

The Together Story



A CHILDREN'S STORY ON THE PANDEMIC WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY ROXANA OROIAN



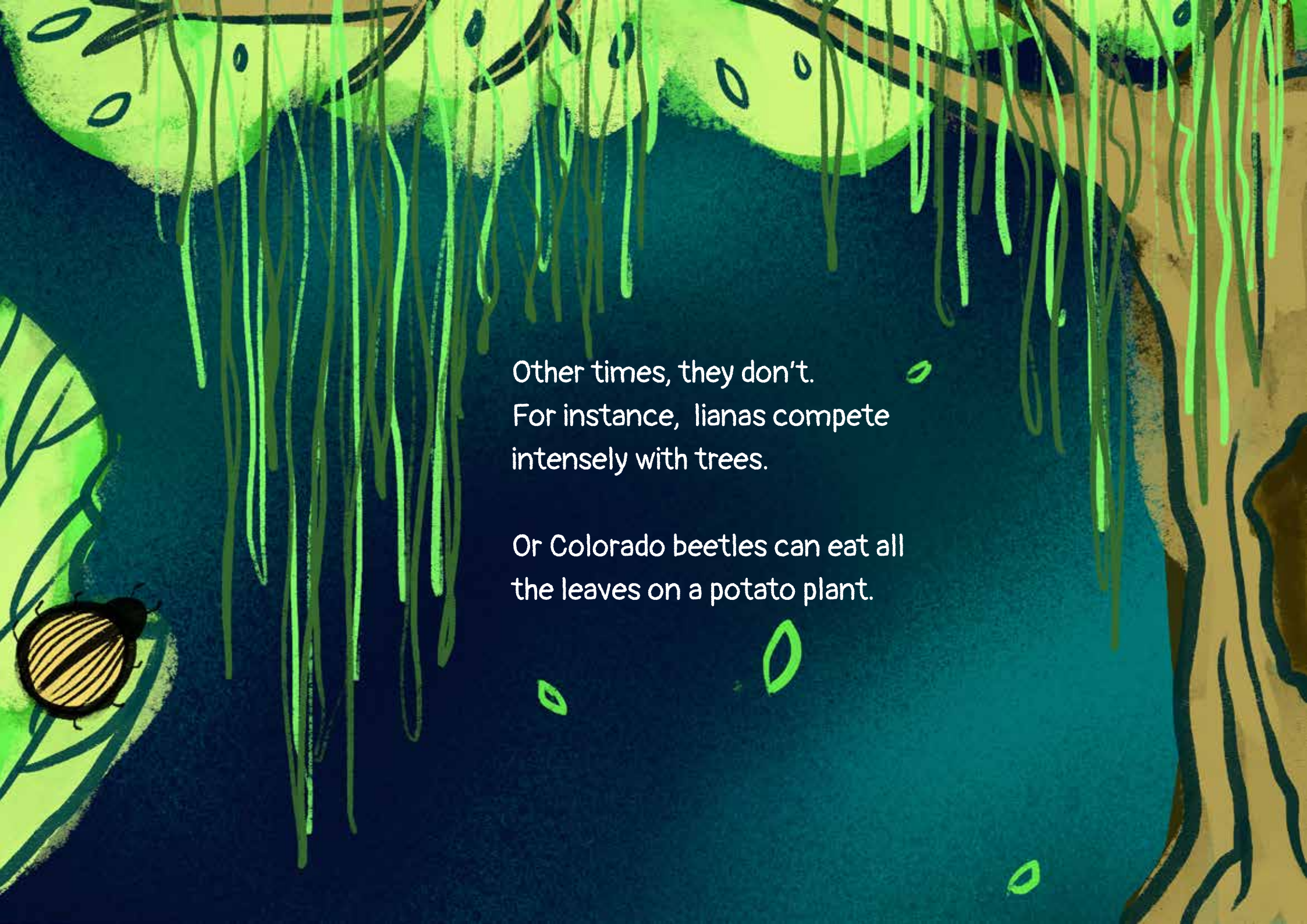
Planet Earth, the third planet from the Sun, has sooo many inhabitants.

It is an infinite world of creatures, from the immense to the microscopic.

Sometimes, these creatures
work well together. For example,
the bees and the flowers.

Or clownfish
and sea anemones.





Other times, they don't.
For instance, lianas compete
intensely with trees.

Or Colorado beetles can eat all
the leaves on a potato plant.

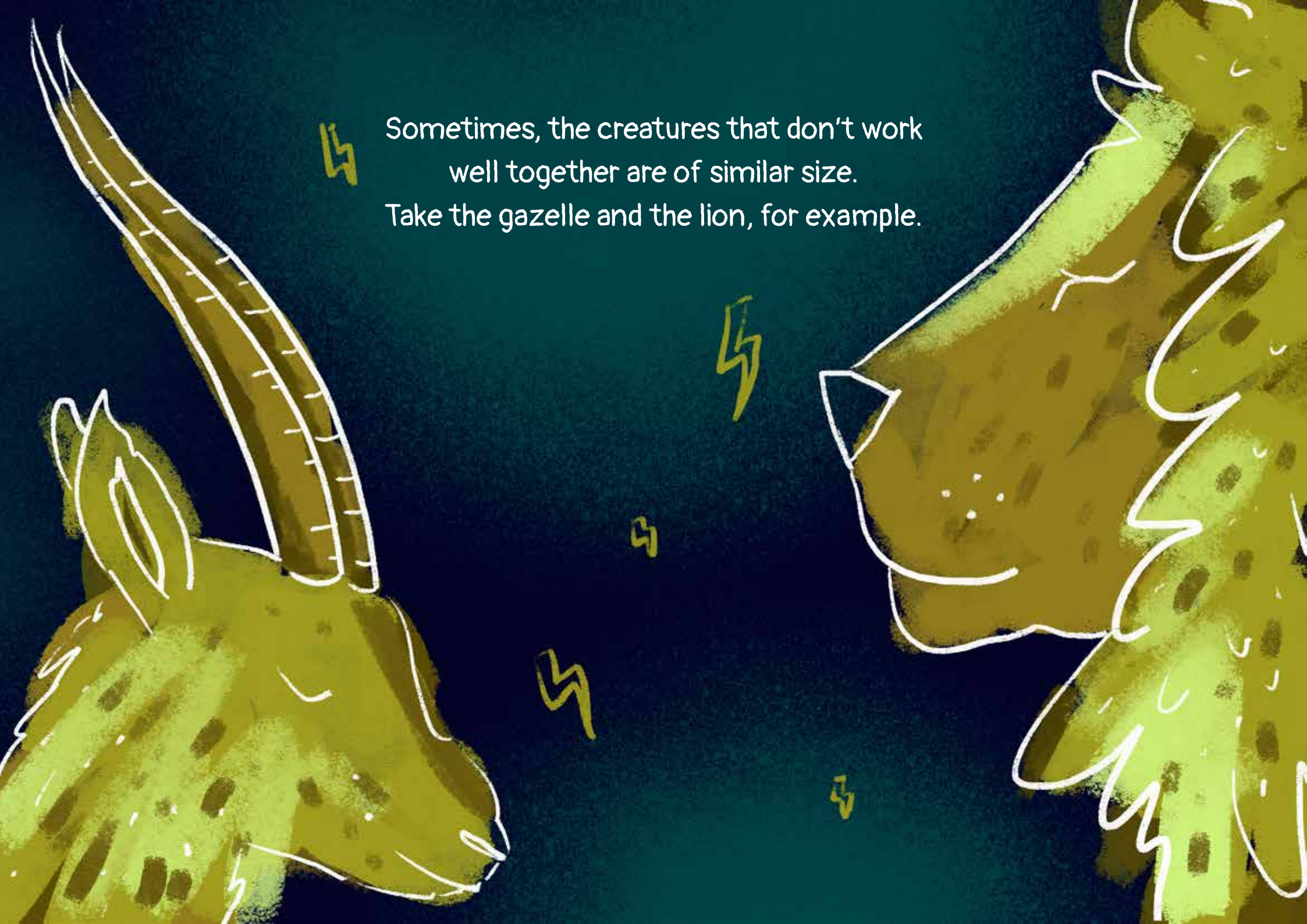


People did not work very well with all the animals that have become extinct due to human activity. Such as the western black rhino. Or the Pinta giant tortoise.



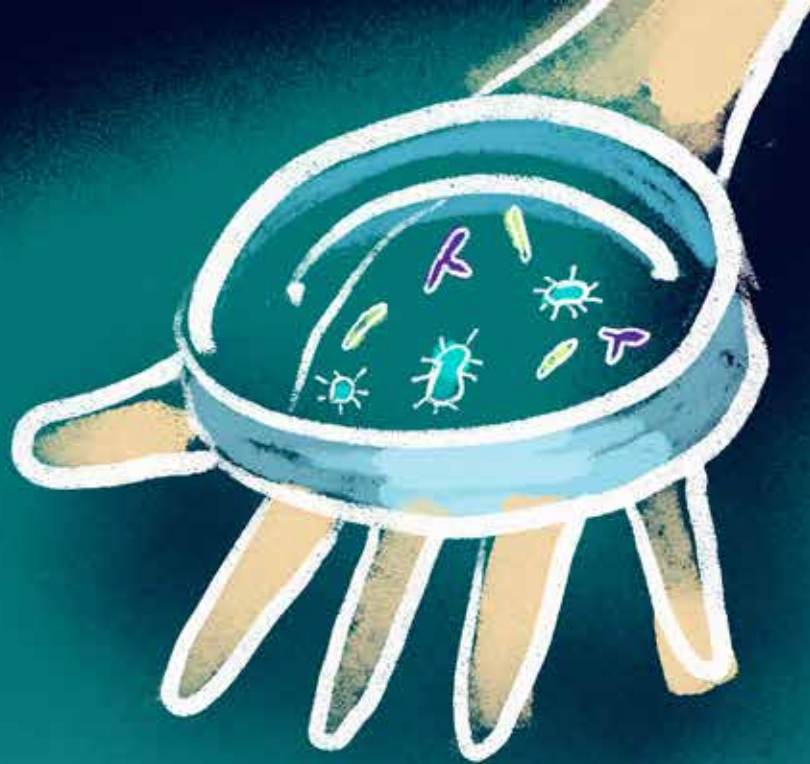


Sometimes, the creatures that don't work well together are of similar size. Take the gazelle and the lion, for example.





Other times, one creature
can be much, much larger
than the other.
Just think about the size of
a mosquito compared
to you!




Now, there are some creatures in the world that are so small that you can barely even call them “creatures”.

These life forms are microscopic - that means they are so small you can only see them with a microscope. Despite their small size, they are able to disturb much, much larger living things. They are for us like what we are relative to even larger things, such as the polluted ocean waters. Or the damaged ozone layer. Or the melting polar ice caps.

Everything is amazingly interconnected here on this planet called Earth.

The third planet from the Sun that has sooo many inhabitants.





Sometimes, these microscopic things can get inside other, much larger living things.

Take the mosquito, for example. It can't get inside of you unless you chew it by mistake, right? But a virus, an extremely tiny thing you could never see without a microscope, can very easily enter your body.

Many of the microscopic life forms - also called microorganisms - that enter our bodies behave in a friendly and even helpful way. Most of them, actually. They live inside our bodies and help it work in a healthy manner.

But other times, they don't. And this is why we now have to stay inside the house so much. There is a new, microscopic virus out there that is making people sick. It is very new. We humans are just beginning to learn about it.



Right now, if we go outside to a busy place around people, those tiny things everybody is talking about, the Coronavirus - Corona here, Corona there - might enter our bodies. Through our nose, through our mouth. Who knows how? But they might.

Remember, some living things are big and some are very, very small. Size doesn't matter here because some creatures just don't work well together no matter the size.

And this is why we now need to wash our hands so well and so often. So that the tiny ones stay away. Or vanish. We want to stay safe.

All of us. Safe together.
You and mama and papa.



You are young and very strong. You are much stronger than those tiny things everybody is talking about now. But grandpa may not be stronger. Even though he is muuuuch larger. This is why we don't see grandma and grandpa so often these days.

Even if we stay inside and wash our hands so well and so often, those tiny things everybody is talking about right now can still be around us. Of course, we wouldn't want them to get to grandpa or grandma.





This is why we don't go off to work as we did before. But we still have to do work from home. This is also why you don't get to go outside to play and explore. It is why you don't go to kindergarten or school anymore either.



This is why you don't get to see your friends. I know you miss them a lot. But guess what? They miss you too. They are also staying home, just like you. They also have to wash their hands so well and so often. So that the tiny ones stay away. Or vanish.

Everyone wants to stay safe.





All of us. Together. Separately. We want to stay safe.

Those tiny things everybody is talking about are not bad.
They just don't work well together with us humans. We humans aren't bad either even if our
actions sometimes damage other living things on the planet.
Like the ozone layer. Or the ocean waters. Or endangered species.

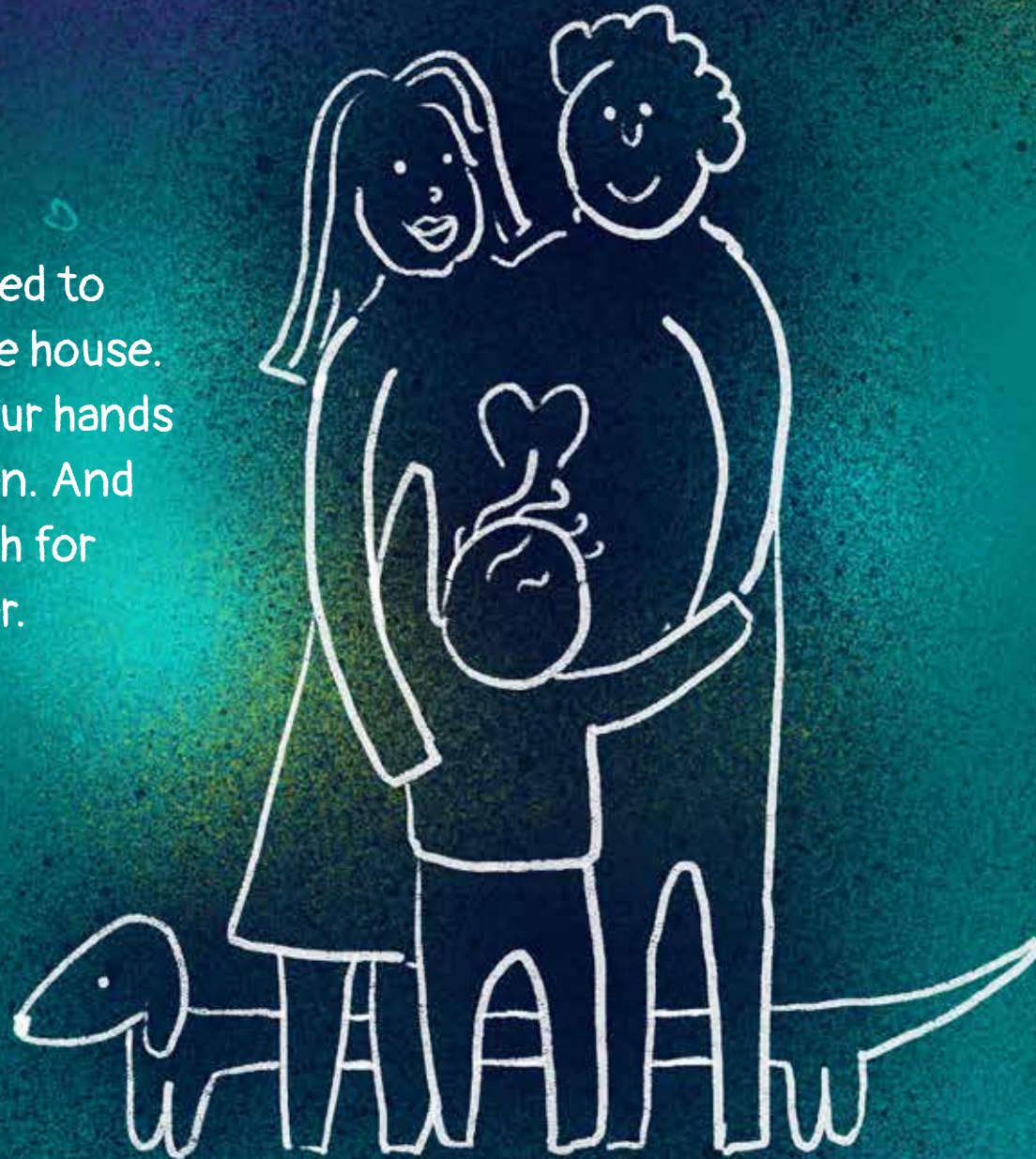
We isolate now so that we can enjoy one another later. And enjoy life on this planet.

Planet Earth, the third planet from
the Sun. That has sooo many
inhabitants. It is an infinite world
of creatures, from the immense to
the microscopic. We learn from one
another. Each day.
All together.

When the tiny ones
stop making people sick,
we will all know better.
We will be better.
We will do better.
For ourselves.
For this planet.
All of us.
Together.



But for now, we need to
stay safe. Inside the house.
We need to wash our hands
so well and so often. And
I thank you so much for
doing this. Together.



Just a few more things...



Your pet is just fine with all those tiny things everyone is talking about, no need to wash their paws more often.

Ask papa to play the "look how I'm not touching anything" game whenever you still need to get out of the house. Like going to buy food or taking your dog out. Oh, wait. You can still touch your dog!



Play with mama "what animal could you be?" whenever a mask is on, and just imagine: a bear, a cat, a rabbit. Whatever you want! Maybe you even find a marker near.



Remember, you may only touch the mask and not the face, because nose, eyes and mouth can be the entrance way for the tiny things into your body.

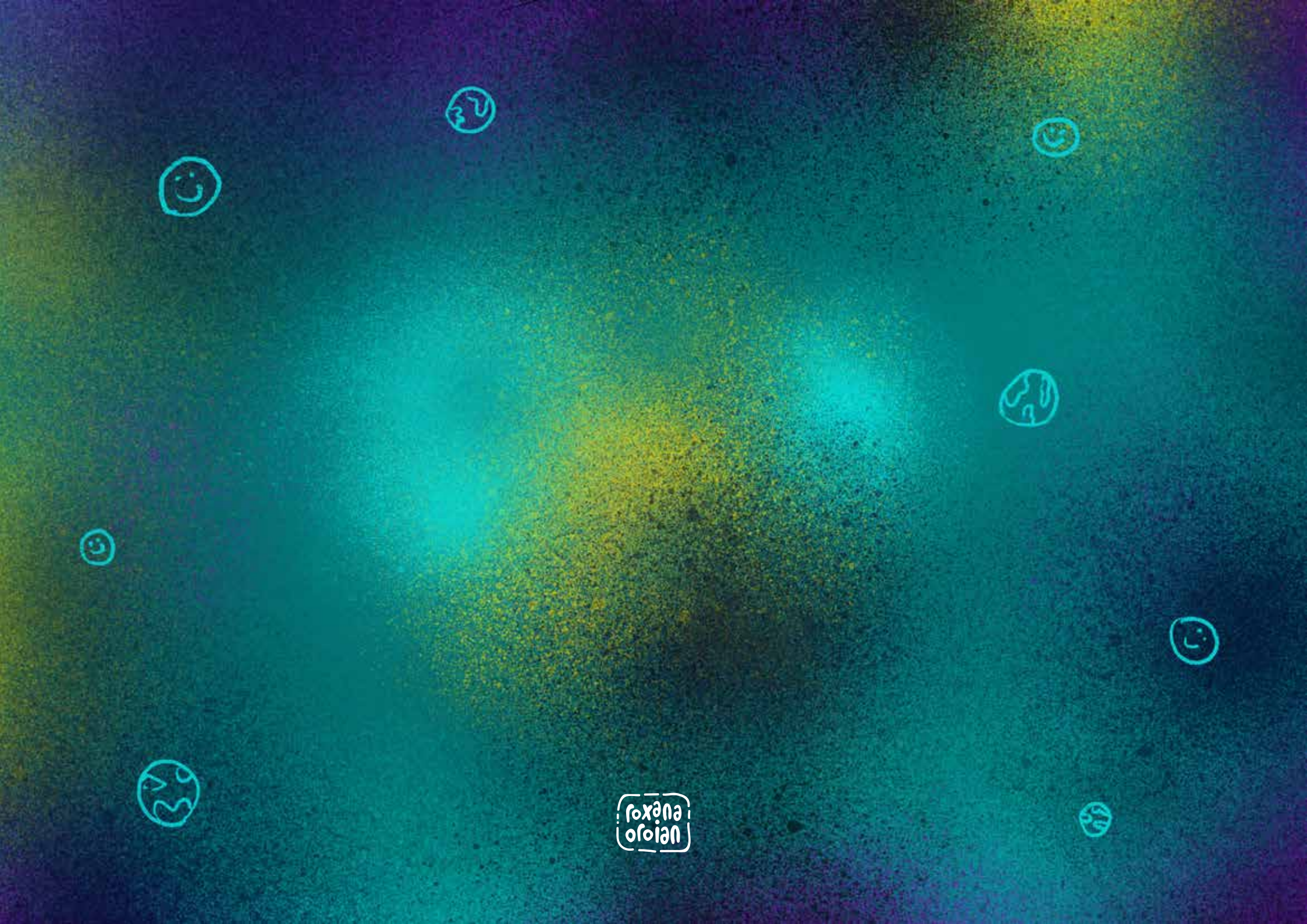


A message from the author to adults and parents:
May health, kindness, gratitude, and creativity
surround you, your children and your home now and always!

Infinite thanks to the editor of this work, Kate Rudkin.

All of the text and illustrations in this story belong to the author.
Copyright Roxana Oroian © All rights reserved 2020





roxana
oroian