



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Little Spark's Journey



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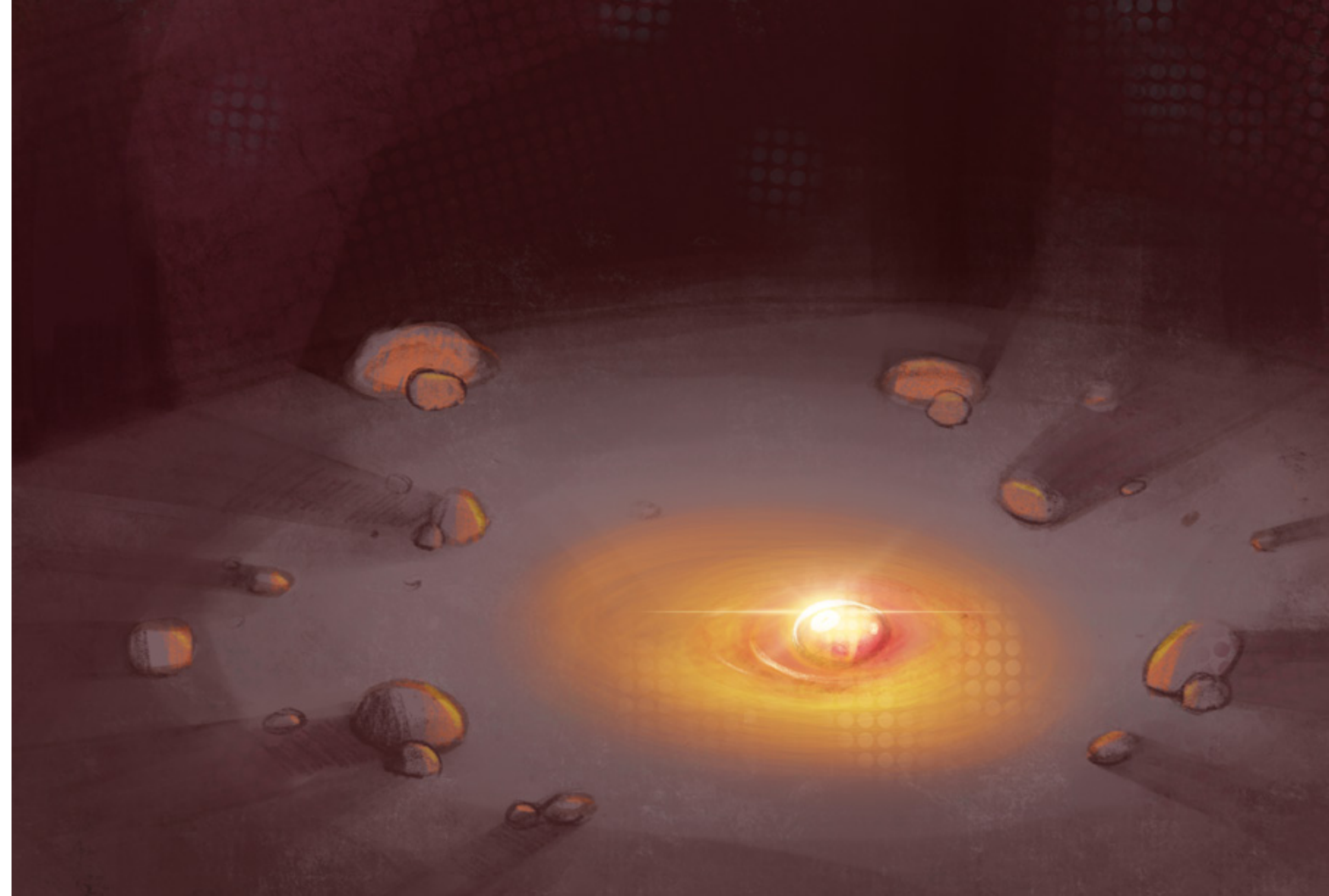
Written by Sarah McGinnis

Illustrated by Rich Farr

A spark of light
enters the world,
bursting with excitement.

Who will I become?

All around is darkness.
Little Spark is cold, alone and scared.



Far above, stars sparkle ...
making drawings in the sky.

“Join us,” they say.
“Light up the world.”

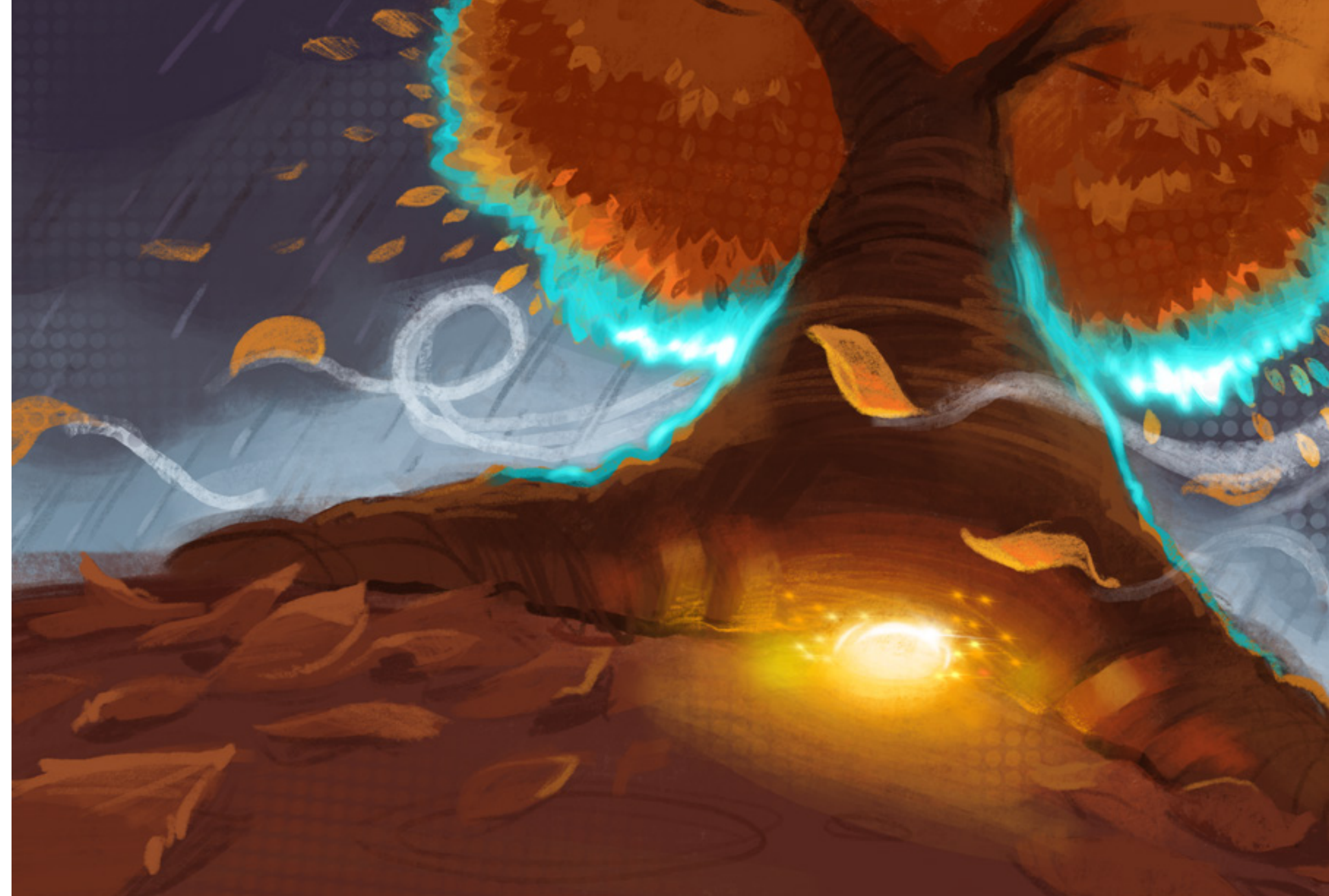


“How,” wonders Little Spark.

“I’m so small.”

The stars send a tree to shelter Little Spark
from blowing winds ...

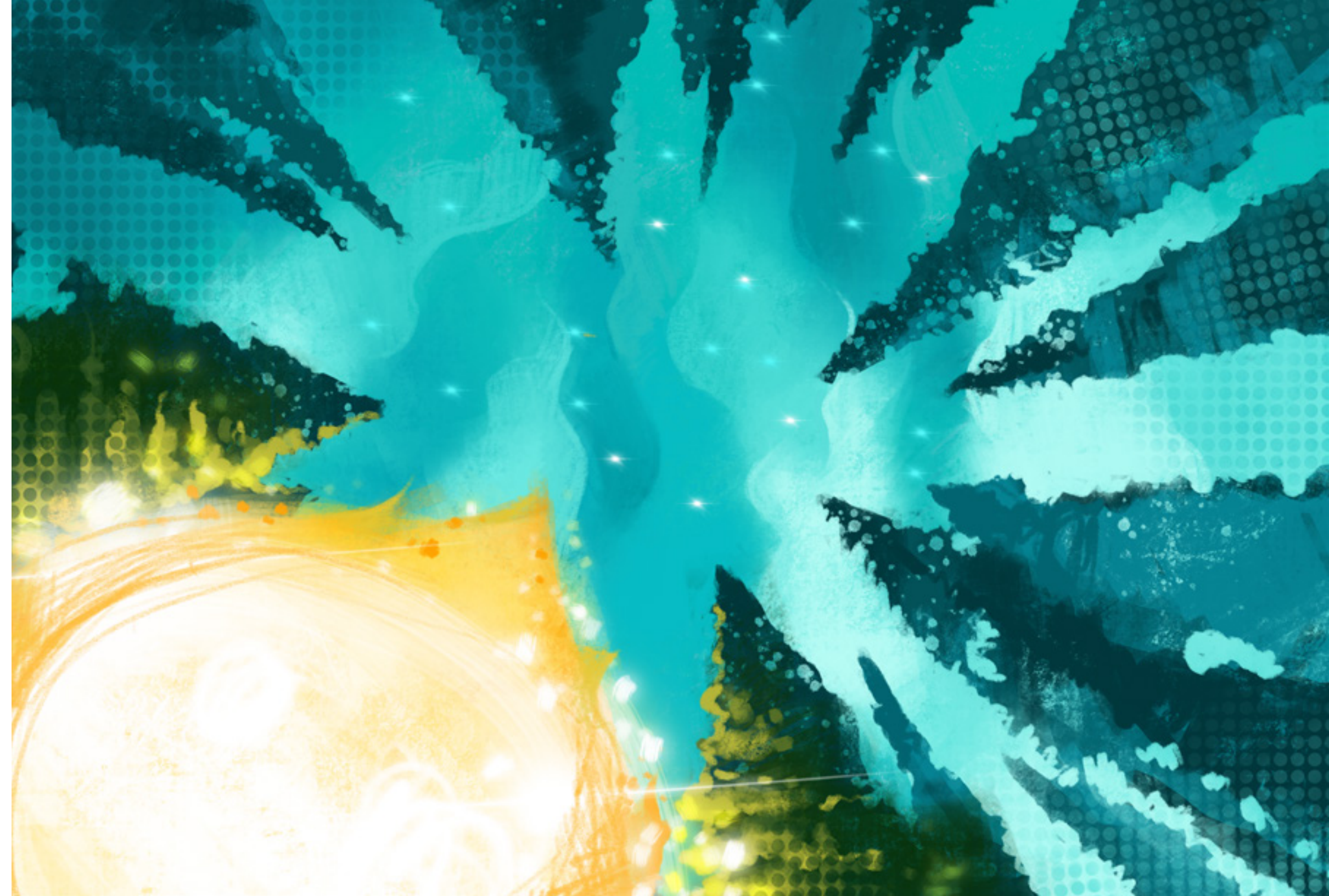
Offering water, food
and medicines to grow.



**Nurtured, Little Spark
begins to grow**
and explore the world.

“Am I ready for the sky now?”
Little Spark asks.

“Not yet,” the stars answer.
“You have much to learn.”



The stars send animals
to guide Little Spark.

Sharing stories and nature's gifts.

Little Spark's light grows and grows.



Every morning Little Spark
jumps up high,
into the sky, eager to become a star.

No matter how hard they try ...
Little Spark falls back down at night.

“I’ll never get there!”



Hearing the cries,
water and land, trees and clouds
gather around Little Spark.

“We all need help sometimes,” they say.

Together, they create
a pathway to the sky.



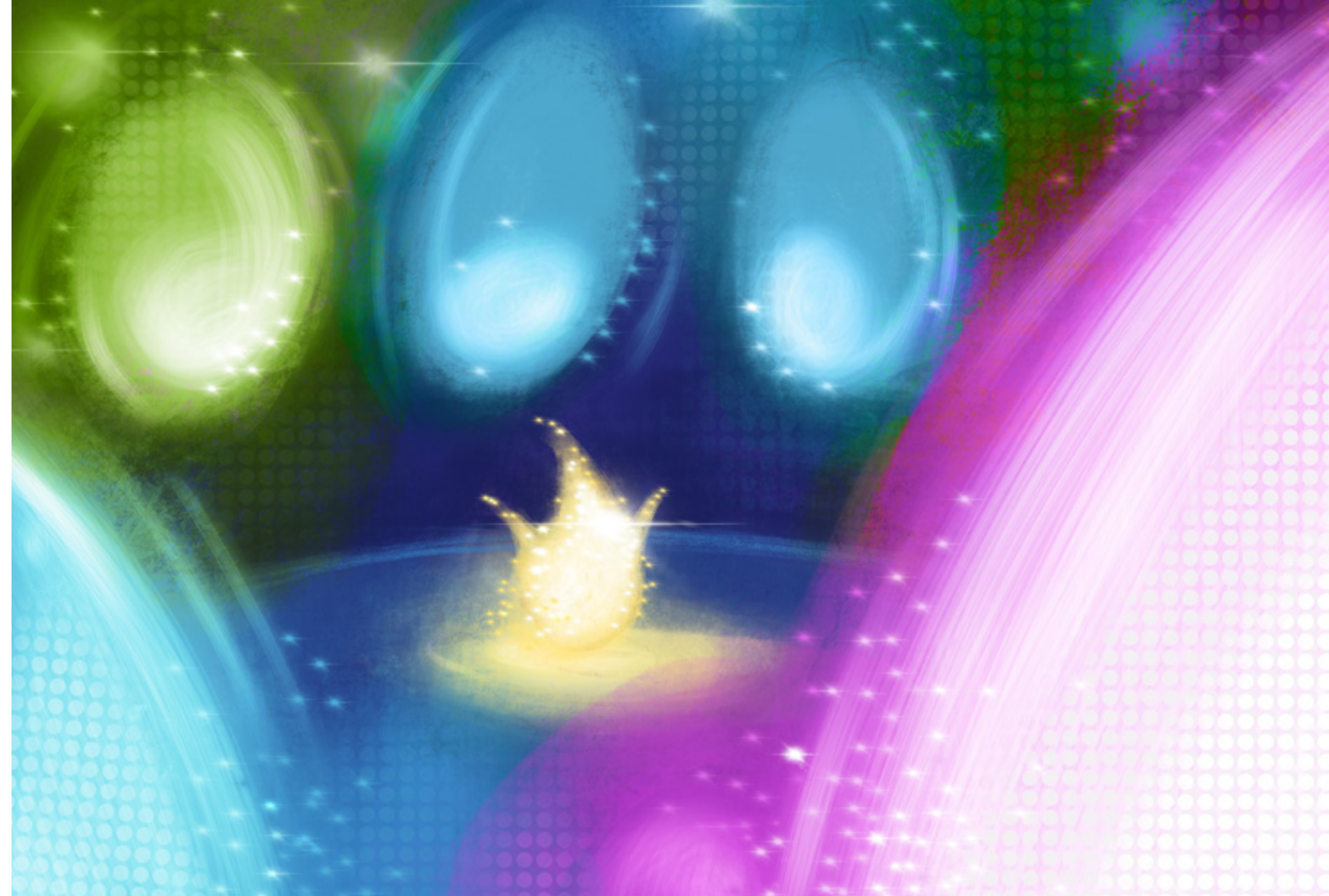
Finally, Little Spark has enough
health, knowledge and connection
... to journey to the stars.



**“I would never have
gotten here without you,”**
Little Spark says.

“You already had light inside,”
the stars answer.

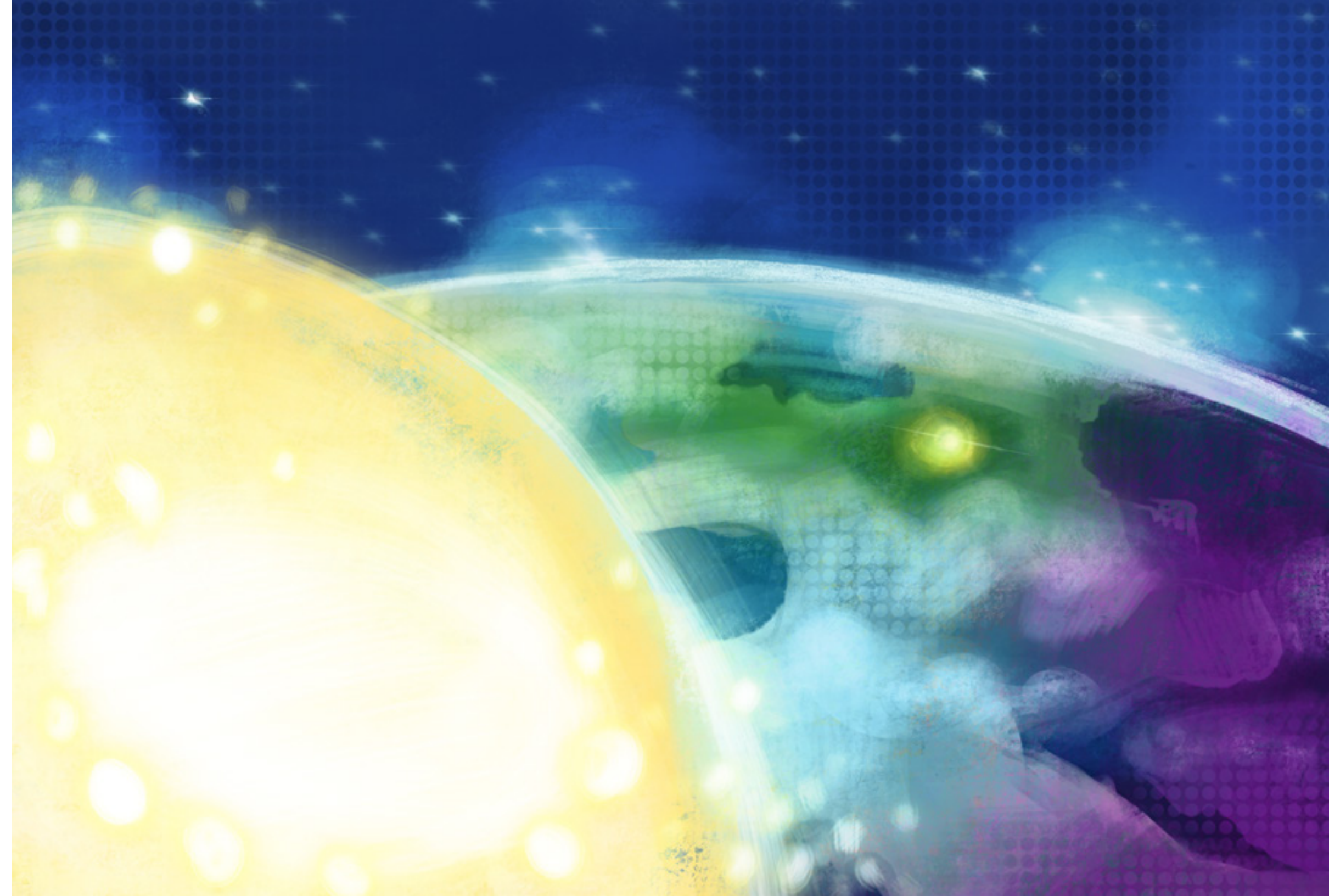
“You just needed help to find your way.”



Children are all Little Sparks,
searching for their place.

Some face a harder journey.
They need support.

By working together,
we can help every child shine.



In 2023, the One Child Every Child initiative shared its vision to transform the lives of children across Canada.

The unprecedented partnership of 132 organizations from 25 countries is committed to helping all children in Canada become the healthiest, most empowered and thriving in the world.

Walking parallel paths with Indigenous Elders and scholars, One Child Every Child is guided by the wisdom, voices and priorities of Indigenous peoples.

One Child Every Child brings together Indigenous communities, child health research institutes, education and healthcare providers, equity-deserving groups, local, national and global stakeholders to accelerate outcomes for and with children, their families and communities.

Stewarded by the University of Calgary, and with transformational support from the Government of Canada, One Child Every Child will focus on three strategic themes:

- Better Beginnings
- Precision Health and Wellness
- Vulnerable to Thriving

Join us in ensuring all Little Sparks can shine.



ucalgary.ca/one-child-every-child

