

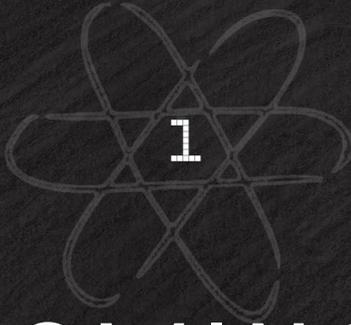
THE STORY OF
Mae
Jemison

Written by Amy Dronbaugh

Illustrated by Marta Koshutinska



THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY



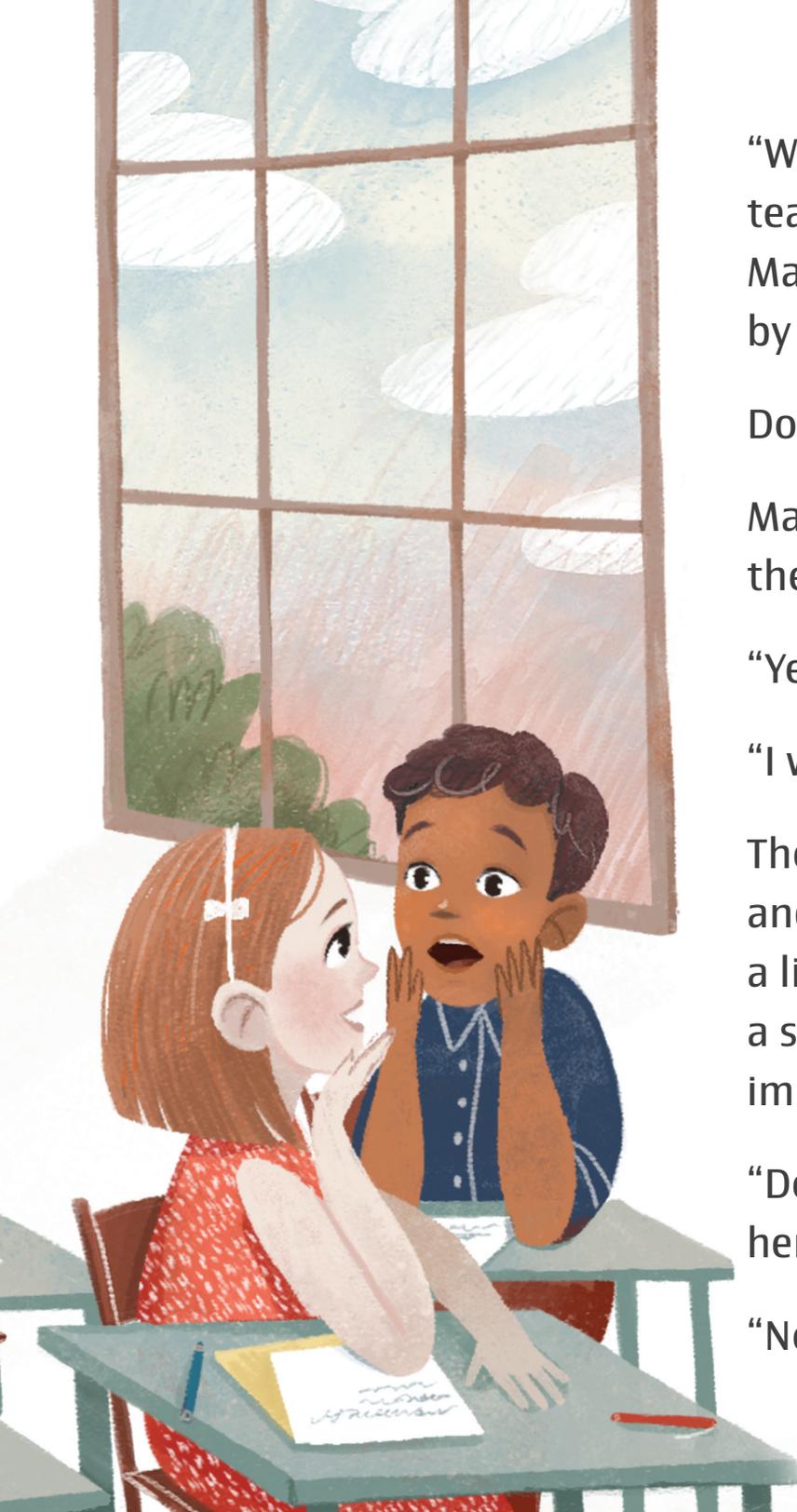
GROWING UP

“My parents were the best scientists I knew, because they were always asking questions.”



Mae loved school. She bounced at her desk happily, surrounded by crayons, books, and other wiggly children, waiting for the teacher to call on her.





“What do you want to be when you grow up?” her teacher asked the classroom of five- and six-year-olds. Mae listened closely as the other kids answered one by one.

Doctor. Teacher. Police officer. Mailman.

Mae waved her arm in the air frantically until finally, the teacher pointed at her.

“Yes, Mae, what do you want to be when you grow up?”

“I want to be a scientist!” Mae said proudly.

The teacher looked confused. It was 1961 in America, and at that time, most people did not believe that a little African American girl could grow up to be a scientist. In fact, most people would say it was impossible.

“Don’t you mean a nurse?” her teacher asked, shaking her head.

“No,” Mae said firmly, “I mean a scientist.”

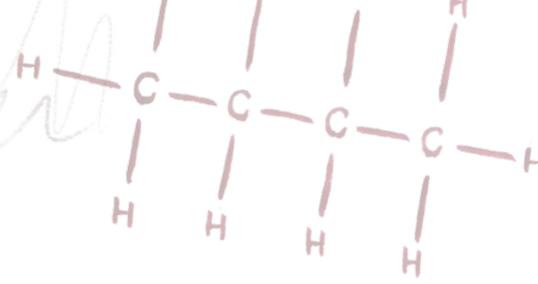
Mae Jemison was born on October 17, 1956, in Alabama, and by the time she turned four, her family had moved to Chicago. She was a lively and precocious child. Once, while waiting in the car for her mom at the grocery store, three-year-old Mae jumped into the driver's seat and somehow managed to put the car into gear and hit the gas. However, she couldn't see over the steering wheel, so she hit three other vehicles before finally coming to a stop.





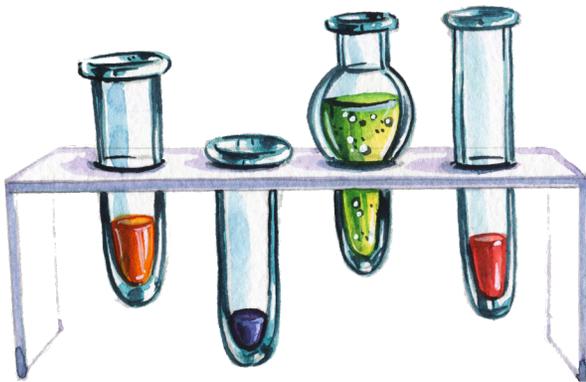
From the beginning Mae was bright and curious. Her mind was always racing along, coming up with questions to answer and adventures to conquer. If she passed a pond while walking to school, her imagination transformed it into a beautiful place, complete with lily pads, frogs, and exotic flowers. When sent on an errand to the basement, she found herself descending into a dark and mysterious cave, fraught with perils and cobwebs.



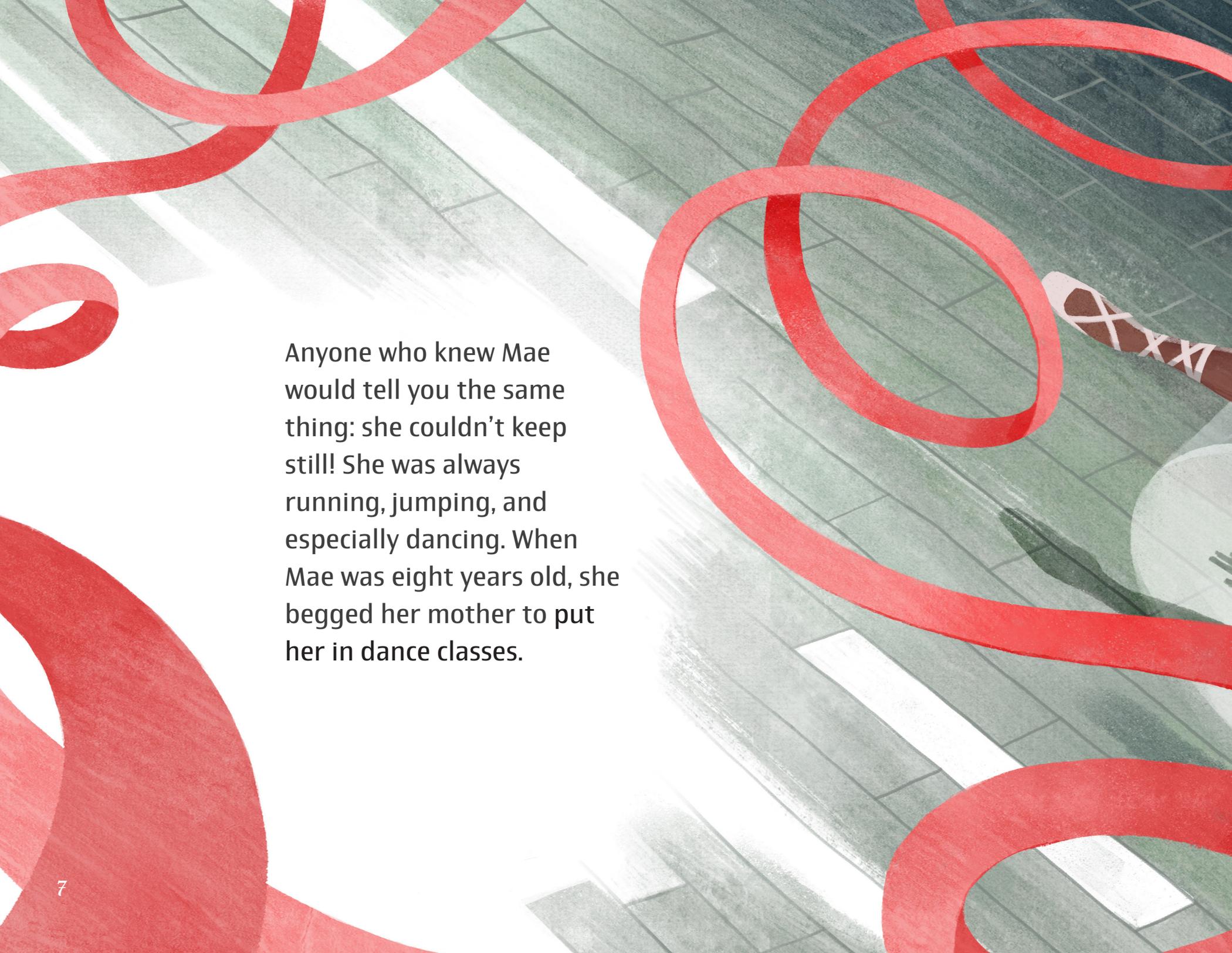


One time, a small cut on her thumb became infected. Instead of being upset, Mae was fascinated by the process. Why did the cut become red and swollen? Why did her body produce pus when infected? Her parents encouraged her to find the answers for herself, and scientific study became a part of Mae's life from a young age.

As Mae grew up, she learned important life lessons from the best role models possible—her family. The Jemisons were a tight-knit family. Helping her older siblings work on science projects and homework taught Mae the importance of education. Watching her mother go back to school to get a master's degree while raising a family taught her lessons in perseverance. Seeing her father step up to manage their home while her mother was away at school instilled in Mae a belief that men and women were equal. All of these life lessons formed the foundation of Mae's character and helped her become the kind of woman who would go on to make history.



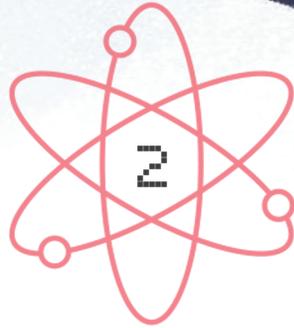


An illustration of a dance studio floor with a green and white checkered pattern. A thick, vibrant red ribbon swirls through the scene, looping and twisting across the floor. In the upper right, a person's foot wearing a white lace-up dance shoe is visible, stepping on the floor. The overall style is artistic and dynamic, suggesting movement and energy.

Anyone who knew Mae would tell you the same thing: she couldn't keep still! She was always running, jumping, and especially dancing. When Mae was eight years old, she begged her mother to put her in dance classes.



Mae's mother enrolled her in a local ballet studio. Her time studying dance started a lifelong passion. Mae seriously considered becoming a professional dancer. Dancing taught Mae grace, strengthened her body, and gave her an appreciation for hard work. Mae loved to dance, but she would soon discover something she loved even more.



SPACE

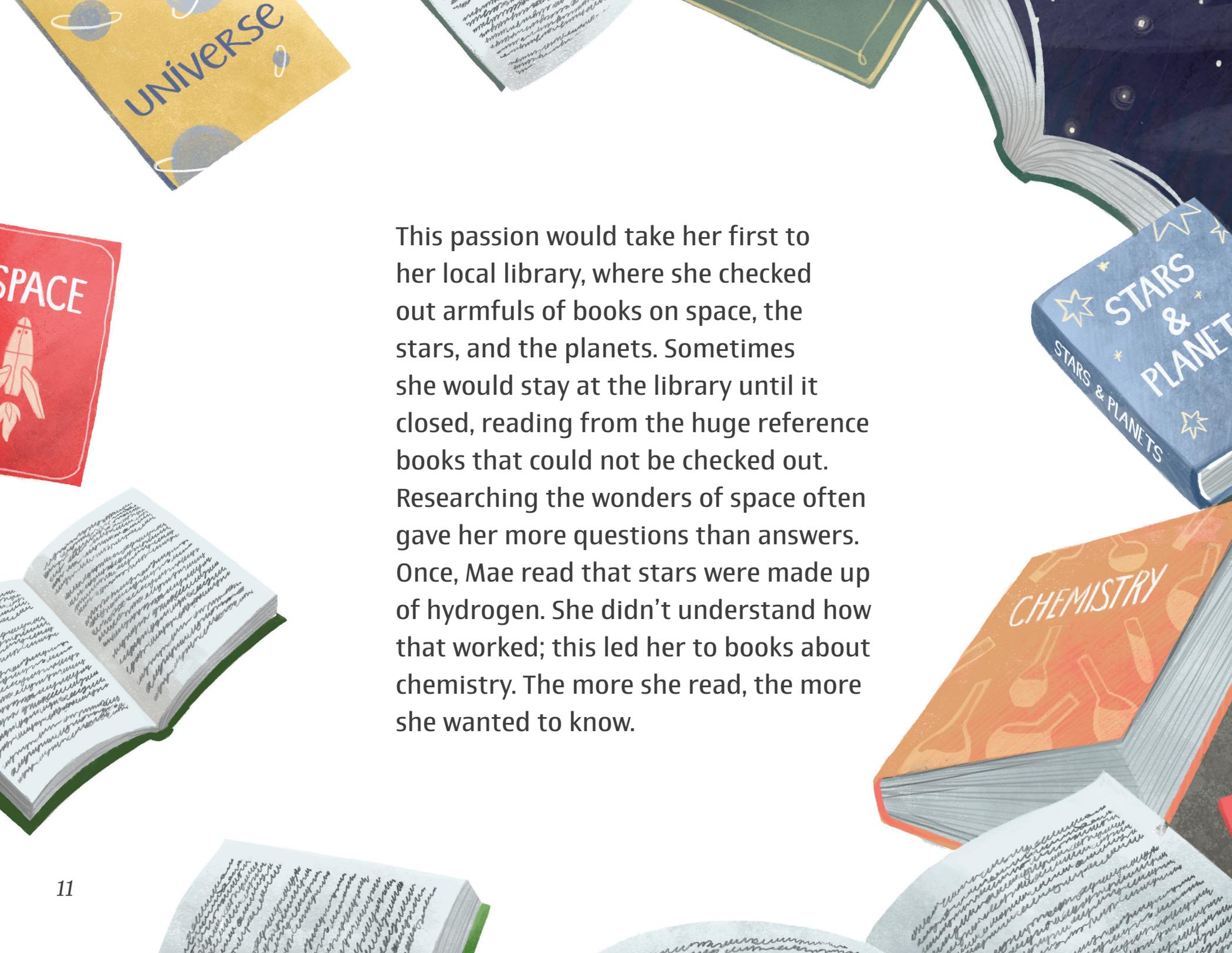
“The arts and sciences are avatars
of human creativity.”

When Mae was in sixth grade, her class participated in a program to allow inner-city children to go camping.



To prepare for the trip, the students memorized the local constellations. Away from the bright lights of the city, surrounded by darkness and silence, the skies revealed their wonders to Mae. She contemplated

the stars and planets shining above her, each one in its appointed place in the black expanse of sky. She felt a sense of belonging. A new passion was born.



This passion would take her first to her local library, where she checked out armfuls of books on space, the stars, and the planets. Sometimes she would stay at the library until it closed, reading from the huge reference books that could not be checked out. Researching the wonders of space often gave her more questions than answers. Once, Mae read that stars were made up of hydrogen. She didn't understand how that worked; this led her to books about chemistry. The more she read, the more she wanted to know.



As she walked home, Mae would look up at the night sky. She liked the cold nights best because the stars were brighter. Spinning around with her eyes on the sky, she imagined herself up in space, dancing through the stars on a spaceship. Mae knew that someday, somehow, she would go to space.

WRITTEN BY MEGAN NOEL

MARS

EXPLORATION | 1960-2016



THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY

The logo features the word "MARS" in a large, bold, red, italicized sans-serif font. A red line-art illustration of the planet Mars, showing its characteristic polar ice caps and surface features, is positioned behind the letter "A". Below "MARS" is the text "EXPLORATION | 1960-2016" in a smaller, red, italicized sans-serif font.

MARS
EXPLORATION | 1960-2016

Written by Megan Noel
Cover design by Tina DeKam



Looking up into a clear night sky, you can sometimes catch a glimpse of a red-tinted sphere among the twinkling stars. That mysterious object is the fourth planet from the sun: Mars. If you have ever wondered what it might be like up there on the appropriately nicknamed Red Planet, you are not alone.



Since 1960, many scientists have made attempts to explore one of our planet's nearest neighbors. Many of these attempts were unsuccessful because of problems with launching, equipment failures, loss of contact, and other issues. However, scientific pioneers refused to give up. The determination of these great minds has led to many amazing discoveries and a much greater understanding of this fascinating planet than we could have ever before anticipated.

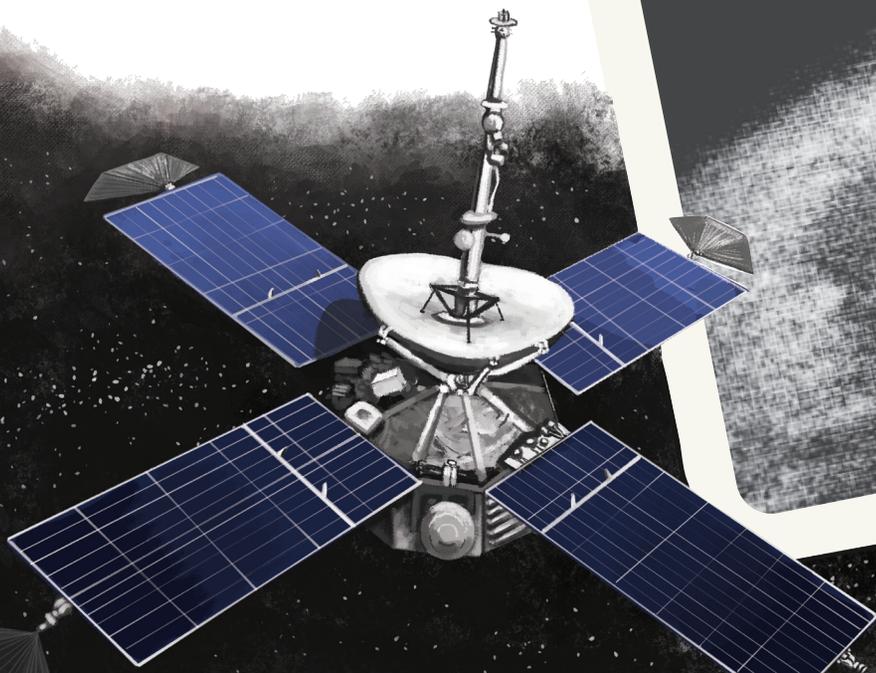
The Soviet Union (USSR), was the first to try to send a spacecraft to Mars, but Marsnik 1 failed to reach Earth's orbit. After several more unsuccessful tries by both the USSR and the United States, the USA sent Mariner 4 on the first successful flyby mission.



In 1965, after completing an eight-month journey, Mariner 4 was able to come within 9,844 km (6,118 mi) of Mars' cratered surface. Mariner 4 sent us our very first close-up pictures of Mars' surface as well as information about its thin atmosphere, which was confirmed to be composed of carbon dioxide.

SHARP VIEW OF MARS
FROM HUBBLE SPACE
TELESCOPE

THE VERY FIRST CLOSE-UP
PHOTO OF MARS



The Mariner missions continued in 1969 when the USA sent the Mariner 6 and Mariner 7 on the first dual mission to Mars to take measurements of the temperature, pressure, and composition of Mars' atmosphere. The world gained 200 new pictures of Mars from this mission, which gave us views of the equator and south polar regions.



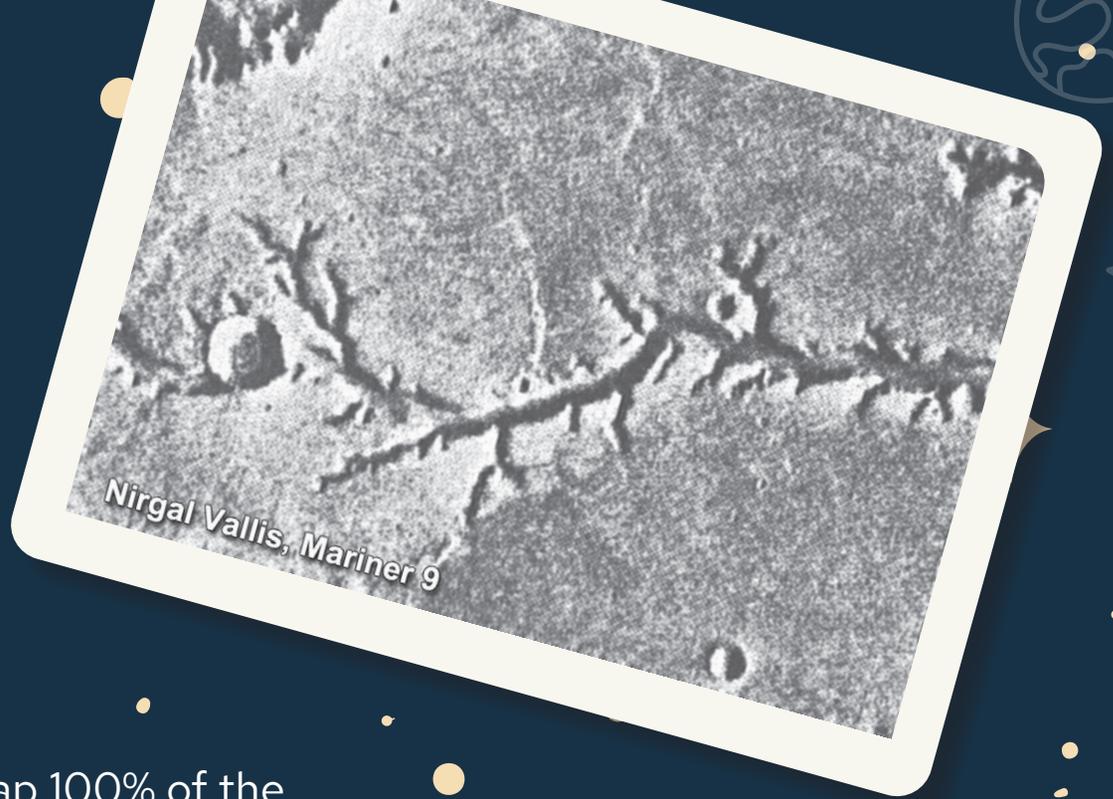
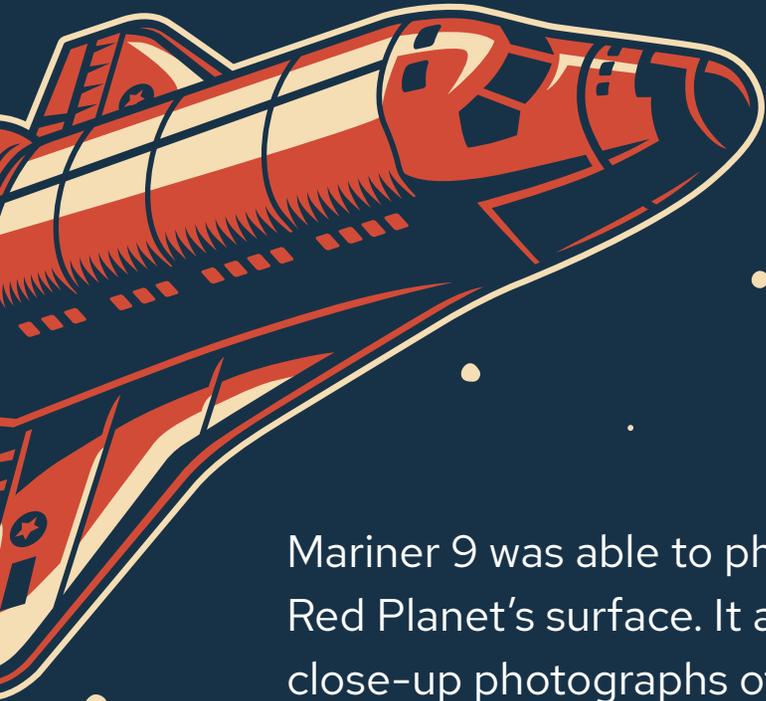
In 1971 the USSR and USA both achieved firsts in Mars exploration. The Soviet probe, Mars 3, made the first successful landing on Mars, although it failed after relaying just 20 seconds of video back to Earth. The first spacecraft to orbit another planet was the USA's Mariner 9.

THE MARINER 9 LAUNCH TOWARD
MARS FROM CAPE KENNEDY'S
LAUNCH COMPLEX ON MAY 30, 1971



After a month-long dust storm finally cleared, Mariner 9 was able to send back a sizable collection of high-quality photographs that taught us many new things about the dry and dusty surface of Mars. We were able to see towering volcanoes, a vast canyon stretching 4,828 km (3,000 mi), and ancient river beds through which liquid water likely once flowed.





Mariner 9 was able to photomap 100% of the Red Planet's surface. It also sent us the first close-up photographs of Mars' two small moons, Phobos and Deimos.

USA vessels Viking 1 and Viking 2 completed their journey through space to Mars in 1976, where Viking 1 became the second craft to land on the surface of another planet and the first to land and complete its mission.

ORIGINAL PUBLICATION

MARS

EXPLORATION | 1960-2016

FOR
centuries
mankind has
been fascinated by
the bright red spot in
the sky that is Mars,
one of our nearest spatial
neighbors. The red planet was
discovered in the night skies more
than 4,000 years ago and since then
has inspired multiple generations with
dreams of space exploration and life on other
planets. Discover the ongoing scientific journey to
photograph and explore this mysterious planet, and perhaps
someday, to land the first human being on its cratered surface.


The
Good AND THE **Beautiful**
goodandbeautiful.com

ISBN 978-1-952920-18-9 \$7.99
50799>



9 781952 920189

SKU 725