THE THREE LITTLE ALIENS AND THE BIG BAD ROBOT
A SOLAR SYSTEM ADVENTURE!
MARGARET McNAMARA & MARK FEARING
FEARING

Once there was a mama alien who had three little aliens. They were called Bork, Gork, and Nklxwcyz*.

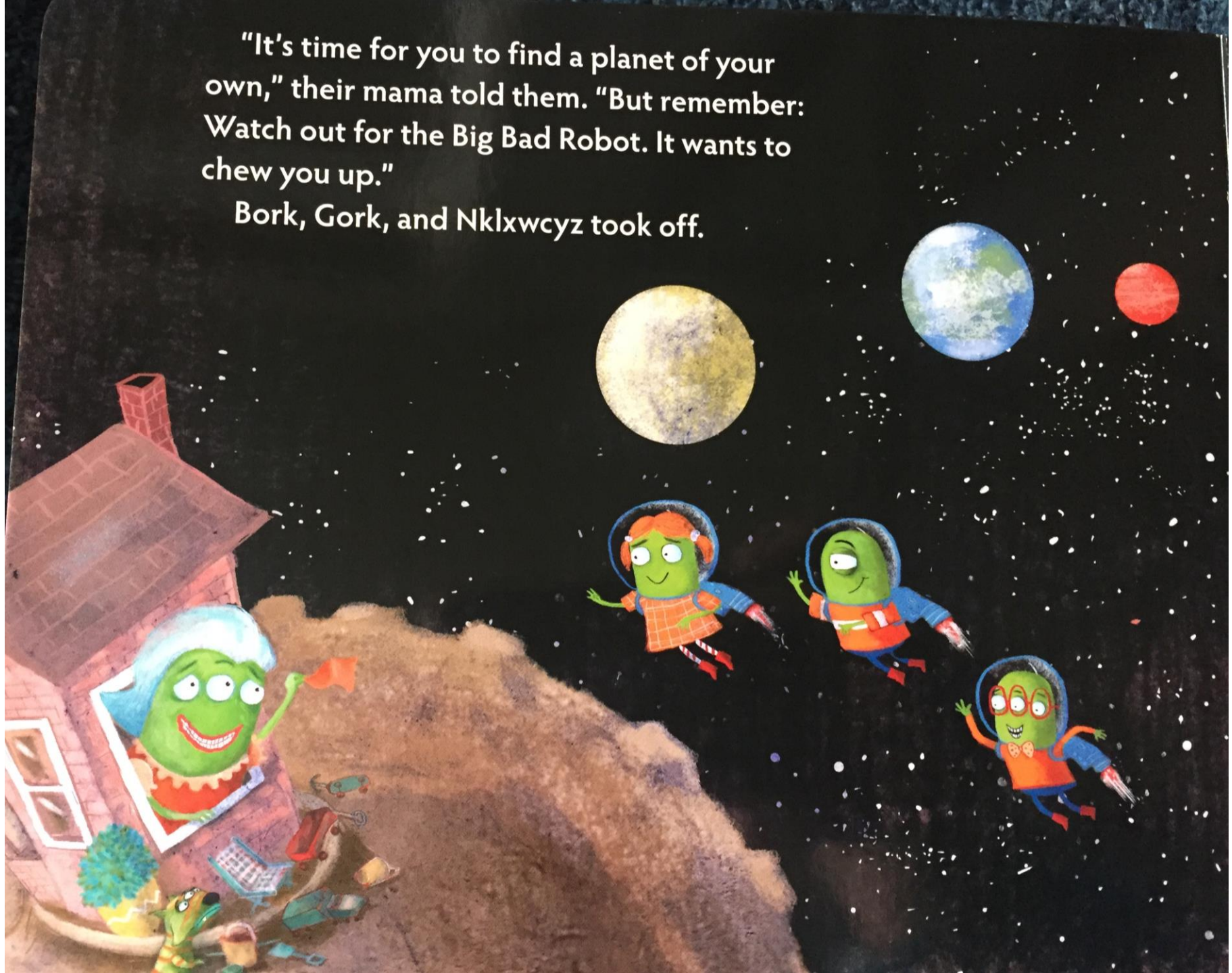
The three little aliens grew up in a snug, cozy crater on a tiny little planet.

As the eons passed, their house got too crowded.

*Sometimes Mama called him Nick.

"It's time for you to find a planet of your own," their mama told them. "But remember: Watch out for the Big Bad Robot. It wants to chew you up."

Bork, Gork, and Nklxwcyz took off.



"Bye, Mama!" they cried.

"Bye, kids!" she shouted back. "Always stick together," she added. "And call me every once in a while."

The three little aliens traveled far and fast.

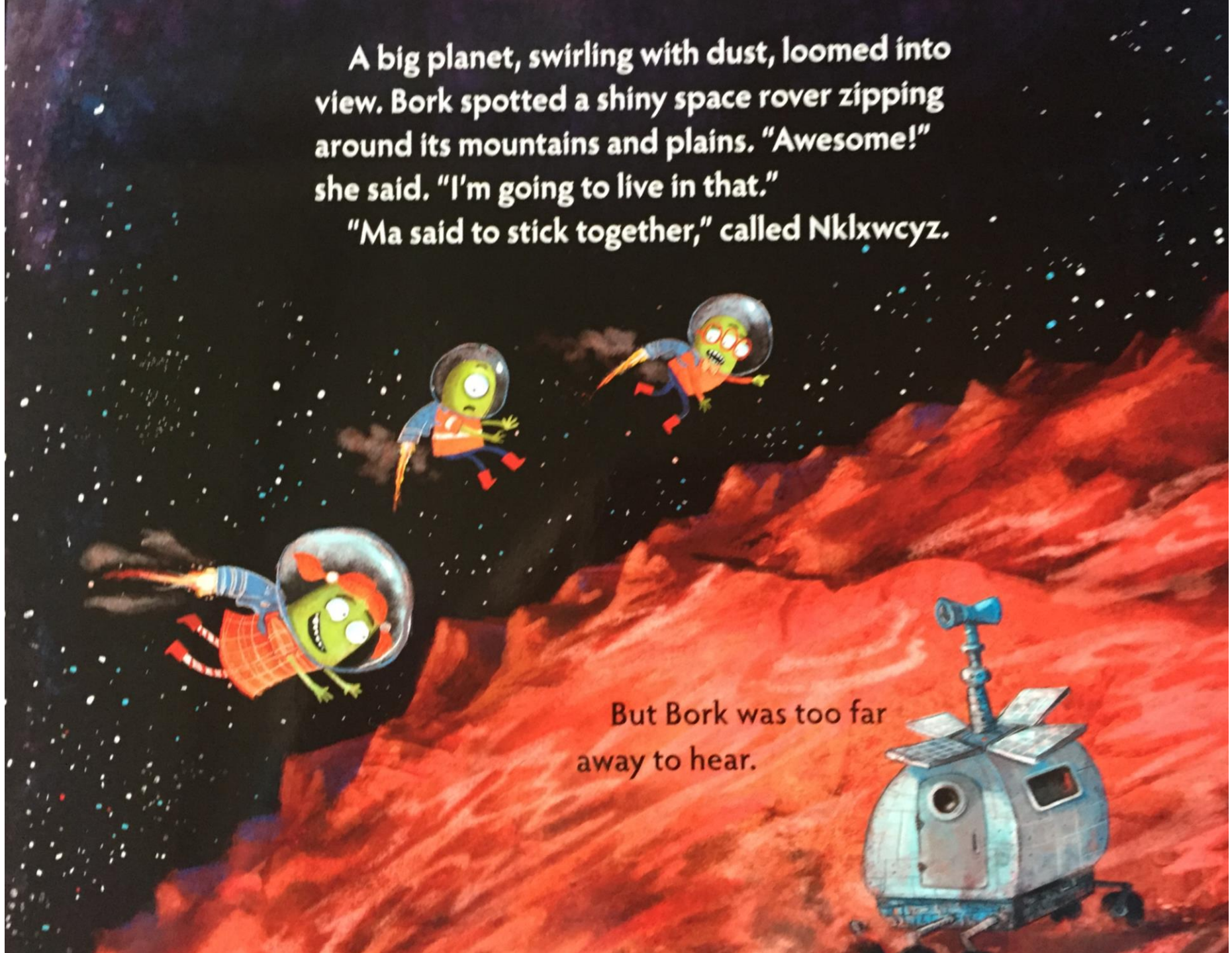
"There's a cute planet," said Bork.
"Too hot," said Nklxwcyz.

"How about that one?" asked Gork.
"Too crowded," replied Nklxwcyz.

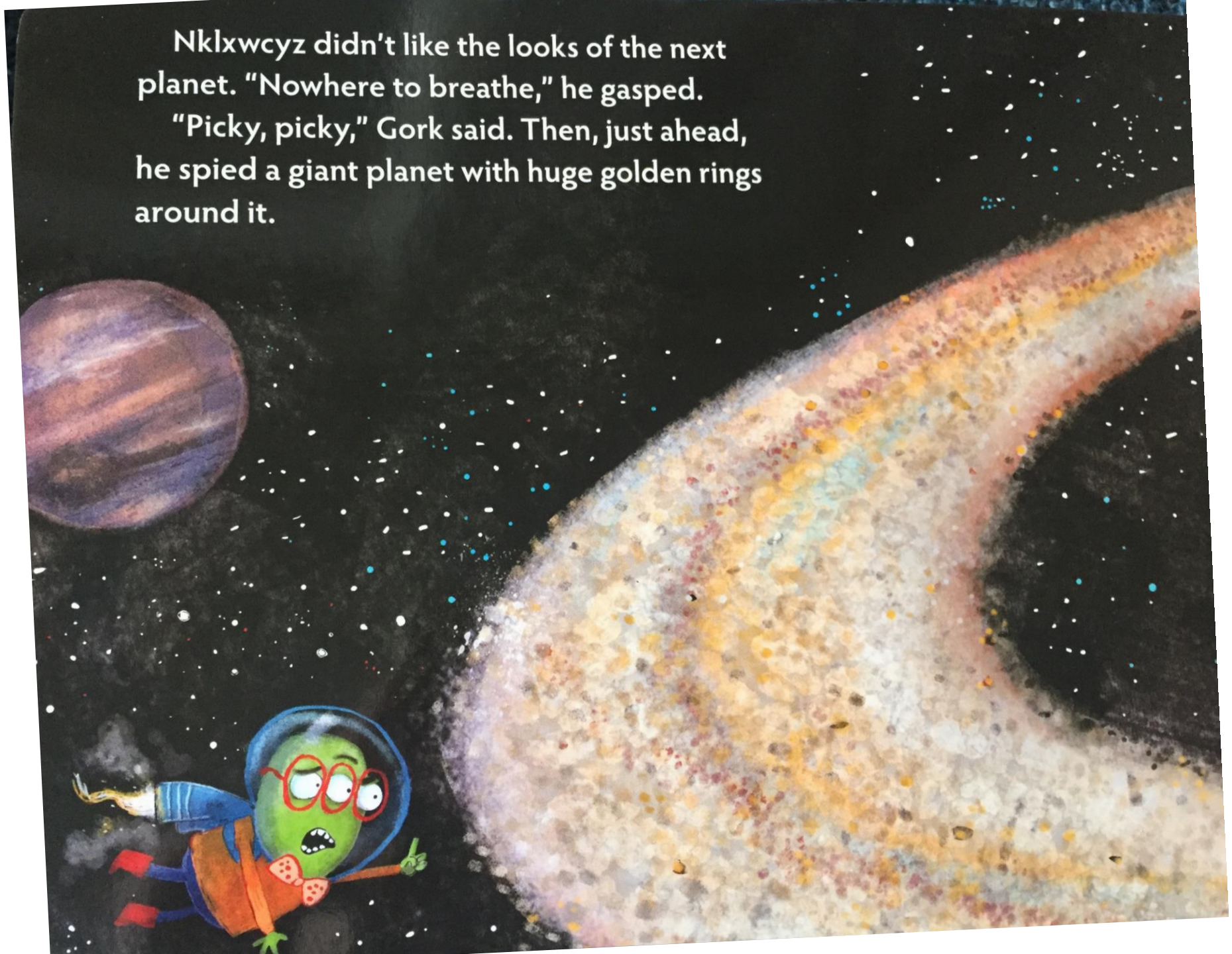
"Are we there yet?"
asked Bork.

A big planet, swirling with dust, loomed into view. Bork spotted a shiny space rover zipping around its mountains and plains. "Awesome!" she said. "I'm going to live in that."

"Ma said to stick together," called Nklxwcyz.



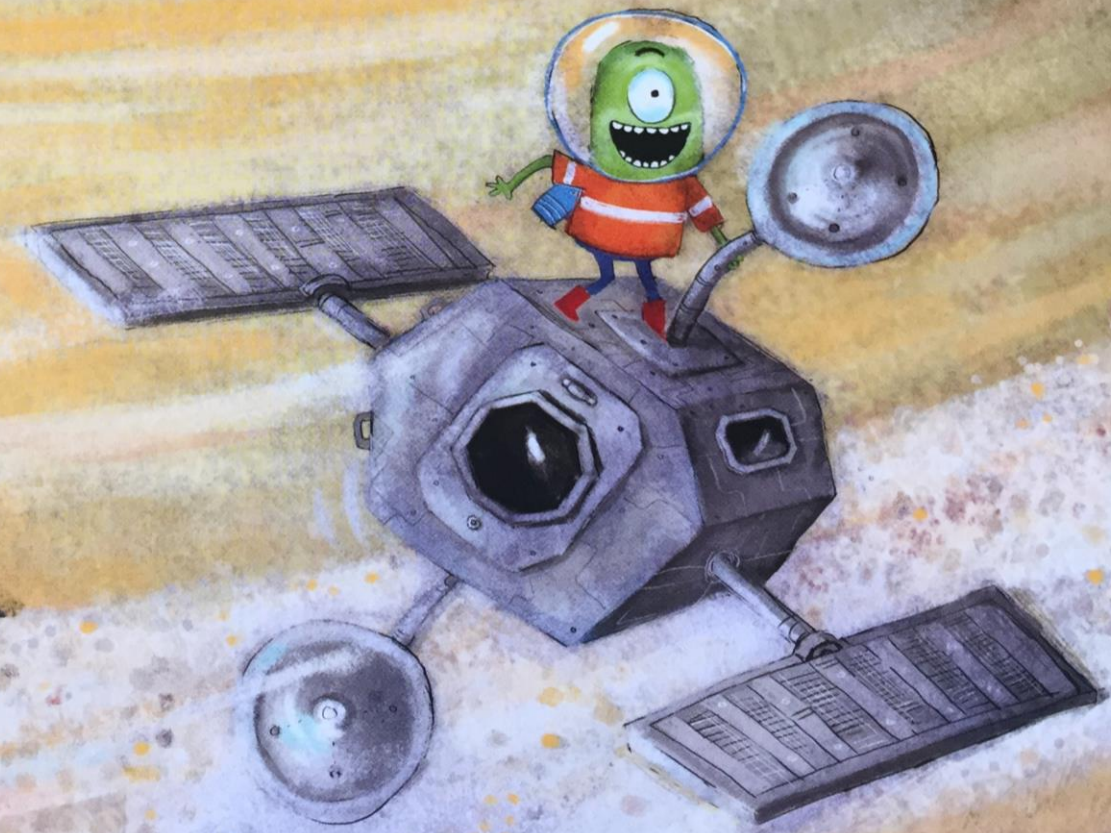
But Bork was too far away to hear.

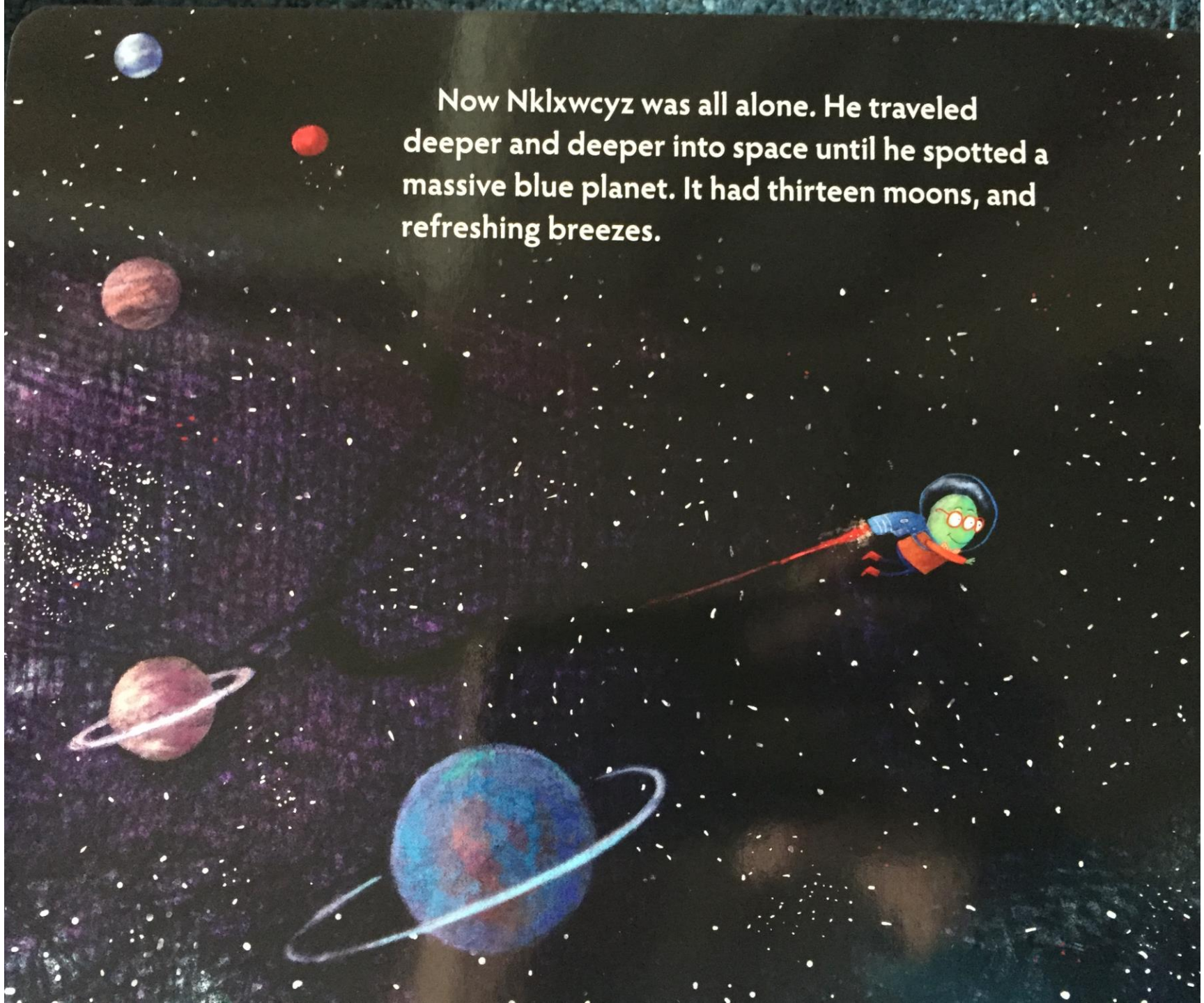

Nklxwcyz didn't like the looks of the next planet. "Nowhere to breathe," he gasped.
"Picky, picky," Gork said. Then, just ahead, he spied a giant planet with huge golden rings around it.

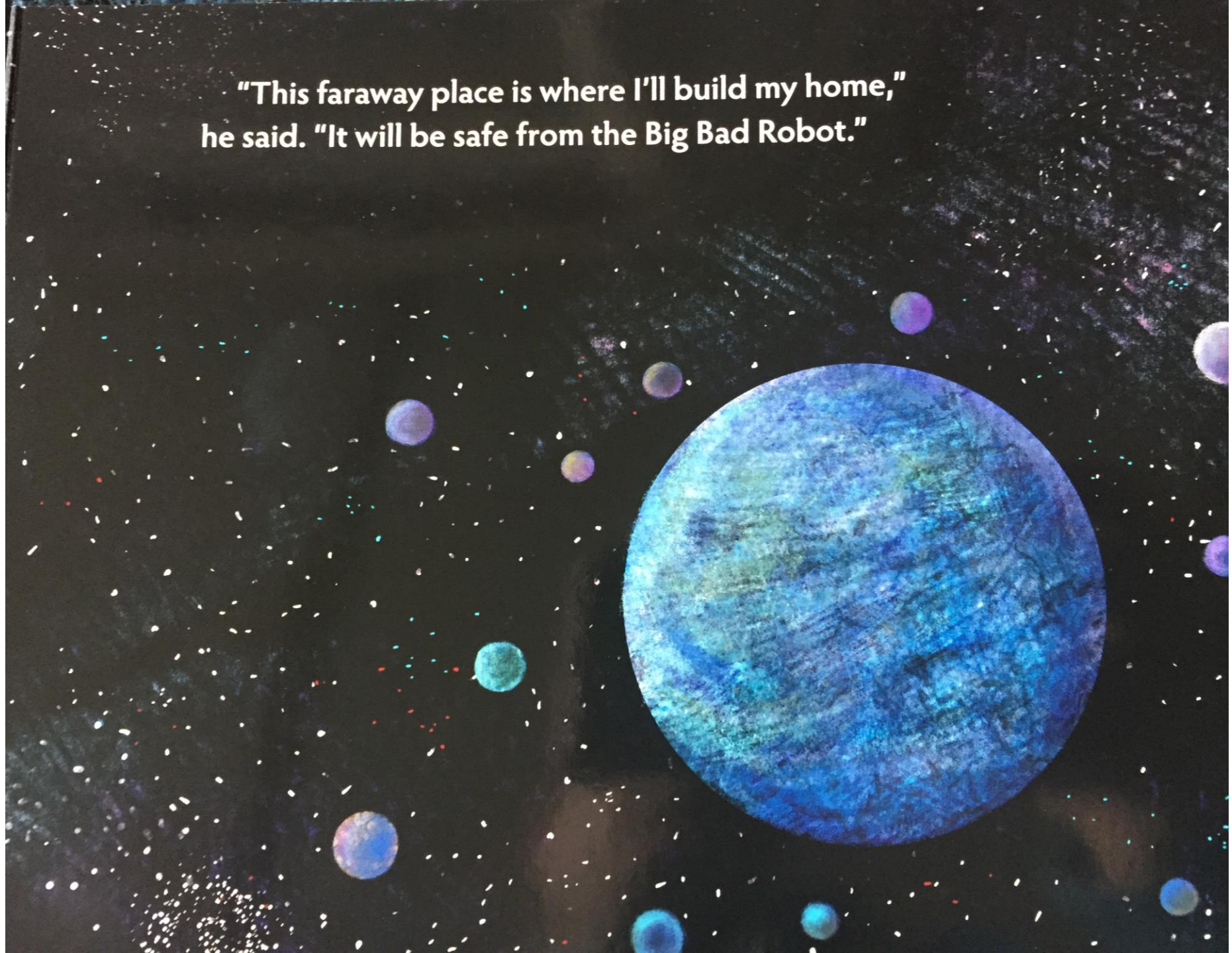
He jumped on a passing satellite and caught a ride on a ring. "Whee!" he squealed. "This is what I call home!"

"We can't live here," yelled Nklxwcyz. "We'll get dizzy!"

But Gork wasn't paying attention.



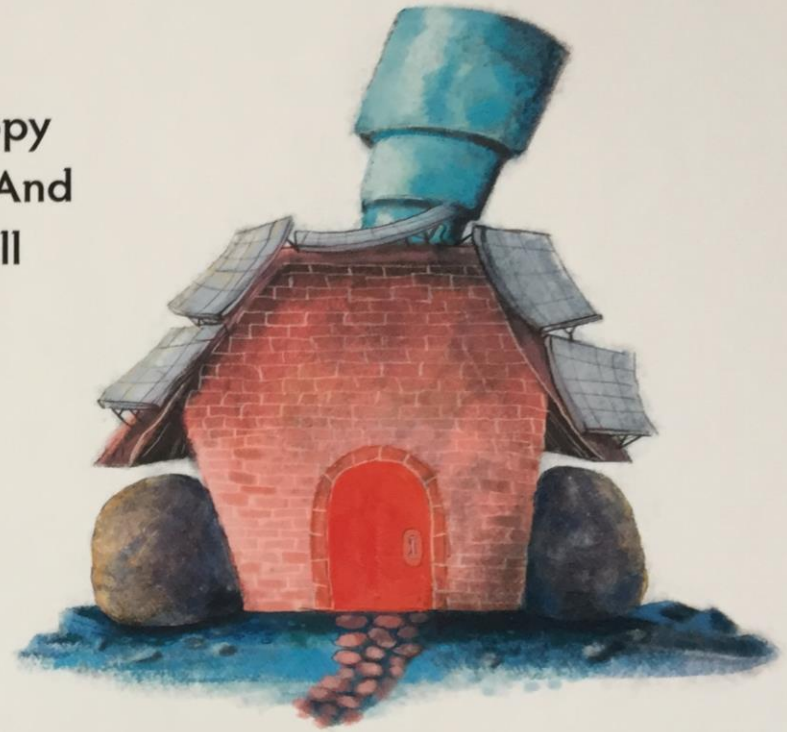

Now Nklxwcyz was all alone. He traveled deeper and deeper into space until he spotted a massive blue planet. It had thirteen moons, and refreshing breezes.


"This faraway place is where I'll build my home,"
he said. "It will be safe from the Big Bad Robot."

Nklxwcyz found everything he needed to make sturdy walls.

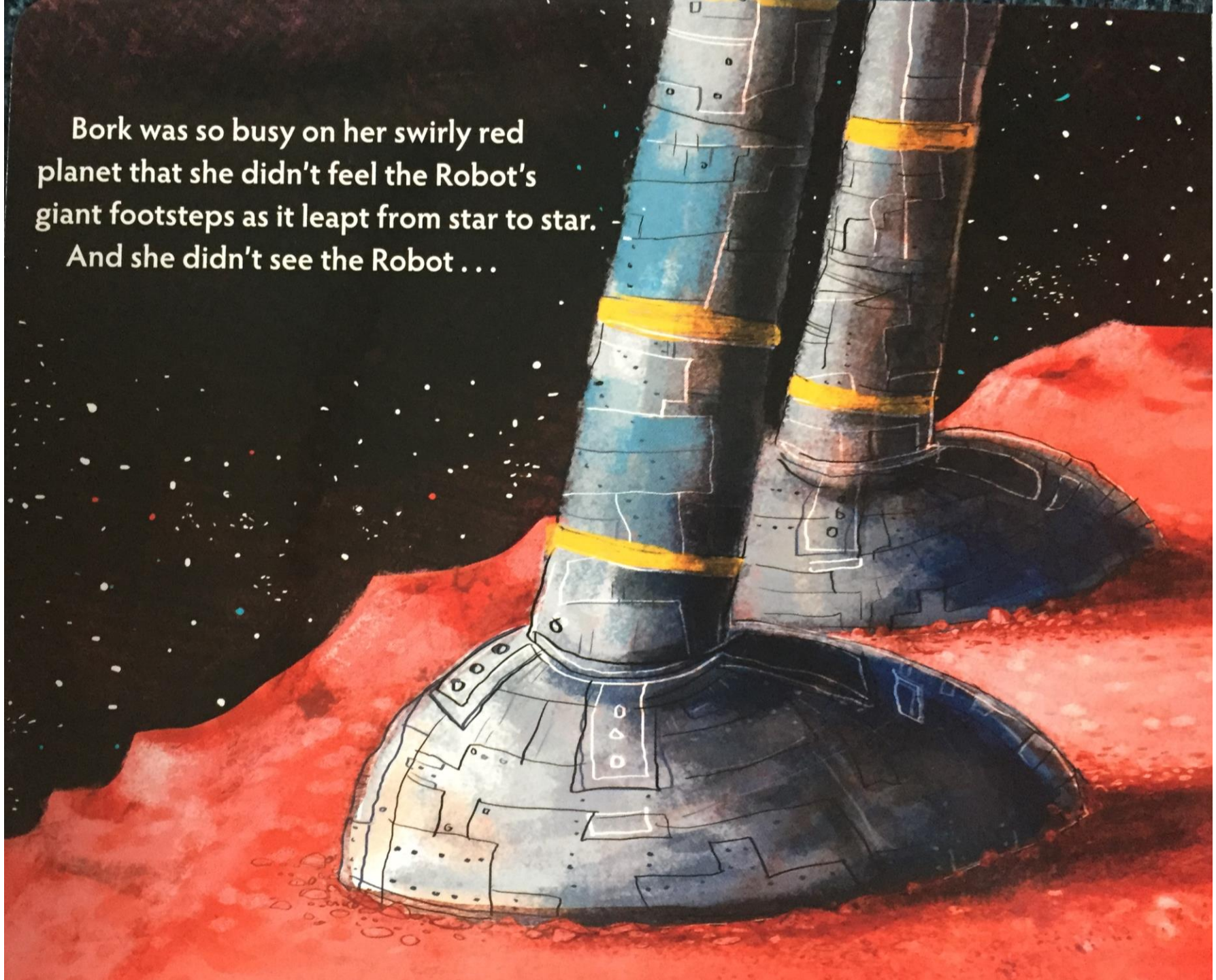
Then he grabbed a tall, shiny telescope. "This'll do for a chimney," he said, though no one heard him.

His house was not very zippy or cool, but it was very safe. And there was room enough for all three little aliens.



"I hope they come to visit soon," said Nklxwcyz.

Then, one galactic dawn, there was a rumbling in the universe.
GREEP
BOINK
MEEP
PEEEDILY
DEEEP
ORK
EEP
It was the Big Bad Robot!

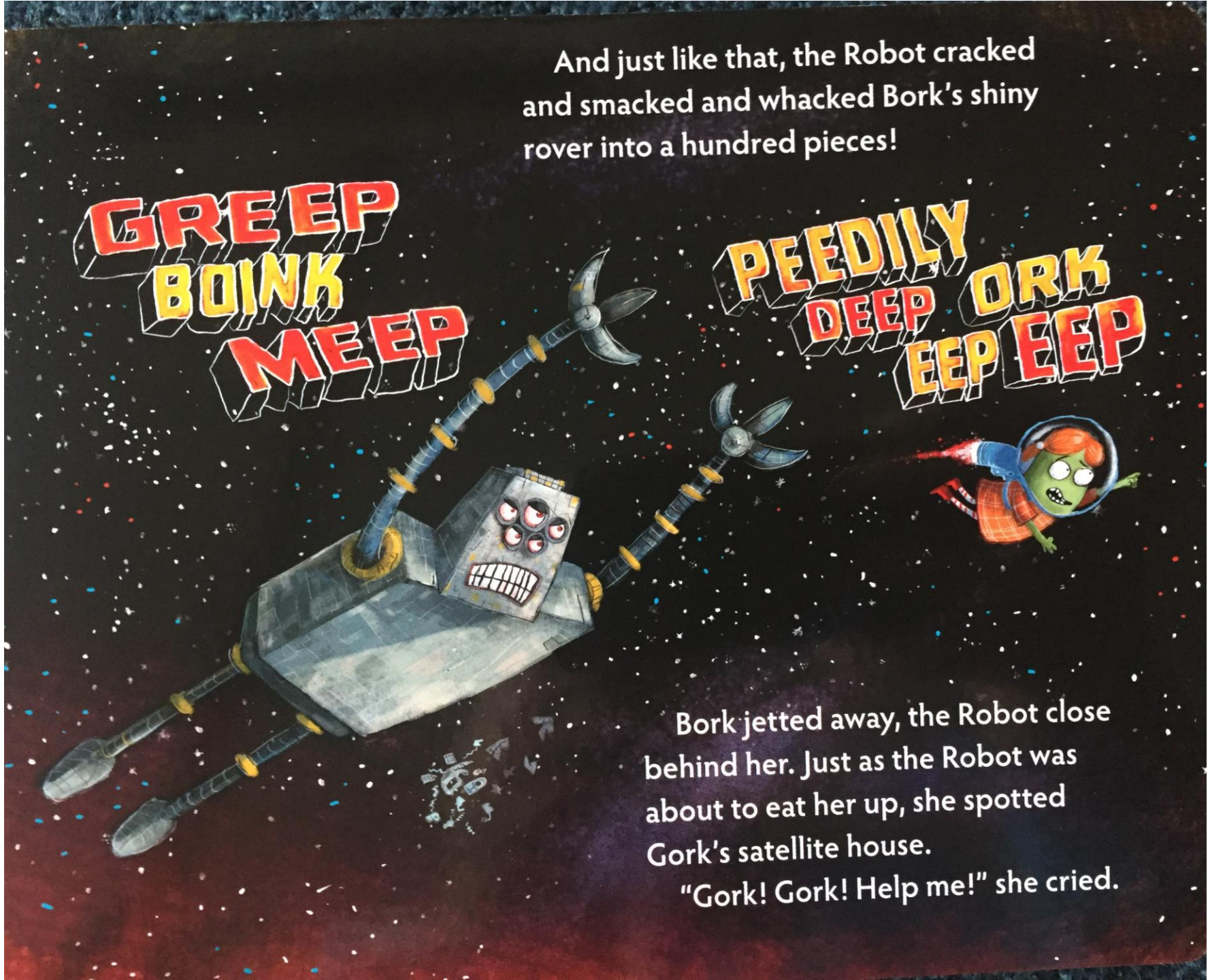

Bork was so busy on her swirly red planet that she didn't feel the Robot's giant footsteps as it leapt from star to star.
And she didn't see the Robot . . .

. . . until it was right in front of her rover!

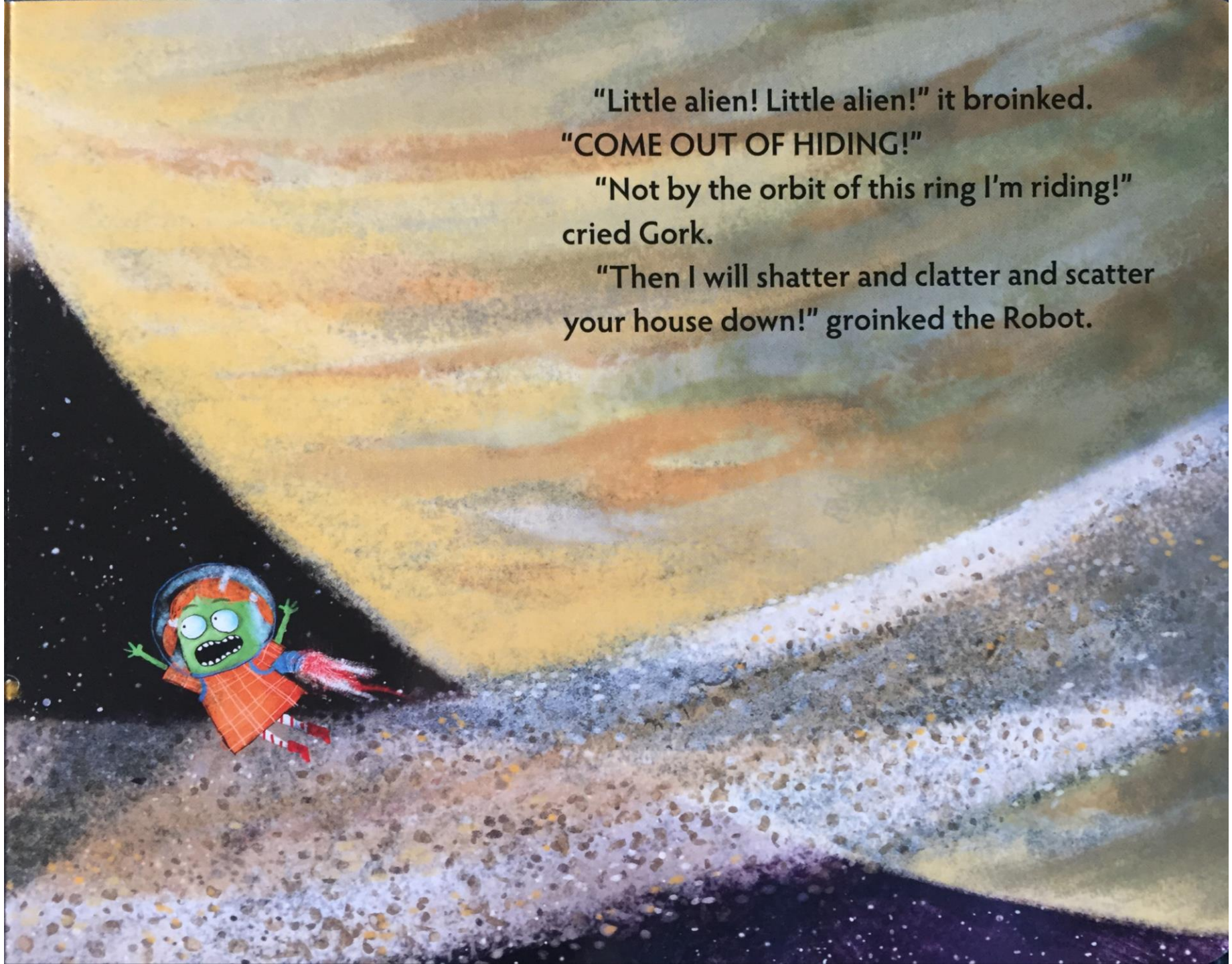
"Little alien! Little alien!" bleeped the Robot. "Pull over! PULL OVER!"

"Not by the wheels of my trusty space rover!" cried Bork.

"Then I'll crack and smack and whack your house down!" meeped the Robot.


And just like that, the Robot cracked and smacked and whacked Bork's shiny rover into a hundred pieces!
GREEP BOINK MEEP
PEEDILY DEEP ORK EEP EEP
Bork jetted away, the Robot close behind her. Just as the Robot was about to eat her up, she spotted Gork's satellite house.
"Gork! Gork! Help me!" she cried.

But Gork was having so much fun surfing on the rings of his great big planet that he didn't hear a thing . . . until the Big Bad Robot caught Gork's satellite in his huge metal claw.

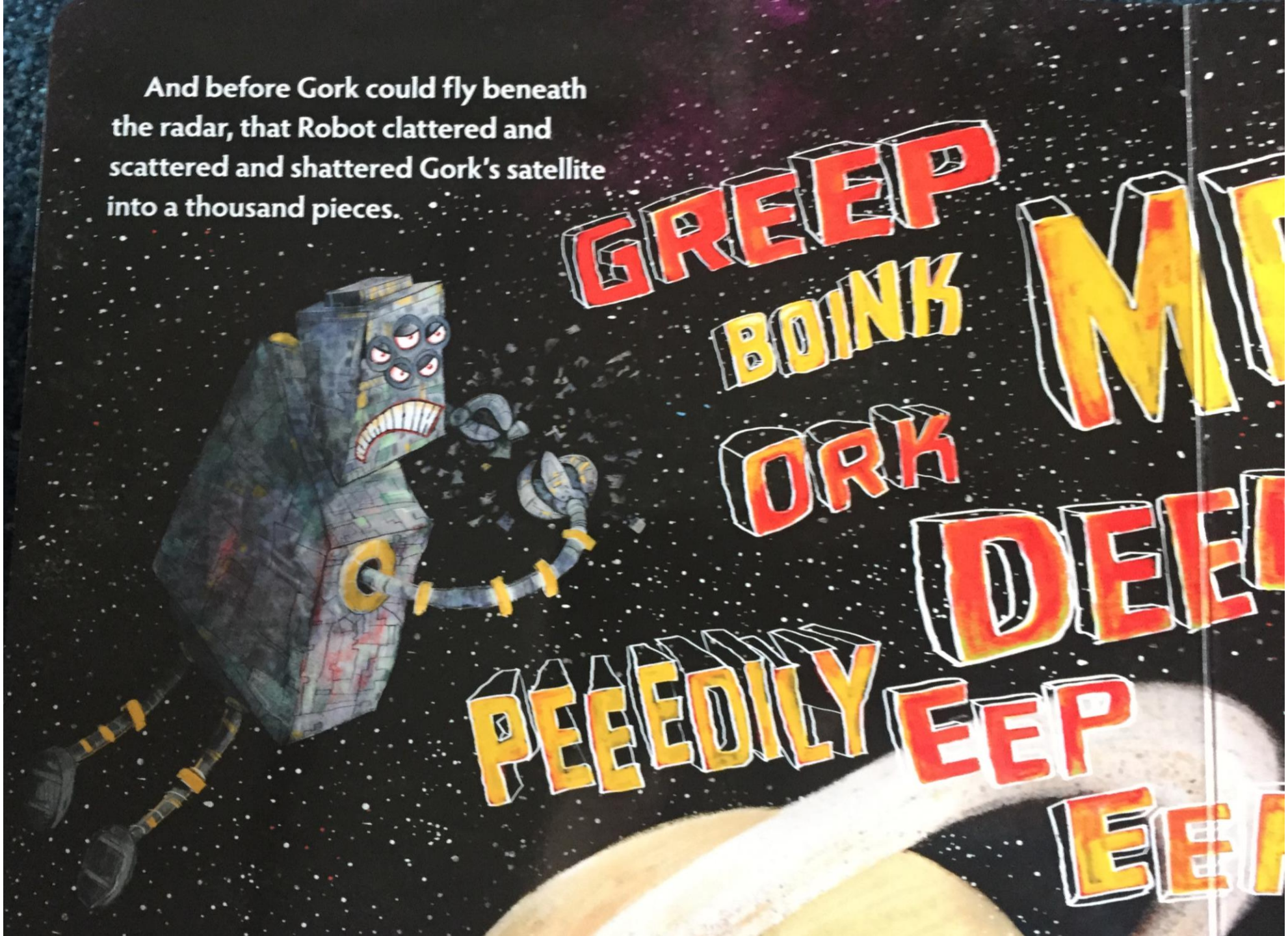


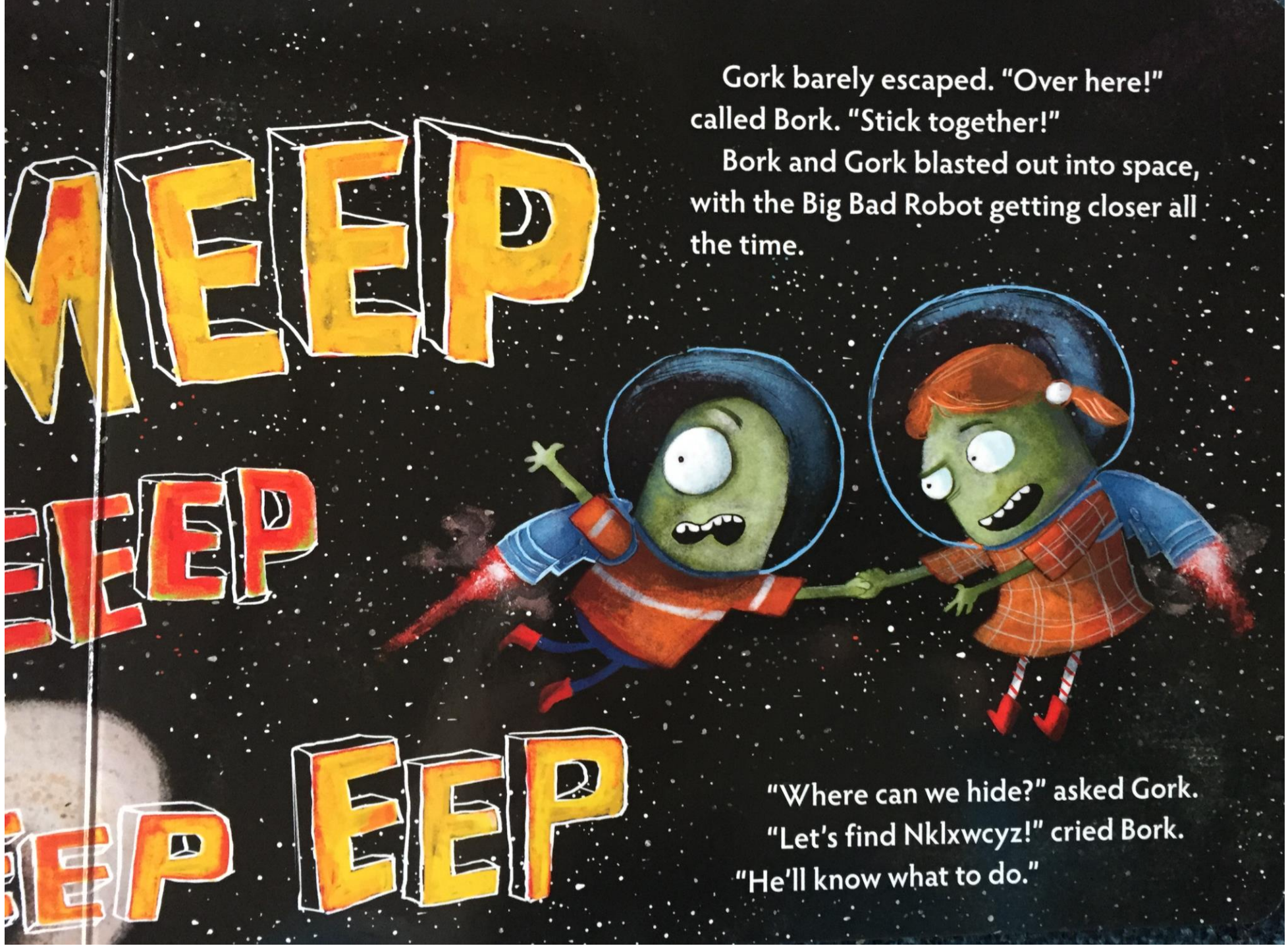
"Little alien! Little alien!" it broinked. "COME OUT OF HIDING!"

"Not by the orbit of this ring I'm riding!" cried Gork.

"Then I will shatter and clatter and scatter your house down!" groinked the Robot.

And before Gork could fly beneath the radar, that Robot clattered and scattered and shattered Gork's satellite into a thousand pieces.





Gork barely escaped. "Over here!" called Bork. "Stick together!"

Bork and Gork blasted out into space, with the Big Bad Robot getting closer all the time.

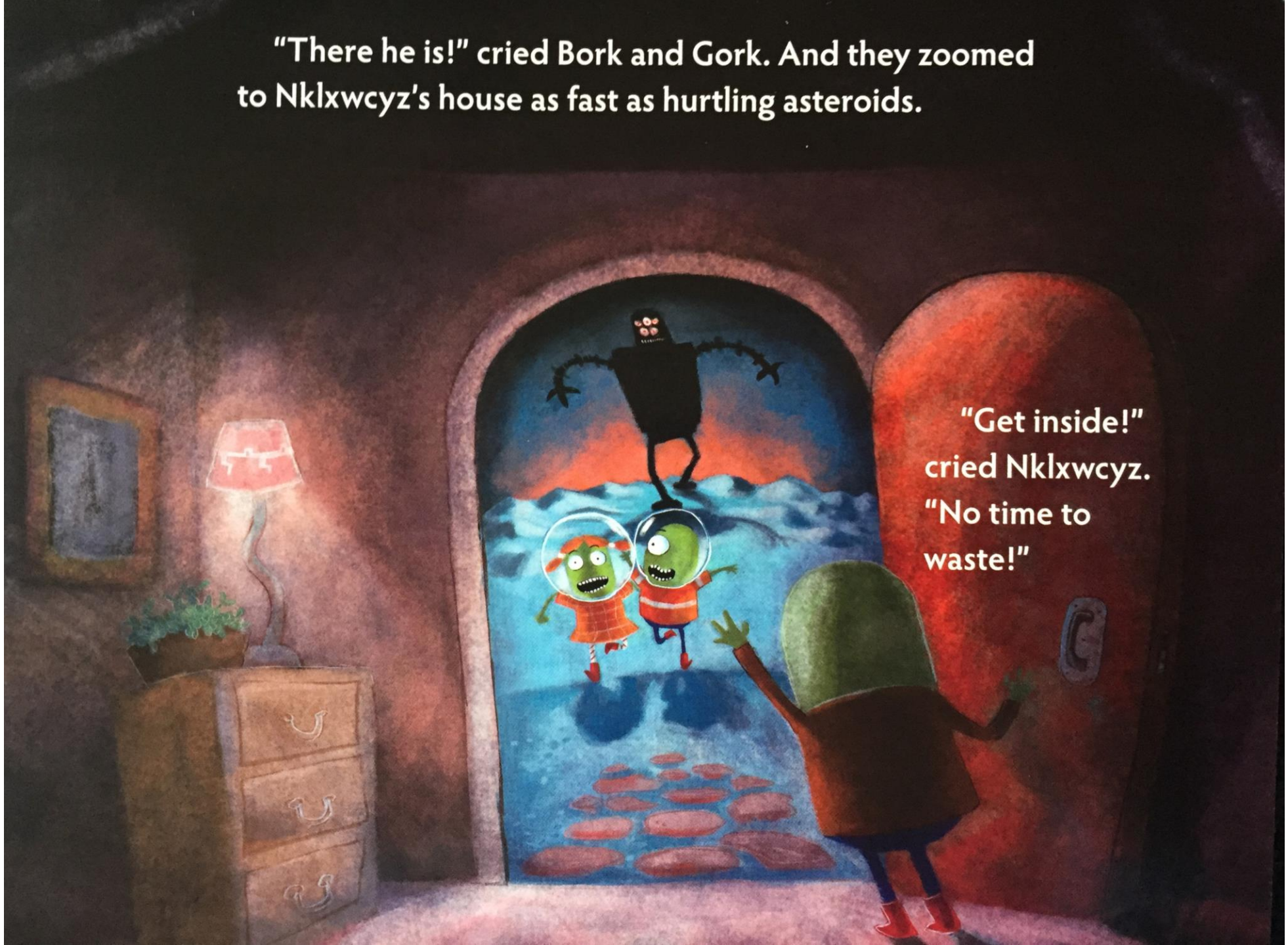
"Where can we hide?" asked Gork.

"Let's find Nklxwcyz!" cried Bork. "He'll know what to do."

Nklxwcyz had heard the Robot's roar. He had seen what was going on with his brother and sister through his telescope. And he was ready.

He flashed his solar panels halfway across the universe.

"There he is!" cried Bork and Gork. And they zoomed to Nklxwcyz's house as fast as hurtling asteroids.



"Get inside!" cried Nklxwcyz. "No time to waste!"

No sooner had Bork and Gork slammed Nklxwcyz's solid door than they heard the Robot rumbling. "Little alien! Little alien!" he queeked.

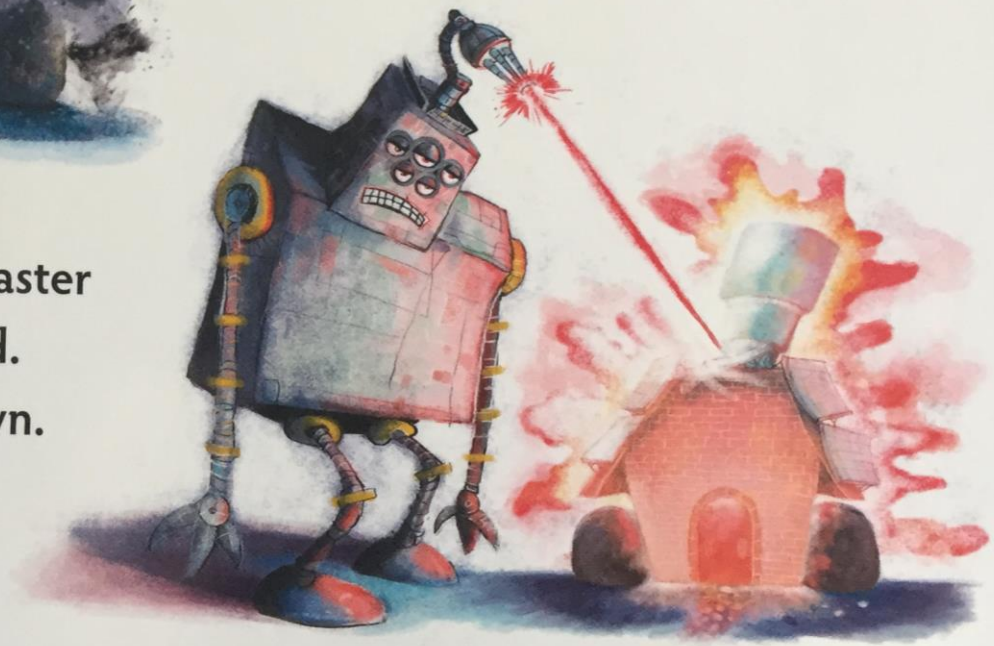
"Not by the slime on my chinny-chin-chin!" cried Nklxwcyz.

"Then I will smack and crack and whack your house down!" zeeped the Robot.

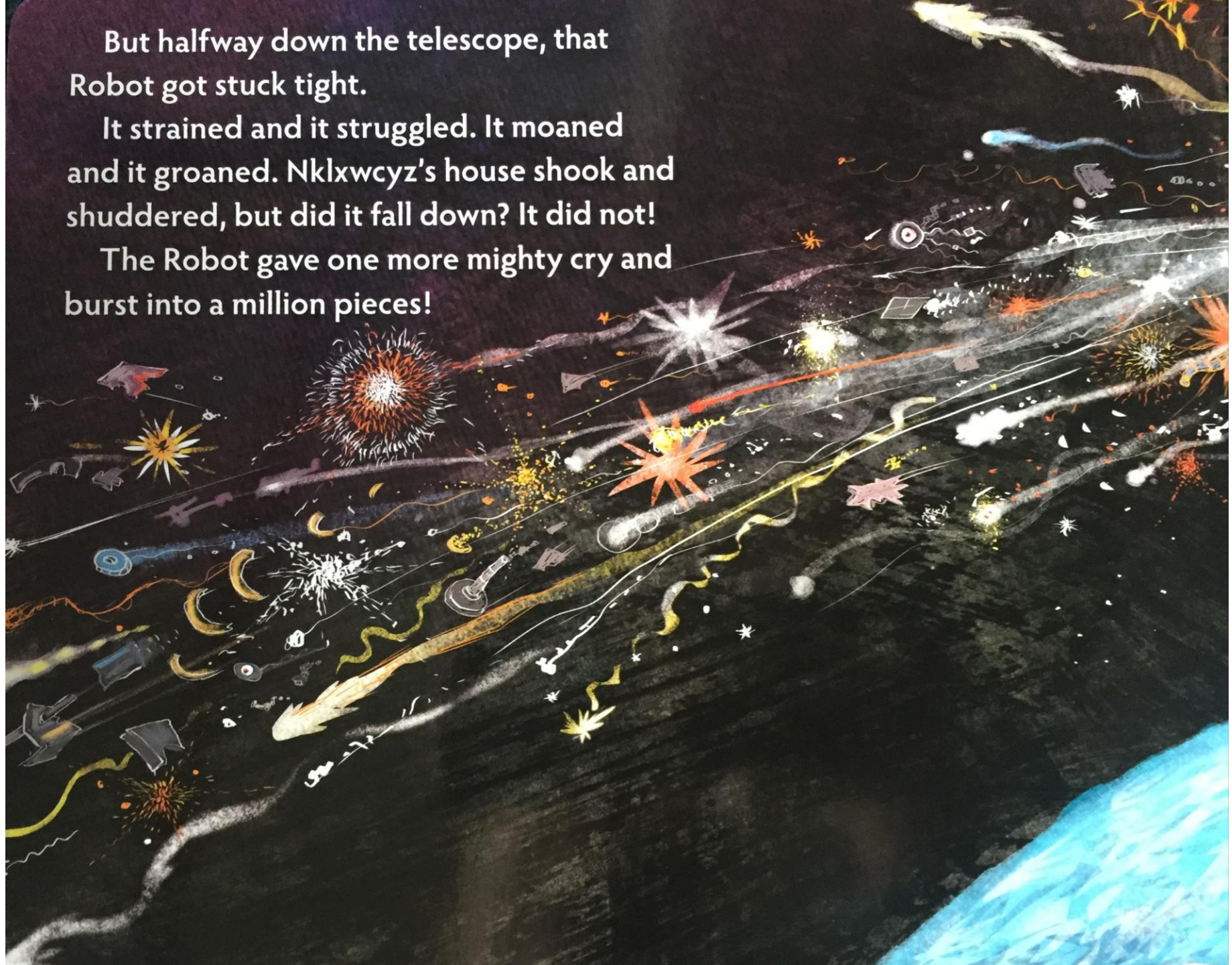
The Big Bad Robot bashed and
crashed Nklxwcyz's strong, solid house.
Nothing happened.

Then it pounded and
smashed. Really hard.
Not a crack.

Then it loaded up its triple blaster
and zapped that house but good.
That house would not fall down.



So the Robot forced its way into the little alien's house, right down the chimney!


But halfway down the telescope, that Robot got stuck tight.
It strained and it struggled. It moaned and it groaned. Nklxwcyz's house shook and shuddered, but did it fall down? It did not!
The Robot gave one more mighty cry and burst into a million pieces!

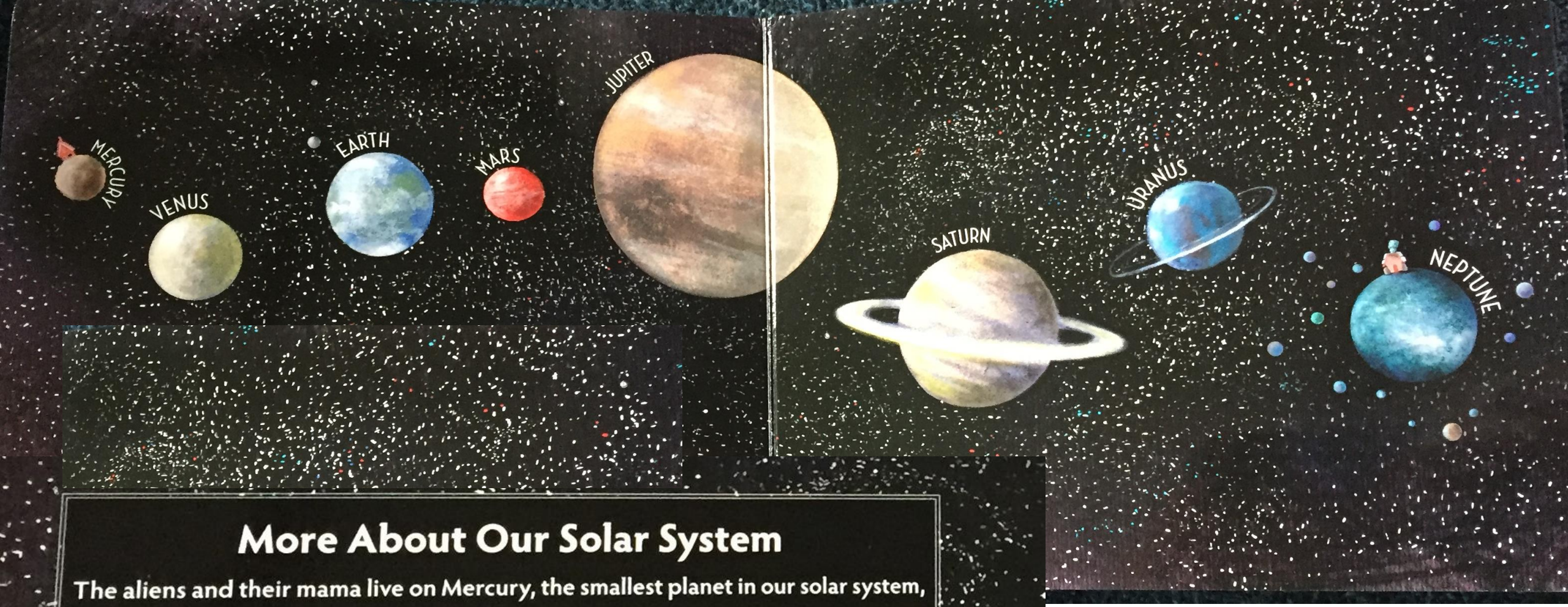
"Cool," said Bork.
"Awesome," said Gork.
"Just as I planned," said Nklxwcyz.
"There's only one thing missing," said Bork.

"Phone home," said Gork.

So Nklxwcyz did.

"Ma," he said, "we have the coziest house in the galaxy. Won't you come and tuck us in?"

"I'll be right over," said Ma.



More About Our Solar System

The aliens and their mama live on Mercury, the smallest planet in our solar system, and the closest to the sun. When the aliens leave home, they pass every other planet in our solar system. They start by zipping past the brightest planet, Venus; then pass Earth, our watery blue home; and after that, the red planet, Mars. Then the two alien brothers fly by the fifth planet, the gas giant Jupiter, and come to ringed Saturn. The last little alien passes icy Uranus and finally settles on the farthest planet, Neptune, where the wind blows as fast as 1,290 miles per hour!