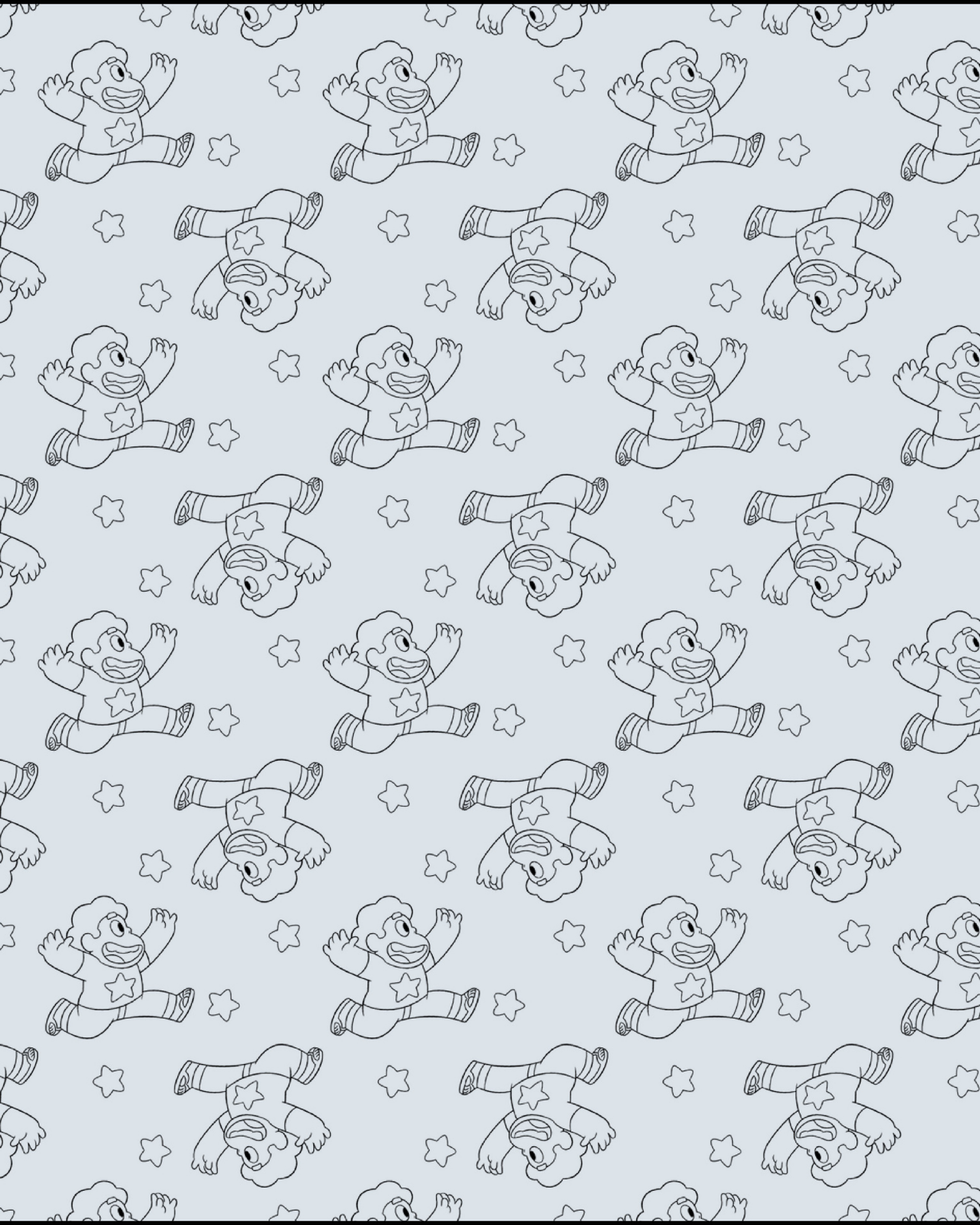


STEVEN  
UNIVERSE

# The Tale of Steven

BY REBECCA SUGAR, CREATOR OF STEVEN UNIVERSE  
ILLUSTRATED BY ELLE MICHALKA AND ANGIE WANG

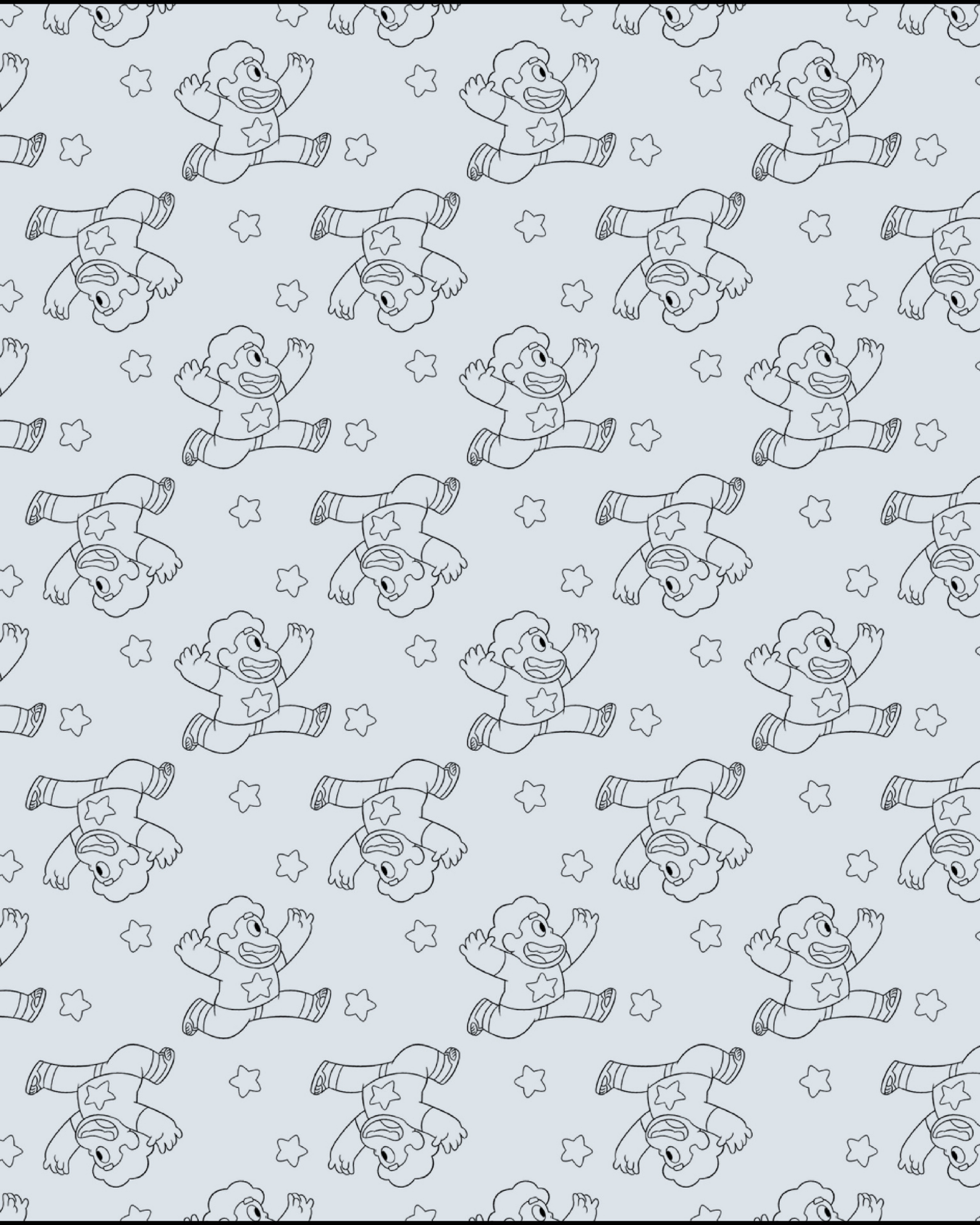














The Tale of  
Seven









# The Tale of Steven

BY REBECCA SUGAR, CREATOR OF STEVEN UNIVERSE  
ILLUSTRATED BY ELLE MICHALKA AND ANGIE WANG

ABRAMS, NEW YORK





THIS BOOK  
BELONGS TO






Read it like THIS!

What are you doing? You're holding the book upside-down!






**S**he was impossible to understand, impossible to ignore, and impossible to control.

**P**ink was as silly as she was small.





Once upon a time, there  
were four Diamonds.  
White, Yellow, Blue, and  
the littlest Diamond, Pink.

ut Blue and Yellow spoiled  
her with treasures, listened  
to her nonsense, and enabled  
her terrible behavior.





White knew  
better than  
to indulge  
Pink's whims.

W





**I**t was up to  
White to  
keep Pink in  
her place.

**O**nly White was  
immune to  
Pink's ridiculous  
influence.









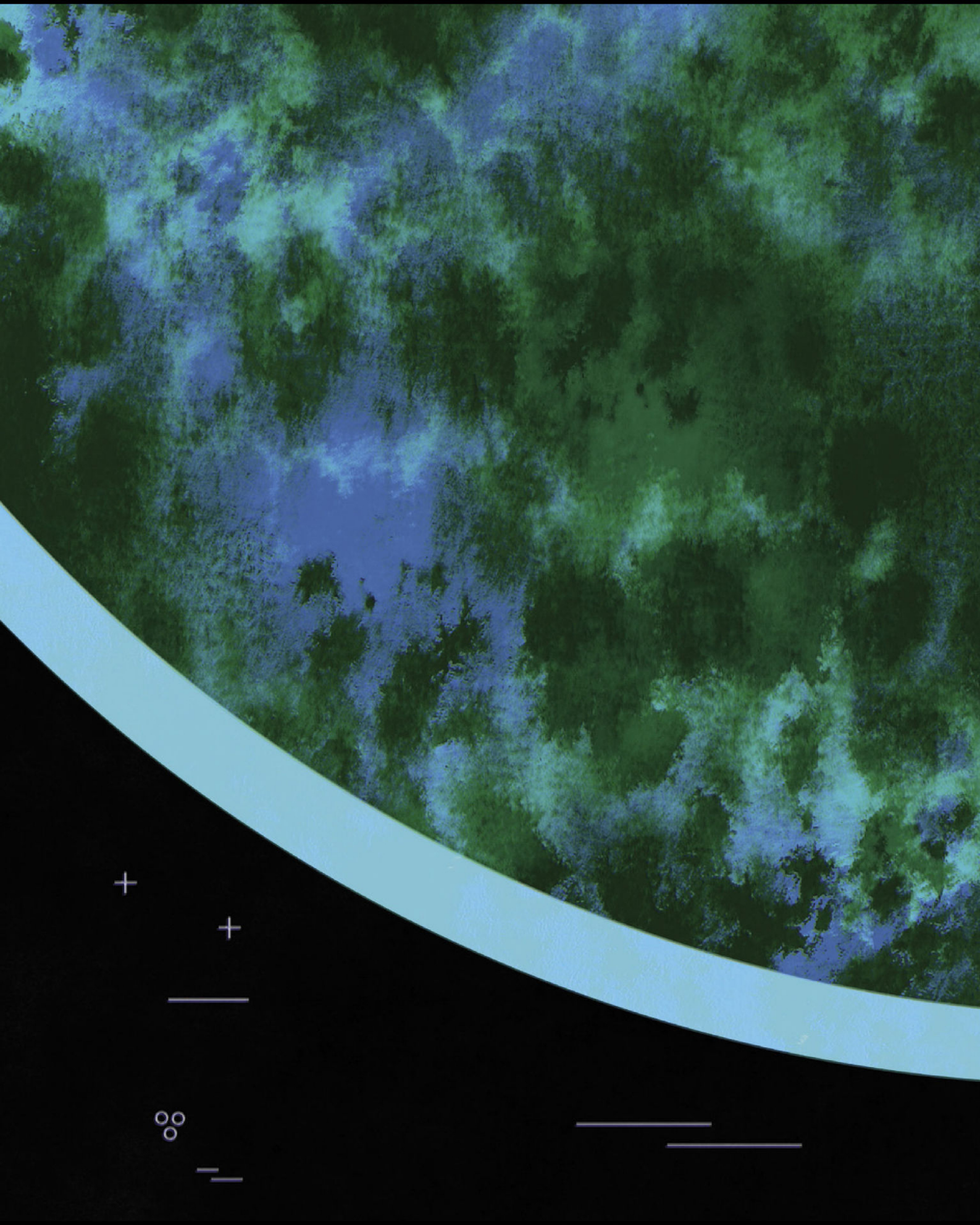


One day, Pink,  
difficult as ever,  
ran off to another  
planet.

She foolishly thought she  
could escape her Diamond  
role by disguising herself  
as a lowly Rose Quartz.









Amongst the grotesque  
life that grew  
rampant there—

Once upon  
a time, there  
was a wonderful  
Rose Quartz, who  
wanted to tell her  
own story.

Don't be absurd! You're  
going to confuse everyone!

You don't need to listen to White.  
You can read the book this way.





he stubbornly  
stayed on that  
Gem-forsaken  
world—

S

he belonged on  
a beautiful planet,  
amongst strange  
and whimsical  
creatures who  
treated her well.





This isn't your story.

Look at this mess.  
You're ruining my story!

It was there  
she fell in love  
and gave up  
her existence—





Hiding from  
the Diamonds,  
hiding from her  
Homeworld—







Fine! See how you  
fare without me!



And ultimately  
hiding from herself,  
inside an unwitting  
creature.



To have a  
beautiful  
half-human  
child.








ose Quartz hoped  
with all her being  
that her child would  
grow up surrounded  
by love...





An illustration of a boy floating in space. The boy has brown hair, a surprised expression, and is wearing a red t-shirt with a yellow star and blue pants. He is surrounded by a dark space filled with white lines and small circles representing stars. To the left, a large, pink, textured hand reaches out from the edge of the frame. The background is a mix of dark blue, black, and pinkish-purple hues.


Once upon a time, there was a kid named Steven Universe, who never really got to know his mom.

Where am I?  
Am I inside a book?



and kindness, and care...



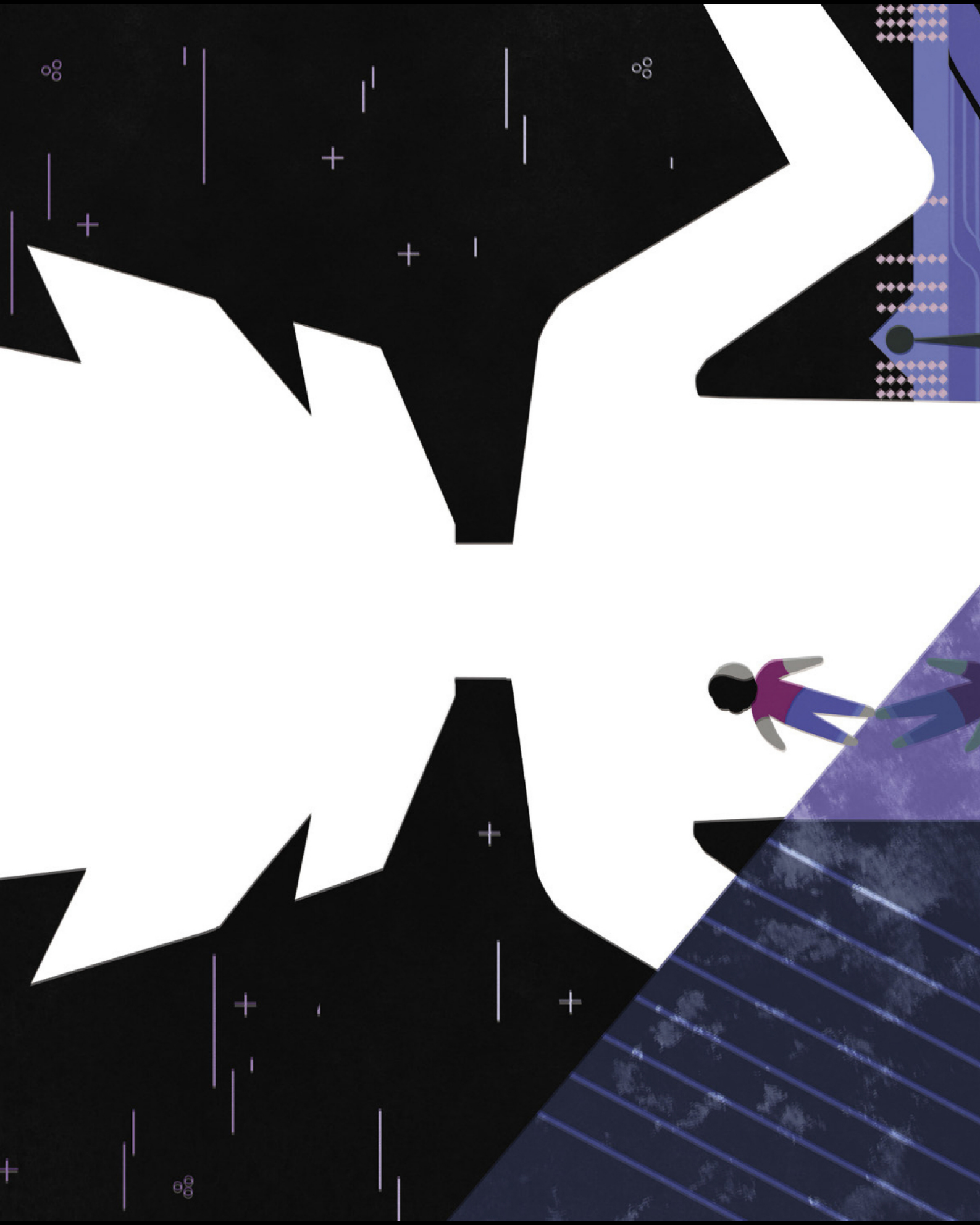


**H**e was always hearing about her, and she sounded so amazing.

I wonder how I'm supposed to read this.

Can I hold the book different ways?

**H**e knew she wanted to become human, and she wanted to become him, and that as long as Steven had her Gem they couldn't both exist.





**T**he more he learned about her, the more it started to scare him—

OF COURSE there's one right way.  
Now hold the book correctly.

And would never find a way back to her horrendous old home...

I guess there are several stories from different angles.

Maybe there isn't one right way to hold the book.

**I**t was only a matter of time before Pink came crawling back.





What!? No!

Finally! Let's turn this  
mess around.





**T**hat she might be trapped inside her Gem, or that he might not be himself at all...

nd never feel the way she had felt there...

**I**n a state more confusing than ever...

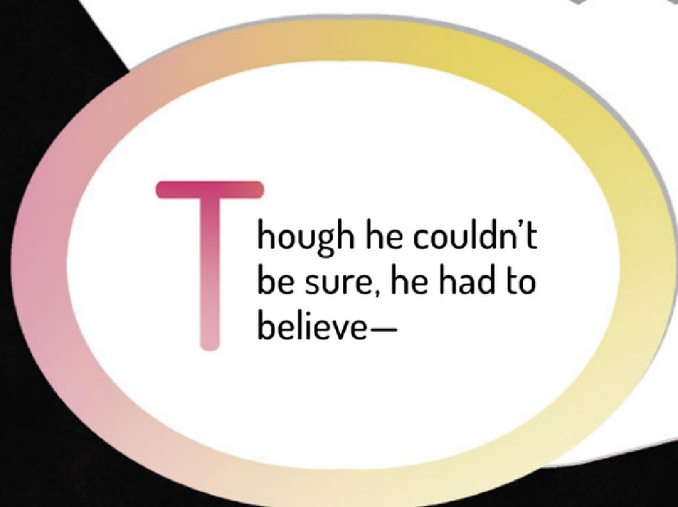


nd never be  
picked apart  
by the other  
Diamonds.



esperate  
for White to  
correct her.

D



T

hough he couldn't  
be sure, he had to  
believe—





**B**elieve he  
wasn't her,  
believe in  
himself, and—

he hoped  
her child would  
somehow, someday  
understand what a  
difference it makes to tell  
your own story, and—

**W**hite knew Pink would  
never change, and no one  
on this or any other world  
would prove her wrong, but—





nce  
upon  
a time

o






























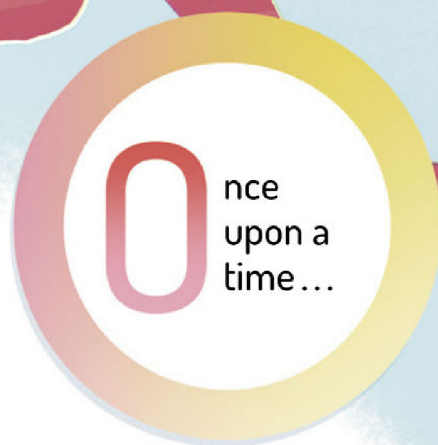




This way feels  
right to me.

I can't believe it! This does  
seem right.... Have I been  
wrong for this entire book?!







He did.





THIS BOOK  
BELONGS TO

Steven  
Universe ☆

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**DEDICATED TO TRANS &  
GENDER-EXPANSIVE KIDS**

**Rebecca Sugar** is a *New York Times* bestselling author and the creator of the Emmy-nominated show *Steven Universe* on Cartoon Network. She previously worked as a writer and storyboard artist on Cartoon Network's animated series *Adventure Time*.  
She's an artist, songwriter, and director.

**Elle Michalka** is an Annie-nominated art director and *New York Times* bestselling illustrator who has worked for shows including *Steven Universe*, *Gravity Falls*, and *Midnight Gospel*. She is a native Texan and CalArts alum who currently lives and works in Los Angeles.

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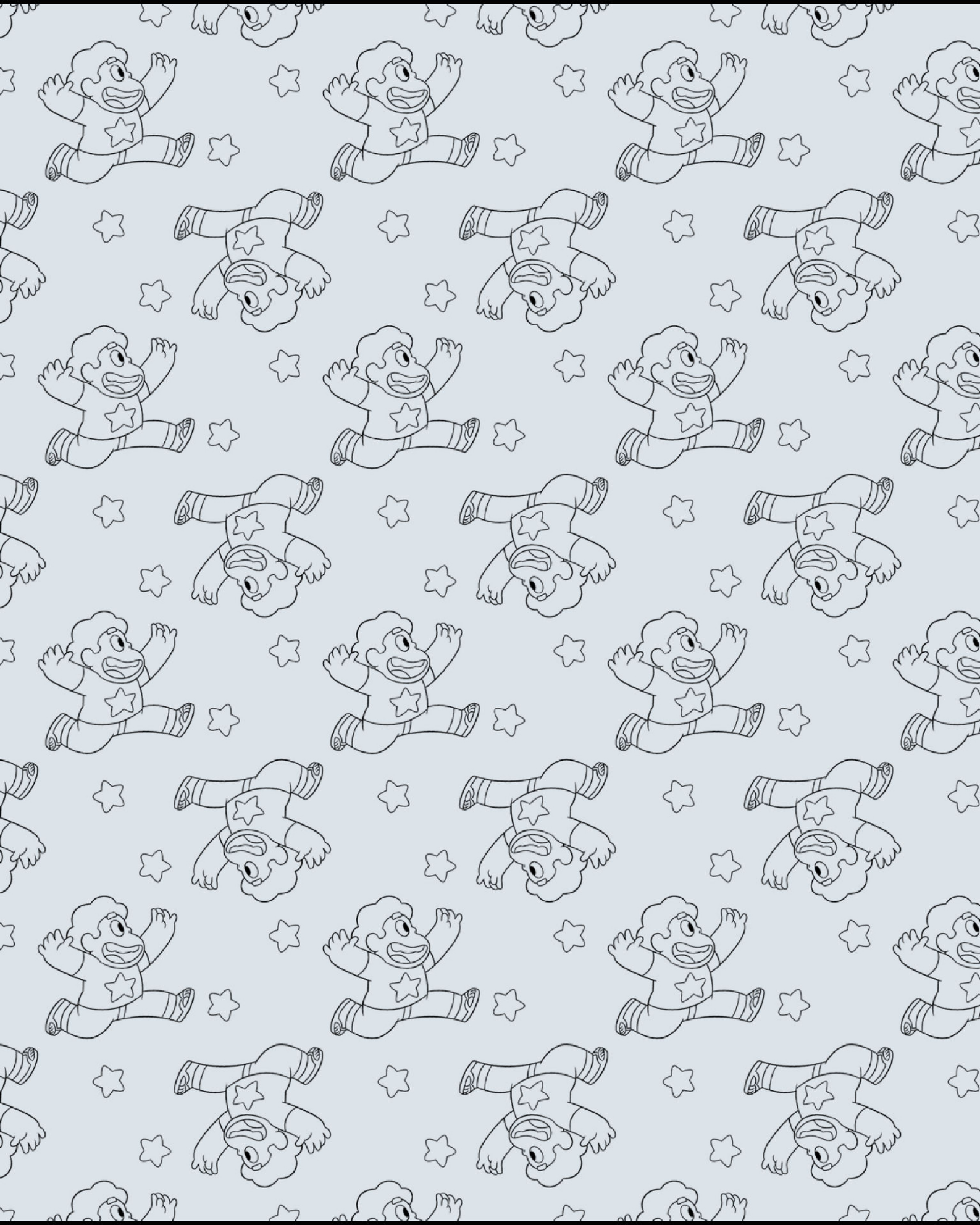


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# Once upon a time,

a silly, impossible little Gem named Pink Diamond ran away from her Homeworld to the planet Earth.

She transformed into Rose Quartz and gave up her existence to create a half-human child, Steven Universe.

But so long as Steven has her Gem, can they BOTH exist?  
Is he her? Is she him?  
Is she trapped inside his Gem?

This is so DISORIENTING!

In a story unlike any other—  
made up of multiple points of view—  
who gets to tell the Tale of Steven?



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