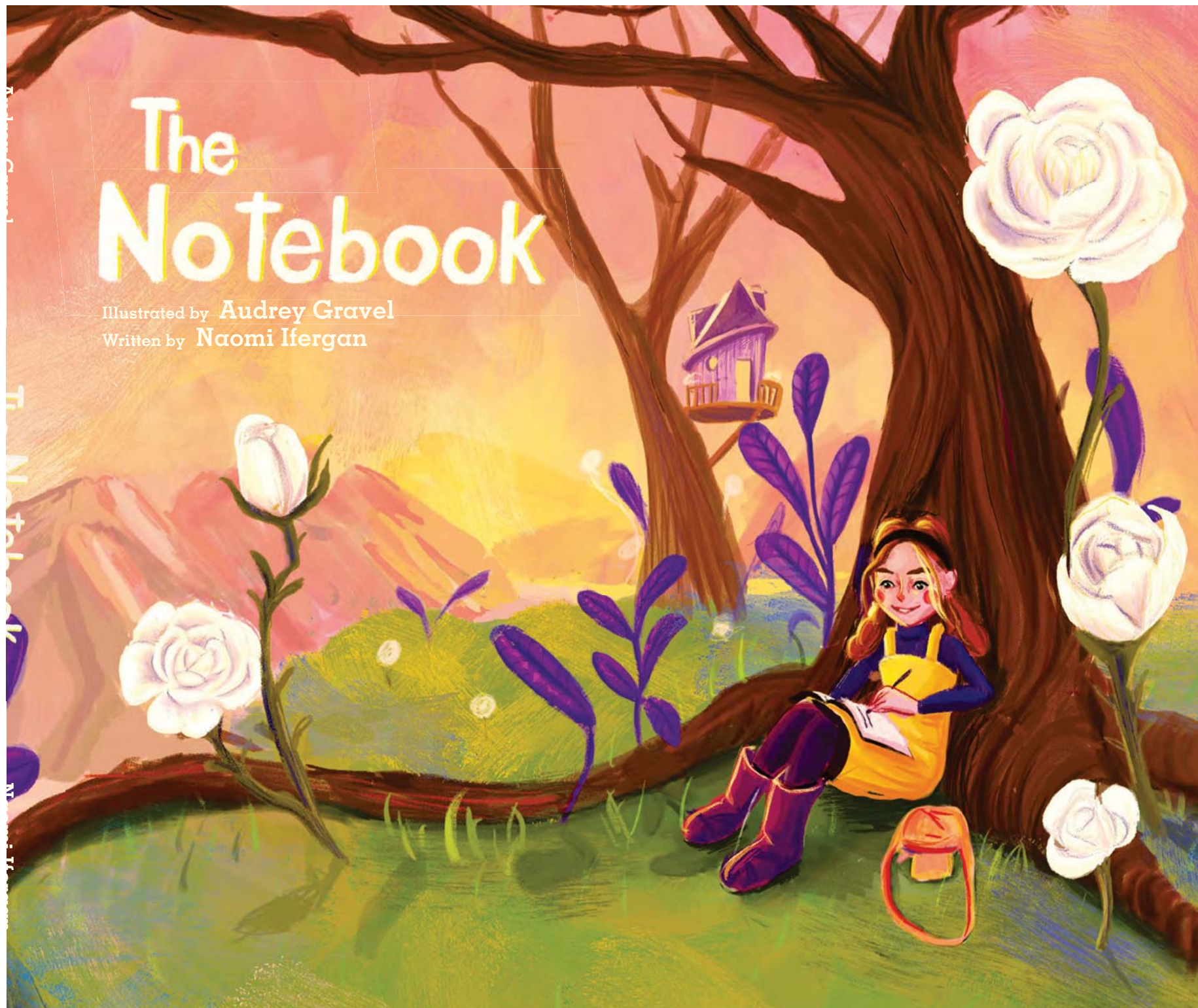
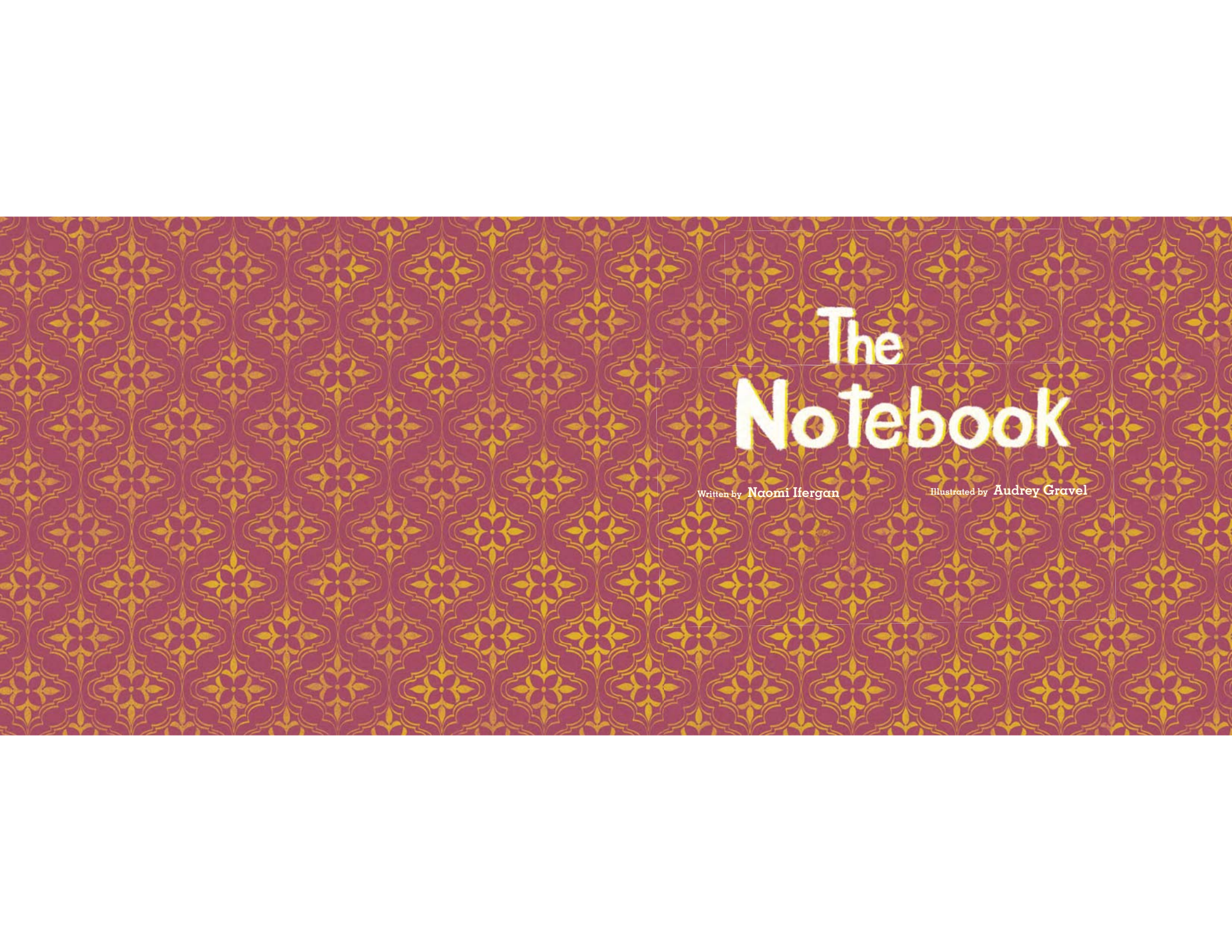


The Notebook

Illustrated by Audrey Gravel
Written by Naomi Ifergan





The Notebook

Written by Naomi Ifergan

Illustrated by Audrey Gravel

Dawson College, Illustration Program
3040 Sherbrooke St. West
Montreal, Quebec H3Z 1A4 Canada

Text Copyright © 2019: Naomie Hergan
Illustrations Copyright © 2019: Audrey Gravel
All rights reserved.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or
reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission.
For more information, address the authors and illustrator.

First Printed Edition: February 2020

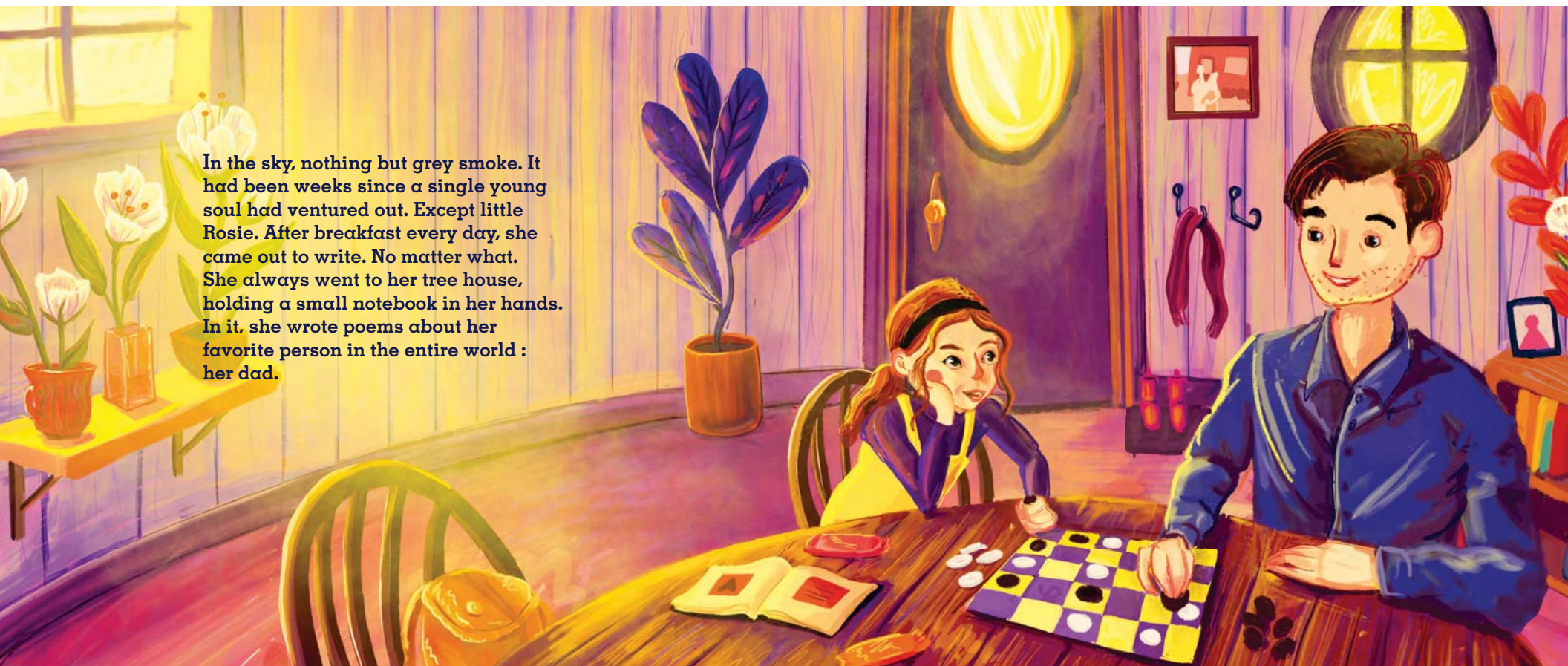
This book is dedicated to my loving
grandfather who is no longer
with us. Your memory will live
on forever in my heart.


I love you Papi Max

-Your granddaughter, Naomi



In the sky, nothing but grey smoke. It had been weeks since a single young soul had ventured out. Except little Rosie. After breakfast every day, she came out to write. No matter what. She always went to her tree house, holding a small notebook in her hands. In it, she wrote poems about her favorite person in the entire world : her dad.



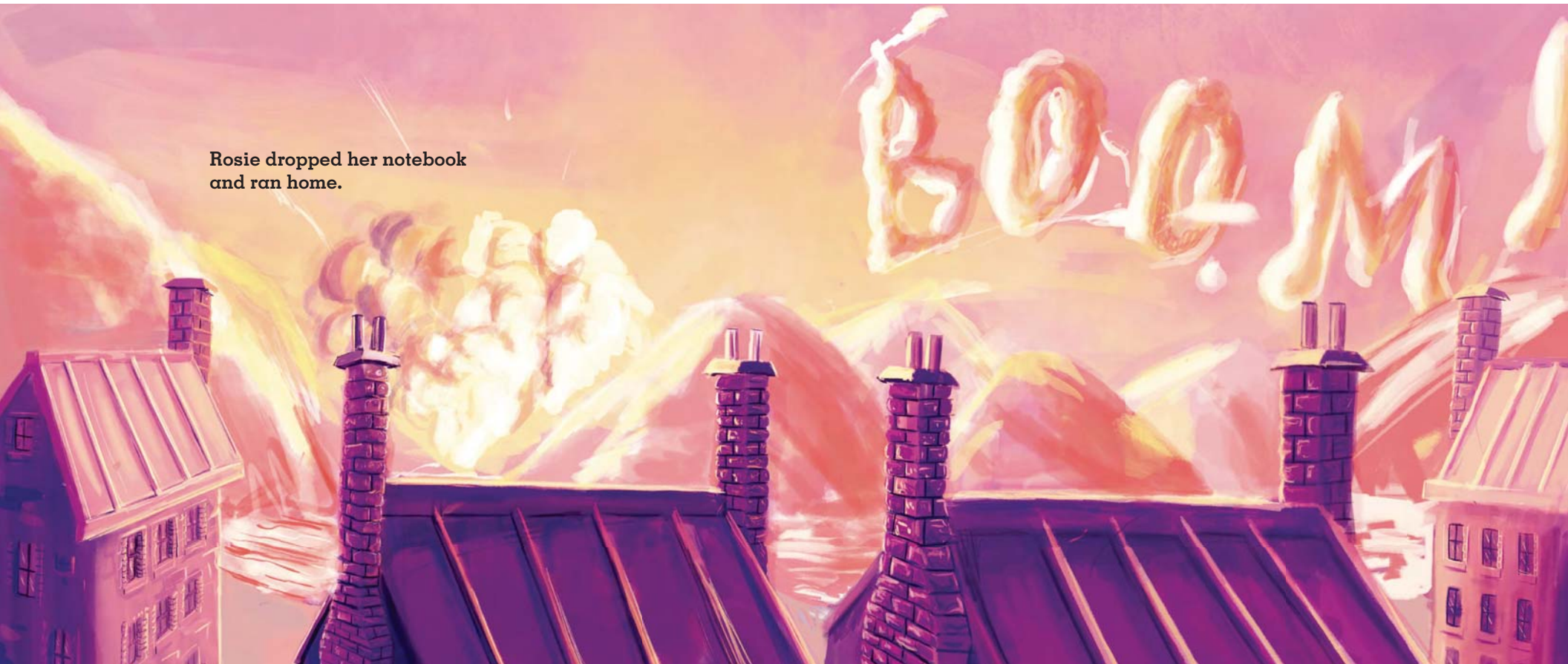
A vibrant, painterly illustration of a landscape. In the foreground, a small stone bridge with a single arch crosses a narrow stream. The bridge is built from rough, grey stones. To the left, a portion of a two-story house with a brown roof and white walls is visible. In the middle ground, a large, leafless tree stands on a grassy bank. To the right, a small, white treehouse with a red roof and a wooden ladder is built into the branches of another tree. A small figure of a person is visible on the ladder. The background features rolling hills under a bright, hazy sky. The overall style is whimsical and storybook-like.

Today was her dad's birthday and every year, they would spend the day together in the treehouse. But this year, her dad was fighting war. She climbed up to their hideaway all alone with her notebook. She started wrting a poem to him.

"It is me, Rosie, your only daughter
I miss you father. I wish we could see
each other. You'd see I've become
stronger..."

She did not get a chance
to finish her sentence.

Rosie dropped her notebook
and ran home.





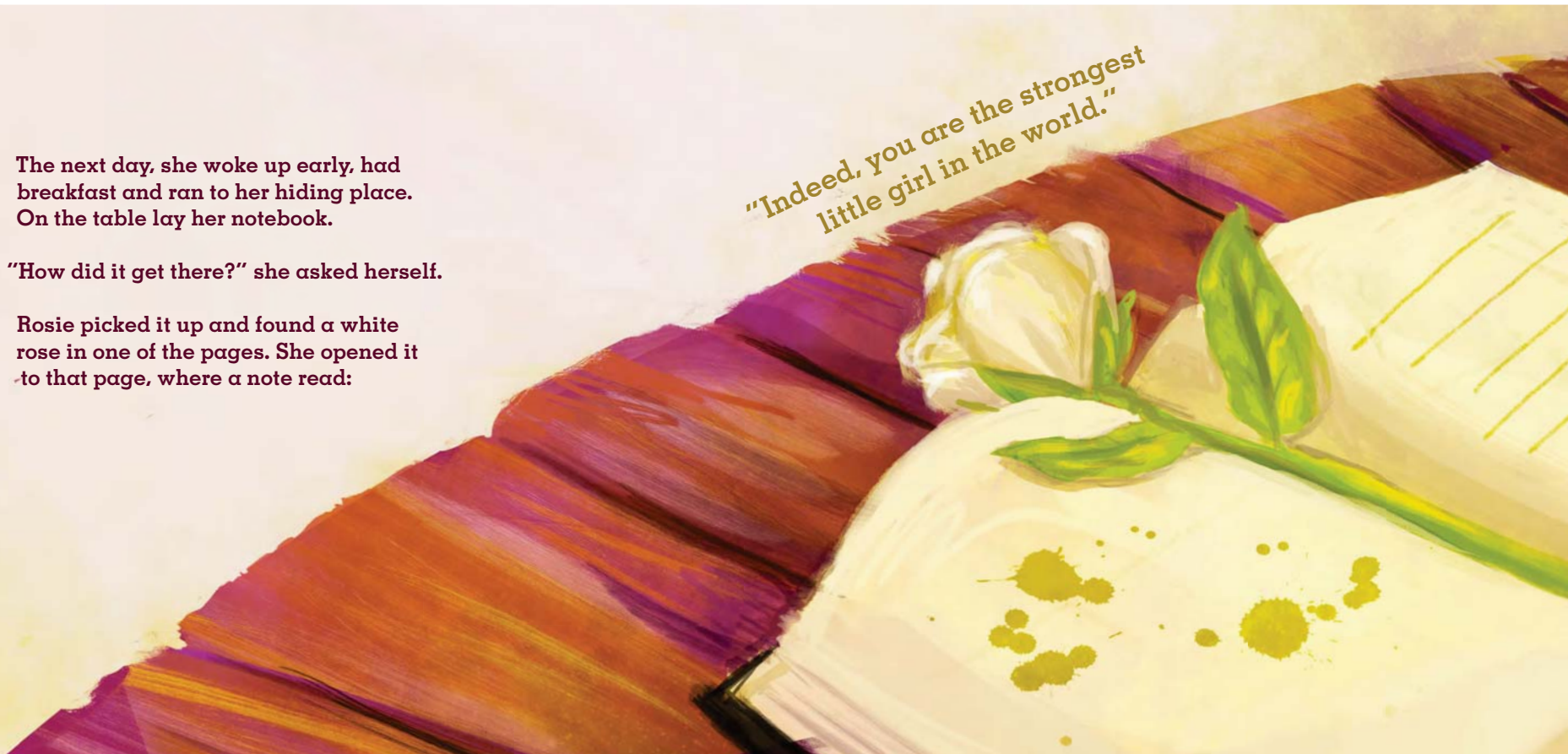
At night, she put her hands over her eyes and prayed for her father to come home soon. And as always, her mother waited for her to finish before turning off the lights.

The next day, she woke up early, had breakfast and ran to her hiding place. On the table lay her notebook.

"How did it get there?" she asked herself.

Rosie picked it up and found a white rose in one of the pages. She opened it to that page, where a note read:

*"Indeed, you are the strongest
little girl in the world."*






"Daddy? Is that you?" Rosie said as she looked around. But Daddy wasn't there. Still, her heart was filled with happiness as she ran home, leaving her notebook behind.



Everyday after that, she wrote a poem, left her notebook in her secret spot overnight and the next morning, always found a new note.

Until one day, she did not get anything back. Not one word. Rosie was sad and confused. A few days. Still nothing. She was scared it was a sign that something had happened to her father.



Once again, she prayed at night as her mother patiently waited. However, that night, Rosie addressed a question to G-d. "I know you are very busy. But please let me know that daddy is safe".

As usual, she did not expect an answer, but she kept hoping.

The next day, after breakfast, Rosie
went back to her house in the treetop.
This time, the book was opened, and
on that page, it said in gold writing,

"I am never too busy for my children.
Your father is safe and so are you."



Rosie went home and showed the notebook to her mom. Her mother smiled and kissed her on her forehead. She then took Rosie's hand and brought her into the living room.



There, in Daddy's chair, sat a man.
The man turned around.


"Hey kiddo" he said. Rosie ran into his
arms and cried.

"Daddy! I missed you".





The End



Rosie is a young girl living in the second world war. One day, while peacefully writing poems in a park, she is interrupted by a missile and leaves behind her notebook as she runs to safety. When she returns the next day, she realizes a mysterious person has written in her book . . .