

# my heart

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Dial Books for Young Readers

*For Dad and Diane*

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Design by Lily Malcom

The art for this book was created with a pin-making process called monotype, using water-based inks and pencil.

*With gratitude to Steven Molk, Namrata Tripathi, and Lily Malcom, who helped transform this tiny seed into something much bigger.*



My heart is a window,





my heart is a slide.



My heart can be closed



or opened up wide.





Some days it's a puddle.



Some days it's a stain.

Some days it is cloudy  
and heavy with rain.





Some days it is tiny,



but tiny can grow ...



and grow ...





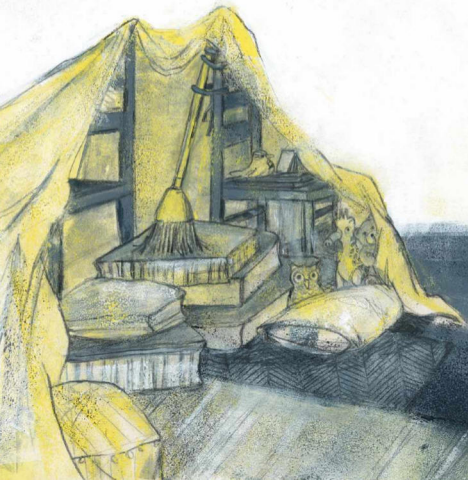
and grow.

There are days it's a fence between me and the world,





days it's a whisper  
that can barely be heard.

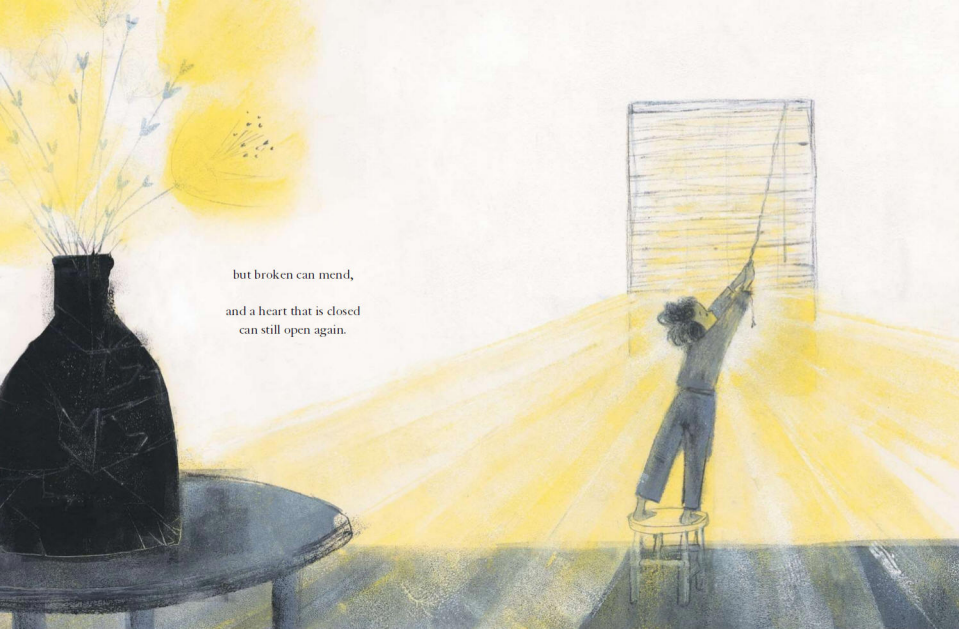




There are days it is broken,



but broken can mend,  
and a heart that is closed  
can still open again.





My heart is a shadow,

a light, and a guide.

Closed or open . . .




I get to decide.







The background is a soft, misty landscape painting. In the foreground, there is a dark, textured area representing water or a path, with several tall, thin reeds or grasses growing from it. The middle ground is a hazy expanse of water or a field, with some faint, indistinct shapes that could be distant buildings or trees. The sky is a pale, overcast blue with a few small, bright yellow spots that look like birds or flowers. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

tiny can grow and broken can mend  
and a heart that is closed can still open again