

# The Boy who Believed

Always believe the impossible is  
possible.

## Preface

This book is related to people who don't believe in any good thing in the world. I want to thank every single person, who help other people to believe in their dreams.

Drawings by Google and some drawings by Irina Strikeleva

Once upon a time there was one ordinary boy in the world. He lived in a small town on an island in the ocean.

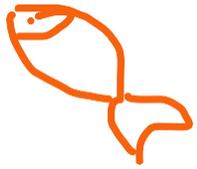
This island was remote from the large continents. It was unremarkable and therefore there were no tourists there, and people who lived there almost never left it.



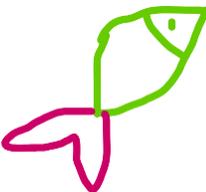


It was always foggy in the town. All the people there did not dream of anything, they just did their job and knew their place in life. There was a small school in this town. There were not a lot of children in this small school, because many parents did not see the point in their children being educated.





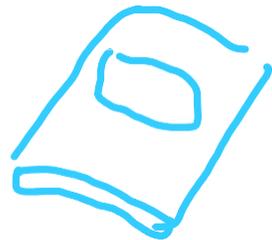
Many children started working from an early age. The main job in that town was fishing. The island rarely experiences good weather. It rained there most of the year. The inhabitants of the town earn their living by fishing and selling fish and, in general, everything that they can get out of the ocean.



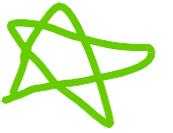


But the main character of the story, a boy named Jacob, was not like the other inhabitants of this town. Jacob had a father and three elder brothers. All of them worked with their father at the port. They helped to unload the fish and transport it around the city.





Jacob`s father did not want his children to go to school. He thought that it was useless. He forced Jacob to work at the port with his brothers, although he was still a child and sought to explore the world. The boy really wanted to go to school.



The boy really wanted to go to school. He used to go there until his mother died. His mother was an incredibly kind woman, she always supported him in everything. His mother was his father's third wife. And all the other brothers did not like him, probably because they had different mothers.





And this kindness, love for the whole world and craving for the unknown in him was from his mother. He loved to study very much, he liked to learn new things, to read books.

But when his father forbade him to go to school, the boy began to withdraw into himself and forgot about his dreams of studying, travelling and new discoveries.



And then one morning the boy was going to the port. He helped his brothers to unload the fish. It was an ordinary day, he went to the place he hated the most, to the place where nothing pleased him.

And so, walking along the damp coastal street, where air was soaked through with a fishy smell, he noticed a young girl in a bright yellow coat, the color of the midday sun, which was a very rare occurrence in these places. She went from the port towards the city itself.

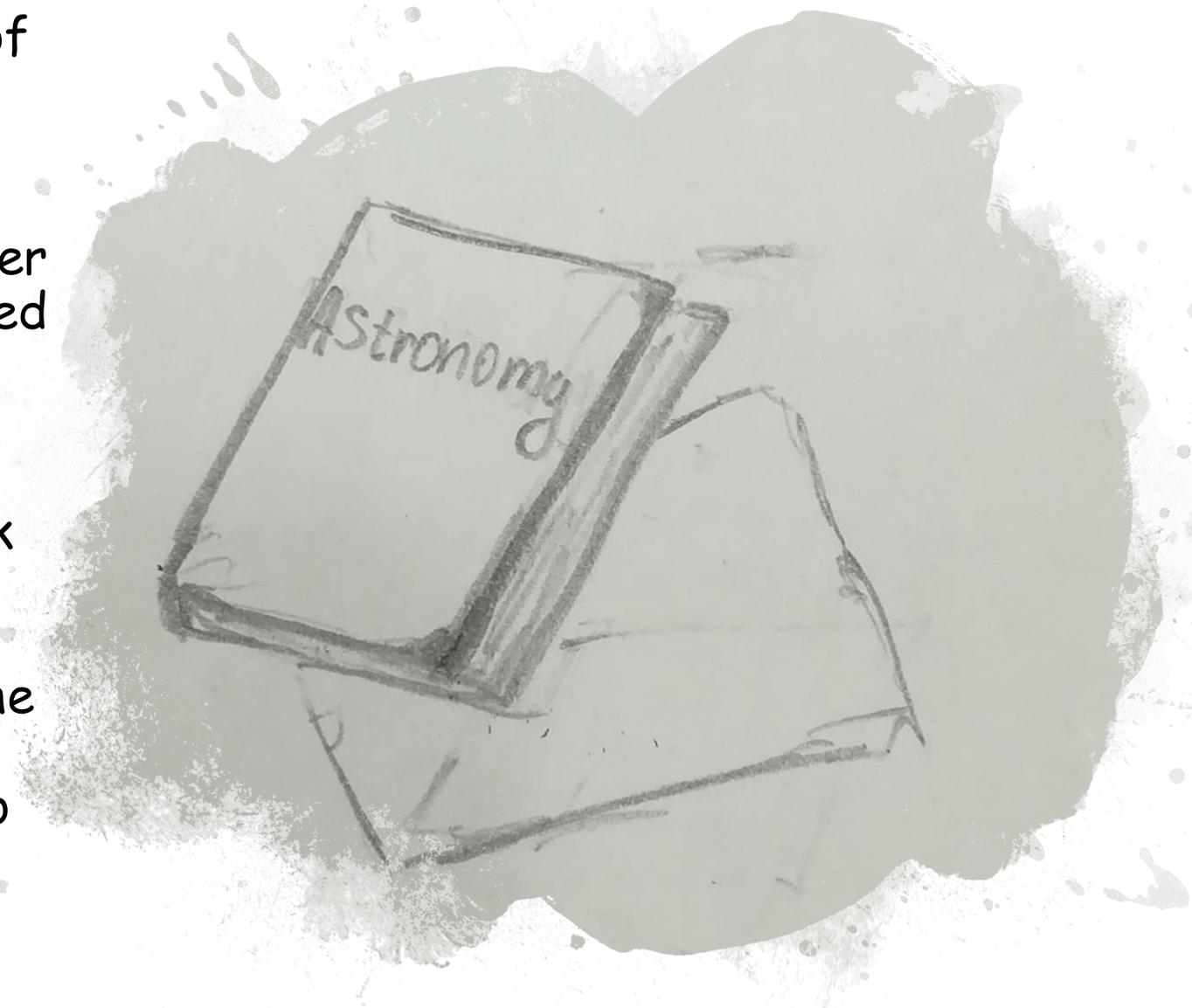


The boy was surprised, he rarely saw unfamiliar faces, because in such a small town everyone knew each other. She was carrying some papers, books and various kinds of documents in her hands. They were both staring at something and accidentally bumped into each other.

The girl dropped her things. Everything scattered in different ways and the girl began to pick up her documents, and Jacob began to help her. When all the papers were collected, he made sure that the girl was definitely not from this town.

She turned out to be a relative of one of the old ladies, who lived in the town. Her name was Rebecca. She lived here before, but then moved to another country with her parents. And now she has returned to look after her grandmother.

During the conversation, Jacob saw in her hands a very large book with a title that he did not understand. Although he did not study at school for long, but he knew how to read. And the word "Astronomy" was unknown to him. So he asked Rebecca about this word.

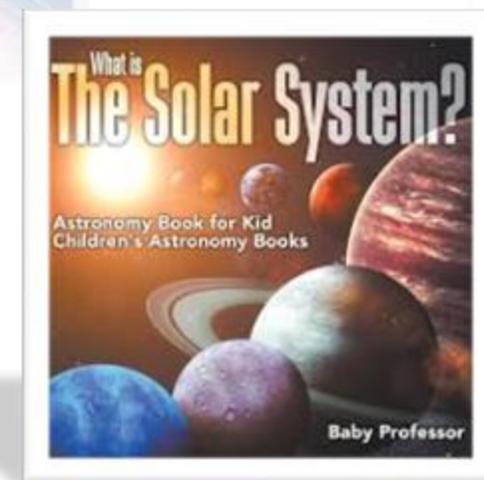
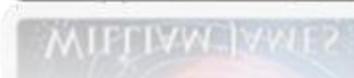
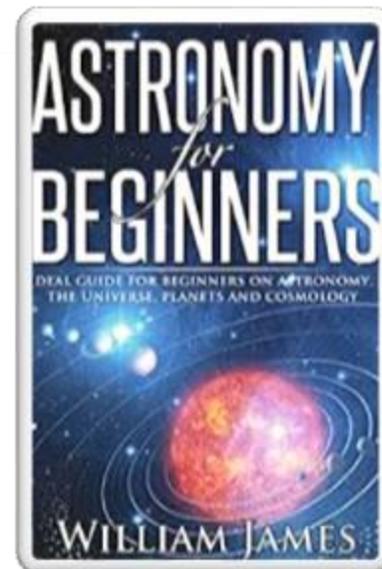
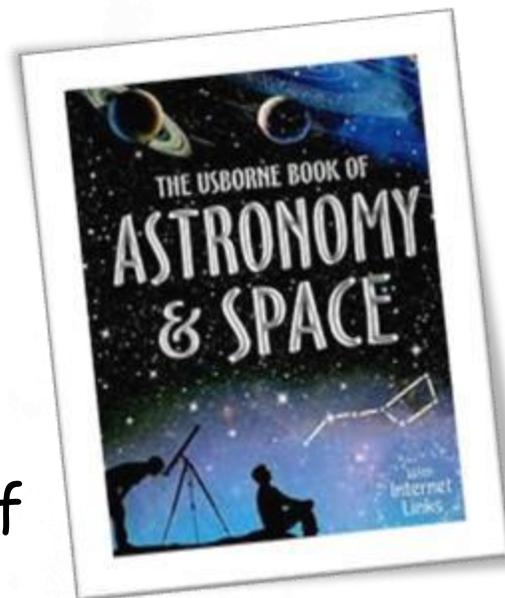




She was very surprised that he did not know it. Rebecca said that this is a science that studies stars. And what are the stars are Jacob thought

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He completely forgot about his affairs and work, helped her to bring all her books home. While they were walking towards Rebecca's home, Jacob asked her lots of questions and she told him about the stars, planets, galaxies and how huge the universe is.





The boy listened with admiration to her words. Now he remembered the feeling he had had when he studied at school. He remembered how he loved to study, to learn something new.

When Jacob got home, he didn't tell his father that he had met a tourist on the street. The boy was afraid that his father would scold him.



From that day on, he began to go to the school library every day and took from there various books about astronomy, physics and other sciences. He often met with Rebecca and they talked a lot about the limitless possibilities of humans and about unknown places. As time went on, the boy had an incredible dream to see the stars with his own eyes.

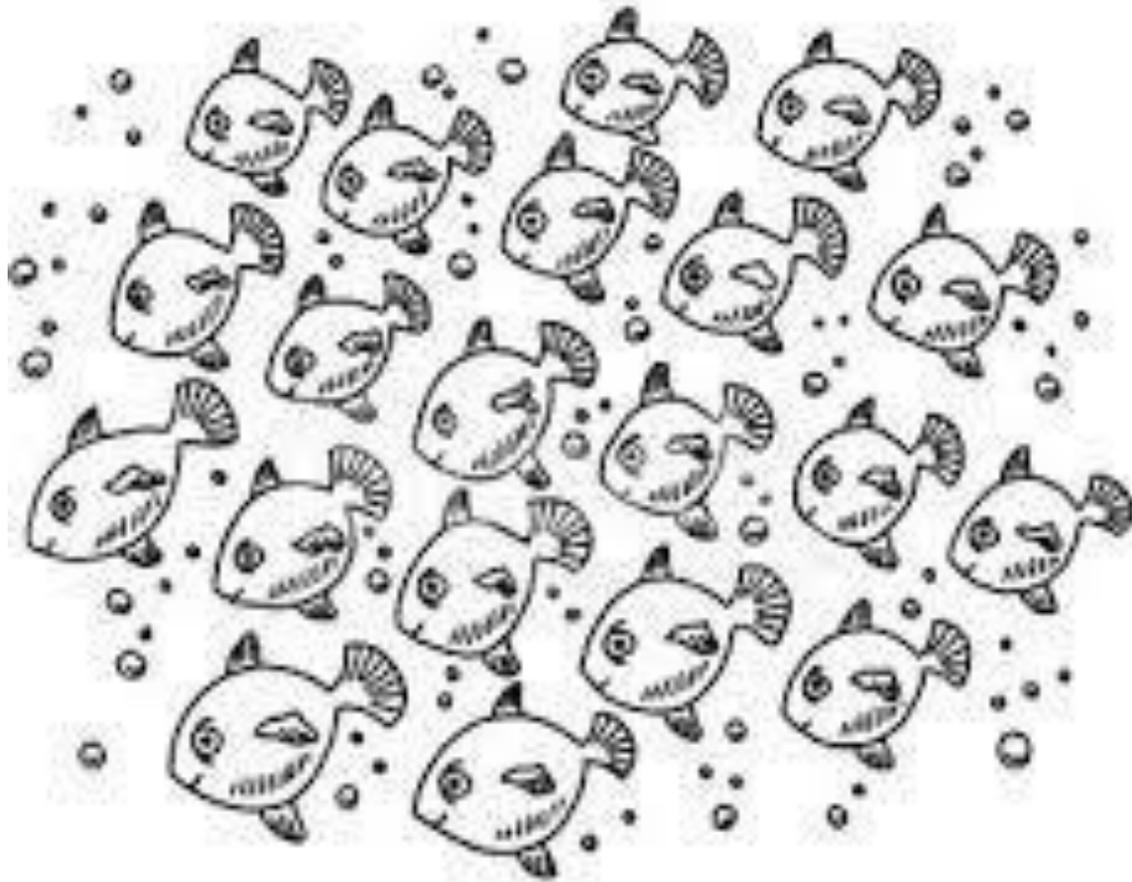
But for him this dream seemed completely unrealizable, because in their small town one could see only a thick grey fog, which covered the entire sky.



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For a long time he persuaded his father to go on a journey to a place where there is no such fog and stars shine in the sky at night, but his father did not give in to persuasion.

Jacob was very upset, but he did not stop believing. He continued to study astronomy and hoped that someday he would see the stars with his own eyes.



Several years have passed. Jacob grew up and started working on the boat with his brothers. Every day they swam out to sea and caught fish there to feed the city. Their work was very important, but Jacob didn't like it at all. And so, as always, he went to sea to set new fishing nets and collect the previous ones.

Rebecca was on the boat with him. Several years had passed since they first met each other and since then, they have become best friends. She had been working in the same place as Jacob not for very long. But she did her job very well. Rebecca helped to keep track of the caught fish. All his brothers worked at the port at that time.



Jacob and Rebecca had already collected the catch and set new nets. It was time to go home. And it was slowly getting dark, in the dark it was very difficult to navigate the boat. They had already pulled anchor, but for some reason they could not start the boat.

Then after examining the vessel, they realized that the fuel tank was damaged and they ran out of all fuel. Friends called the city, they were told that a rescue boat could come for them, but it is now in another part of the sea. The ship would only reach them by tomorrow morning. Jacob was very upset because they needed to deliver an important cargo to the city. But there was nothing to do and they had to wait.



Then the evening came and it began to get colder. It was clear that they would need to spend a night on the boat. They decided to stay in the cabin for a while. Rebecca, as always, took her book about the stars with her and they discussed and talked about space. Rebecca was also very fond of astronomy, but unlike Jacob, she saw stars when she lived in another country. But this town had some kind of mysterious history, because stars were never seen here.

It was late and it was already completely dark outside. Only the boat lights were on. Jacob decided to go out on deck and turn off the light. When he turned off the lights, he was very confused, there was still enough light outside.

Jacob threw his head over the railing and saw some white dots in the water. And then he harshly raised his head and looked up. And there, in the sky, millions of stars were shining and the bright white moon shined like a night sun. Jacob stood in silence and could not believe his eyes. His dream, which he had been thinking about for many years, finally came true.





And then he began to scream and even burst into tears of happiness. Rebecca ran out of the cabin and saw this miracle. After all, no one has ever seen stars in these places before. Jacob could not believe his happiness. He sat all night on the deck admiring the night sky. The next day they were rescued and they told everyone what they had seen. But no one believed them. This was obvious, because many people who have lived in this town all their lives thought that the stars were just a fiction.



But after that day, every single evening Jacob swam on a boat to the place where he first saw the stars and admired them. The stars were visible only from that place and only at a certain time. It was impossible to find any explanation for this, but it was exactly so.



Thank you for reading!

