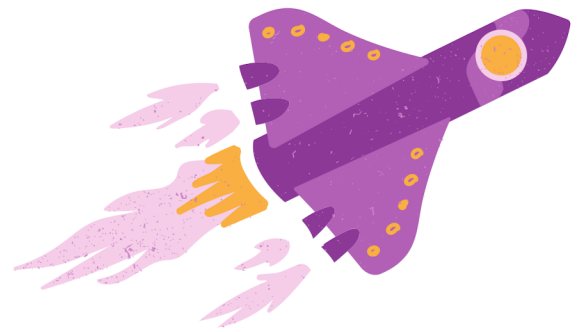
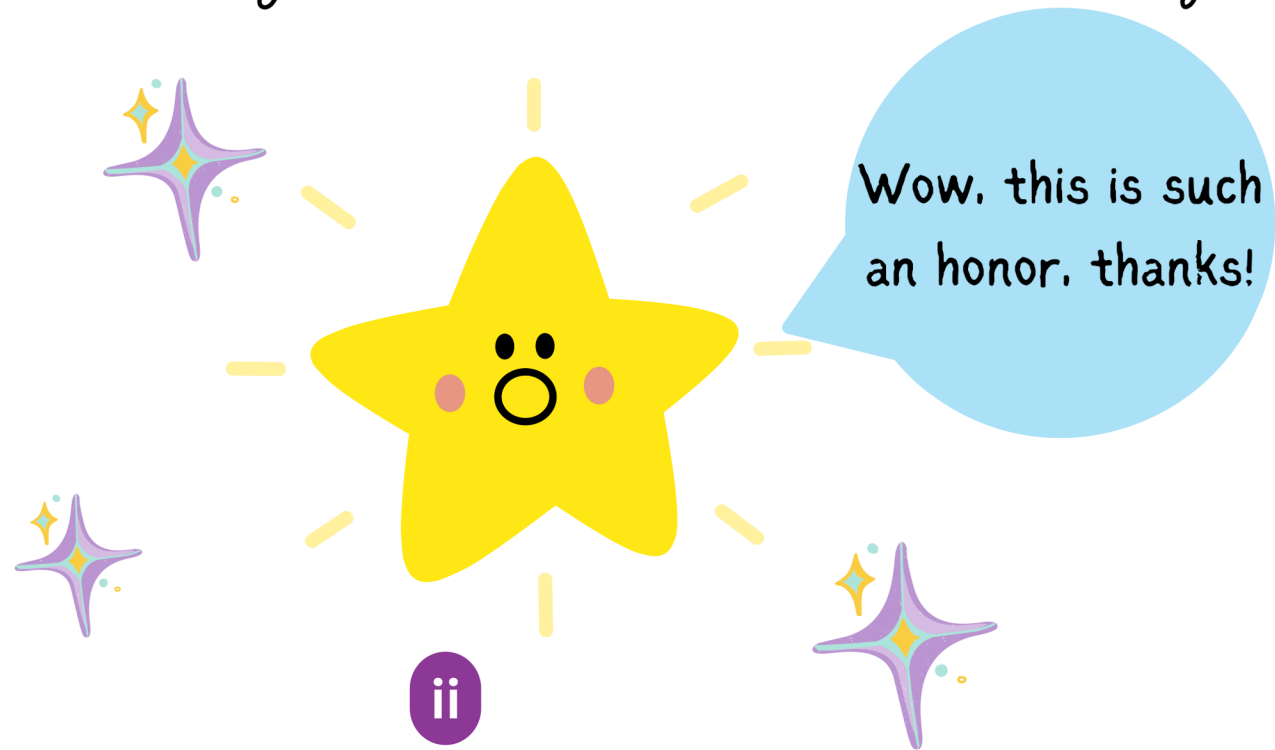


*The Search of the Growing*  
**BLACK HOLE**

**WRITTEN BY: ANDY LOWE**  
**ILLUSTRATED BY: KEN LOWE**



This book is dedicated to Blaze, who is probably out there in space although we've never met him in reality.



In a faraway galaxy, there was a star called Blaze. He was rushing hurriedly from star to star, trying to get what he always wanted--brightness! He had to do tasks to receive a bit of brightness from another star.



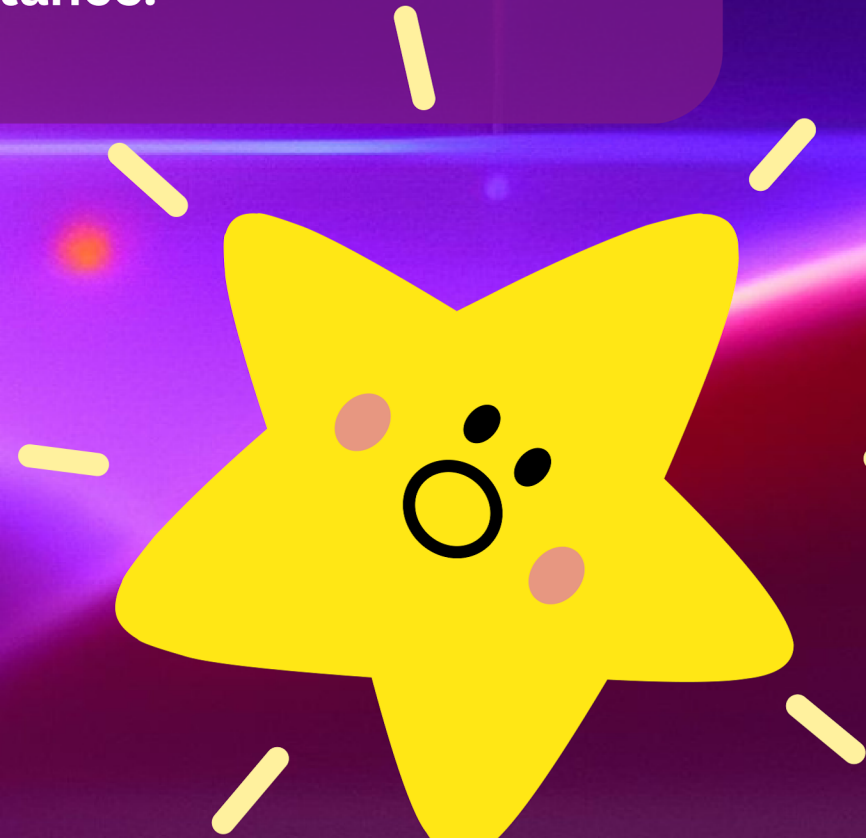
Blaze was a bit hot-tempered and probably the most impatient kind of star the stars had ever met. But he was always ready to be assigned to do any task just to get brightness!



Although the wind was dancing and it was perfect for a vacation, he didn't give up in his search for brightness. Suddenly, he caught sight of a star that was illuminating so bright! He gasped in awe and wanted to get all the star's brightness!



"Wow! Can you share with me some of your brightness, please?" Blaze asked. "Sure, you're the usual Blaze," the star replied. "But first, there's a black hole somewhere over there, and only true brightness can make it disappear! Even I can't do it, and it's growing bigger and bigger by the minute! Soon it's going to get all the stars here and...And...And..." "AHHH!" Blaze screamed. "Okay, okay, I got it." He took a deep breath and stared into the distance.

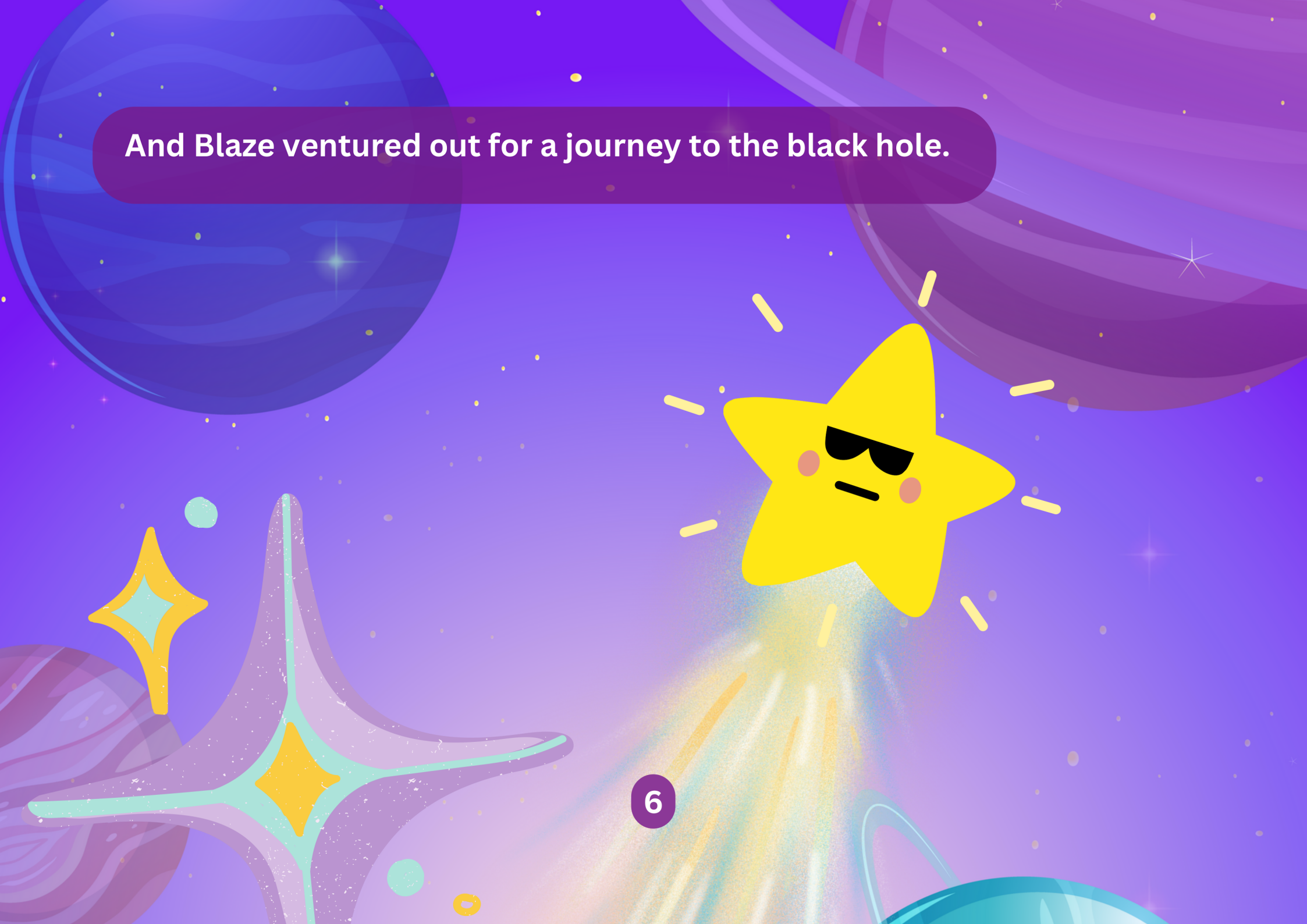


He gulped. Okay, it should just be like the other black holes, right? It should be, he thought. He turned back to the beaming star and said, "Okay, I'll go!"



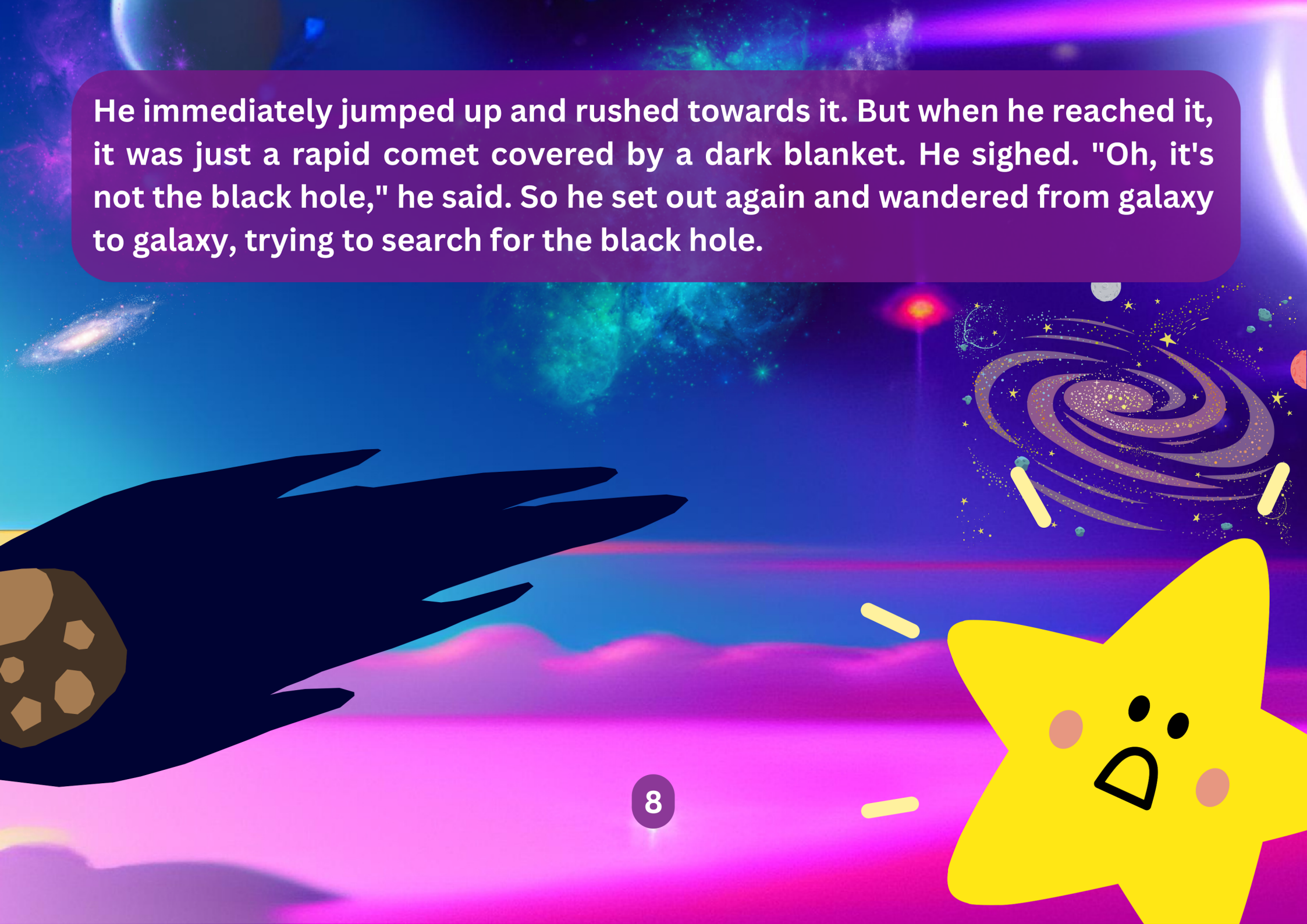


And Blaze ventured out for a journey to the black hole.



Soon, he was getting tired and still hadn't found the hole! And he began to grow more and more impatient along the way. He grunted and sank into an asteroid chair, disappointed. "How am I going to find a black hole that is growing each minute in this vast universe? Wait...What's that?" He squinted his eyes and gasped. There was a dot in the distance that was growing! "That must be the hole!" Blaze exclaimed.

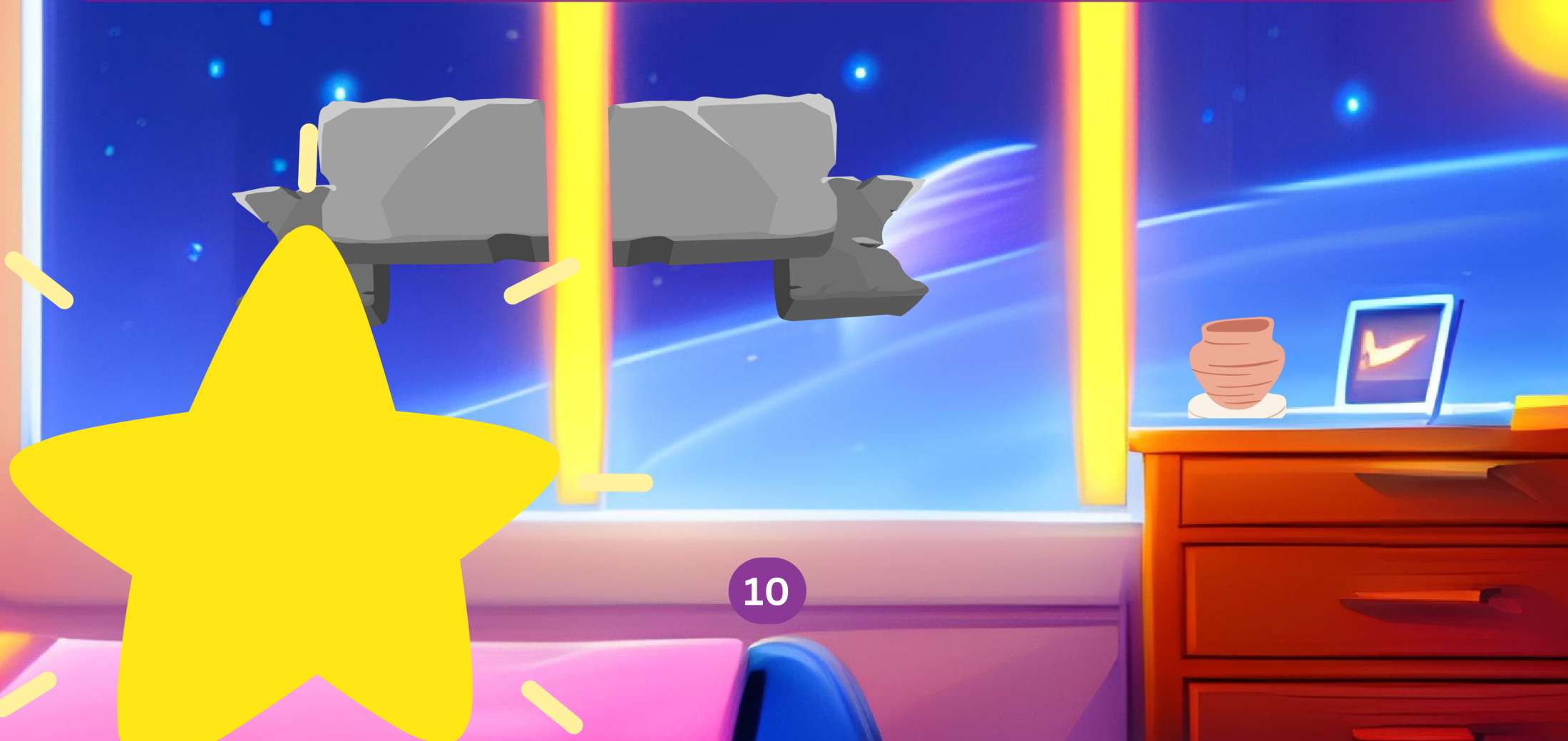
He immediately jumped up and rushed towards it. But when he reached it, it was just a rapid comet covered by a dark blanket. He sighed. "Oh, it's not the black hole," he said. So he set out again and wandered from galaxy to galaxy, trying to search for the black hole.



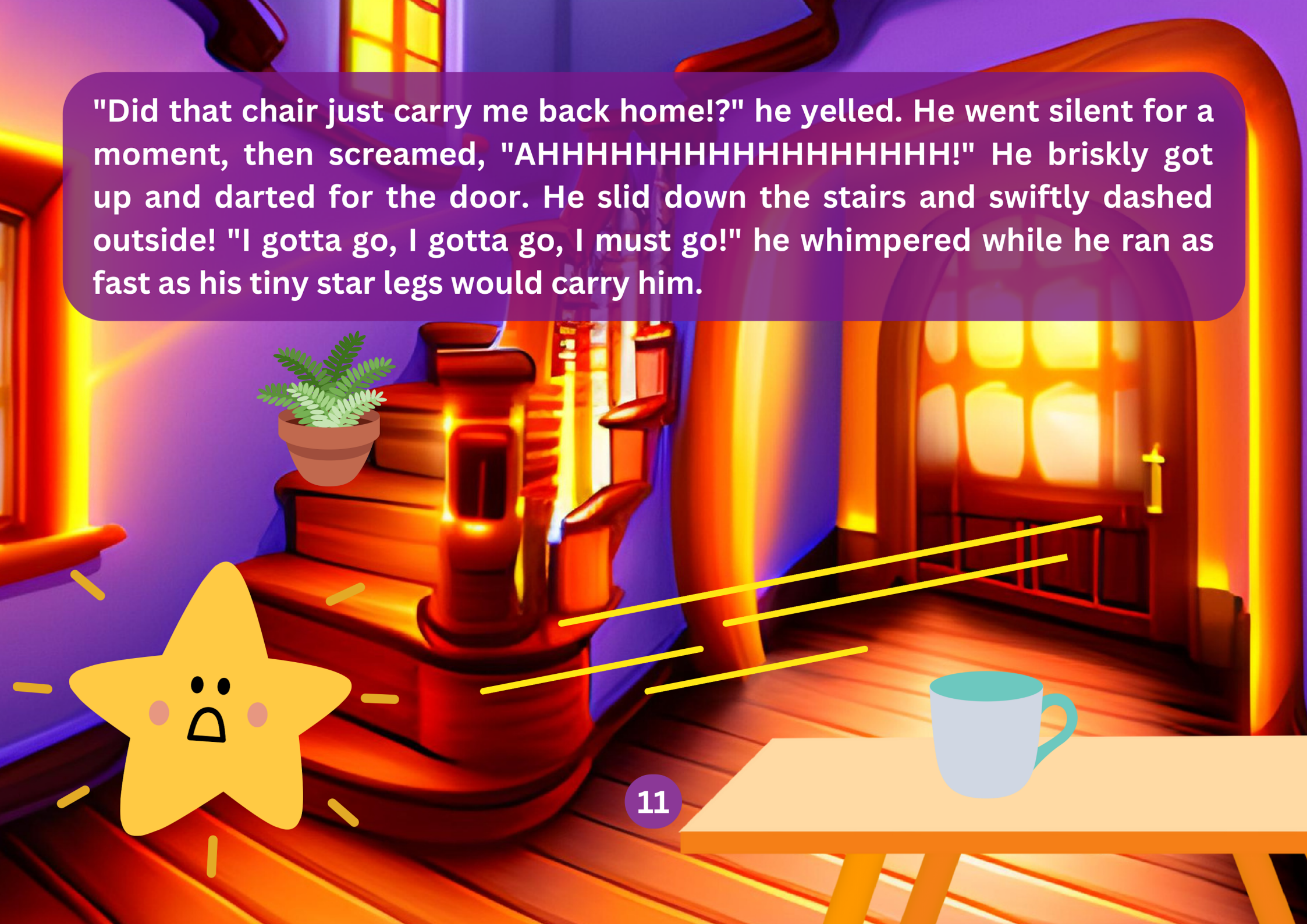
Blaze was now even more exhausted and more impatient than before. He drooped his head wearily and could barely stand up. Before he knew it, he collapsed into another asteroid chair and caught his breath. "Phew," he gasped as he sat up. "I need to take a nap." And he snored like a thousand lion roars stacked up.



Blaze yawned and rubbed his eyes. He carefully blinked them open and saw that he was in his bed. "Was that a dream?" he asked himself as he scratched his head. He looked out in his window and gasped. The same asteroid chair that he slept on was floating outside! He knew because it was shaped like a banner!



"Did that chair just carry me back home!?" he yelled. He went silent for a moment, then screamed, "AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!" He briskly got up and darted for the door. He slid down the stairs and swiftly dashed outside! "I gotta go, I gotta go, I must go!" he whimpered while he ran as fast as his tiny star legs would carry him.



He abruptly stopped and caught his breath after a few minutes. He was running so fast that he was blazing with unparalleled speed! "I must be far enough now," he yawned, rubbing his eyes. "But I'm so sleepy! I need to rest for a while. No, no, I need to continue my search! But...Resting...Sleeping...Oh, why do I have to rest now?"



*No, I need to continue finding that black hole,* Blaze decided. He nodded confidently, but just as he was about to go, he yawned so wide a planet could fit right into it! "Oh, I'll probably just rest for a while to regain my strength," Blaze decided again. And, well, he didn't even have to search for a place to stay because a hotel owner had found him!





"Hello, dear," an elderly star said with a hoarse, crackling voice. "You must be exhausted. I saw you yawning, but don't worry, you can sleep at my house. I have way too many guest rooms there, so would you like to come?" "Of course!" replied Blaze, surprised that he didn't have to find a hotel. "Wonderful!" the elderly star answered. "It's the blue one over there. The one like a dome, see?"



"Yes, I see it," Blaze said. They walked over to the blue house and gasped when Blaze entered it. It was extraordinary! A gleaming chandelier hung magnificently. Pictures of lustrous galaxies lined the room, accompanied by golden pillars. There was even a red mat in the center! Blaze almost thought he was stepping into a royal palace!



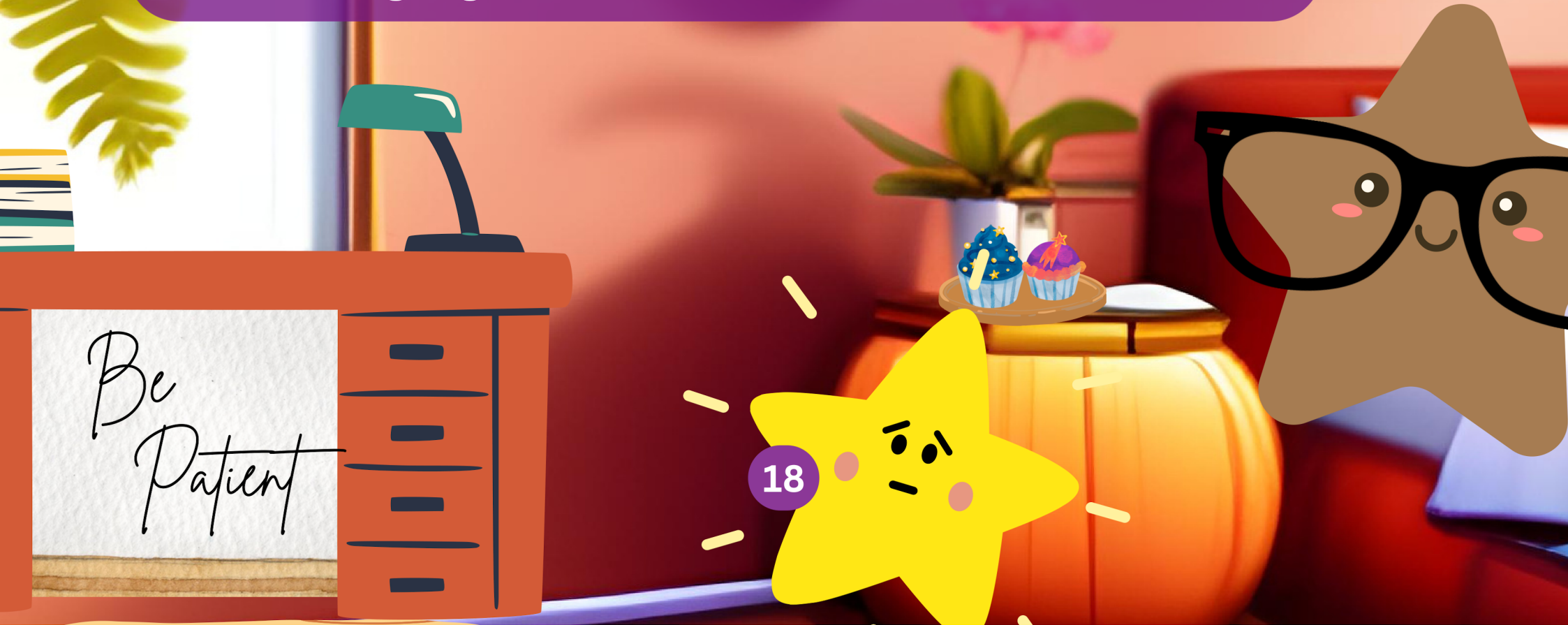
The old star led them to a set of wooden stairs in the corner. It was practically glowing! Blaze took a moment staring at it without blinking until it hurt his eyes, and he had to remind himself to go up the stairs, still marveling at it. Then, the old star walked until she stopped at the door with a sign that said, "Guest Room 7." "You can sleep here," she said, opening the door.



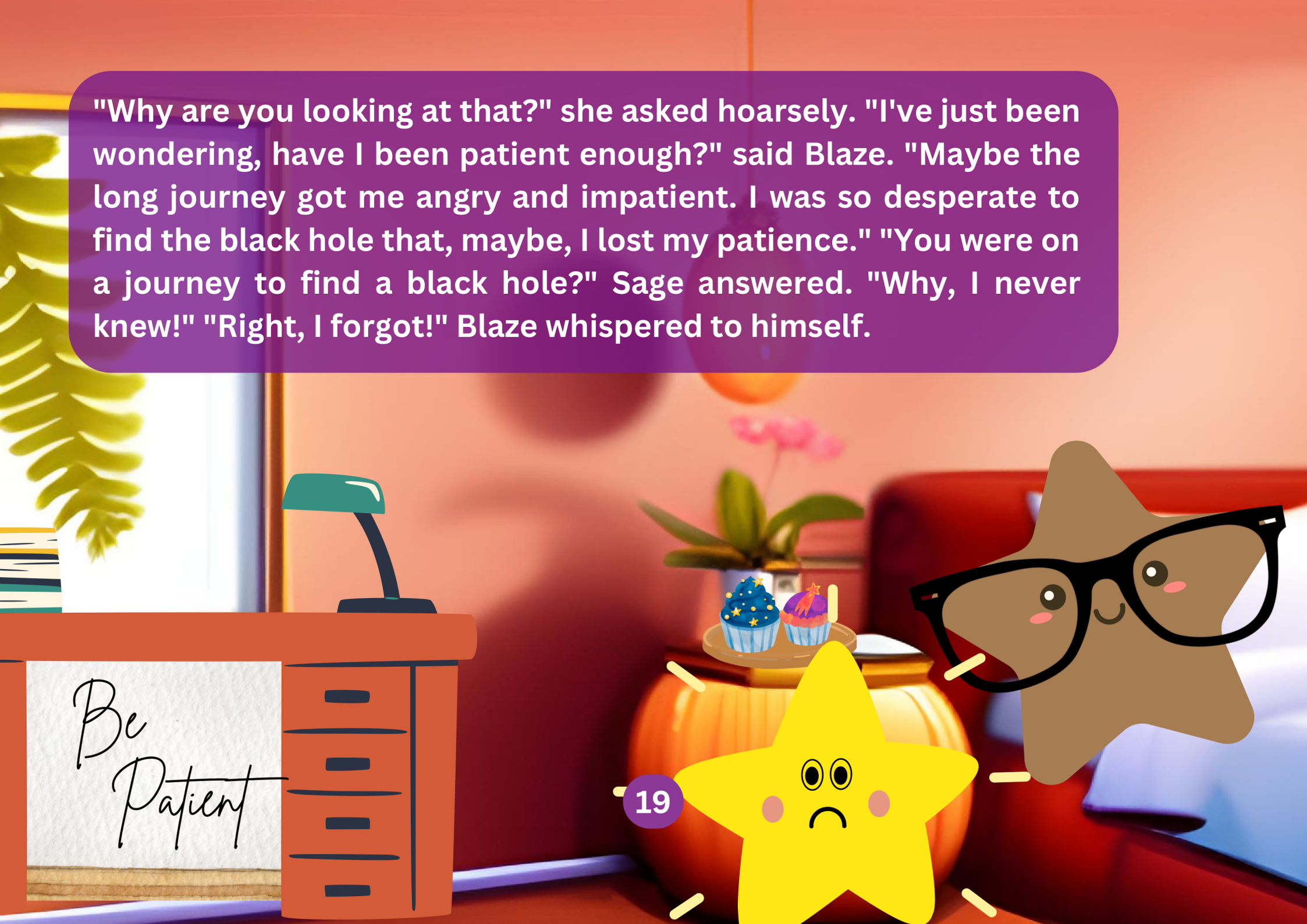
The guest room wasn't so palace-like as the living room, but it was still lovely. It had a balcony, a simple white bed, a round peach table, and a picture of a fern leaf. Under that picture, Blaze spotted a desk with the sign "Be Patient" on it. "Good night," the old star greeted him. "Oh, and by the way, my name is Sage."



Blaze was still staring at the desk with the "Be Patient" sign on it. *Was I patient enough...?* He pondered on it for a moment until he heard someone knock. The door creaked open, and Sage entered with two starlight cupcakes on a tray. "Hello, ma'am," Blaze said. "Hello, dear," Sage replied as she placed the tray by the desk. She sat on his bedside and noticed Blaze look at the sign again.



"Why are you looking at that?" she asked hoarsely. "I've just been wondering, have I been patient enough?" said Blaze. "Maybe the long journey got me angry and impatient. I was so desperate to find the black hole that, maybe, I lost my patience." "You were on a journey to find a black hole?" Sage answered. "Why, I never knew!" "Right, I forgot!" Blaze whispered to himself.



"But, you know," continued Sage. "The most beautiful stars don't just shine the fastest or brightest at all; they must also shine with patience and grace. That's why they glow so much." Hmm, Blaze thought. "I understand." He smiled. "Thanks." "You're welcome," Sage replied, standing up. "I better serve the other guests cupcakes. Good night." And Blaze slept with a smile.

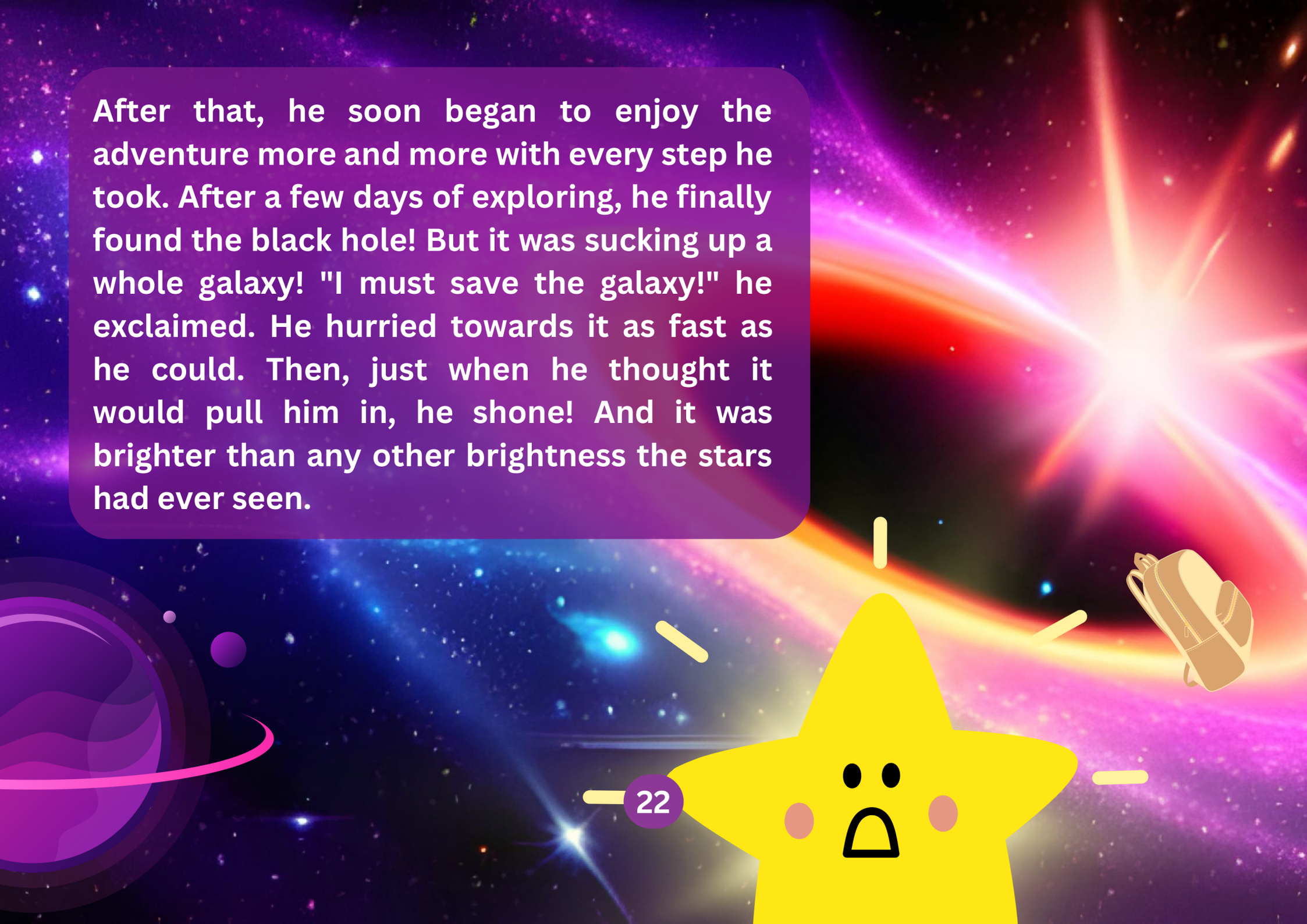


Blaze had woken up, and he had already eaten his starlight cupcakes from Sage's tray. He was packing up the important things he needed in a bag for his next adventure to the black hole, like food, water bottles, towels, a compass, a sleeping bag, and a torch. Blaze also brought some matches in case the torch ran out of battery. "Thanks for letting me sleep at your house, ma'am!" he said to Sage before he left. "You're welcome!" Sage replied.





After that, he soon began to enjoy the adventure more and more with every step he took. After a few days of exploring, he finally found the black hole! But it was sucking up a whole galaxy! "I must save the galaxy!" he exclaimed. He hurried towards it as fast as he could. Then, just when he thought it would pull him in, he shone! And it was brighter than any other brightness the stars had ever seen.





Blaze no longer searched for more brightness because he already knew the true brightness was inside him all along, waiting to be unleashed. All he needed to do was to be patient!



# About The Author

*Be patient!*



**My name is Andy. I am 9 years old and I'm from the Philippines. In my spare time, I love to write stories, read books, and think about nice things. I want to be a shining star someday, I just have to be patient and never give up, just like Blaze. And just as the Lord says.**

***"When the time is right, I, the Lord, will make it happen." Isaiah 60:22***

**I dream of a world full of patience and peace. Thanks for reading this book!**



# About The Illustrator



**My name is Ken. I am 39 years old and I'm from the Philippines. I'm Andy's mom, too. I love graphic designing, watching movies, and reading books. I dream of a world where we can just do what we love. May you continue to follow your dreams. Keep on shining!**



# BLAZING THROUGH ADVENTURES...

A star called Blaze searches through the outer space to find a black hole and stop it. But his temper and impatience start to stop him instead! Will he ever find the black hole, or change his mind and go back home?

