

STICKS AND STONES



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Elijah is weird. All the kids at school say so. Because he loves using sticks and stones and playing with them like magic. Learn what secret Mom has to help Elijah discover how important his own choices are.



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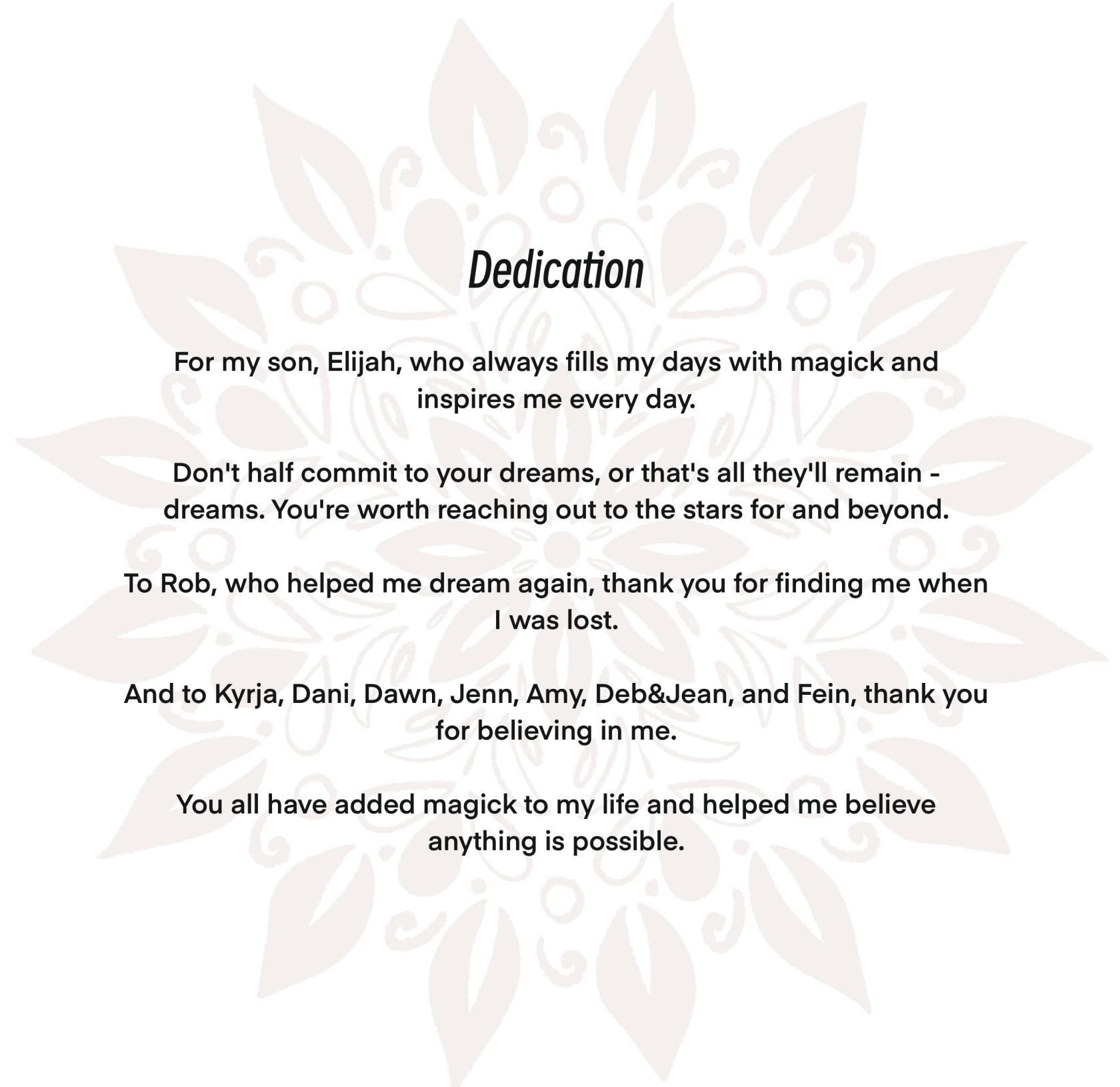
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Dedication

For my son, Elijah, who always fills my days with magick and
inspires me every day.

Don't half commit to your dreams, or that's all they'll remain -
dreams. You're worth reaching out to the stars for and beyond.

To Rob, who helped me dream again, thank you for finding me when
I was lost.

And to Kyrja, Dani, Dawn, Jenn, Amy, Deb&Jean, and Fein, thank you
for believing in me.

You all have added magick to my life and helped me believe
anything is possible.

"Hey Baby."
"Hi Mom," Elijah sighed.
His mom glanced sideways at him.
"What's wrong, Honey?"
"Nothing..."
"Doesn't sound like nothing."
Elijah sighed again. "I'm too much."



His mom placed her hand on his shoulder.

"What do you mean?"

Elijah looked back at her. "They think I'm weird."

His gaze dropped down to the table.

"They say I'm too big, and that I'm too loud, and they think I'm weird..."

"I'm sorry they hurt your feelings," his mother said,
squeezing his shoulder. "Who –"

"But I'm not!" Elijah exclaimed.

"Not what Baby?"

"I'm not weird!" he insisted, looking back at her.

"Am I Mom?" His tone had dropped to a soft whisper.



"Why do they think you're weird?" she asked gently.

"Cuz I collect rocks and sticks and use them like magic..."

"I see..." she murmured. "Can I show you something?"

Elijah nodded and pushed back from the table.

"Where are we going?"

"My office," she answered, opening the door and leading him inside.

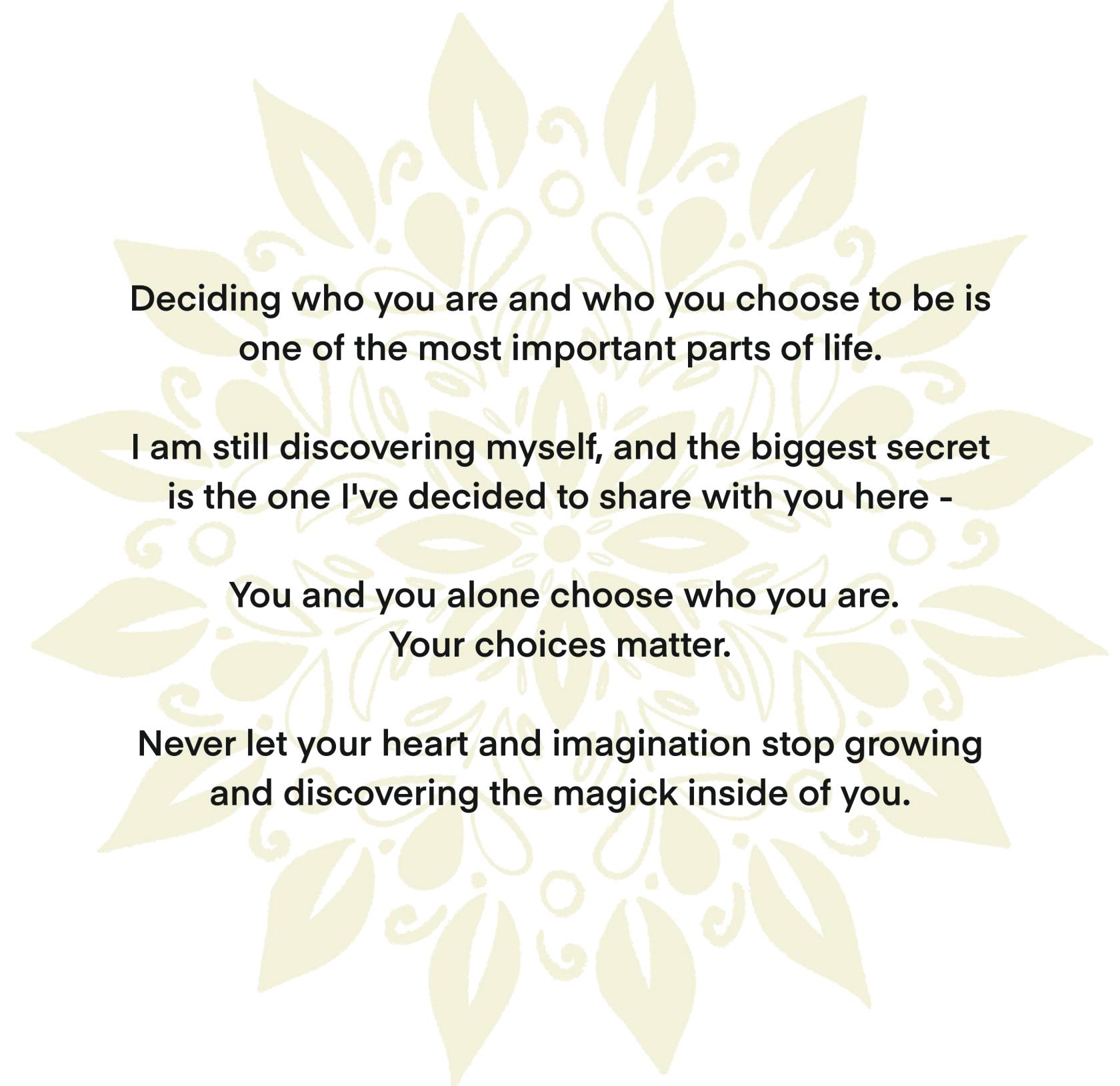


"What do you see?"

Elijah frowned in thought. His mom didn't usually allow him into her office. He couldn't help being curious about what was in there.

"Your desk and computer," he pointed out. She nodded. "What else?"





Deciding who you are and who you choose to be is
one of the most important parts of life.

I am still discovering myself, and the biggest secret
is the one I've decided to share with you here -

You and you alone choose who you are.
Your choices matter.

Never let your heart and imagination stop growing
and discovering the magick inside of you.