

THE
SONG
THAT
MOVES
THE
SUN

ANNA BRIGHT

HARPER **TEEN**

An Imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers

ALSO BY ANNA BRIGHT

The Beholder

The Boundless

Content warning: Readers should be advised that this novel deals heavily with anxiety, depression, and other mental illnesses. It also makes reference to suicide, disordered eating, and infertility, and contains content that may be triggering to readers with emetophobia. For fuller details, see www.annabrightbooks.com/novels.

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The Song That Moves the Sun

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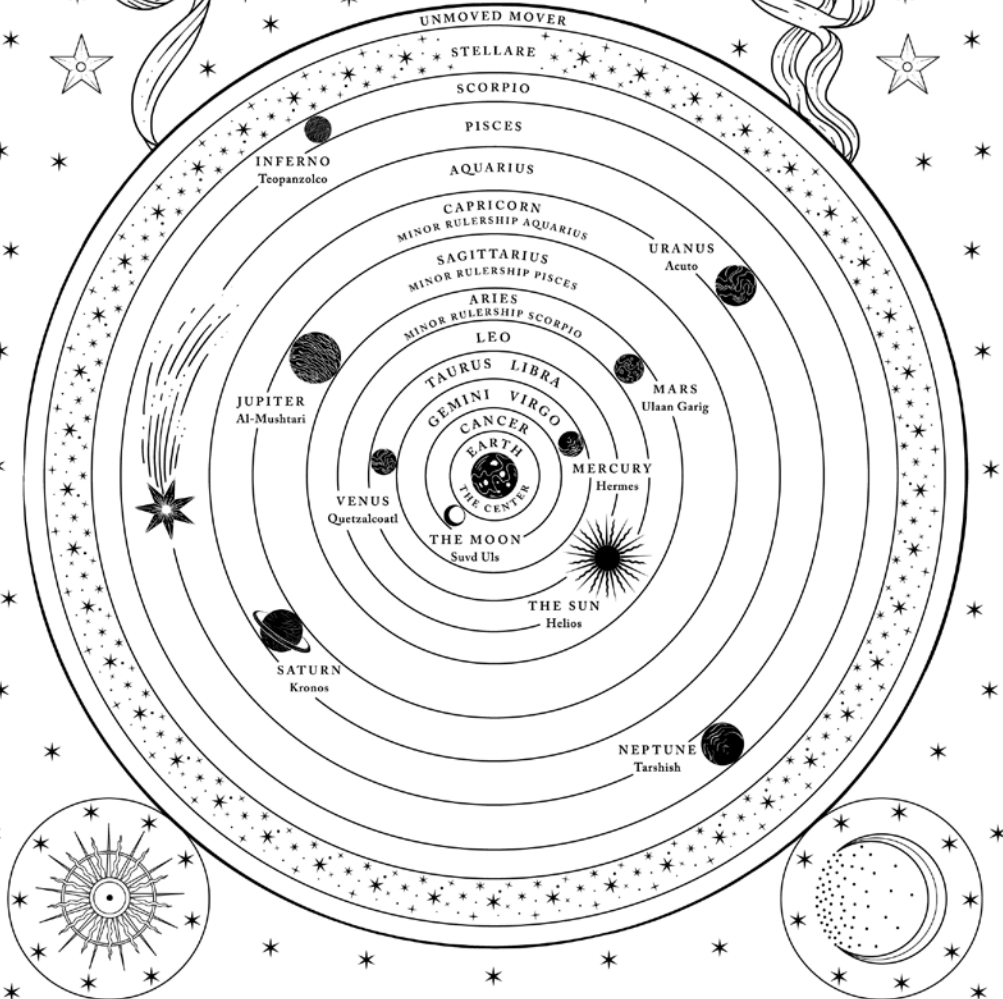
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First Edition

THE SPHERES



*Here vigour failed the lofty fantasy:
But now was turning my desire and will,
Even as a wheel that equally is moved,*

The Love which moves the sun and other stars.

—DANTE, *PARADISO*

AUTHOR'S NOTE

This story takes liberties with history—great ones, like fabricating a friendship between Dante Alighieri, Beatrice Portinari, and Marco Polo, and small ones, like building a bell tower in Florence that doesn't appear to have existed until the mid-1300s.

For what I've related faithfully, I'm indebted to A. N. Wilson's *Dante in Love*, C. S. Lewis's *The Discarded Image*, Michael Ward's *Planet Narnia*, and Ali A. Olomi's podcasts on Islamicate astrology, as well as various other books on modern astrology. I'm also grateful to several wonderful authenticity readers. Any inaccuracies or shortcomings are entirely mine.

The translation of Dante's *Paradiso* referenced is Longfellow's; the translation of Virgil's *Aeneid* is Dryden's.

Finally, this book makes heavy reference to my own experiences with anxiety, depression, and other mental-health issues—your mileage may vary. But therapy and medication have helped me mightily. Whatever your experience, please believe that you deserve help if you are struggling, that you are wanted and needed and valuable, and that I am rooting for you. Hard.

If you need someone to talk to, the following resources may help:

Crisis Text Line: Visit www.crisistextline.org, text “HOME” to 741741 (US/Canada), or 50808 (Ireland), or text “SHOUT” to 85258 (UK)

List of International Suicide Hotlines: Visit www.suicide.org/international-suicide-hotlines.html

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Visit www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org or call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

National Alliance on Mental Illness Helpline: 1-800-950-NAMI (6264)