



# SHORT SHORTS

## VERY SHORT POEMS AND STORIES

by students of classes 8a & 8b

EDITED BY JOANNA KANIA



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TYPESETTING AND TEXT MAKEUP  
BY GOSIA ORDON

ILLUSTRATIONS FROM CANVA.COM

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Strange as it may sound, a story or a poem can live anywhere. You can find a poem or a story not even looking for one. Also, you can write a story or a poem even if you don't believe you can. That's why I strongly recommend having one's eyes and heart open to receive poems and stories any time they choose to come, and in any form they choose to take. They need us, and we need them.

The poems and stories gathered in this collection are called short shorts. The shortest one is just one line and the longest is not longer than a page. Some stories are very clear and straightforward just as some poems are very poetic. But there are other fascinating options, too: a bunch of loose sentences that somehow come together; a story that strikes you or makes sense after you left it and got busy with something else. And even if there's no sense, initially, you can make one.

There are a few ways to use this book. You can read them one by one as they appear, for they form a larger story. Or, you can choose the page at random. My suggestion is not to read too much at one go. Savour a story, let it develop, let it bloom and bring fruit. If you want to, try your hand at continuing or elaborating on a text that you find intriguing. Write your own poem or a story based on the one you've just read.

I'm forever grateful to all of you, my dear students of classes 8a and 8b, for writing and sharing these incredible texts with me over the whole school year during our short tests within what started as a modest innovation entitled "How to befriend irregular verbs". I cherish each text as I cherish each one of you.

I believe in collecting poems and stories, and letting them out into the world. They will find their way.

You will, too.

Keep writing, and keep searching for meaning. That's what life is about.

With love and gratitude,  
Joanna Kania,  
your teacher of English

One day I went to a store to buy a palm tree. I paid for it by card. After that I brought it to my house and then I asked my parents where I should put it. My mom said the ideal place for it would be on the desk but my dad told me that palm trees grow fast when they have a lot of light. I thought which option was better. Finally, I ended up placing it on the balcony.

Jan Adamik



Reading a book in the classroom  
last Wednesday, I let Agata put  
her pencil on my desk. Then I cut  
a history notebook for fun. Next,  
I cast the scissors on the board.  
It didn't hurt me because this was  
a dream.

Nadia  
Semblewska



I put my notebook on the  
table.

I set my alarm clock for 5.30.  
I hurt my leg because I hit it on  
my bed.

When I go to sleep, I shut the  
door to my room.

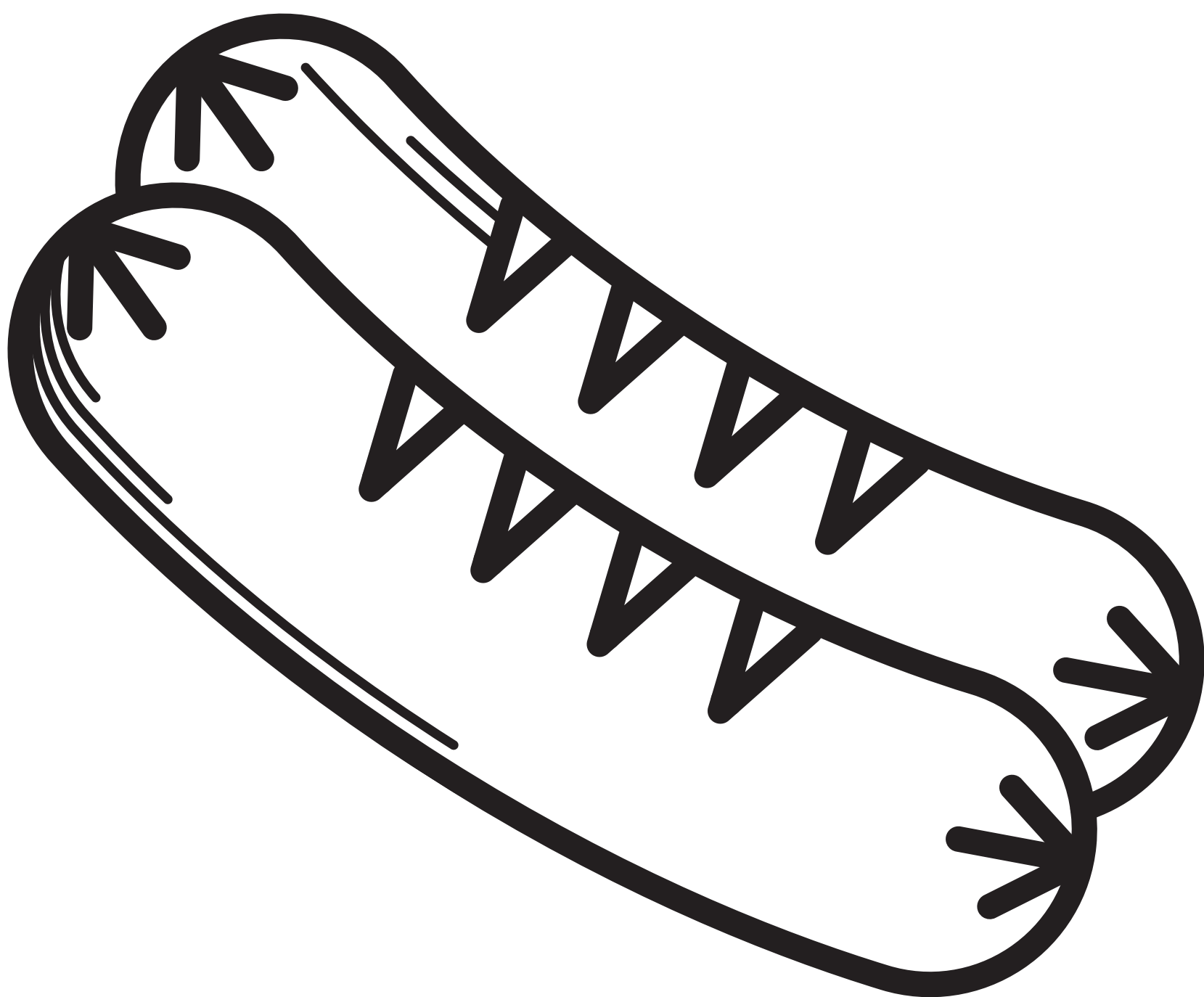
Marta Czerwionka



I will lend you some money on  
Monday. I have already lent it to  
someone else.

I had a dream where everything  
was candy! It smelt amazing.  
I learnt I had burnt the sausages.  
I didn't mean it! I did not!

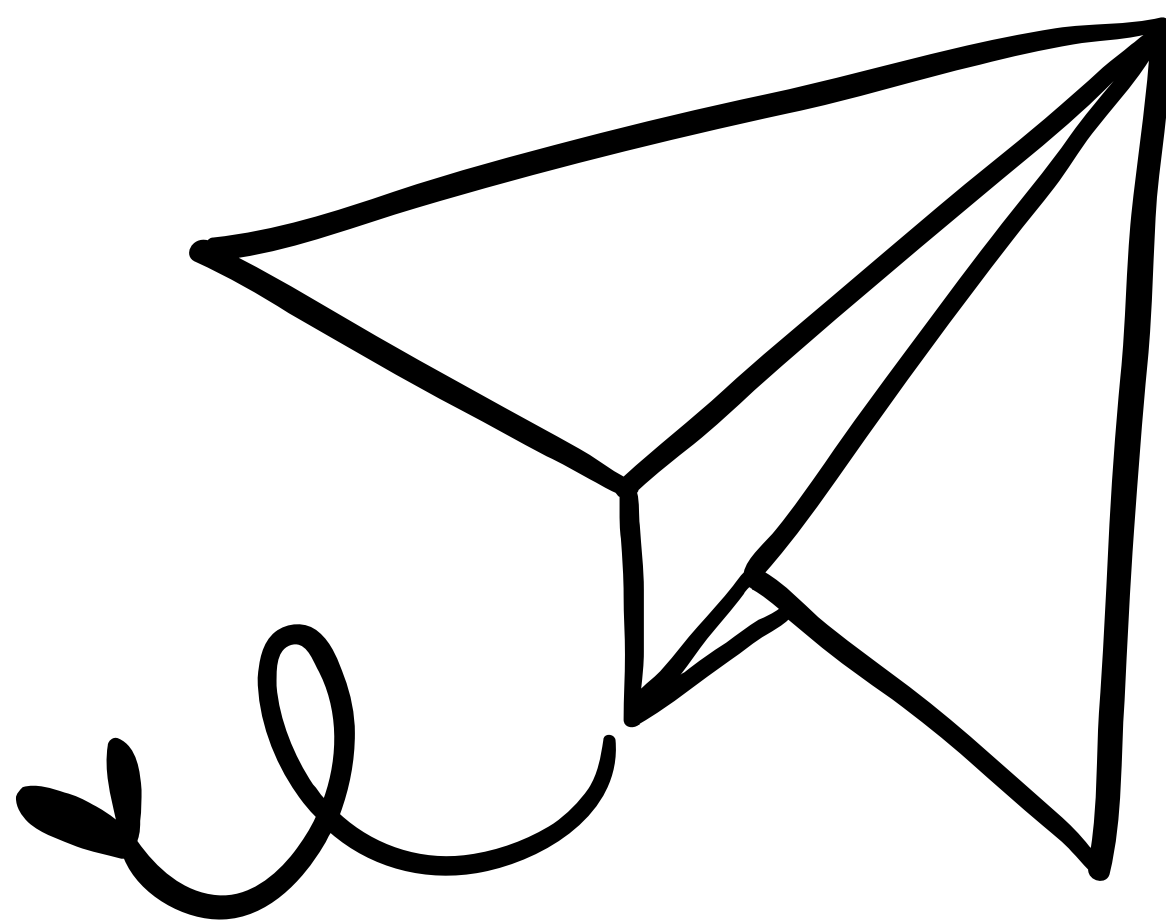
Alan Paszewski





No, I meant something else.  
Remember that I lent you the  
money and I want it back.  
I sent you a sticker.  
I dreamt I was a butterfly.

Szymon Skonieczny



I put the pencil on the table.  
I cast a stone on the floor.  
I shut the door.  
I set a phone on a tree.  
Now I'm reading a book in the  
forest.

Agata



I learn irregular verbs in English.  
I dream about watermelon ice  
cream.

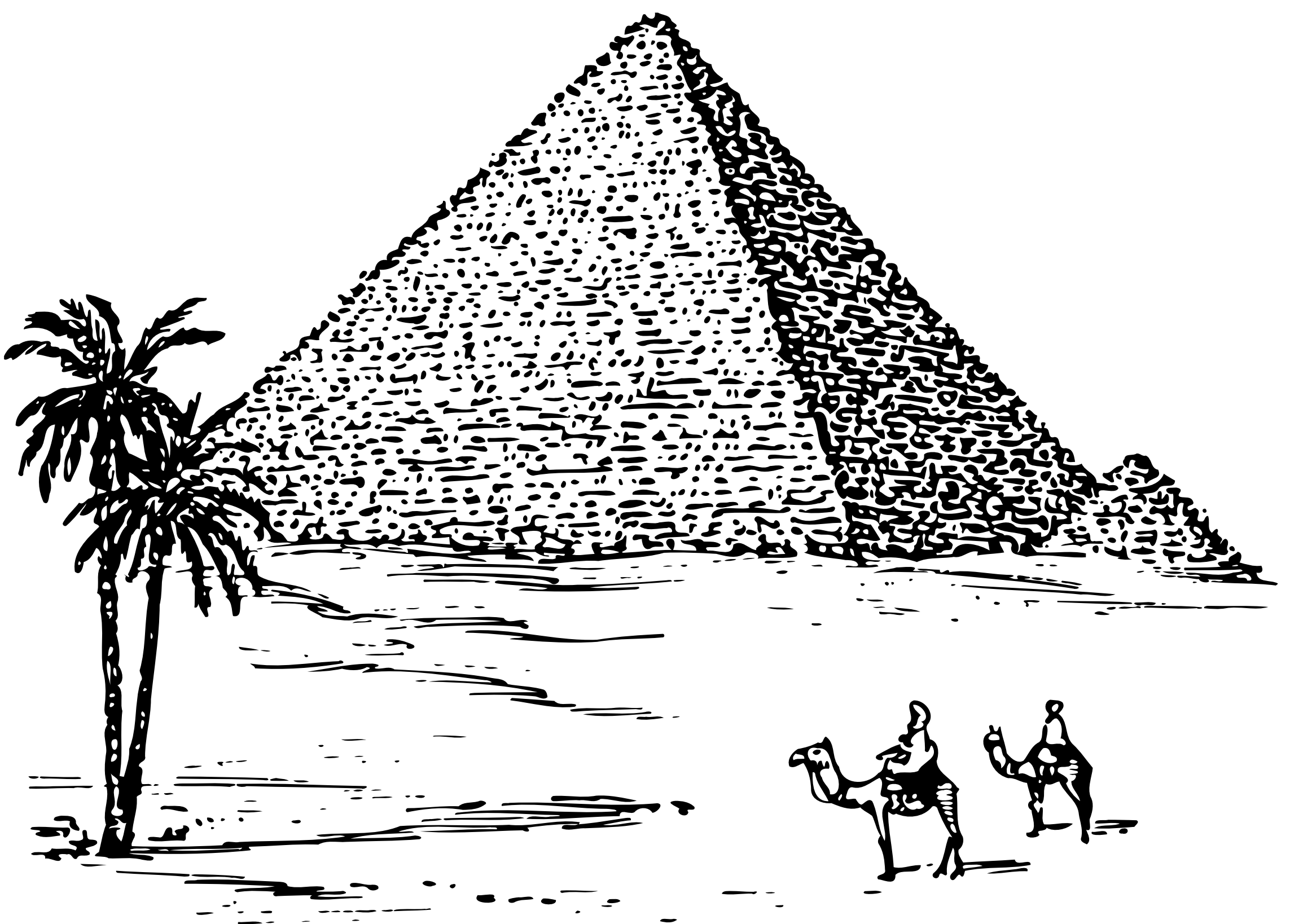
My t-shirt smells of strawberry!

Agata



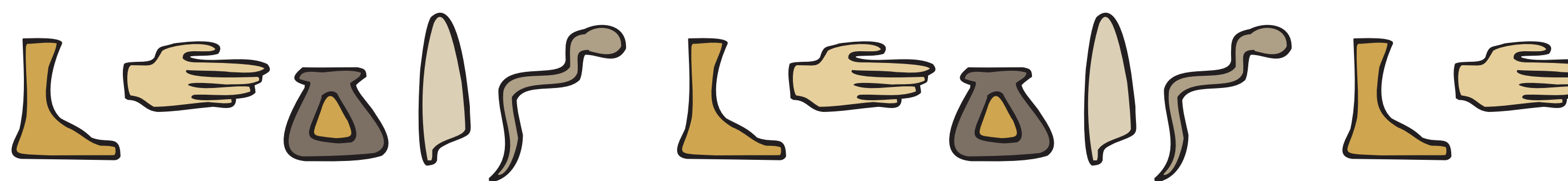
I borrowed a book on pharaohs because I didn't know what hieroglyphs in pyramids meant. I spent my holidays in Egypt. This is a very interesting place! When I entered one of the pyramids I smelt dirt, sand and torch oil. After getting back home I dreamt about pharaohs.

Nadia Semblewska



Once upon a time in ancient Egypt a slave met a rich man. The slave wept and said, "Please, feed me". The rich man felt bad and fed the slave.

Michał Pobołocki

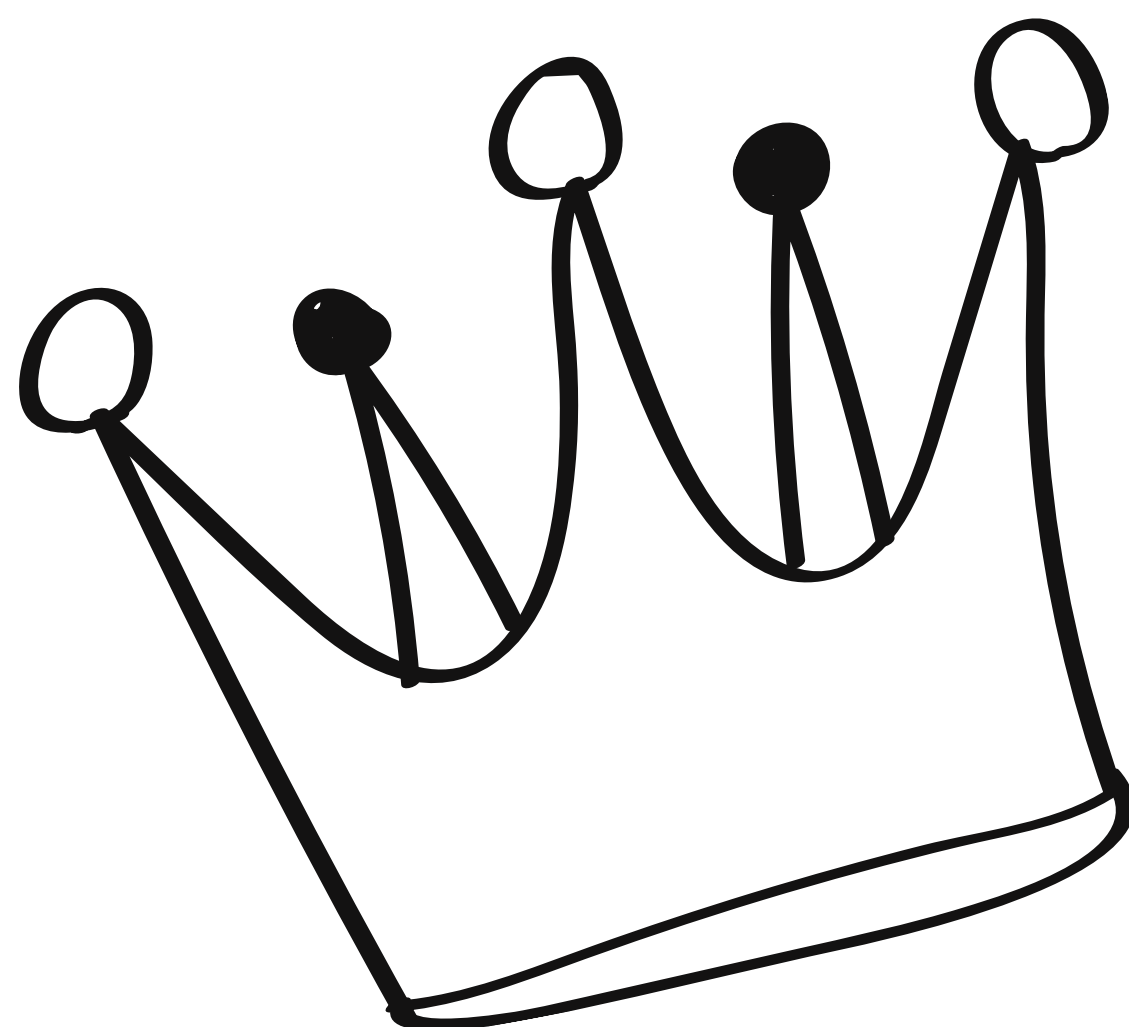


Yesterday I drew a princess who  
threw a ball into the basket. Next  
Saturday that princess will play  
football.

She always wears a beautiful pink  
dress. She always protects this  
dress when she is in the garden.

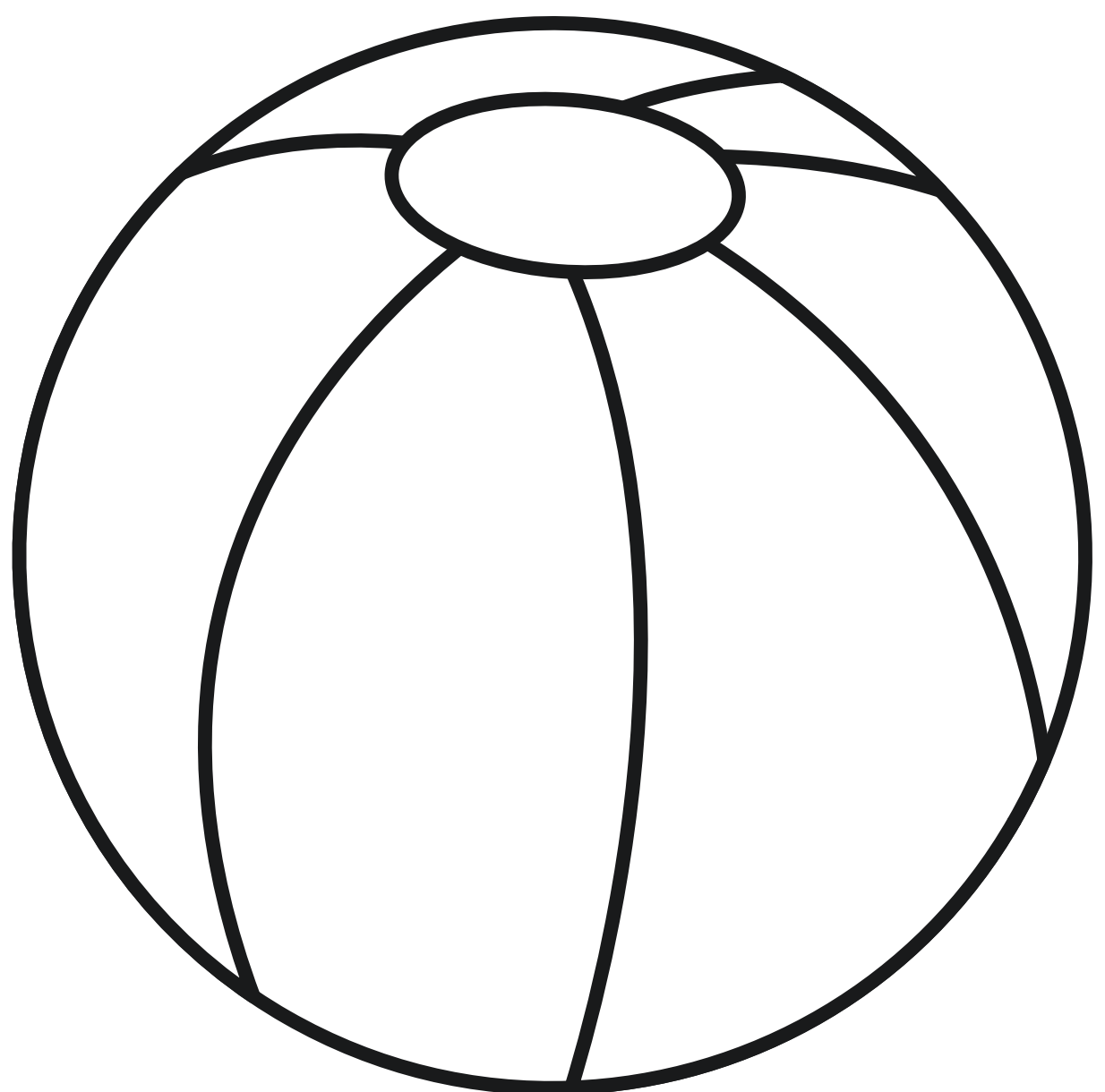
But now her dress is torn.  
She knows her mom had sewn  
this dress for her. She thought  
she'd never tear it.

Marta Czerwionka



Two days ago I had a fight with my brother. We fought about a ball. I thought that this ball was mine, so I took it from him. Then my dad told me that he had bought the ball for my brother. I said "I will pay for a new ball myself".

Nikodem Czerwionka



I cast the ball.  
I read a book every night.  
My mom let me go to the shop.  
A boy hurt my heart.  
I cut my hair because it was so  
long.  
This t-shirt cost £30.

Oliwia Wrońska





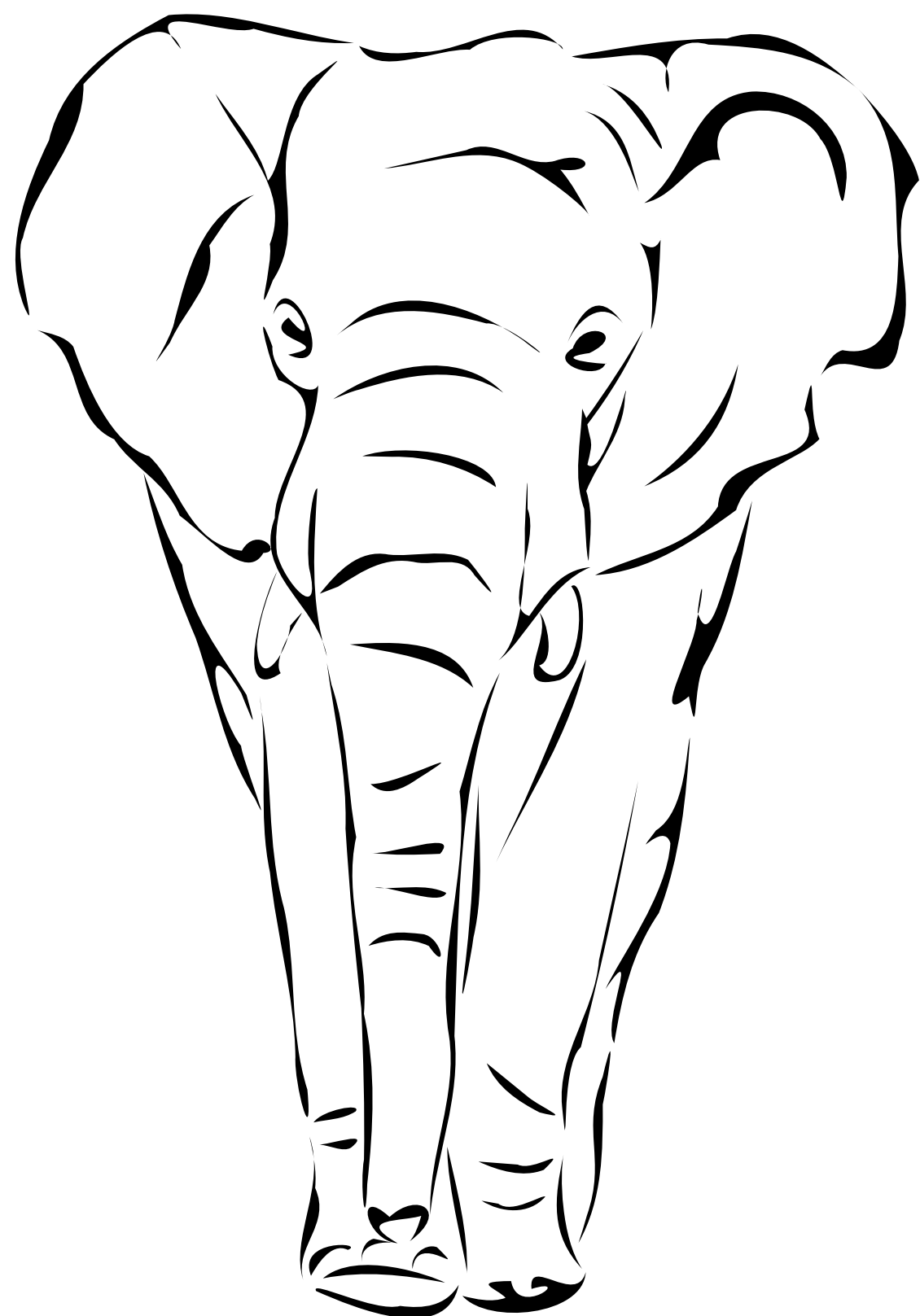
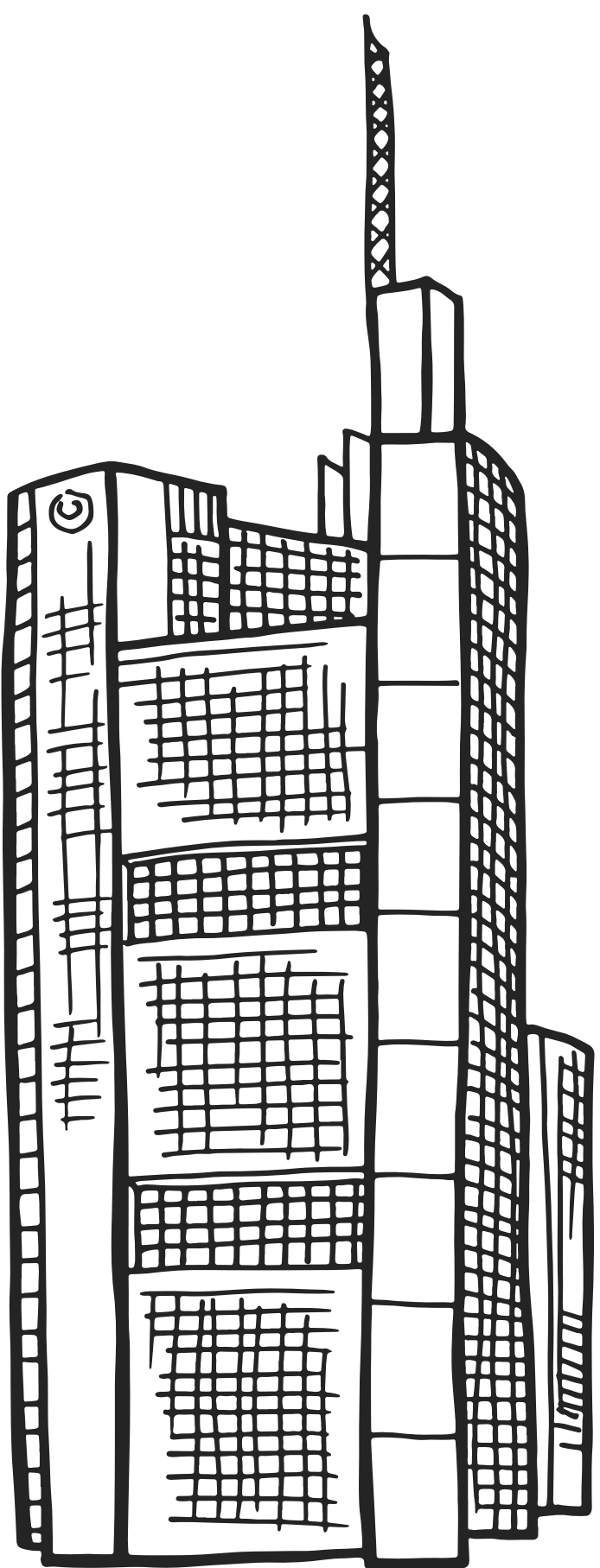
The builders built this skyscraper  
last year.

I sent you this message  
yesterday.

One day I dreamt about a big  
elephant.

Have you lent me this notebook?

Jan Adamik



Yesterday I went to the shop.  
I bought milk, butter and eggs.  
I paid with cash because my card  
was broken. I brought the items  
home. I baked a cake and cooked  
dinner.

They don't teach it online.  
In the evening I caught Pokemon.

Kasia Krzyczkowska

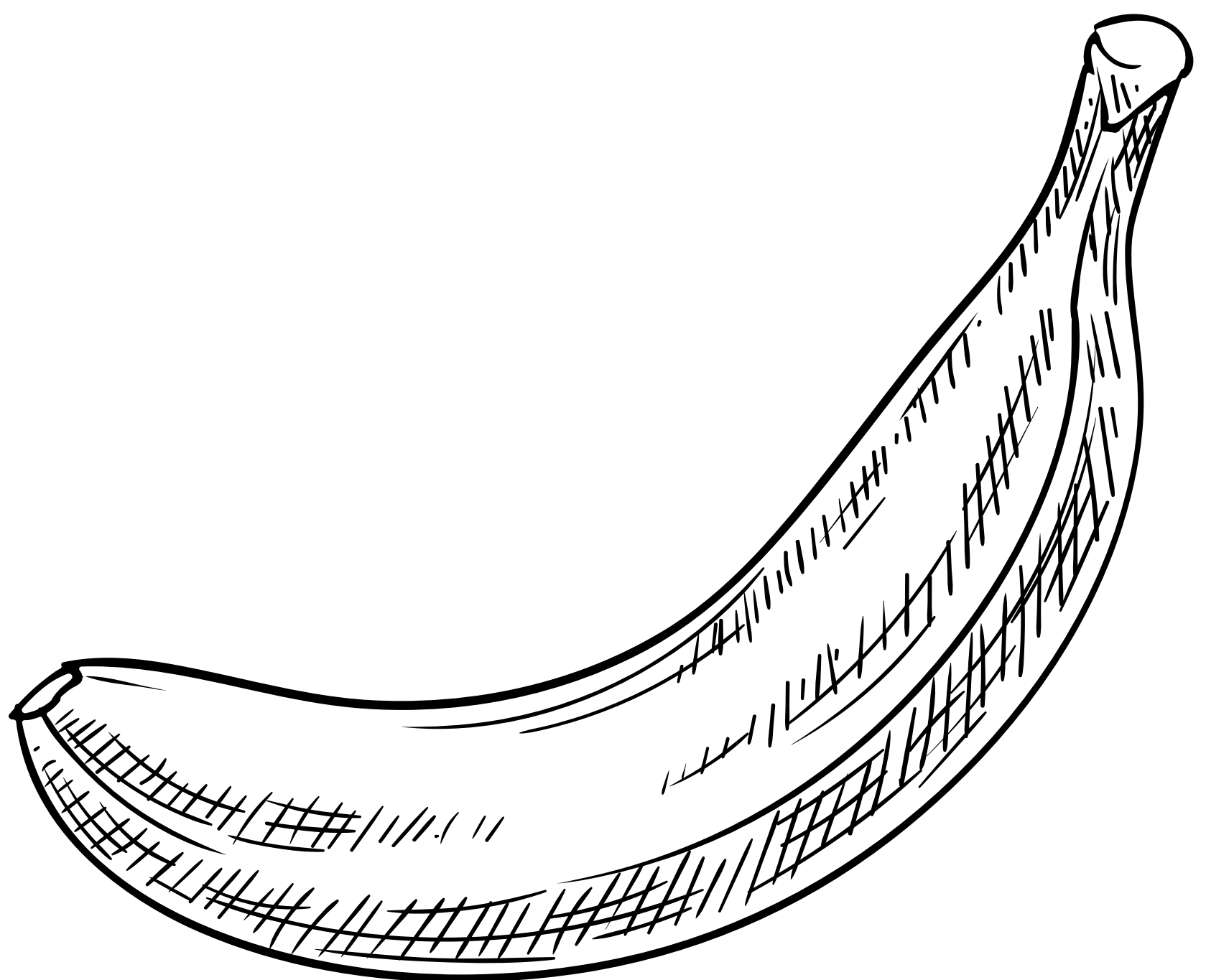


Yesterday I went to a shop and bought an apple. I thought of taking bananas but I don't eat them. I paid with my card and went back home.

At home my mom told me of her visit to a friend.

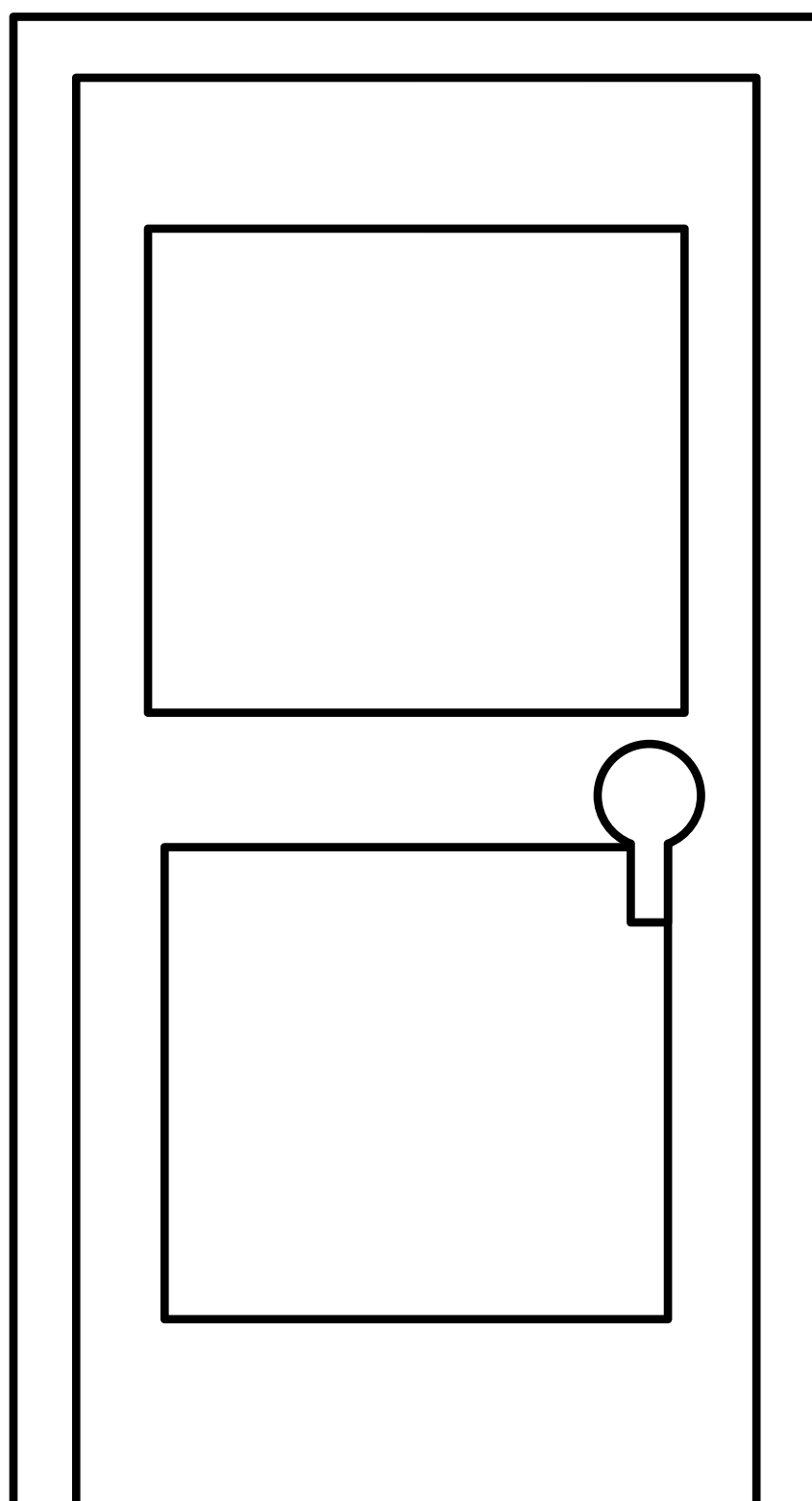
Next, I went to learn maths but my dog caught my dress and he wouldn't let go of it!

Nadia Semblewska



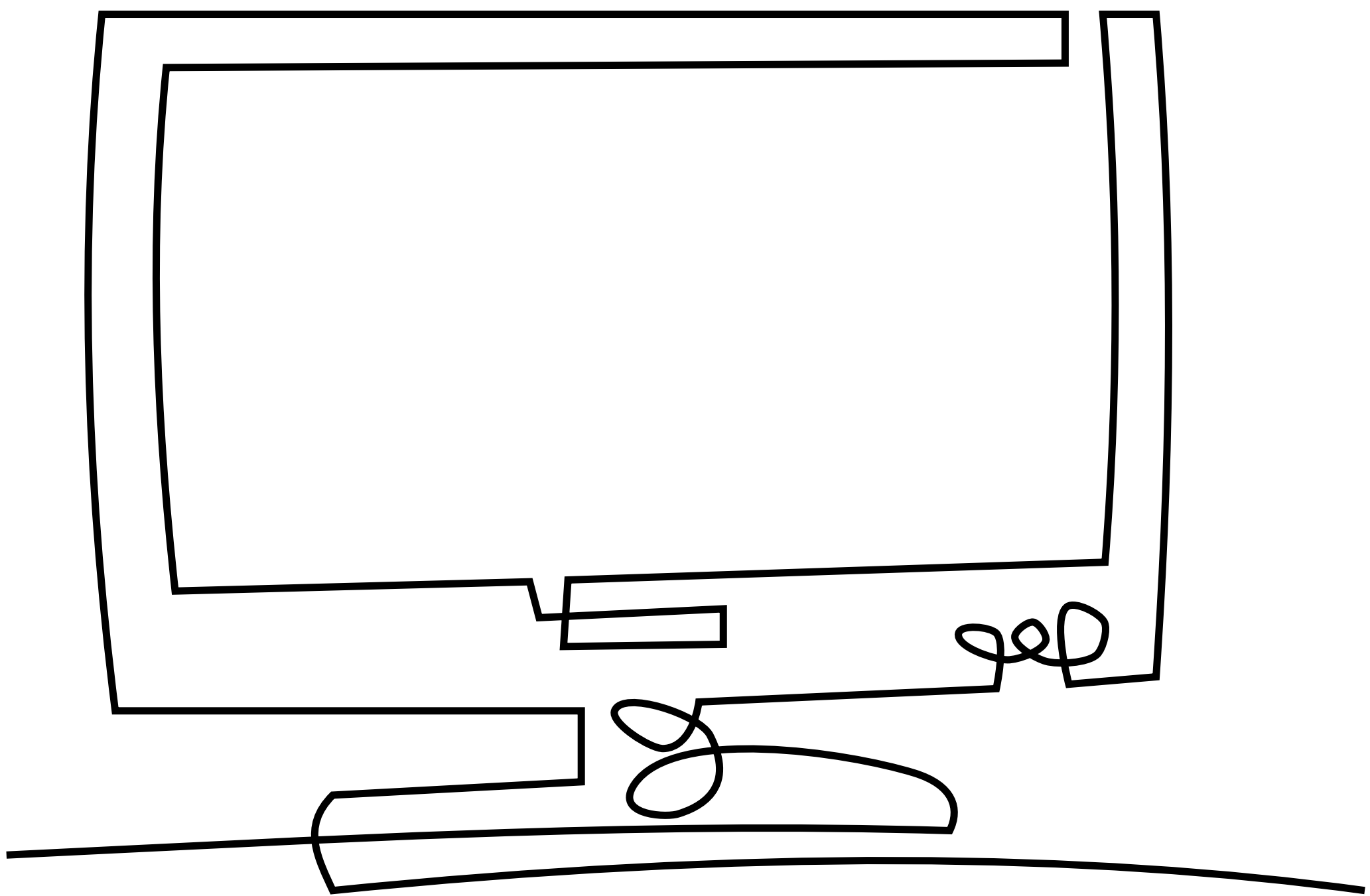
I cast a cake.  
I cut a slice of carrot.  
I broadcast live on youtube  
channel.  
I read a book.  
I lost the ball.  
I nervously shut the door.

Mikołaj Pruszyński



I'd like to cut a tree.  
I cast the ball every day.  
I set my grandma's TV.  
Please shut up.

Nikodem Czerwionka



I've heard the voice of this beard  
for the 1st time!

I'll cast the ball to you after the  
match starts.

I'm broadcasting live on YouTube  
now.

I've been reading this book since  
December.

I forecast I'll hopefully get an A+  
for this short test.

Jan Adamik



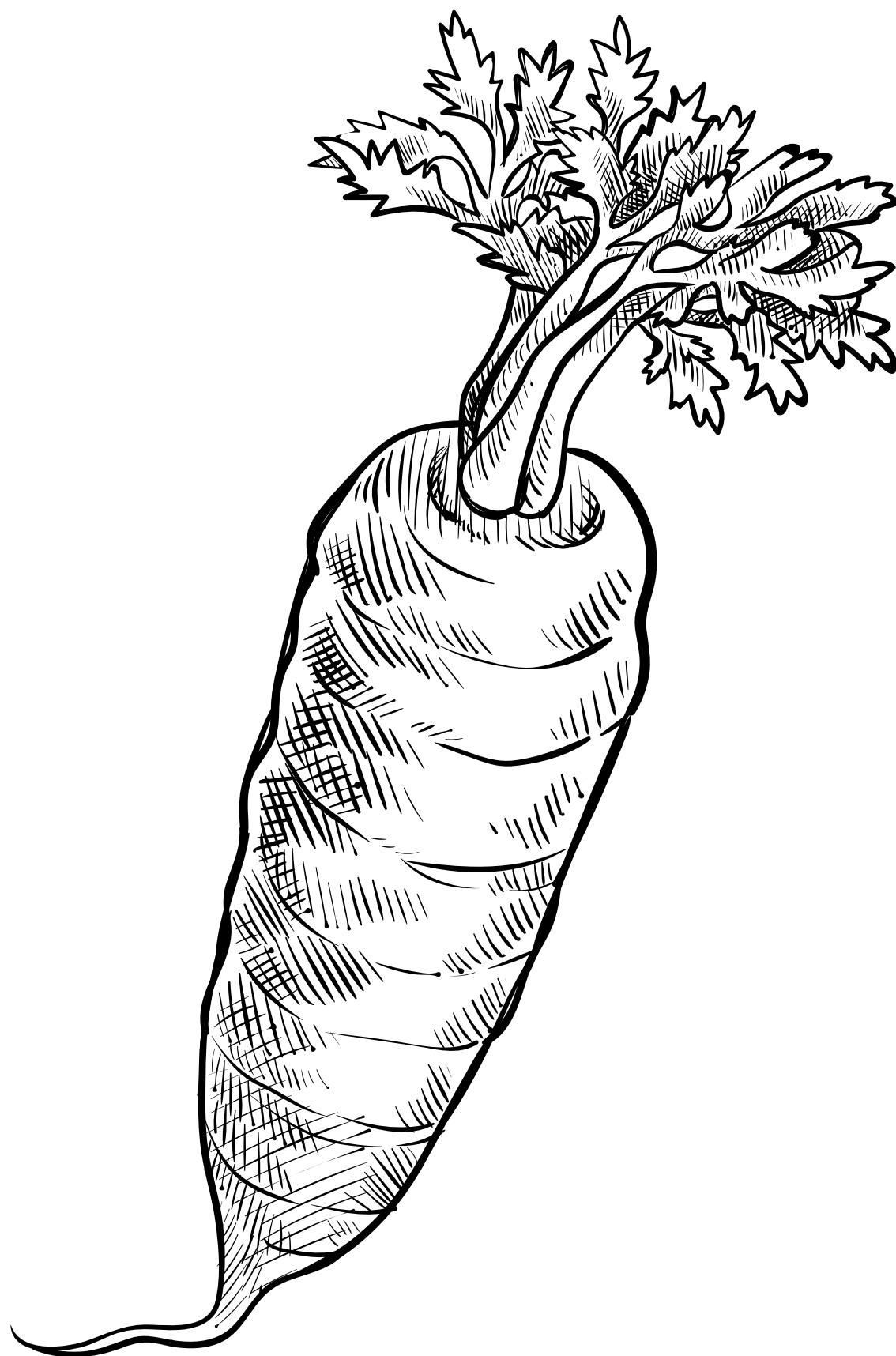
I decided to cut my hair. I won't let my friend do this. I'll shut the door. I like to read books and funny stories from Wattpad. I just put things on their right place.

Maja Kucińska



I'm reading a book.  
You're cutting a carrot.  
He is shutting the doors.

Maciej



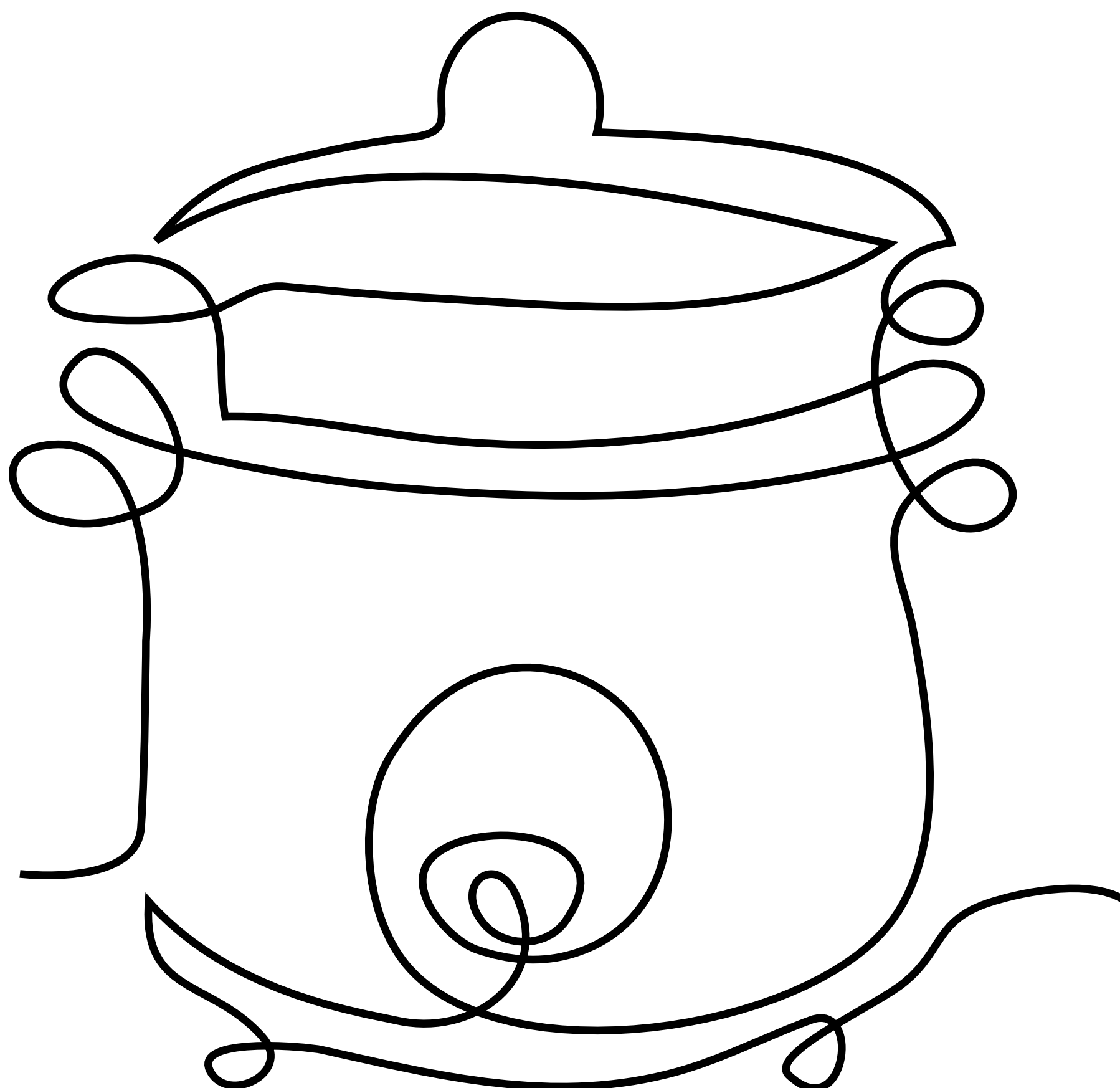


I will cast a spell on the troll.

I read a very boring book.  
There was a weather forecast  
on TV.

I set the oven for 200°C.

Michał Pobłocki



Set some boxes on the table.  
I'm going to put a bed [here].  
He shut the door.  
She loves to read.

Maja Kopecka



My home burnt.  
I learnt biology.  
I dreamt.  
I built home.

Nikodem Czerwionka



I built my new house.

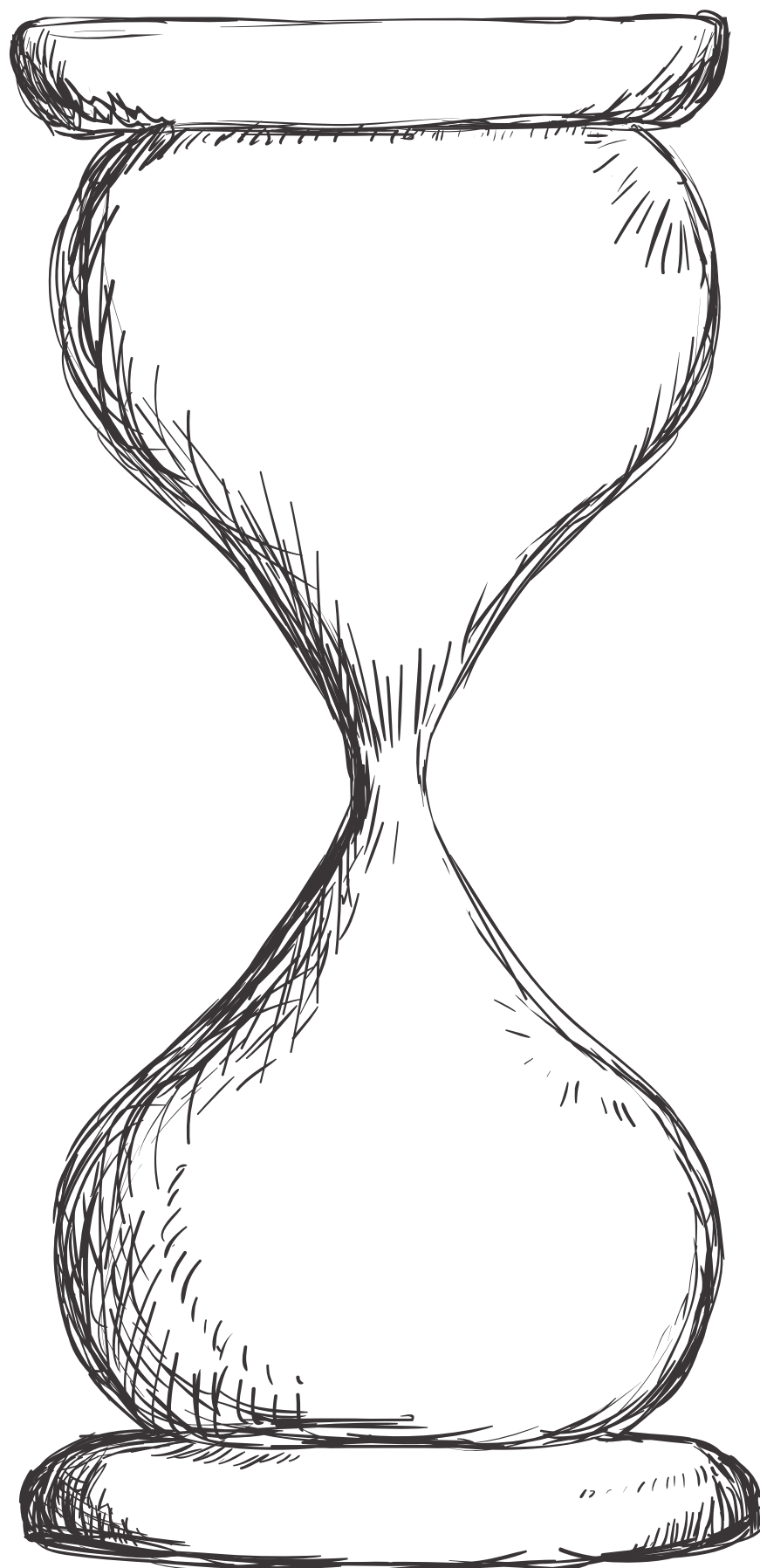
I burnt my test.

I smelt dinner.

I learnt English.

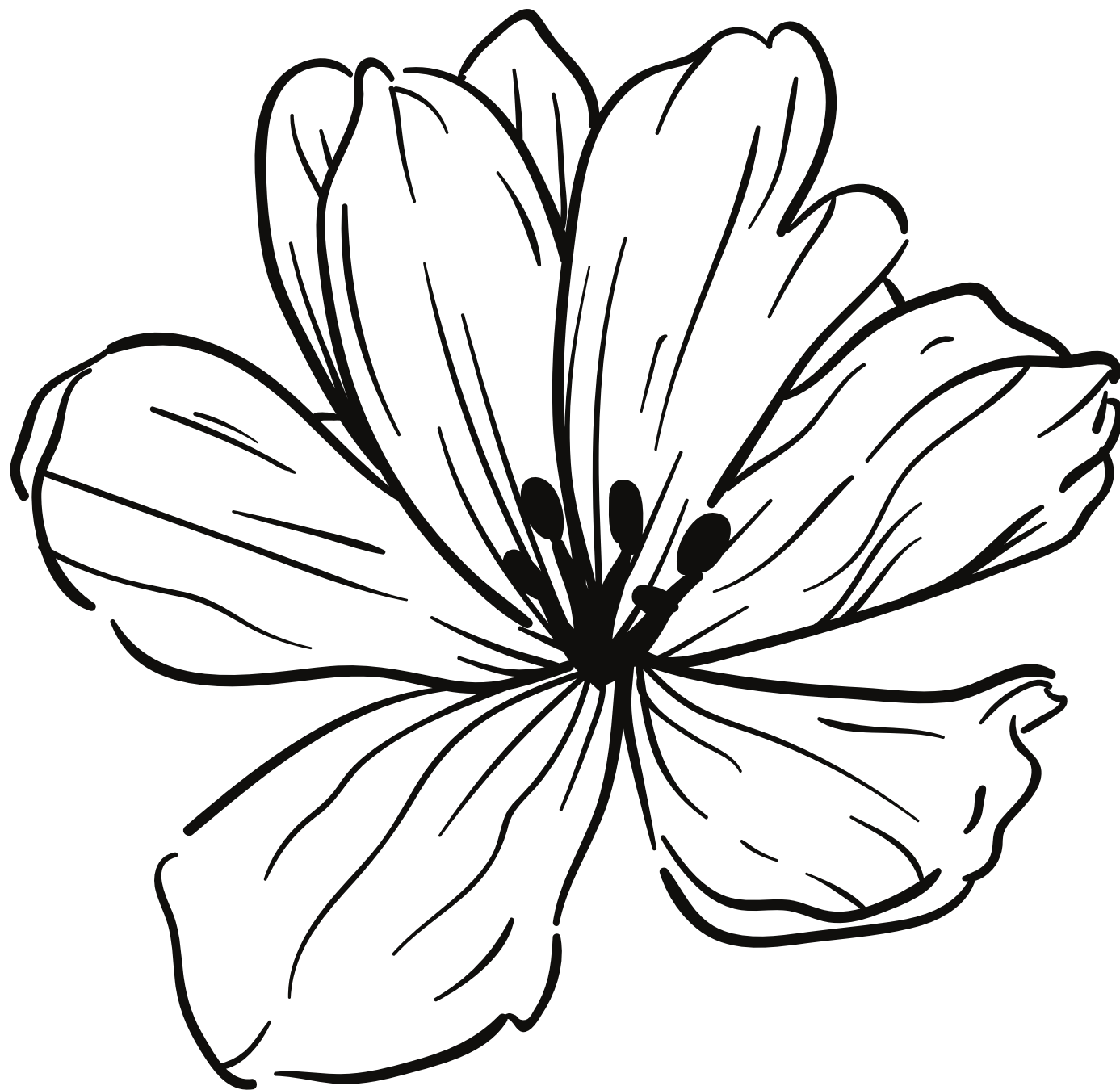
I spent my free time  
with my friends.

Kasia Krzyczkowska



I spend my money on clothes.  
I dream to be a vet doctor.  
My dad built my house.  
Wow, you smell like a flower.  
What do you mean?

Oliwia Wrońska



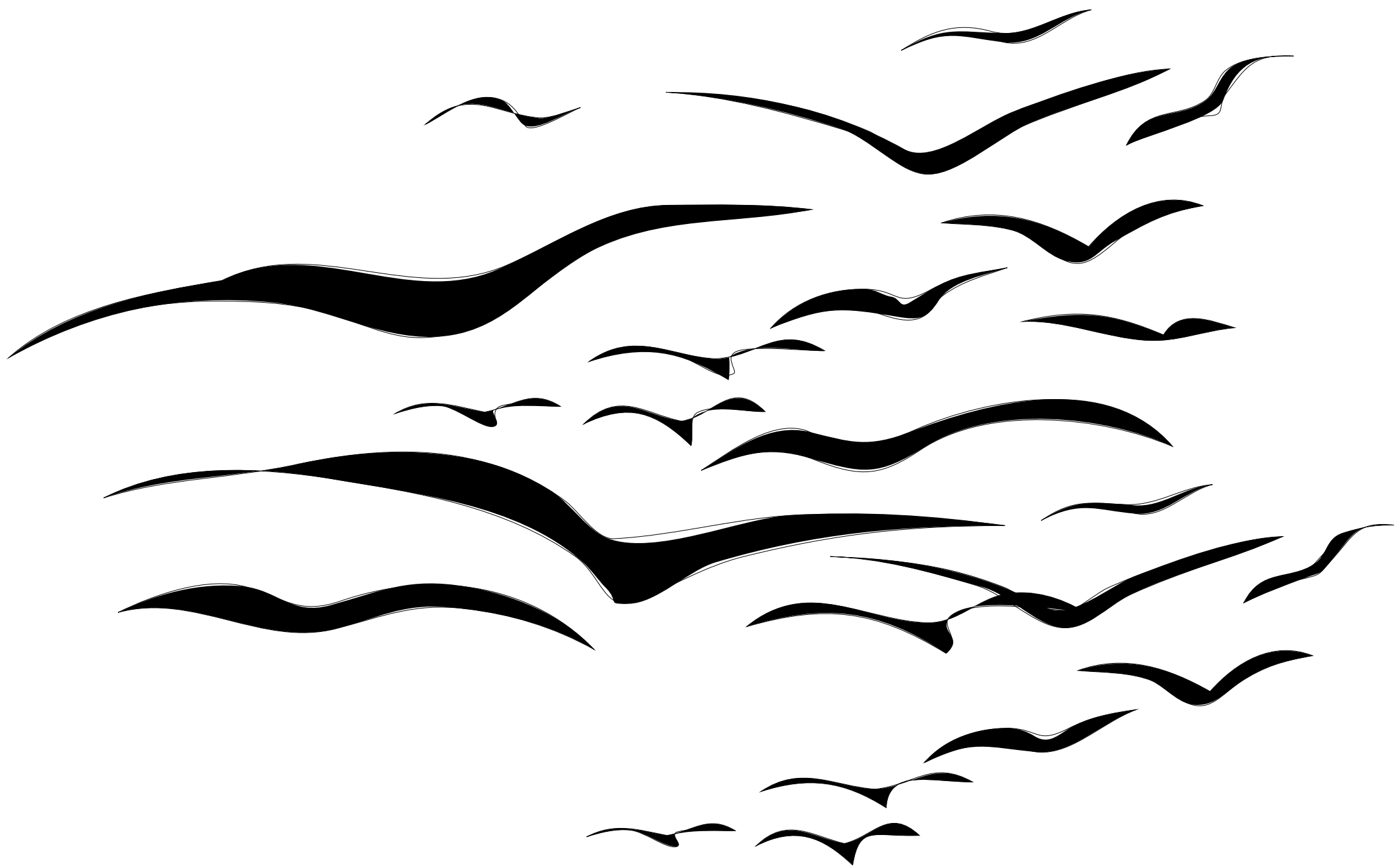
He built a mini dollhouse.  
You burnt a book.  
I learnt the Finnish language.  
You dreamt about my future.  
I lent you some money.  
I sent you sad messages.  
Learn means study.

Nastazja Dobrowolska



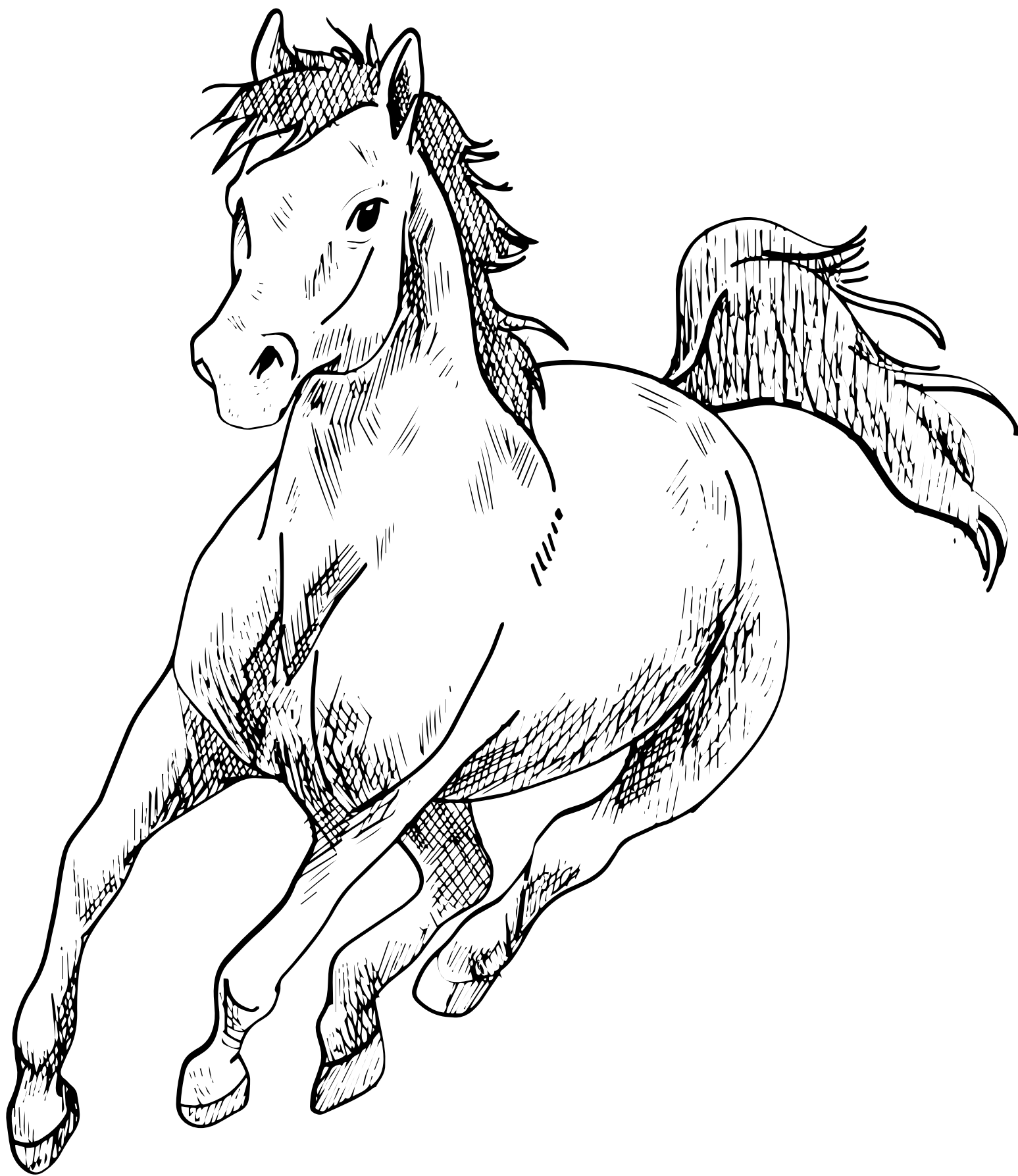
This year I was on Jamaica.  
Birds are beautiful animals.  
Eat snickers because you  
are not you when you  
are hungry.  
I like computers and computer  
games of course.

Mikołaj Pruszyński



I sent an e-mail.  
I learnt English.  
I dreamt about a horse.  
I built a house.

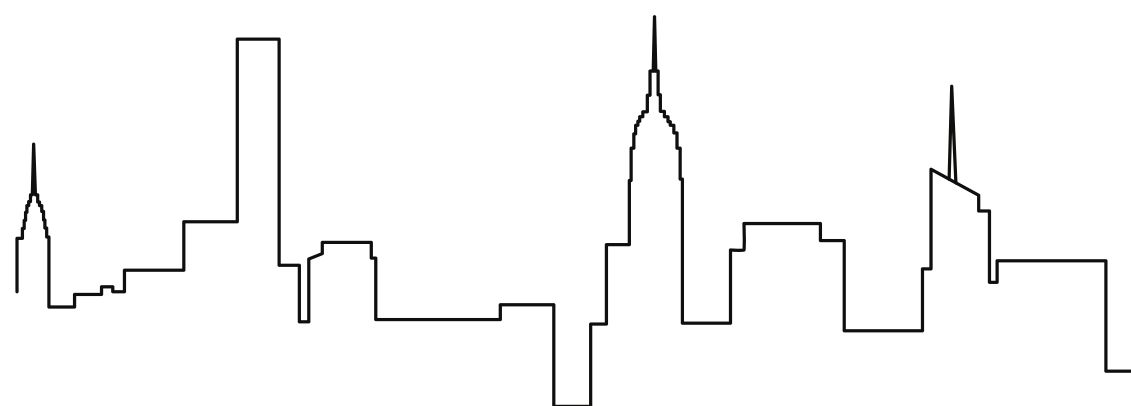
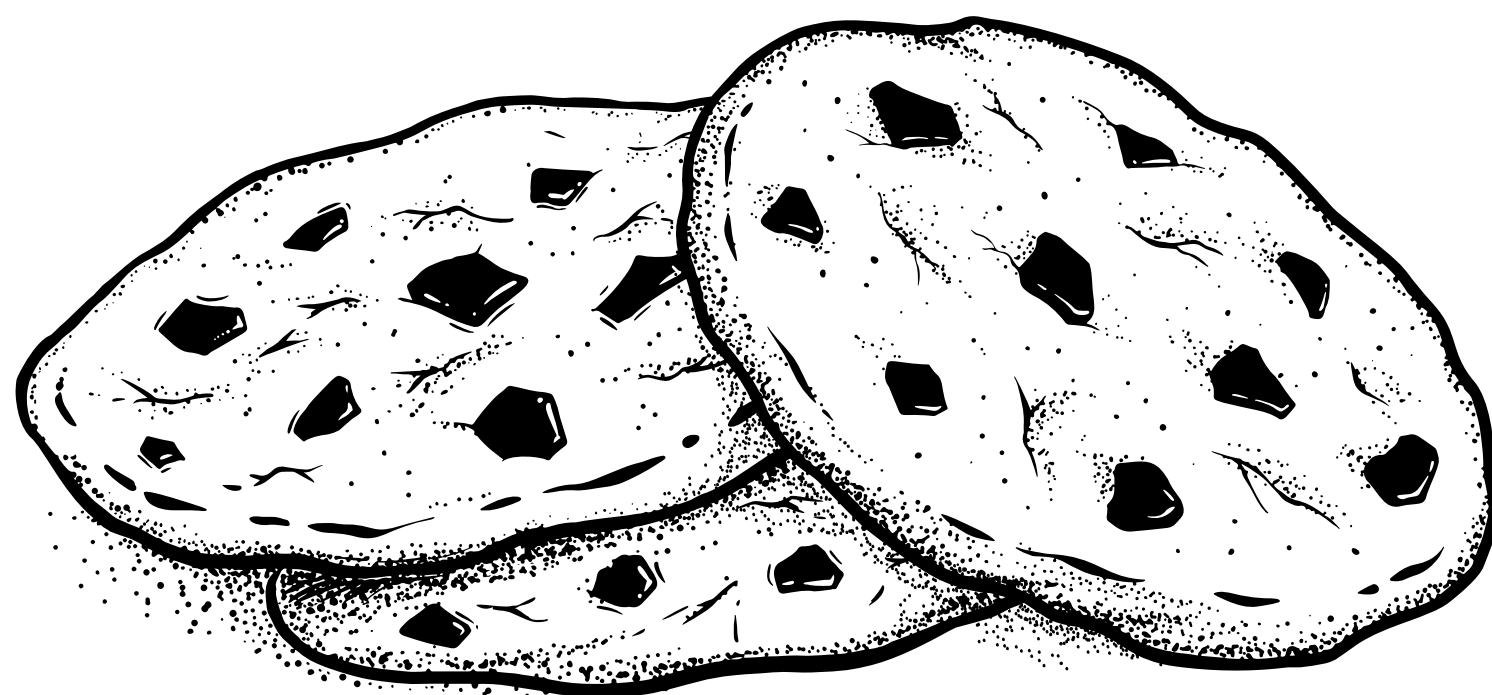
Julia N.





This candle smells so good!  
I learnt a lot from this book.  
I had a beautiful dream.  
It's meant to be like this.  
I built a nice cookie house.  
I sent it to New York.

Michał Kliński



I once had a really weird dream.  
I dreamt that I built a big castle  
out of money.

I then burnt most of it and spent  
the rest on a lot of rocks.

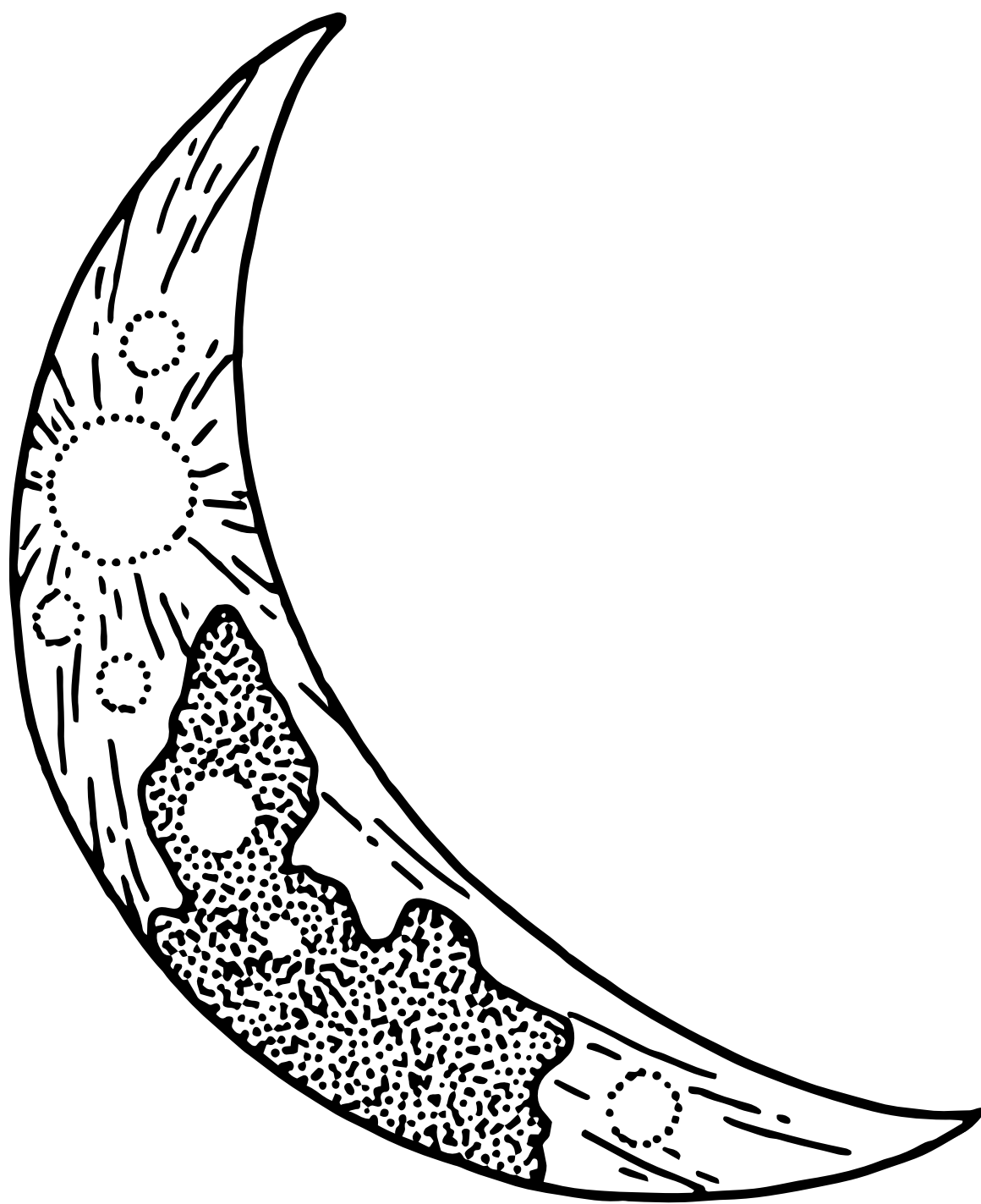
At the end I sent a letter to my  
mom that I am a rock now.

Michał Pobołocki



We have to sleep well  
to be well rested.  
We plan to meet tomorrow.  
You have to speed up  
to get to the store.

Dominik K.

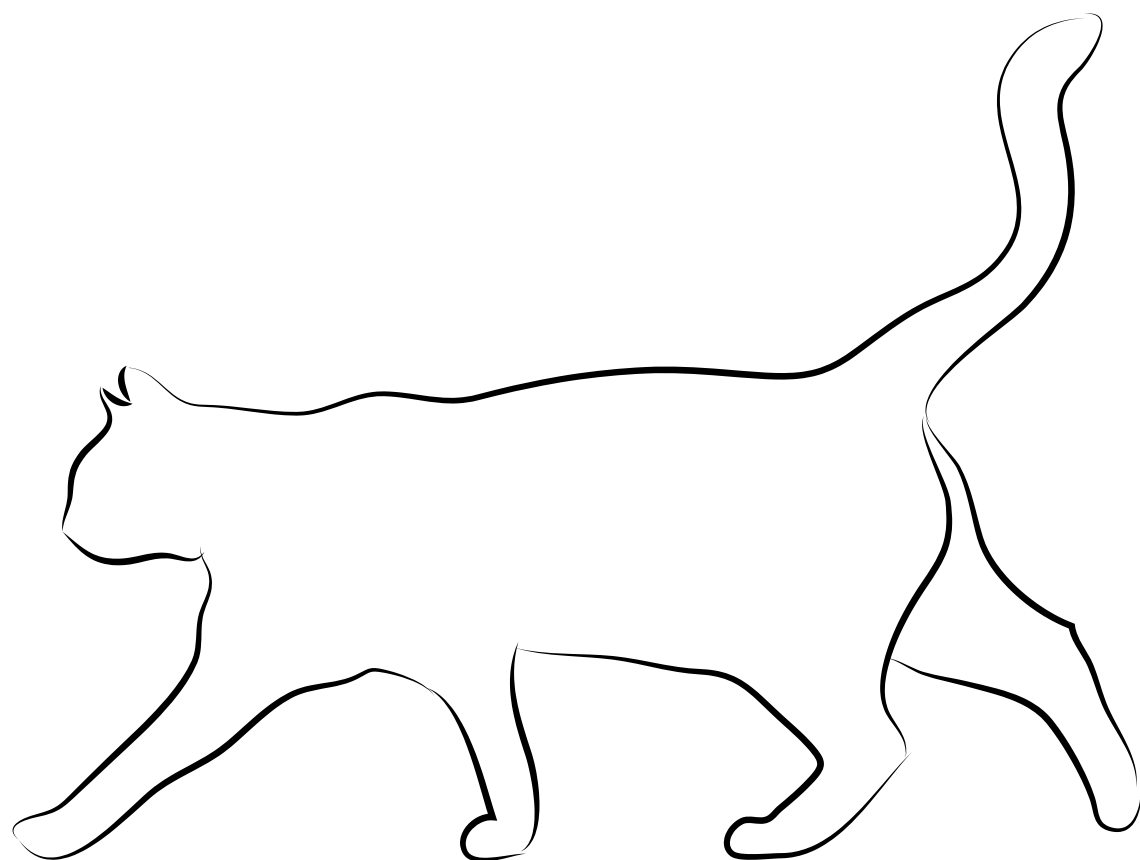


I read that book yesterday.  
This cost a lot of money.  
I put the remote near the TV.  
We let my cat go outside.

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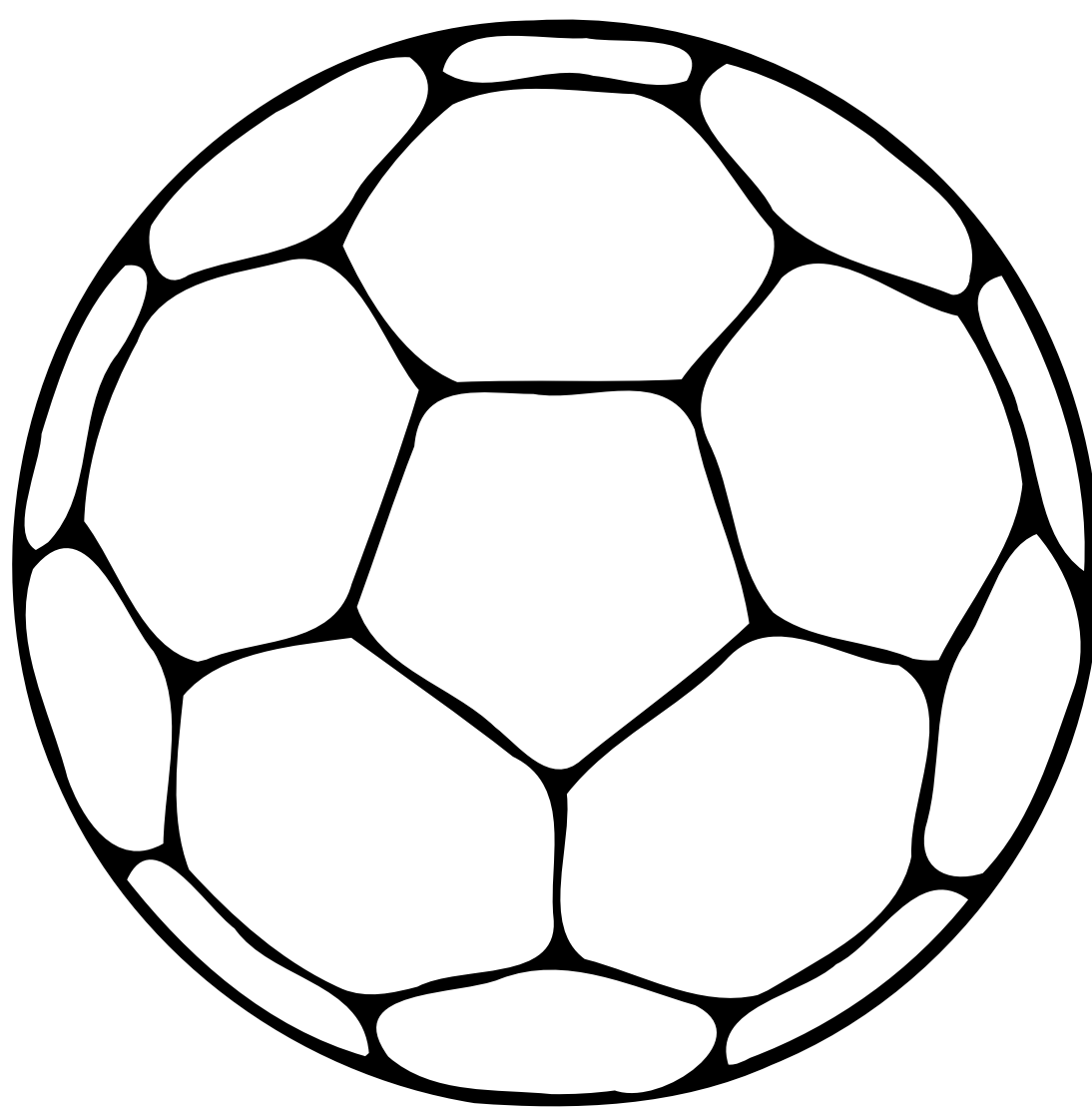
I fed my cat.  
He slept very shortly.  
The guide led the trip.  
They kept their dog at home.

Michał K.



I sweep my room.  
I feed my dog.  
I go to sleep.  
I keep the Ball.  
I want to Be a leader.

Michał

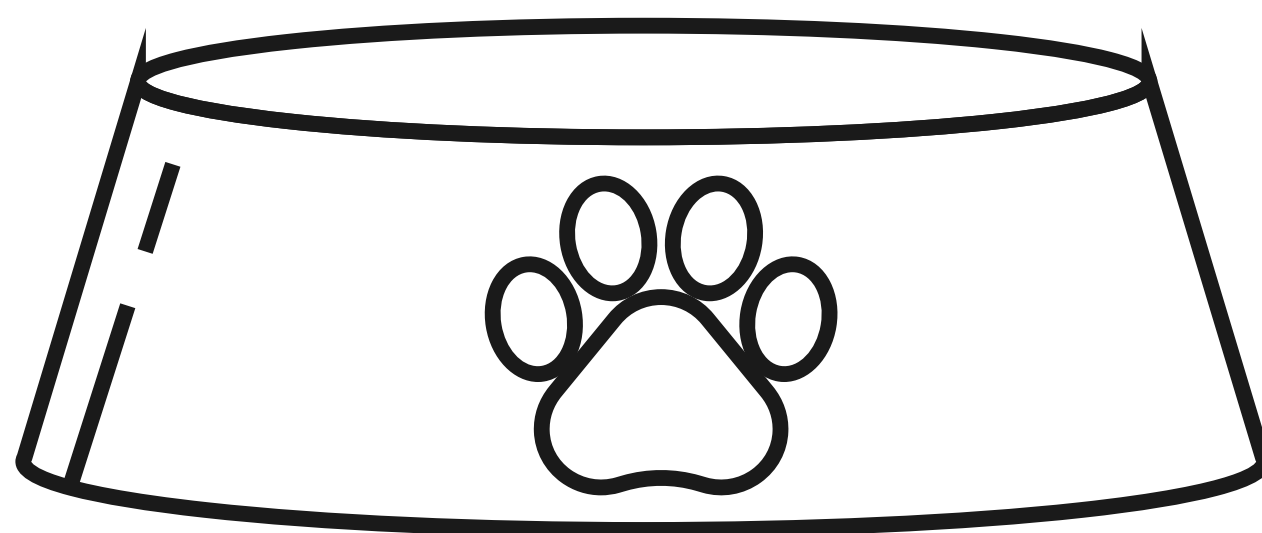


My sister's dog slept on my bed.  
I met my friends in Galeria Forum.

I fed my dog  
because it was very hungry.

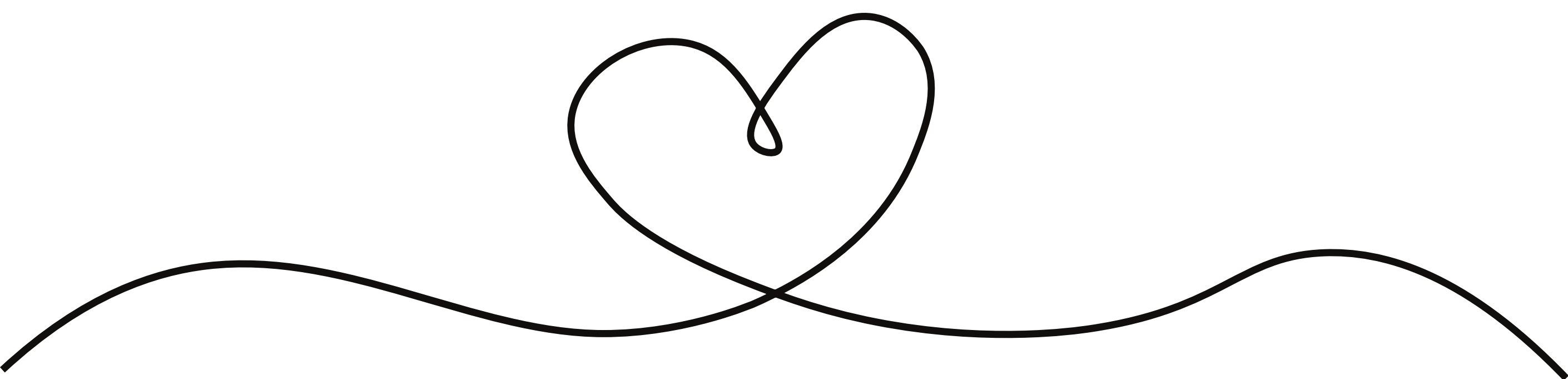
I swept my room  
because it was very dirty.

Kasia Krzyczkowska



I sleep only five hours.  
I feel lonely.  
I feed my dog every day.  
I meet my friends at school.

Oliwia Wrońska



I fed my big black dog.

You held my hand.

I slept too much on Saturday.

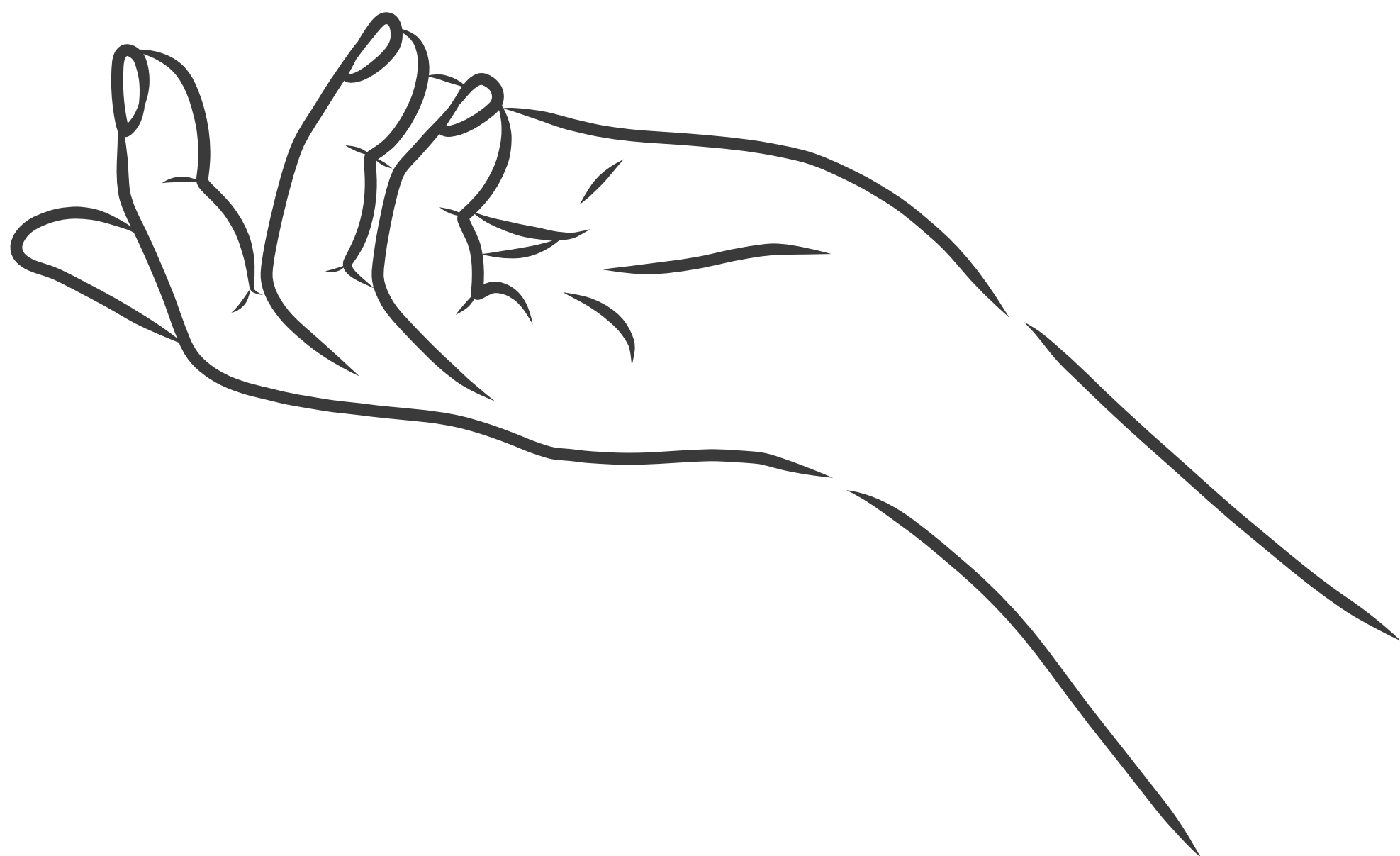
I met my new teacher in a shop.

I felt a hand on my arm and I saw  
a witch.

I swept my room, and it looks  
great.

I sped because I was late for  
school.

Marta Czerwionka





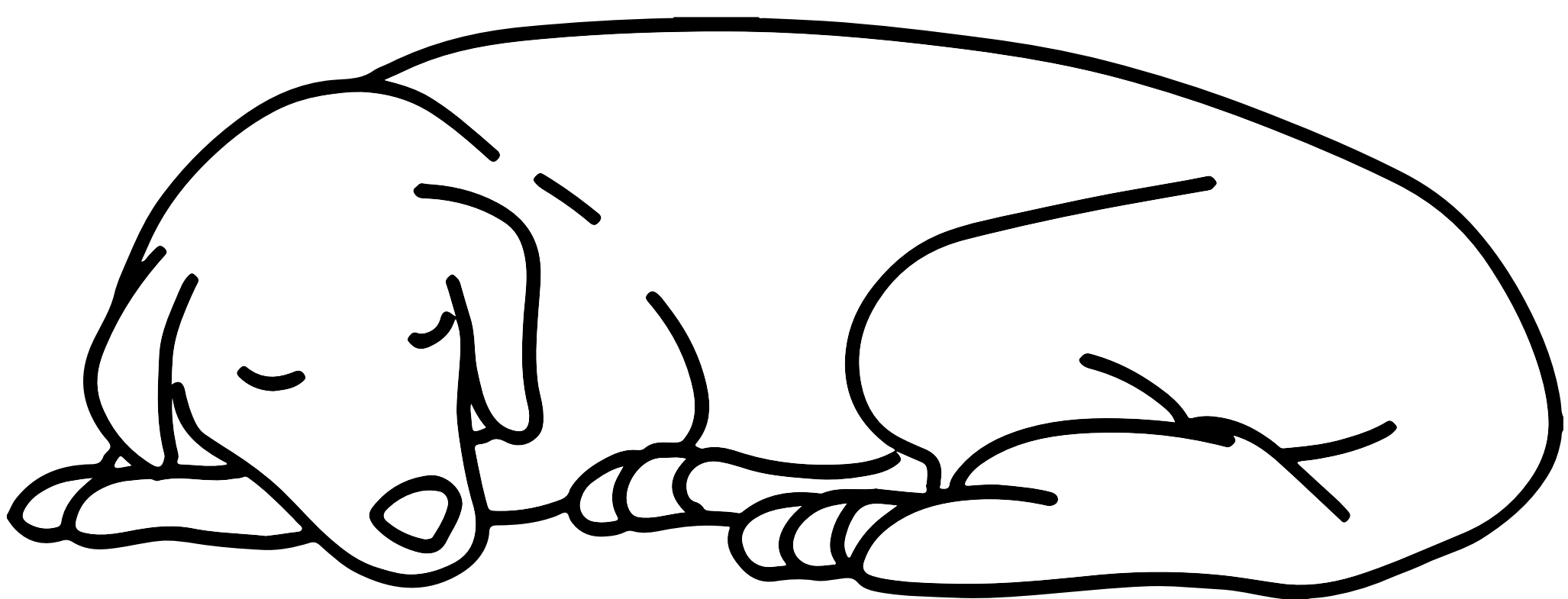
I slept on my bed.  
You fed my doggy.  
He felt so excited.  
She met her buddy.  
He swept the floor.  
You kept a pen.  
She wept cuz her dog is sick.  
You led our group.

Nastazja Dobrowolska



Yesterday I went to the vet  
with my 13-year-old dog.  
I never thought my dog would  
stop walking or standing.  
Now I'm crying. Tomorrow I'll find  
out if I need to put my dog down.  
I am yet to receive a message.

Szymon Skonieczny

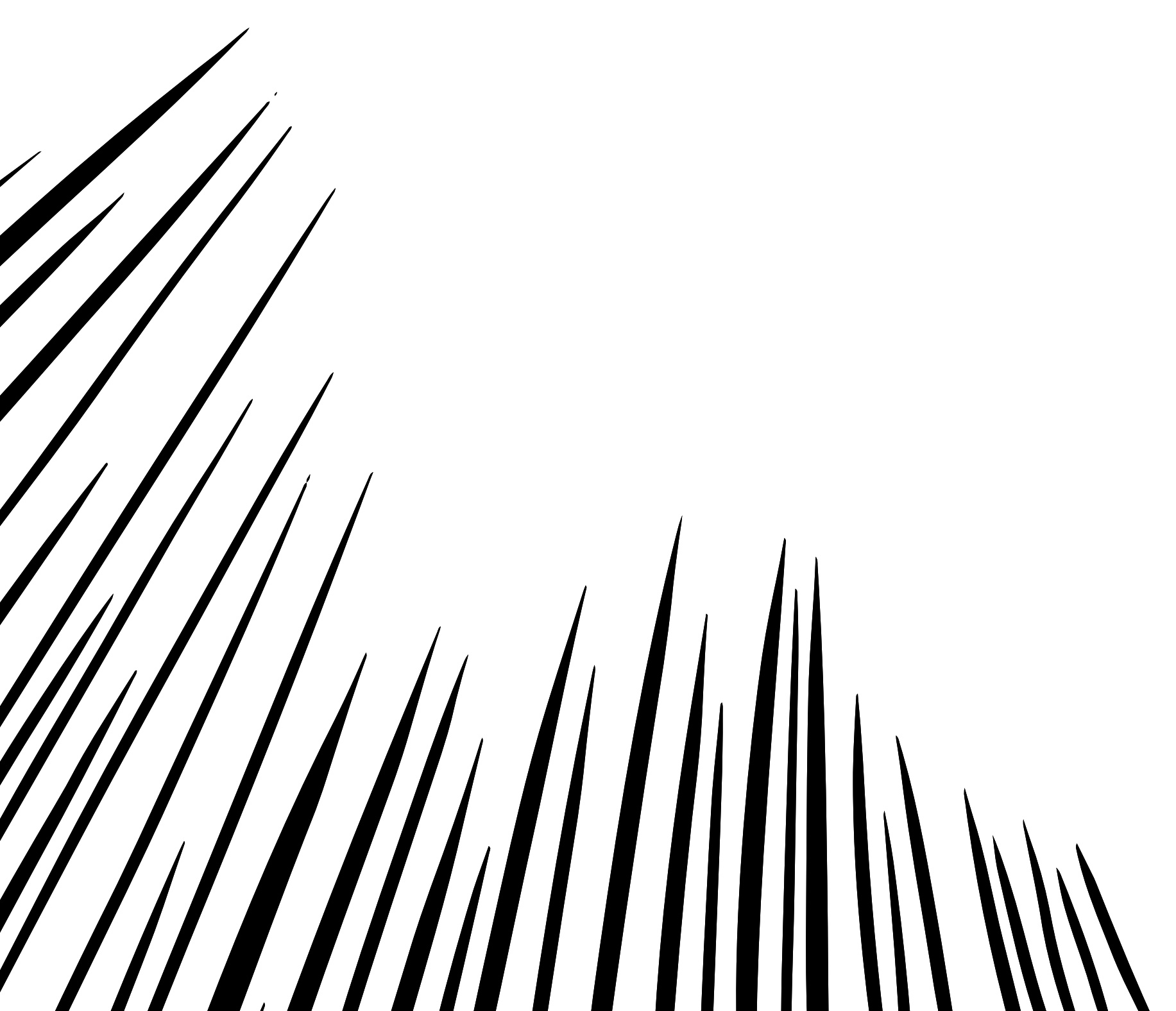


You slept for 12 hours, that's  
half a day.

Can you speed up because  
we're going to be late.

I met James three years ago.  
He felt sad because his dog died.

Jan Adamik



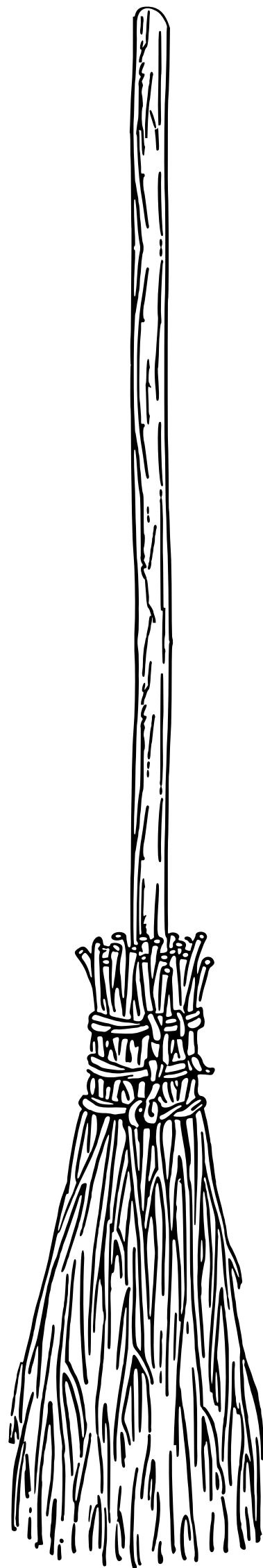
I think we've already met.  
I've fed the dog.  
I felt something touch me in my  
sleep.  
I've led a good life.

Alan Paszewski



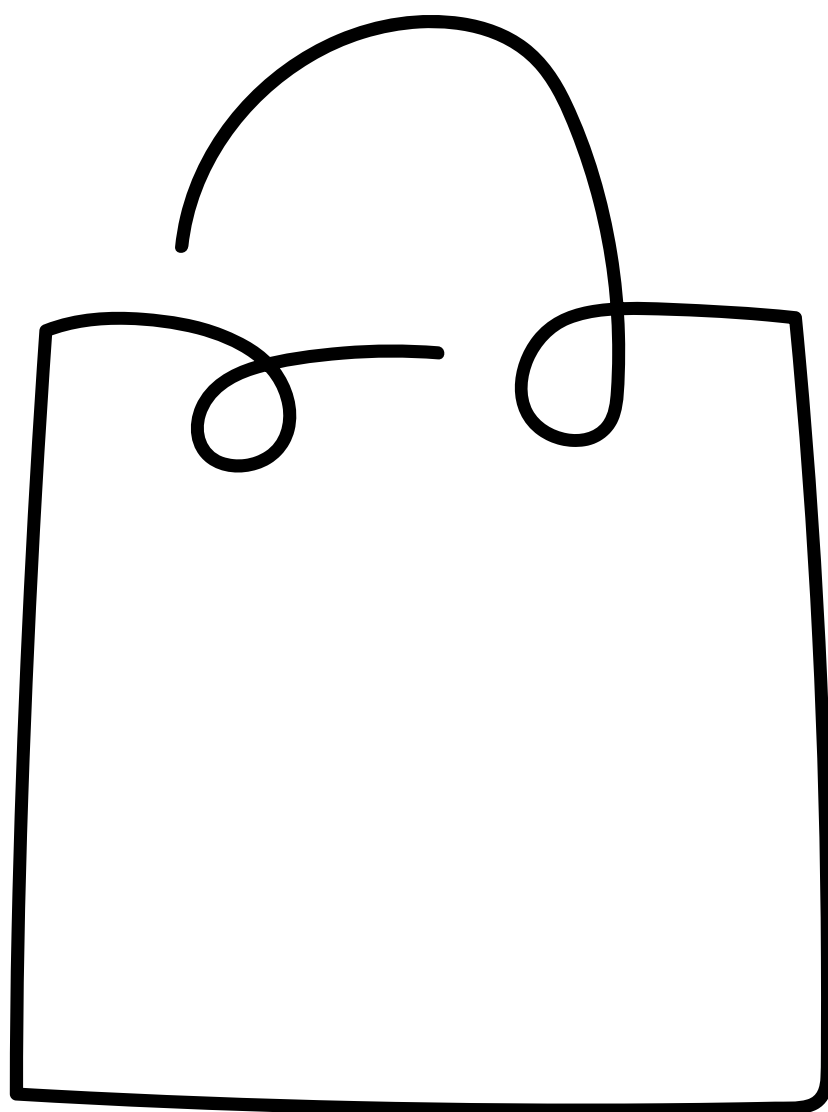
Your mum slept well.  
The witch took the broom  
and swept the floor.

Maja Kopecka



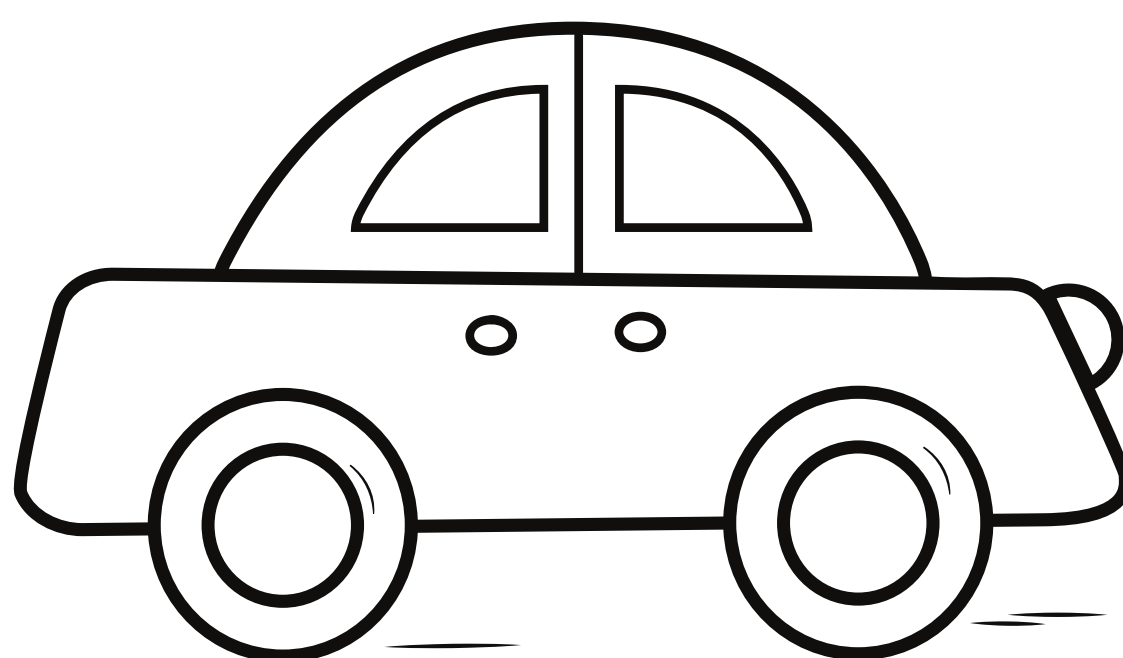
My brother must do the shopping. But he forgets to take his bag and cash. The cashier allows him to pay later. Later mom drives to that shop to pay for his shopping.

Dominik K.



One day I went to a toy shop.  
I bought a car and I brought it to  
school. I thought that nobody saw  
it but my friend did. He started  
a fight for that car until finally  
a teacher came and said that that  
behaviour was very bad. She said,  
“You have to be nice to each  
other!” And then everything was  
fine, finally.  
And we were best friends.

Wiktoria Okuniewska



I sold my home and garden.  
He paid for the sofa.  
She caught a basketball.  
I took a pen and went to school.  
You teach English.

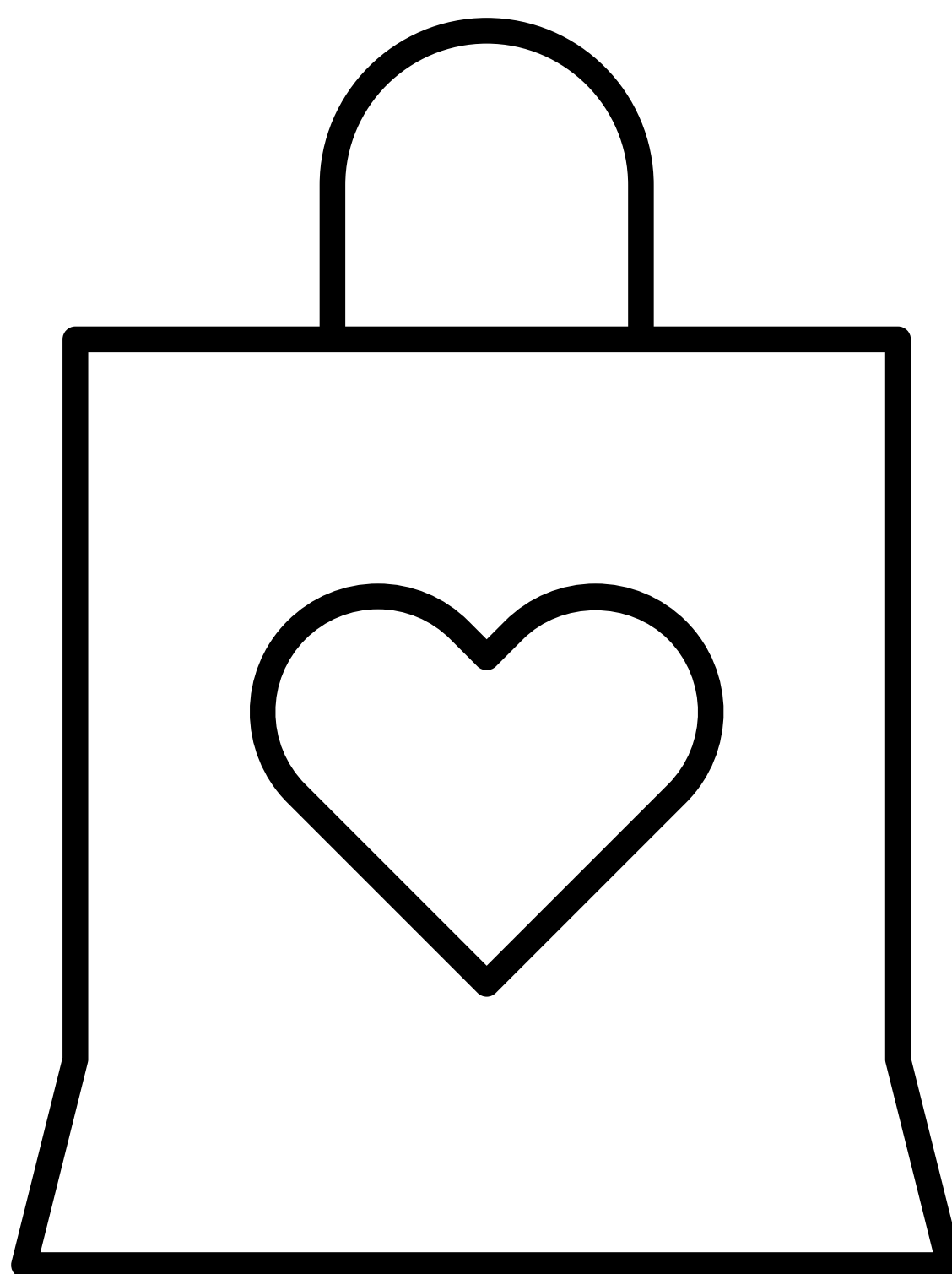
Maja Kopecka





I catch another T-shirt. I think it's perfect. I say to the saleswoman, "I take it". She tells me this T-shirt is discounted. I pay by card and, happy, go home.

Oliwia Wrońska



I go to a shop. I take a bottle  
of water.

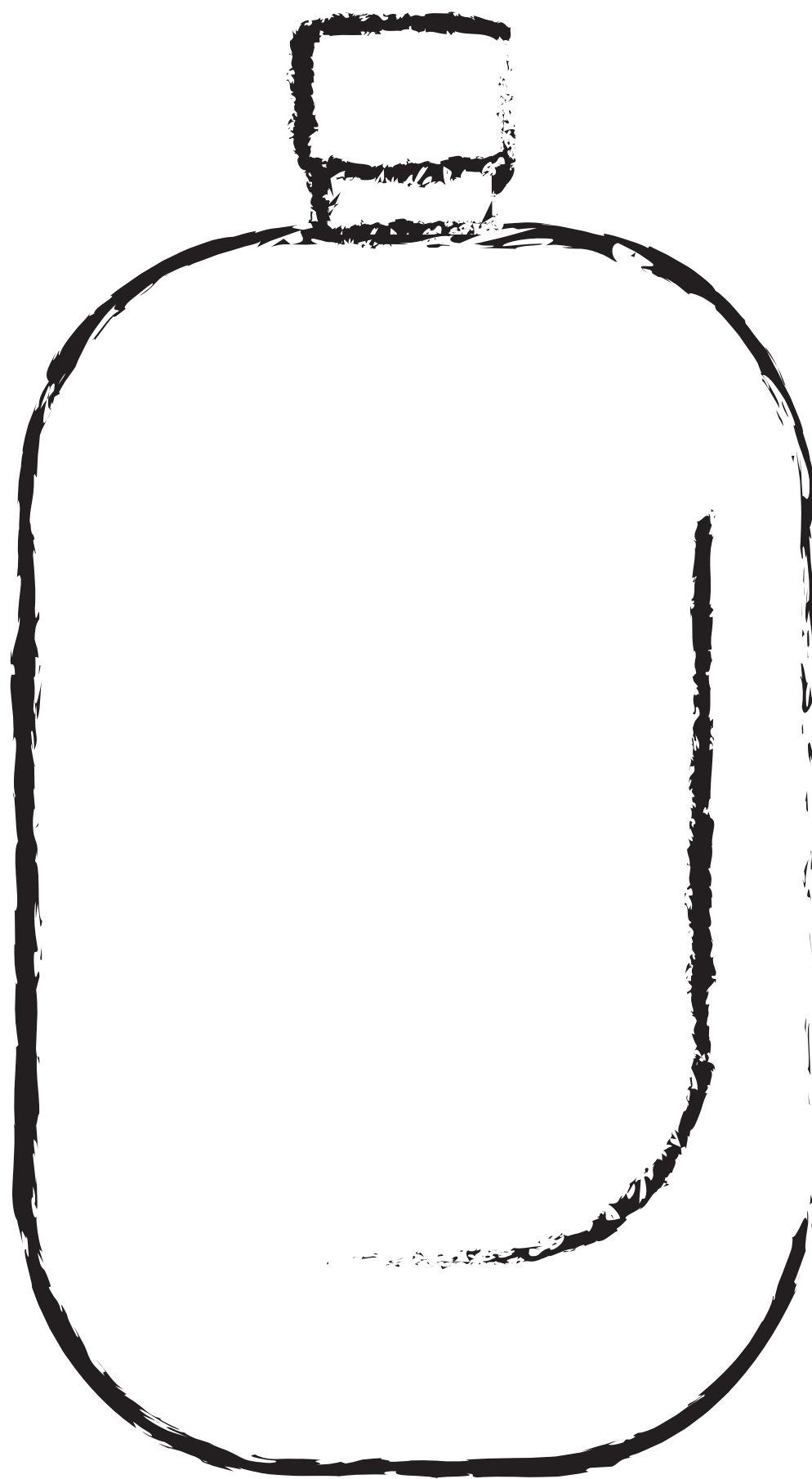
I say to the water where I will  
bring this water.

The cashier tells me "Here".

I go to the cashier and I say "I'll  
buy it with my credit card".

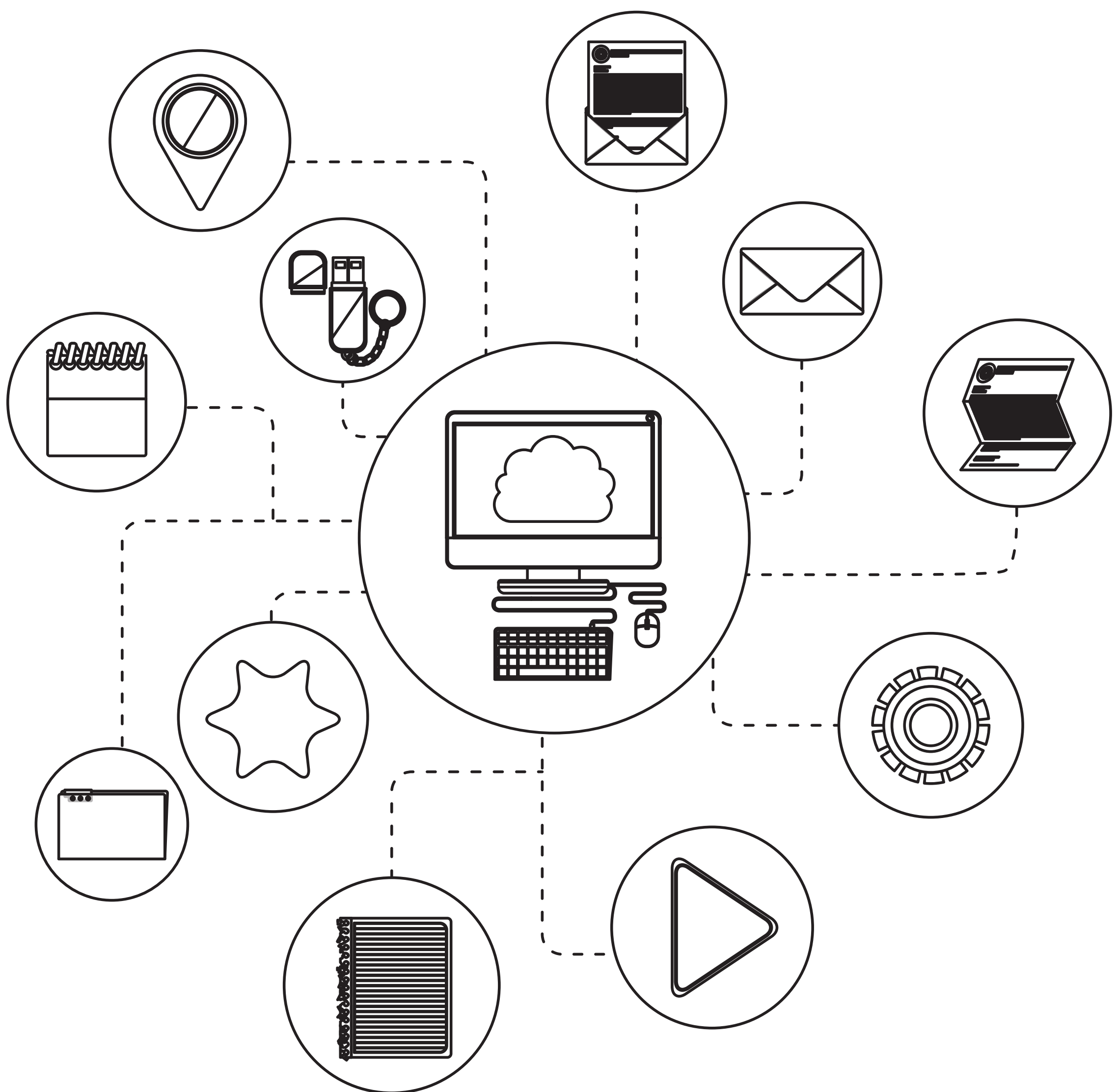
I pay and I go to my house.

Michał



Yesterday I sold my computer.  
I bought something in a shop.  
I brought a phone to school.  
I thought about pizza.

Oskar K.



I told him to take a sandwich  
from the table  
but he bought one  
in the market.

Then the principal told me  
that he got into a fight  
and he was caught cheating  
in the test.

I sold his toys 4 being  
a terrible kid.

Michał Kliński

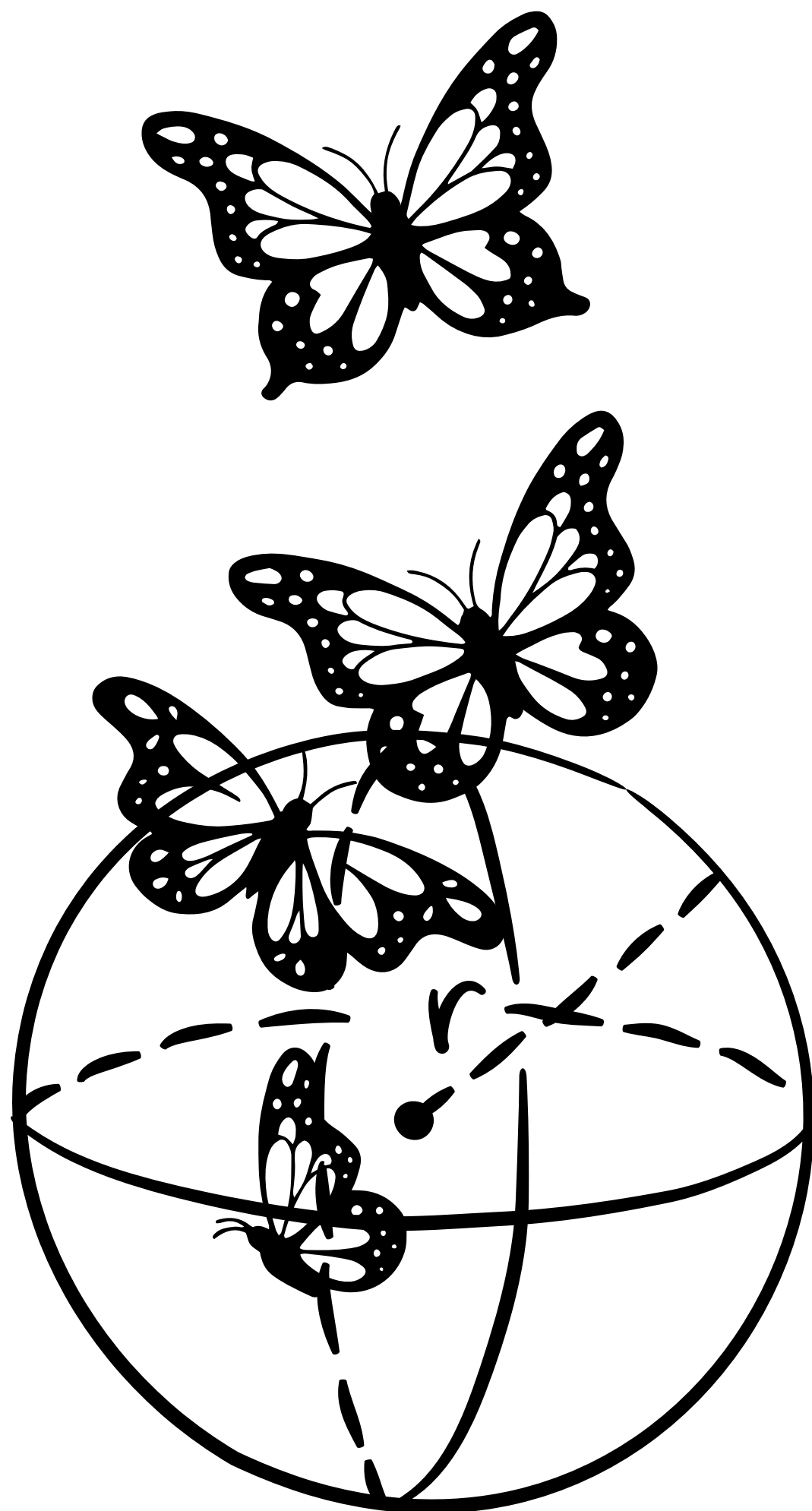


I tell my friend something in  
secret.

I sell my clients fast food.  
I think about my boyfriend.

I study maths.  
I catch butterflies.

Julia N.

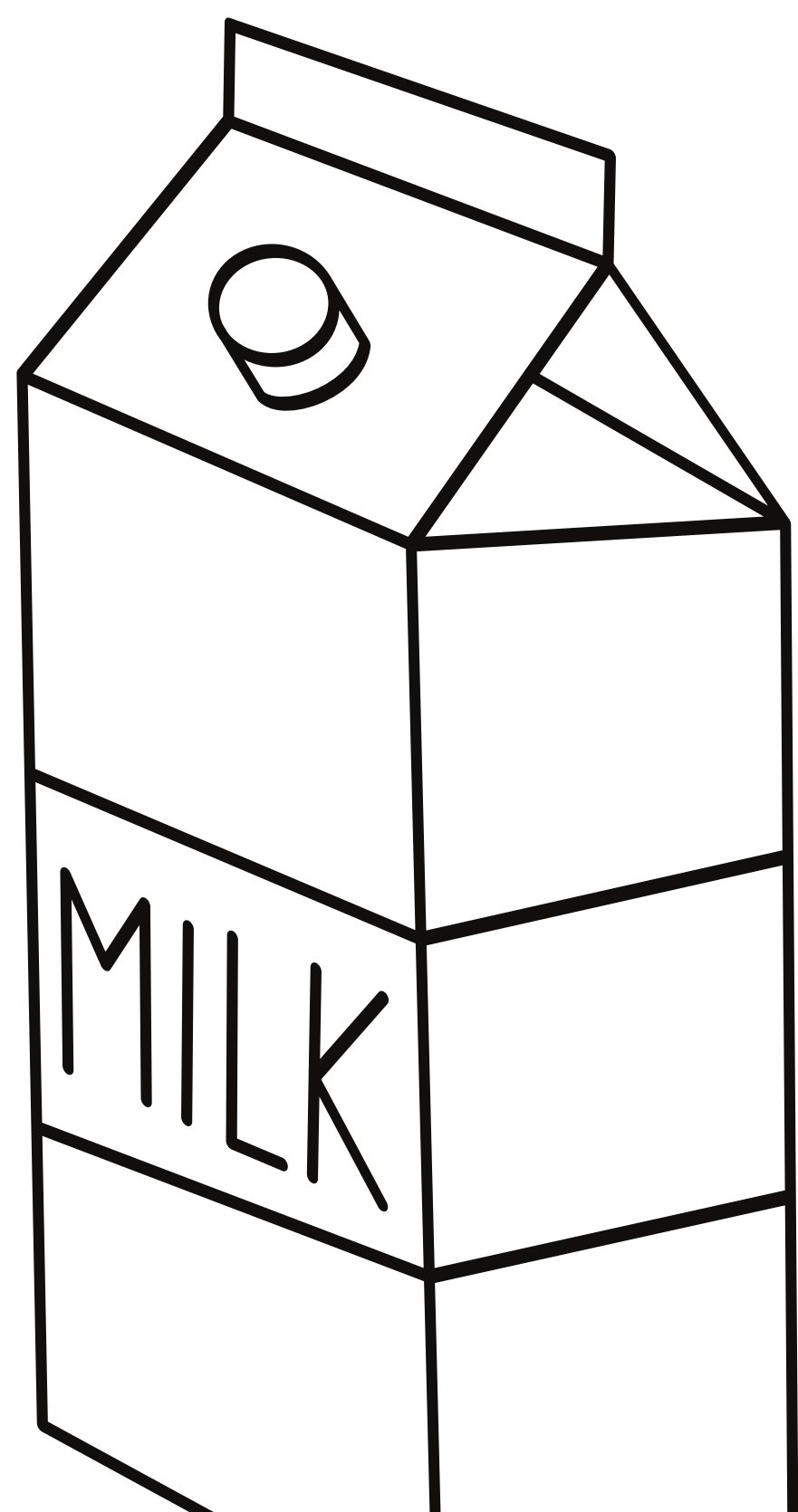


$$V = \frac{4}{3} \pi r^3$$



One day I went to buy some milk because I like to shake it. After I bought it, I was kidnapped. When I woke up, they took me to their leader. I thought, "What does this mean?" I fought them but it was no good. The leader said that he wanted my milk so I gave it to them and they released me.

Michał Pobłocki



You bought a new black car  
last month.

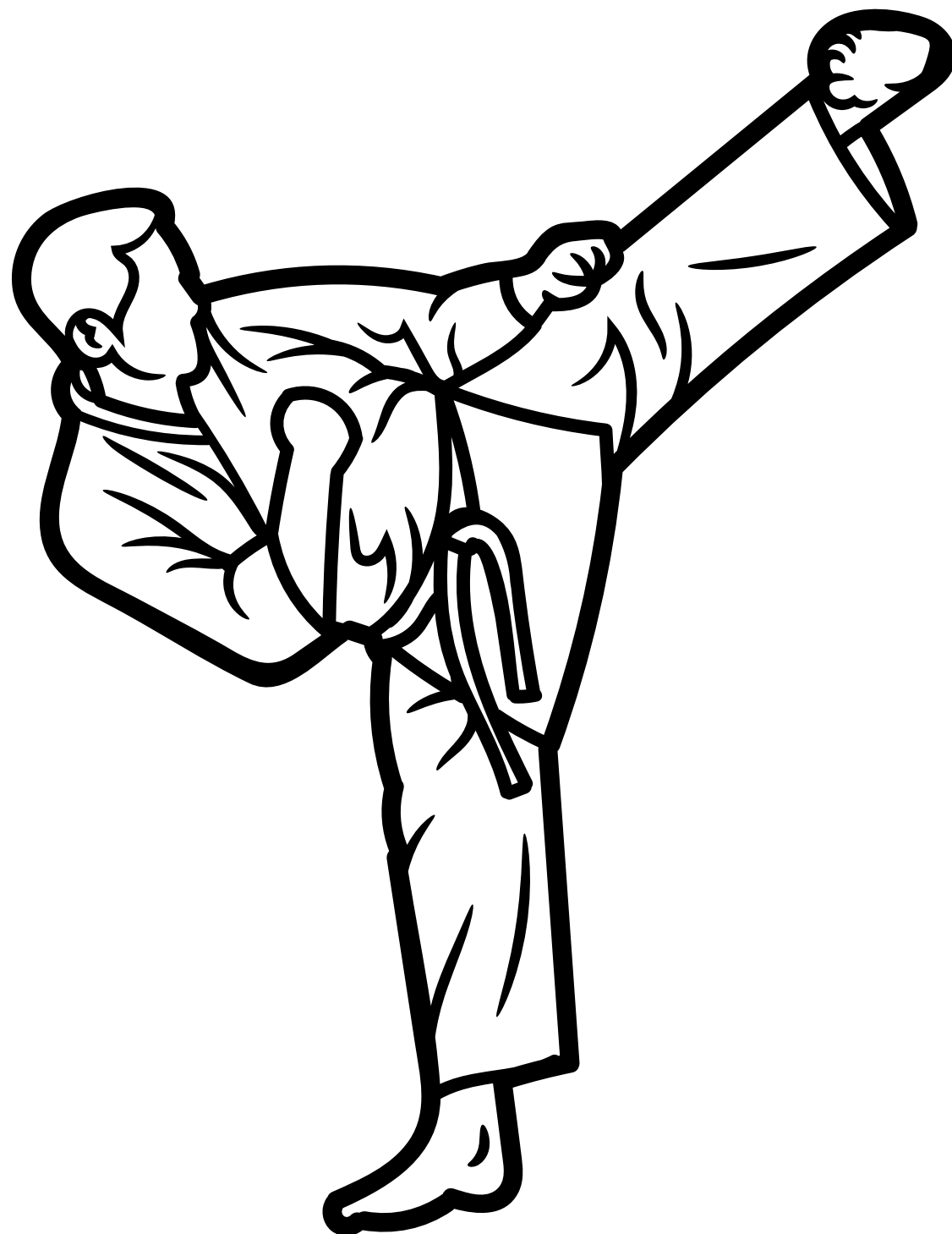
I sold a phone last year.

Wow! You fought like Bruce Lee!

You taught by your example.

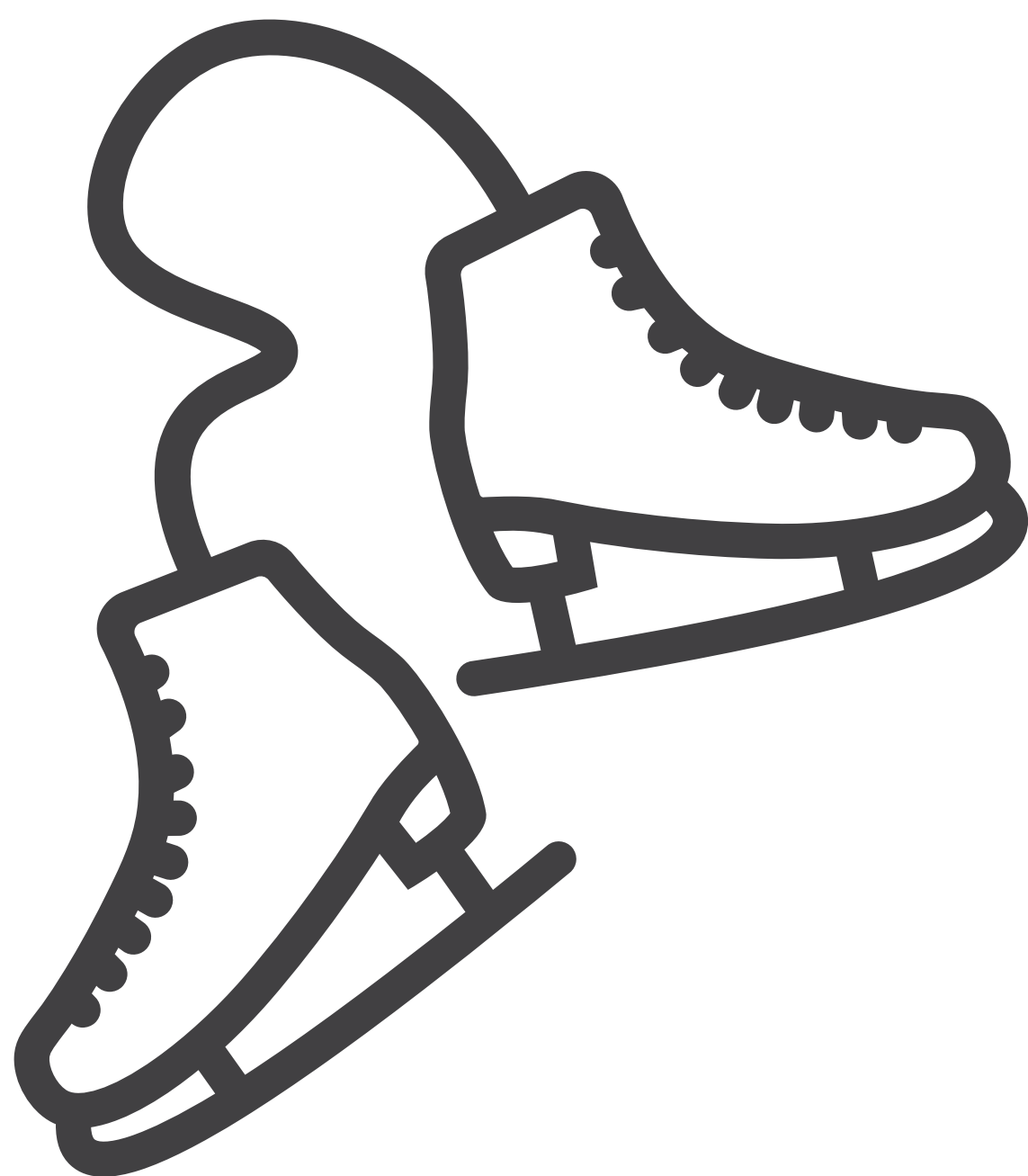
I tell you "Be careful!"

Natalia Ptak



Yesterday I bought ice skates.  
Today I had an ice skating lesson,  
and the instructor taught me  
everything. I paid for the lesson  
and went home. After I told my  
family I did well, they were very  
happy. Now I think about going to  
these lessons more often.

Michał K.





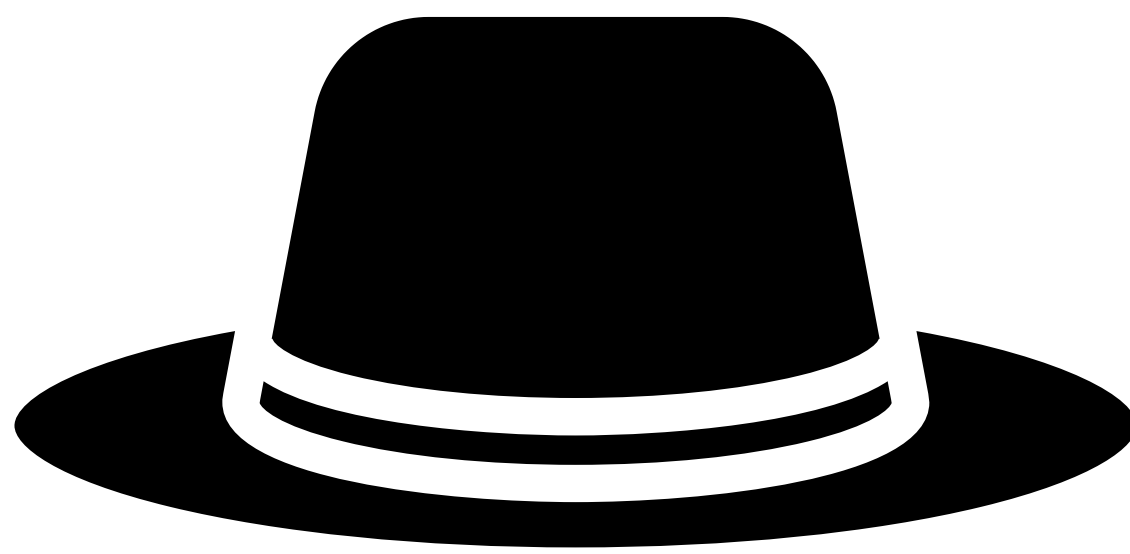
My brother drew a dog yesterday.  
My mother threw a ball at my  
brother.  
You never blow flowers.  
You always swear.  
I'm wearing blue next Saturday.

Maja Kopecka



I'm drawing a house.  
I grew a lot this year.  
I wore a hat yesterday.  
My friend always wears  
a red shirt.  
He will fly to London  
next Saturday.

Michał K.



-Hi! How are you?  
- My cat is very little!  
Love him!

Natalia R.



- Hi Betty, your mum buys so much milk! Why? Maybe your mum adopted a lot of cats. I love cats.

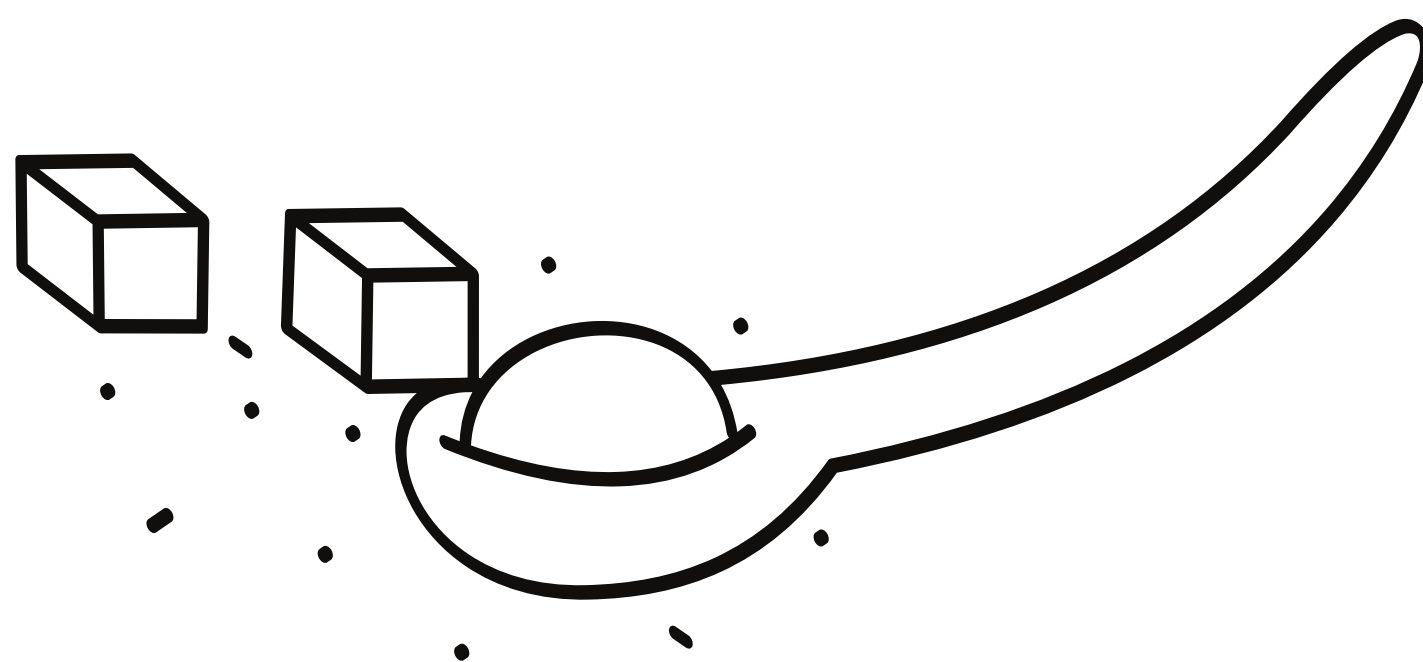
- Nooo! She doesn't like cats.

- Maybe she likes swimming in a lot of milk?

- Yes, and she throws some sugar in the shower. She buys a little sugar in that supermarket.

- Your mum is so crazy!

Kasia Krzyczkowska



What do you do in your free  
time?

I always draw in my notebook.  
Now my parrot is flying in the  
room.

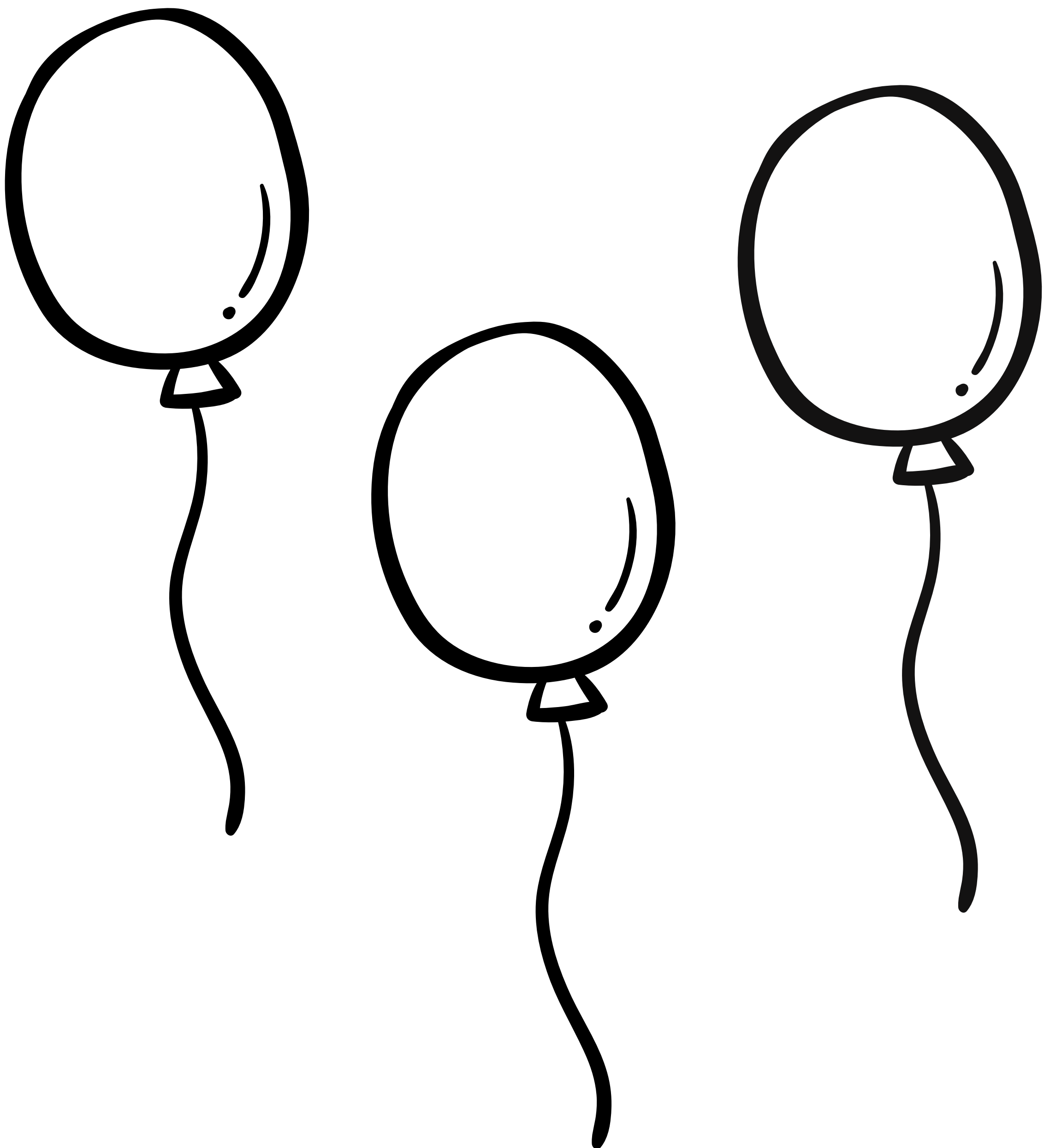
I already know what I need.  
My grandmother never grew  
carrots in her garden.

Nadia Semblewska



I never throw a book in the school. Now I'm blowing balloons for my best friend. She always wears blue jeans.

Agata



Mom, I paid.  
This pizza was not expensive.  
No, I did not say broccoli.  
I said cucumber!

Natalia Ptak



How much experience  
do you have with potatoes?

I love potatoes.  
I have a lot of potatoes.  
I've gotten much more  
potatoes.  
I have a few spare potatoes.

Where are your potatoes?

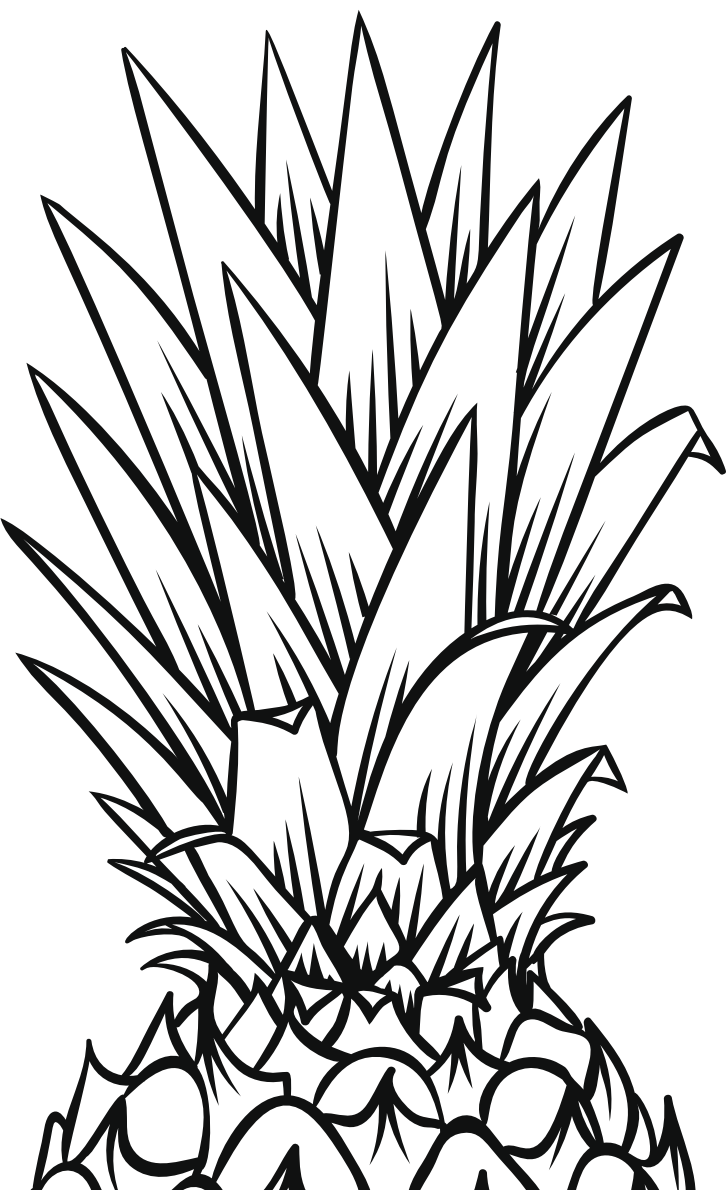
Szymon Skonieczny





- Hey Lucinda! How much for these oranges?
- Hallo Kate. Not too much, it's only 10 dollars for 5 oranges.
- How many do you have?
- A few, not a big amount.
- Oh, I see you have a lot of pineapples, 2 boxes.
- You want some?
- No, thank you but do you have any water?
- Yes, I do but there are only little bottles left.
- OH, I'm going to take 5, please.

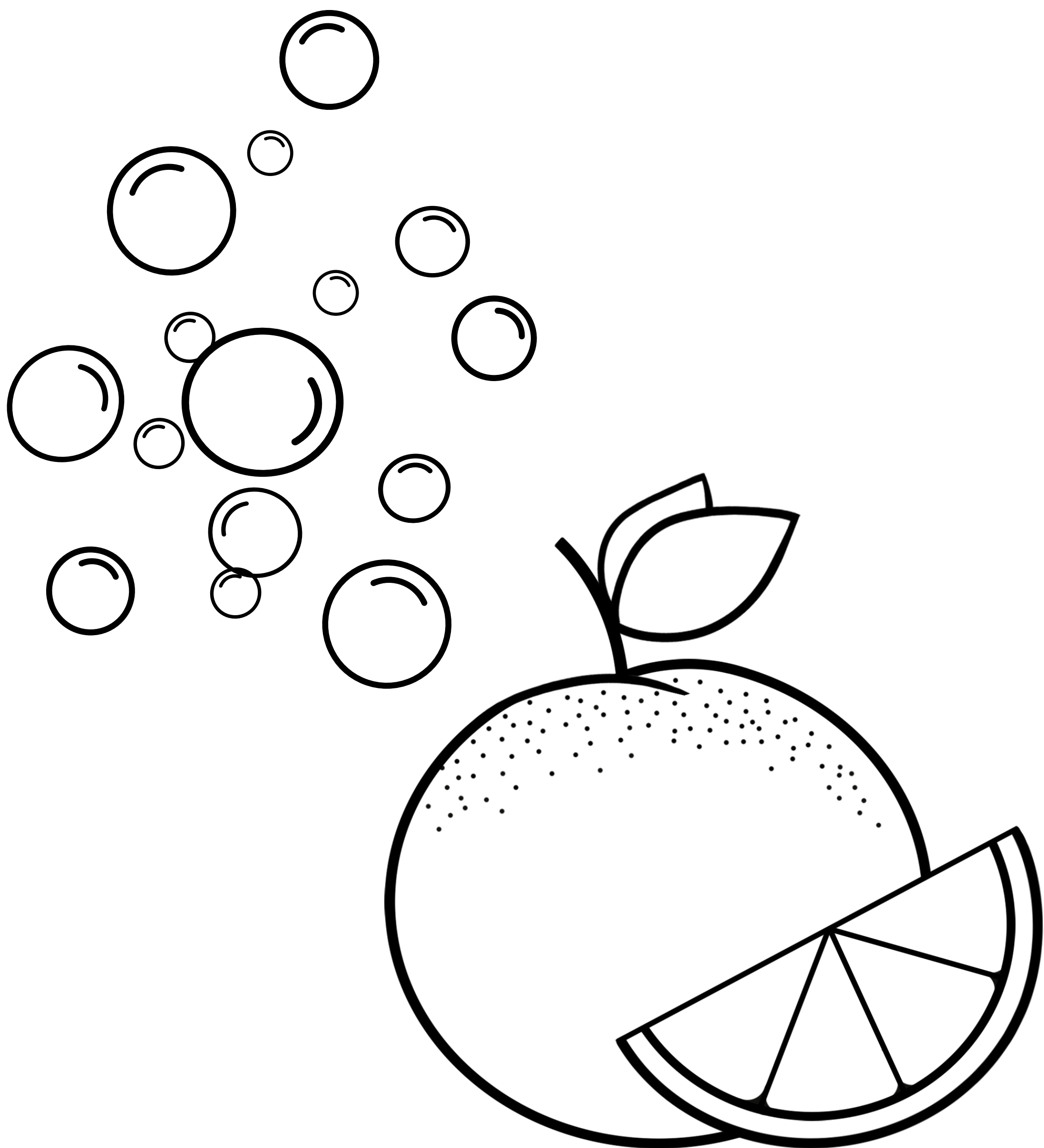
Joanna "Jane" Sikora



(...)

I drank concrete two days ago.  
I always drink shampoo because  
it smells like fruit.  
I will drink soap next week.

Michał Pobłocki



I'm drinking water now.  
Have you ever drunk apple  
juice?

I drank some orange juice last  
weekend.

I often drink a spinach smoothie.  
Next Sunday I'll drink a banana  
smoothie.

Nastazja Dobrowolska



Yesterday I went to a shop and I bought some bread. Next, I was at school and a teacher taught us a new lesson. Then he asked us a question. I thought for five seconds and I gave him the correct answer.

When school ended, I had a private fight (– sword lessons). I fought my opponent and I won!

Finally, when I was at home, I brought my mom today's grade from school.

Mikołaj Pruszyński



Hi! How are you feeling today?

My chinchilla has flu.

I'm always late for school but  
I've already done my homework.

Mom, I swear I never drink, any  
ice cream.

My dad will buy a new car with  
sausages.

Bót Marcin



I always sing in my free time and  
when I do my homework.

Last weekend we were singing  
for fun.

I'm singing with my best friend  
next Saturday.

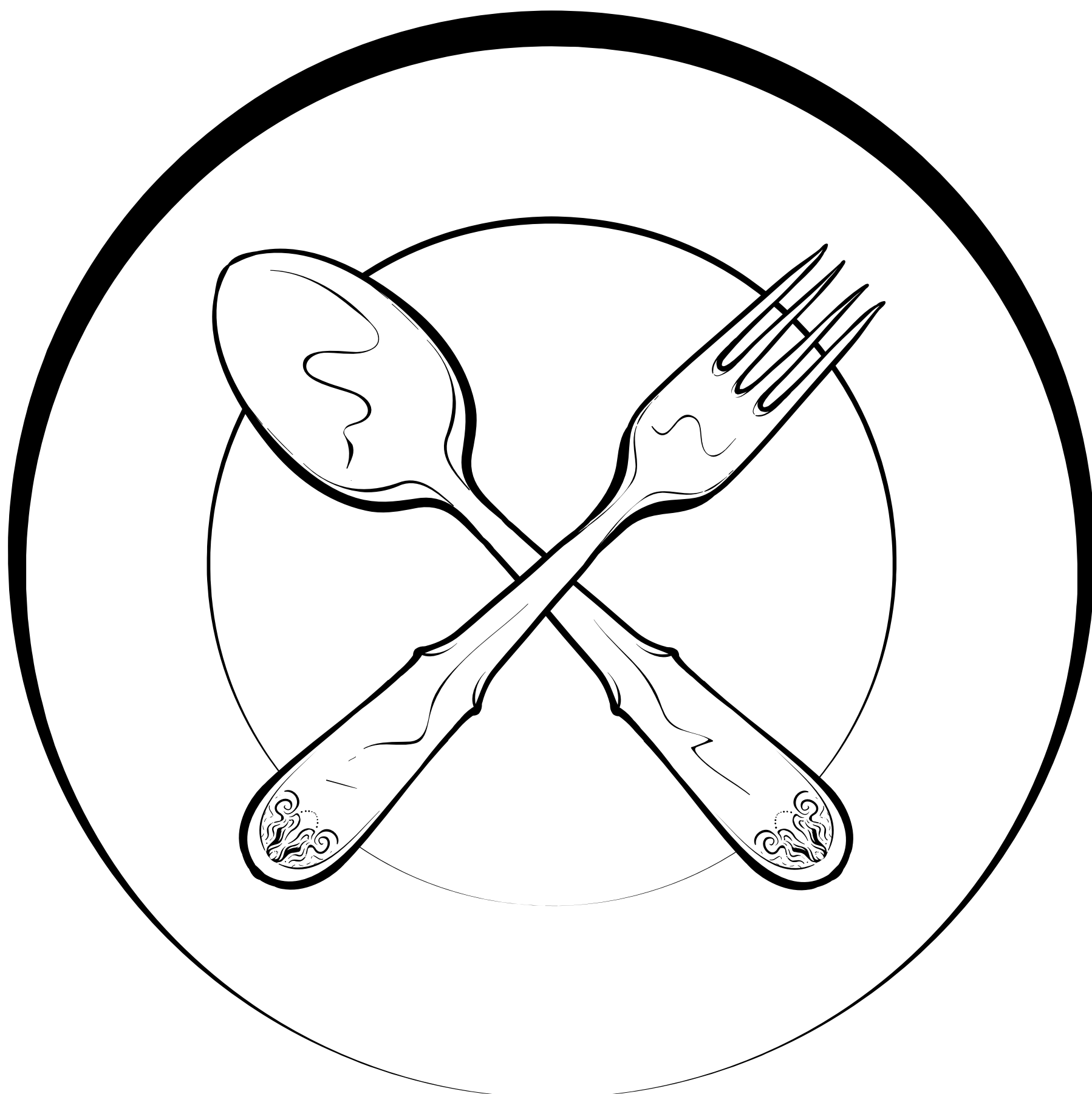
I very often sing what is my  
favourite music.

Agata



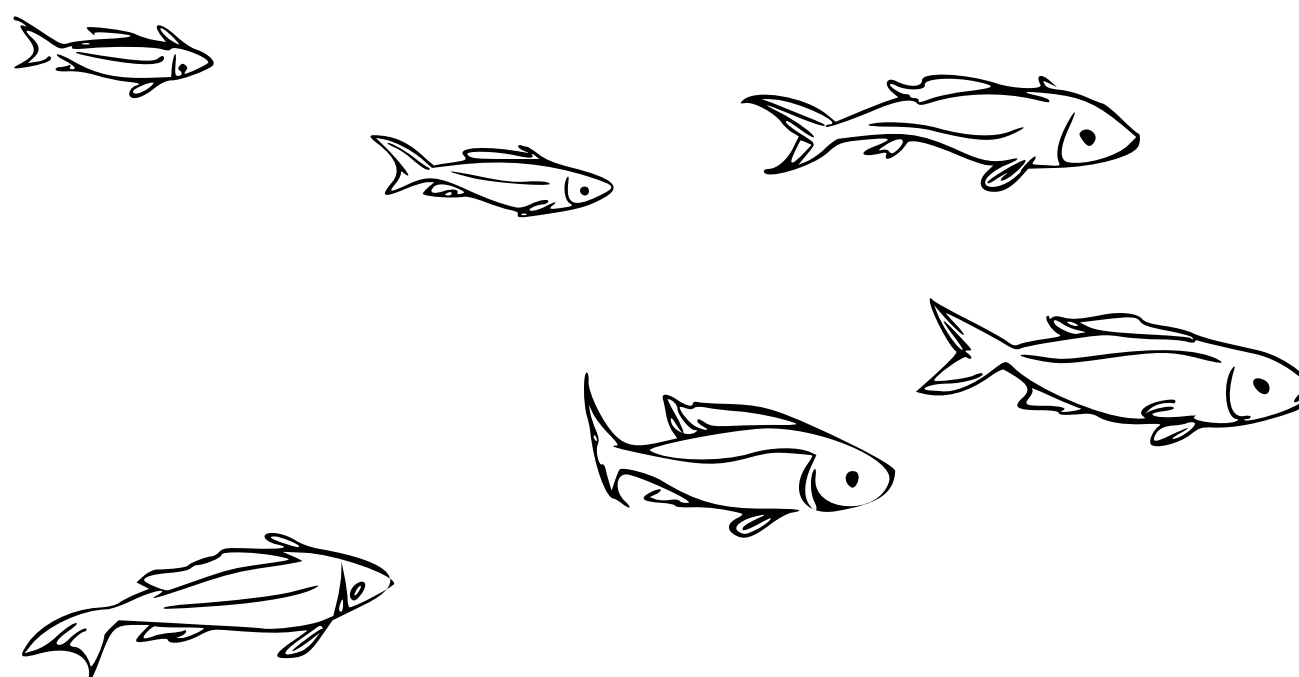
It's now or never!  
It's already past noon!  
I'd never pass hate on anyone.  
Yesterday I had the most  
delicious meal.  
I've always had feelings for you.  
I might be free next Saturday.

Alan Paszewski



Always swimming in the ocean...

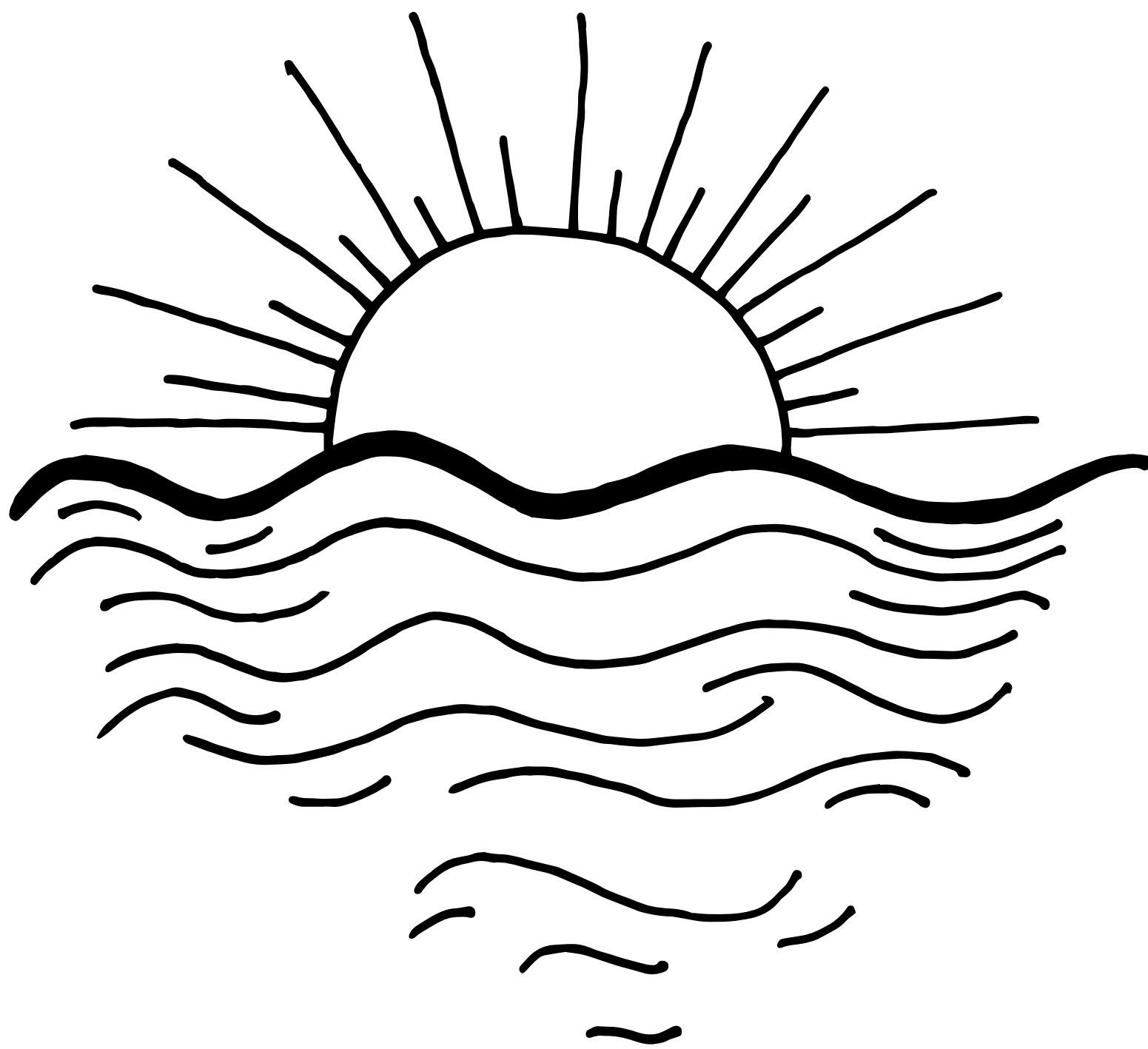
Julia N.





We already went swimming.  
Now I know he is waiting for me.  
Next Saturday we're opening  
a restaurant.

Wioleta Zadrowska



How often do you sing?

I'm singing now.

Have you ever sung in a school  
competition?

I sang in a restaurant last  
weekend.

Next Sunday I'll sing in a musical.

Oliwia Wrońska



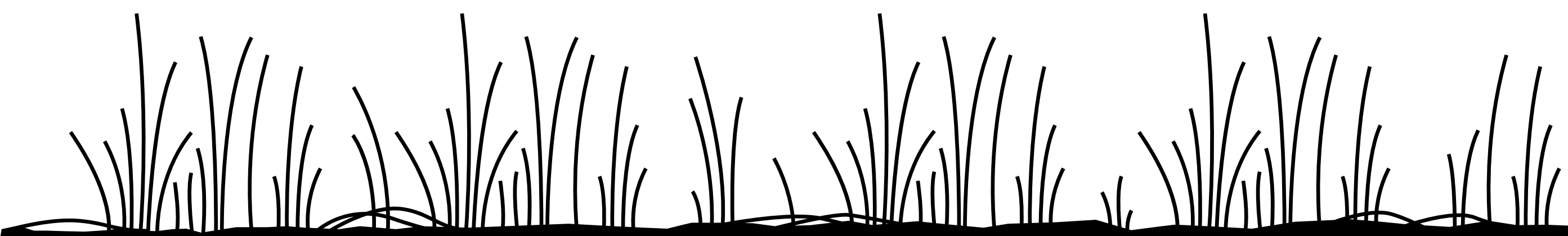
I always wear black clothes.  
I never swear.  
I'm throwing snowballs at my  
brother.  
He doesn't know what to do.

Wiktoria Okuniewska



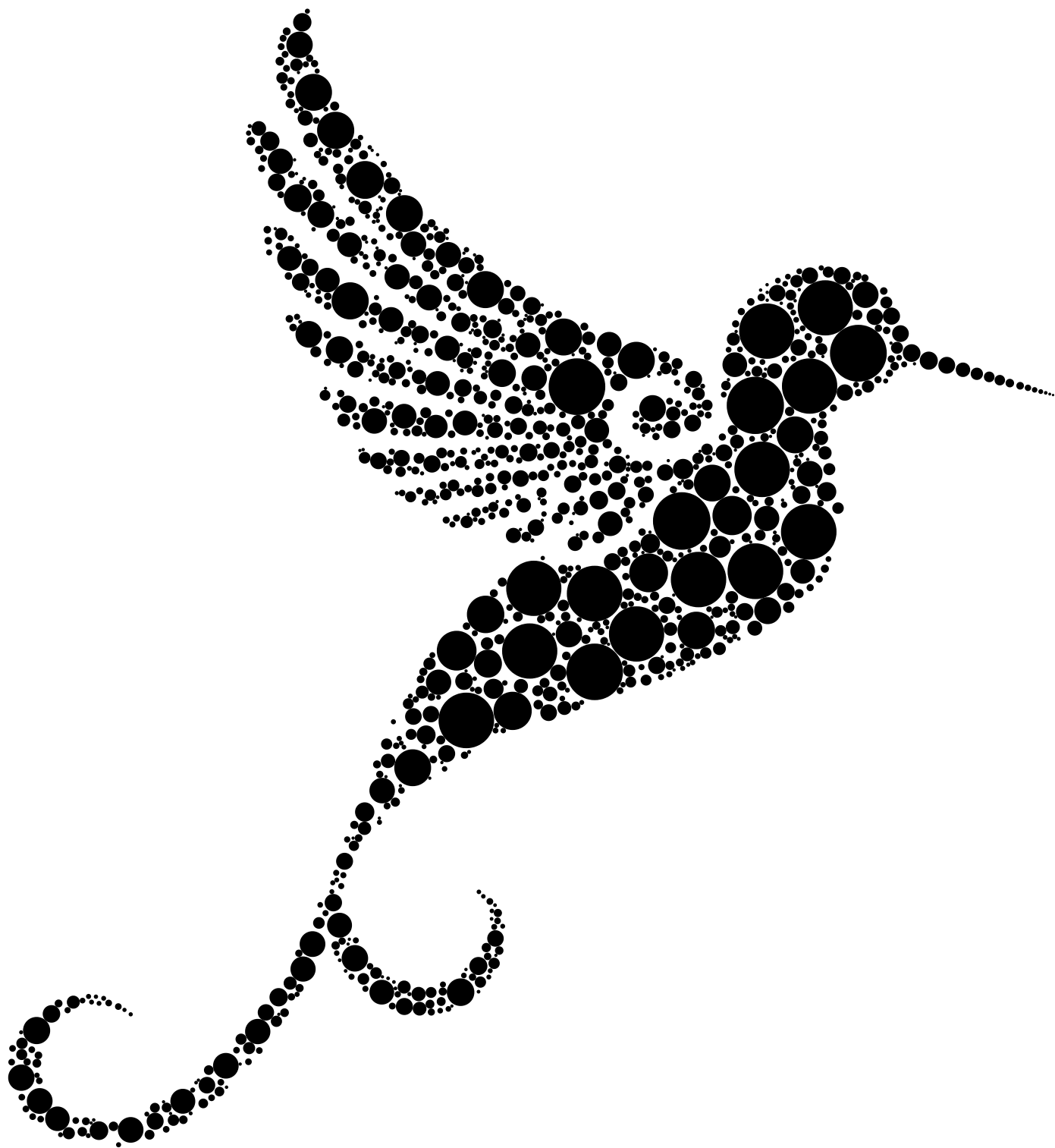
I'm now wearing a blue t-shirt  
under my jacket.  
I already drew a drawing of 75  
mushrooms.  
I would never tear your sweater  
apart.  
Alex threw up yesterday during  
the school trip.  
I always knew your darkest  
secrets.  
The grass in our backyard will  
grow so much till next Sunday.

Michał Pobłocki



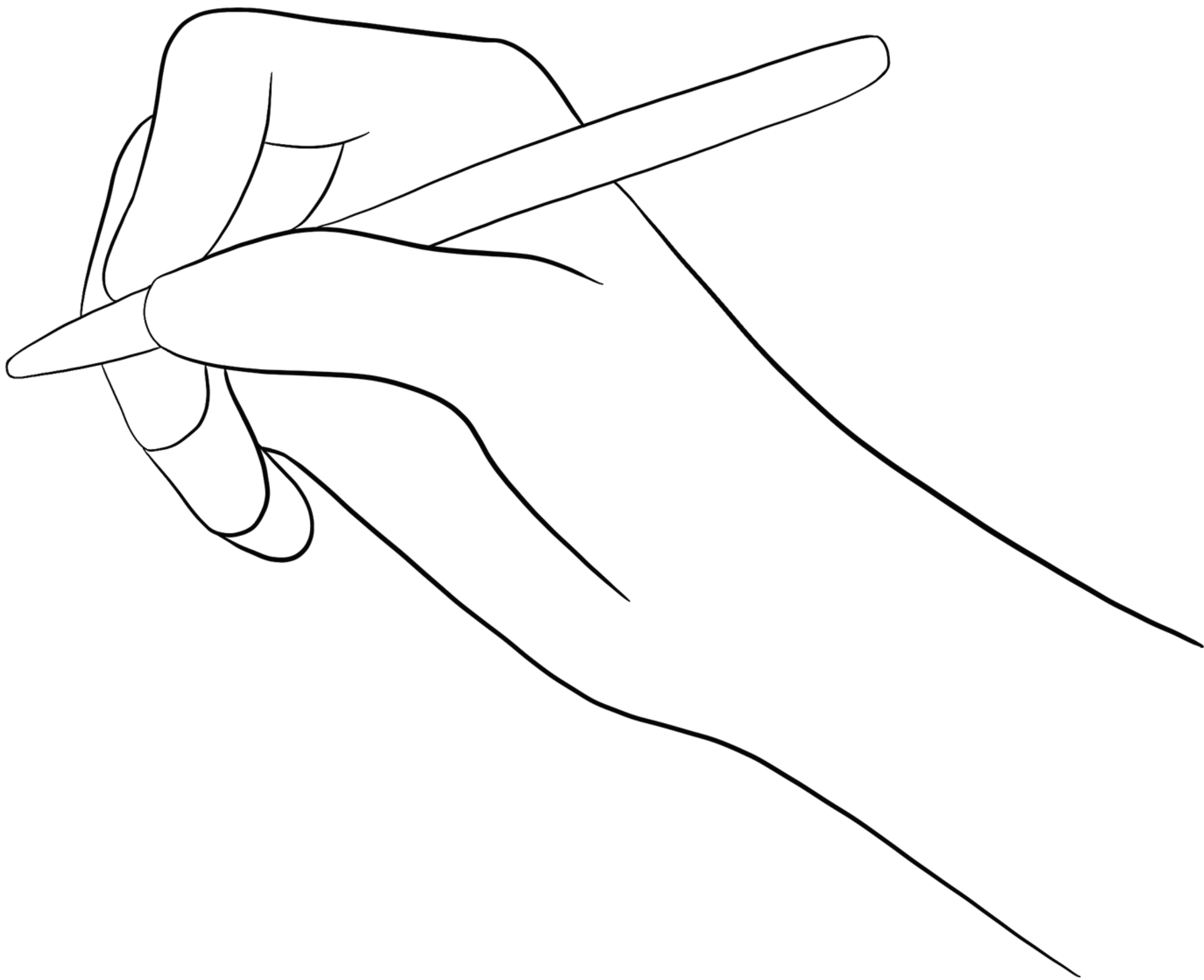
I always wear my favourite  
T-shirt.  
I never fly.  
Yesterday I drew my  
grandmother.  
Now I'm blowing my flowers.  
I'm going to fly.

Kasia Krzyczkowska



Yesterday I woke up my dad.  
Now I'm waking up.  
I have not stolen anything yet.  
Tomorrow I will steal your pen!

Maja Kucińska



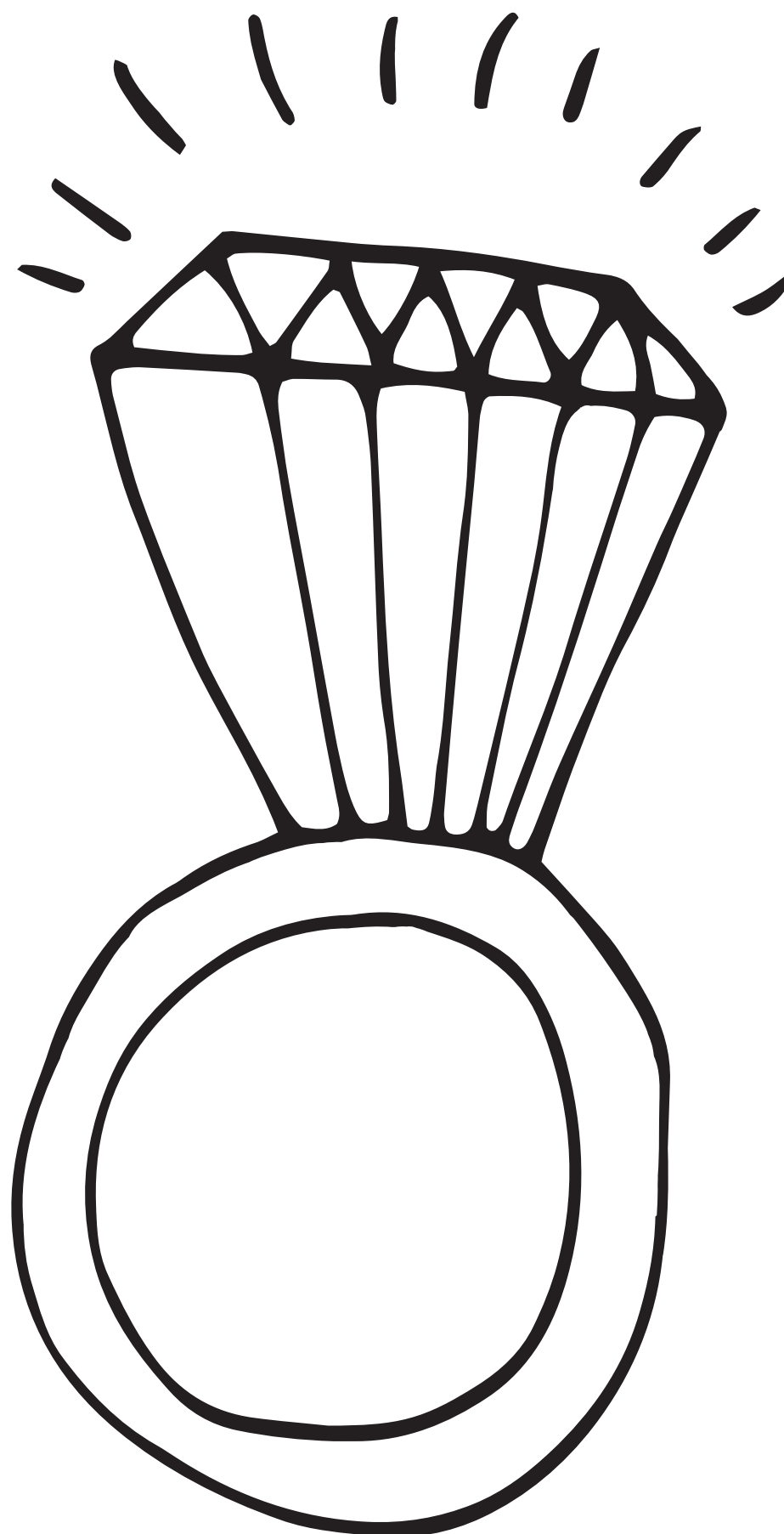
A diamond ring was stolen  
yesterday.

I woke up at 6 a.m.

My brother broke a vase.

He will become a firefighter in  
the future.

Michał K.



Yesterday you forgot to do your  
homework.

Tomorrow we'll choose a dream  
school.

Now I'm gonna break your heart.  
I'll never forget you.

Natalia Ptak

