

There once was a flower named Dahlia who was born in a beautiful field of wildflowers.

Dahlia's roots were buried deep in the earth and connected her with her entire family.

Dahlia's mother taught her that flowers need 2 things to grow: water & light. She showed Dahlia how to use the light in the sky to grow tall & beautiful. She told Dahlia that even when she couldn't see the light, it was still there, and she always held a piece of it within her.

Her mother said, "Dahlia, when you are cold in the night, when you feel alone, when you can't see me, remember that the light is within you too. The night may feel long, but soon the sun will rise again."

One day, while the sun was shining bright above, Dahlia heard a loud noise nearby. When she looked up, she saw big trucks driving through her field.

She could hear some flowers around her talking about a road that was being built straight through their field. Dahlia didn't know what a road was and she felt scared and confused.

Suddenly the ground began to rumble around her and then it was dark.

Dahlia felt a weight on top of her. She didn't know where she was and she couldn't find her family. She felt really sad and afraid.

Then, from somewhere inside of her, Dahlia could hear her mother's voice. "Dahlia, when you feel alone, when you can't see me, remember that there is light within you."

Dahlia closed her eyes.

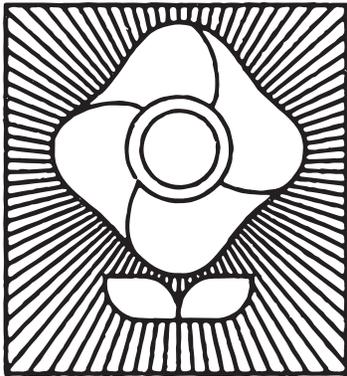
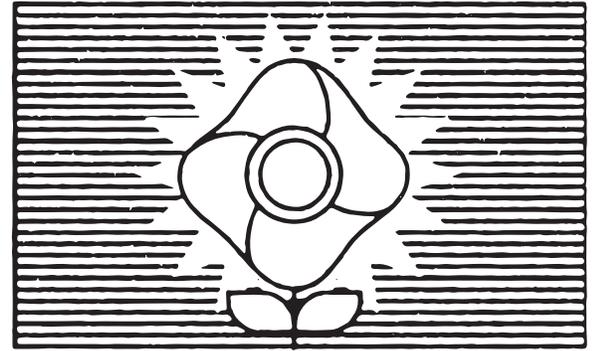
She took a deep breath and began searching for the light her mother told her about.

She searched and searched but she couldn't find it.

Still, her mother's voice spoke within her. As Dahlia remembered her mother's lesson she felt a warm familiar feeling in her heart. It was the feeling of safety and love.

Dahlia realized that the light her mother taught her about was not something she could see, but rather something she could feel.

With her eyes still closed, she began to remember all of the happy times in her life. She remembered the joy she felt when she played with her friends. She remembered the love she had for all of her family, and the love they had for her too.



As she remembered these moments, Dahlia's body filled with warmth and she began to cry. Her tears fell to her feet like rainwater fell from the sky. With each tear that fell, Dahlia felt a little stronger. She remembered that along with the light, flowers need water to grow.

The memories were giving Dahlia a mighty strength that helped her grow.

With each memory, Dahlia stood a little taller. As she grew stronger, the weight above her began to lighten and with a flash, a bright light surrounded her.

With a hopeful breath, Dahlia squinted open one eye. To her surprise, she was back in her field of wildflowers.

It looked very different now, and Dahlia felt different now, but to her amazement she had grown through the road.

Dahlia wondered how it was possible that a tiny plant like herself could be stronger than the concrete. As she looked around, she realized her strength was not just her own, but the strength of her entire family.

It was her roots that were buried deep in the earth that connected her to her family. And nothing, no road or obstacle, could ever truly separate them.

