Big Stars
for a
little star

by Stan Owocki
This is a ball of very hot gas, with a whole lot of mass. 

a big giant Sol
A heavy, hot star, shining so bright,
you can see from afar, at least when it’s night.
The light from this star also pushes the gas.

Like a superhot car, it makes it go fast.
The gas from the top is lost into space... and never does stop, just keeps on its pace.
This wind like a *shroud* casts the star in big *trouble*.

In the neighboring *cloud* it just blows a big *bubble*. 
As the top layers are shed, the core starts to shrink, as it loses its head, ever smaller to slink.
It still is a ball, but not nearly so **massive**.

It’s gotten quite small, but hardly is **passive**.
For inside this core
the atoms are pushed.

Making one out of more,
they really get *smushed*. 
Onward this goes
till the core gets so heavy
that *downward* it flows,
like the break of a levee.
As its inside implodes, then *bounces* back over, the star just explodes, a collapse *supernova*!
This spits complex atoms back out into space, where with eons of add-ons they made your cute face.
Thus Big Stars helped you become what you are,

so are reborn anew

in you, little star!
Stan Owocki received his Ph.D. in Astrophysics in 1982 from the University of Colorado. Since 1987 he has been a Professor at the University of Delaware, where he teaches astronomy and astrophysics, and carries out research on mass loss from bright, massive stars. He is co-author on more than 200 scientific papers.

In 2017 he became a proud “Dziadzi” (Polish for Grandpa) to Eva Sue.

The idea for this book was suggested by her Mom, after hearing an NPR radio segment on physics books for babies.

While dedicated to Baby Eva, the book here is aimed at ages around 3+.

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