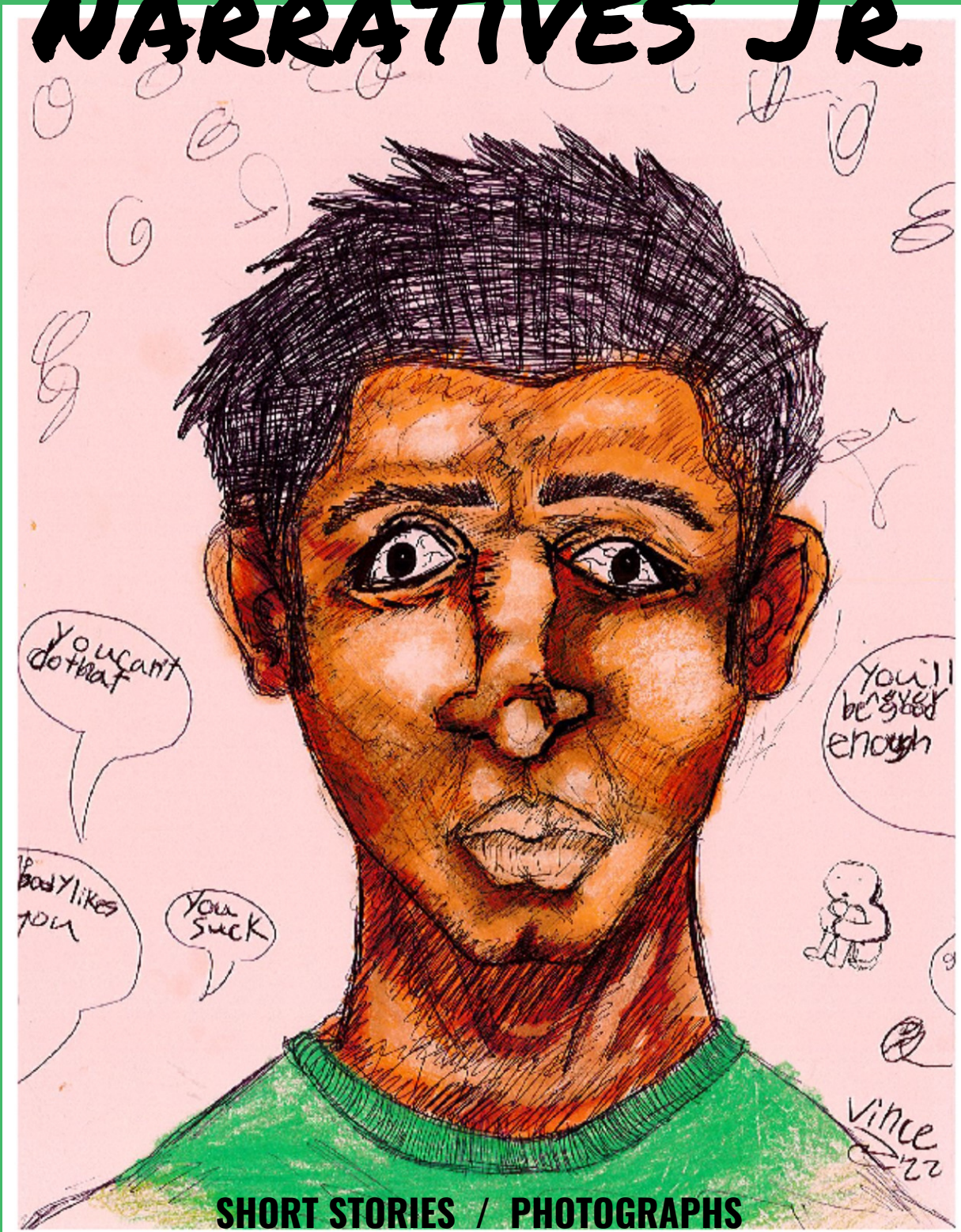


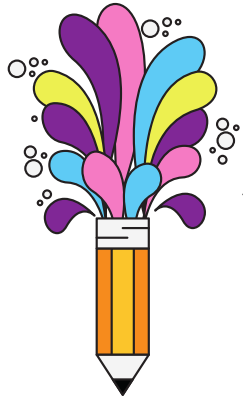
# NORTHERN NARRATIVES JR.



**SHORT STORIES / PHOTOGRAPHS**

**NON FICTION ESSAYS / DRAWINGS POETRY / COMICS**

**GRADES K - 6**



# **WELCOME TO NORTHERN NARRATIVES JR.**

## **Children's Literary Magazine**

Hello! Welcome to Northern Narratives Jr., the Fargo Public Library's kids-only, art and literature magazine. In these pages you will find over 50 entries submitted by school-age children from the FM Community. This anthology features poems, non fiction essays, short stories, drawings, photographs, and comics presented in the spring of 2022.

All pieces were written and created by children in Kindergarten through 6th grade. Transcription of each piece was taken directly from the original work, so any creative spelling, grammar, or formatting is considered intentional by the artist. All submissions were included in the magazine, provided they met the guidelines.

Categories had first and second place winners, and some categories also had honorable mentions, as judged by the Fargo Public Library Children's Services Staff. Winners received a certificate and a gift card to further explore their creativity and are indicated by an asterisk.\*

Library staff commend each artist and writer who submitted work. It takes courage to put your work out in public -- all of the participants should be proud. We were pleased with the imagination, expressiveness, and well-crafted work that we received. It's our hope that all of the artists and writers will continue to write, draw, and create in the future.

Special thanks goes to Cynthia Mason, Cindy Liudahl, Lauren Johnson, Sarah Nelson, and Melisa Duncan for their assistance and guidance.

# CONTRIBUTORS

## DRAWINGS

A Curious Cow/Marina Loor\*

From my mind to paper/Vince Halverson\*

Bliss/Leona Christoffersen\*

Meet me in the pale moonlight/Riley Olson\*

Perspective/Sophia Lucile Voeltz\*

The Rainbow Garden/Levi Baumann

A Sunny Fall Day/Ellie Blair

a country summer day/Gannon Helmick

Medieval Village/Chuyler Kesler

Bookworm/Ryan LeClair

Flying penguins/Estelle Lindquist

The other side/Robert Loor

A feathered origin/Josephine Nielsen

deadpool Dinosouer/Gus Pospichal

Dragons/Lydia Specht

Too Many Decisions/Riley Thomasson

DoodleGirl/Kaylee Trana

Midnight Birb/Liliana Walz Seviour

## COMICS

Sheila Comics/Samantha McCormick\*

Cats/Olen Anderson\*

the war/Gus Pospichal

The News.../Delanie Wind

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Camping Sky/Julia Wagner\*

## SHORT STORIES

Cat Tails/Lila Sateren\*

Dead Elevator/Zoe Kremens\*

The Frog and the Salamander/Maddux Beaulier\*

The cat who fished for bacon/Dylan Creech\*

Starstruck/Amelia Pikalek\*

The Cat and the Baby in the Wild/Lilla Beaulier

The Cat Who Almost Ate Fargo/Roma Beaulier

The new kids/Jemma Enger

Superpowers/Quinn Erickson

Sally's Trip/Symphony Hubin

The Dragon Child/Remi Francis

A Day in the life of Cuatro/Eva Sapp

Drag and the Hunter/Ranbeer Singh Wadhwa

Super Llama VS Goat/Ellie Wagner

## POETRY

The Way to Explore/Lilla Beaulier\*

Your home./Hadley Theye\*

My Quiet Place/Allie Choi\*

Fishing in Bemidji/Roma Beaulier

Everything is broken/Nora Blair

I Feel/Remi Francis

Koala, Koala/Isabella McCormick

My Day/Lucas McCormick

Firefly./Wren Stewart-Gall

## NON FICTION ESSAYS

The Coffee Cabinet/Clay Hubin\*



# WINNERS

## **DRAWINGS**

A Curious Cow/Marina Loor

From my mind to paper/Vince Halverson

Honorable Mentions: Me me in the pale moonlight/Riley Olson, Bliss/Leona Christoffersen,  
Perspective/Sophia Lucile Voeltz

## **COMICS**

Sheila Comics/Samantha McCormick

Cats/Olen Anderson

## **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Camping Sky/Julia Wagner

## **SHORT STORIES**

Cat Tails/Lila Sateren

Dead Elevator/Zoe Kremens

Honorable Mentions: Starstruck/Amelia Pikalek, The cat who fished for bacon/Dylan Creech, The Frog  
and the Salamander/Maddux Beaulier

## **POETRY**

The Way to Explore/Lilla Beaulier

Your home./Hadley Theye

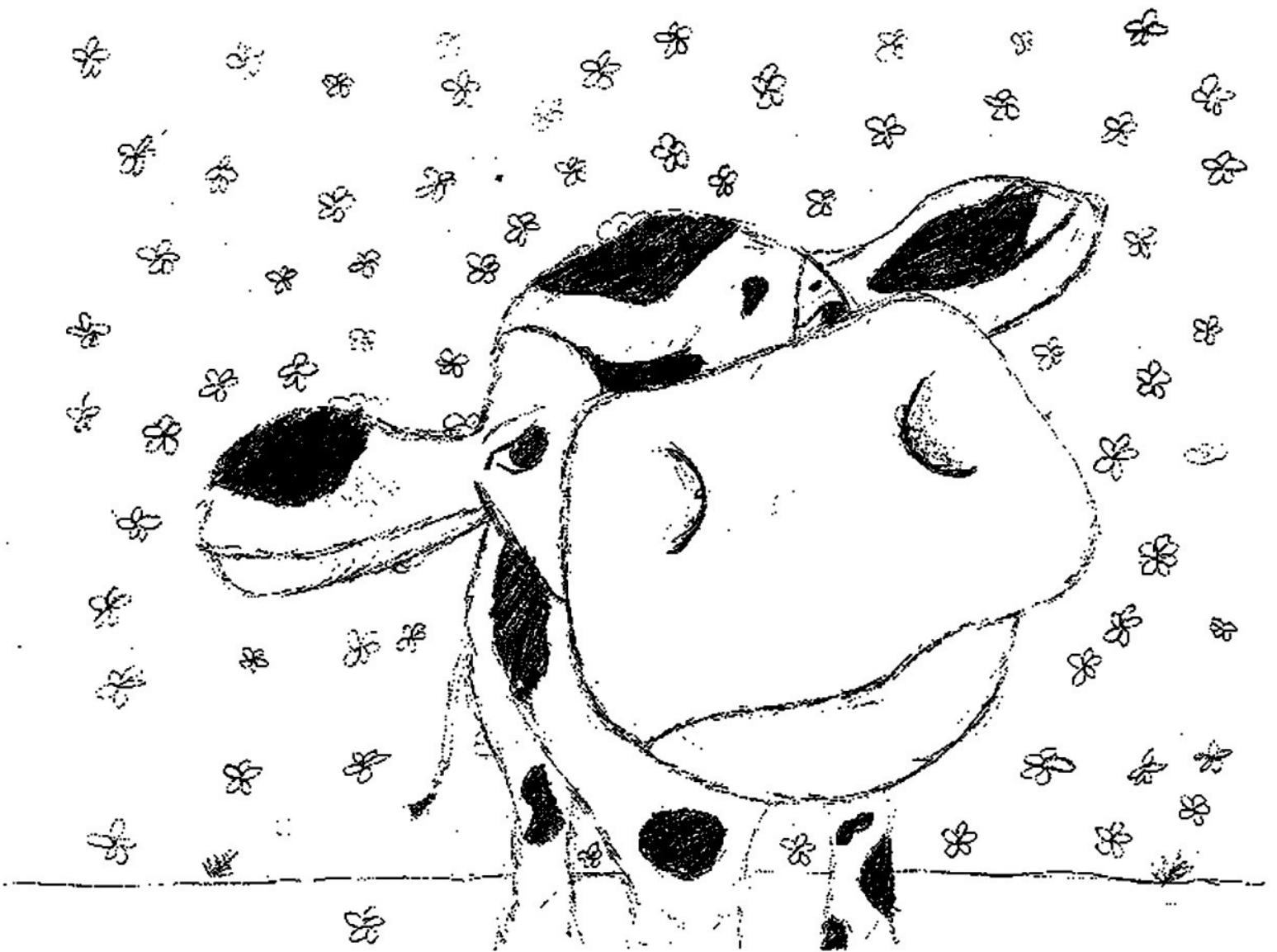
Honorable Mention: My Quiet Place/Allie Choi

## **NON FICTION ESSAYS**

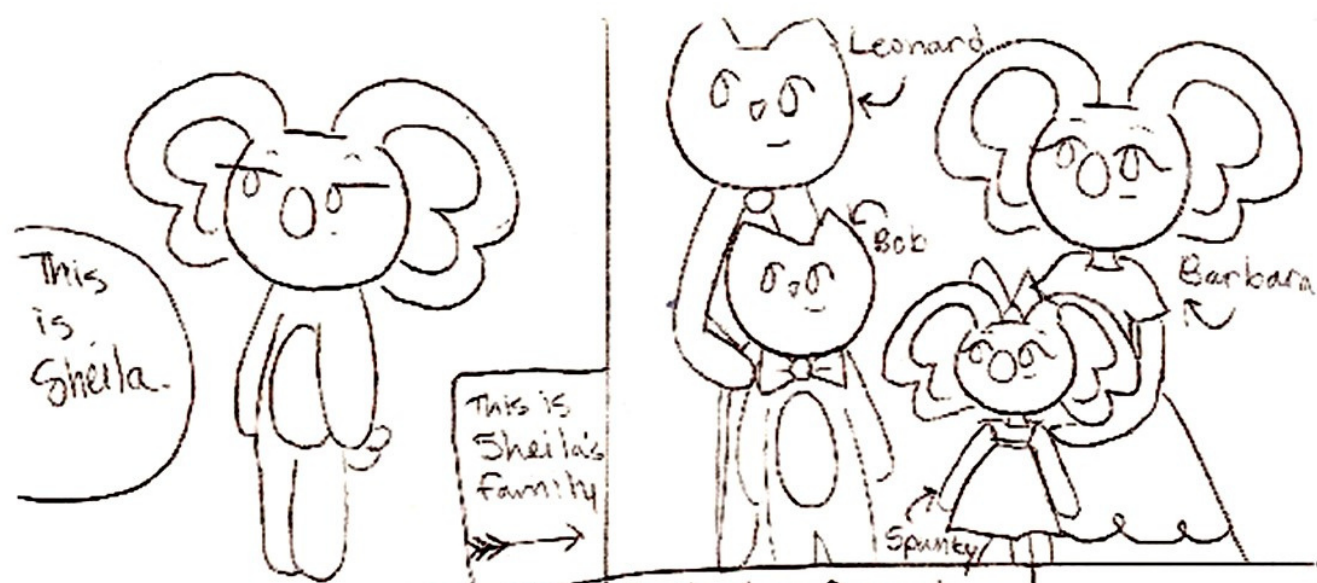
The Coffee Cabinet/Clay Hubin



# A CURIOUS COW



# SHEILA COMICS



TURN  
THE  
PAGE  
FOR HER  
ADVENTURES

# SHEILA COMICS

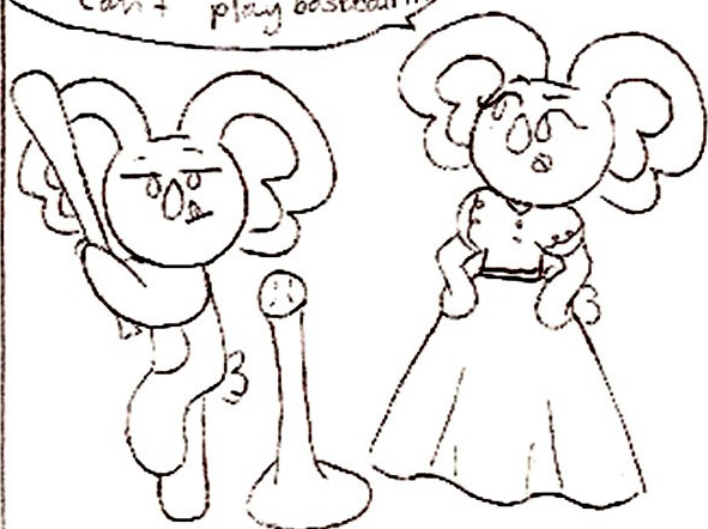




# SHEILA COMICS



Sheila, you know you can't play baseball in the



...house.



Home run!



Oh, Sheila

# SHEILA COMICS





# CAMPING SKY



Julia Wagner/Grade 3\*



# CAT TAILS

Hi! My name is Yohan and I'm an orange farm cat. My siblings think I'm a normal cat but when no one is around, I'm a spy, just like my mom. I'm now going to my spy base in the corn field because the leader has called a meeting.

Once everyone was settled, the leader started talking. "Three of our cats have gone missing. I just got a signal that they are in the fox den, and we need a plan to get to them without being noticed."

Before the leader had a chance to say anything else, my friend Smokey interrupted. "But they have the furry caterpillar; that thing is like a ghost! It has multiple eyes, can blend into everything, and can kill us in a heartbeat! How are we supposed to get passed that thing?"

"That's where Yohan comes in, Smokey," said the leader. "Yohan is the fastest, most sneaky cat we have. He's our best hope. You will follow behind Yohan. If the furry caterpillar gets him, you will run back to base as fast as you can. Now, I need to talk to Yohan in private."

Everyone nodded and went away.

"Yohan," said the leaders, "are you ready to do this?"

"Yes, I am."

"I know this will be a hard mission for you, especially after what the furry caterpillar did your mom. We all miss her, but now we need you to be strong and get those cats back.

"Yes, I can handle it, Leader," I replied.



I called out to Smokey, and we went off towards the fox den. I could tell that Smokey was getting anxious, probably about the furry caterpillar, since he's had some close calls with it. Even though it is small, it can be very deadly.

We've been running for a while and are getting close to the fox den. But we haven't seen the furry caterpillar, which scares me.

"Do you think he's following us?" Smokey whispered to me.

"I hope not. We are so close," I replied.

We ran a bit farther until Smokey said, "I think I can smell the fox den."

# CAT TAILS

We dropped into a crouch and started crawling forward, to make sure no one would see us. I could tell by the smell that the foxes were not in their den. Probably out hunting.

"Now is our chance," I said.

While Smokey kept watch outside, I slowly started crawling into the dark den to make sure I didn't lose my footing. It felt like the hole went down forever, but after a little while, my paws finally reached the bottom of the den. "Now the real work begins," I muttered to myself.

There were multiple tunnels, so I had to rely on my senses to know which way to go. Since I am the best spy around, I went with the left tunnel, which seemed to be the right choice. After walking for some time, I finally found the missing cats, trapped behind a barrier of sticks. I grabbed a Swiss Army Knife out of my spy gear bag to quickly take care of the sticks. Then, I led the missing cats out of the tunnel.

When we made it out of the fox den, Smokey was waiting for us, but he looked scared. He whispered, "The furry caterpillar is getting close, I can feel it."

After a couple of seconds in thought I finally told Smokey, "You need to take these cats and start heading towards the base. I will be right behind you."

Smokey started to argue but I cut him off. "Just trust me on this."

Smokey looked a little hesitant but started running towards the base with the three other cats closely behind him. Once they were far ahead of me, I noticed the slightest movement in the distance. It was the furry caterpillar! I started going through the plan in my head and jumped behind a bush. Once it was in the right spot, I threw a stick in the opposite direction of Smokey and the cats to make a distraction. But the furry caterpillar did not change its course. "Uh oh," I thought, trying to figure out Plan B.

Before I knew it, I was running at the furry caterpillar, screaming at the top of my lungs telling Smokey to move faster. The furry caterpillar heard me screaming and spun around to lunge at me. It expected to get its first kill of the day but went right through me. The furry caterpillar looked very shocked. "Yes", I thought, as I was running to catch up to the other cats. "My hologram worked!"

# CAT TAILS

When I finally caught up to Smokey, I was about to start talking but he nuzzled me so hard that I almost fell to the ground. "I thought you were dead," he said. "I saw you got attacked by the furry caterpillar and-"

"It was a hologram," I interrupted.

"What?!"

"They're one of my specialties, and you can never be too prepared," I boasted.

"I never knew you could do that," said Smokey, amazed.

"Yeah," I said. "But we should hurry back to the base now, in case the furry caterpillar is still near."

We ran in silence until we saw the entrance of the base. It felt good to be back. We saw cats at the entrance, and they all seemed happy to see the missing cats again. All the cats frantically started asking questions until the leader came.

"Silence," the leader yelled, making sure all the cats could hear him. "We should listen to their story before we get too excited. Let them sit down." The leader guided us to the center of the base and brought us some water.

"Thanks," said Smokey, out of breath. He looked back at me and grinned.

"Well," I said, getting everyone's attention, "this is the story of how I saved the day."



# THE WAY TO EXPLORE

The cat leaps up  
to the rafters to see  
where he is now  
and where he wants to be.

Then he runs  
as fast as he can  
around the table  
and away from the man

to see the basement  
and climb on a chair  
and take a short rest  
and smooth his hair.

Next, he runs  
to the kitchen to eat  
this good smelling thing,  
a delicious treat!

He leaps on the tables,  
the counters, the sinks!  
He runs all over the place  
and upsets the drinks!

He runs up the stairs,  
then down again,  
pounces the little boy,  
bites the kid's shin.

He crawls under the sofa  
to see what is there.  
He comes back out  
and slips under a chair.

Then, exhausted,  
he collapses on the floor  
to dream the dreams  
of a curious cat.

# FROM MY MIND TO PAPER



Vince Halverson/Grade 5\*

# THE COFFEE CABINET: AN ESSAY

A Coffee Cabinet is an invention that would be cool to have. The cabinet would have sixteen coffee mugs in two lines of eight. On the next shelf above the coffee mugs, there would be sixteen coffee pods in two lines of eight. This cabinet is smaller than most cabinets because it can only hold sixteen of each.

The coffee maker would be attached to the doors of the cabinet. It would fold up when the cabinet is closed, but when the cabinet is open, it would be ready for use. The coffee maker could hold eight coffee cups and coffee pods at a time. Inside the cabinet, there would be little circles that pop out at the coffee cups and hit one into the coffee maker. On the shelf above, there would be the same things that hit the coffee pods, just they are a little bit smaller circles.

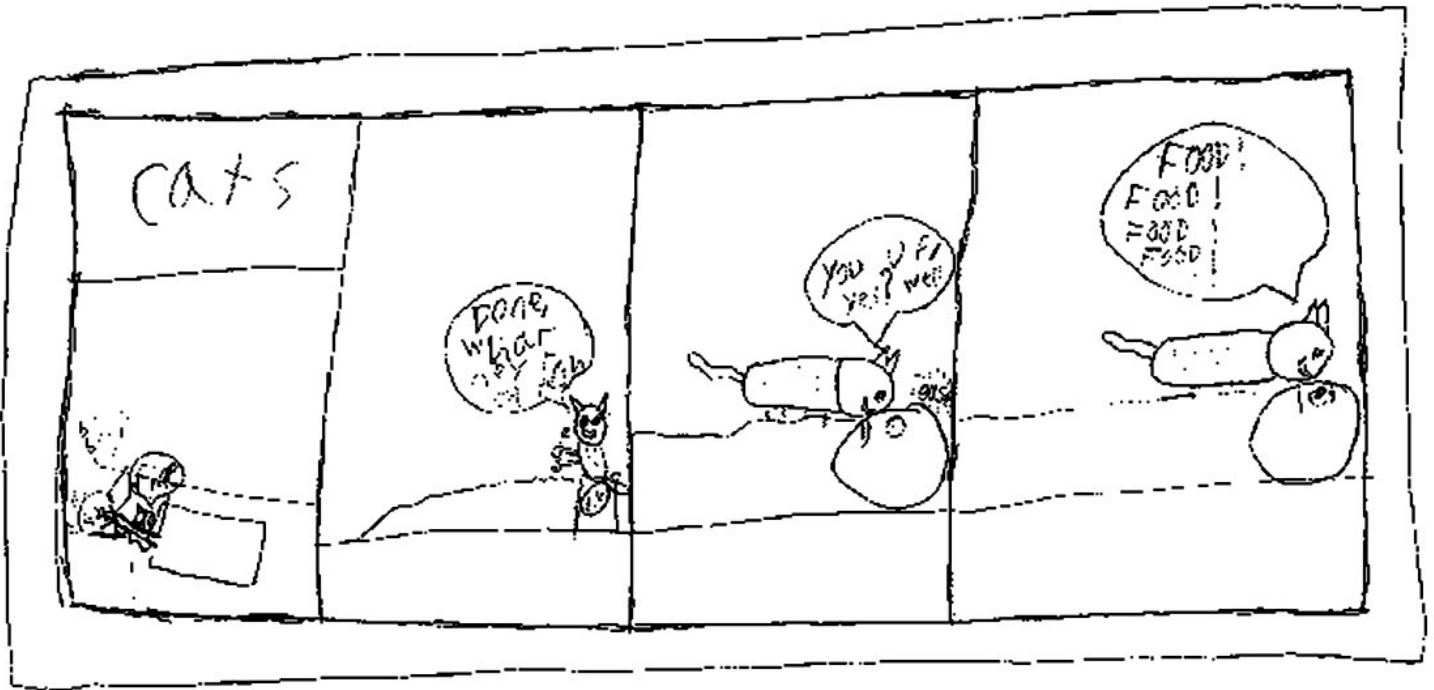
The coffee maker would have a little chip inside it that you can program. So you program it in order to tell it how many cups to make. You could program up to sixteen, because there would be sixteen cups and sixteen coffee pods. If you hadn't programmed it that day, it would make whatever it made the last time.

The coffee maker would have an alarm so at a certain time every day, it would make how many coffee cups you program it to make. You could set the time to any time - 7:00am, 6:00am and 5:00am, etcetera.

This would be a useful invention for early risers that want coffee right away when they get up. It would be useful that there would be more than one cup of coffee, because if a person has guests that want coffee, it would make more than one at a time. They could all have it at one time without anyone's coffee being cold.



# CATS



Olen Anderson/Grade 5\*

# THE NEW KIDS

The first day of school is tomorrow. I feel like I'm about to explode. I'm so nervous. My teacher's name is miss.Ptak she seemed nice at conferences but maybe that was just for the parents. Anyways. My friend is also going to my new school. His name is Jack oh i almost forgot my name is Emma I'm 11 years old. The next day. So now I'm rushing to the bus because my mom forgot to make breakfast. Finally I'm at school and Jack and I are trying to find our class. Ok so now im in science class and we are learning about volcanoes and explosions. Now it's almost the end of science and then I have to go to math. It's rough being the new kid. Ok im almost done with math then we have lunch. I packed a pb and j sandwich with two pickles and strawberries. Finally it's lunch. I'm so hungry. So i'm in the cafeteria and there are so many people like 52 people and I can't find Jack. Am I going to eat lunch alone? I finally found Jack, what a relief oofta. I'm now done with lunch and going to p.e. my final class for the day and then i get to go home. In p.e. we are doing sideline soccer it's pretty fun if i had to admit. So now me and Jack are done with p.e. and we are walking to the bus to go home. Finally I'm home and I have to do homework and then chill what a day. Now I have to go to bed. I'm so tired. Talk to you tomorrow.

The end

Jemma Enger/Grade 5

# DEAD ELEVATOR

The elevator dings and doors slide open. You swivel your head up from your phone and stare at the newcomer. His eyes meet yours, and a jolt goes through your body. He can see you! He tips his head at you and goes to stand in the corner opposite you.

You lower your head back towards your phone, but keep lifting your eyes to stare at the man. He looks young, twenty to thirty years old.

He lifts his eyes at you, and you duck your head back towards your phone again. You google- 'Human and ghost interactions'. The only thing that pops up is something about a lady adding to a mansion to avoid a curse and ghost sightings in Richmond, Texas.

You snort as you look through the article about the mansion lady, and realizing you made a sound, glance up at him. He's looking at you with a bemused expression, and you hide your face behind your phone.

All of a sudden, the elevator jerks and you stop. You grab the rails next to you to steady yourself. You look up at your neighbor, and see his eyes are squinted shut, his knuckles white from clinging to the rails.

"You okay?"

Your voice, slightly raspy from the twenty years of silence, surprises you. It surprises him, too.

"Yeah- yeah, I'm fine. Thanks, You?"

"I'm fine," Yeah, after being here for twenty years, you'd think you'd be fine.

"Okay, good. Now we need to figure out how to get out of here."

"We don't," You say. "We wait here until someone gets *us* out of here."

He looks at you, confused and suspicious.

"You seem to have experience with this kind of thing."

"One too many unlucky accidents. That's it."

He nods, but keeps eyeing you suspiciously. A few hours pass, and the man gets increasingly impatient; pacing back and forth on his side, fiddling with his hands, and pulling his phone out repeatedly whenever it pings.

"Somewhere to get to?" You ask.

"Yes, although it's not your business. I've gotten a great job offer, but I'm supposed to be at the interview in a half hour. Unless someone gets us out fast, I won't get the job."

You feel a twinge somewhere inside you, but you ignore it.

"Listen. You have a phone, right?"

"Yeah, but- so do you," He says, pointing at the pocket in your jeans in which your phone resides.

"I know, but- it won't work. Just trust me."

He nods and pulls out his phone, slowly, keeping his eyes on you the whole time.

"Okay. Now dial the number 636-318-9104. It'll get you to the front desk of the Empire."

He presses the white keys on his phone, and the phone begins to ring.

"Hello?"

"Hi. Me and-" You shake your head at him. "I'm stuck in a broken elevator in this building and I've got a job interview in a half hour."

"*Okay, no problem, we'll get you down lickety-split.*"

"Thank you, ma'am."

He ends the call and stares at you.

"Okay. What is your problem? Do you not want to get out of this damn elevator?"

"I- I do!" You cry.

"Okay, then what is your problem? We have a chance, and you tell me not to tell the front desk, you don't even *call* the front desk when you have the chance. What's the problem?"

You knew it would come to this eventually. No person who gets stuck with you in an elevator gets out without knowing...

# DEAD ELEVATOR

"I'm dead! I'm dead, okay? Just don't freak out," You shout at him.

His eyes widen, but to his credit, he doesn't scream at the thought of being stuck in an elevator with a dead person.

"You're joking," He stutters.

"Anybody laughing?" You ask wryly.

"No, I suppose not," He says. " But how does that work? You can't get out of here? How did you die anyway?"

"If you will kindly shut up for a few minutes, I will tell you.

"I was offered a great job. So was another, fairly competitive colleague of mine. We went to the interview at the same time, and he knew I would get the job. So he brought a pocket knife with him, and he stabbed me while we were going up. He got rid of my body by tossing it in the dumpster. Apparently my soul stayed here, though."

He stares at you with a horrified expression.

"So... how long have you been stuck here?"

"Twenty years," You say grimly. "The guy who killed me is the guy you desperately want to work for. It does have good pay, though, and you hardly ever see him, so don't worry. Go get the job I should have had, but that the villain of this story got."

He continues staring at you, and after a prolonged silence, he finally nods.

"Good. They should be getting us out any minute."

Ten minutes later, the elevator begins going up in jerky stops. Finally, it stops completely, and the doors slide open. A man reaches his hand out to the only living person in the elevator.

He looks back at you once, and you mouth the words 'Good luck.'

And he leaves the elevator you call a prison.

# YOUR HOME.

Bricks.  
Blocks.  
Walls.  
Building.  
A house.  
A home.  
A place.  
A place where  
You are safe.  
A comforting,  
Loving,  
Colorful place.  
A place to smile,  
to cry,  
to yell,  
to whisper,  
to be your weird,  
quirky,  
sassy self.  
Full of precious moments,  
ones you love,  
ones you regret,  
ones you wish you'd forget,  
but it's home.  
Your home.  
Yours.



# BLISS



# MY QUIET PLACE

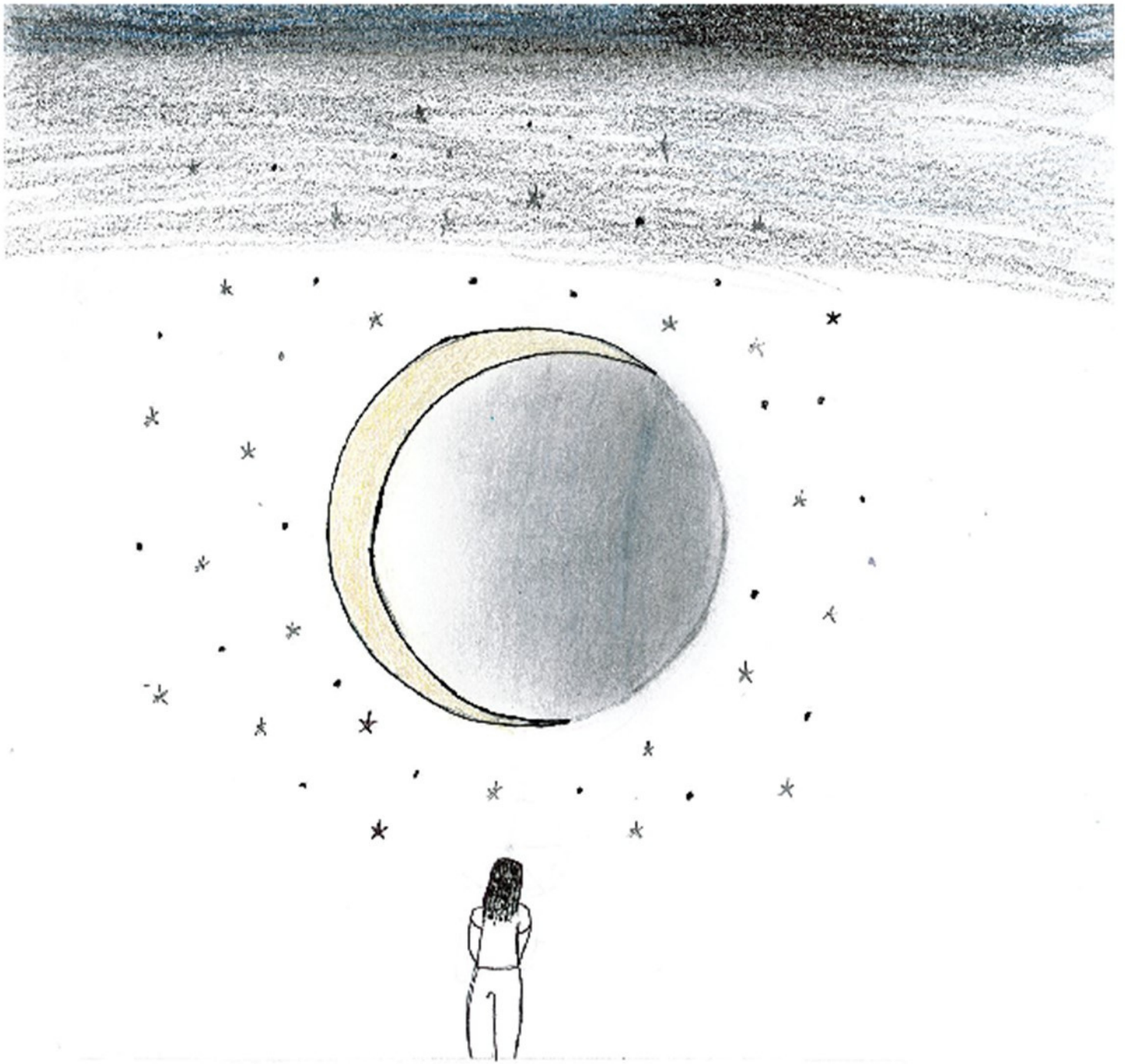
There's only one place to be in peace, besides my mama's arms.

There's one place to be in the shattered silence.

That is your quiet place. My quiet place is my swirly pink bean bag chair. I smell the wonder and beauty of the peace as I drift to my own world of imagination, and I push the busy homework girl part of me away. I feel the warm kisses of sunlight blended with my thoughts swirling inside me. The blender inside my heart, an invisible hand throwing in the ingredients: the sorrow, worries, pushed aside, leaving the wonderfals. I see my imagination as it feeds me, not my stomach but my soul, my desire. I hear my mind, echoing into the sparkling caverns of my heart. I taste the sweet ice popsicles, with the secret ingredient: love. My popsicle can be strawberry flavored, or maybe chocolate. When I'm in my quiet place, I can pour my heart into the world I dream in.



# MEET ME IN THE PALE MOONLIGHT



Riley Olson/Grade 5\*

# THE FROG AND THE SALAMANDER



Once upon a time, there was a poison dart frog, Poi, who lived in a swamp in the Amazon rainforest. Poi was red, green, blue, orange, pink, yellow, and purple. He liked to swim around in the swamp, and no animals bothered him because they knew he was poison from his bright colors.

Poi was friends with a brown salamander with tan spots named Sal, who had magic strength. Sal liked to dig mud houses in the ground. Poi helped Sal build mud, stick, and grass houses. They would swim together to clean themselves off after building. They would scare the fish away and hop out of the water, laughing.

But, one day, animal controllers came. The people began to catch frogs and salamanders and put them in their boat. They wanted to see if they could turn them into dinosaurs back at their lab in the city.

Sal and Poi hid in one of their mud houses.

Poi said, "Let's get our friends back."

Sal said, "Great idea. But how?"



# THE FROG AND THE SALAMANDER

Poi answered, "Sal, you'll hide on the boat. I'll hop up and let them touch me, and the animal controllers will all fall asleep. Then, you can use your magic strength to pick up sticks and break the glass jars they've put the frogs and salamanders in."

Sal said, "Let's go now!"

Sal and Poi swam to the boat. They used the stick-pads on their feet to climb on the boat. Sal stayed on the outside of the boat while Poi climbed onto the desk.

One of the animal controllers spotted Poi and shouted, "There's another frog! There's been a break-out!"

The animal controller tried to grab Poi, but he fell asleep as soon as he touched Poi's skin. The same happened to the other animal controllers.

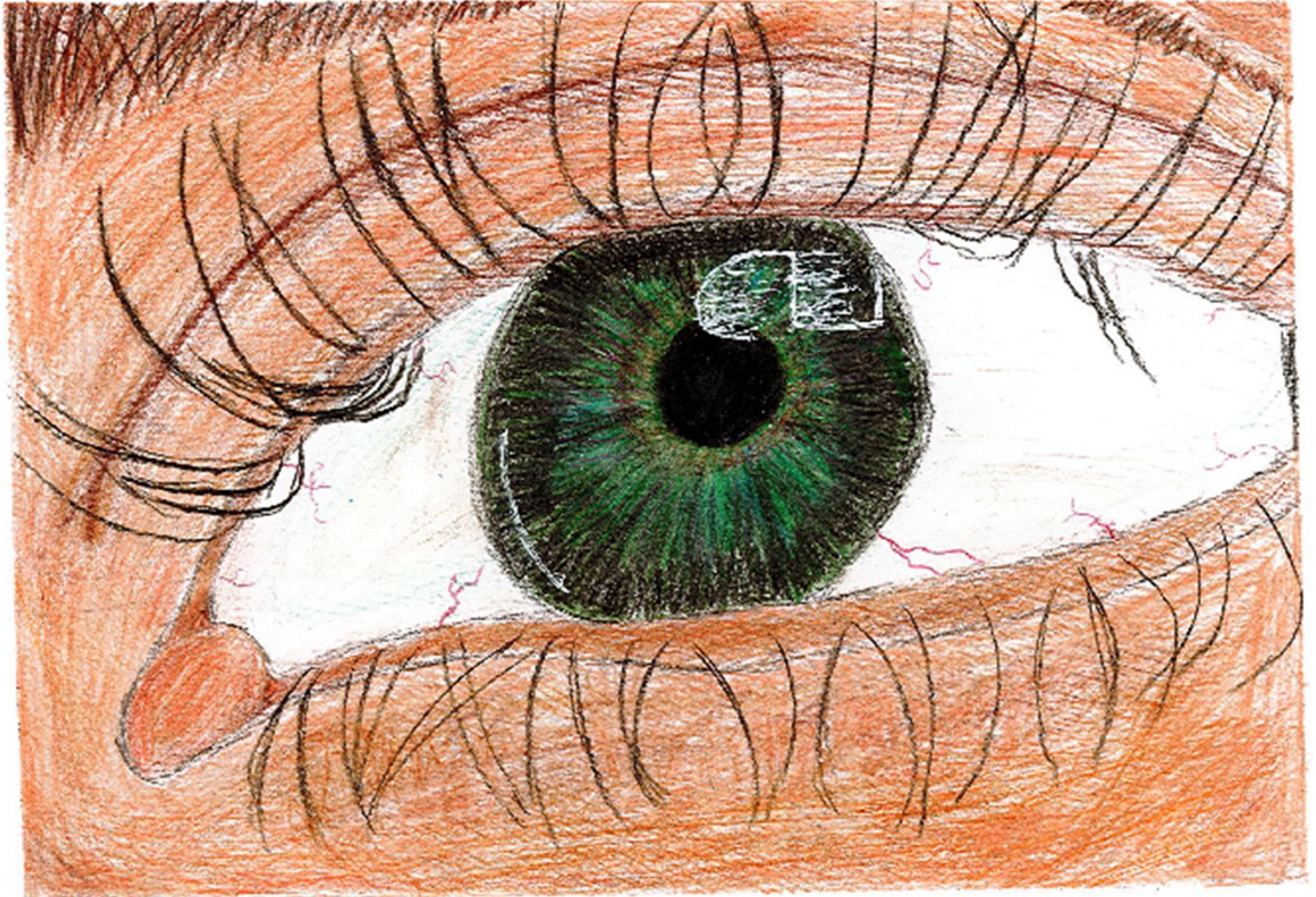
Sal broke all the salamanders and frogs out, smashing their containers with his special strength.

"Thanks, Sal and Poi!" shouted the animals as they jumped over the side of the boat.

Sal and Poi built a giant mud, stick, and grass house to keep all the animals safe in the future. They lived happily ever after.

THE END

# PERSPECTIVE



Sophia Lucile Voeltz/Grade 5\*

# THE CAT WHO FISHED FOR BACON

There was once a cat who was very hungry. He looked around the house and found nothing but some pocket lint. He looked in the car and in the yurt. When he realized there was no food around, he walked to the car to drive to the store. But then he realized he forgot to check the garage. He found some tools, but then he got an idea. He saw a fishing rod, and he decided : He was going to fish at the lake! He brought the fishing rod over to the lake and threw it in after 38 minutes of trying. He kept fishing for food but couldn't find anything. He did get something on the hook and he reeled it in. He found a package for bacon. That got him thinking : "I'll fish for bacon!" He went to the ocean where people threw a bunch of food and garbage in, something he thought was ridiculous. He threw the hook in from the dock. He found cans, bottles and even trash bags. He then realized he had cleaned the entire shore. He was depressed and walked back to the sand. Suddenly, he accidentally threw his rod in. He struggled to get it out, as it was stuck. He dived in and freed the rod from the pole it was stuck on. Afterwards, he realized he found something amazing- A whole pack of bacon! Ever since, he's celebrated this exact day every year, calling it "National Good Karma Day". He grabs some ice cream and watches a movie, and also does a beach cleanup.



# STARSTRUCK

On a clear, moonlit night, the kind where you can see every vivid detail in the sky, a girl named Ingrid Magnus stretched out her blanket in the tent with her cousins and gazed up into the dark-as-ink sky.

*WHAM.*

The chance of being hit by a meteorite is about 1 in 840,000,000. One fell out of the sky and hit Ingrid on the head while she was out to grab some water.

"Wow, look at that shooting star!" "Make a wish," shouted her cousins. Ingrid could hear their voices fading slowly away...

"Ingrid, wake up," said her uncle. "You've been out for a while. Are you injured?" Ingrid tried to remember what had happened last. She had been at the water canteen, getting a drink... Then, a bright flash and... silence.

"No, I'm not hurt," she answered. "What happened?"

"Well, there was a... flashy thing in the sky," said her youngest cousin Grey.

"You mean a comet," said her oldest cousin Luna.





# STARSTRUCK

"Yeah!" said Grey. "A comment. Flashing through the sky! It hit you like *BOOM*, and you were all like 'uhhhh' and then you fell over!" Luna rolled her eyes. "Not a comment, a *comet*. It's technically a meteorite."

"Our Luna, always the space nerd," said Oliver jokingly. he was the middle cousin.

Later at night, Luna woke up to a soft, orange-white light in the tent. "Oliver..." she muttered. "Did you leave the lamp on *again*?" Oliver squinted and rolled over. "No," he whispered back. "Did you?" Neither of them had left the light on.

Luna quietly shuffled over to Ingrid. It was actually her who was glowing! "Oh, geez," Oliver mumbled. "Ingrid." She was also levitating a few inches off of the ground. "Here," said Oliver. "Take a video." Luna complied, and then they both went to bed.

The next morning, Ingrid woke up and went to the fire that her uncle Evan had made. She stretched and yawned. Suddenly, her cousins came running up to her.

"Ingrid, you won't believe it!" exclaimed Meg. "Take a look at this." She held Luna's phone. On the screen, there was a picture of her, glowing and levitating! For a second she even thought that part of her leg disappeared into a pool of light, but Ingrid assumed this was an illusion. "Oliver, if this is a joke..." she started. "No, I have no clue how to operate that kind of tech." answered Oliver. Then Ingrid had an idea.

"Well, you guys, if it's true that I really have powers, we should, like, find a noble cause," she explained. "Great idea!" exclaimed Grey. Luna typed something into her phone's search engine. "Here," she said. "Maybe this will help you."

Ingrid looked at the search results and pulled up several tabs about organizations. She looked through them, but all the positions to apply for were full.

Later that morning, she and Meg went out to test her powers. Ingrid concentrated and felt a pins-and-needles sensation in her arm, and when she focused, Next, she imagined herself floating in the air and suddenly hovered high up into the sky and started glowing.

At lunch, Ingrid sat down in the grass with her sandwich. She closed her eyes and felt the cool breeze, rustling through the leaves. Oddly, the tree she was under seemed to be

# STARSTRUCK

growing bigger and leafier. The she realized that she was controlling it.

In town, Ingrid went to Verdant Leaves, the plant nursery with Luna. She was surprised to hear that they had an opening for a part-time job after one of the workers quit. She asked her parents if she could have a job there and they said yes. She then continued to go there and used her power to grow the plants.

**Amelia Pikalek/Grade 4\***

# A COUNTRY SUMMER DAY



**Gannon Helmick/Grade 5**

# KOALA, KOALA

Koala, Koala up in the tree,

Eating eucalyptus from the tree,

It climbed up high going by the ripest  
eucalyptus leaf.

And it sat, eating it,

And she bit, and bit it.

Her baby climbed up by her,

And climbed in her fur.

The mother cuddled her for the rest of the day,

And then she went to play.

# THE DRAGON CHILD

Once on the planet Wrylant, a girl named Othra was born. Her parents, Leonna and Conas, were very happy to have a child of their own. They were also worried because Othra was born with dragon wings. As she got older, more dragon parts came.

Othra was now four and she had her wings, scales on her arms, and very, very great eyesight. When she was a few years younger, she and Leonna had discovered that Othra could make her wings and claws disappear. They called this ability *dissa*. To Othra, *dissa* was like peekaboo. She would laugh and smile every time she would do it.

"Othra!" Leonna called. "I need to talk to you real quick!"

"Okay, Mom!" Othra called back. She flew over to where her mom was sitting.

"Othra, as you know, you start school in a week. I think that you should keep your dragon to yourself until you learn about who the people in your class are. Then if you can trust them, you could show them," Leonna said.

"Mom, that sounds good, but I don't like the thought of hiding who I am," Othra said.

Leonna smiled to herself at her daughter's wise words. Since Othra was part dragon, she matured faster than other children her age. "I understand. I am just worried that people will be scared of you. I just want you to make friends."

It was the first day of school. Othra was super scared and excited. "Othra, you'll have so much fun! Trust me, okay?" Leonna said.

"Okay, Mom," Othra said sort of gloomily, and then she did *dissa* and slowly walked in.

"Hi, Othra!" Othra's teacher said. "My name is Ms. Nathe. I am so happy to have you in my class!" Ms. Nathe had long, brown hair, a long dress with flowers on it, and a necklace.

"Hello," Othra replied in a shy voice. She felt very nervous. Could people tell she was different?

"Are you okay, Othra?" Ms. Nathe asked.

"I'm not really sure. I feel really nervous."

"Do you want to talk to the counselor? She's really nice. Her name is Ms. Lond."

Othra remembered that her mom had mentioned a counselor. "Yeah, I would like to see her."

"Hi, Othra! My name is Ms. Lond, but you can call me Amy." She had long, blonde hair and a black T-shirt and jeans on.



# THE DRAGON CHILD

"Hi, Ms. Lond!" Othra said. Othra felt as if she could trust Ms. Lond. "I have a really, really big secret I need to tell you, but you have to promise you won't freak out."

"What is it dear?" Ms. Lond asked.

Right then and there, Othra stopped her dissa and explained that her mom had told her to hide her dragon at school.

"Um. Wow!" Ms. Lond said. "Othra, I am very jealous. You have a very special talent. I think you are amazing!"

"Really?" said Othra, feeling surprised and relieved.

"I think I know how I can help you. I know a person who will like you for who you are. Do you want a friend recommendation?"

"Yea, sure," Othra said. She was surprised at Ms. Lond's reaction.

"I would say Ammetha. She was here last year, and I know her well. If you want, I can call her down," Ms. Lond said.

"I would love that!" Othra said.

A minute later Ammetha came. "Ammetha, this is Othra." Ms. Lond said.

"Oh, my Goblins! Are those real dragon wings?" Ammetha asked.

"Yup!" Othra said casually. "I just really need a friend and I was wondering if you could be one?"

"Yes! Yes! Yes! A million times yes! You are so cool, Othra!" Ammetha said.

"Okay, girls. I want you all to go back to class and Othra, I think you can go back with the wings, if that's what you want." Ms. Lond said.

"I think I will," said Othra.

After school, Othra ran right into the house. She was so excited to tell her mom about her day.

"Mom!" Othra said. "It was the best day ever!"

"Really? Tell me about it," Leonna said.

"Okay, so I met a girl named Ammetha and showed her my dragon at the counselor's office. She loved them so much. Then I went back to class and some of the kids were scared of my wings but most of them loved it. Ms. Nathe asked me lots of questions, like if I could put them away and if I could fly with them. I said, 'Yes.' I also showed her dissa and she asked me if I could leave it like that until

# THE DRAGON CHILD

recess so it wouldn't be a distraction. Mom, it was the best day ever and people loved me the way I am! I realized that I can just be myself." Othra said.

"I'm so proud of you! It sounds like you had a great day!," Leonna said.

In the future, Othra still met some people who were scared of her, but she met some who loved her too. She got a job as a zookeeper so she could help the animals, and she could understand them better than anyone. So many people thought she was so cool and wanted wings of their own. Othra lived a long happy life and still lives to this day.

**Remi Francis/Grade 4**

# A FEATHERED ORIGIN



**Josephine Nielsen/Grade 5**

# ***I FEEL***

I feel like a bubble  
Drifting off into the unknown.  
I feel good and bad  
But... It's all okay.

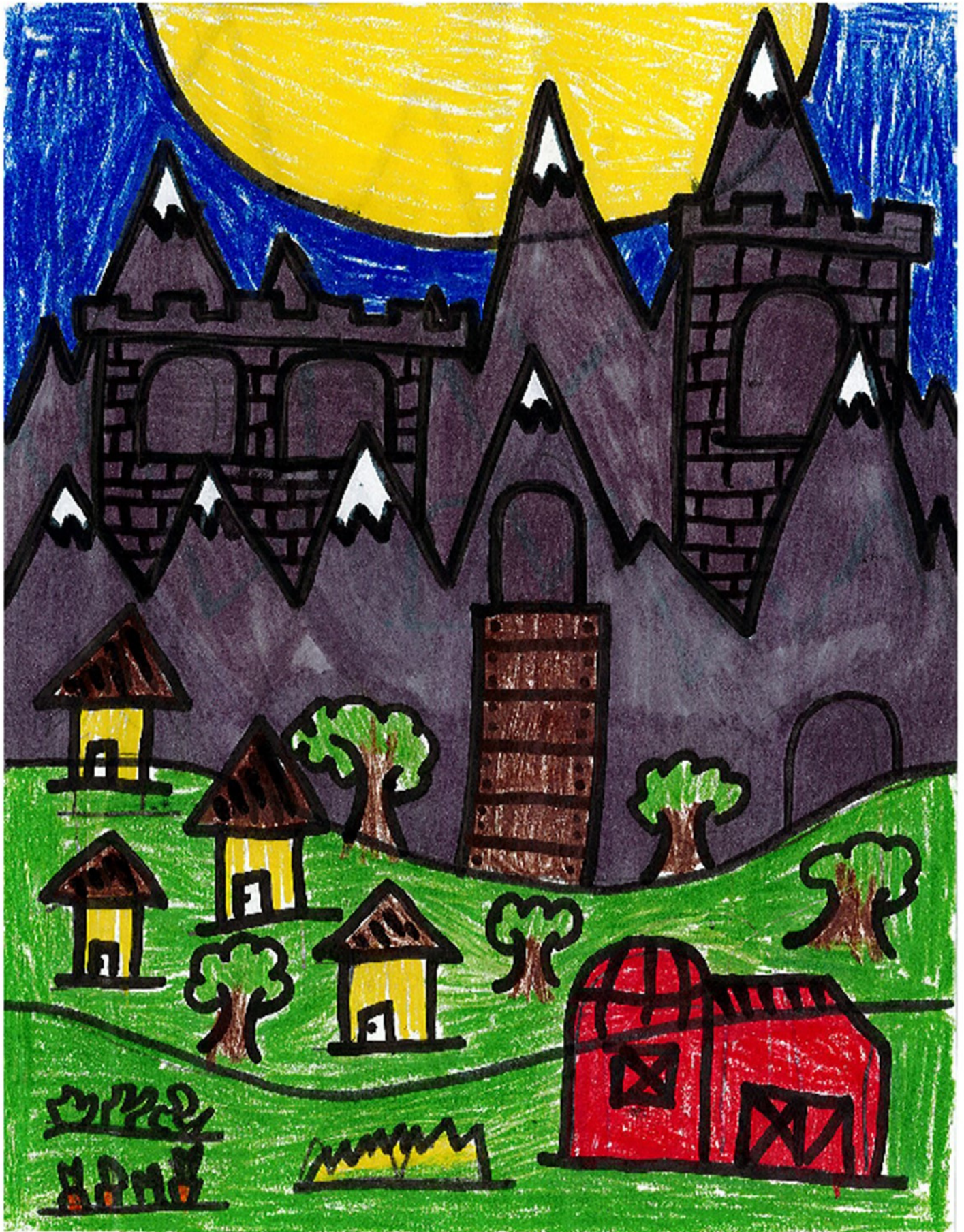
I feel like a ball of yarn  
All tangled up and tight.  
I can feel anything  
But... It's all okay.

I feel like a ghost  
Going unnoticed and ignored.  
I feel sad  
But... it's all okay.

I feel like a cloud  
Light as a feather.  
I feel calm and good  
But... it's all okay.



# MEDIEVAL VILLAGE





# SUPERPOWERS

Once upon a time there was a girl, and she was born on a lunar eclipse, the exact time it happened, and she got extraordinary powers. She lived in a town with her family in their not so small house. Her name was Frankie. When she was old enough to go to school her parents sat her down and talked to her. "Frankie," her father started. "You must not tell a soul about your powers, okay?" Sadly, the last person known to have magical powers was hunted down, so they had to keep it a secret. "Yes, Dad," six year old Frankie promised. When Frankie got to the school yard, she was nervous. She spotted a girl all by herself. Frankie walked over to the girl and plopped right down next to her. Then, Frankie said right out of the blue, "I'm nervous." The girl looked up at Frankie. She was crying. "Me too," she sniffed. Frankie said, "It's okay. My name is Frankie." "My name is Olivia," the girl replied. "Nice to meet you, Olivia," Frankie said with her bright smile. The two girls talked until they heard the school bell. They picked seats right next to each other. On Frankies left there was Olivia, and on Frankies right, there was a girl with stunning aqua eyes, which were sad. Frankie leaned over to her right and introduced herself. "Hi, I'm Frankie," "I'm Josephine," she said, quietly. "Why are you sad?" asked Frankie. "I miss my family," Josephine said sadly. "It's okay, this is going to be fun!" Frankie reassured. By the end of the day Frankie almost knew everybody in her school (which was super small). Before then, Frankie's superpowers were the constellations, and levitating things, but while Frankie was walking home, she realized that her true superpower is making friends!



# A SUNNY FALL DAY



Ellie Blair/Grade 2



# **FIREFLY.**

One little light in the moonlight. Lighting a path away from  
the sunlight.

**Wren Stewart-Gall/Grade 2**

# **MY DAY**

I woke up to the sound of a fiddle,

I went downstairs and saw Mom at the  
griddle,

Grandpa was playing the fiddle,

Mom was at the griddle.

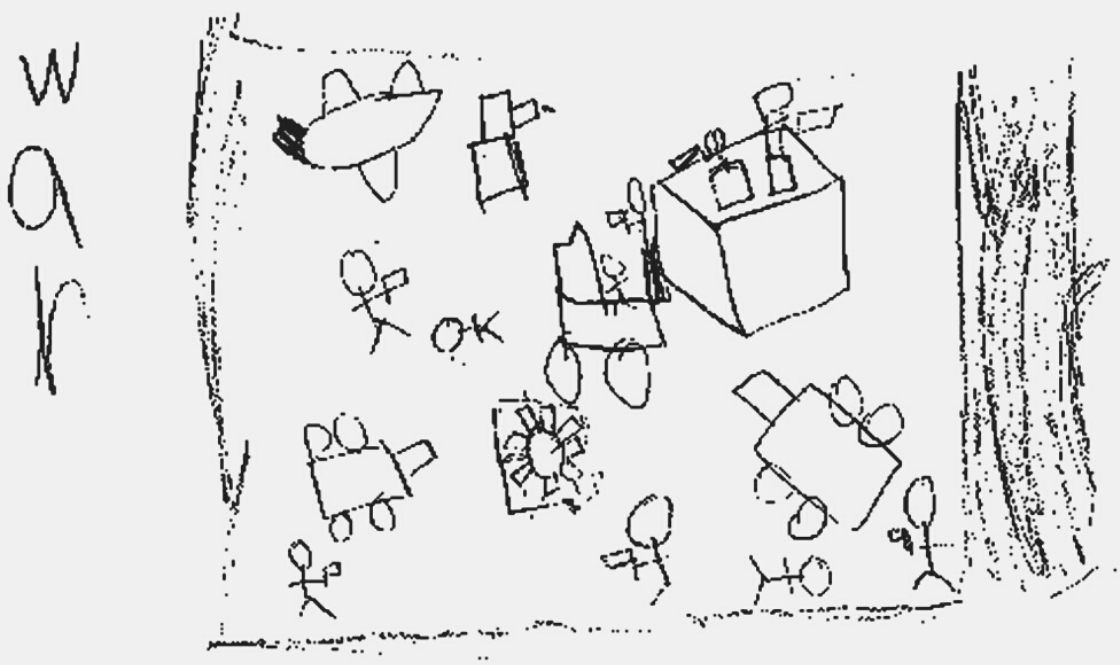
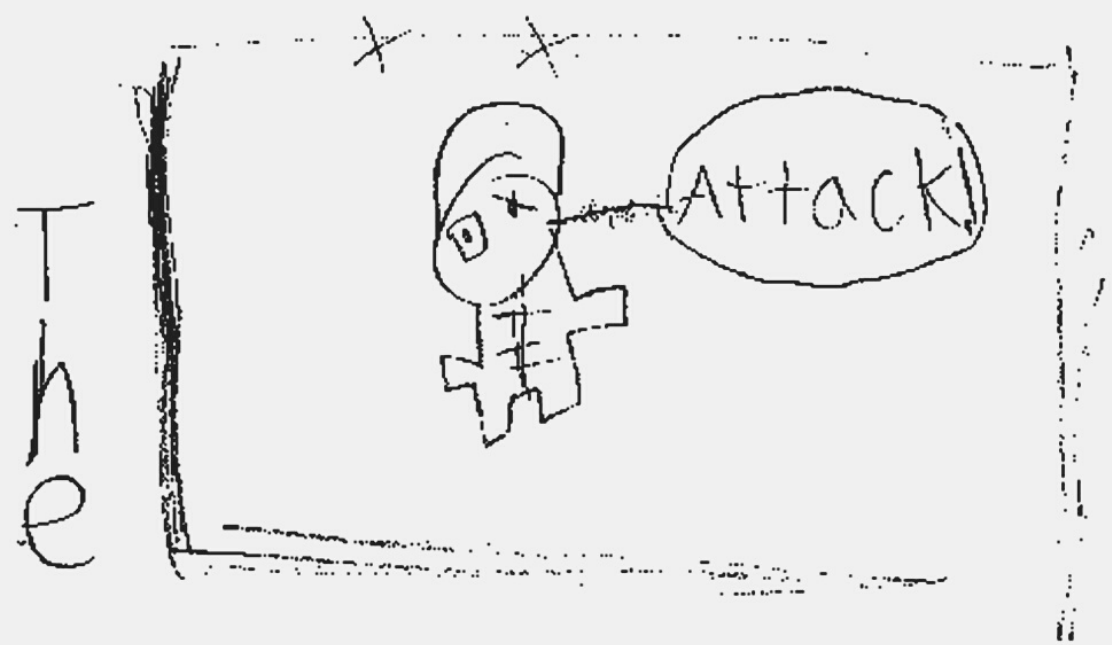
Grandpa was sitting in a chair,

Grandpa has gray hair,

Then I went to the bus without a fuss.

**Lucas McCormick/Grade 4**

# THE WAR

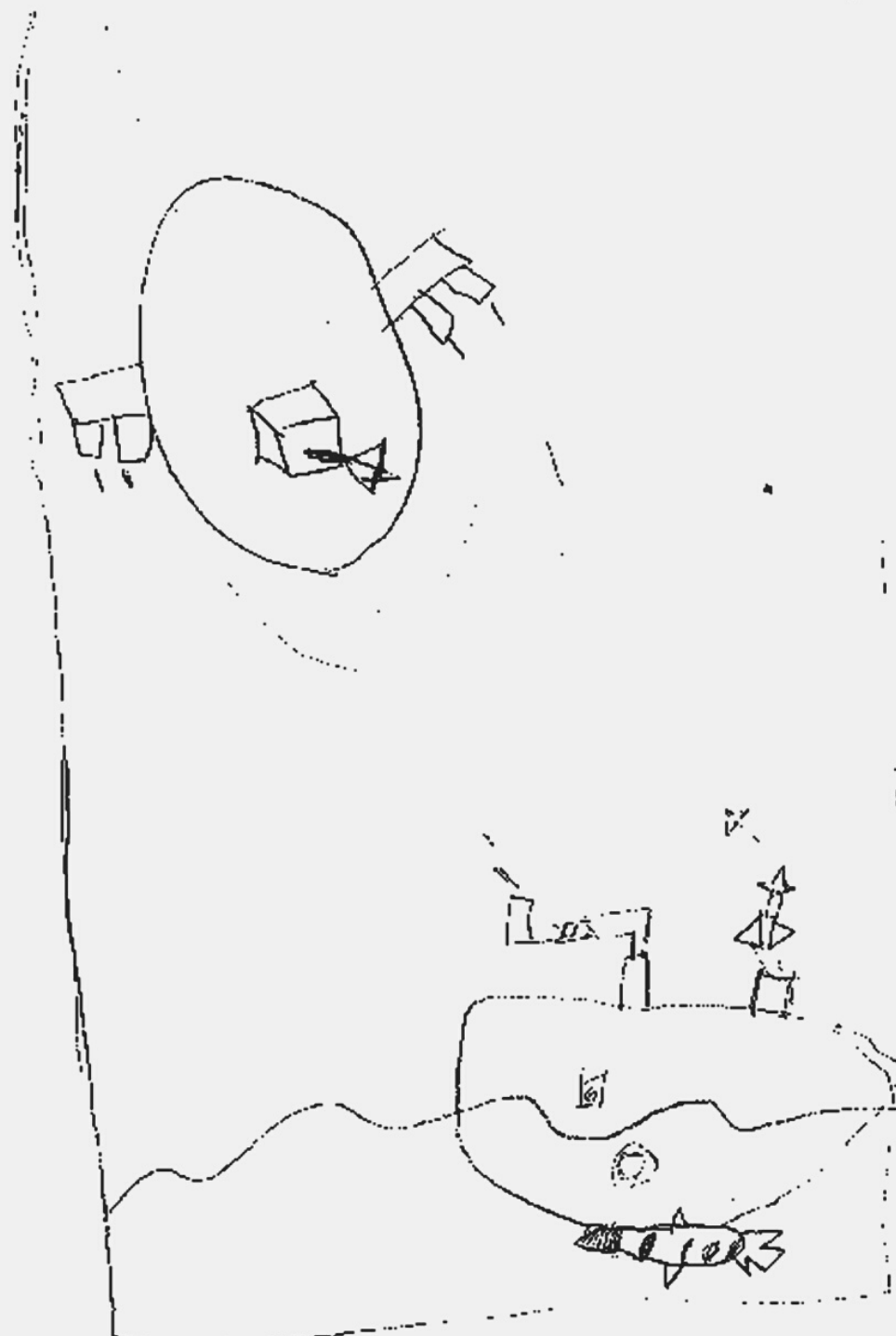


meanwhile



# THE WAR

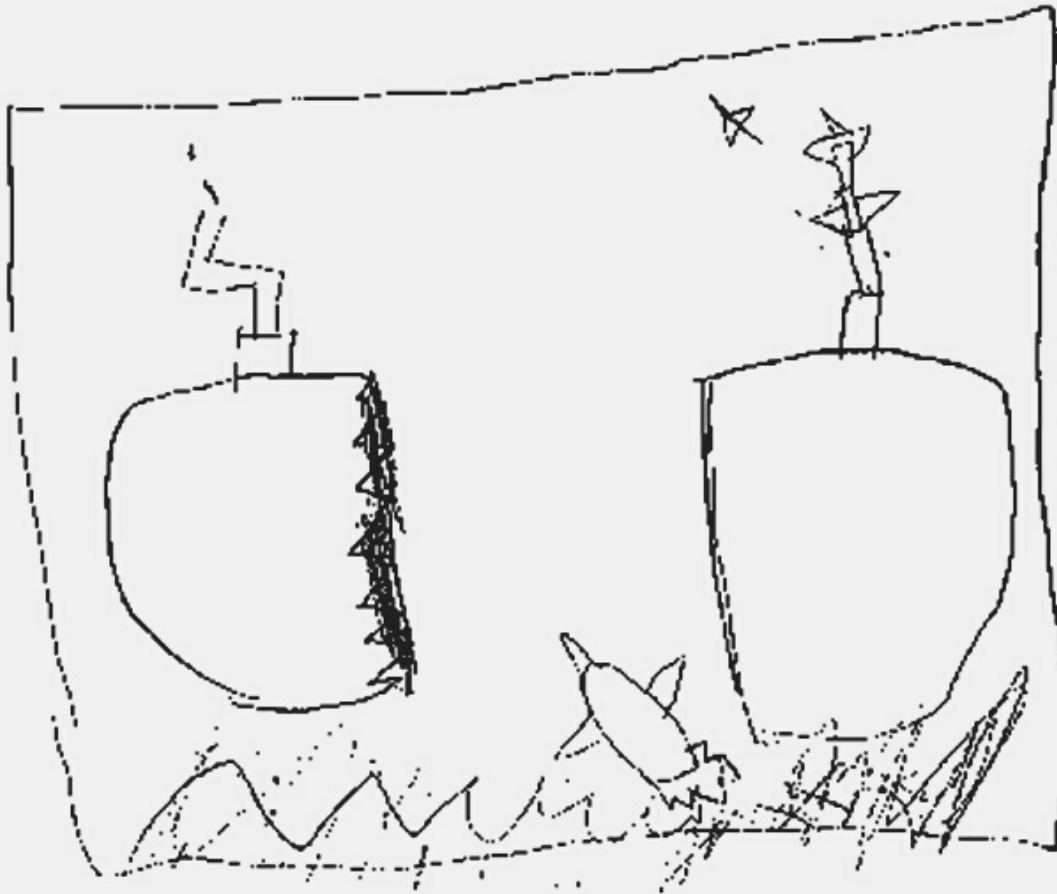
the republic is fighting  
agentst the starchrowps



②

the republic is fighting agentst the starchrowps

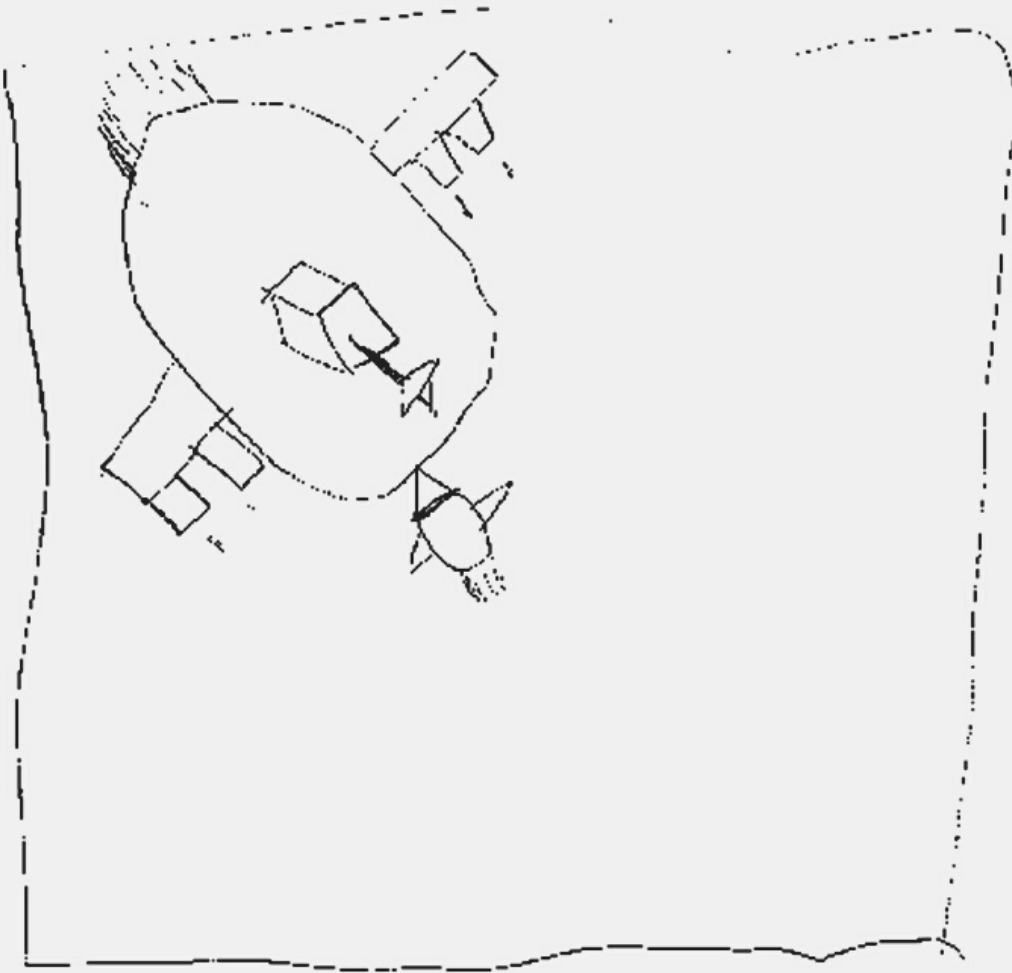
# THE WAR



impossible  
\$

Impossible

# THE WAR



# SALLY'S TRIP

Once upon a time, there was a girl named Sally. She had a young sister named Koko.

On Koko's birthday, she got a horse. Then they went on a trip on the horse. They went to a castle. They saw a princess and a prince and a king and a queen. They danced and danced until they got tired. Then they went to bed.

In the night there was a dragon that was fighting against a unicorn. They were fighting about a baby unicorn. Sometimes dragons want to eat baby unicorns. Then Sally woke up. She saw them fighting against the baby unicorn.

She said, "Stop! That is enough!"

She shouted so loud, the others woke up. They were surprised with a unicorn and her baby unicorn fighting against a dragon.

The dragon said, "I want that baby unicorn!"

The unicorn said, "I want that baby unicorn! It's my daughter."

"No!" said the dragon. "I am gonna eat the baby unicorn for breakfast."

"No!" said the unicorn. "I want my daughter to stay alive."

Then Koko said, "I know. Give that baby unicorn to her mom. You get to have your own dragon baby. There are some in the forest."

He said, "Okay."

Then the next night they were fighting again. Their babies were fighting too about two cupcakes. Then again Sally woke up and woke up the others.

She said, "Unicorns, you get the cupcakes. Dragons, I will give you cupcakes tomorrow."

"Okay," said the dragon.

Then the unicorns and the dragons had their cupcakes together in the morning at breakfast. They became best friends. Next morning, they had tea together. They played games together.

That night, there was a different dragon. He came and hurt the babies. The next morning, the mama and the other mama were scared. They cried and they were mad. They fought. That dragon was hurt. That dragon learned his lessons.



# SALLY'S TRIP

Koko and Sally and the princess played. Soon Sally asked, "What is your name?"

Then she answered, "My name is Sally."

"What?" the other Sally said. "My name is Sally."

"Really?" said the princess. "Well, you have a mom and a dad, don't you?"

"No, we don't!" said Sally.

"Well," said the princess. "You can live in our castle."

"Really?"

"Yeah," said the princess.

"Great!" Sally said.

Koko said, "Hurray! We get to live in a castle!"

"Thank you," said Sally.

The next morning, they had a party. After they opened presents together and played games and had some cake, they went skating. Then it was past Koko's bedtime. Koko went to bed. The others stayed up and played some more games.

Then Sally said to the prince, "I don't know your name. What is it?"

"My name is Jacob."

"Cool!" said Sally.

In the morning, Sally woke up early. Sally baked some cake for the queen. The next hour, the other kids woke up and helped her. Then there was something crying. They stopped working. They looked through the whole house. They didn't see a thing until they looked outside. It was a cat with something that they couldn't see. Then the cat ran away. It was a baby alone. Then they took that baby inside. They fed the baby food and kept it in their house. Then they finished baking their cake. They brought the queen inside.

# SALLY'S TRIP

Then they sang the Happy Birthday song.

*Happy birthday to you,  
Happy birthday to you,  
Happy birthday, dear Queen Ronny,  
Happy birthday to you!*

Then she blew out her candles, and they ate cake. After that, they opened presents. Then they lived happily ever after.

*The End*

**Symphony Hubin/Kindergarten**

# FLYING PENGUINS



**Estelle Lindquist/Grade 5**

# FISHING IN BEMIDJI

Among my best memories  
is my fishing trip----

the beautiful fall  
colors: red, brown,  
green, yellow, orange, and all.

But my favorite part  
that fills me with joy  
is the fish.

The first fish  
I held, my finger in its sandpaper mouth,  
was a large bass,  
fat and shiny in the sun.

I thought it was funny  
when the brown pike hissed,  
silly fish.

My heart sped, like a fish  
thrown back in the water. Splash!

# DEADPOOL DINOSOVER





# DRAGONS



# THE CAT WHO ALMOST ATE FARGO

One day, Roma, a tall, young girl, dropped her family cat into the laundry machine. Roma did not mean to wash the cat, but Kitty had hidden himself in the laundry to nap. Kitty, because of the stain eraser that also transforms cats into monster cats, seized the town.

"Surrender, Mayor! If you do not," Kitty said, "it will be a fatal ending for the town."

"Of course," said the mayor, because he did love his people.

Later that day, the cat acquired all cat treats from the cat store. The store owner retreated to his mom's house.

As the sun set, the cat made every person in town sign his constitution: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all cats are created equal and humans are cats' slaves."



Of course, everyone said, "Yes," except Roma, who said, "No! You are not a king! You are my cat!"

Kitty looked at her. "Hmm... so now you're my human! Go fetch me some library books on humans! Oh! And, while you're at it, get some how-to-rule books!"

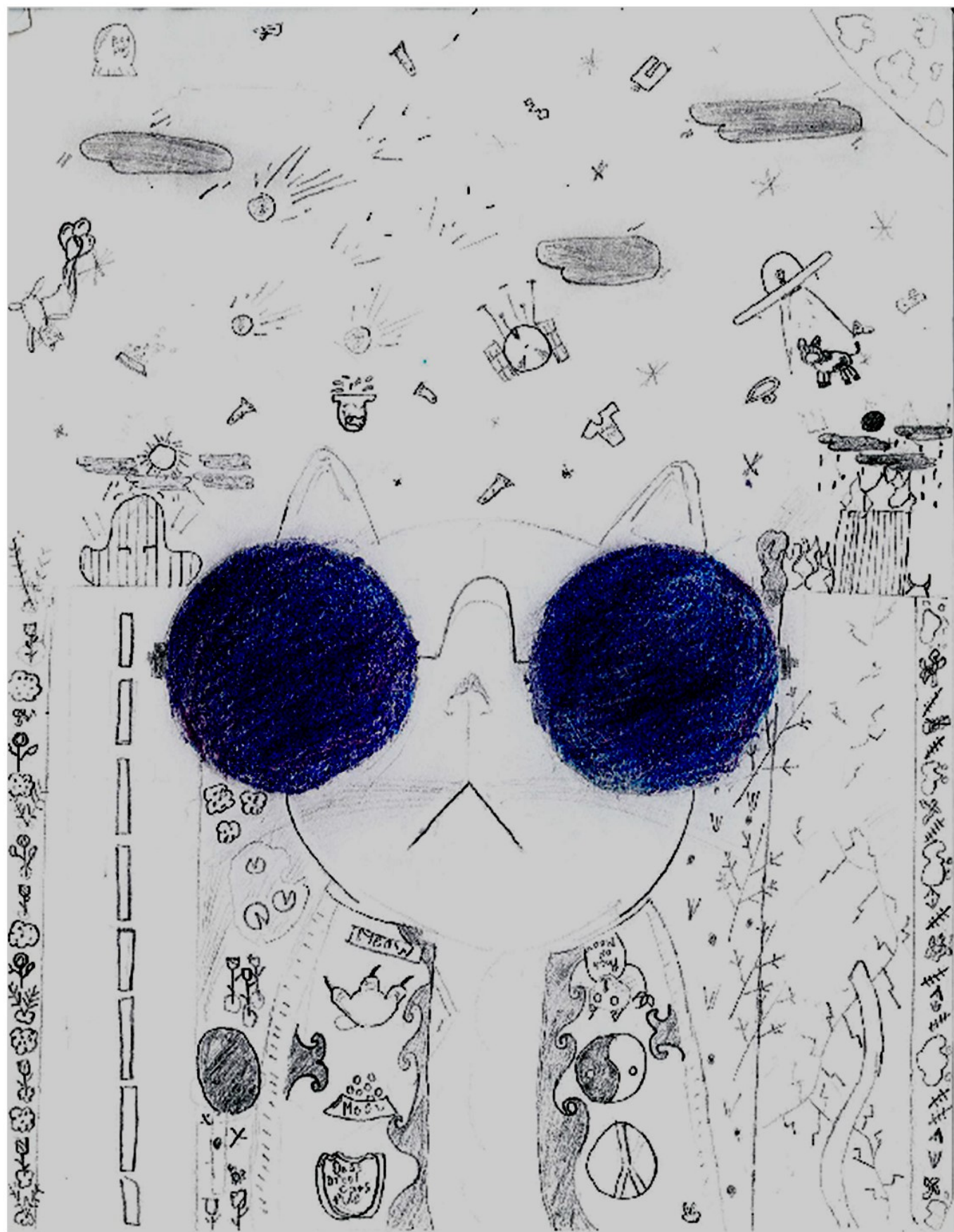
Kitty established an army to help him unravel all yarn balls, thrived on cat treats, and promoted the other cats to his advisors.

Roma indulged her cat's delusions of grandeur and let him sleep on her bed, play with her crafting pom-poms, and watch bird movies every day.

The End



# THE OTHER SIDE



Robert Loor/Grade 5

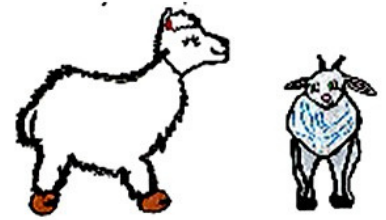


# SUPER LLAMA VS GOAT

1

Meet Me

Oh, hi! I didn't notice you there. Anyway, my name is Drama, The Llama. But most llamas call me Super Llama! I work at this super cool place on a grassy hill, it's called Llama Headquarters! Oh, and did I mention I love grass? Yummy, juicy grass... mmm. Oh sorry about that. I just love grass. It's my favorite thing. That, and saying "oh." Oh! And I was raised on a farm, and I lived with the goats. Boring, old, goats. I did not like goats, but I'm not sure why. I escaped when I was young. The fence was broken, so I escaped. OK that's not all my story. But it's a good start! RING! RING! RING!



2

Evil goats



Oh no, a llama emergency! It looks like there's a goat in Drama Oak on the east side of town! Did you know goats are evil? They are! They have evil eyes, and to make it worse, people make us live together! Well, I guess that's not their fault, but I still do not like goats!

3

There and Back



Well I better get going! I have a town to save! By the way, I have a portal! I know, cool, right?! Whoosh I'm gone! Whoosh I'm back! Still getting the hang of this portal. Whoosh I'm here!



4

Mr. Bob Goat

OK. Let's get down to business! I need to find the goat. "The goat" sounds pretty lame. Do you think I should give him a name? Yeah, I think I should. His name will be, Mr. Bob Goat. I think that's a good name. Don't you? Yeah I do. Oh no I got off track again! Come on Drama, pull yourself together! Hey! I just realized that I'm in Drama Oak and my name is Drama! You're doing it again Drama! I have got to stop getting off track! I'm really proud I gave "the goat" a nickname.



# SUPER LLAMA VS GOAT

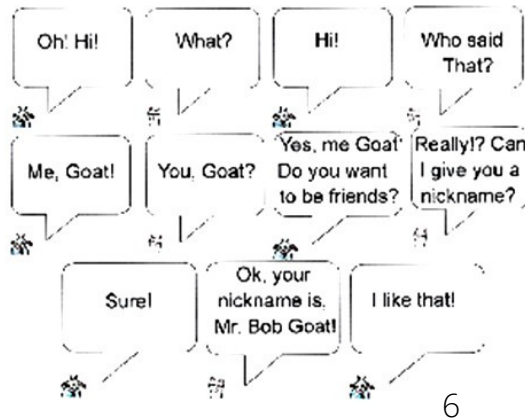
What if he eats llamas, or even goats? I guess that does not make sense. But still, where's Mr. Bob Goat?



5

Found him

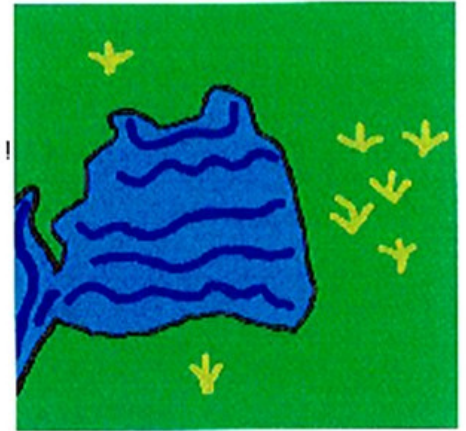
Hey, I know where he is! He's at Lake Pama! I'm gone! I found him!



6

Lama Goat Squad

Let's make a club! Good idea, Bob! It should be called, Llama Goat squad! And with every club comes a club house! Ooo, even bedder a tree house! I guess I was wrong about you goat. Well, now I know that you can be friends with someone that is different! I learned that too, Drama!



Ellie Wagner/Grade 5

# THE CAT AND THE BABY IN THE WILD

The cat didn't like the baby. That was a fact. How could he like any creature who pulled his tail and bit his ears? No sir, the cat did not like the baby .

In contrast, the baby loved the cat. He followed the cat around everywhere. How could you not like someone who let you pull his tail and bite his ears? Yes sir, the baby loved that cat.

This one-sided love affair made problems for the cat and baby when they were stranded in the wild.

It all began when the baby's older sister and the cat's owner, Jane, took her brother and cat on a rowboat trip. They were going down a river that was surrounded by a large forest. It should have been a fun, peaceful afternoon. But it wasn't.

The baby was sitting by the cat, wearing a life jacket. As Jane rowed them toward a fork in the river, the baby reached to touch the cat.

Terrified, the cat jumped away from the baby. As he did, he slammed into Jane's chest, hitting her with such force that he pushed her into the side of the boat. The boat tipped, and the girl, the cat, and the baby fell into the water. Jane grabbed the others and swam to the shore as the boat drifted downstream without them.

The minute they reached the shore, the baby began crying and the cat meowed his biggest meows.

"It's okay," said Jane, "calm down."

Both of them looked at her questioningly.

"We're going to be okay," Jane said.

The boys relaxed.

"Now, I'm going to build a shelter. I need you two to get me some sticks and logs," said Jane. "After we have a shelter, we can collect food."

So the trio split up to find sticks. Jane quickly found some logs and began to build a shelter.

The cat and the baby didn't get far before another fight broke out. As the cat grabbed a stick in his mouth, the baby climbed onto his back and began to chew on his ears. The cat dropped the stick and took off running through the woods, with the baby hanging on tight to the cat's back.

Just as Jane was placing the final touch on the shelter, the cat came charging through with the baby on his back. They ran right into the shelter, knocking all the sticks down and destroying Jane's work.

Jane felt a boiling anger rising inside her but forced herself to calm down. She pulled the baby off the cat's back.

The cat hissed at the baby. The baby cooed at the cat.

"No, don't fight," said Jane. "How about finding food?"

Both looked up at her.

"That's right -- I'll fix the shelter, and you go find food."

They both charged into the forest.

"That was easy," thought Jane.

# THE CAT AND THE BABY IN THE WILD

The baby quickly found a blackberry bush and began picking berries. The cat watched him, and an awful thought crept into his head.

A moment later, awful screams came from the woods. Jane ran into the forest, searching for her brother.

She reached a clearing and found her brother. The cat was biting his ear. The baby was screaming.

Jane pulled her brother away from the cat. As she did, the baby gripped the cat's tail and pulled. The cat meowed.

"Stop! Why are you always fighting?" Jane yelled.

The cat and the baby stopped fighting and looked at her.

"We're stranded in the woods, and I'm trying to make sure that we'll be okay, but I can't get anything done because you two are always fighting! You knocked us out of the boat, you destroyed the shelter, and now you're hurting each other! You're so bad!"

The baby whimpered. The cat mewed.

"I'm going to find some food," said Jane, putting down the baby. "Do something that isn't fighting." She stormed off into the woods.

The cat and the baby looked at each other. They felt bad for upsetting their sister.

They knew what they had to do.

When Jane came back, she was met with a surprise. The fort was up and looked better than the one she had constructed earlier.

Inside, the baby and the cat were sleeping together, curled up next to each other, the way they slept the rest of their lives.

**Lilla Beaulier/Grade 6**

# BOOKWORM



**Ryan LeClair/Grade 4**



# **EVERYTHING IS BROKEN**

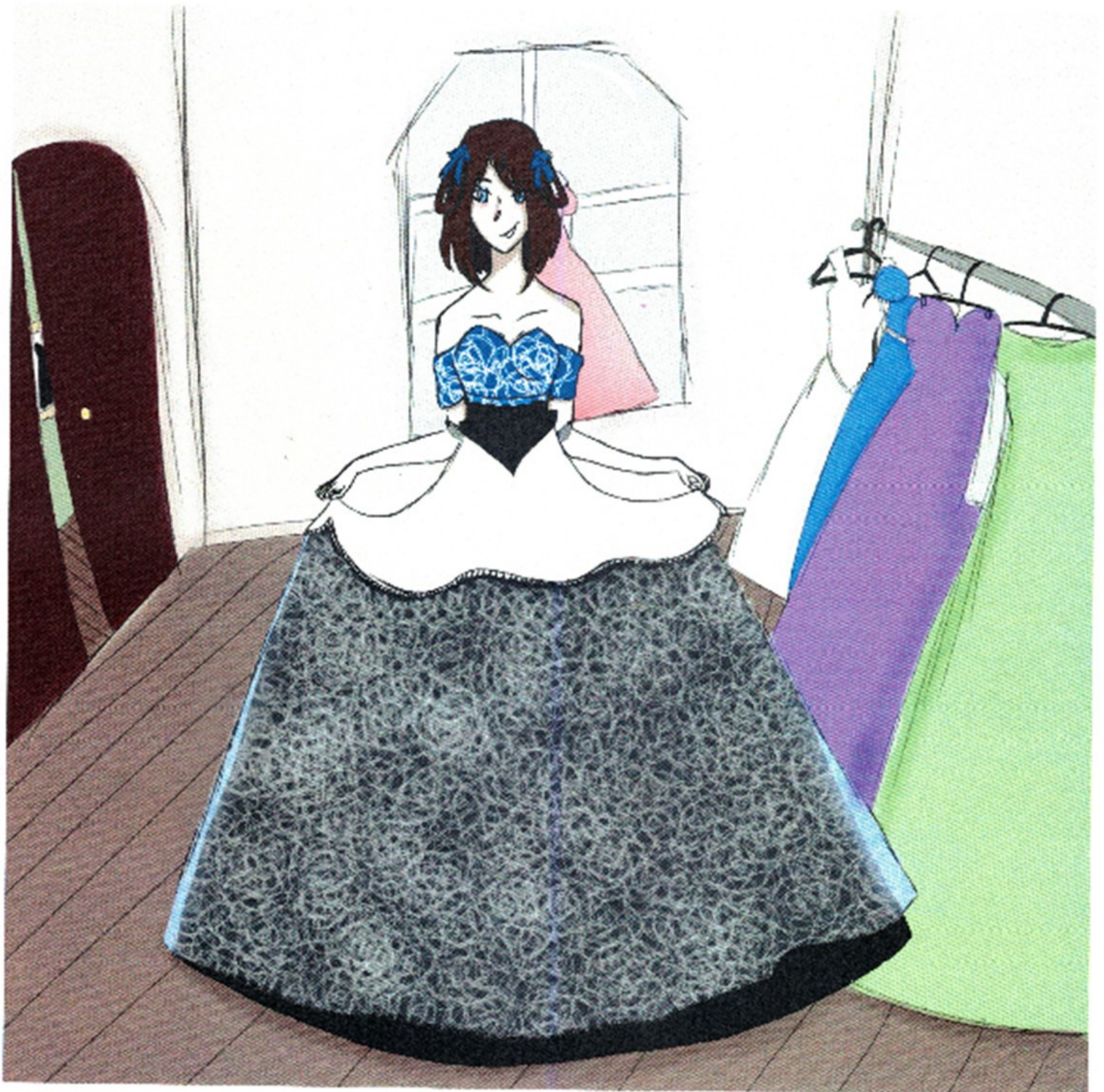
The dishwasher is broken  
I need to wash the dishes  
The refrigerator is broken  
Our food is getting warm

The microwave is broken  
I need to warm up my food  
The stove is broken  
I need to make my eggs

The oven is broken  
We are trying to make pizza  
The washing machine is broken  
We need to wash our clothes

The dryer is broken  
We need to dry our clothes  
The whole house is broken  
We do not know what to do!

# TOO MANY DECISIONS



Riley Thomasson/Grade 5



# MIDNIGHT BIRB





# A DAY IN THE LIFE OF CUATRO

Once there was a pug named Cuatro. Cuatro roamed the streets like the king he was. The streets of New York were always busy but today they seemed extra busy. So Cuatro decided to go to the park. Once Cuatro got to the park he decided to go and sit down under his favorite willow tree. Cuatro found there were birds on HIS tree. Cuatro could not let this lie. Cuatro barked with all his might until every last bird was gone. Finally Cuatro could sit down under his tree and relax. Once he sat down Cuatro drifted off into a state of daydreaming. Cuatro dreamt that he had a lifetime supply of big juicy bones, but suddenly his daydreaming was rudely interrupted by a little girl screaming "a doggy, a doggy, mommy can I keep him!". Cuatro savagely thought "has this girl lost her mind". Then out of nowhere a little black cat with bright green eyes appeared. "Hisssssssss." "AHHHHHHH" - The little girl screamed as she ran away. "Thanks" "No problem, but you owe me." - The cat replied. "My names Cuatro." "Figaro. "Come with me"- the cat named Figaro offered, though it didn't sound much like an offer. "Im ok." "Suit yourself." And with that Figaro scampered away. Cuatro turned away and made to walk back to his willow tree, but his curiosity overcame him. Luckily Figaro was still in view and Cuatro was able to follow him.

"Where are we going?" Cuatro asked, overcome with curiosity. "You'll see"- Figaro replied simply. Figaro led Cuatro to an alleyway, inside sat a cat. The cat was mostly white with a few grey spots on their back. "Your back"-the cat said. "Im back boss" "Not boss. Sister."-she replies "did you find any food?"-the gray cat asks "Nope. But I did find this goat." "Im not a goat, im a dog." "won't he eat us?"-The gray cat asked "oh this goat?,he wouldnt hurt a fly."-Figaro replied "Im Fiona by the way"- The gray cat said "Nice to meet you." "You are welcome to stay as long as you make a deal with us." "whats the deal"- Cuatro asked. "You must help Figaro find food EVERY DAY." "Deal" "Now, because Figaro did not find food earlier, you must go help him now."- Fiona commanded. And with that Figaro and Cuatro left the alleyway to go look for food. They passed many dead animals, and Cuatro couldnt understand why Figaro didnt stop, they seemed like perfectly good food to him. Finally they stopped at some dead bugs. "Gross you eat this" -Cuatro said in a disgusted tone. "Its not good but its all we have." Fiona seemed to have followed them because all of a sudden she was there.

A woman who was walking down the road stopped by them. She put them in her car and shut the door. She brought them to her apartment. It was large and mostly white. She set up food and water and even beds. She seemed nice so they decided to give her a chance.

## **A few weeks later....**

They had lived at the woman's house for a few weeks now and everything was going good. She gave them much attention and was only gone for 3 hours a day. After much deliberation Figaro, Fiona, and Cuatro finally decided to call this home.



# THE RAINBOW GARDEN

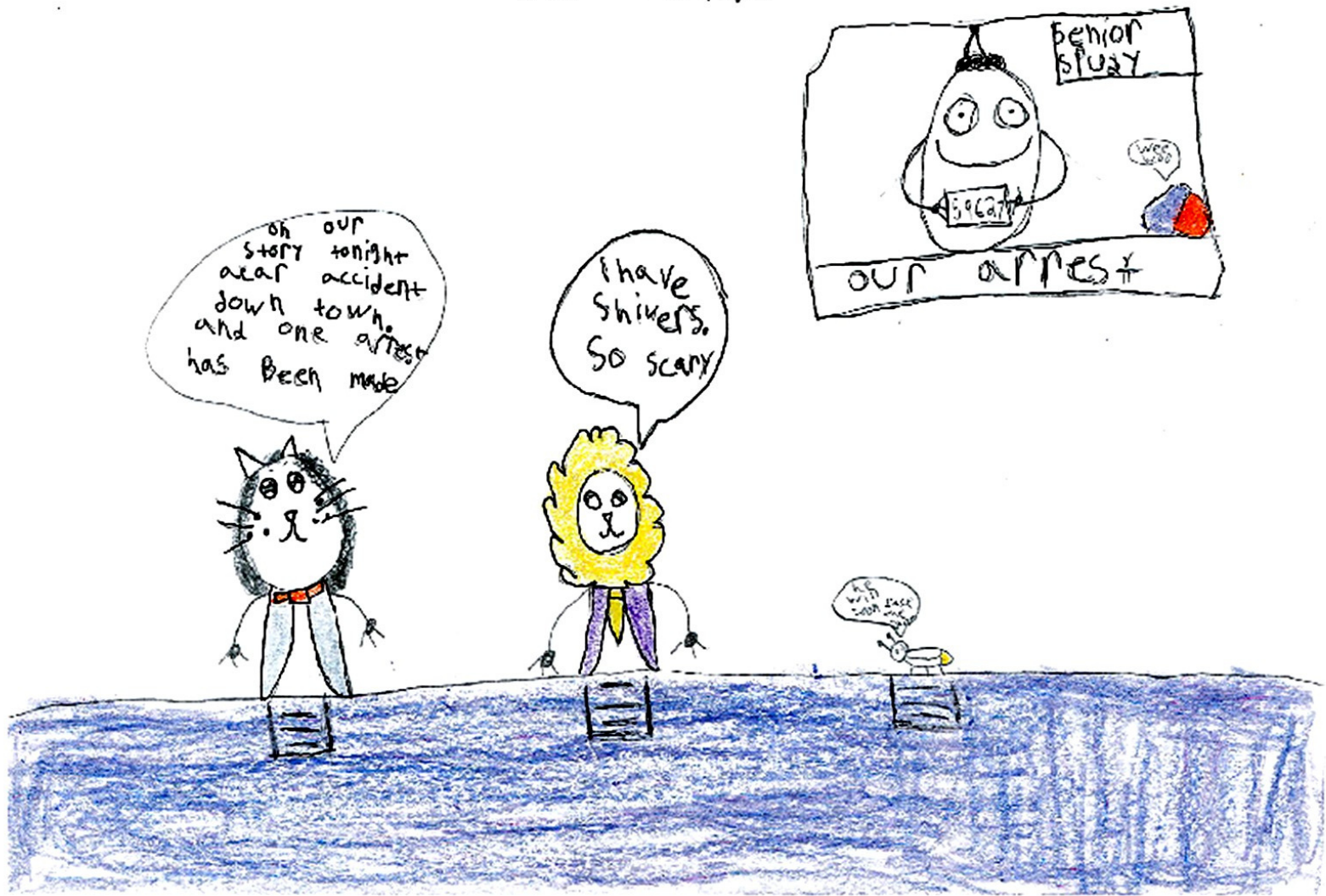


# DRAG AND THE HUNTER

Once upon a time there was a dragon named drag. He was afraid of the humans but the humans thought he was a monster, so they were afraid of drag. One-night drag was looking around to find food because in the day the sunlight was too bright for his eyes. Then a hunter came out from nowhere, and he thought drag was a huge lizard at first, but then as he got closer he realized that drag was not a lizard, he was a dragon! It's not like the hunter didn't know that there was a dragon in the forest, because in the town where the humans live people told ancient stories about drag a lot. So then the hunter pointed his rifle at drag, then he didn't even know it and he was sprinting away from drag. Since drag was a friendly dragon he started following the hunter, but he was also a little scared and curious about who the man was and what the stick thing was that he pointed at drag. Of course drag had larger feet than the hunter so drag caught the hunter, the hunter thought that was a bad thing, but drag actually licked the hunter with his slobbery tongue like a dog. The hunter was surprised that drag was a friendly dragon. So the hunter took drag, to the town where the humans lived and kept drag as a pet. The hunter wouldn't really go hunting after that because he was afraid that he would find a large scary creature like drag. So he just started living a normal life. With drag as his pet. He had to feed drag at least 56 pounds of dragon food each day. One day he had decided that drag was now too big to live in his house so he let drag out in the wild again but he didn't change the ancient story of the dragon.

# THE NEWS...

The News  
But with...





# DOODLEGIRL



Kaylee Trana/Grade 5





Lydia Specht/Kindergarten