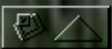


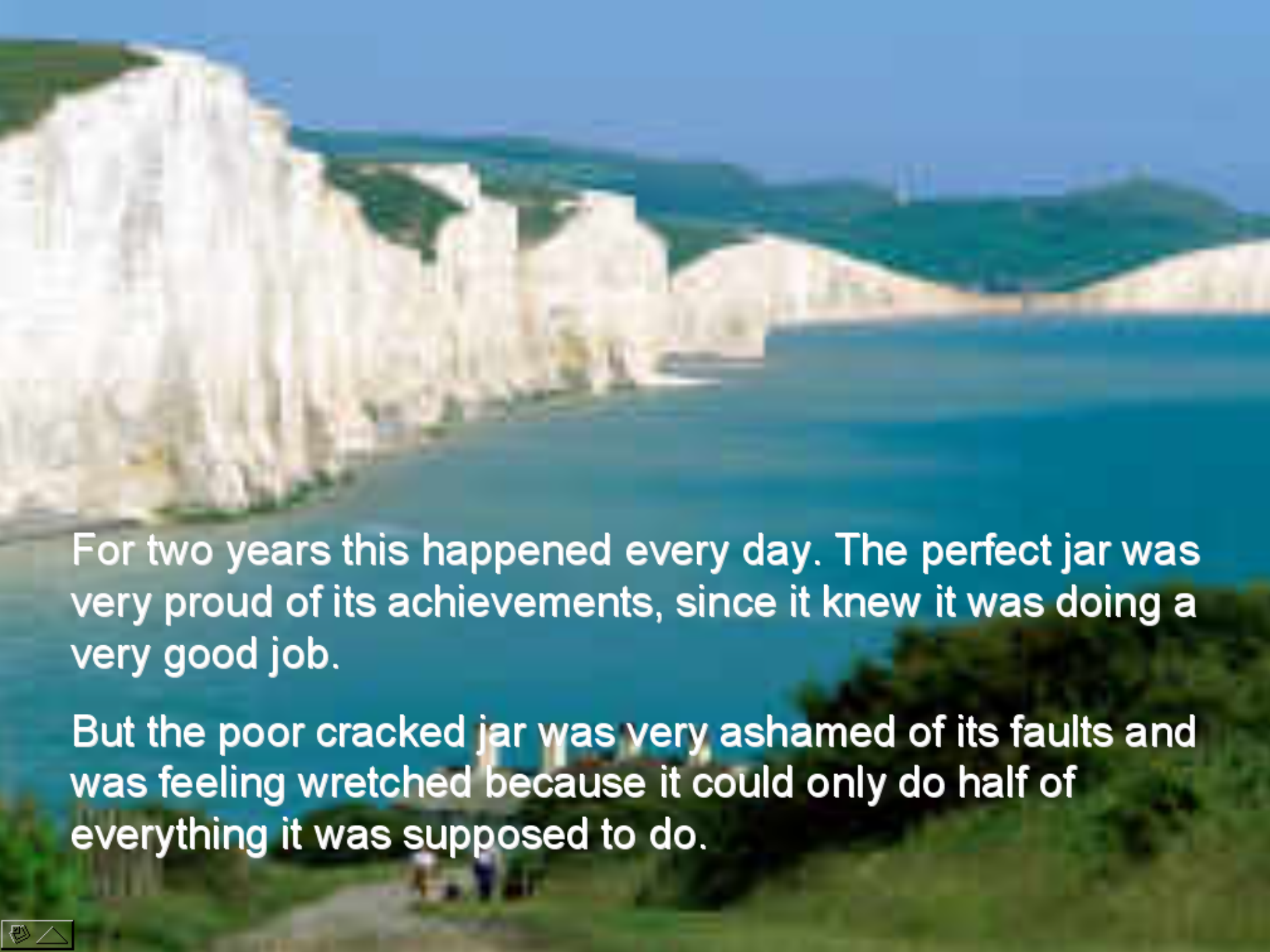
# The Cracked Jar

A traditional thatched-roof house with multiple chimneys under a blue sky with white clouds. The house is made of wood and has a steeply pitched roof. The chimneys are made of brick and are spaced out along the roofline. The house is surrounded by green trees and a fence in the foreground.

A water loader in India had two big jars that were hanging on each end of a piece of wood that he was carrying on his shoulders.

One of the jars had several cracks, whereas the other had no cracks. He had to walk a long way to get water from the creek and take it to the house of his boss, but when he arrived, the cracked jar only had half of the water.





For two years this happened every day. The perfect jar was very proud of its achievements, since it knew it was doing a very good job.

But the poor cracked jar was very ashamed of its faults and was feeling wretched because it could only do half of everything it was supposed to do.





After two years, the broken jar spoke to the water loader saying to him:

"I am ashamed and I want to apologize to you because due to my cracks you can only deliver half of my load and you can only obtain half of the value that you should receive."

A scenic mountain landscape with a path through colorful autumn foliage. The path is lined with vibrant red, orange, and yellow flowers. In the background, there are green evergreen trees and distant mountains under a clear blue sky.

**The water loader was distressed and said compassionately:**

"When we return to the house I want you to take note of the beautiful flowers that grow along the path."

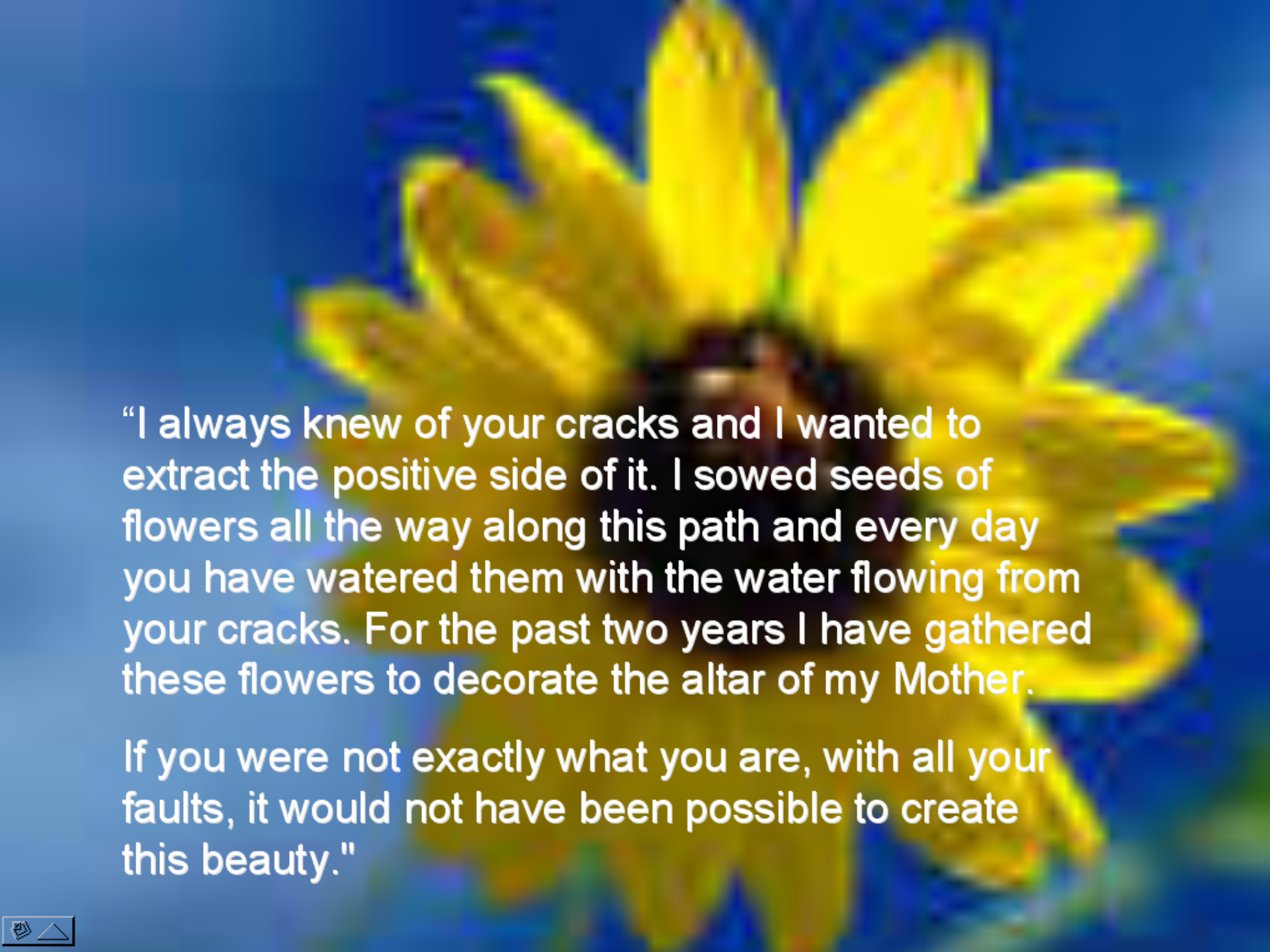
So the jar did look at the flowers on the way back, and did see much beauty. But it still felt upset because ultimately, only half of the water stayed inside the jar that the water loader had to carry.



A vibrant field of flowers in various colors including yellow, orange, and purple, growing in a field. The flowers are scattered across a green, grassy area. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

The water loader said to the jar:

"Did you realize that the flowers only grow on your side of the path?".



“I always knew of your cracks and I wanted to extract the positive side of it. I sowed seeds of flowers all the way along this path and every day you have watered them with the water flowing from your cracks. For the past two years I have gathered these flowers to decorate the altar of my Mother.

If you were not exactly what you are, with all your faults, it would not have been possible to create this beauty.”





Each of us has its own cracks.

We are all cracked jars, but we must know that there is always the possibility of taking advantage of the cracks to obtain good results.