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Opening extract from  
**The Darkest Dark**

Written by  
**Chris Hadfield**

Illustrated by  
**The Fan Brothers**

Published by  
**Macmillan Children's Books**

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Please print off and read at your leisure.



To my children, Kyle, Evan and Kristin – together we find the way past our fears – C.H.  
For Tristan and Chas., my favourite explorers – K.F.  
For Tara, who lit the path – T.F. & E.F.



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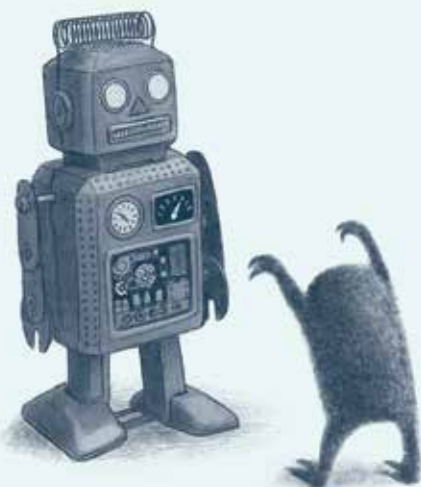
Printed in China

# The Darkest Dark

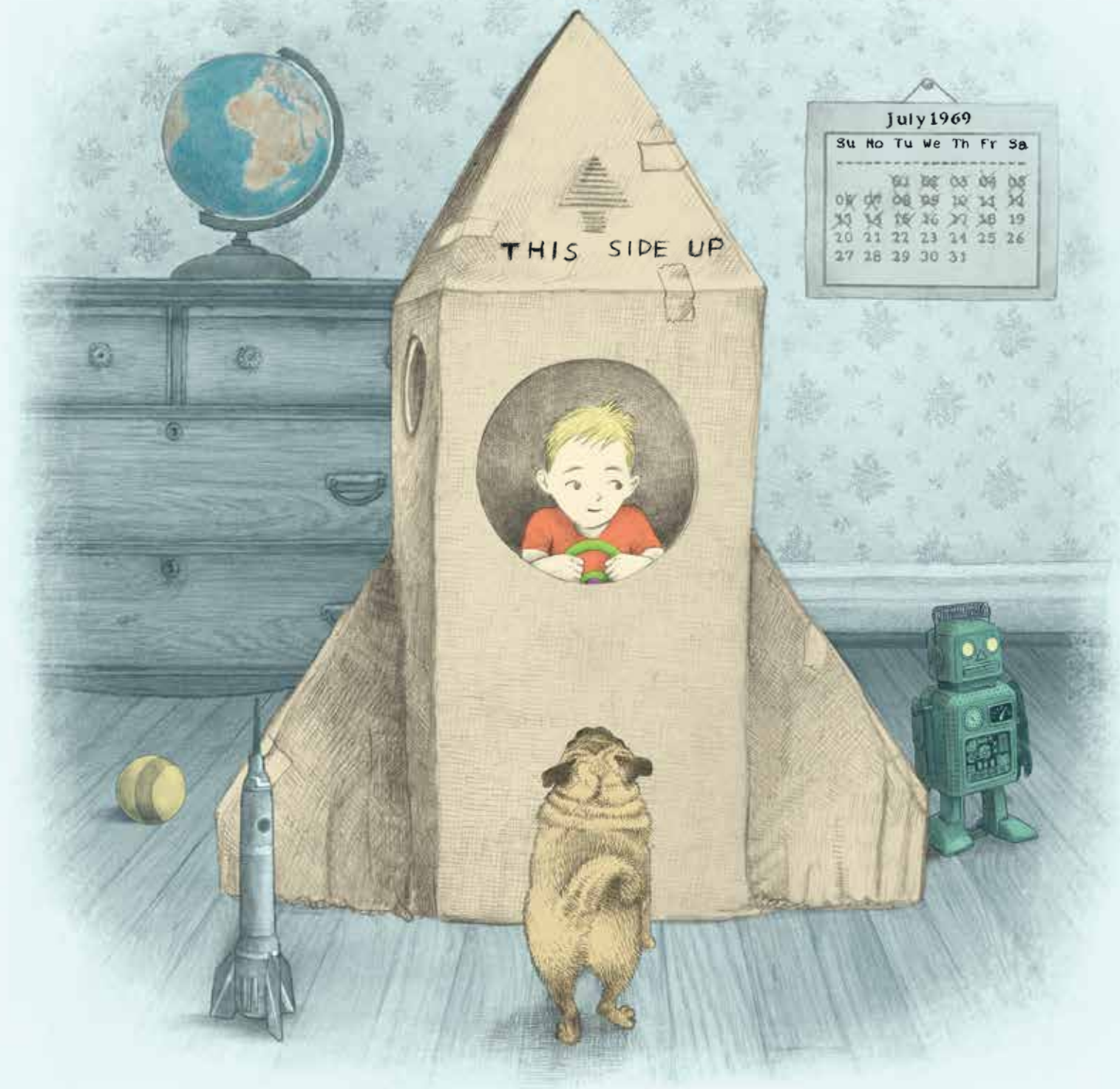


Written by **CHRIS HADFIELD** and **KATE FILLION**  
Illustrated by **THE FAN BROTHERS**

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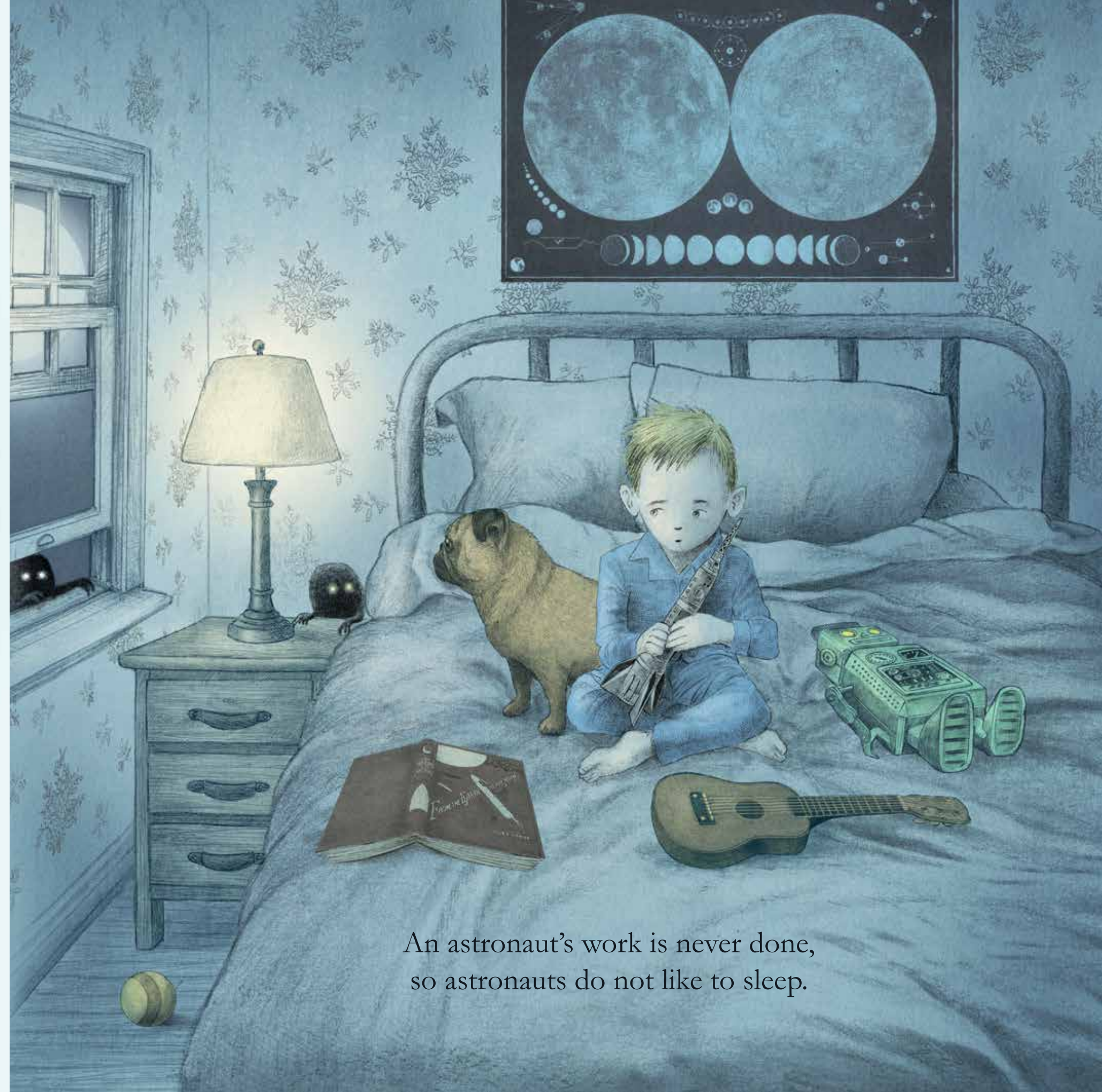
Chris was an astronaut. An important and very busy astronaut.



When it was time to take a bath, he told his mother, "I'd love to, but I'm saving the planet from aliens."



When it was time to get out of the bath and go to bed,  
he told his father – politely, because astronauts are always polite –  
“Sorry, no can do. I’m on my way to Mars.”



An astronaut’s work is never done,  
so astronauts do not like to sleep.