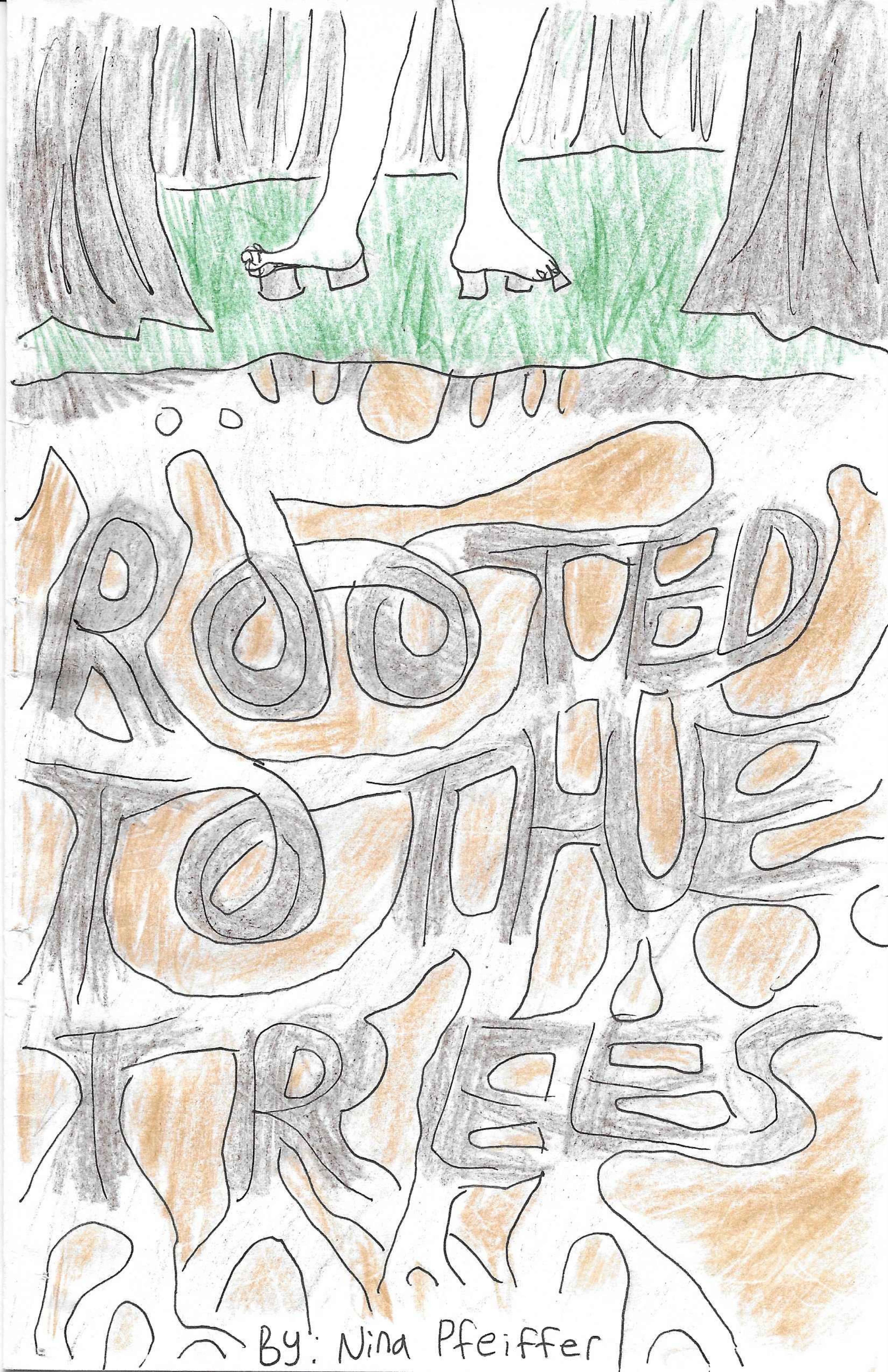


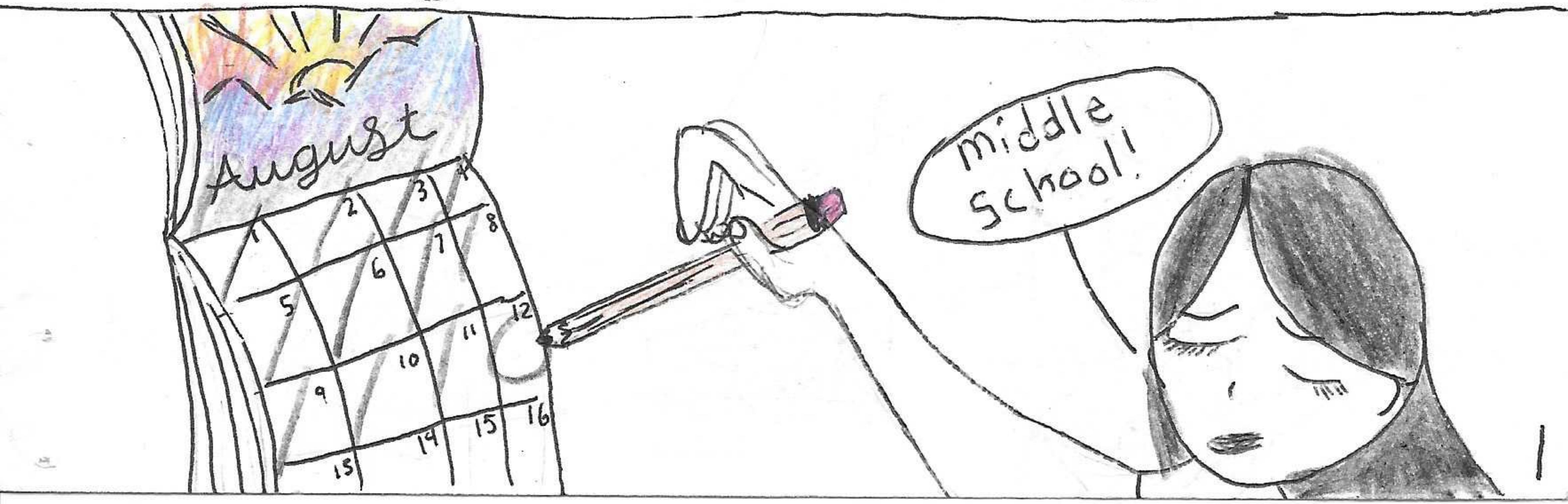


By: Nina Pfeiffer

chapter 1. ~



and today is the first day of...



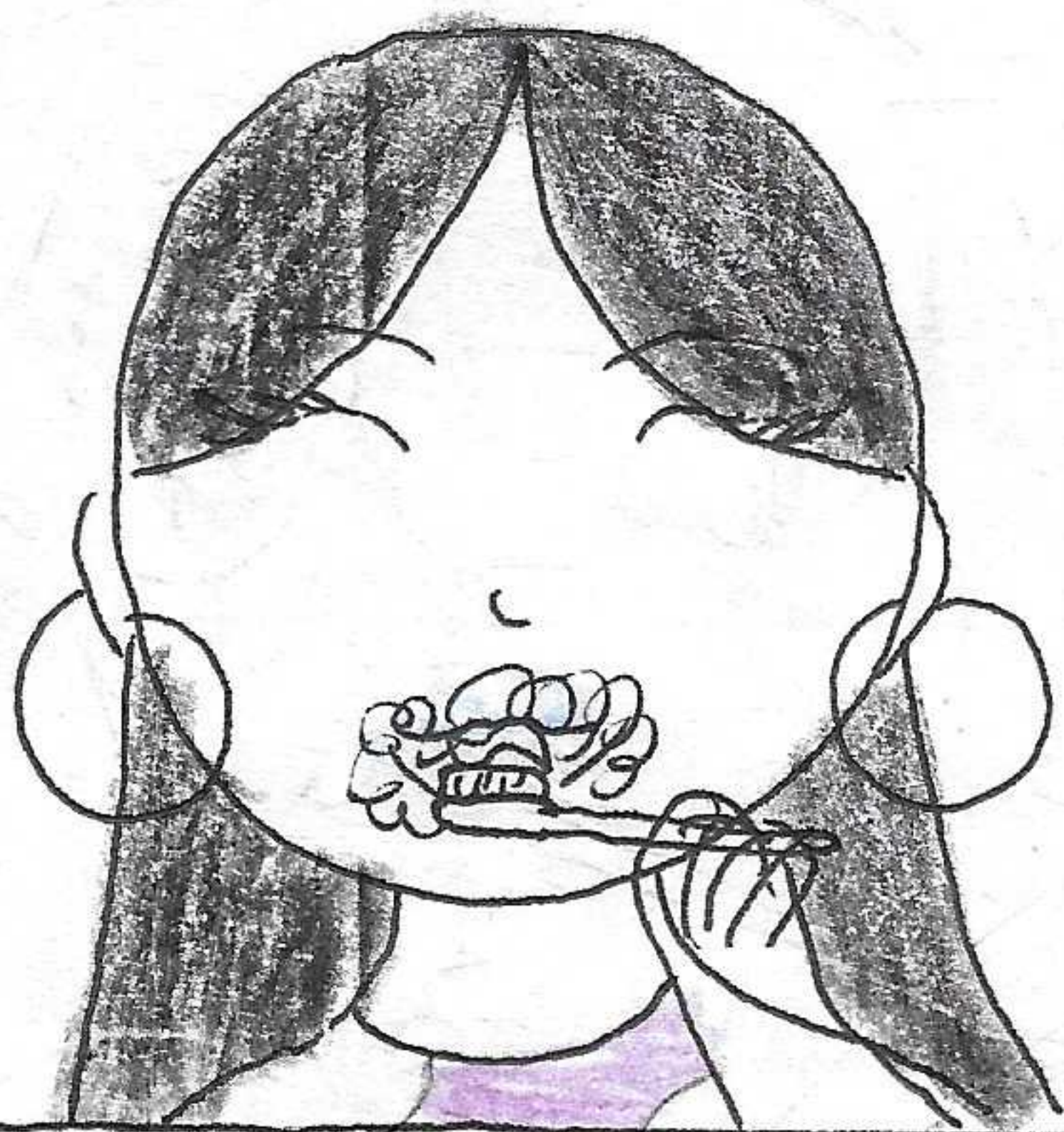
I Make my bed,



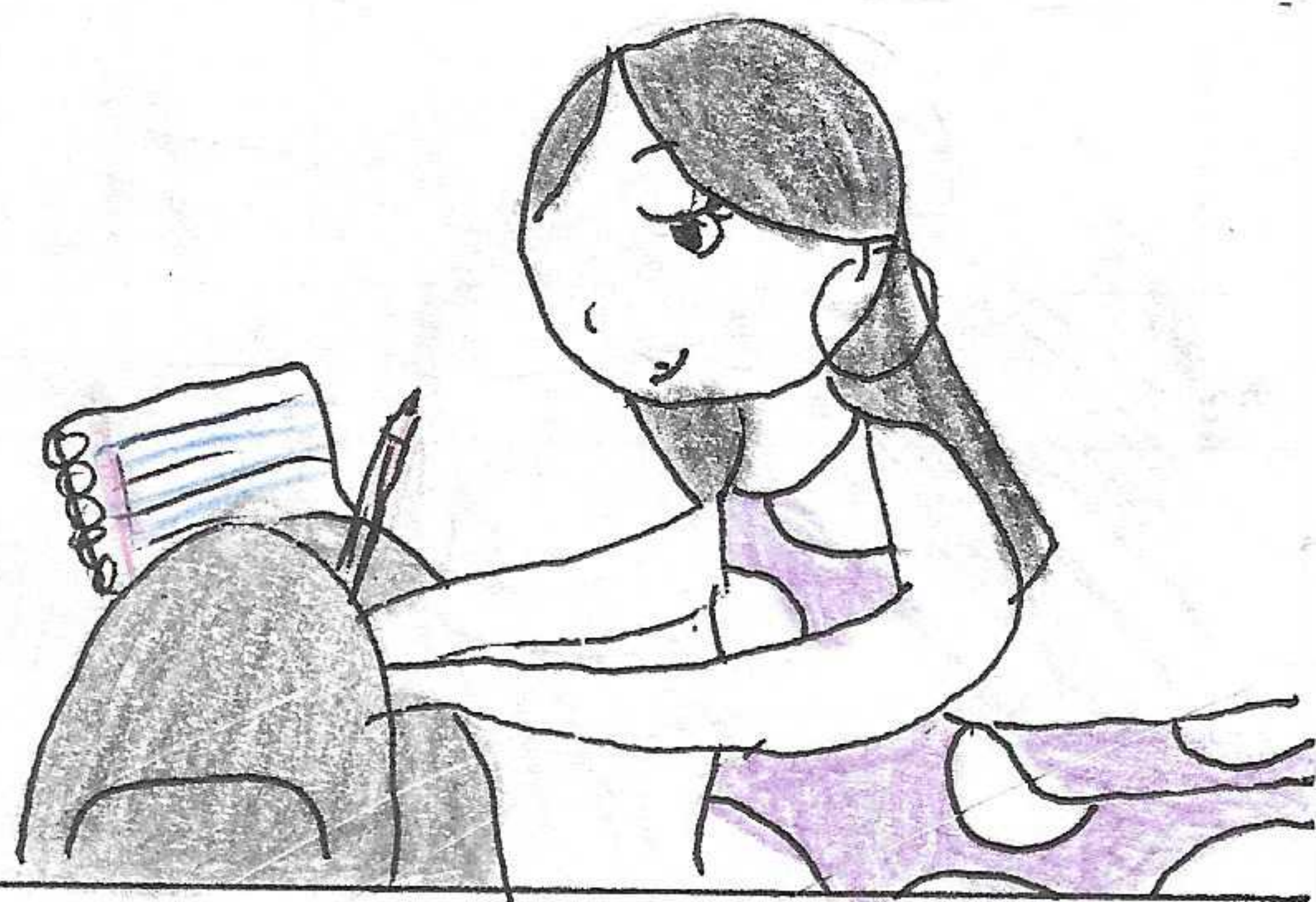
get dressed,



brush my teeth,

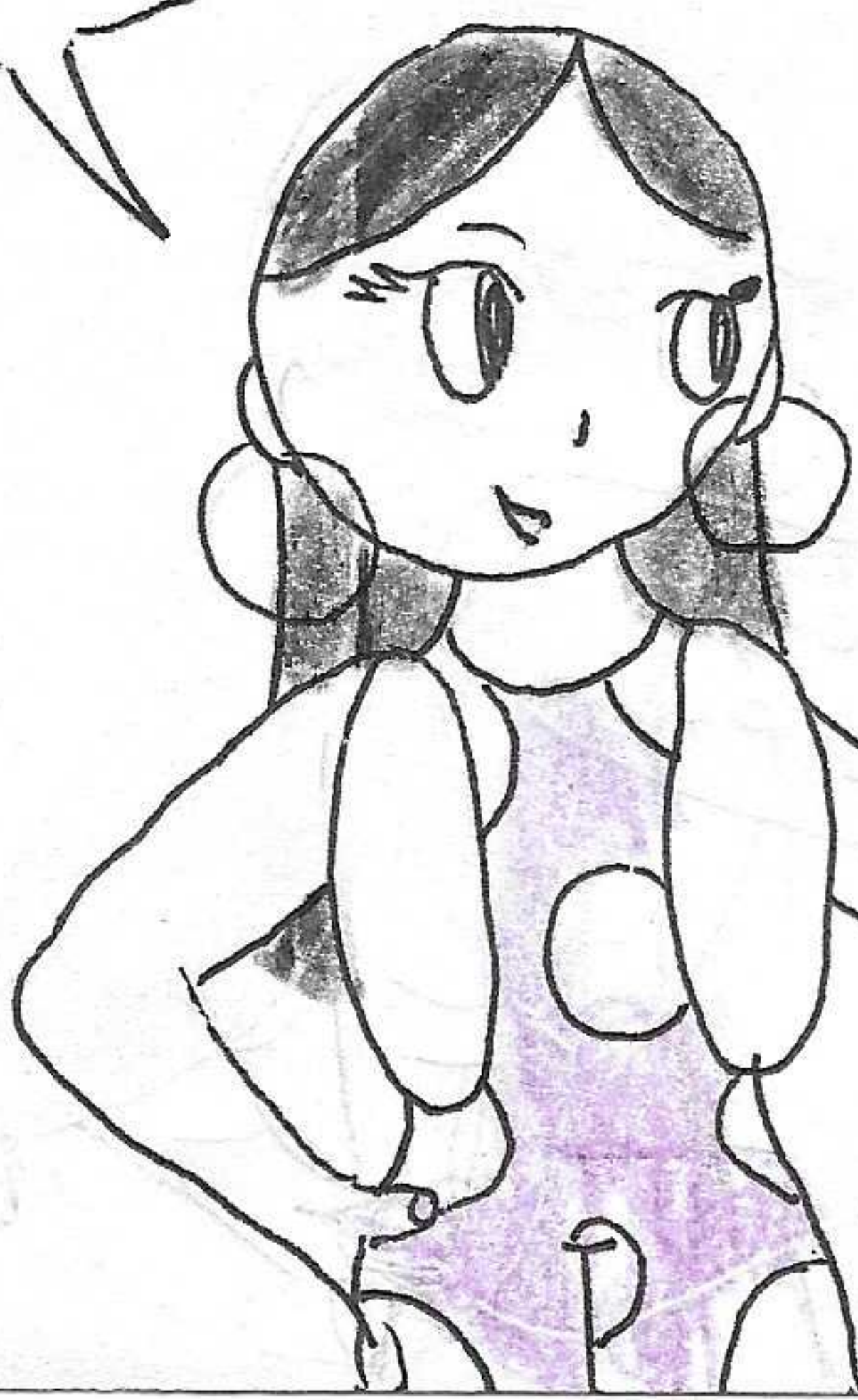


And pack my bag.



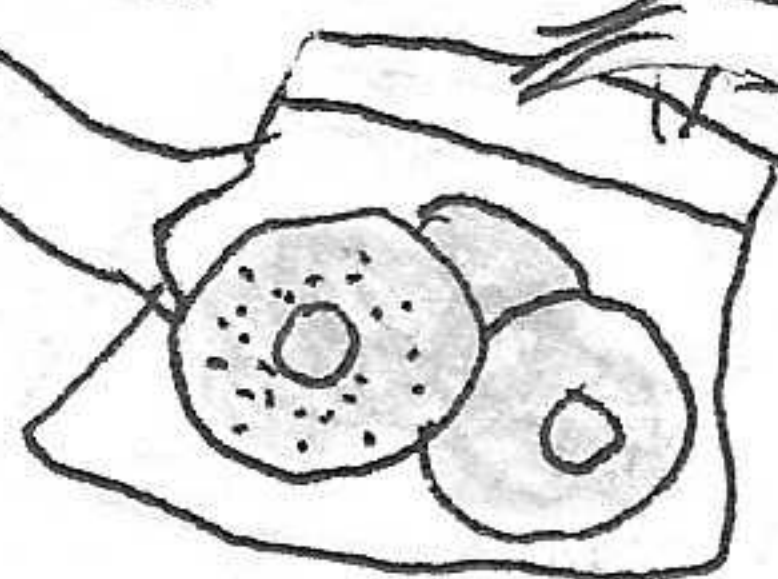
I'm an only child, living with my mom in Tampa, Florida.

good morning mom!



happy first day of middle school, love!

bagels

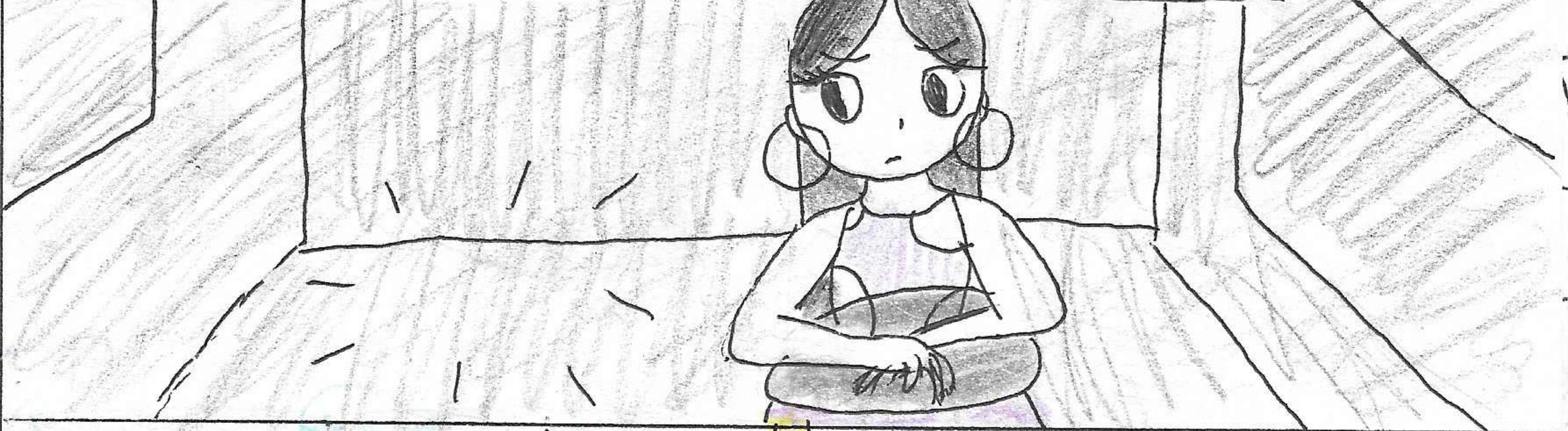


have a great day!





My best friend Ivy is going to a different middle school.





Home room.



a girl at my table waves
at me.



after a lonely lunch,

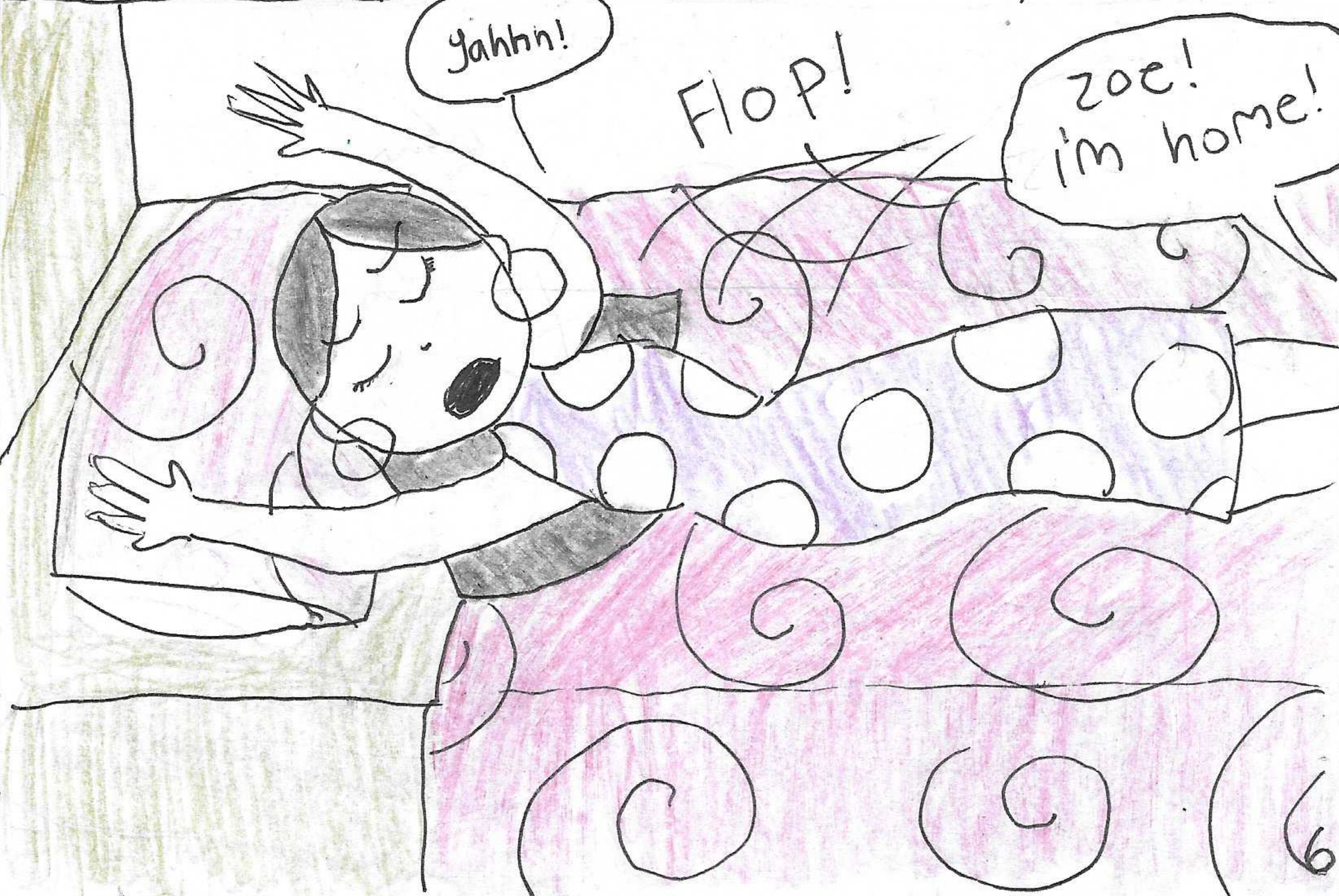
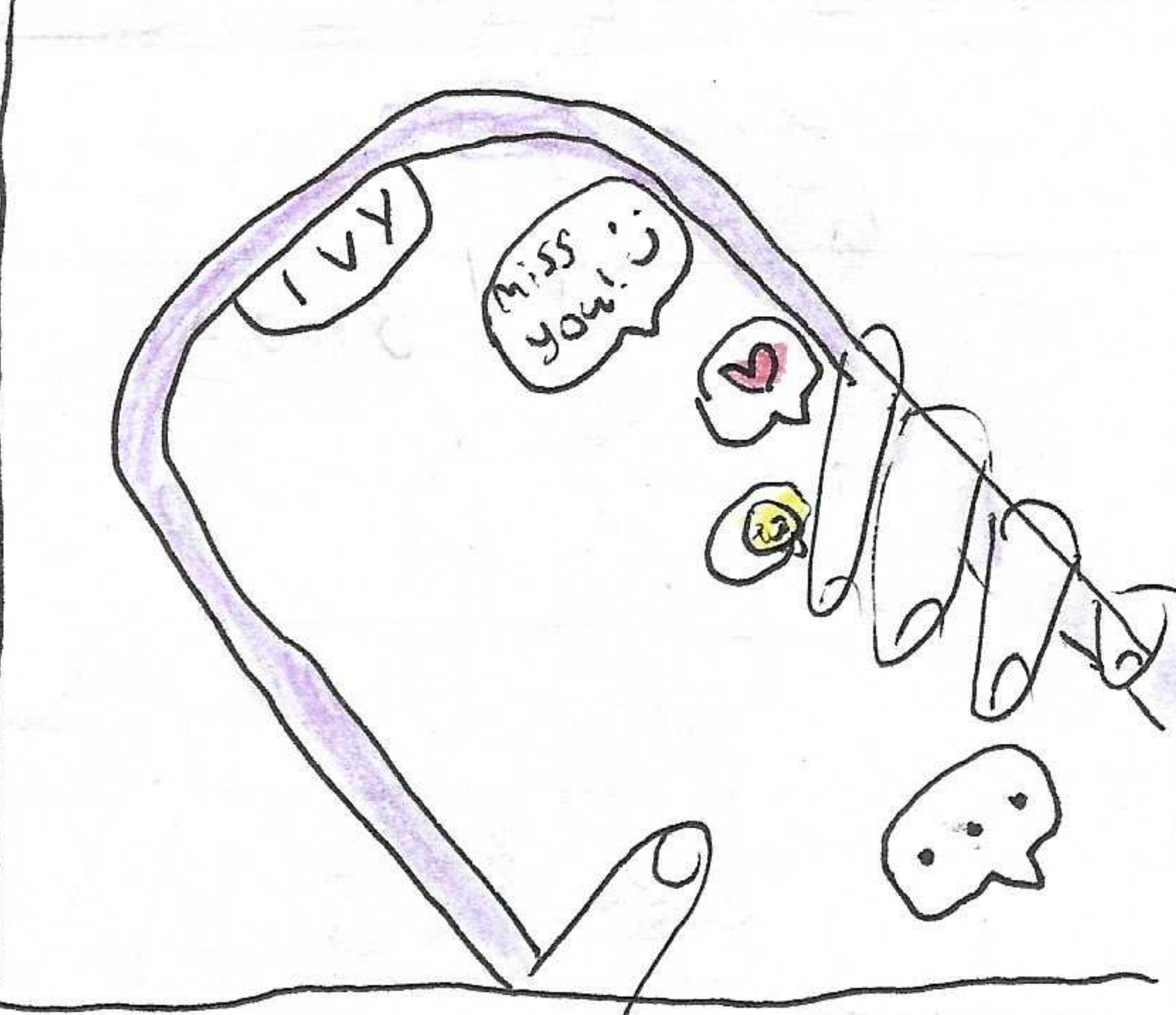
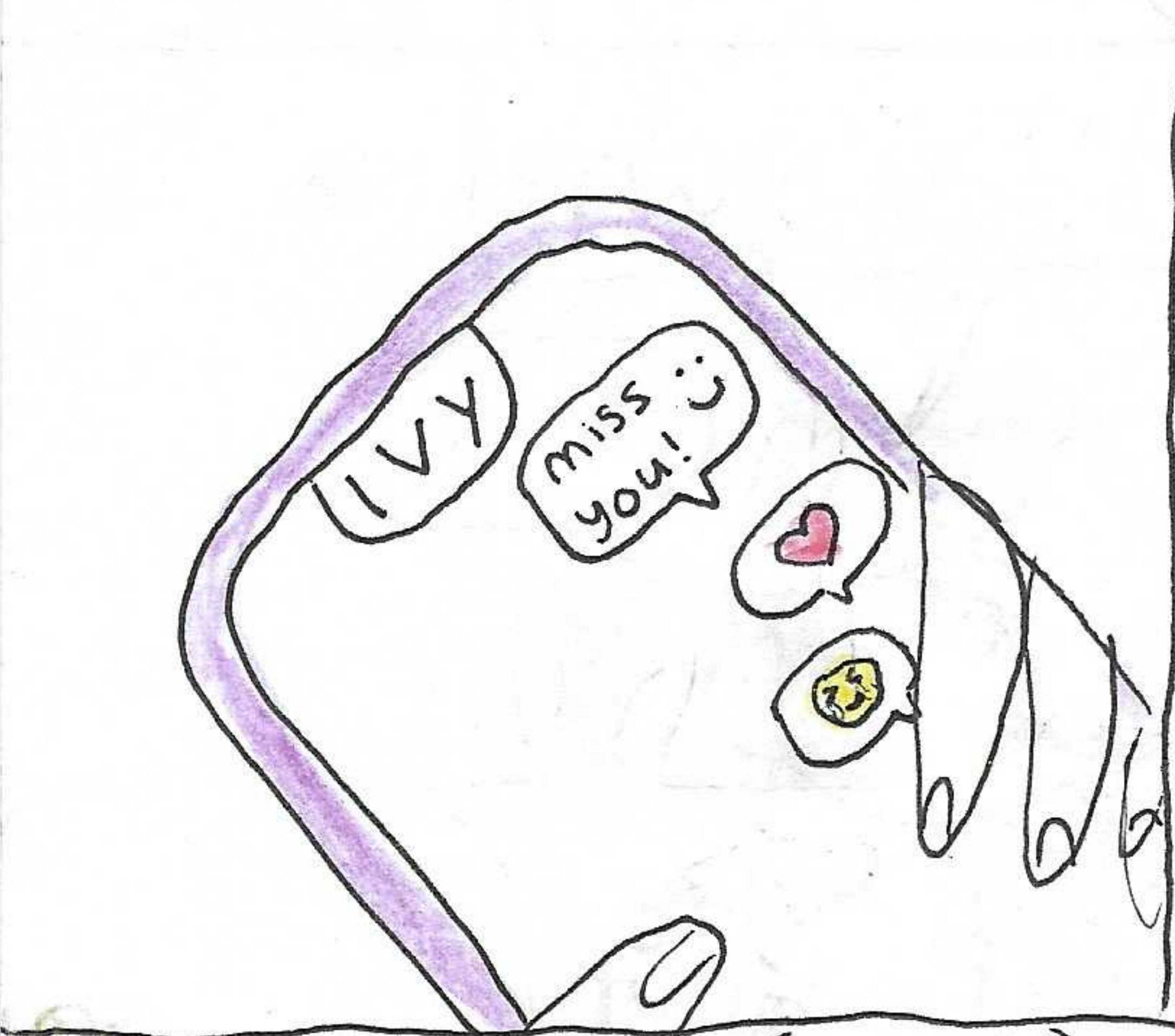


a Stressfull
afternoon,

the school day
was over.

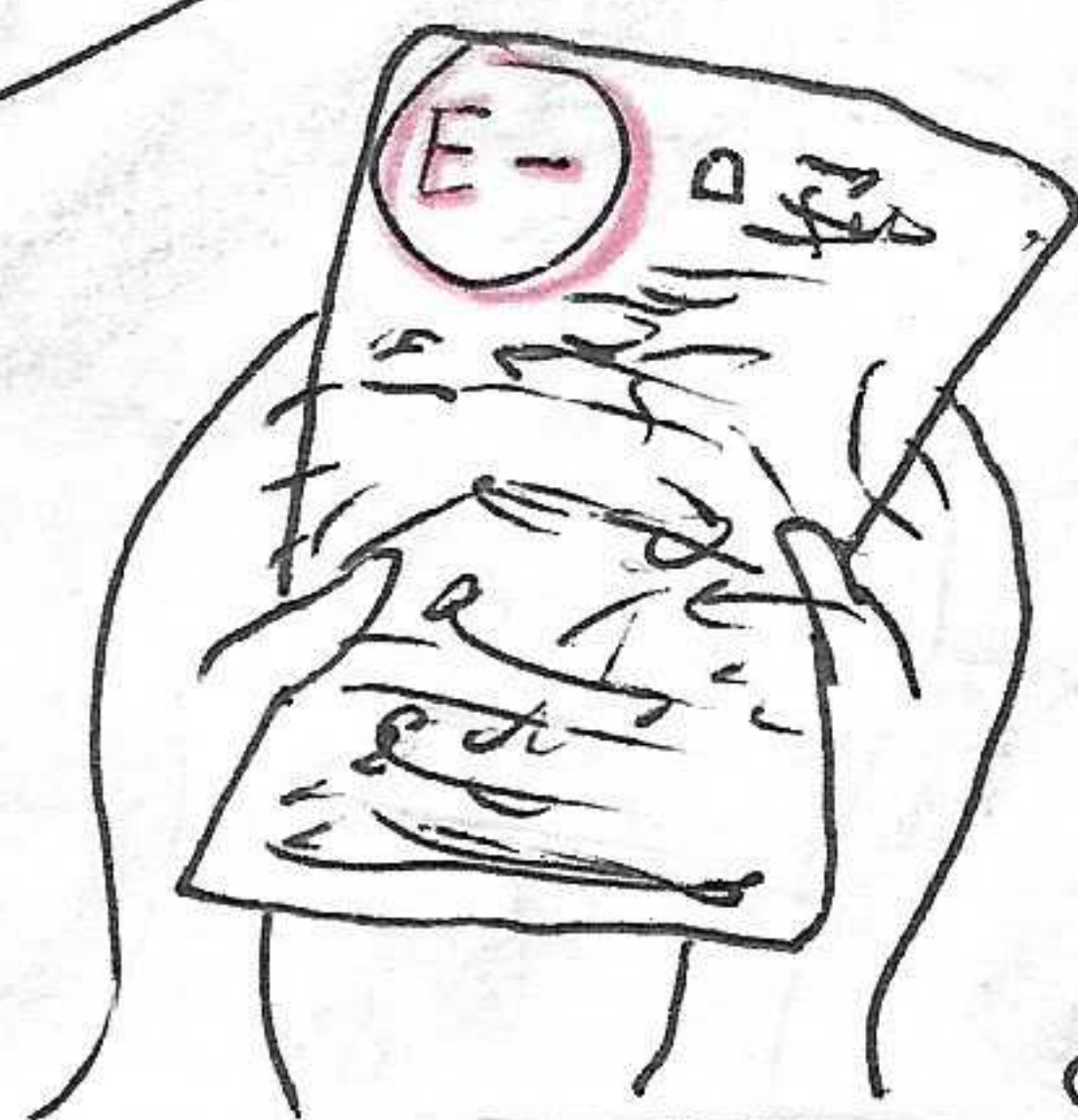
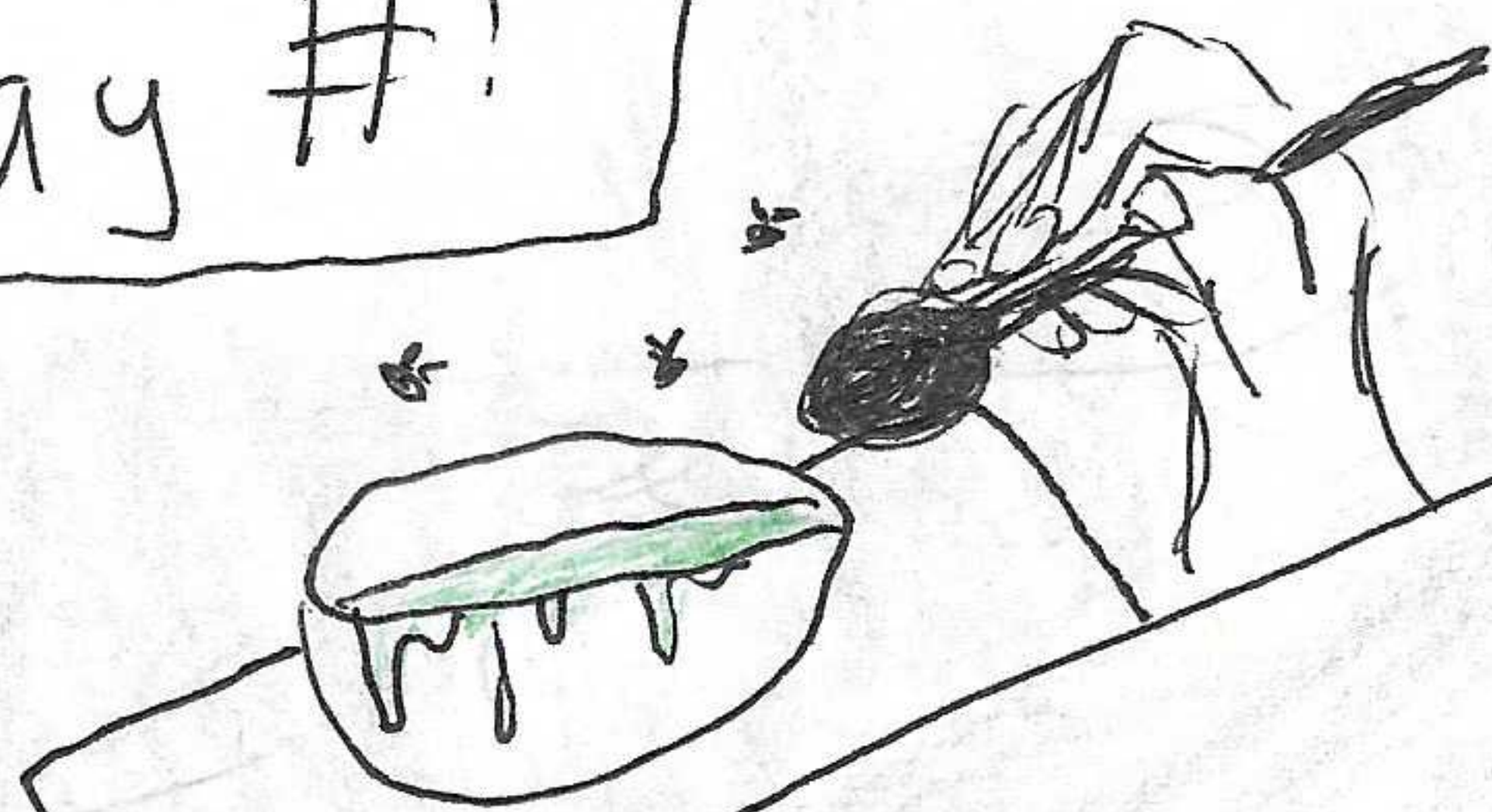


I decided to text Ivy.





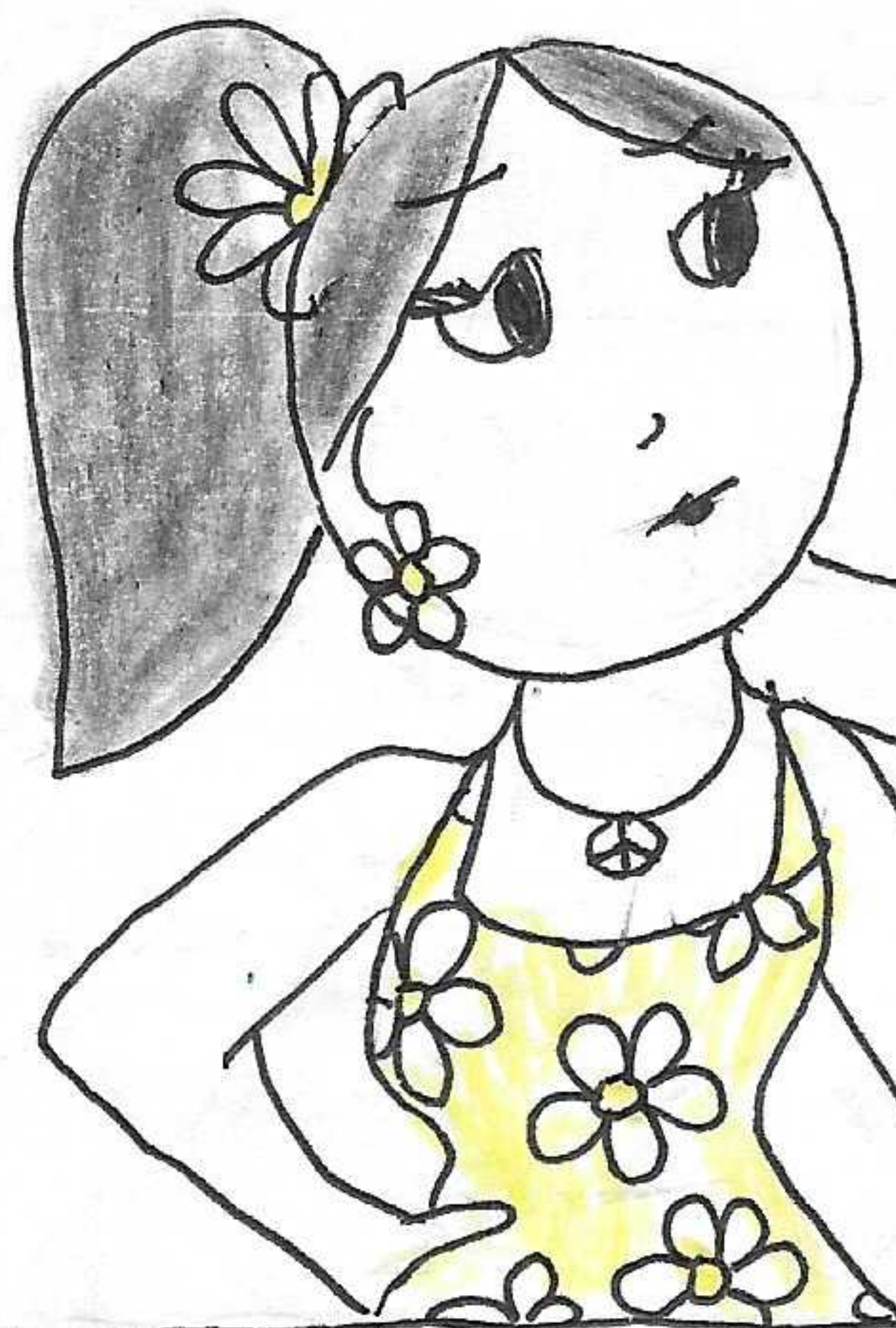
day #2 was the same as
day #1!



chap. 2 ~

whats
that?

I picked
this up
for you
on my
way
home!



like this is going
to help me make
friends.



Roll!



tap!

tap!

worth
a try

root yourself
to the
ground...





I remember my manners,



but i'm talking to a tree, a tree!!!







breath in,
breath out,
root zoe,
root!



Mr. oak?
can you
talk to me
now?

yes!
I can,
zoe

you don't seem very rooted
in your life zoe, I
can tell, or else you
would have heard me
years ago!

for some reason, I felt like
I could talk to Mr. Oak
about anything! he just
stood there and listened.



I felt a lot better talking
about everything to Mr.
Oak.



that night...

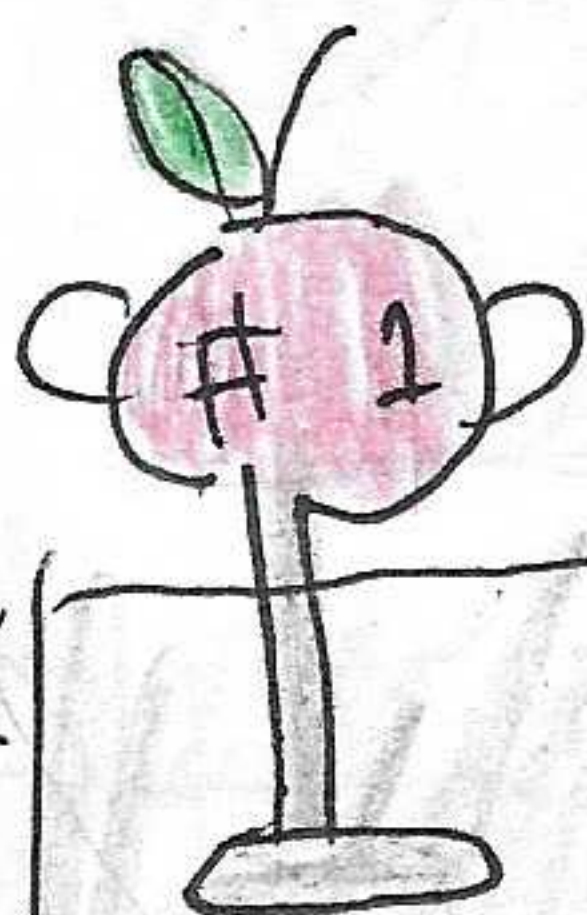


Chapter 3 ~ the next day...

alright ya'll
i'm going to pick
partners for
the history
projects!

$$7 \div 9 =$$

$$8 \times 3 \times 4 =$$



clap!

Mike
and
Harry...

Jesica
and
becka...



Kira is ^{very} popular!





time passed, me and kira became "friends", and I forgot all about Mr. oak,



I didn't stop to root, and
hear mr. oaks whispers.



I started to change, chapter 4. ~

Ha!

Ha!

Ha!



I Wore what Kira Wore,



I Said what Kira Said,



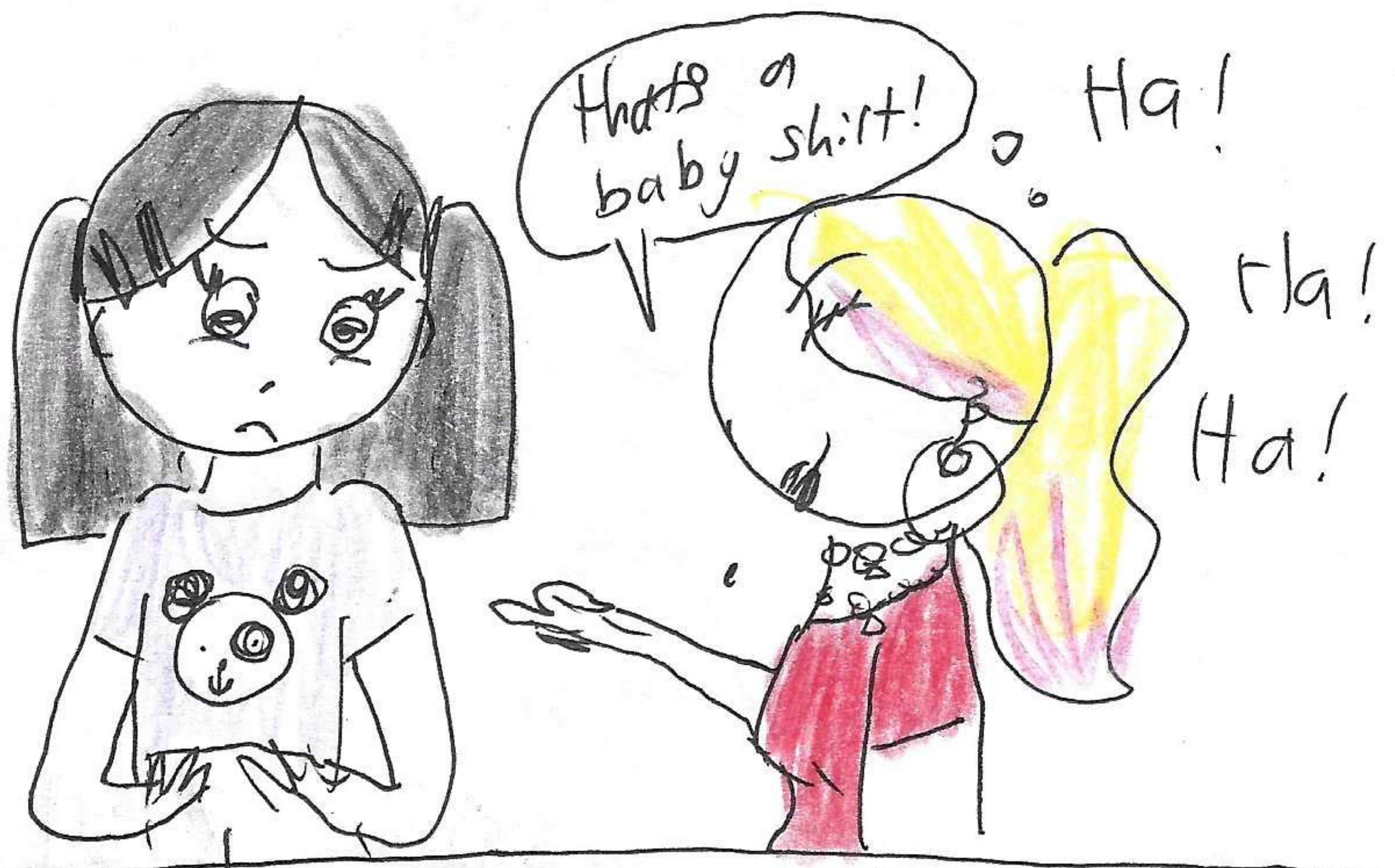
& I did what Kira did.



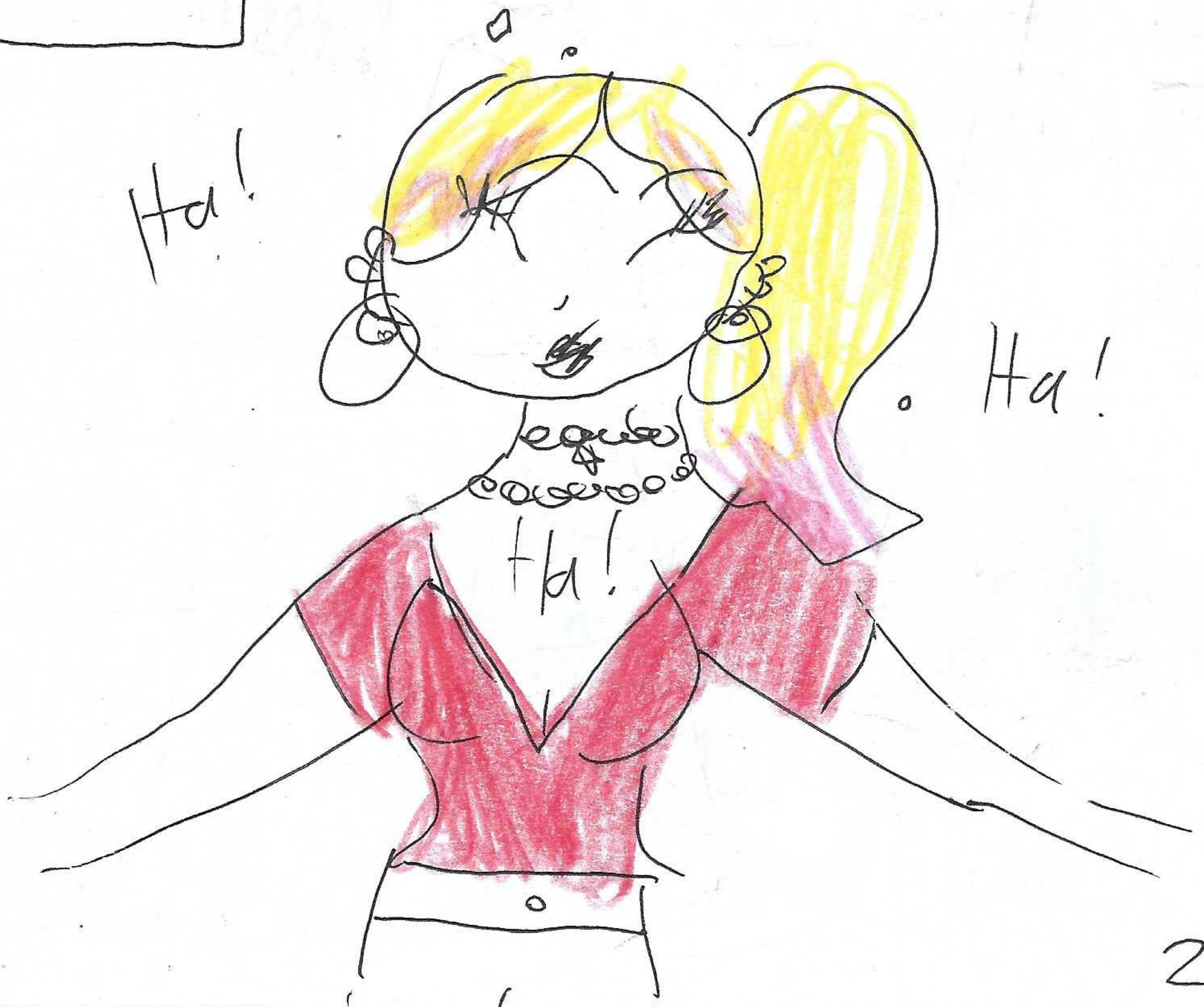
but nothing felted right,



and kira could be mean!



I was so caught up with kira!
she didn't feel like a true
friend.



I needed to pause, root, & listen,
So I did.



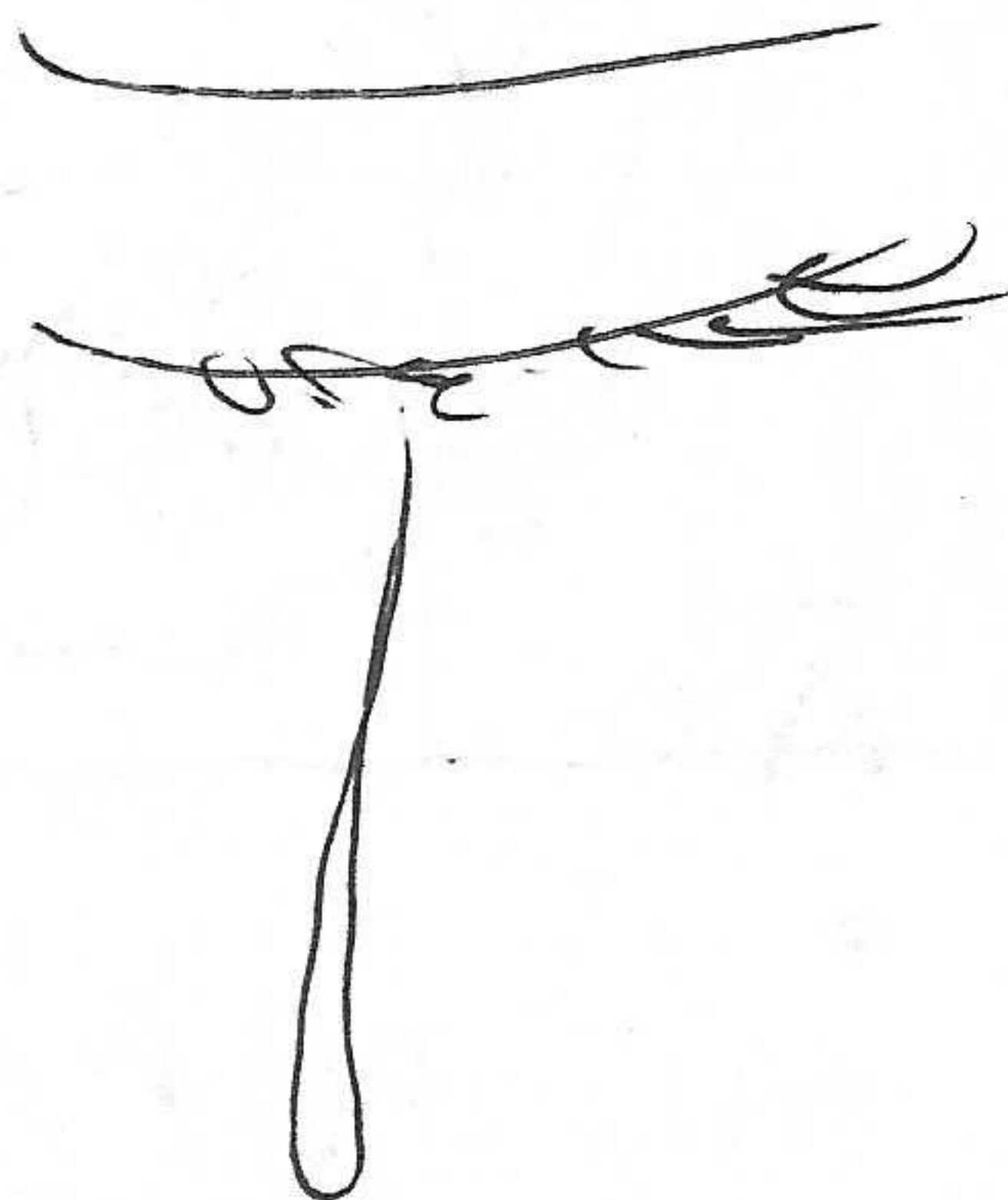
I'm Sorry for
not coming back
Mr. Oak



Kira
Seemed
So fashionable
& popular
that I
hung out
with her
So much,
I'm sorry!



I've been
trying to
tell you
that
Rose
is your true
friend,
and she's
been here
all along!





• • •
In Mr. Oak's honor, I took
the time to root, every single
day.



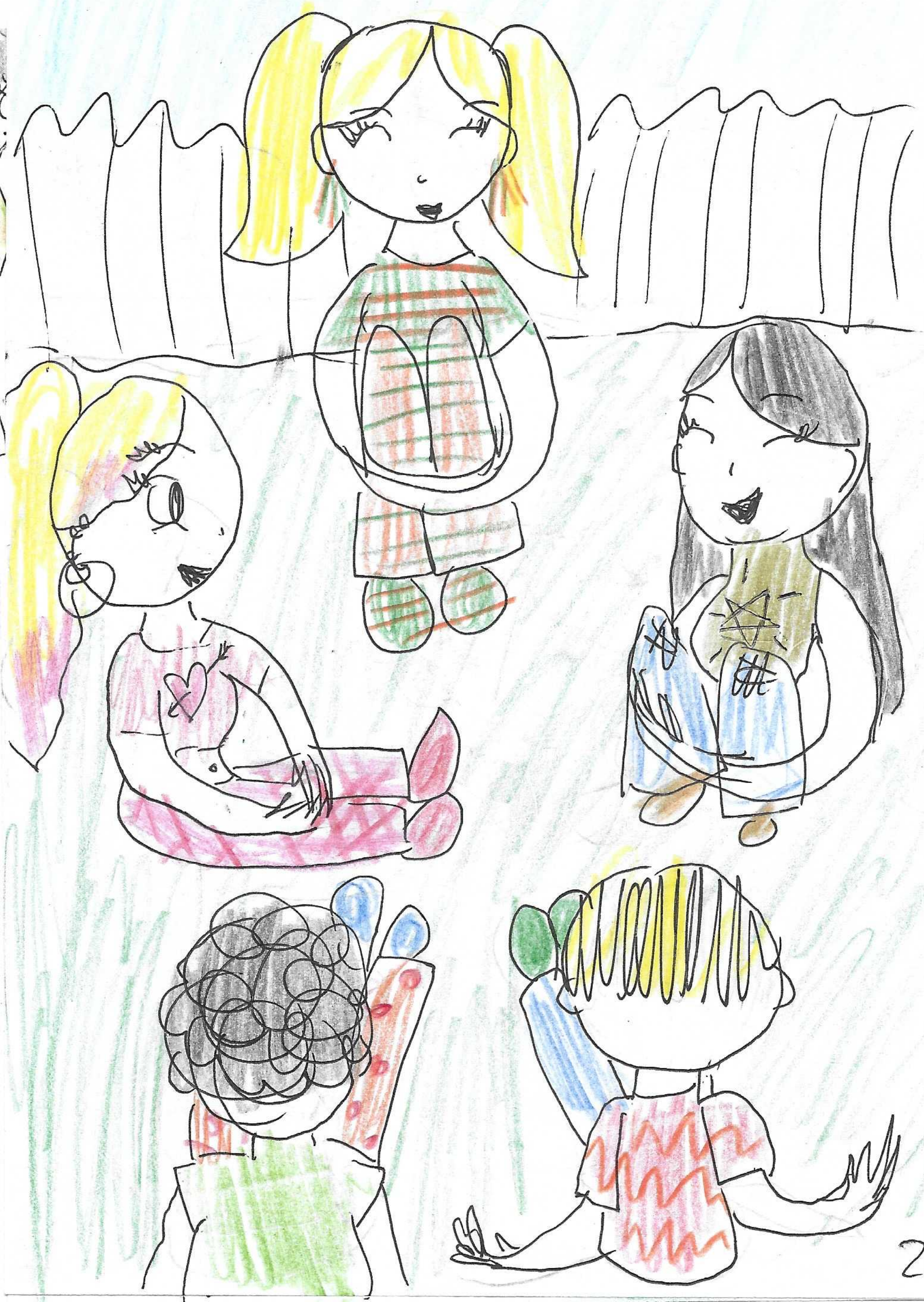
I met alot of trees!



and kara? I thought she mite
benifit from alittle rooting
to, so...



I Started a rooting group!

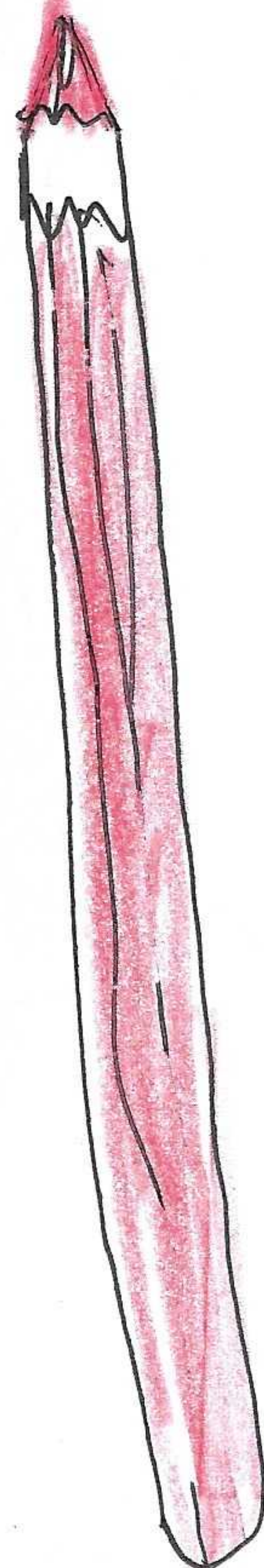


and Rose, you ask? were
best friends!



~~The End~~

the
Beginning!



Root yourself
to the ground,
take a breath,
look around,
find peace in
the shadows and
the dark...

