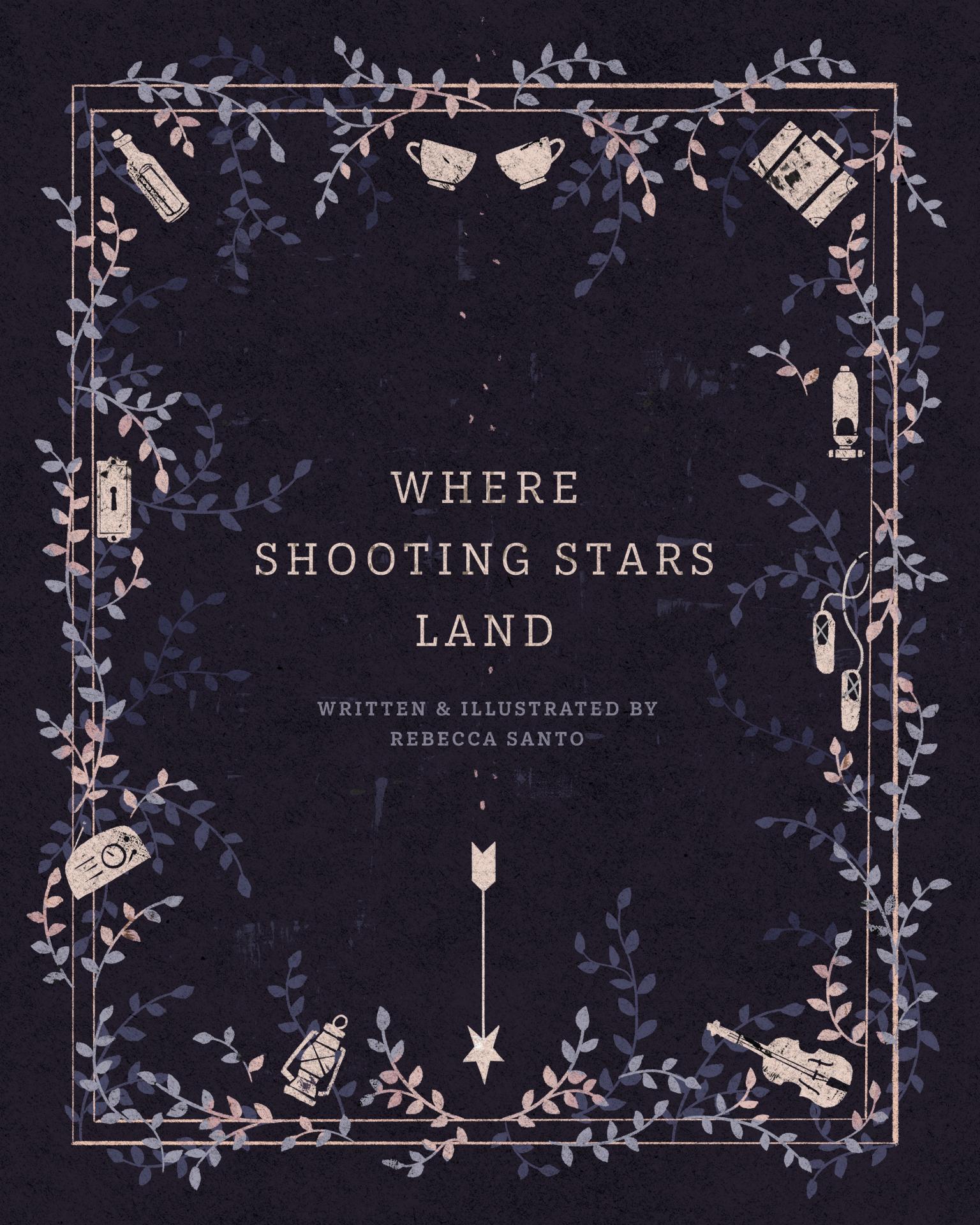
Artist's Statement

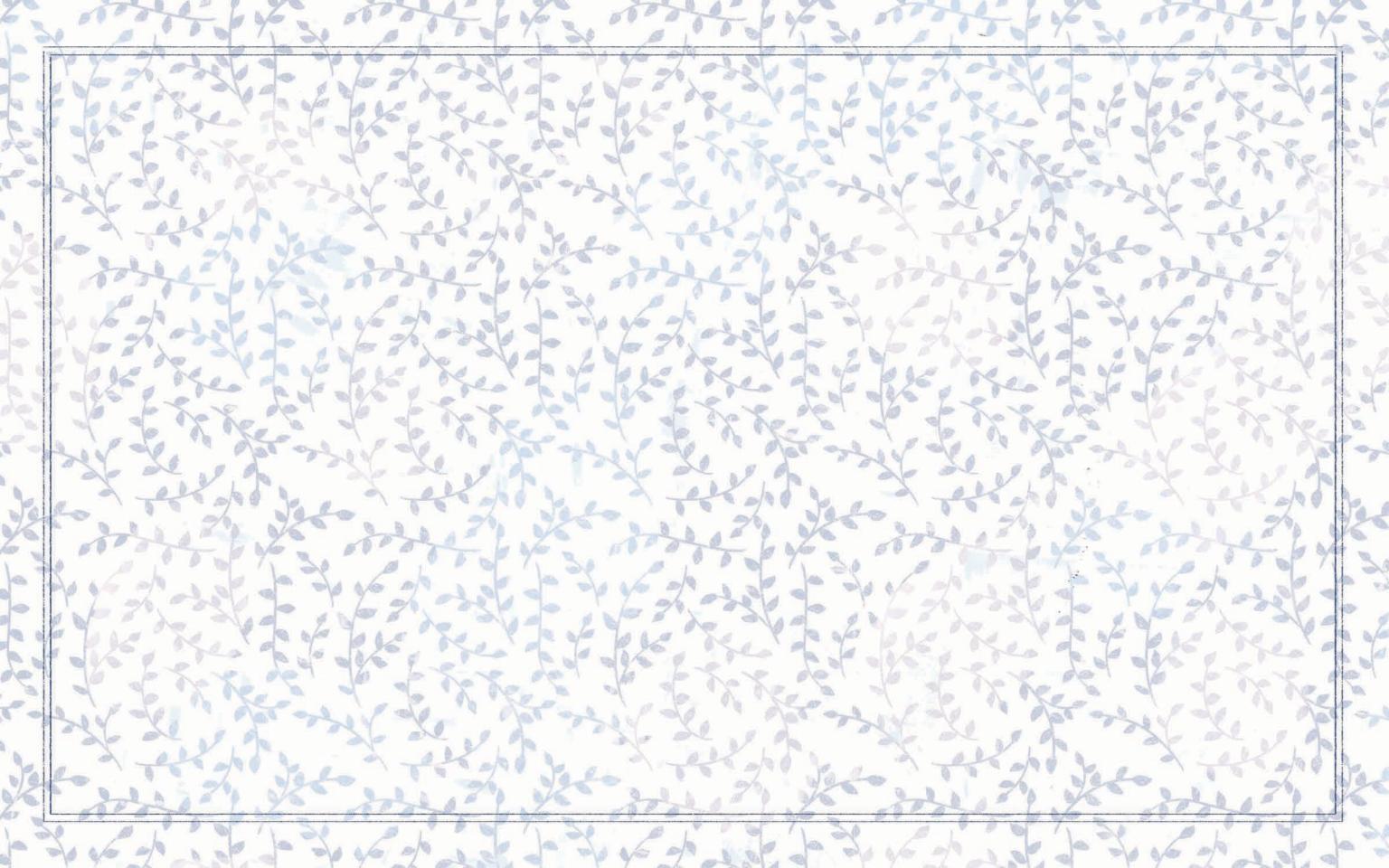
"Where Shooting Stars Land" is a collection of ten written and illustrated microfiction stories.

Each narrative depicts a seemingly normal scene, interrupted by an element of dreamlike fantasy breaking the rules of reality. With the challenge of limited text, I wish to communicate as much as I can through one image and one sentence, while engaging the viewer to wonder 'what happens next.'

With inspiration coming from "The Mysteries of Harris Burdick" illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg, I found that only one line of text beside a striking illustration has the potential to make a moving impact on readers. It gives enough information and imagery to tell a thought-provoking story, but is left unconcluded. This way the viewers themselves participate in the narrative by being compelled to finish the rest of the story. This type of engagement is a very effective method of storytelling, and I want to create this same experience for others that Chris Van Allsburg did through his work. In my thesis, I wish to approach this concept into something more reflective of myself; both through story and style. The inspiration for writing and illustrating my stories comes from the sensation of having a vivid dream; where reality and fantasy work hand in hand. So each narrative contains either a person, place or concept that I have encountered in dreams that I have had throughout my life, as dreams are the closest thing to living in a fantasy. My work does not only have this unique approach to storytelling, but stands out with my use of texture, color, and dramatic light sources. All of these components are carefully composed to appeal to potentially any audience, and is what will separate my work from others in the publishing industry.

Overall, my goal was to not only take advantage of this year to learn and experiment among great peers and professionals, but make whimsical artwork to spark imagination and curiosity in viewers. With this project working as a creative investment to refine my skills and build my portfolio, I can confidently begin my career as a visual storyteller upon graduation.



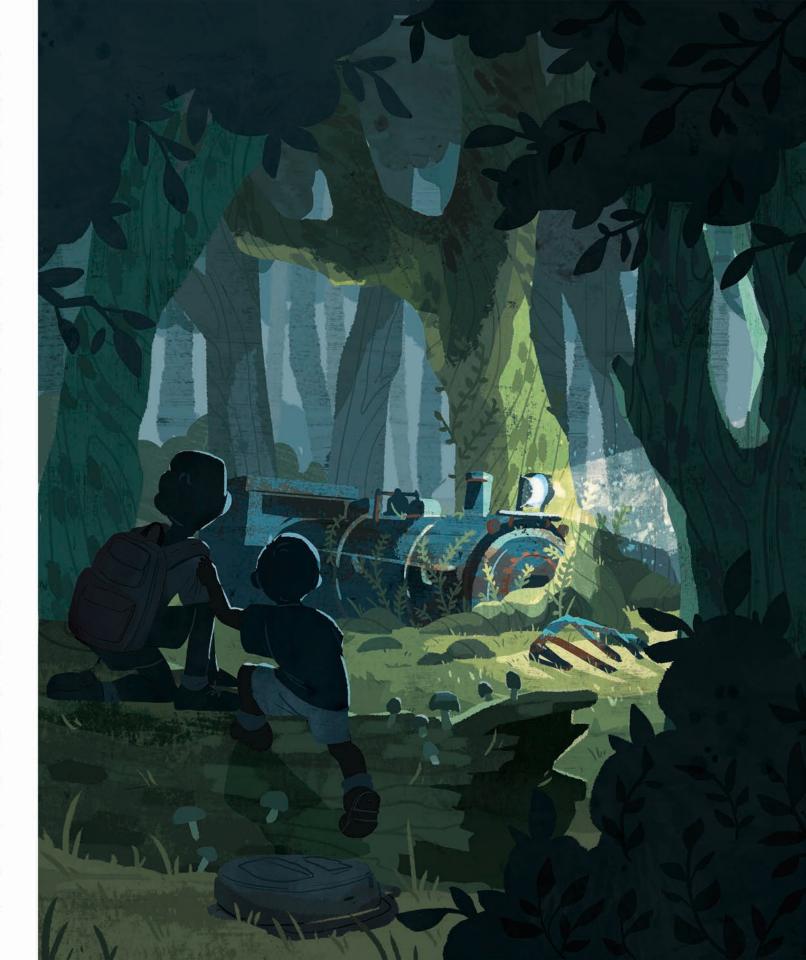






THE RELIC

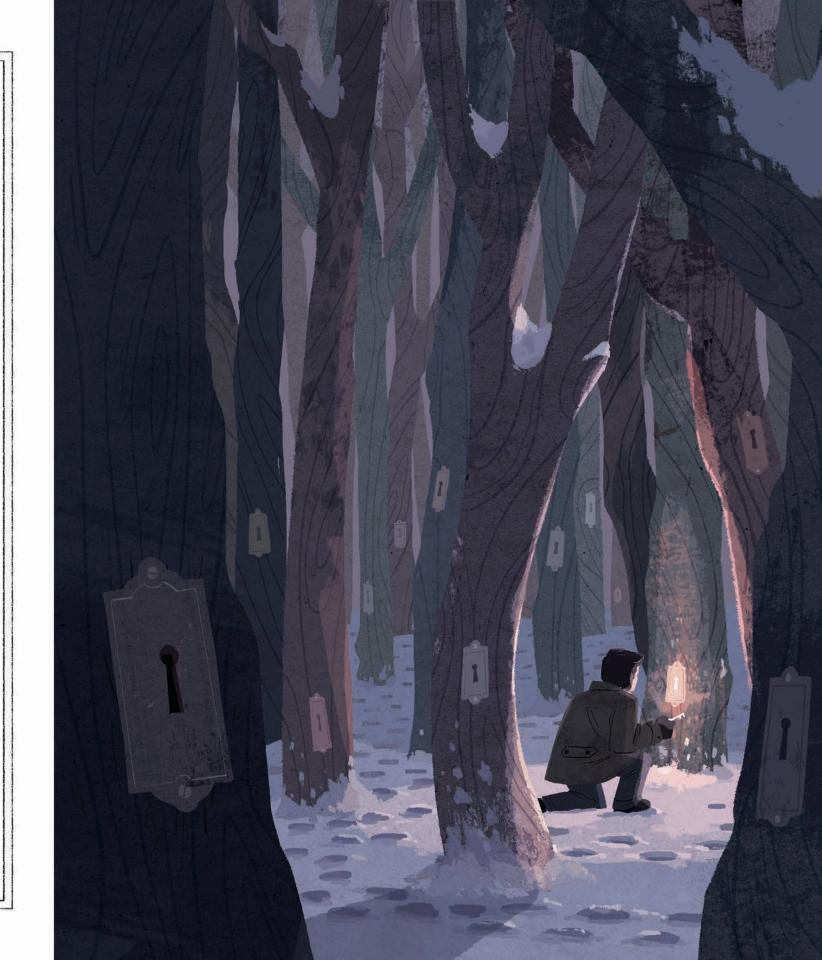
After a long sleep, it awoke to the sounds of their whispers.





LOCKED

When the key began to turn, he knew he had finally found it.

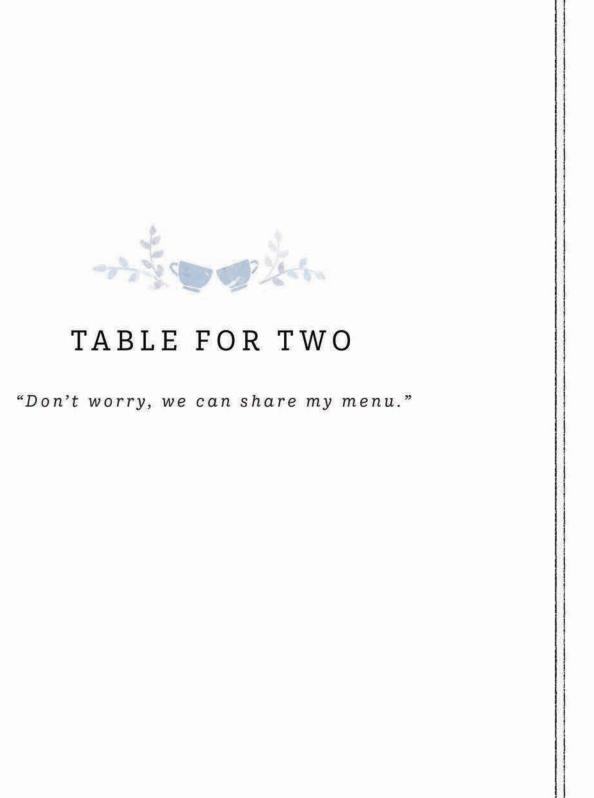




ON AIR

"We'd like to thank our favorite listener for tuning in tonight."









GOING UP

You are granted one lift, but only the doorman is allowed back down.





MORNING PICK UP

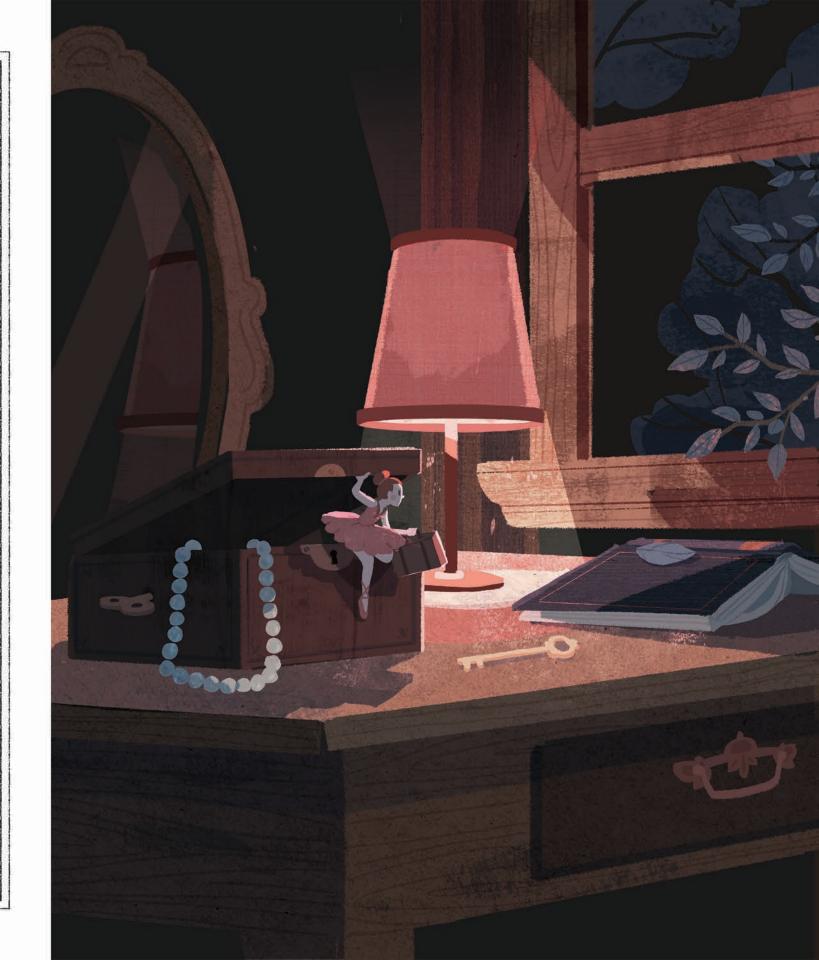
"There's more than usual," the postman thought.





CLOSING NIGHT

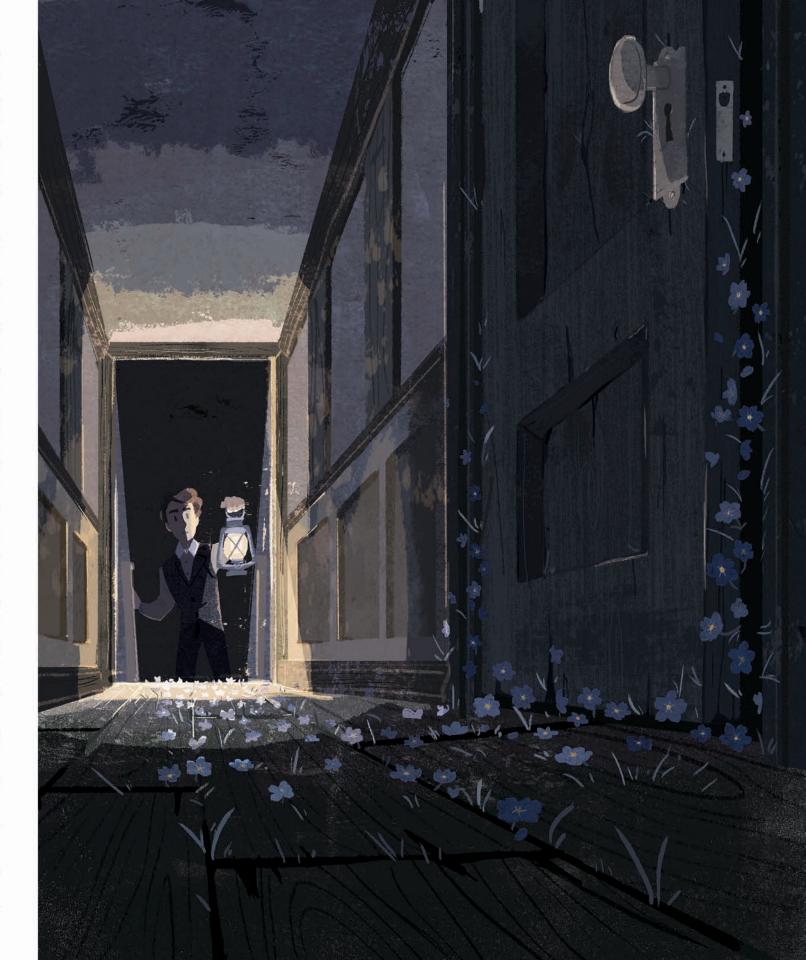
She was tired of dancing to the same old tune.





FORGET ME NOT

It wouldn't let him.





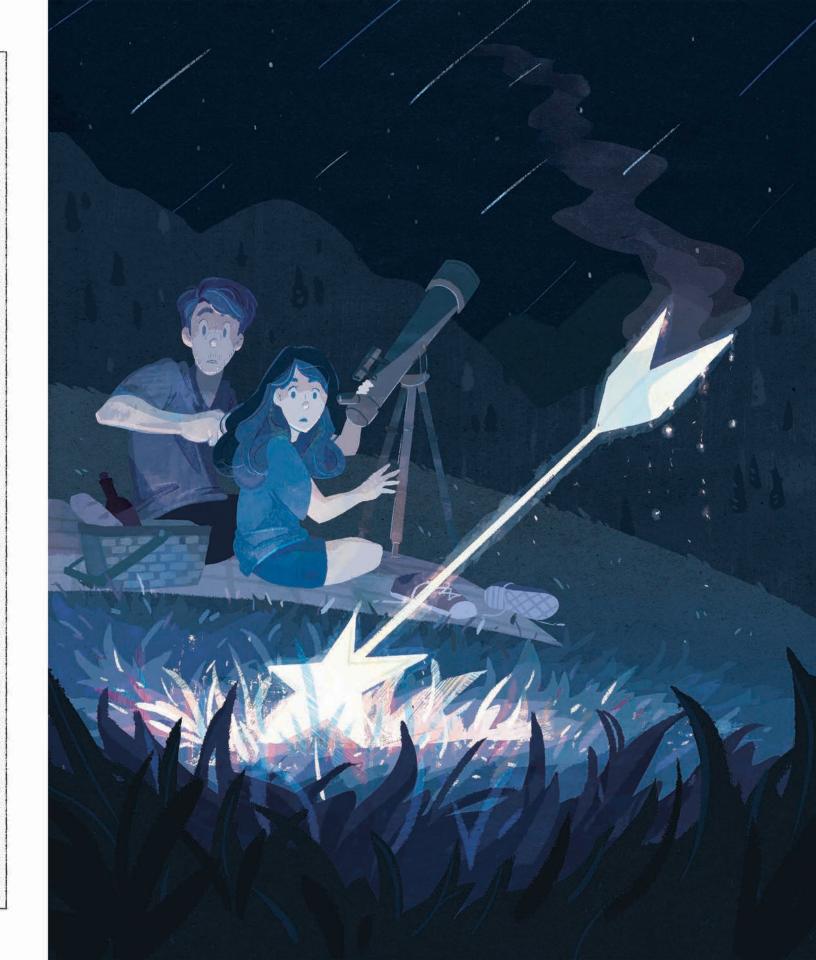
THE LURE

The louder they played, the closer it drew near.





The bowman misfired.



As time goes on,

never lose sight of the paracosm you once built.

Your dreamer's inventions will always await your return to the place where it all began.

A place where imagination liberates itself,

a place where fact doubts itself,

a place where reality and fantasy dance,

a place where shooting stars land.

1

