

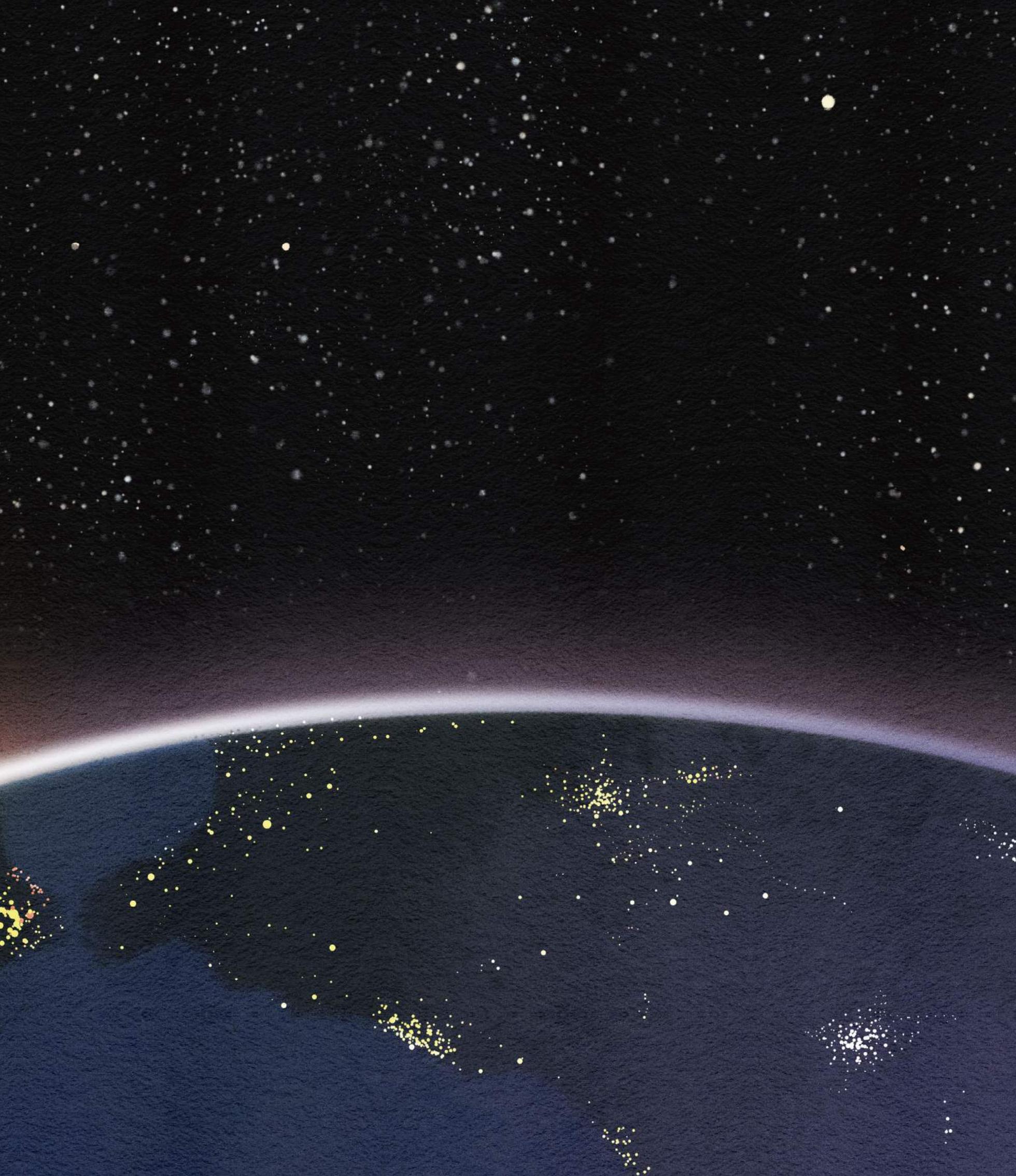


# Our Home, Our Only Home

Marion Dane Bauer  
*illustrated by* Sophie Diao

PASTEDOWN





For Rubin Pfeffer,  
my agent, my beloved friend  
MDB

For Ben and Hélène  
SD

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First edition 2026

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number pending  
ISBN 978-1-5362-3403-9

25 26 27 28 29 30 APS 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in Humen, Dongguan, China

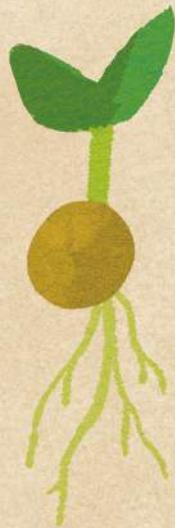
This book was typeset in Goudy Sans.  
The illustrations were created digitally.

Candlewick Press  
99 Dover Street  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144

[www.candlewick.com](http://www.candlewick.com)

EU Authorized Representative: HackettFlynn Ltd., 36 Cloch Choirneal,  
Balrothery, Co. Dublin, K32 C942, Ireland. [EU@walkerpublishinggroup.com](mailto:EU@walkerpublishinggroup.com)

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Sophie Diao



CANDLEWICK PRESS





We,  
you and I,  
are alive.  
Alive in a vast universe  
of fire and ice.  
Alive on the only planet  
in all this burning, freezing universe  
known to sustain  
life.

We are as alive  
as night-sprouting mushrooms,  
as worms gobbling their way  
through the living soil.  
Alive as buttercups,  
as chickadees.  
As catfish,  
as cats.

No one knows how life came to be.  
Or where.  
Or when.