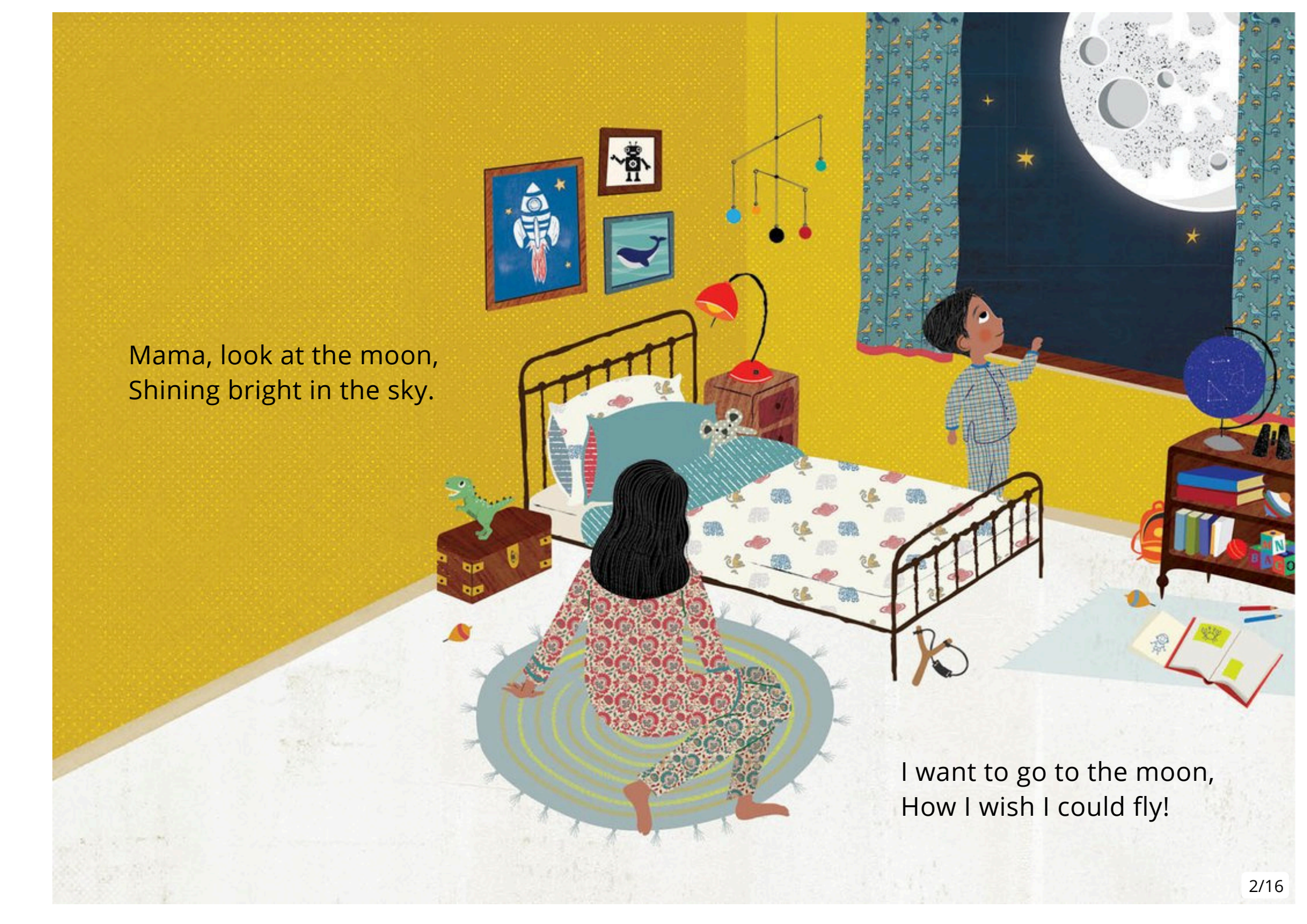


The Hungry Little Sky Monster

Author: Rohini Nilekani
Illustrator: Megha Punater

Level 2



Mama, look at the moon,
Shining bright in the sky.

I want to go to the moon,
How I wish I could fly!

Why does the moon grow BIG,
And then get so small?
And on some nights,
Why is there no moon at all?

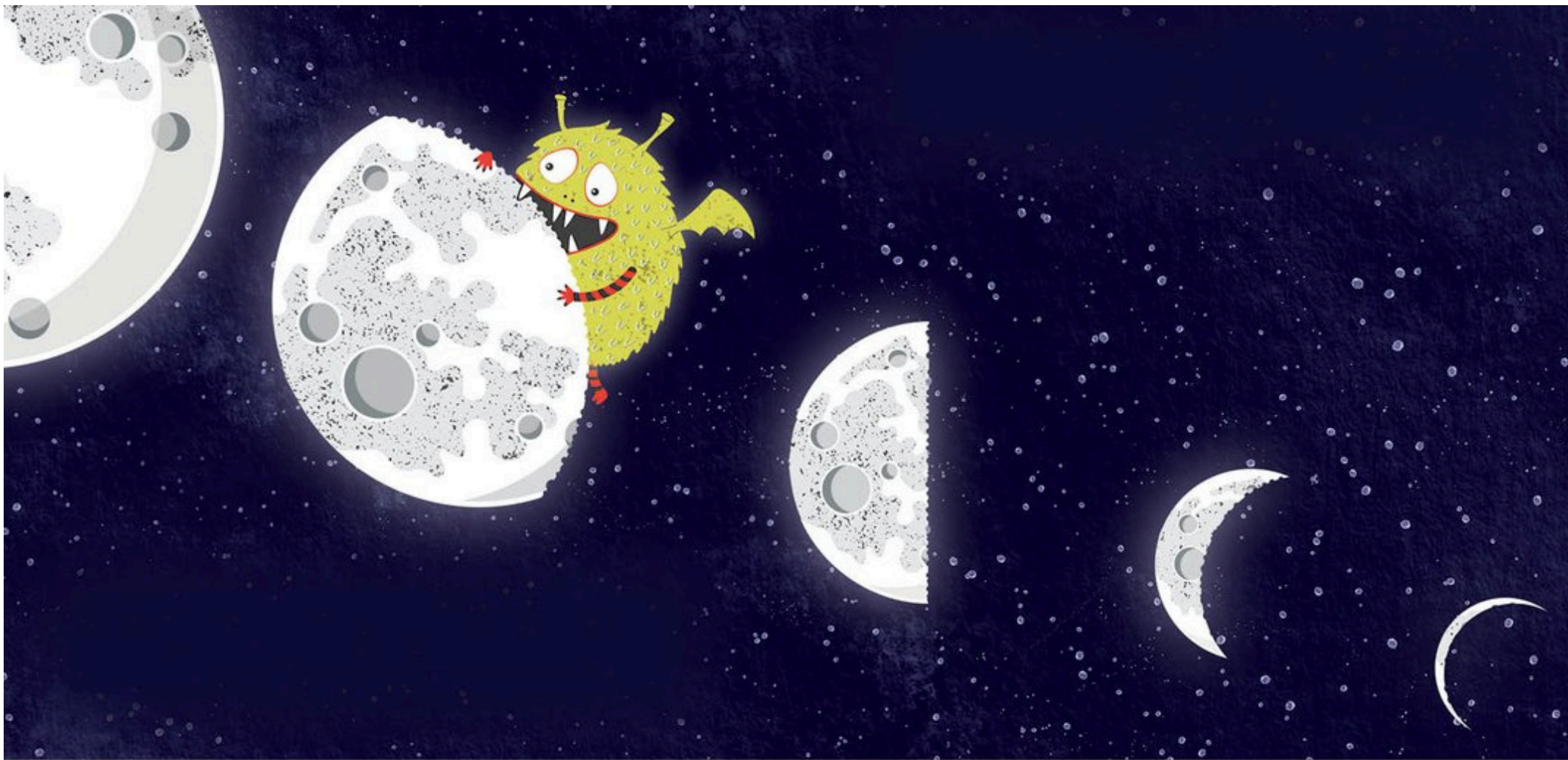
Why can't I become small,
And then suddenly TALL?
I don't understand this moon at all!



Mama laughs and hugs me tight,
"Sleep now, I'll tell you why another night."
But then I begin to think and think,
And I cannot sleep, not one little wink.



Maybe a hungry little Sky Monster,
Couldn't find anything fun to eat.
And the full moon so shiny and so near,
Looked like a yummy treat.



He nibbled at bits of the moon that night,
Soon, he slunk past the stars for another bite.
Then the Sky Monster feasted at every dinner,
And the poor old moon got thinner and thinner.



The Sky Monster pecked at the silvery light,
Until there was nothing left to bite.

When he saw the moon was gone,
He got a big fright.
"Oh, what have I done,
I must set it all right."



He rushed to the Moon Maker in the sky.
He held his ears in shame and began to cry,

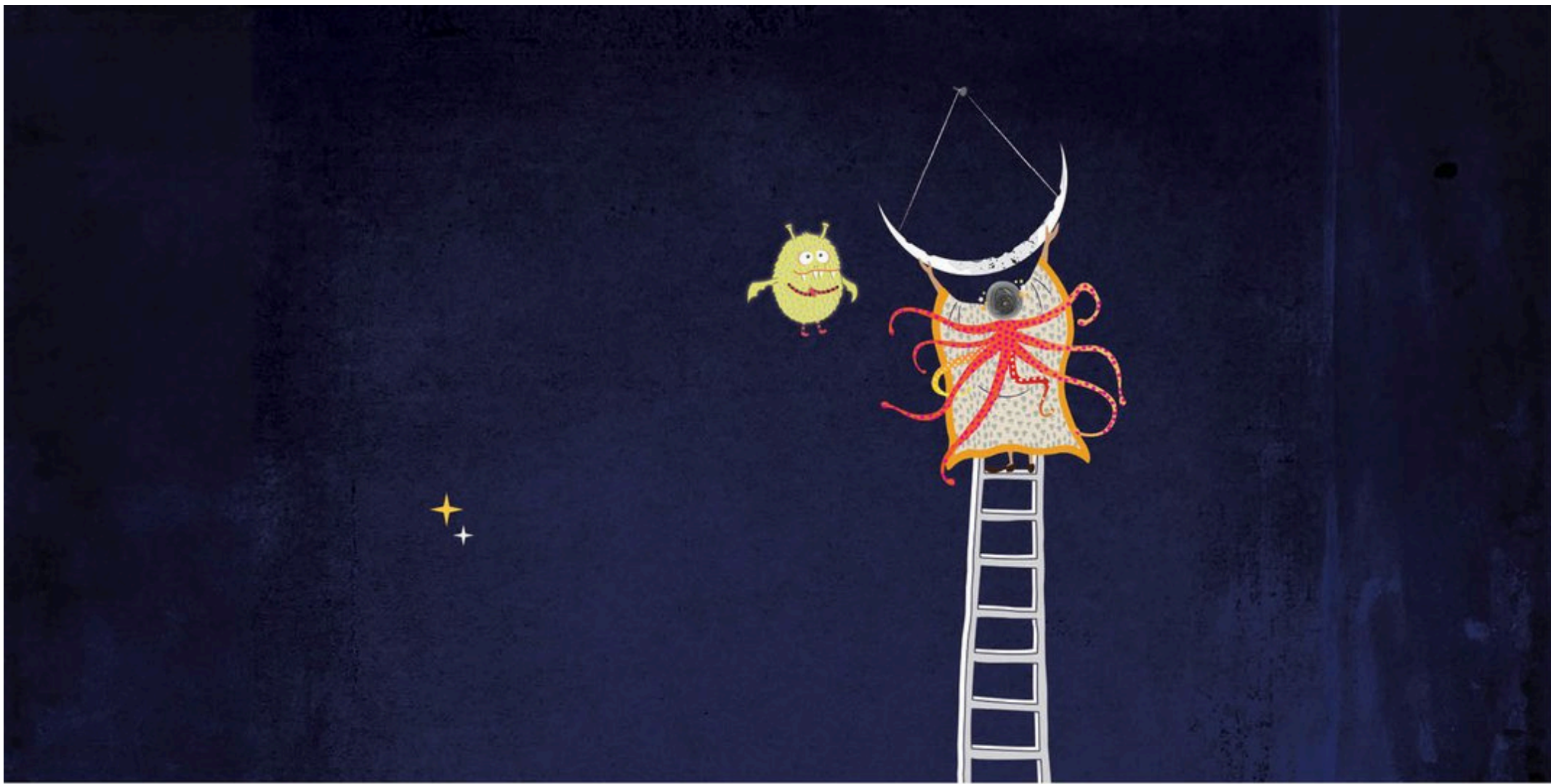
“Moon Maker, I didn’t mean to eat up the moon,
You must make another one very, very soon.”



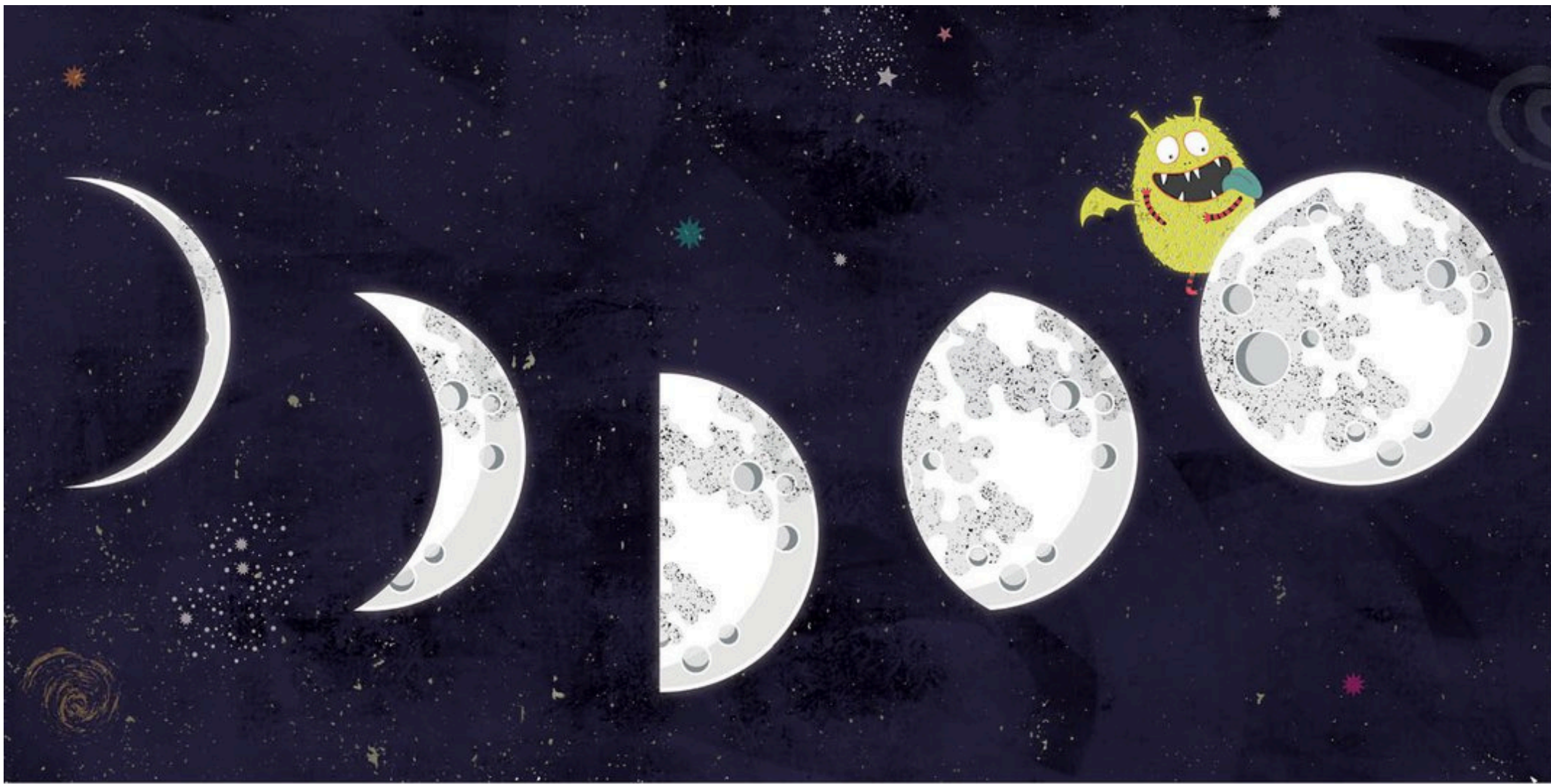
“All the world’s children will wonder why,
Their night friend the moon isn’t up in the sky.”



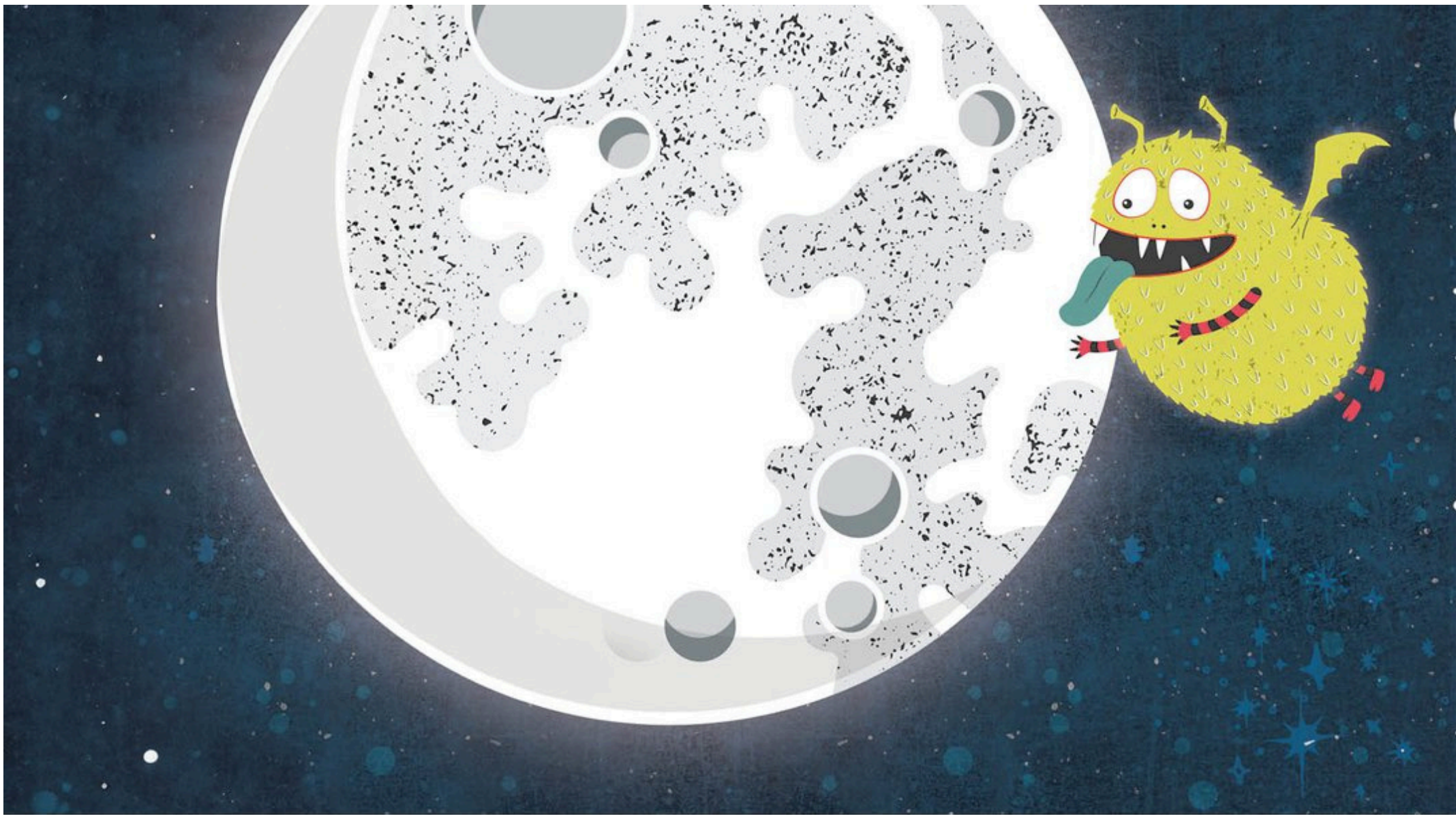
The Moon Maker wagged her finger and said,
“Why didn’t you eat stardust like the others instead?
But I have a new moon somewhere here,
I will put it out tonight, never you fear.”



She hung up a thin little crescent
In the sky,
The Monster said, "Phew!"
And heaved a big sigh.



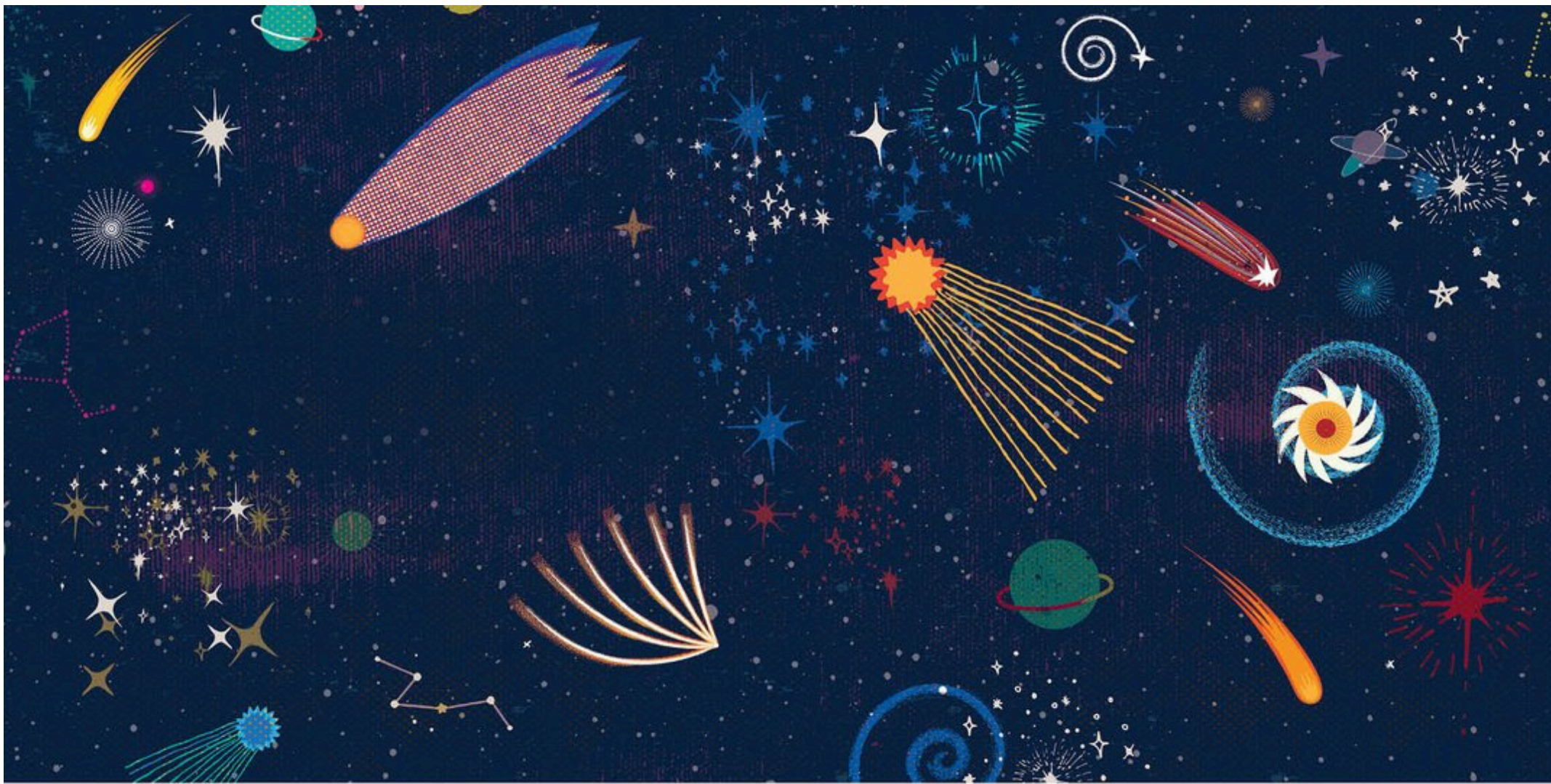
Day by day the new moon grew rounder and fatter,
Like a spongy treat made with a sugary batter.



And the Sky Monster got moon-greedy once more,
"I am so hungry," he said. "Hear my tummy roar!"



The Moon Maker frowned and shook her head,
“You are a naughty little imp, it must be said!
How many times must I clean up after you?
Little one, go find other things to chew!”



“I’m sorry,” said the Sky Monster. “I try to be good,
But the moon really is the bestest of food.
Nothing else in the sky is half as tasty,
The stars are pointy and the comets so nasty!”



The Moon Maker replied, "Hmm, but you better go slow,
It takes a long time to make a new moon, you know!"

The grateful Sky Monster burst into a dance,
And gave the gleaming moon a sly little glance.

Wake up, Mama, the Sky Monster needs to eat,
We can save our moon if we give him a treat.
“There are no monsters, baby, but they can SEEM real in your head.
We will bake cookies tomorrow, but now OFF to bed.”



Good night!

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The Hungry Little Sky Monster

(English)

Mama, why does the moon get small and then so big? Could there be a naughty little sky monster who gobbles it up? A wonderful poem to read to your little ones and send them to sleep with sweet dreams, from the acclaimed children's writer Rohini Nilekani .

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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