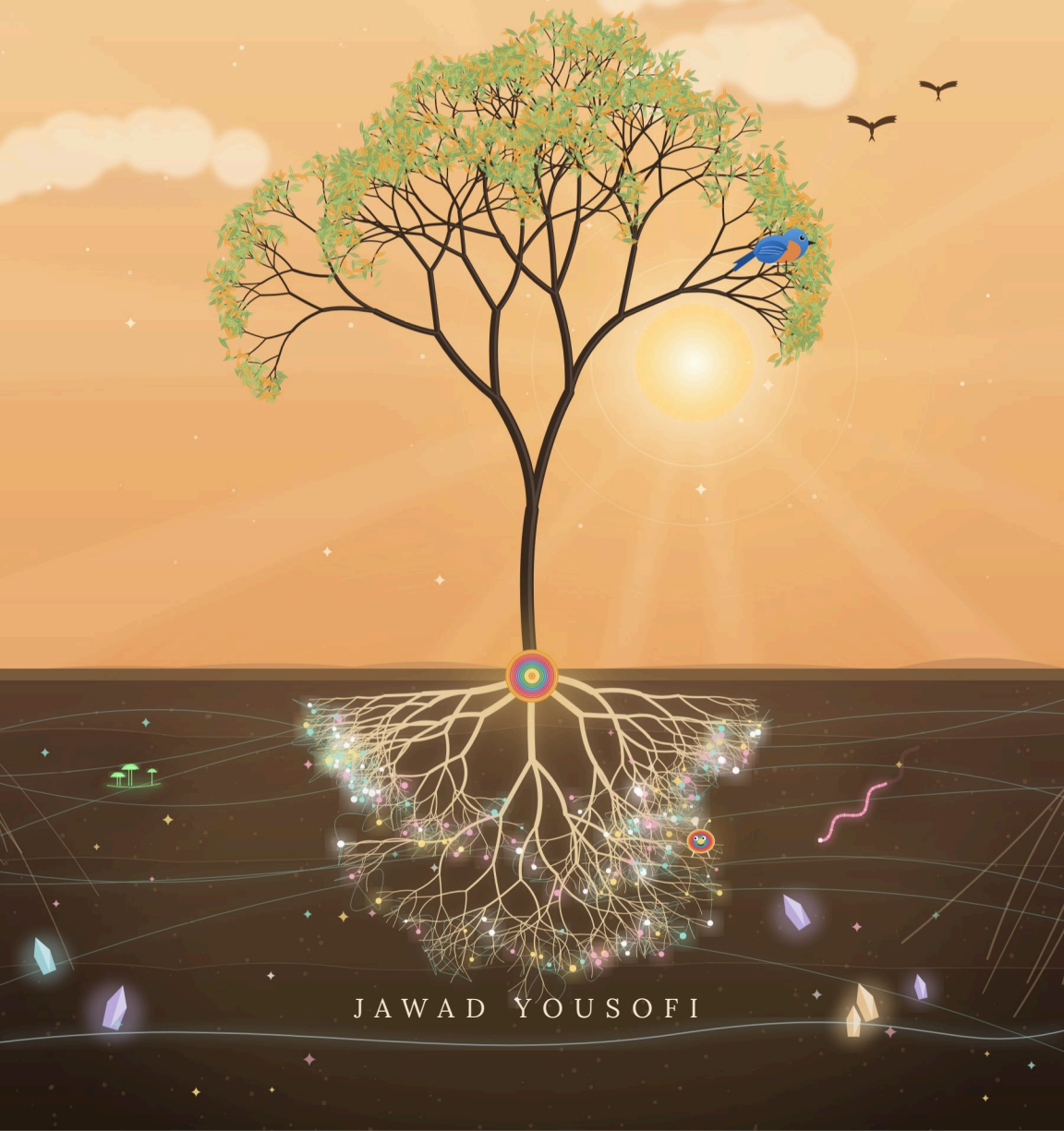
Perch

Where wings rest on what roots hold



JAWAD YOUSOFI

Perch

Where wings rest on what roots hold

JAWAD YOUSOFI

To the roots that held me,
and the skies that called me.

Deep enough to stay.

Free enough to fly.

One · The Seed

A seed falls.

It does not know the sky.

It only knows to go down,

and begin.

ONE

The Seed

Two · The Roots

Below, in the dark,

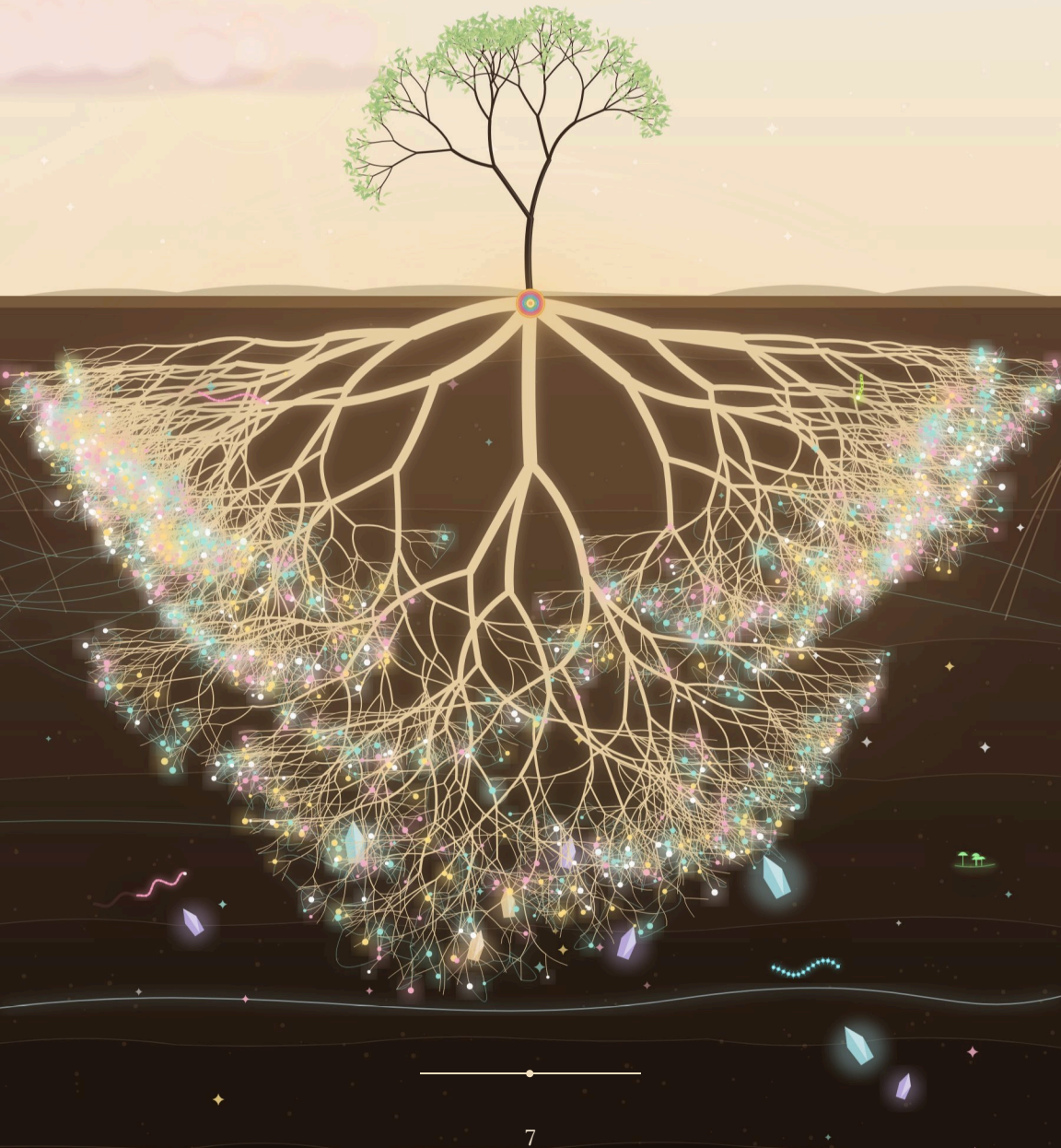
roots reach without being seen.

No one thanks them.

They hold anyway.

TWO

The Roots



Three · The Perch

A bird lands.

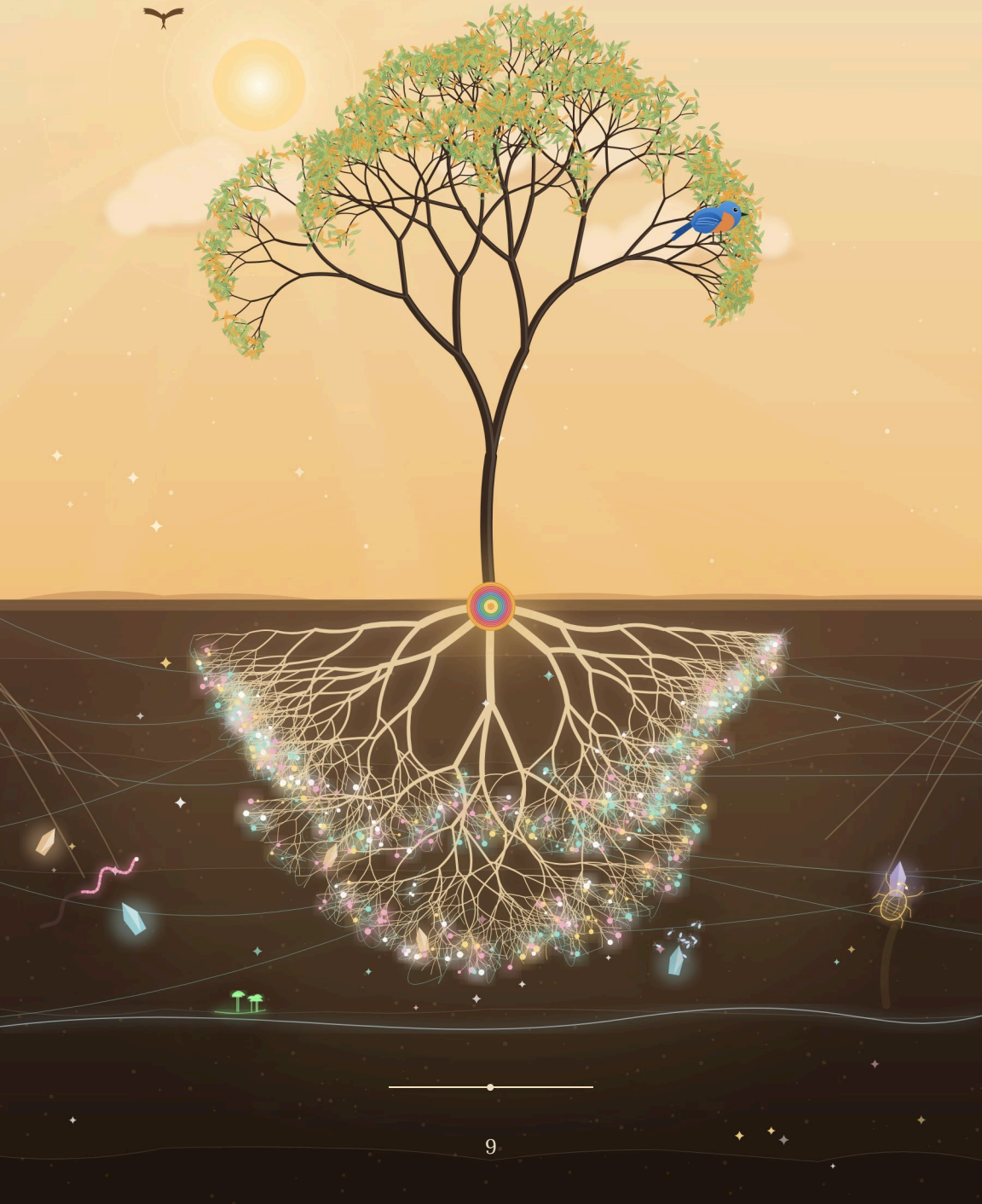
It does not ask the branch

how deep the roots go.

It simply rests.

THREE

The Perch



Four · The Nest

Twig by twig,
the bird builds on what was built before.
A home in the air,
held by the earth.

FOUR

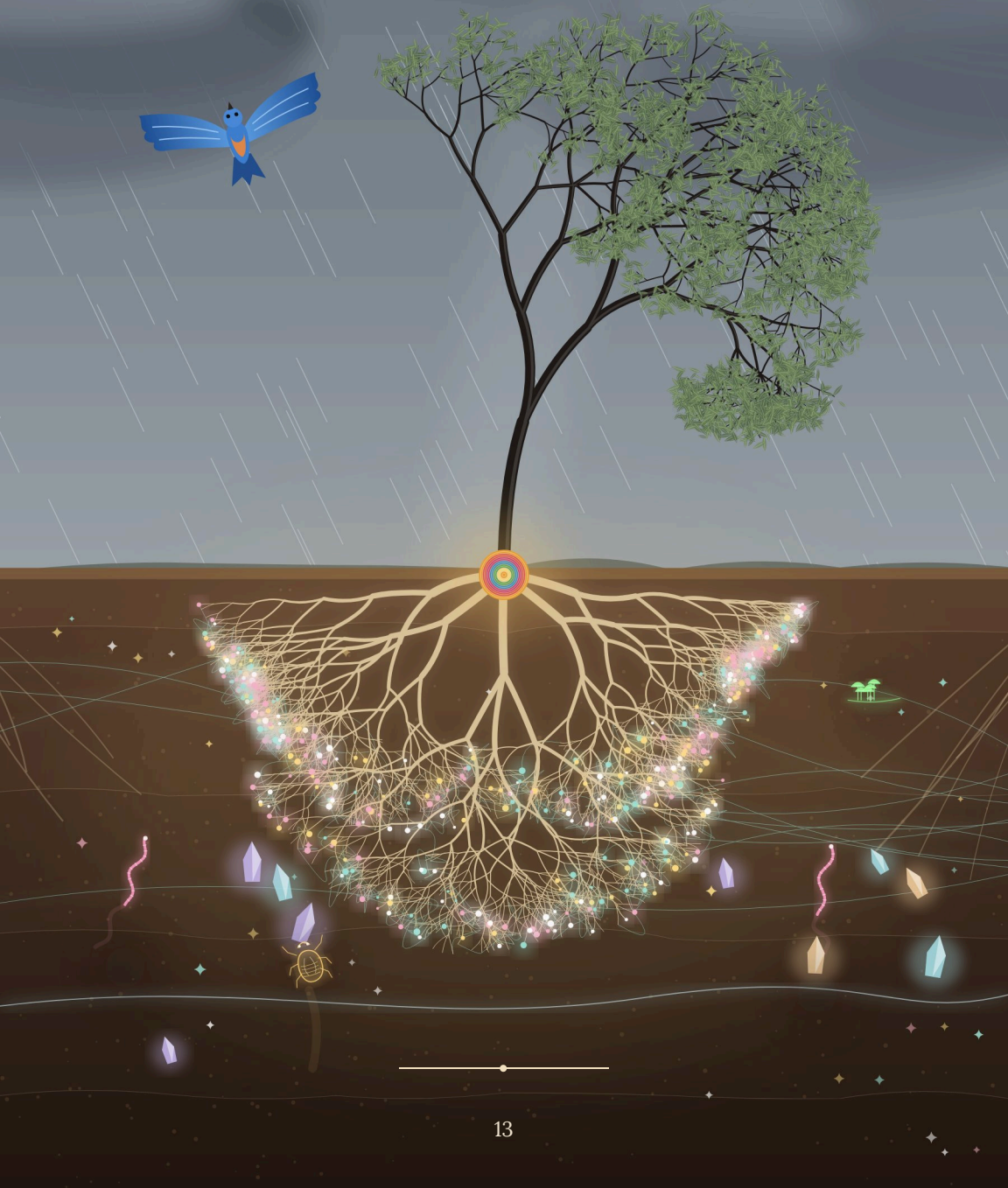
The Nest

Five · The Storm

Wind bends the tree.
The bird holds the branch,
the branch holds the trunk,
the trunk holds the earth.
Nothing falls.

FIVE

The Storm



Six · The Winter

Leaves let go.

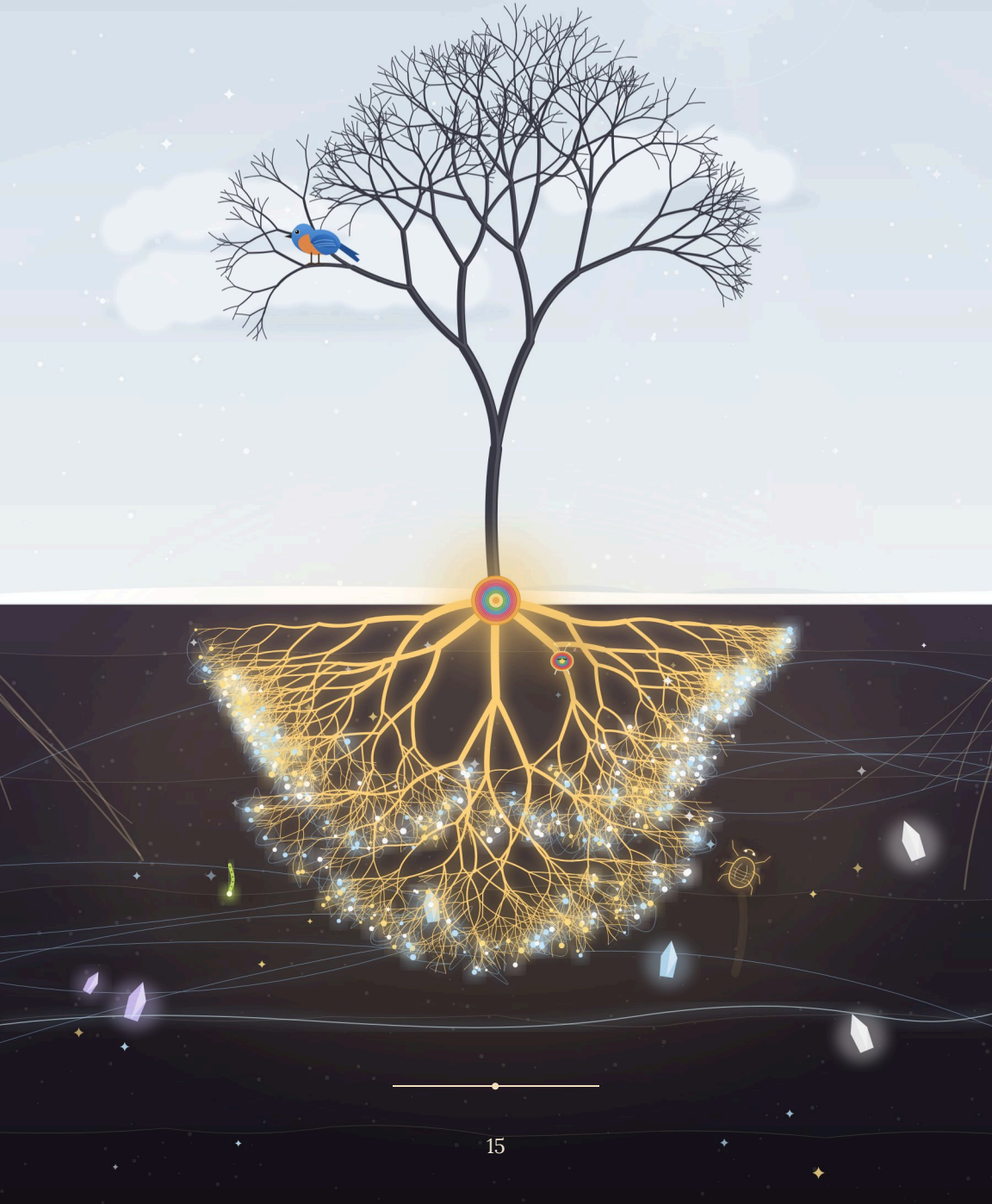
The tree stands bare and quiet.

What looks like an ending

is only the tree, remembering its roots.

SIX

The Winter



Seven · The Leap

A young bird stands at the edge.

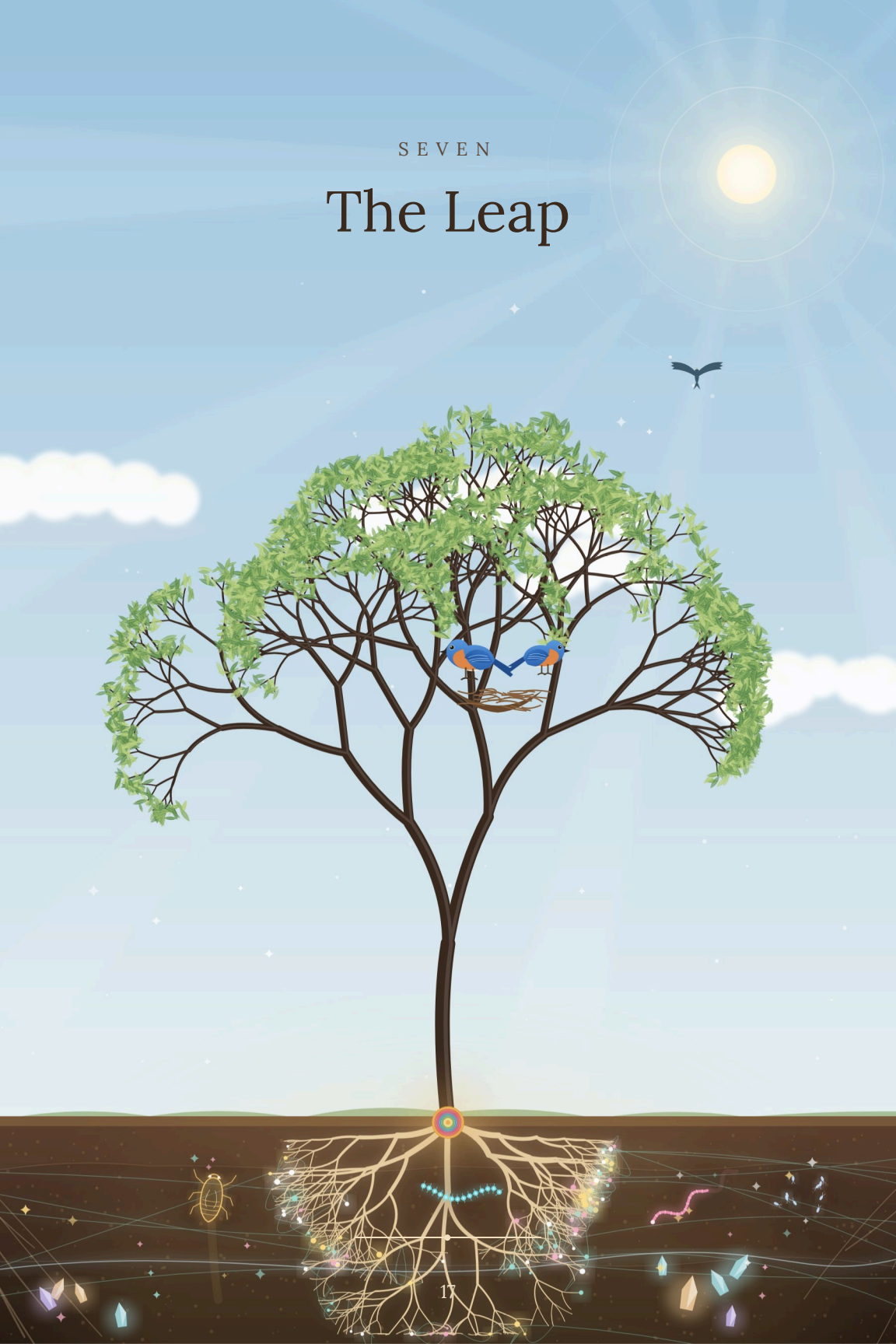
Below, so far.

Above, so wide.

It leaps, because it was held first.

SEVEN

The Leap



Eight · The Flight

Wings open,
light as a breath.
The bird can leave
because something stays.

EIGHT

The Flight

Nine · The Return

At dusk, they come back,

one bird, then many,

to the same branch, the same quiet.

Home was never far.

NINE

The Return

Ten · You

You are the tree and the bird.

Rooted in where you come from.

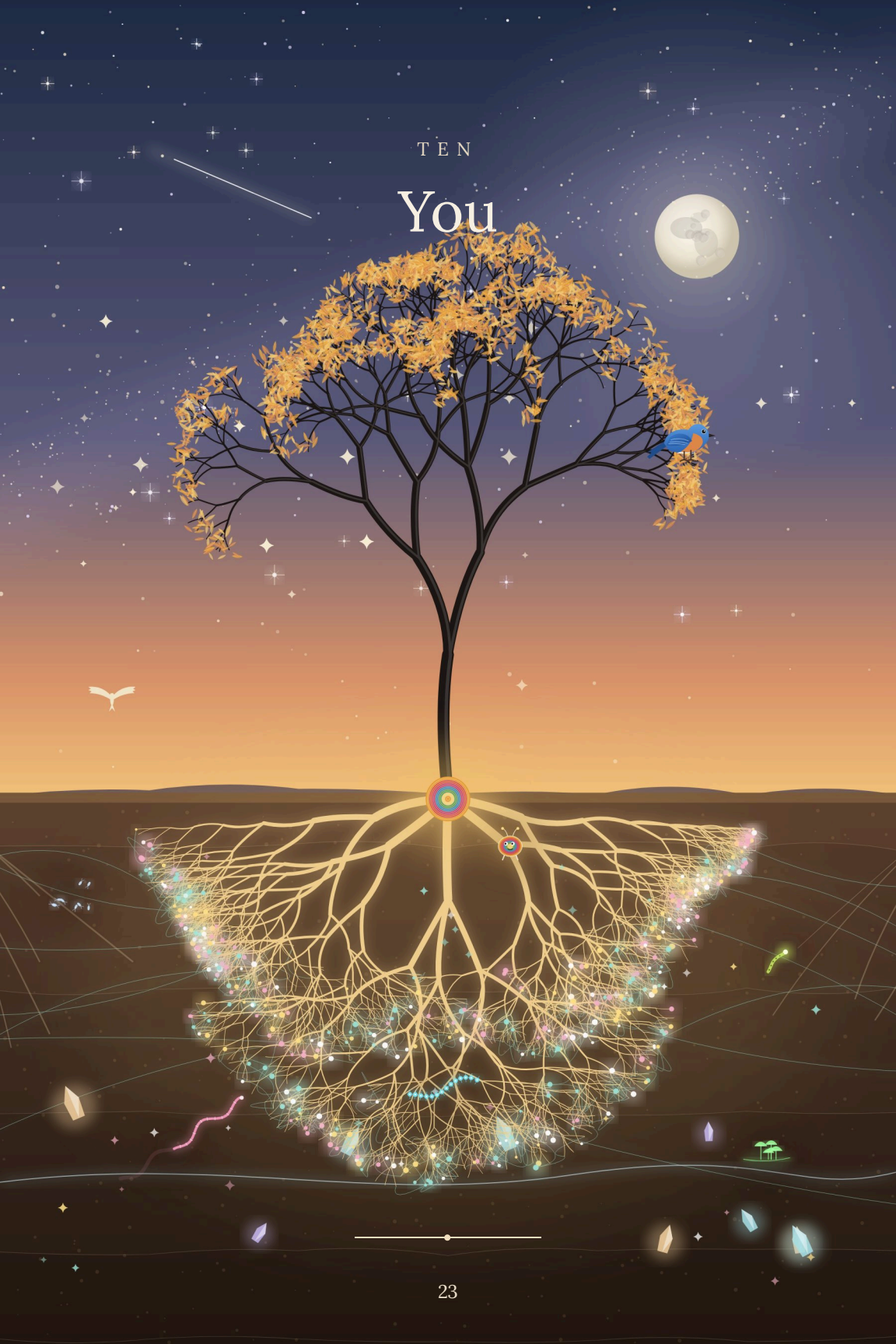
Free in where you are going.

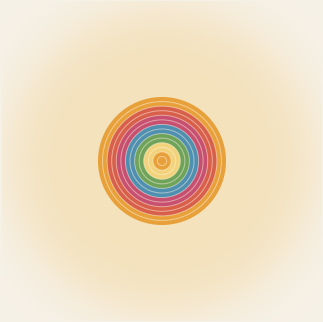
Deep enough to stay.

Free enough to fly.

TEN

You





About Perch

Every life needs two things: something to hold it, and somewhere to go.

Perch is a small book about both. The roots we never see, and the sky that keeps calling.

The colored rings at the heart of each picture mark the place where they meet.

The creatures glowing below are real, or nearly: worms, foxfire, a sleeping cicada, and one small friend of our own.

About This Book

Perch · Where wings rest on what roots hold

Written by Jawad Yousofi, with the help of AI (Claude, by Anthropic). The idea, the vision and the heart of this book are the author's own.

© 2026 Jawad Yousofi. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0). You are free to copy, share and adapt it for non-commercial purposes, with credit, under the same license.

The drawings were made line by line for this book: a fine-line tree, its roots, and the rings where they meet. All artwork is original to this book.

Many books carry the word Perch in their titles. This book is not related to them.

creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0
jawadyousofi.com

The Grand series

Small books, released free.
Read less, live more.

Grand · Breath · One Circle
Radiating Heart · Seed · Pendulum
No One Takes It · The Echelon
Gathered · Whirl · Toward · Perch