

Jupiter

Zuri and Friends

Made for Tlaloc

With love from the Faust book maker

Jupiter

Zuri and Friends

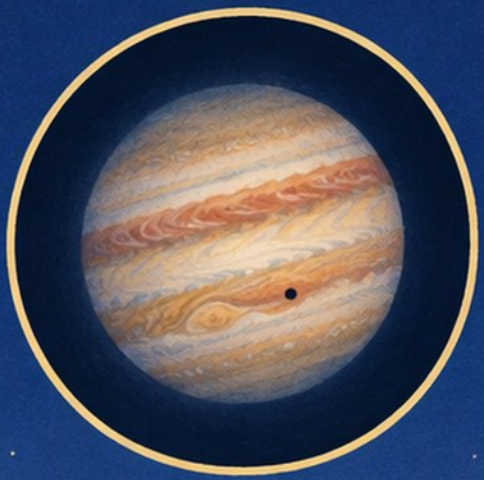
Made for Tlaloc

With love from the Faust book maker

Zuri, Teo and Juno were friends. Pip, their owl, came too. They climbed a hill at night. Jupiter, a giant planet, shone over the trees. A tiny dark dot sat on Jupiter. "Let's see the dot slide off!" said Juno.



Zuri set up the telescope. A telescope makes far things look big. Jupiter had stripes! There was the dot. But Jupiter was sinking toward the trees. "Stay up, Jupiter!"



Did you know? Jupiter is about eleven Earths wide.

Teo shut the wrong eye. Everything went black! He giggled and switched. Juno drew Jupiter and the dot.



Teo pressed too close. Bonk! His nose bumped the telescope. Jupiter wobbled *away*. "Stay up, Jupiter!"

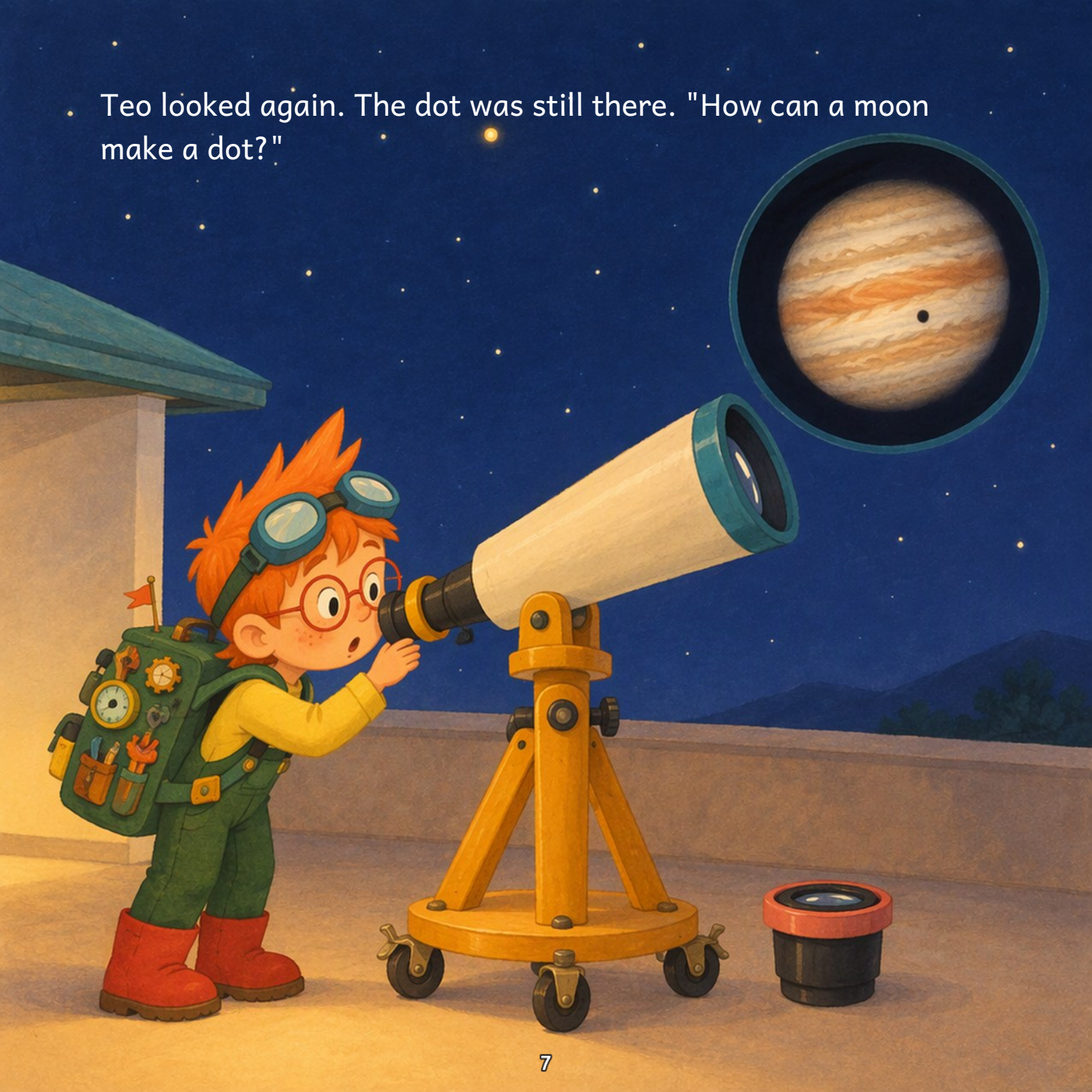



Pip tugged Zuri's sleeve. Look! Jupiter was almost at the trees.
"We're running out of time!" said Zuri.

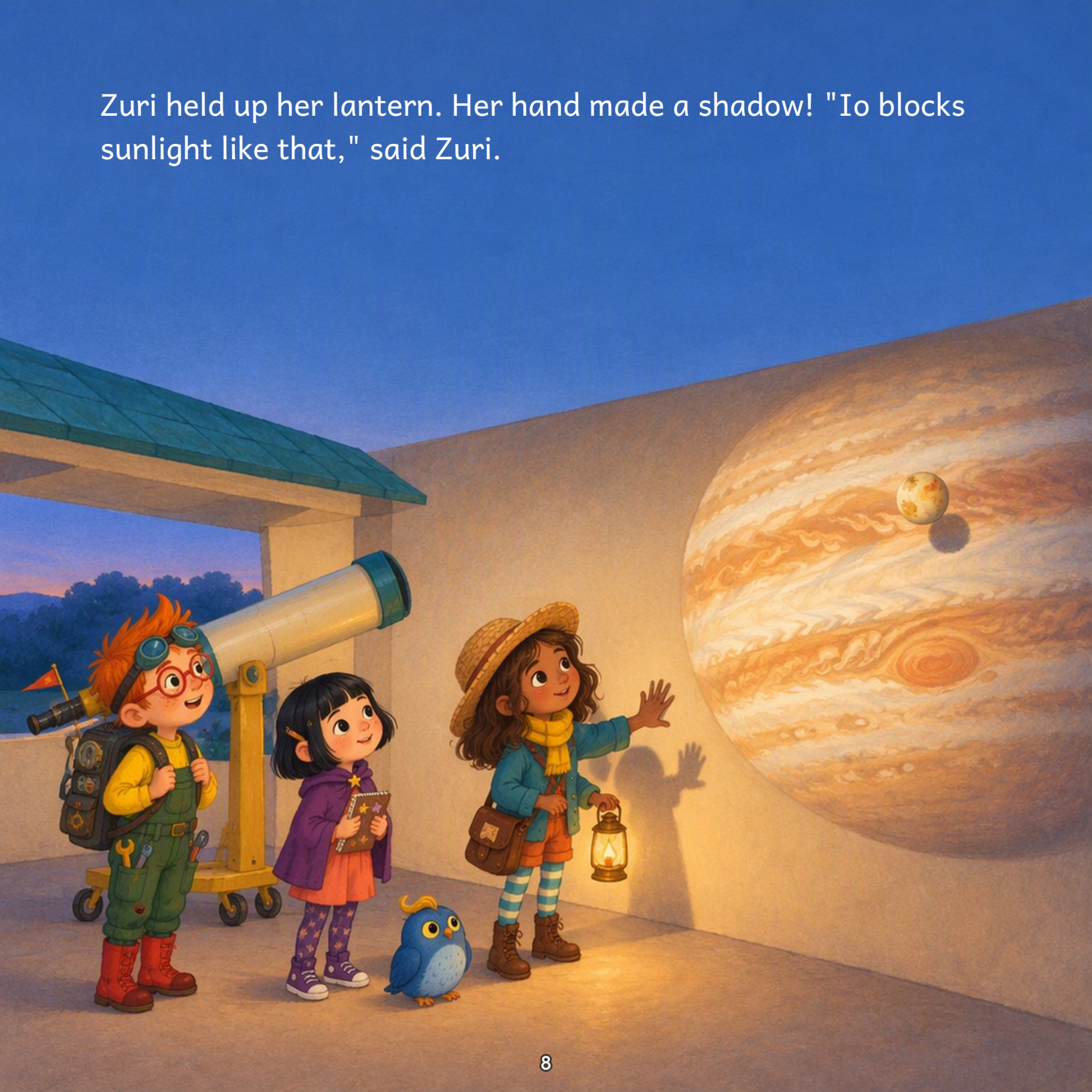
Teo frowned. "Is the dot dirt?" "No," said Zuri. "It's a shadow. Io, a little moon, makes it."

Did you know? Io circles Jupiter in about 42 hours.




Teo looked again. The dot was still there. "How can a moon make a dot?"

Zuri held up her lantern. Her hand made a shadow! "Io blocks sunlight like that," said Zuri.



Juno checked her drawing. "The dot moved!" "Io is moving," said Zuri. "So its shadow moves too."



Teo asked, "Can we stand on Jupiter?" "No," said Zuri. "It's all clouds. No ground!" "Stay up, Jupiter!"



Quick turns, quick turns! The dot reached the edge. A branch almost touched Jupiter. Everyone held their breath.



"It's gone!" cheered Juno. "Bye-bye, dot!" Then Jupiter slipped behind the trees. Pip flapped. Teo did a happy dance.



For grown-ups

Jupiter is about eleven times as wide as Earth. Beneath its clouds, the gas slowly becomes a dense fluid. Jupiter has no solid ground to land on. Io is a rocky moon that circles Jupiter in about forty-two hours. Its shadow can take about two hours to cross Jupiter. Earth's turning makes Jupiter seem to sink toward the western trees. A small backyard telescope can show Jupiter's stripes and moons. Astronomy apps list when a moon's shadow crosses.