.”

“So a dream is a story you find in your pillow?”

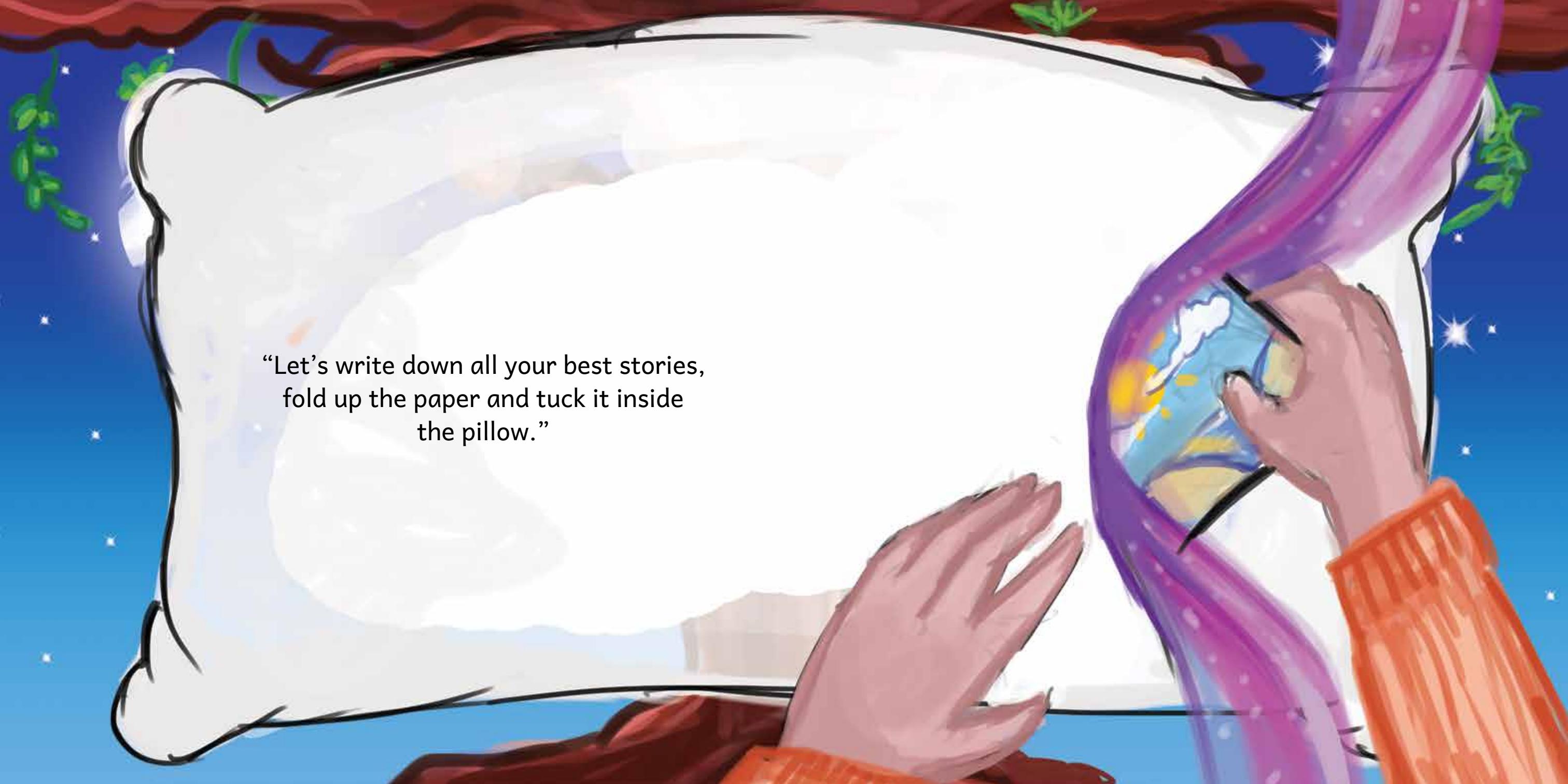
“Yes!”

“Can I put the stories in my pillow?”

“You can.”

“How?”

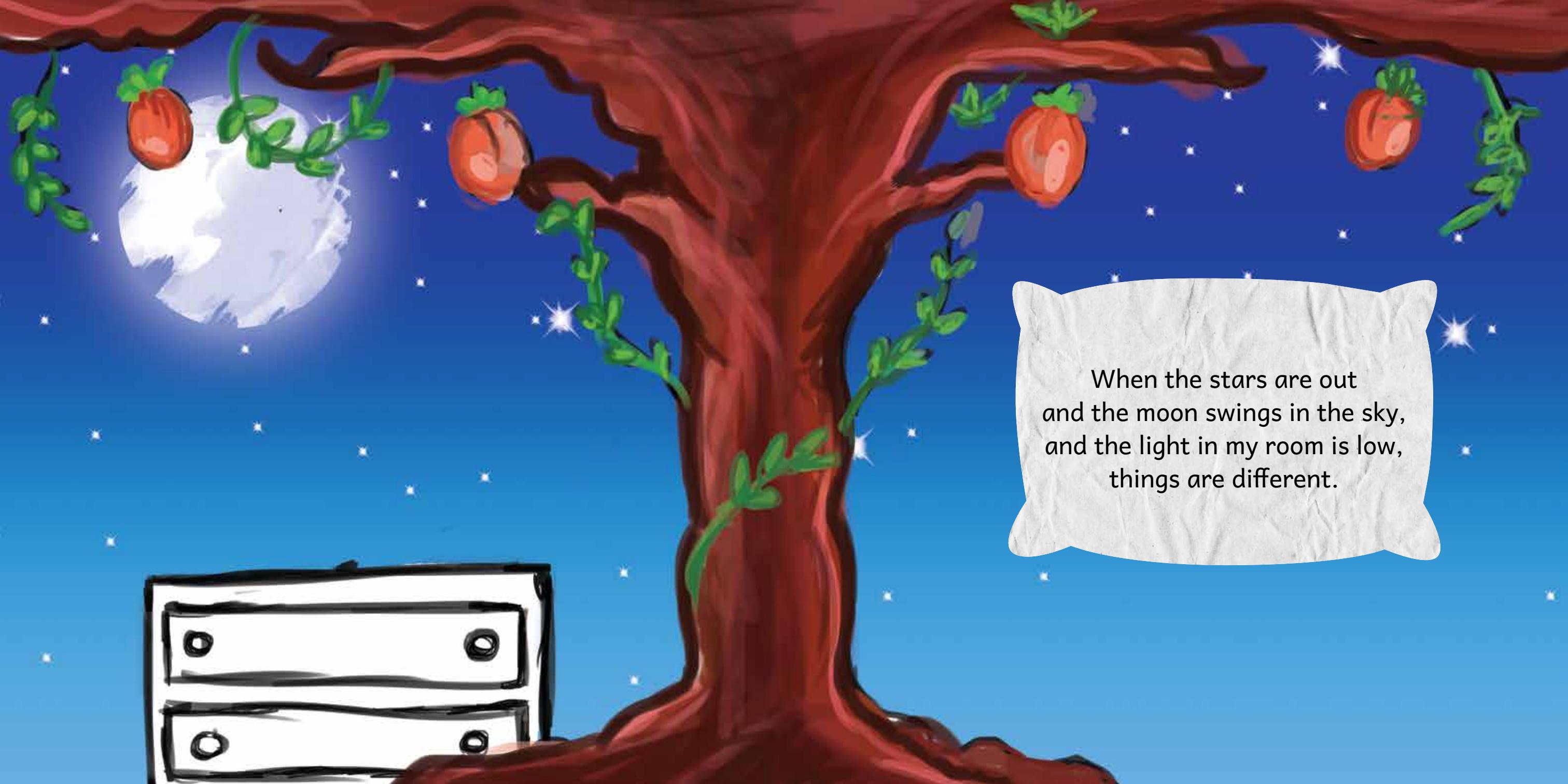


An illustration showing a pair of hands in orange sleeves tucking a small globe of the Earth into a white pillow. The pillow is on a bed with a red blanket. The background is a dark blue night sky with stars and green foliage. The globe shows continents in yellow and oceans in blue. The pillow has a faint, light-colored landscape scene on its surface.

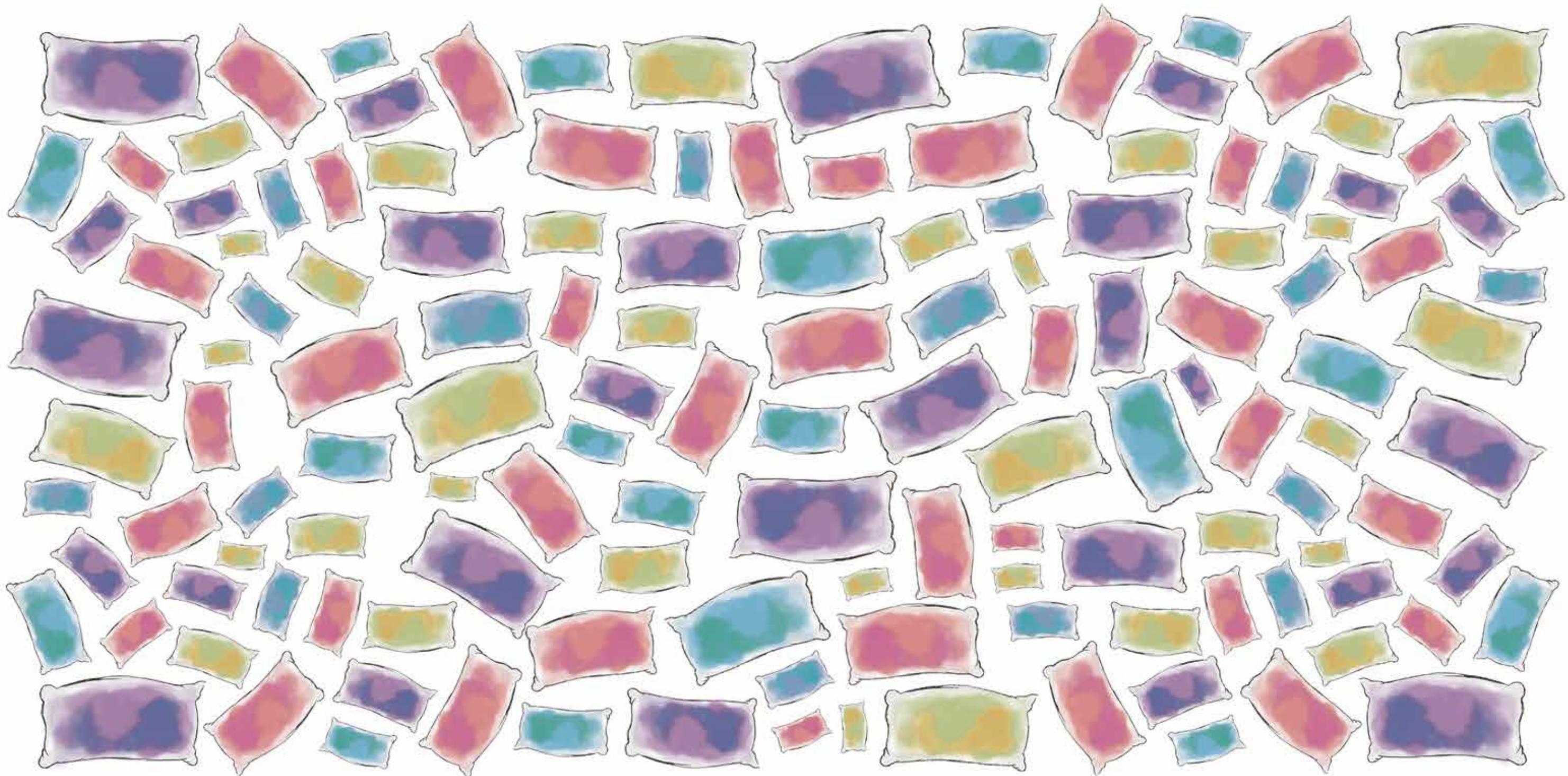
“Let’s write down all your best stories,
fold up the paper and tuck it inside
the pillow.”







When the stars are out
and the moon swings in the sky,
and the light in my room is low,
things are different.





FOR ILYAS TOMÁS