

# DAYS PRING



**A Bahá'í Magazine for Children**  
**Issue 78**

**Dayspring**  
**Produced under the auspices of the National Spiritual Assembly**  
**of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom**

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*Dayspring* is produced three times a year. **FREE COPIES** are sent to the following children aged five until their thirteenth birthday: Bahá'í registered children in the UK; children of Bahá'í pioneers from the UK on request; and unregistered children in the UK at the request of a Bahá'í parent or guardian. Teachers of Bahá'í children's classes in the UK may also receive a free copy on request.

Others may subscribe as follows:

UK: £12 for a 2-year subscription (total of 6 issues) including postage.  
Overseas: £22 ditto.

Please make cheques out to the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom. Payment by credit card can be made by email, phone or letter directly to the Finance Department of the NSA of the UK.

**Printers:** Printsmith, Fort William, Scotland. Tel. 01397-700330.

**Acknowledgements & Notes**

**Correction:** Issue 76 of *Dayspring*, "Hands of the Cause of God", page 12, line 3 should read: "Hasan was related to the Báb as he and Shoghi Effendi had the same great-grandfather".

p.5. "In the Beautiful Garden" is from *Star of the West*, vol IX, Dec 31, 1918, no. 16 (Vol.5, p. 184, GR ed)

p.6. There are several versions of "The Little Piano Player" online. The authenticity of this story is not certain, but its value lies in its moral about kindness.

p.11. "Constellation Star by Star". From <[www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com)>

pp.16-19. Hands of the Cause. Dorothy Baker. Information and photographs have been taken from *From Copper to God: The Life of Dorothy Baker* by Dorothy Freeman. Published by George Ronald, Oxford. The letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi quoted at the end can be found on page 413 of *Unfolding Destiny* (Messages from the Guardian to the Baha'i Community of the British Isles).

pp. 26. Make a Solar System Model. From <[www.enchantedlearning.com](http://www.enchantedlearning.com)>

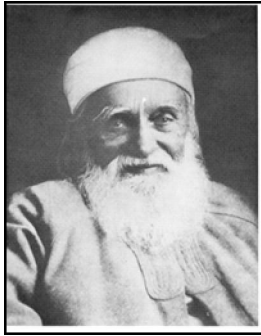
**March – June 2011**  
**Issue 78**



"All those who seek truth  
in the Heavenly Kingdom  
shine like the stars;  
they are like fruit trees laden  
with choice fruit,  
like seas full of precious pearls."

'Abdu'l-Bahá





## Meeting 'Abdu'l-Bahá

### "In the Beautiful Garden"

*(A story told by 'Abdu'l-Bahá about a time when He was a small boy and living in Persia.)*

**'Abdu'l-Bahá said:** "Outside of Teheran we had a great park planted by the father of ... Bahá'u'lláh.

"This was a wonderful garden. It contained four gates, eastern, western, northern and southern.... In the centre of the garden a great throne was built ... and four straight avenues branched off towards the gates, so that you could see all four gates as you sat on the throne. On both sides of these avenues poplar trees were planted, to the number of ten thousand. These trees arose erect and majestic toward the sky. Under the trees thousands of rose bushes were planted, the fragrance of which filled the air.

"Often we used to sleep at night on this throne. The moon, clear, full, silvery, shone upon us, the galaxies of stars shedding their rays ... with a twinkle over the calm and mystic scene of the garden. Long before sunrise, I would open my eyes, admiring with wonder this infinite universe of God. Then all at once the nightingales in sweet melodies would break into a concert of divine music ... and the ... [wind] would pass through the leaves making the noise of a soft sweeping hand-clap and applause.

"In the early morning the Blessed Perfection [Bahá'u'lláh] would arise and prepare tea for all of us, and ... we would gather around Him, drinking tea and enjoying the heavenly scene all around us."

People often say, "You are a star!" when someone does something to help them out. Just like Celestina in this story. . .



# C E L E S T I N A

by Judy Cobb

A long, long time ago, when God made everything, He made the stars.

One of the tiniest is named Celestina. Because she is so tiny, no matter how hard she tries, she can only twinkle a little bit. If you look into the night sky, you will not be able to see her.

Because she keeps very busy being kind and helpful to others, she never has time to worry about her size or her twinkle.

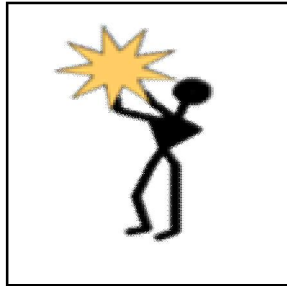
Her mother and father are quite old, and they often get tired. Every morning, Celestina shines them up. She removes the stardust from the night before, so they will be ready to sparkle in the coming night.

If a shooting star passes by and needs directions, she is right there pointing out the way to go. She cools down hot stars and warms up cold ones. She frequently has to catch a falling star.

There is always a star in some kind of trouble, so there are nights when Celestina gets very little sleep.

Now, there are much bigger stars in the sky. But that does not always mean that they are brighter. Some of them are quite dull. To be really brilliant, it is important to know the virtues, like being kind and helpful, and then to practise them. Because she does this, tiny Celestina with a tiny twinkle is a brilliant star.

All children, even tiny ones, can be brilliant. It does take practise, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá wrote a special prayer that will help us. Just remember these three things:



## **TO BE BRILLIANT**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Say this prayer**

*O God, guide me, protect me, make of me a  
shining lamp and a brilliant star. Thou art  
the Mighty and the Powerful.*

*'Abdu'l-Bahá*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Learn the virtues**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Practise them – especially being  
kind and helpful**

**1, 2 and 3**

**NOW, THAT'S BRILLIANT!**



# BE LIKE A STAR

by Judy Cobb

Just look into the sky at night,  
You'll see the stars shining bright.

Big or little, they twinkle, and so,  
Light the darkness with their glow.

People look to them to find their way,  
O'er land and sea, when no longer day.

God made those stars, plus you and me,  
To be a guide for humanity.

How can you be a guide, how would you do it?

It's really not hard, there's nothing to it.

You can smile at a friend, and nicely ask,  
"Won't you come with me to a Children's Class?"

We'll hear a story, and learn a prayer.  
We'll sing songs, do a craft, and have time to play."

This is the way to guide like a star,  
By helping children find Bahá'u'lláh.

Big or little, you'll twinkle, and so,  
Light the darkness with your glow.



# The Little Piano Player

A mother wanted to encourage her little boy to play the piano. She had taught him a few notes and one or two nursery rhymes, but he couldn't play properly yet. Although he was very young, she decided to take him to a concert to hear classical music played by a famous pianist called Mr Paderewski.

After the mother had found their seats, she spotted a friend several rows away in the audience and walked down the aisle to say hello to her.

Left sitting on his own for a minute, the little boy looked around in wonder at the huge hall with its high, ornamental roof, its rows of red chairs full of thousands of people, and the heavy, red and gold curtains closed in front of the stage.

He slipped off his chair and began to explore.

He came to a door that had a notice on it which said:

**NO ADMITTANCE!**

He was too young to read so he did not know what it said. He opened the door and went through to the other side, shutting the door carefully behind him.

Back in the hall, the lights dimmed. It was time for the concert to begin. People stopped talking and a hush fell over the theatre. The mother hurried back to her seat — and discovered that her son had disappeared!



Suddenly, the curtains in front of the stage parted and spotlights shone on the grand Steinway piano on the stage. Everyone looked at the pianist, expecting to see the great Paderewski.

But to the horror of the little boy's mother, there was her small son sitting at the piano, innocently playing "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"!

At that moment the great piano master made his entrance. Everyone held their breath, wondering what he would do.

Quickly moving to the piano, he whispered in the boy's ear, "Don't stop. Keep playing."

While the little boy continued playing his few, simple notes, Paderewski reached down with his left hand and began filling in a bass part. Soon his right arm reached around to the other side of the child and he added some higher notes. Together, the great pianist and the little boy played a graceful, flowing melody that delighted everyone.

Through the love of the pianist, an embarrassing situation had been turned into a wonderfully creative experience, and the audience clapped and clapped.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **The Pianist in the Story**

(Ignacy Jan Paderewski 1860-1941)

Ignacy Jan Paderewski was born in 1860 in Poland. His mother died when he was only a few months old, and his aunt adopted him and brought him up. He was very successful in life and became the second Prime Minister of Poland. But what made him famous all over the world was his beautiful piano playing.



\* \* \* \* \*

## "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

"Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" was written over 200 years ago by an English woman called Jane Taylor. In 1806, Jane and her sister Ann published it in a book of poems for children. It is a lullaby and sung to babies to help them go to sleep.

Most of us know the first verse, but did you know there are four more?

**What useful thing about the star can you find in this poem?**

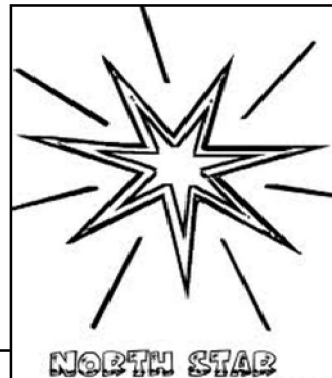
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are!  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky!

When the blazing sun is gone,  
When he nothing shines upon,  
Then you show your little light,  
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

Then the traveller in the dark,  
Thanks you for your tiny spark,  
He could not see which way to go,  
If you did not twinkle so.

In the dark blue sky you keep,  
And often through my curtains peep,  
For you never shut your eye,  
Till the sun is in the sky.

As your bright and tiny spark,  
Lights the traveller in the dark—  
Though I know not what you are,  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star.



"...may we become so pure as to reflect  
the stars of heaven."

'Abdu'l-Bahá

## Did you know?

There are many galaxies in the sky. We live in the galaxy known as the Milky Way, and astronomers say there are between 200 and 400 billion stars in it.

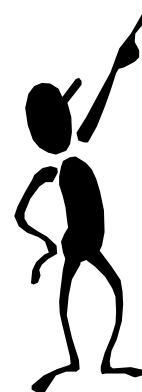
All stars are suns. The nearest star to planet Earth is the Sun. It is just an ordinary star (and it is not the biggest) but without it we would all freeze and nothing would grow on our planet, Earth.

For thousands of years, travellers on land and sailors at sea have used the pattern of stars in the sky to guide them at night so they don't get lost. One of these important stars is called the Pole Star, or North Star, because it shows us where the North Pole is.

Some of you will know this already, but if not, get a book about the stars and discover how to recognise small groups of them called constellations. The pictures they make in the sky have names to help you find them, such as the Hunter, Plough, Big or Little Bear, Lion, Flying Horse, and others. They have different names in different countries.

Opposite are four constellations called the **Dragon**, the **Dove**, **Cassiopeia** (the name of a queen in a legend), and the **Little Horse**. Join the dots to see their shapes.

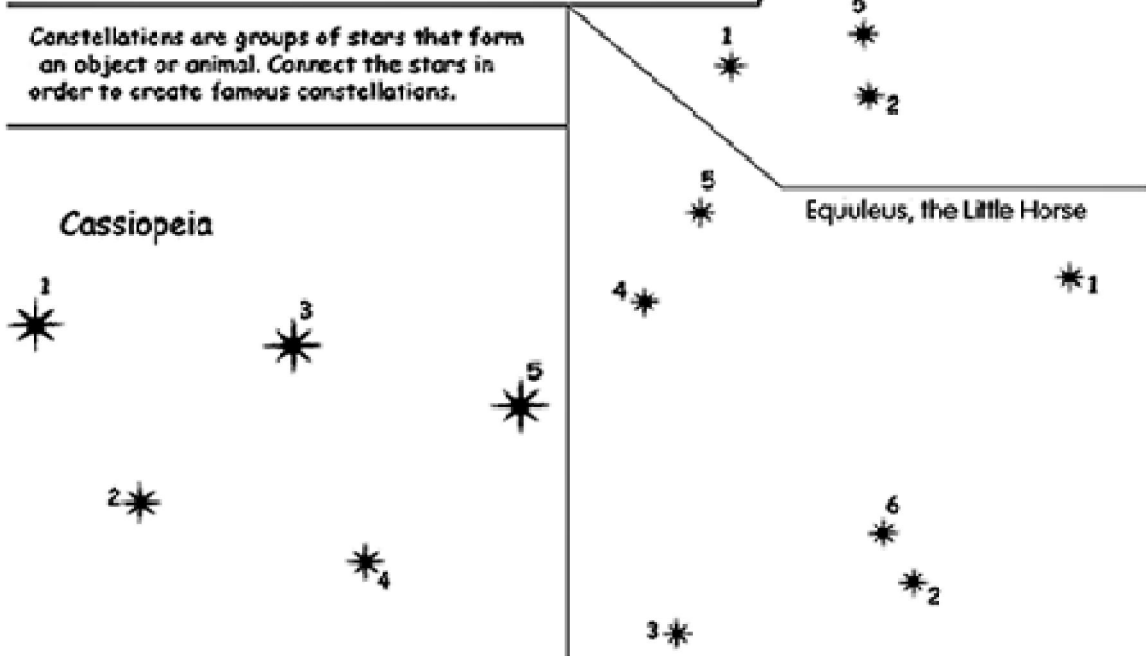
The shapes do not look exactly like the animals or objects they are named after, so you have to use a bit of imagination to find them. But next time you are looking at the sky on a clear night (which is always better in the country away from street lights) see if you can find the shapes made by the four constellations of stars shown on the next page . . .



# Constellation Star to Star



Constellations are groups of stars that form an object or animal. Connect the stars in order to create famous constellations.



**Cassiopeia** is the name of a queen from a story told long ago, when people believed in gods and goddesses living in the sky. The story says that the goddess Cassiopeia used to boast that she and her daughter (who was a star called Andromeda) were more beautiful than the sea nymphs. Because of this, Cassiopeia was punished by being placed in the sky on a chair (or throne) that moves around the Pole Star. This means that during part of the year she is sitting upside down! The chair makes a shape like either the letter W or M, depending on what time of the year you look at it. While the story is not true, of course, the W or M shape does make it easy for us to find this small constellation of stars in the sky. And the moral of the story is not to boast or be vain!

# Wonderful Ways Poets Describe the Stars

Stars . . .  
flowers of the sky.

Erasmus Darwin  
(1731–1802. Grandfather of  
Charles Darwin)



Look at the stars!  
look, look up at the skies!  
O look at all the fire-folk  
sitting in the air!

Gerard Manley Hopkins  
(1844–1889)



Stars . . .  
these blessed  
candles of the night.

William Shakespeare  
(1564–1616)

A violet by a mossy stone  
Half hidden from the eye!  
Fair as a star, when only one  
Is shining in the sky.

William Wordsworth  
(1770–1850)

Silently one by one, in the infinite  
meadows of heaven,  
Blossomed the lovely stars,  
the forget-me-nots of the angels.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
(1807–1882)

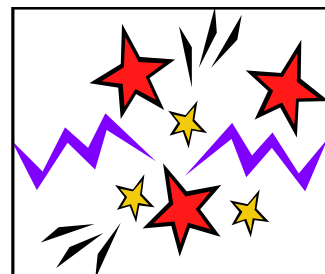


Do you remember still the falling stars  
that like swift horses through the heavens raced . . .

Rainer Maria Rilke  
(1875–1926)

So near you are, summer stars,  
So near, strumming, strumming . . .

Carl Sandburg  
(1878–1967)



## Hands of the Cause of God

### Dorothy Beecher Baker (1898 - 1954)

Dorothy was sitting on a rocking chair on the veranda of the house where she



Dorothy King Beecher  
(later, Baker), circa 1911

lived in America. She was thirteen years old and waiting for her grandmother to arrive to take her somewhere. The “somewhere” was a meeting being held in New York city.

Dorothy was not sure what was going to happen at this meeting but she guessed it would be about something interesting because her grandmother was a Bahá'í. Neither of Dorothy's parents were Bahá'ís at that time, but she always felt calm and peaceful whenever she

heard her grandmother saying that God is All-Loving.

However, she was not feeling very peaceful at that moment waiting on the veranda. She had had a bad dream a few nights before and could not stop thinking about it.

On the way to the meeting, Dorothy's grandmother told her about Bahá'u'lláh and that they were going to meet His oldest son, 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Who was giving a talk that evening.

They arrived at the house where the meeting was taking place, and 'Abdu'l-Bahá smiled and indicated that He would like Dorothy to sit on a stool next to His chair. Dorothy was very shy, and at first she sat with her eyes down, looking at her shoes. She was also still feeling out-of-sorts because of the bad dream.

Then 'Abdu'l-Bahá began to speak, and Dorothy's heart filled with love. By the end of the talk, she found herself gazing up at His kind face. All

thoughts of the bad dream had completely disappeared.

At the end of the meeting, ‘Abdu’l-Bahá said something wonderful to Dorothy’s grandmother. He said:

“Your grandchild is My own daughter. You must train her for me.”

When Dorothy returned home, she could think of nothing else but ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. She decided to write Him a letter, asking to be able to serve the Cause of Bahá’u’lláh.

A reply soon came from ‘Abdu’l-Bahá. He called her “Dearest child” and said that God is the Most Bountiful and He hoped she would succeed in her wish.



And that was the beginning of Dorothy’s wonderful life of service.

\*\*\*

Dorothy’s grandmother kept in close touch with her as she grew up, and in one letter she reminded her of the words of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá when He had said that Dorothy was like His own daughter. She told her granddaughter “to shine within” and make the world a better place to live in.

Everyone who met Dorothy could see the light of love in her eyes and how kind she was to everyone. One of her friends said that it was impossible to say a mean or unkind thing when Dorothy was present.

Dorothy married a kind man called Frank Baker. He was a widower, as his wife had died, and he had two children named Conrad and Sara. Dorothy, Frank and the children were very happy when two more children were later born into the family. Their names were Bill and Louise.



During this time when the children were young and Dorothy was at home caring for them, she studied the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh for several hours every day and learned many prayers by heart. She also studied the history of the Bahá'í Faith so she could tell stories to her children and friends about 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the early believers.

Dorothy held meetings in her home to tell people about the Faith, and soon 18 people had become Bahá'ís in the town where they lived. When people began to leave the local churches to become Bahá'ís, one of the clergymen became cross and said untrue things about the Faith. He even told people not to buy bread from Frank's shop because he was a Bahá'í.

But nothing stopped Dorothy. She wrote articles in the newspapers and for the local radio station telling people that "the prophets of God have sung of this day" and that Bahá'u'lláh had come to bring peace on earth.

With her husband's love and encouragement, Dorothy began travelling all over the country giving talks. Thousands came to hear her. She was also elected onto the National Spiritual Assembly.

As she was driving the many miles across America to Assembly meetings, Dorothy would often say prayers. She used to say the prayer called the Tablet of Ahmad nine times, asking for the love of God to surround and help her.

And a friend who was travelling with her one day remembered how Dorothy



stopped her car by the roadside to say the Remover of Difficulties prayer 95 times for a friend who was in trouble.

Soon, she was travelling to other countries, including India.

People often praised her, saying

how wonderful she was. But Dorothy was humble and always told them that it was because of Bahá'u'lláh that she was able to do all these things, not because of anything she did with herself. And she was always grateful to her husband, Frank, who encouraged her in everything she did, even though he missed her very much when she was away from home.

In 1951, Shoghi Effendi announced that Dorothy Baker was a Hand of the Cause of God. When she heard this, Dorothy thought it was a mistake and was so surprised she lost her voice for several days!

But it was not a mistake, of course. Dorothy had devoted her life to teaching the Cause of God and was truly 'Abdu'l-Bahá's spiritual daughter.

Three years later, she was in India travelling from village to village teaching the Faith. Many people in these villages later declared their faith in Bahá'u'lláh because of her visits.

She was flying home from India when the plane she was travelling in crashed into the sea and everyone on board died. That happened nearly 60 years ago and planes are much safer now.

Dorothy had planned to visit England on her way home from India and the Bahá'ís were waiting for her. They were shocked when they heard the sad news that she had died so unexpectedly.

A loving letter written on behalf of Shoghi Effendi arrived for the friends in Oxford, which said:

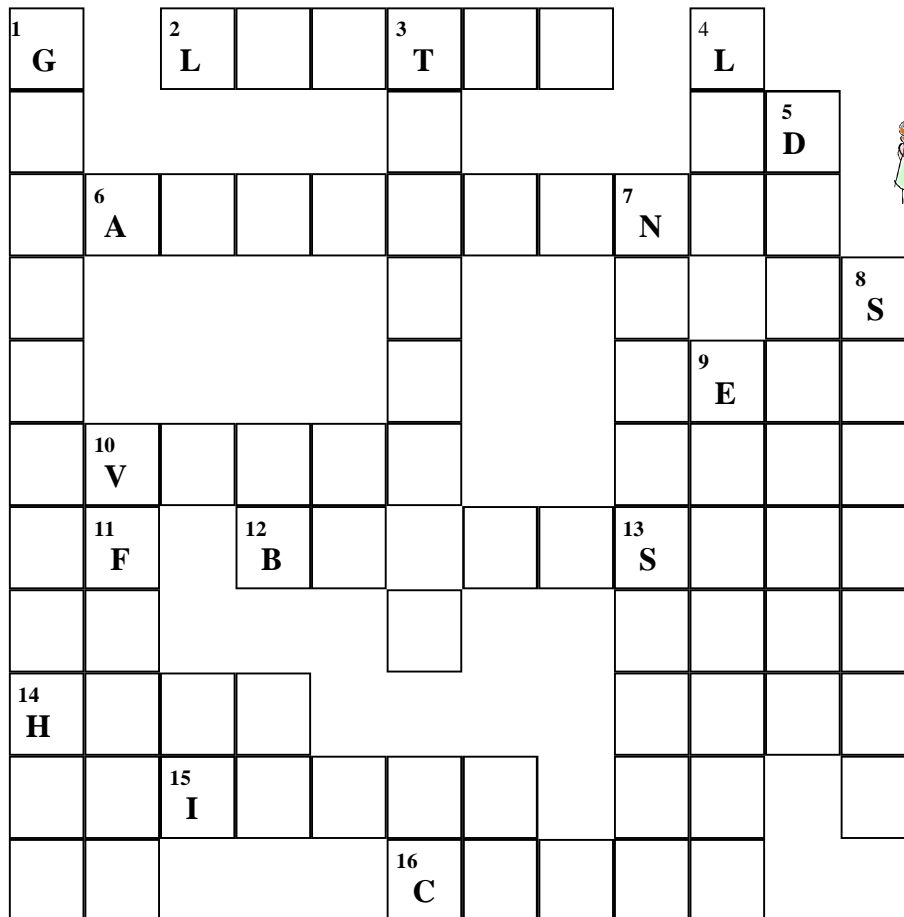
“It has indeed been a great loss to the work of the Faith, to lose ... dear Dorothy Baker.... No doubt her noble spirit will be able to assist and inspire us from on high, and this must be the consolation of all her friends and admirers.”



Dorothy Baker giving a talk in India, January 9, 1954, the day before she died.

# Crossword about Dorothy Baker

To fill in the crossword, read the story and follow the clues below.



## Across:

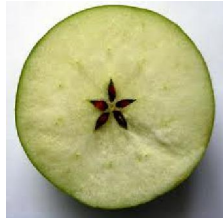
2. What did Dorothy send to 'Abdu'l-Bahá when she returned home from the meeting? (6 letters)
6. What nationality was she? (7 letters)
10. When Dorothy heard she was a Hand of the Cause, what did she lose for a few days? (5 letters)
12. What did her husband sell in his shop? (5 letters)
14. In 1951, Shoghi Effendi said was a .....of the Cause of God (4 letters)
15. The name of the country where she was teaching the Faith at the end of her life (5 letters)
- 16 In a letter 'Abdu'l-Bahá sent to Dorothy, He called her "Dearest ..... (5 letters)

## Down:

1. Who took her to meet 'Abdu'l-Bahá? (11 letters)
3. Her age when she met 'Abdu'l-Bahá? (8 letters)
4. What she felt in her heart when 'Abdu'l-Bahá spoke (4 letters)
5. 'Abdu'l-Bahá said Dorothy was like His own .....(8 letters)
7. How many times did she sometimes say the prayer called the Tablet of Ahmad? (4 letters)
8. The beginning of Dorothy's wonderful life of .....(7 letters)
9. Which country did she plan to visit on her way home from India? (7 letters)
11. The first name of Dorothy's husband (5 letters)
13. When Dorothy met 'Abdu'l-Bahá, she sat at His feet on a ..... (5 letters)

# Seeing Stars

by Susan Engle



I cut an apple round its waist.  
Before I even took a taste,  
I saw at once the hidden star.

Another star appeared today.  
My friend brought jacks *and* chess to play.  
You know a jack looks like a star?

Off to the pet shop. Love the fish.  
A starfish crept across a dish.  
Aquariums can have a star.

At Feast, I passed the cookie plates.  
And there, with nuts and chips and dates—  
A cookie shaped just like a star.

Out in the fields under the sky,  
A purple colour caught my eye,  
A flower looking like a star.

My sister, practising her dance,  
With widespread arms and widespread stance—  
She looked just like a human star.

Though there are stars of stage and screen,  
And stars at night—a trillion-teen,  
I think that people have inside  
A brilliant star that they can hide  
Or shine on others near and far.  
And *that* one is my fav'rite star.



# The Glorious Sun

by Kiser Barnes

illustrations by Malcolm Lee

The dark rainy season was over and the day had come at Akola village when its people celebrated the wonders of the sun. A bursting excitement stirred everyone. The sweet and hot morning sunlight made dew drops on flowers and grasses sparkled like diamonds. Thanksgiving greetings and the laughter of children, teenagers and adults soared above the noises made by goats, sheep, ducks, chickens and singing birds.

It was a wonderful time for Oriki. Seven years old, he sat before the village dawn fire enjoying thrilling stories about the sun. Drummers kept high the spirit of the traditional celebration, drumming the special sunlight song — soft and large, quick, light, gay beats. Oriki moved his feet and shoulders a little.

Everyone loved honouring the sun before the new yams were harvested. Oriki thought he could speak in a new way about the day-star. He had heard many tales about the fiery orb; how it had been adored throughout human history in many cultures. But he now had his own story about it. He felt it expressed something terrific about religion. And it let him say it in a language his friends would understand.

“The nearest star to earth is the sun,” Oriki began, when children could speak. He smiled brightly. “It is the brightest object in our solar system. It is so big! It could contain many, many planets the size of the earth. It is billions of years old! About ninety-five million miles away, it has no solid surface. It is a ball of flaming gas, which produces heat and light in what has been described

as continuous exploding hydrogen bombs.”

Many individuals uttered astonishments, such as: “Ah! Ah!”; “You don’t say!”; “What!”; “Is it possible?”; “God is great!”; “The boy has prepared himself well!”



“Because of sunlight, our village, and all the earth, is warm, fertile, blooming with life. Because of it, those sweet yams waiting to be lifted up from the fields tomorrow will have grown big and heavy and delicious. If the sun stopped shining, the earth would lay cold and dark in space. Vegetable life would be extinguished. All animals would die. Humanity would perish. Without its heat and light no life would exist upon earth.”

Suddenly, Shola got up. He had helped Oriki find information. He liked what he had said thus far. Still, he whispered to his best friend, “Don’t forget the likeness part of the story. Maybe you should end your presentation right

now with the similarities. Others have stories to tell.”

The other children around the bright, warm fire were certain Shola had told Oriki he should immediately finish his story. They knew Oriki liked comparing things. They also knew he often talked too long about things that excited him. Suddenly Oriki gave Shola a little push. Everyone laughed, knowing it expressed love and gratitude. As Oriki always had surprising ideas and projects, everyone was eager to hear what else he had to say.

“The Bahá’í scriptures say. Like there is a physical sun that supports our village and all mankind, the Prophets of God are Spiritual Suns Who greatly assist humanity,” Oriki continued.

“We believe Their manifestations are essential for human progress. Bahá’u’lláh is the Spiritual Sun for the world today. His shining teachings give spiritual life and light to hearts and souls. He revealed holy words from God because the relationship between peoples is still dark and cold with disunity and misunderstandings. His teachings help me love God. They make me love all religions. They make me love all people, try to be kind, have a good character. They make our village love unity. They make me feel warm and glad inside. He said He is the *Sun of Truth*, the *Sun of Justice*, the *Sun of Reality*. God created the physical sun. And He sent Bahá’u’lláh to help us. But the physical Sun and the Spiritual Sun are not the same!

“Of course not!” the children cried. All hearts leaped with joy.

Shola wanted Oriki to finish. Still, he asked, “What about the Báb and what about ‘Abdu’l-Bahá?”

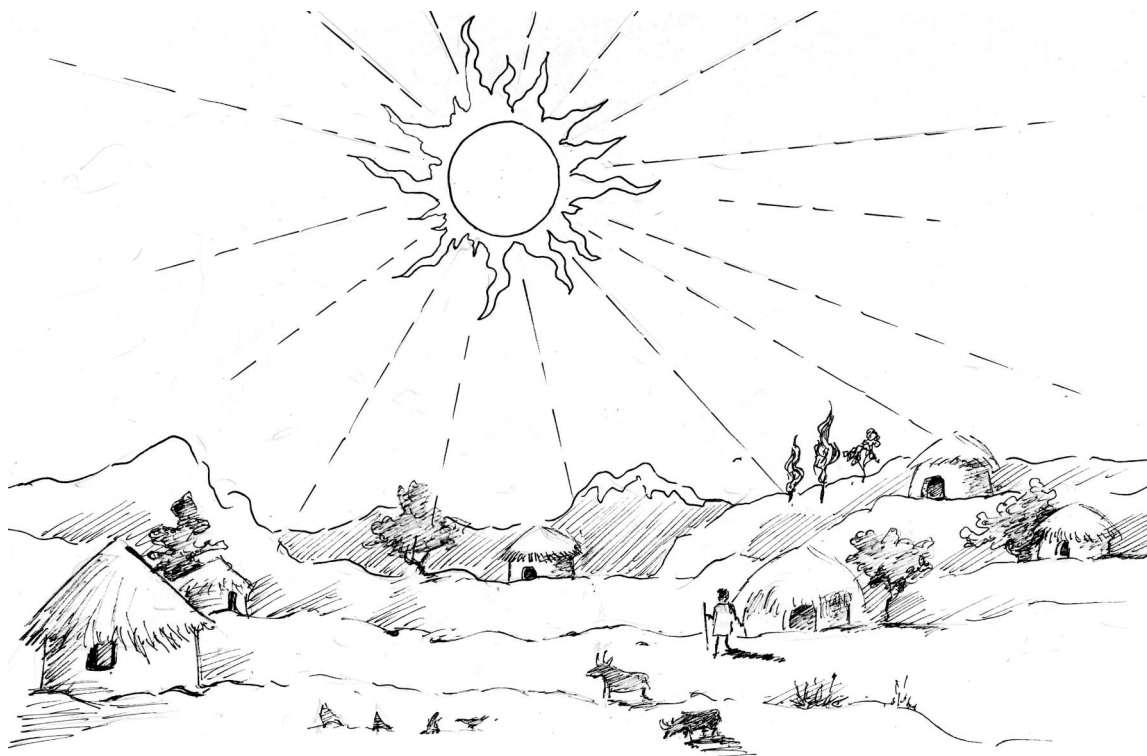
“The Báb was a Manifestation of God, too. He was a glorious Spiritual Sun, too,” said Oriki. “But the light of His teachings was like the sun shining at dawn. And because some people like living in the dark, the Báb was executed.



Then the Sun of Bahá'u'lláh's revelation arose. It is like a hot noon-time sun, shining high and brilliant, so all can see and feel the light of His teachings. When He passed away, He gave us 'Abdu'l-Bahá, Who, in His teachings and services, was like the moon reflecting the light of the sun. I think He is also like the evening sun that shows me the way home safely before the night comes."

Everyone cheered. Oriki was glad his friends understood the spiritual significance of the Sun of Bahá'u'lláh's revelation in a new way. Shola hugged him. Then the two boys sang the old song of their people:

"The sun shines and sends its burning  
rays down upon us.  
The moon rises in its glory.  
Rain will come and again the sun will shine.  
And over it all passes the eye of God."



# Make a Solar System Model

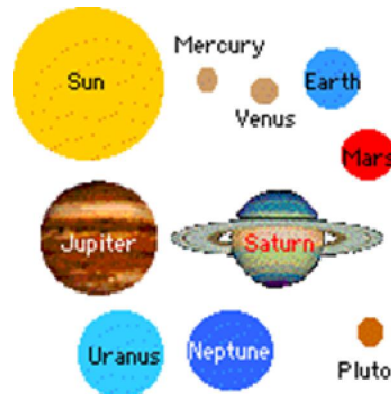
The Sun is a Star. The earth revolves around it once every year.

Make the model, showing the Sun and the eight planets and one dwarf planet that orbit it. In order of closeness to the Sun, these are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto (the dwarf planet, which is the farthest away).

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543) was a Polish astronomer who developed the Copernican system, a model of the solar system in which all the planets orbit the Sun.

## Supplies needed:

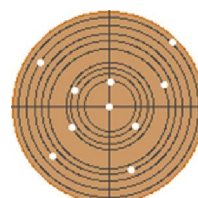
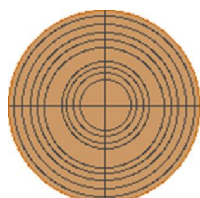
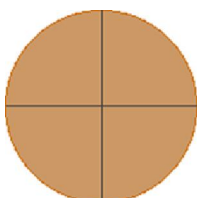
- A round piece of cardboard about 12 inches across (30.5 cm). E.g., the cardboard from a frozen pizza, or cut a large circle yourself from thick card.
- Lots of coloured card (or white card you can colour)
- Scissors
- Tape
- String
- Pencil, crayons, or markers
- A compass (for making circles)



Cut the cardboard in a circular shape 12 inches (30.5 cm.) across (or use the cleaned cardboard from the frozen pizza). Mark the centre, this will be position of the Sun. Use a compass to draw the orbits of nine planets, the first four orbits being relatively closer. Use a sharp hand tool or nail to punch a series of holes. These will be the points from where planet symbols will hang. Also, punch a hole at the centre for the Sun.

Cut 10 circles from the cardboard. Make the largest circle for the Sun, then slightly smaller circles for Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. The circles for Mars and Earth should be a little smaller. And Mercury, Venus and Pluto should be the smallest of all. Write the name of each planet on the back of the circles. Tape the length of string to each planet. Tie them at their correct insertions respectively — i.e., the Sun goes at the central hole, Mercury at the next and so on. Adjust the length equally for each string.

Tie three pieces of string to the top of your model with a loop joining them at the very top, as shown in the diagram, so you can hang it up.



# Jokes

What is green and can jump a mile a minute?

A frog with hiccups!



What goes hum-choo, hum-choo?

A bee with a cold!



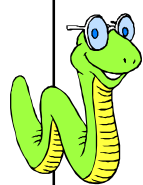
What happens to grapes that worry too much?

They get wrinkled and turn into raisins!



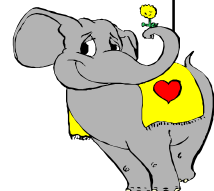
What stars wear glasses?

Filmstars!



What do you get if you cross a worm and an elephant?

Very big worm holes in your garden!



A man and a dog were going down the street. The man rode, yet walked. What was the dog's name?

Yet!

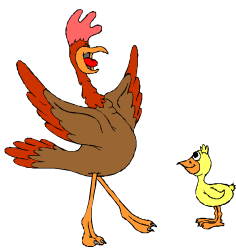


Why were the early days of history called the dark ages?

Because there were so many knights!

If a rooster laid a brown egg and a white egg, what colour chicks would hatch?

None. Roosters don't lay eggs!



What did the woodworm say to the chair?

I t's been nice gnawing you!

What's that fly doing in my soup?

Looks like the breast stroke to me!

# Amazing Stories from the Dawn-Breakers

*Stories adapted by Jacqueline Mehrabi and illustrated by Malcolm Lee (published by the BPT of India)*

*(The story so far: The Báb is a prisoner in the castle-prison of Chihríq in the north of Persia. Many people are becoming His followers and even the warden of the prison has become friendly towards Him. Not only are people travelling to see the Báb in the prison, but thousands are becoming believers all over the country. The prime minister is worried and orders that the Báb be taken to Tabríz to be questioned.)*

## Part 24

### The Wild Horse

The Báb was being taken from Chihríq to Tabríz to be questioned by the unfriendly religious leaders, and on the way He passed through a small town called Urumiyyih. One of the Letters of the Living, called Jalíl, lived in this town. Jalíl had first recognised the Báb in Shíráz and the Báb had told him to return to his home town and teach the Faith. Jalíl had done this, and now there were hundreds of people in Urumiyyih who were Bábís. The people were in a frenzy of excitement at the thought of seeing the Báb and they crowded in the public square hoping to catch a glimpse of His face.

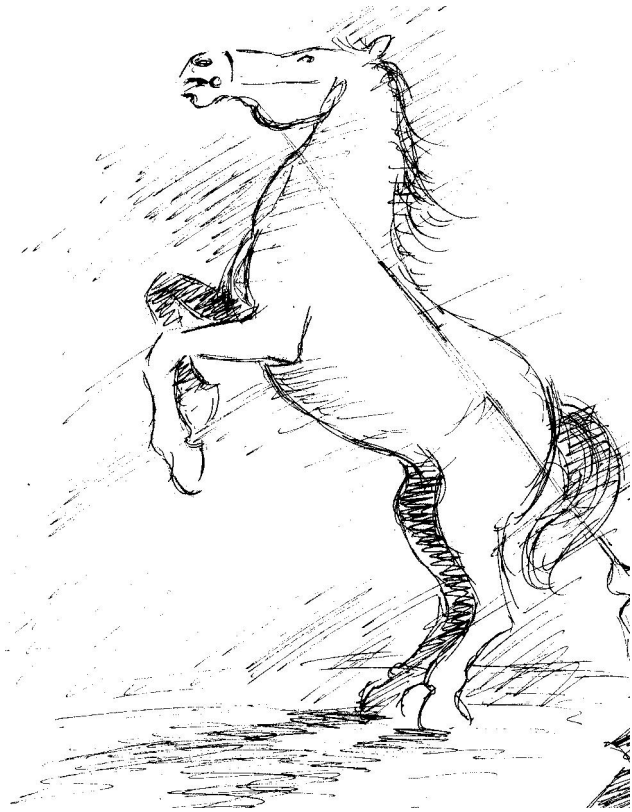
The Báb stayed a few nights in the town with the local governor, who treated Him with respect. But the governor wanted to test the courage and power of the Báb. He told his groom to give the Báb one of his wildest horses to ride. No one had been able to ride this horse before. The groom was worried that the Báb would be hurt and told Him what the governor was planning to do, but the

Báb told him not to worry. The news spread throughout the town, and people gathered to see what would happen.

The groom brought the horse stamping and rearing out of the stable. The Báb walked quietly towards it and gently stroked its neck. Then He put His foot into the stirrup.

To the amazement of the crowd, the horse stopped its bucking and snorting and stood absolutely still. It allowed the Báb to sit on its back and calmly ride down the street towards the public baths.

After the Báb left the baths, the people rushed in and took away every drop of water, believing it was holy and would heal them.



*"In God, Who is the Lord  
of all created things,  
have I placed My whole trust."  
The Báb*

*(To be continued...)*



## The Kitáb-i-Aqdas ~ The Most Holy Book

### Lesson Sixteen

**Bahá'u'lláh says in the Kitáb-i-Aqdas (verse 117):**

“Assist..., O My people, My chosen servants who have arisen to make mention of Me among My creatures....  
These, truly, are the stars of the heaven  
of My loving providence  
and the lamps of My guidance  
unto all mankind.”

#### **Meaning of Words:**

*“Assist”* means to help.

*“My people”* can mean you and me and everyone.

*“My chosen servants”* here means every Bahá'í who is teaching the Faith.

*“to make mention”* means to speak about something.

*“My loving providence”* means the divine guidance and care of God for all on earth.

*“My creatures”* here means people.

1. **Question.** What do you think it means at the beginning of the quotation when it tells us to “assist” (help) our fellow Bahá'ís who are telling people about Bahá'u'lláh? What can we do to help them?

**Some Answers.** Think of other ways, too.

- a) We can pray for each other.
- b) We can encourage each other.
- c) We can teach the Faith with each other.
- d) If there is a devotional meeting, we can offer to help the host choose the prayers or pass round the food (the host may even be your mum or dad of course, which makes it very easy!)  
We can make the guests feel welcome and comfortable,
- e) We could think of ways to help our children's class teacher.

g) Think of someone you know who is trying to teach the Faith.  
What could you do to help them?

.....

2. When we tell people about Bahá'u'lláh, what does He say we are like? (fill in the missing word from the quotation)

"the ..... of the heaven of My loving providence."

3. What else does Bahá'u'lláh say we are like when we teach the Faith? (fill in the missing word)

"the ..... of My guidance unto all mankind."

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‘Abdu'l-Bahá said:

"There were three brothers, all from Tabríz:

Hájí Hasan, Hájí Ja' far, and Hájí Taqí.

These three were like eagles soaring;  
they were three stars of the Faith,  
pulsing with the light of the love of God."

