

THE
SUN
SHINES

MIKE DE SOUSA

THE SUN SHINES

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS EVERYWHERE

THE STORY OF HOW THE SUN AND MOON SAVE THE EARTH

SECOND EDITION APRIL 2021

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THE SUN SHINES ~ AUTHOR'S NOTES

The first section of this publication, the picture book, is designed to support early readers with the choice and size of typeface, and line breaks that allow for the smooth flow of language. The illustrations are created to encourage conversation.

The second section of this book is presented in text form and without pictures. Sentences flow to a full line, and the five short acts each appear on a separate page. Here the reader has the opportunity of focusing on the music, form, and play of words, as well as their meaning.

Speech quotes are omitted from both versions as this allows for more open and poetic reading. The last sentence has no full stop as the sun continues to shine.

As I read the second section, the words flow differently as compared with when I read the story with images. With the written text I experience words by their shape and sound, in mind or air, and through my imagination.

Words become within us. Saying words out loud, repeating them, even whispering them, transforms them.

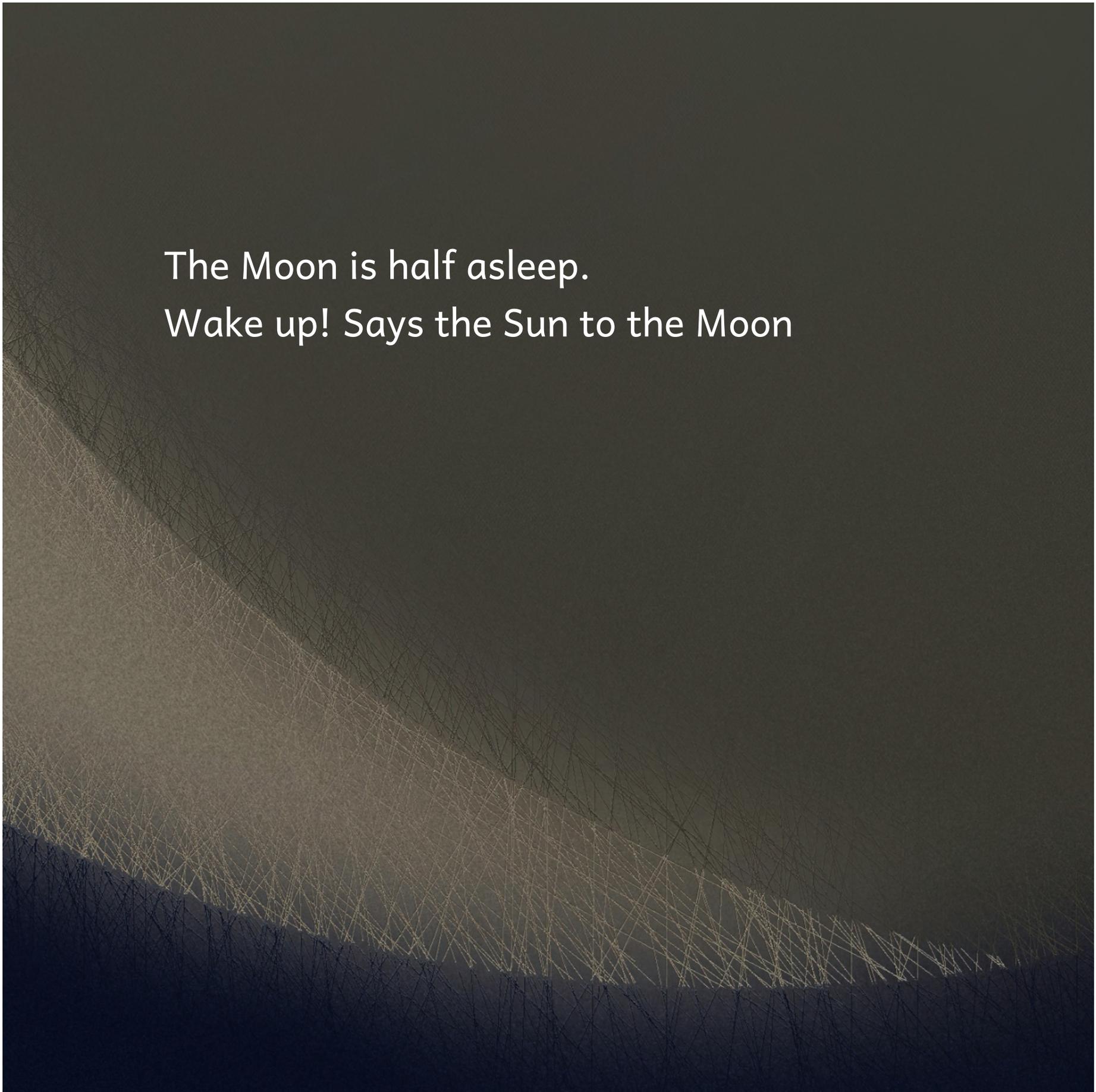
Enjoy your journey!

Mike





The Moon is half asleep.
Wake up! Says the Sun to the Moon







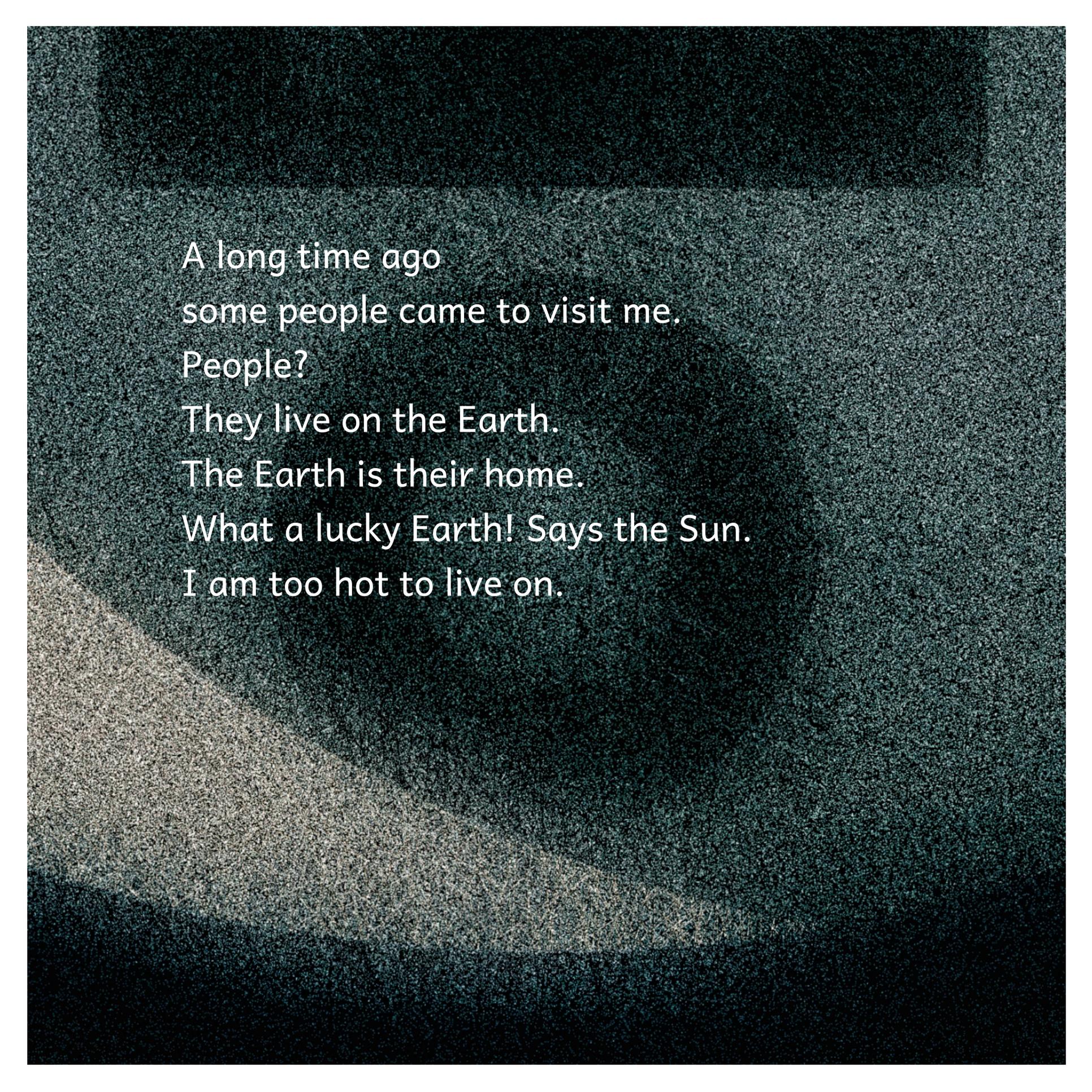
Look at the Earth today.
The Earth is beautiful.
The Moon smiles, and the Sun shines.



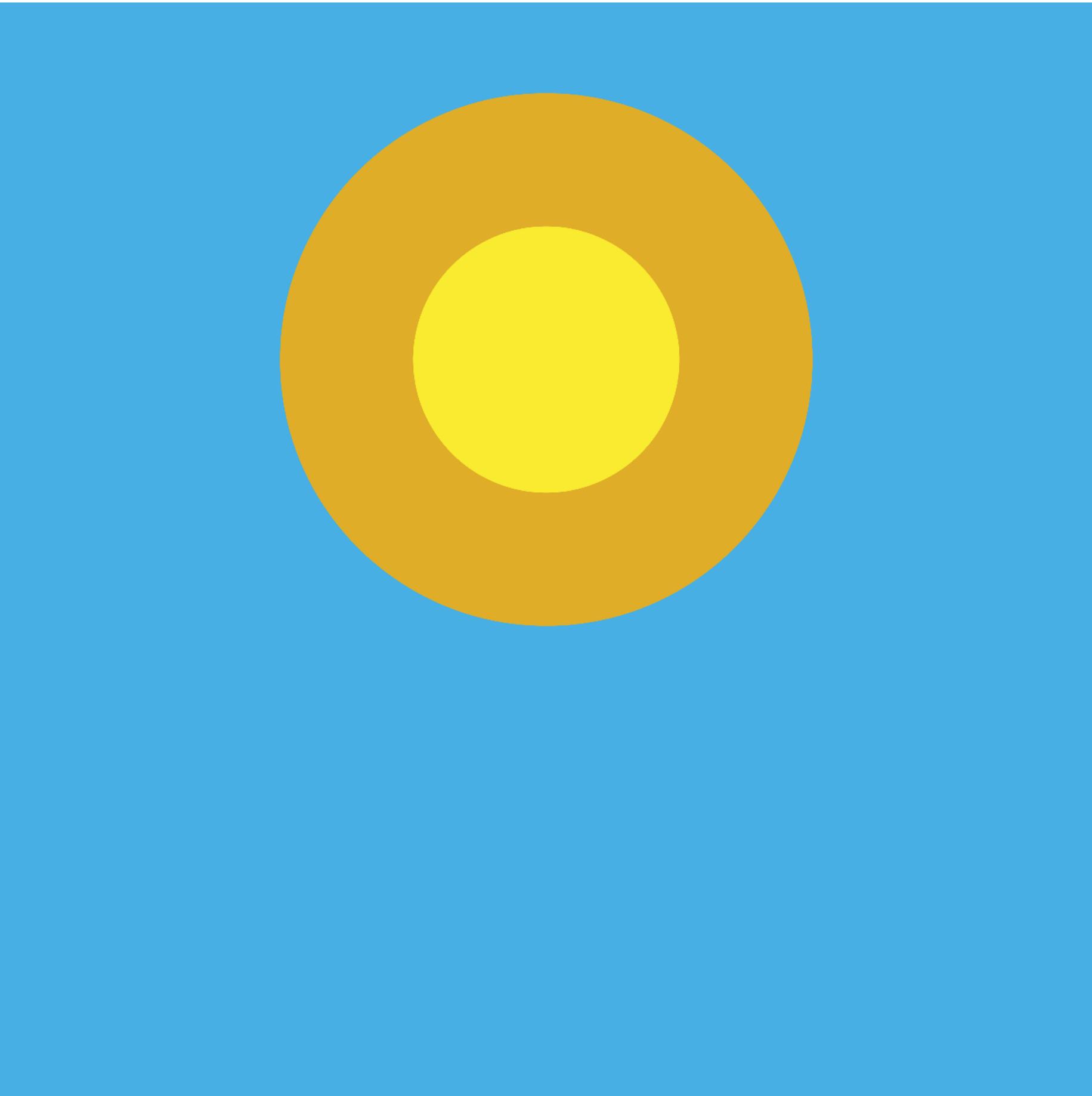


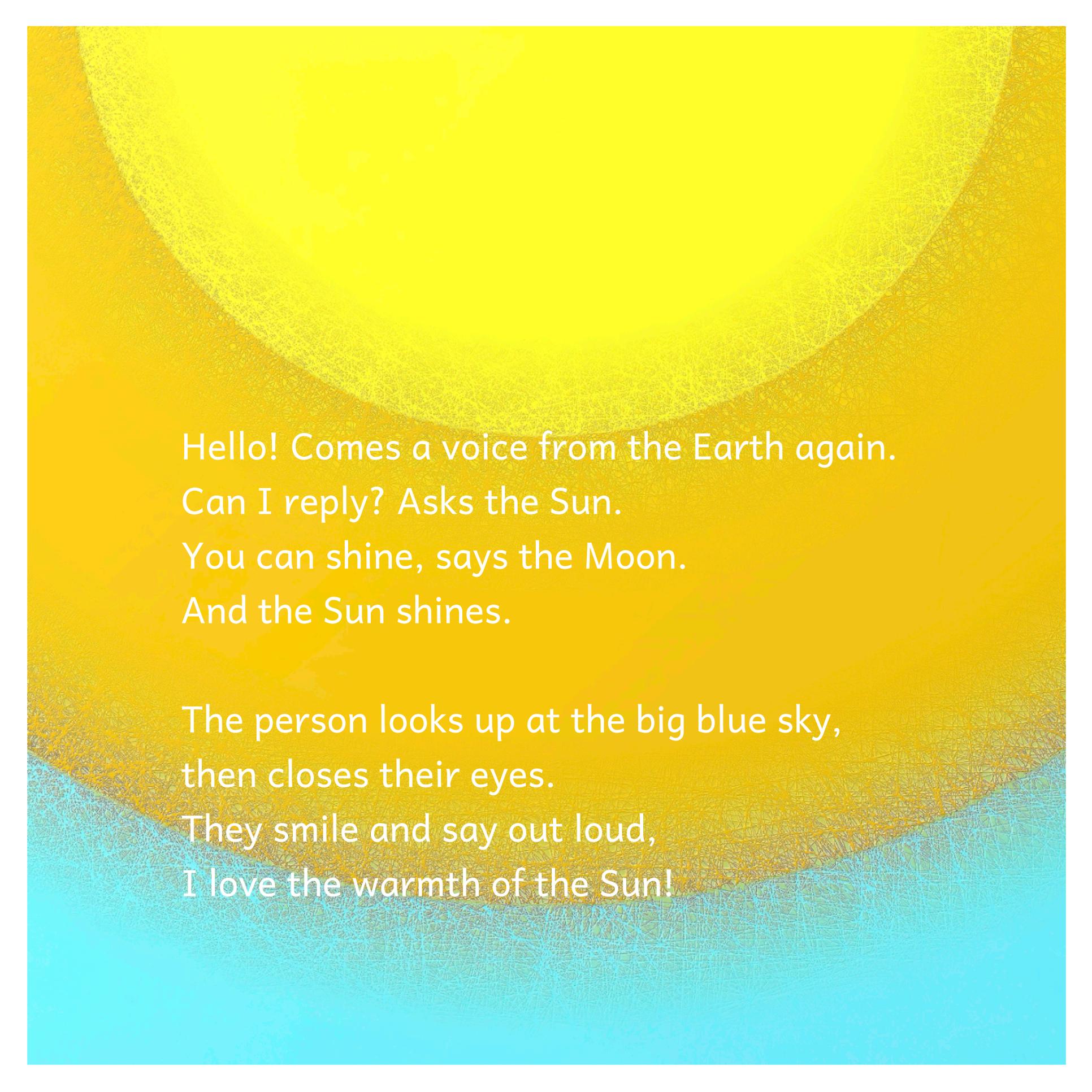
Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth.
Who said that? Says the Sun.
I think I know, the Moon replies.





A long time ago
some people came to visit me.
People?
They live on the Earth.
The Earth is their home.
What a lucky Earth! Says the Sun.
I am too hot to live on.

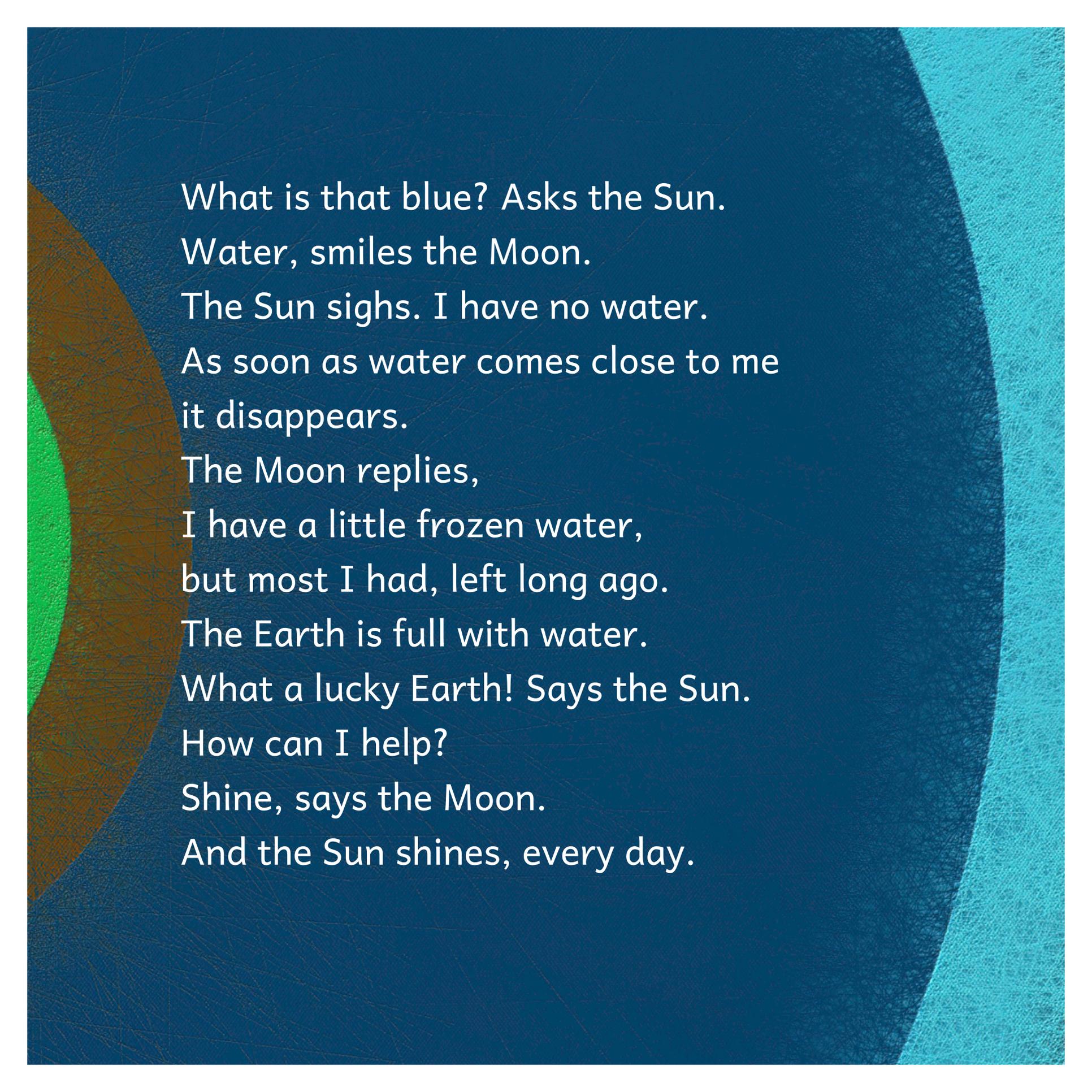




Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth again.
Can I reply? Asks the Sun.
You can shine, says the Moon.
And the Sun shines.

The person looks up at the big blue sky,
then closes their eyes.
They smile and say out loud,
I love the warmth of the Sun!



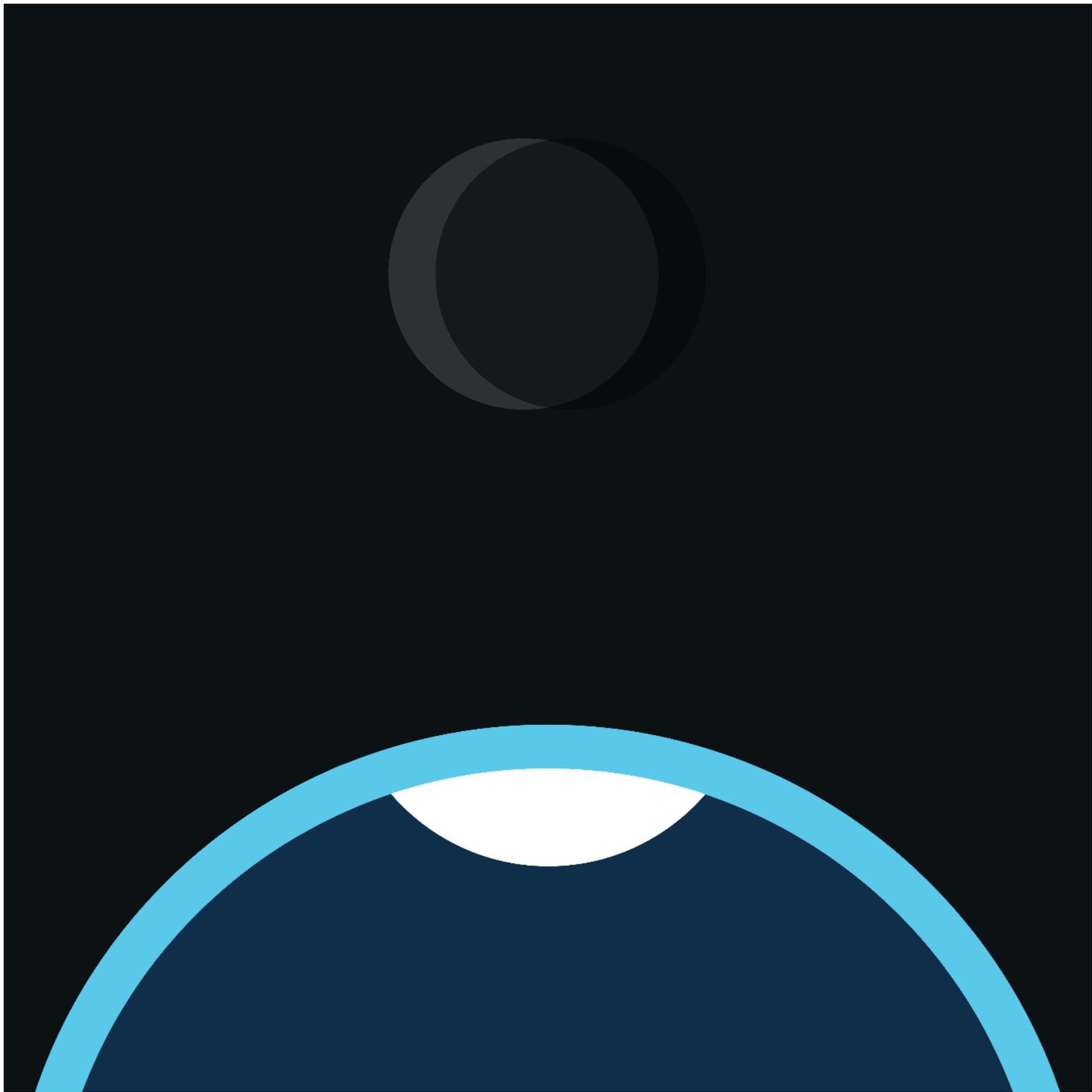


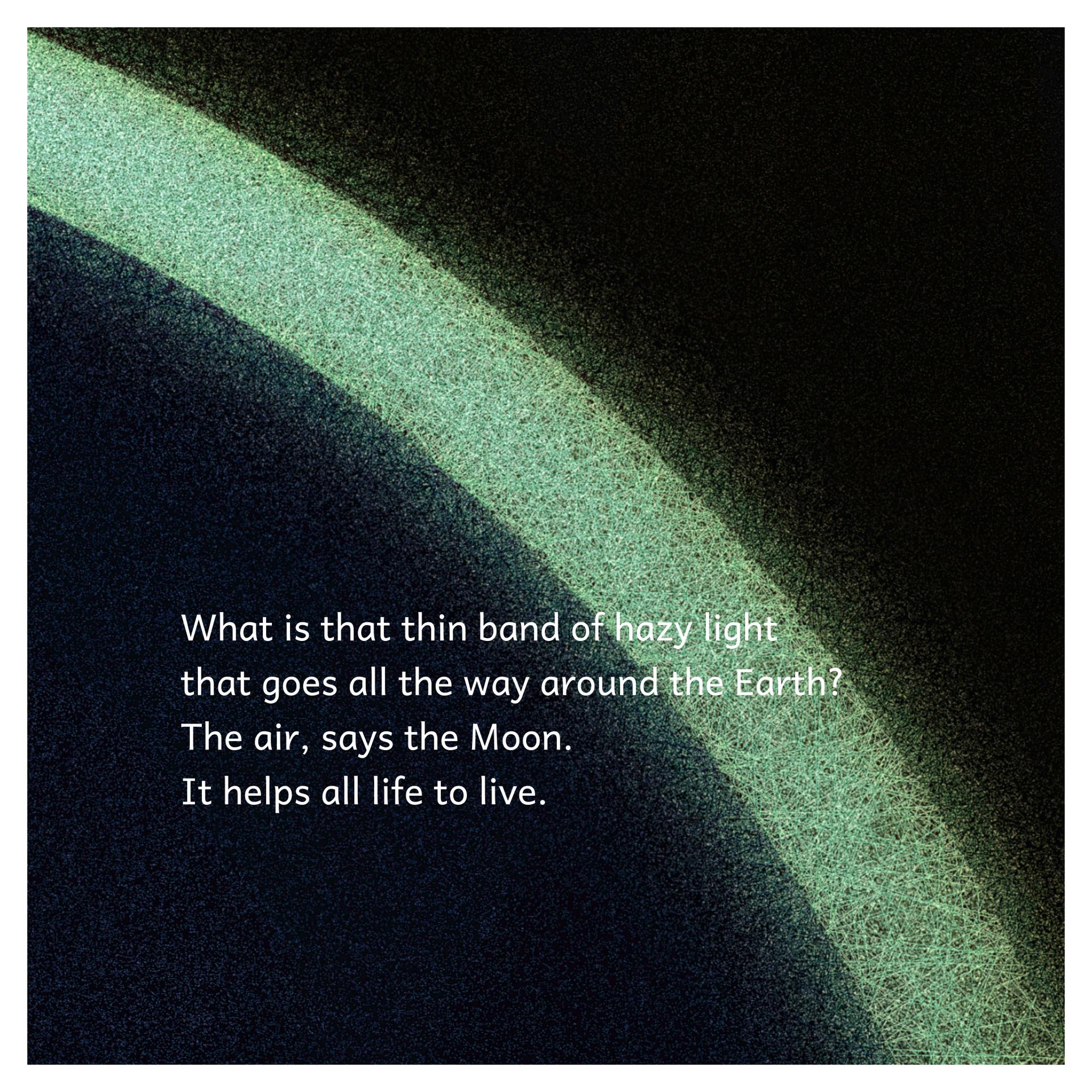
What is that blue? Asks the Sun.
Water, smiles the Moon.
The Sun sighs. I have no water.
As soon as water comes close to me
it disappears.
The Moon replies,
I have a little frozen water,
but most I had, left long ago.
The Earth is full with water.
What a lucky Earth! Says the Sun.
How can I help?
Shine, says the Moon.
And the Sun shines, every day.



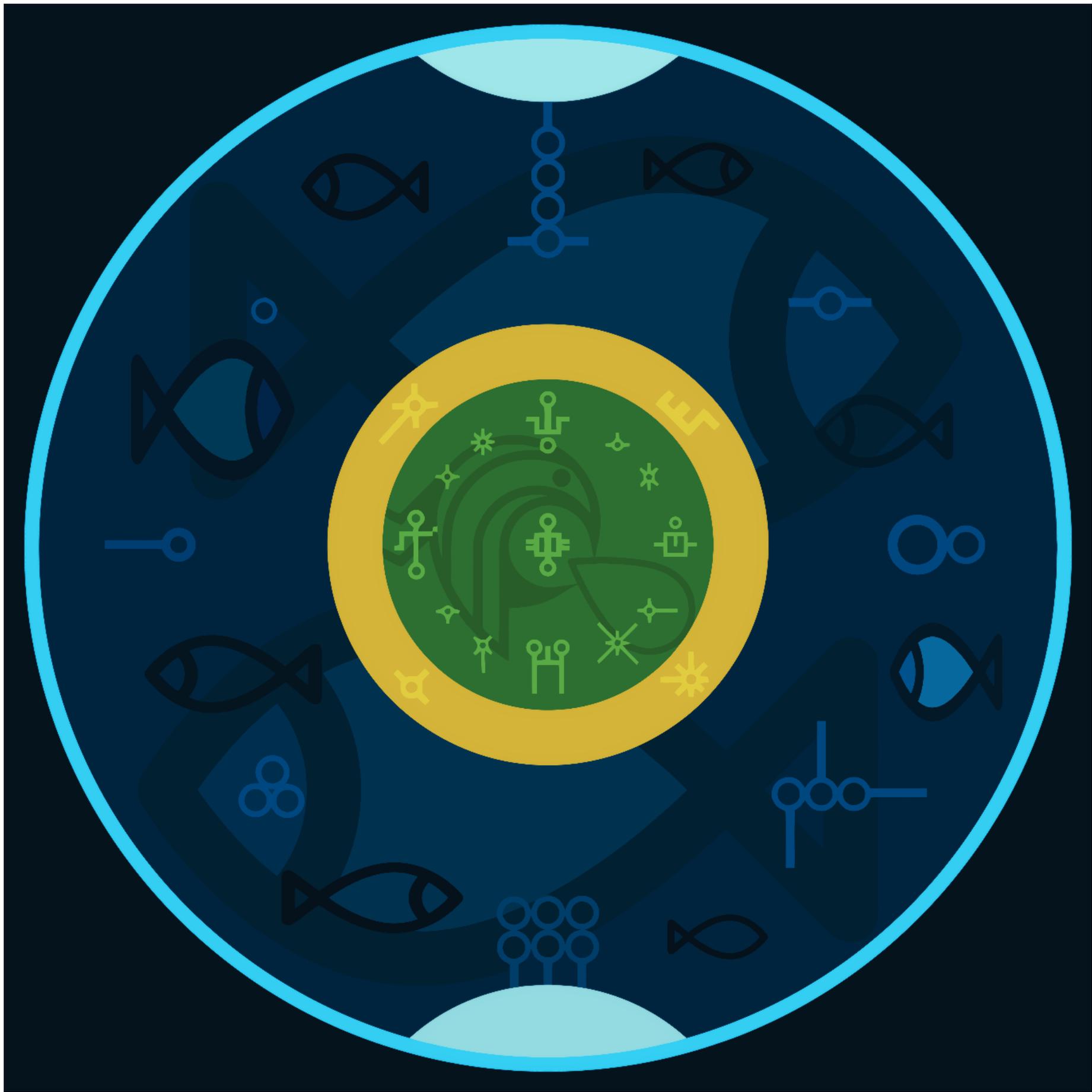
A stylized landscape illustration. The top portion is a solid green sky. The ground is a light cyan color. A central path is a dark brown color with a dense, fine-line texture. A single green tree stands in the center of the path. The overall style is flat and graphic.

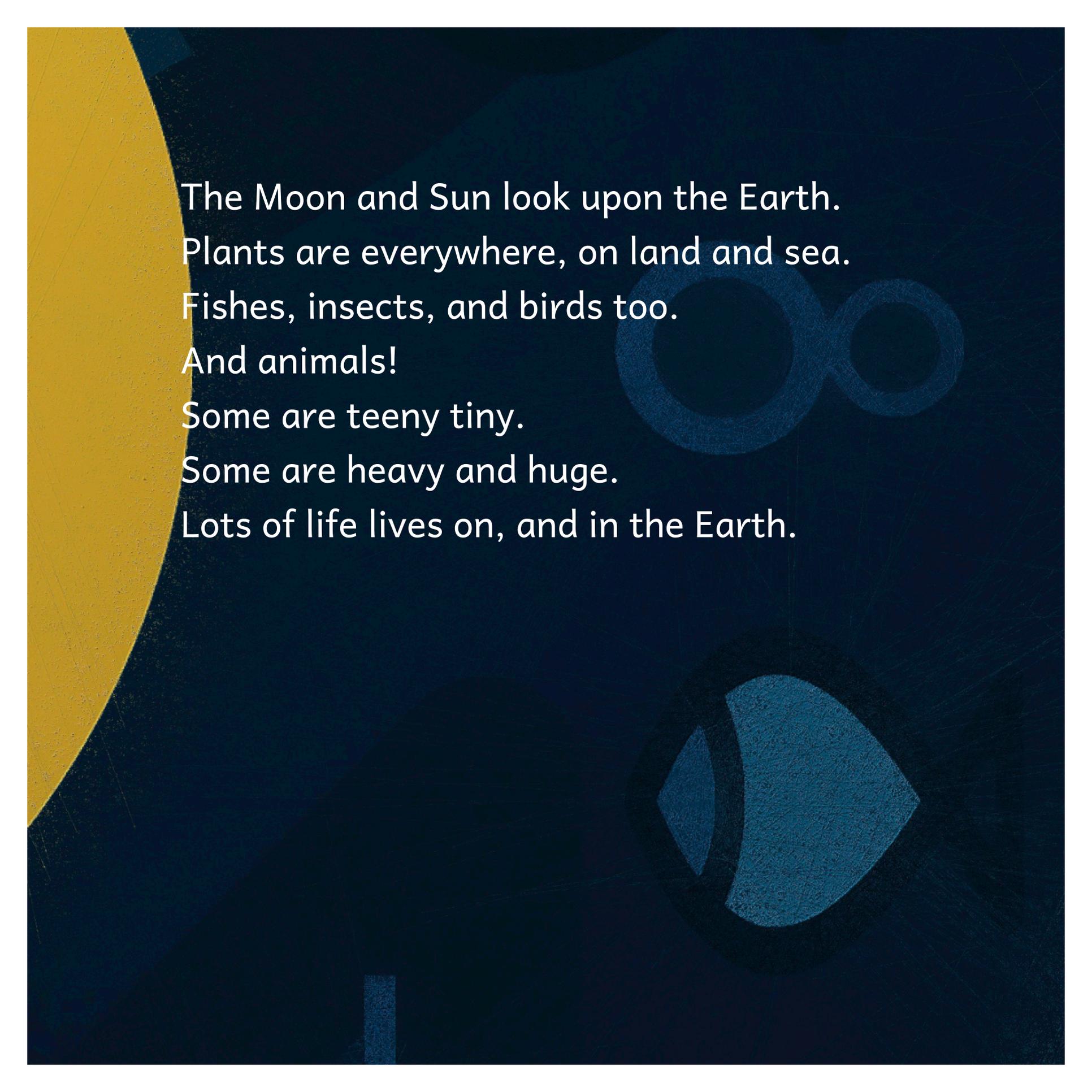
The grass grows, the rain falls,
and the trees reach high.



A thin, glowing green band of light, resembling a thin layer of atmosphere or a ring of light, curves across the frame from the top left towards the bottom right. The background is a dark, textured gradient, transitioning from a deep black at the top right to a dark blue at the bottom left. The green band has a grainy, fibrous texture, suggesting it is composed of many fine, parallel lines of light.

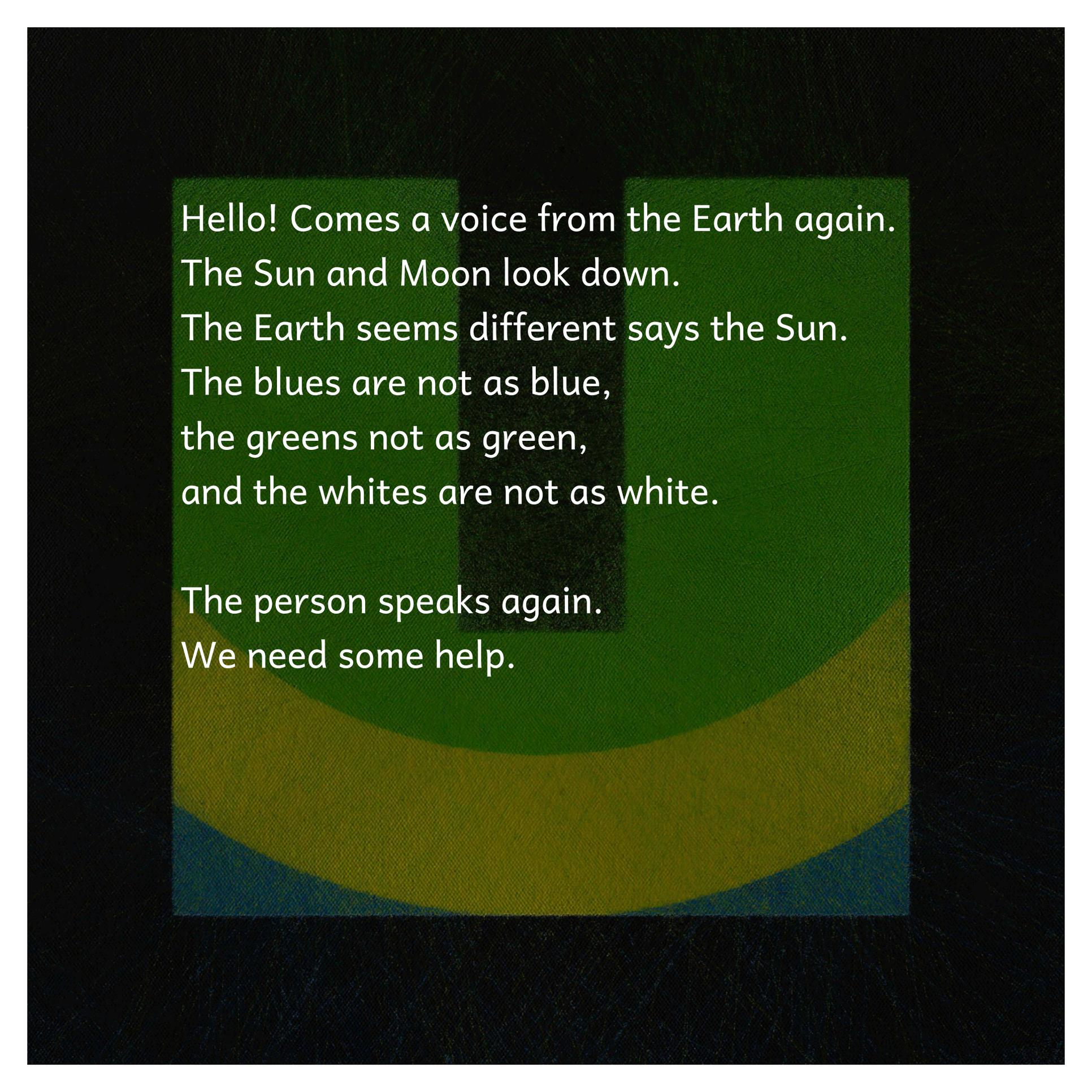
What is that thin band of hazy light
that goes all the way around the Earth?
The air, says the Moon.
It helps all life to live.





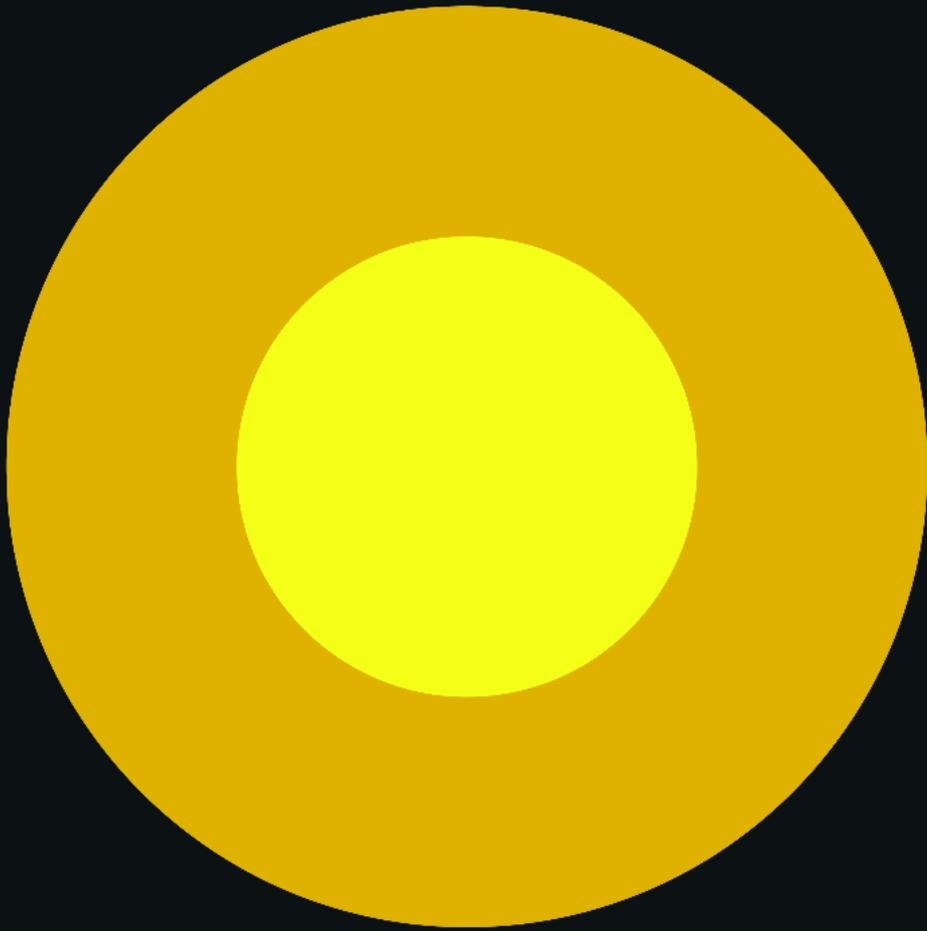
The Moon and Sun look upon the Earth.
Plants are everywhere, on land and sea.
Fishes, insects, and birds too.
And animals!
Some are teeny tiny.
Some are heavy and huge.
Lots of life lives on, and in the Earth.

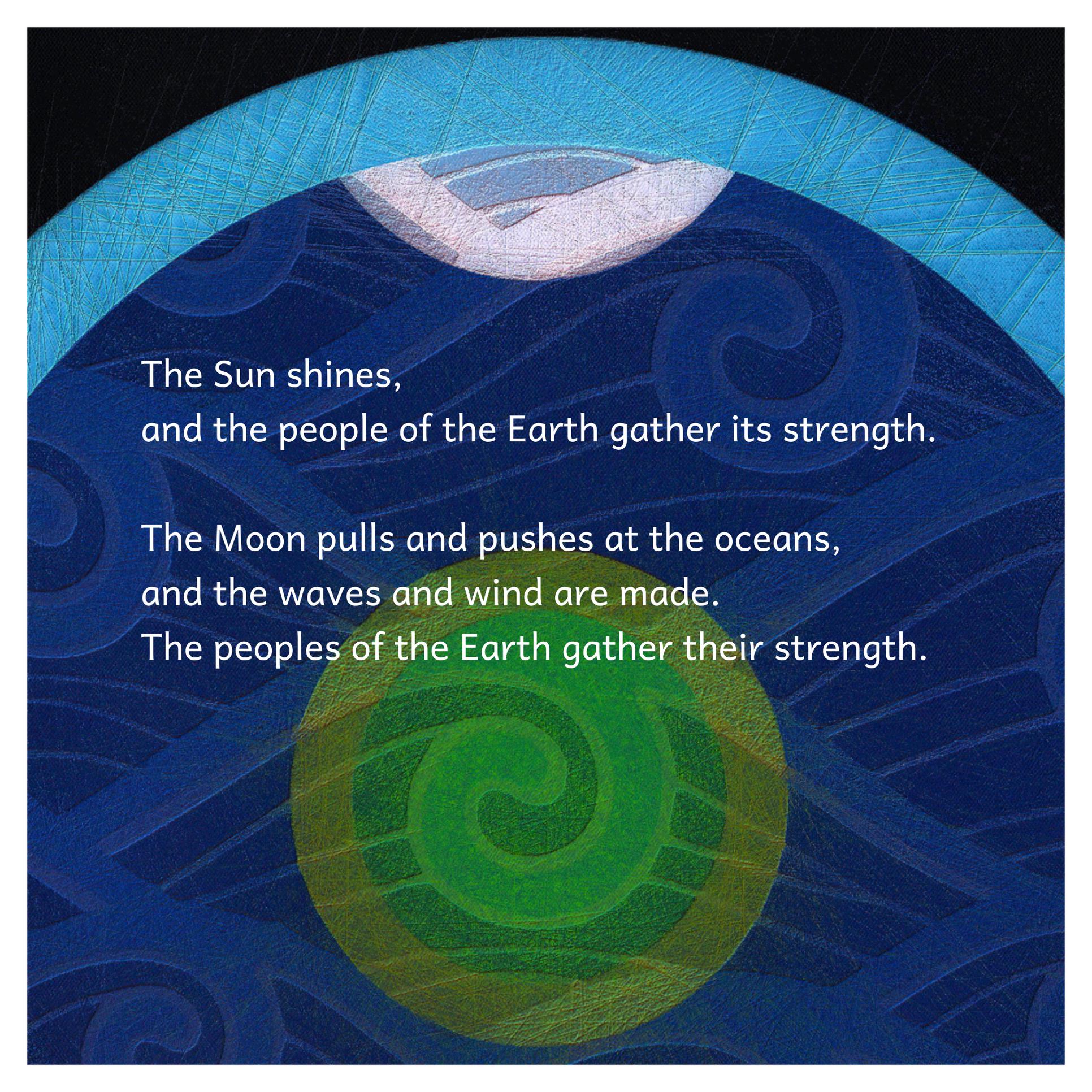




Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth again.
The Sun and Moon look down.
The Earth seems different says the Sun.
The blues are not as blue,
the greens not as green,
and the whites are not as white.

The person speaks again.
We need some help.



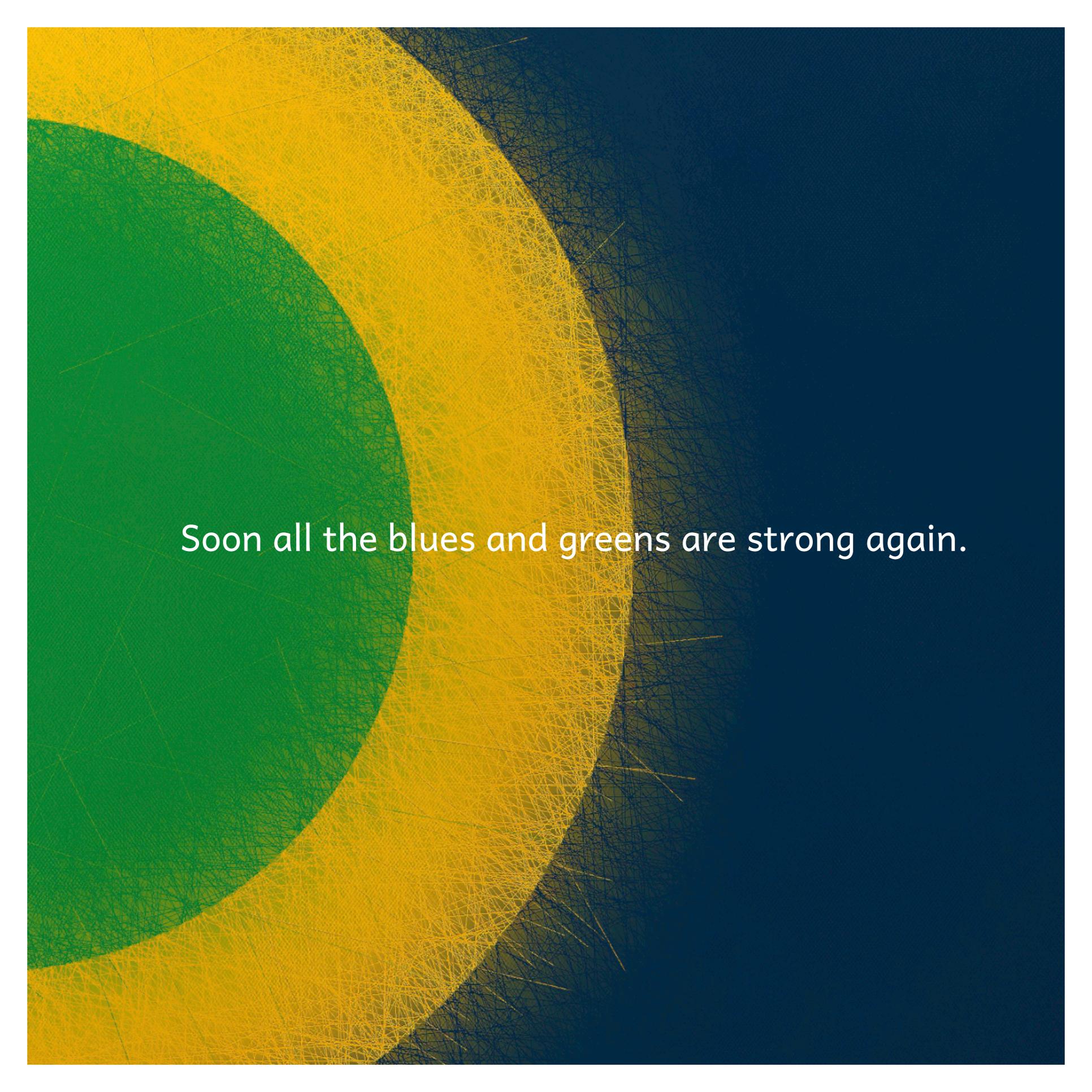


The Sun shines,
and the people of the Earth gather its strength.

The Moon pulls and pushes at the oceans,
and the waves and wind are made.

The peoples of the Earth gather their strength.



The image features a dark blue background with two large, overlapping circular shapes. The inner circle is a vibrant green, and the outer ring is a bright yellow. Both circles are filled with a dense, intricate pattern of fine, intersecting lines, creating a textured, wireframe-like appearance. The text "Soon all the blues and greens are strong again." is centered in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the composition.

Soon all the blues and greens are strong again.



The image features an abstract background with three distinct horizontal sections. The top section is a bright yellow, the middle section is a warm orange, and the bottom section is a vibrant blue. Each section is separated by a curved, wavy line. The entire background is overlaid with a fine, light-colored grid pattern. The text 'The Sun Shines' is centered in the lower portion of the orange section.

The Sun Shines



THE SUN SHINES

The story of how the Sun and Moon save the Earth



The Moon is half asleep.

Wake up! Says the Sun to the Moon.

Look at the Earth today.

The Earth is beautiful.

The Moon smiles, and the Sun shines.





Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth.

Who said that? Says the Sun.

I think I know, the Moon replies.

A long time ago some people came to visit me.

People?

They live on the Earth. The Earth is their home.

What a lucky Earth! Says the Sun. I am too hot to live on.

Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth again.

Can I reply? Asks the Sun.

You can shine, says the Moon.

And the Sun shines.

The person looks up at the big blue sky, then closes their eyes.

They smile and say out loud, I love the warmth of the Sun!





What is that blue? Asks the Sun.

Water, smiles the Moon.

The Sun sighs. I have no water.

As soon as water comes close to me it disappears.

The Moon replies, I have a little frozen water, but most I had, left long ago.

The Earth is full with water.

What a lucky Earth! Says the Sun. How can I help?

Shine, says the Moon.

And the Sun shines, every day.

The grass grows, the rain falls, and the trees reach high.





What is that thin band of hazy light that goes all the way around the Earth?

The air, says the Moon.

It helps all life to live.

The Moon and Sun look upon the Earth.

Plants are everywhere, on land and sea.

Fishes, insects, and birds too.

And animals!

Some are teeny tiny.

Some are heavy and huge.

Lots of life lives on, and in the Earth.





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The Sun and Moon look down.

The Earth seems different says the Sun.

The blues are not as blue, the greens not as green,
and the whites are not as white.

The person speaks again.

We need some help.

The Sun shines, and the people of the Earth gather its strength.

The Moon pulls and pushes at the oceans,
and the waves and wind are made.

The peoples of the Earth gather their strength.

Soon all the blues and greens are strong again.

The Sun Shines





THE SUN SHINES

FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS EVERYWHERE

When I look closely at something, my head and heart change.

The Sun Shines is a way to encourage thought and action about how we care for the earth. Harnessing the power of the sun and moon provides humans with ways to counter the harmful affects to all life on earth of changes to its climate.

The accompanying music [The Sun Shines](#) is also available at 100 Artworks and Public Art World.

Mike de Sousa

Oakley, April 2021

Art Lover VIP

This book is one of many publications by [Art Lover VIP](#) made freely available to all that include music, art, and literature.

MY SECRET THOUGHTS ABOUT THE SUN SHINES

When I read words, when I look carefully at an image, or listen to music, ideas spring in to my mind. My ideas are different to yours.

What follows on this and the next three pages are some of the ideas I had when creating The Sun Shines. I hope you will read through the story a few times before reading on so that your own ideas settle in your mind and take root. It always takes me a while before I understand what I think! If someone thinks too fast, they might not think with care, and caring about everything is important as it helps us live well.

For me The Sun Shines is as much about the love between us, as a story about how humans can use the power of the sun and moon to save the earth from the harm of climate change. It is a story that can be equally viewed of happening in a short spell or over many years as it shows the earth at the start and end without the polar regions.

I think of the sun, moon, and earth and their constantly shifting relationships. They each attract one another with their force of gravity, and like humans, have different qualities. The sun is bright and big, the moon is much smaller but presented as more thoughtful and wise, and the earth, full of life and wonder.

The moon might represent a woman, the sun, a man, and the earth, someone they care for with their nature and being.

Children are often far more ready to accept different ways of thinking about what they see as compared with adults! In the picture book there are two related images that accompany each section of text. One kind has simple forms, and the other is more complex and highly textured. I enjoy both in different ways. The simple pictures are poetic. When I gaze at these my mind is calm. The richer, more complex pictures encourage me to be more curious, and my imagination tends to be more active. The overlay of words that tell the story ebbs and flows with my feelings and thoughts about the art that lays beyond them.

Rather than write about each picture, I will choose two to share my ideas about so that you are completely free to reach your own thoughts about the others.



Hello! Comes a voice from the Earth.

Who said that? Says the Sun.

I think I know, the Moon replies.



The scale of the first human figure in the story indicates their disproportionate impact on it. The figure is made of simple shapes that remind me of early digital representations of humans. This association triggers my thoughts about human technological progress. I am also reminded of architectural forms, and of the countless buildings, structures, and objects that humans have made.

The figure is striking in scale as it covers all the green land mass and sandy deserts before reaching out into the oceans. This is my way of showing that humans are found everywhere on earth.

For me the figure represents a woman as the spokesperson for all humans, although the visual representation of people are deliberately uncertain. I hope the colour and form of the human figure serves to symbolise humanity. The figure has no legs so it could be a different or damaged person. They could be young or old, and from any place. Their arms are outstretched and this could be interpreted as a friendly welcoming gesture, or perhaps a wave as they look out towards the sun and moon.



A long time ago some people came to visit me...



The heavy grains of the moon image shows it as a shadowy magical place. The scattered seeds of light remind me of the speckly TV pictures of the first landing on the moon I watched live as a child in 1969. This image also reminds me of two humans riding together on a moon buggy. The long neck below the circle could also be viewed of as an antenna that sends the first pictures from one world to another.

I think of the crescent of the moon as a benevolent shape of light as the large abstract figures walk about its surface. It is as if the travellers from earth are supported by the moon as they explore their nearest neighbour.

So a lot is going on in *The Sun Shines!* The story of how the sun and moon give, and how humans can take and use solar power, wind, and the energy from the waves to sustain human living on earth is a starting place to think about how we have the choice to act with more thought and care.

These are my personal impressions and ideas about the story, they are not things other people will necessarily interpret, but they are potential readings of its text and pictures. The illustrations are my attempt at visual poetry in that they use simple shapes to carry layers of meaning. What those layers become is very much up to you.

You are also welcome to hear the music that can be played when reading the story as this may add a further layer to your experience.

I hope you return to reshape your own story of *The Sun Shines* over time!

Be kind, and love.

Mike

