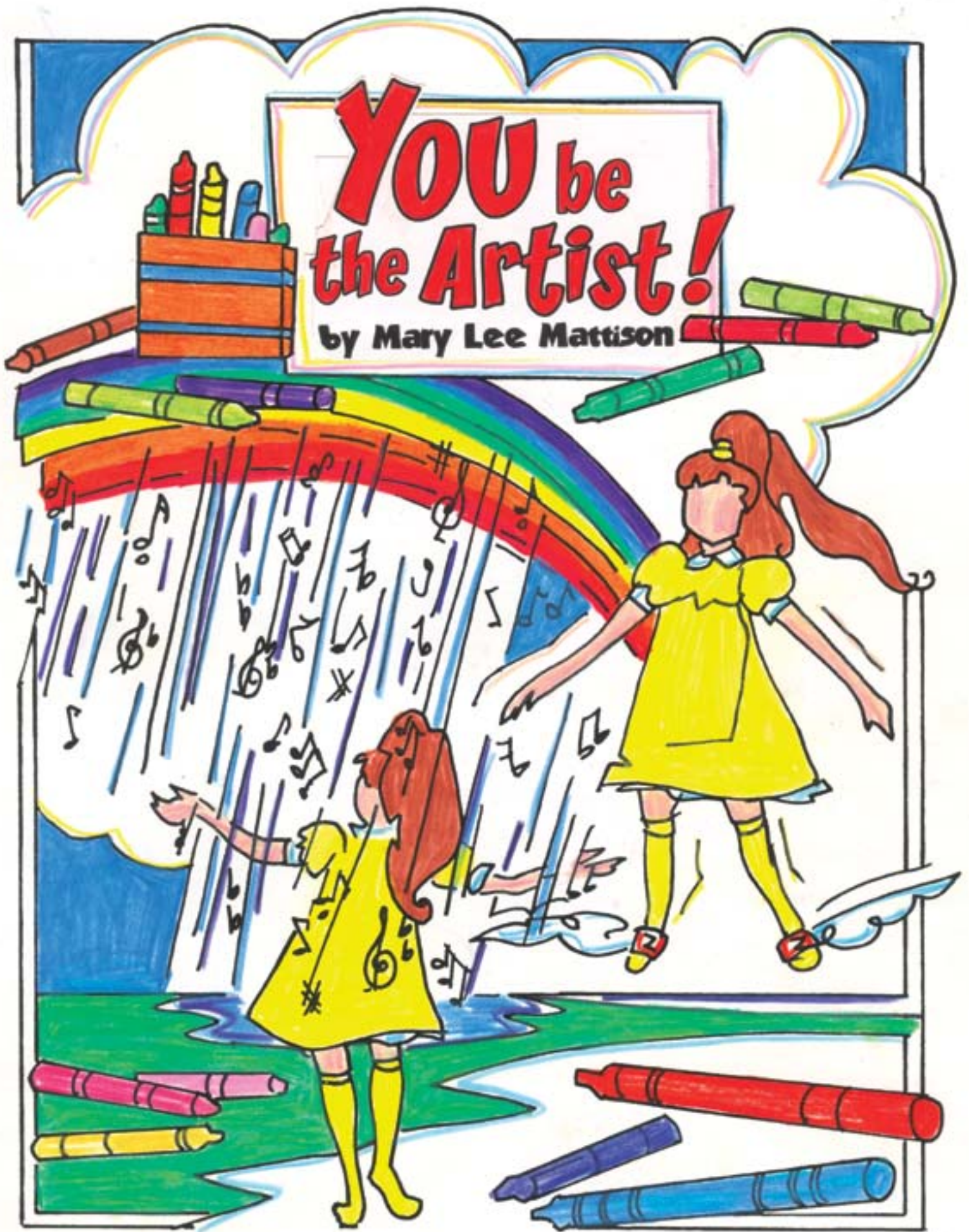
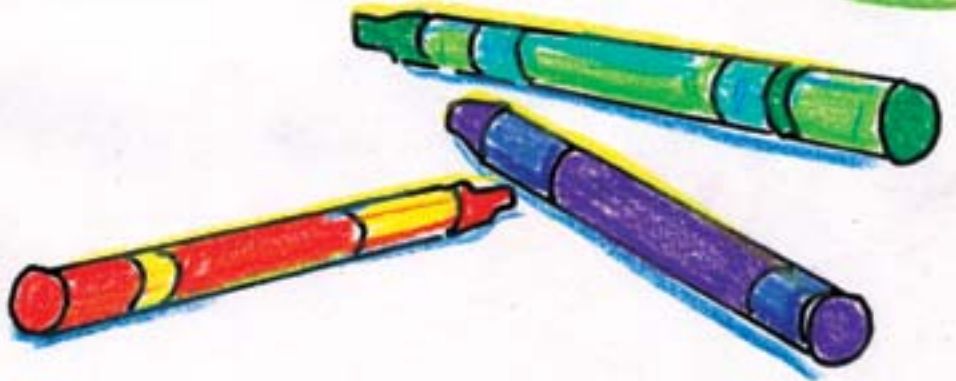
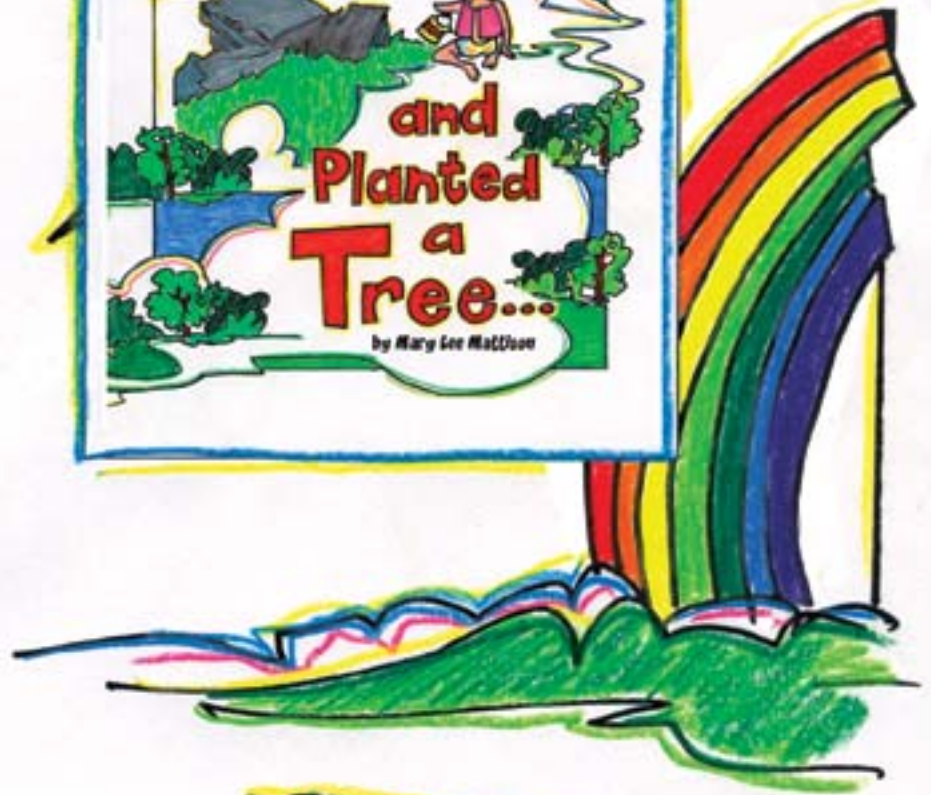
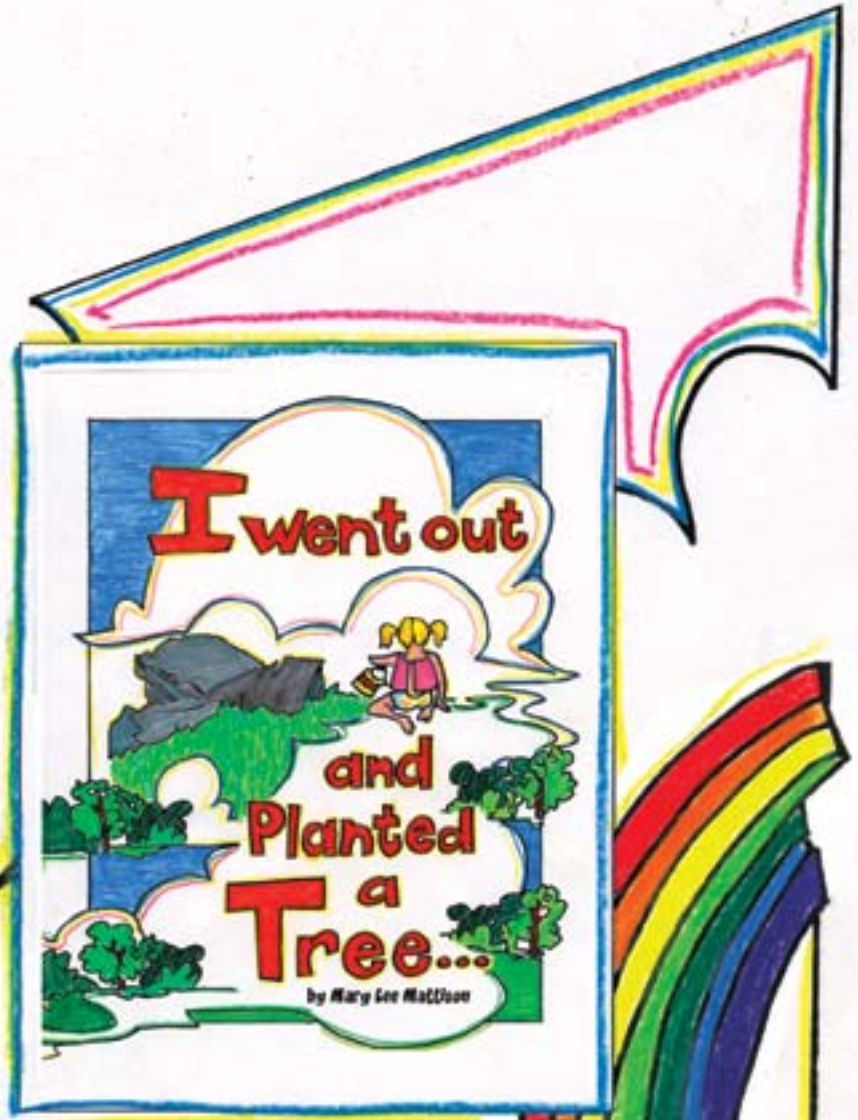


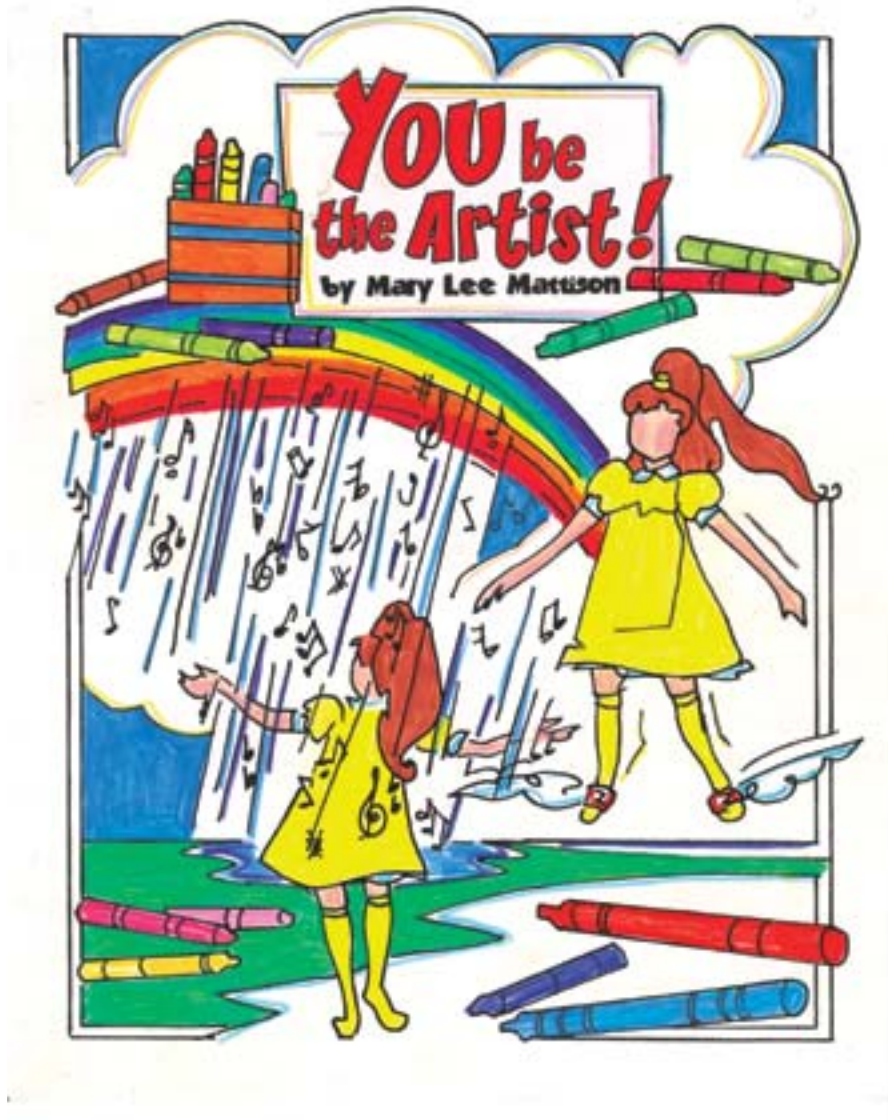


YOU be the Artist!

by Mary Lee Mattison







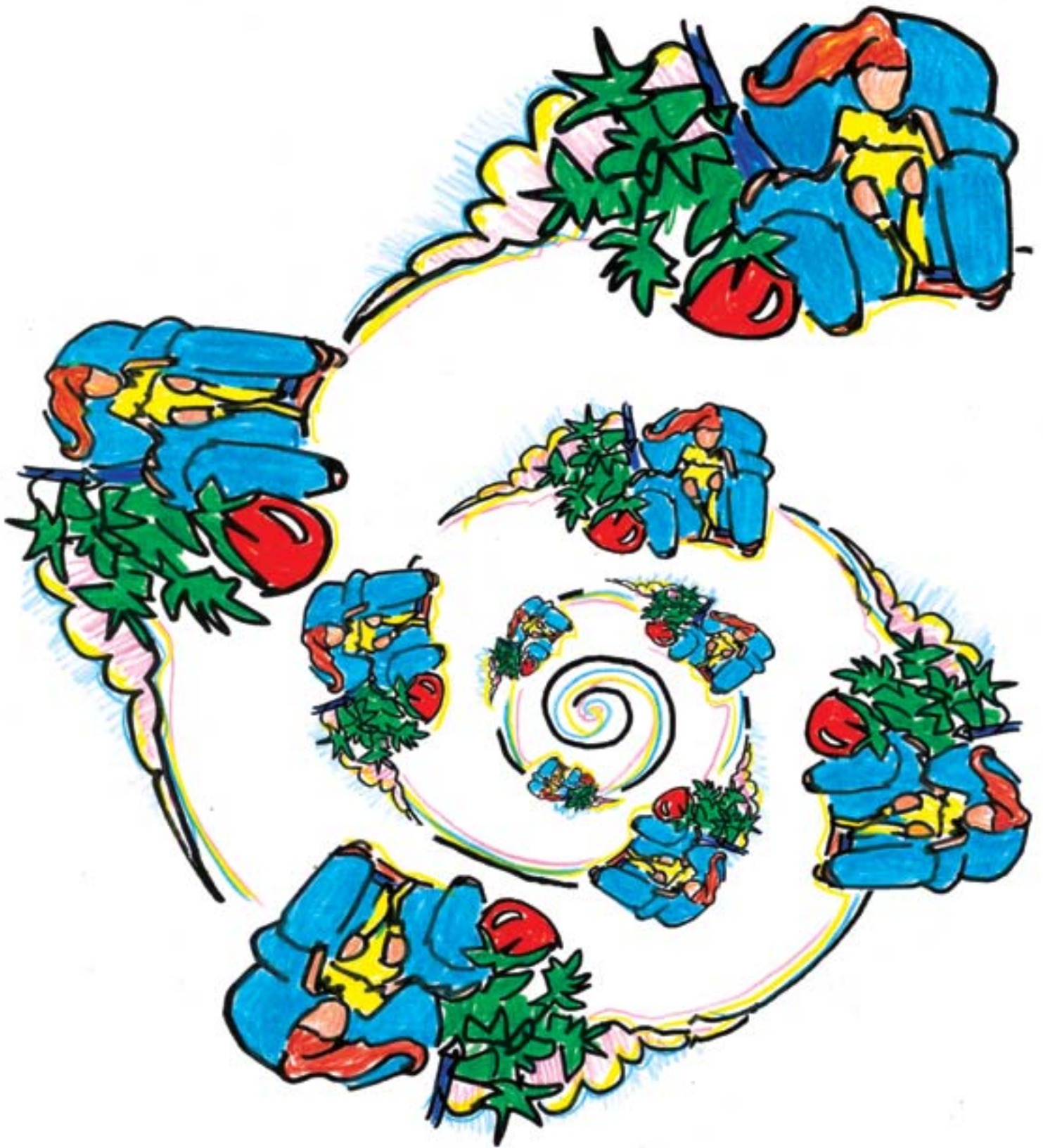
You be the Artist©

Written & Illustrated by Mary Lee Mattison
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Imagination is the Key ~
Engaging Books for Creative Kids©

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www.theartfairy.com
www.maryleemattison.com





Do you ever get bored
when there's nothing to do,
and there's no one to play with?
I've felt like that too!



Your mom says,
“No T.V.
No Video Games!”

She wants
you to
play **quietly**
while
she entertains.

Outside it's raining,
or it's *too* hot,
or *too* cold.

Maybe you've been out
for hours and must,
"*Stay in now*"
you're told.

You've eaten your lunch.
You're too big for a nap!

So you just stare out
the
window
like
your
house
is
a
trap!



You may think that you're stuck here.

But no....That's not so.



Come with me and I'll show you.



You can do anything.
You can be anywhere.
You just need crayons and paper
And your thoughts...and you're **there!**

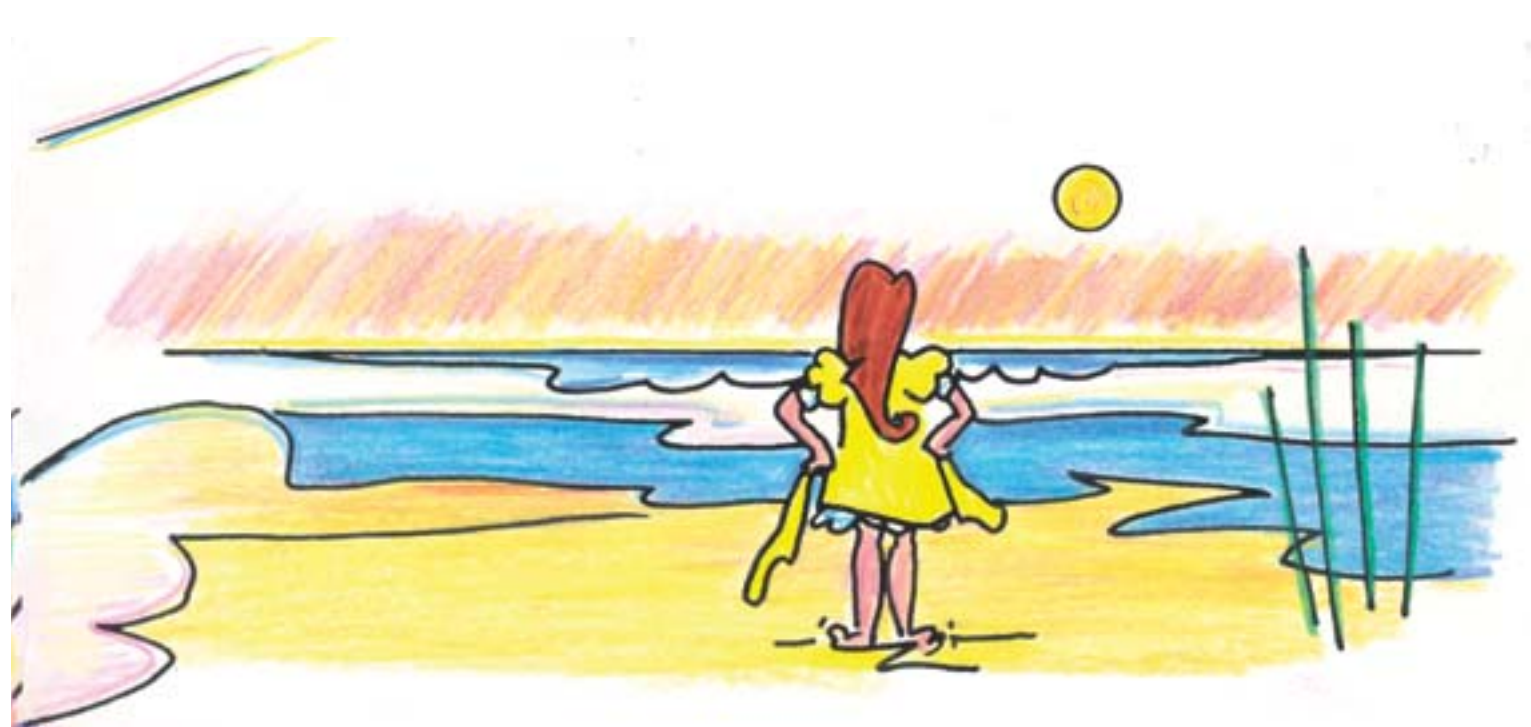
Ta Da!

You can sing on a mountaintop high in clouds.

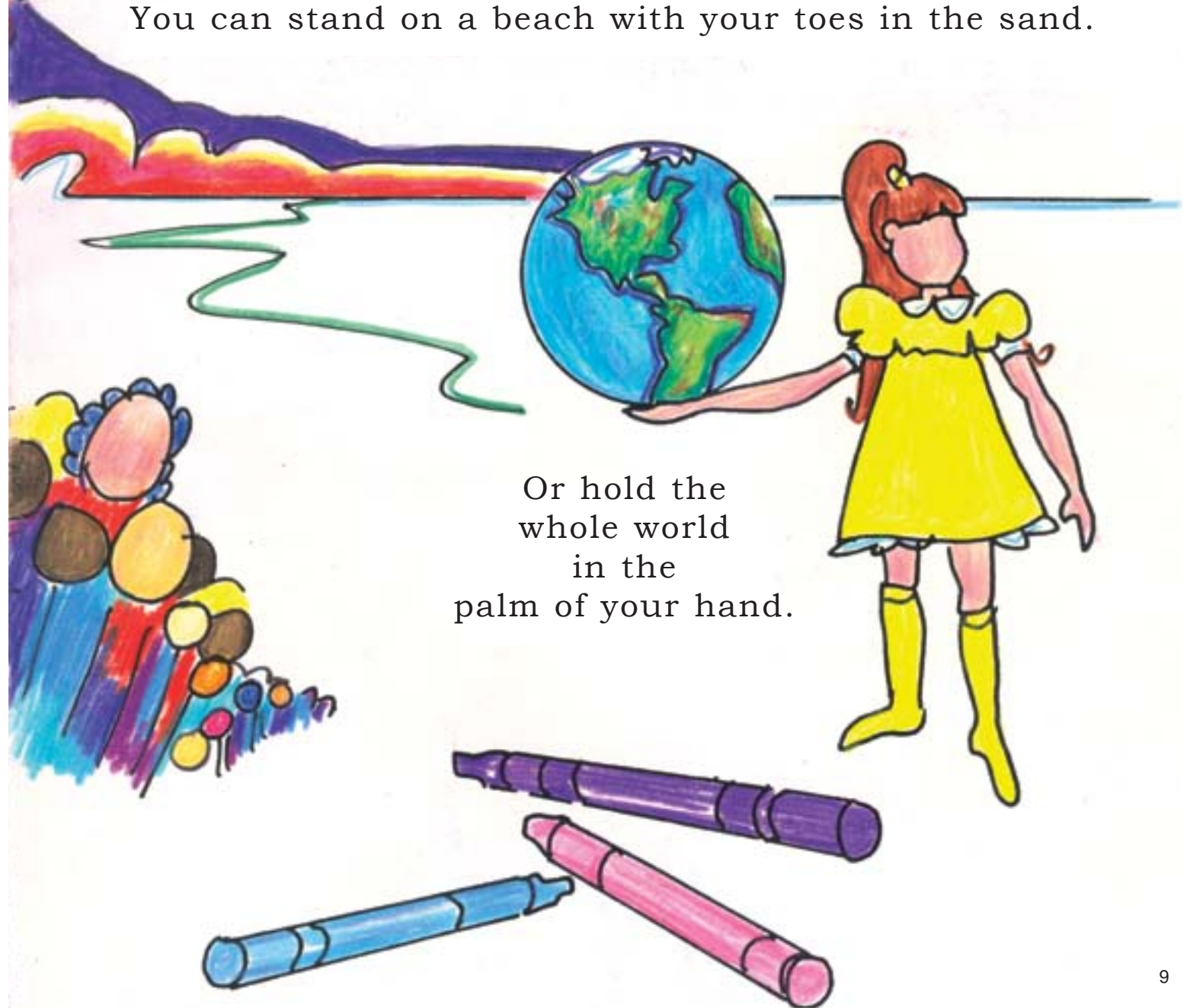
You can be all alone.



Or be part of a crowd.

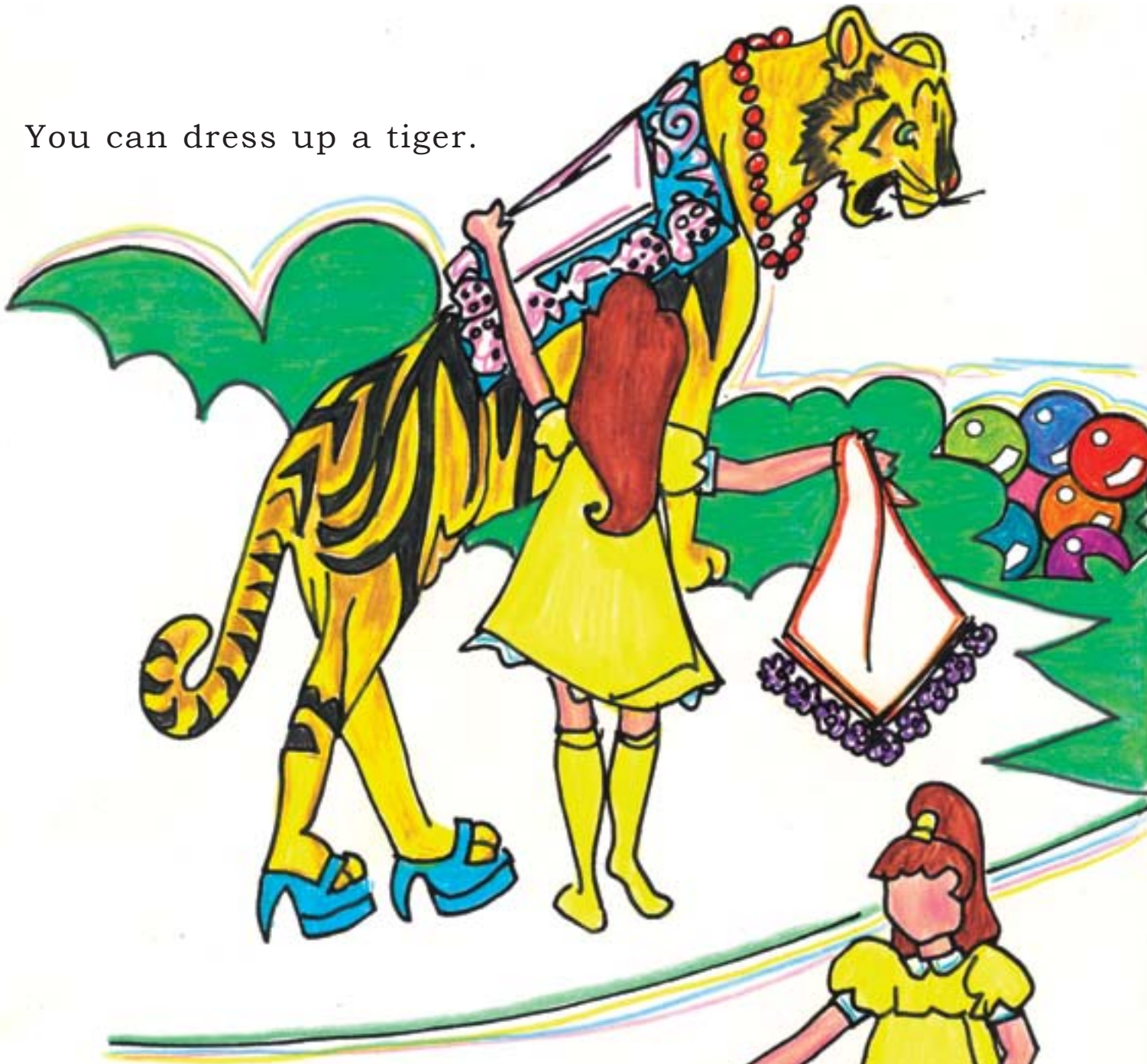


You can stand on a beach with your toes in the sand.



Or hold the
whole world
in the
palm of your hand.

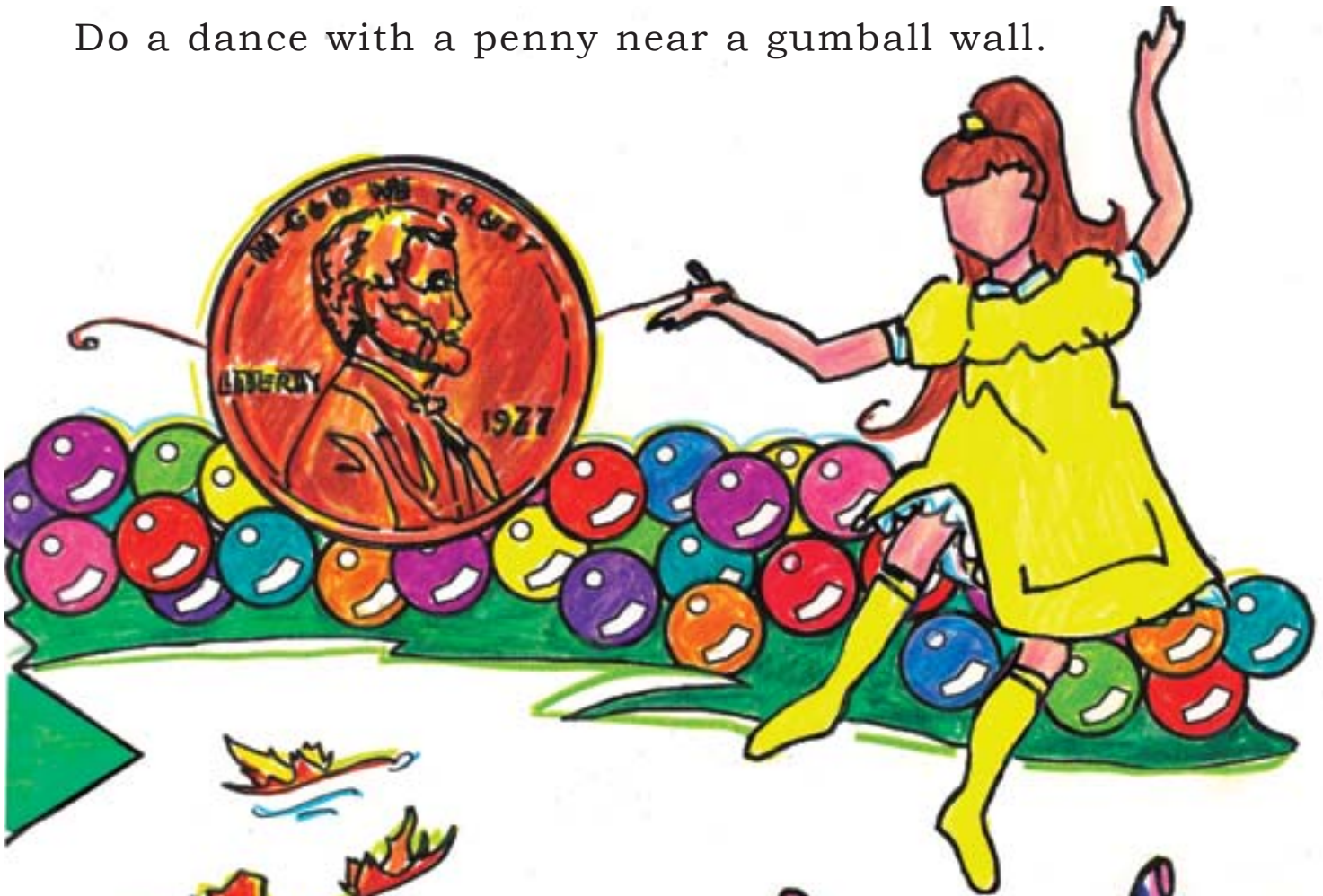
You can dress up a tiger.



You can make elephants small.



Do a dance with a penny near a gumball wall.



Catch a
red and gold leaf
and take a wild Autumn ride.



Or plant trees that grow feathers.
You can decide.



You can paint icebergs in Egypt.

You can sit on the moon.



Soar to an upside-down town,

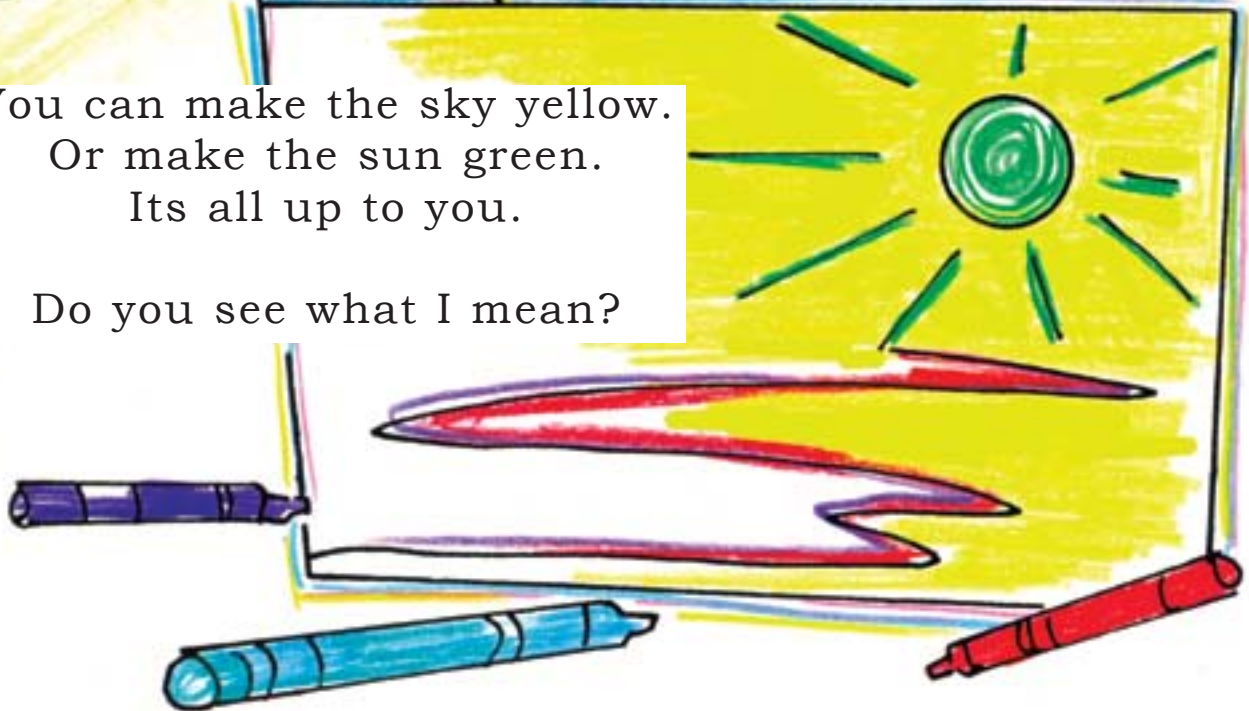


then build a snowman in June.



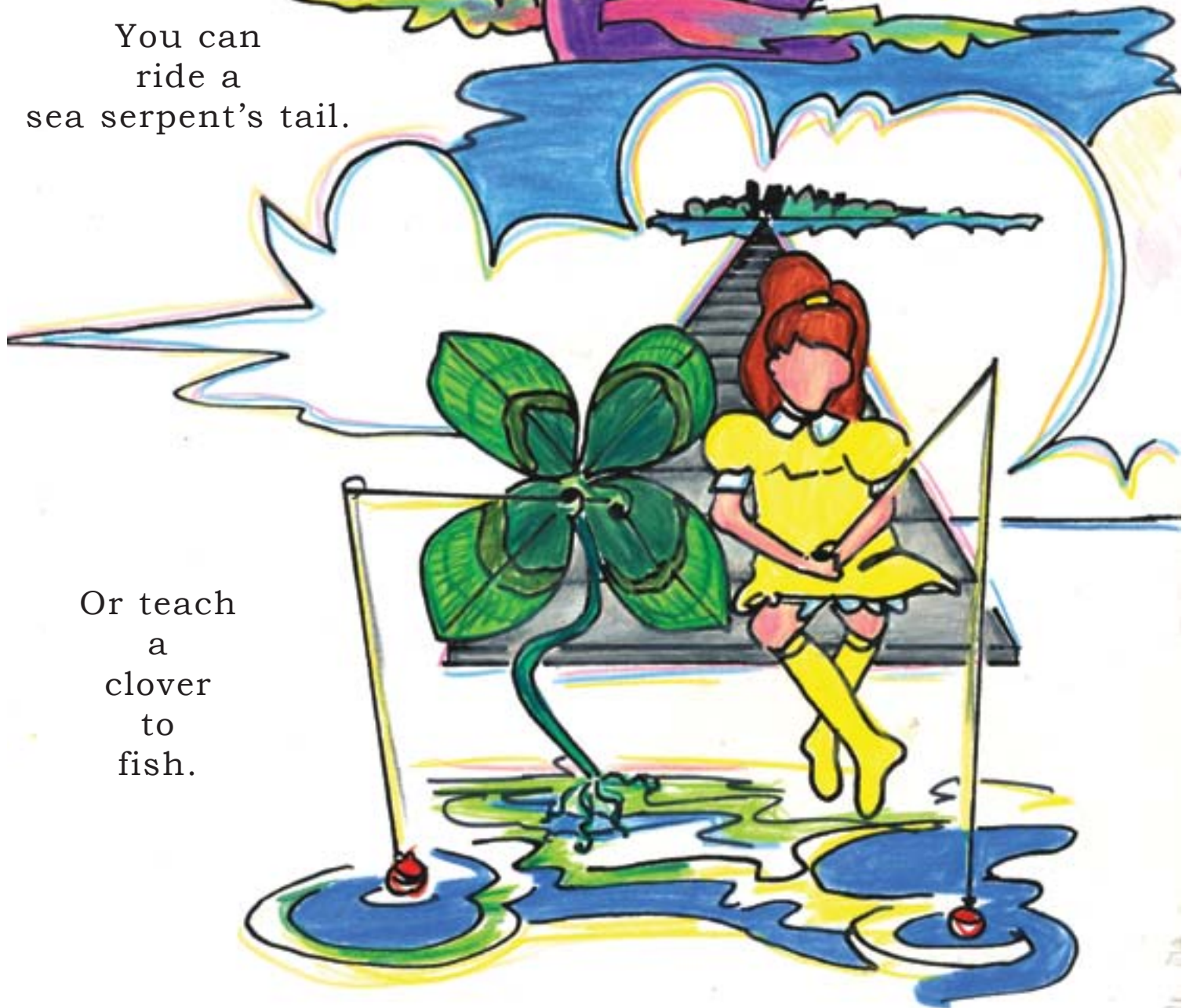
You can make the sky yellow.
Or make the sun green.
Its all up to you.

Do you see what I mean?





You can
ride a
sea serpent's tail.



Or teach
a
clover
to
fish.



Or...
pretend
that
your chair
is sweet
licorice.

Art can't be right or wrong.
It doesn't have to look real.

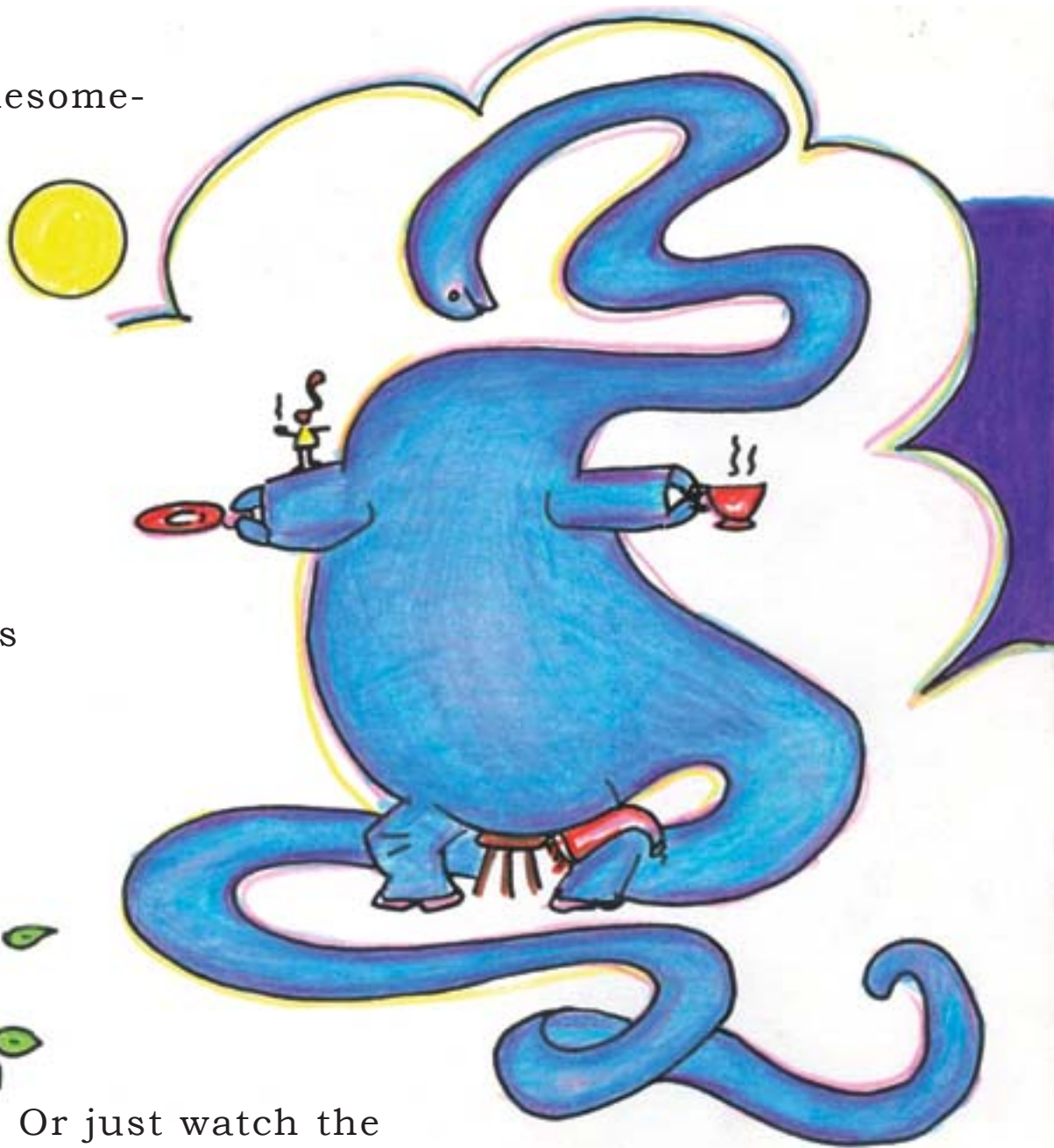


Draw
a
whole
page
purple,
If
that's
how
you
feel.

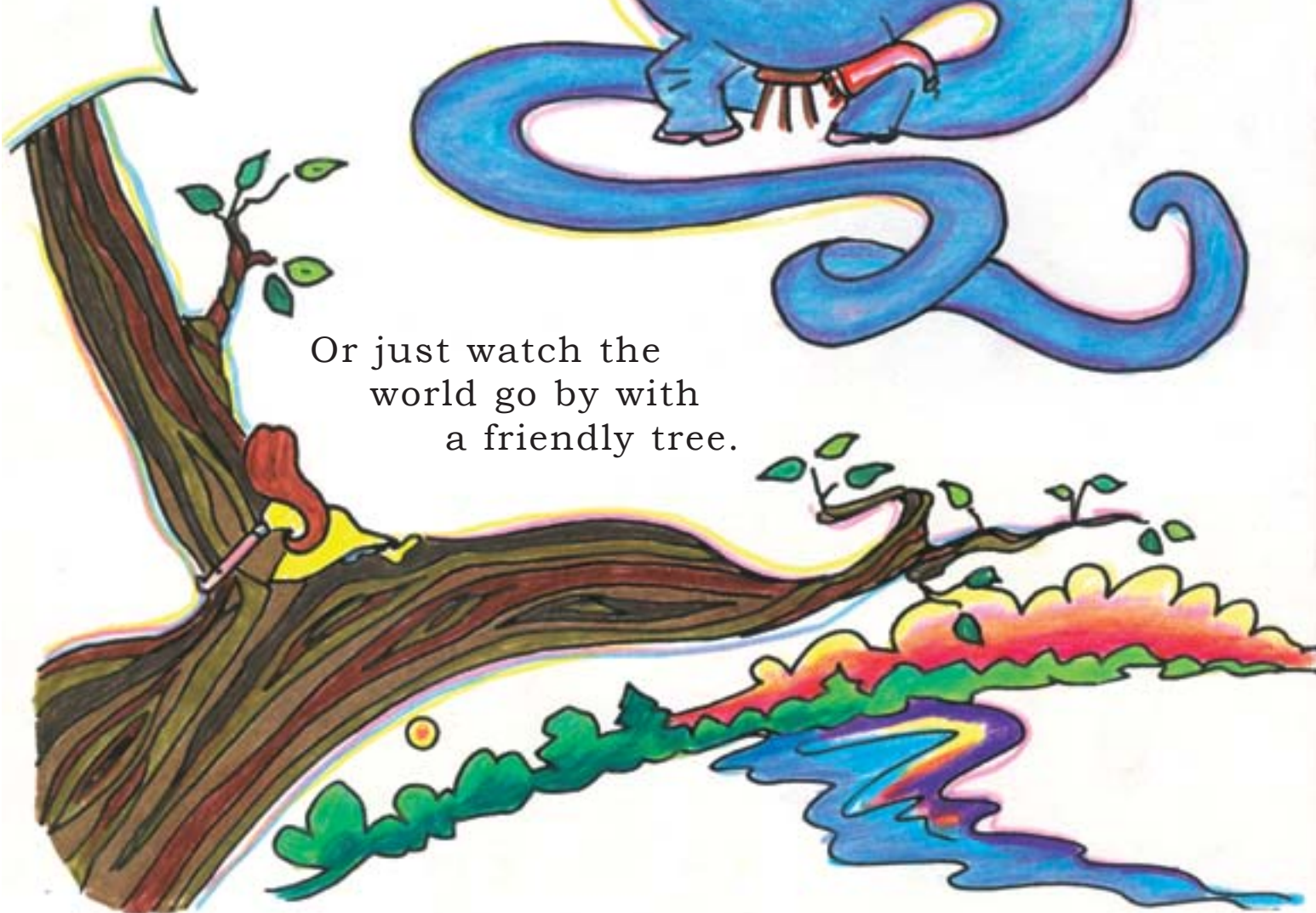
If you get lonesome-

Draw up
some
huge
company.

Perhaps-
you could
invite
a polite
brontosaurus
to tea?



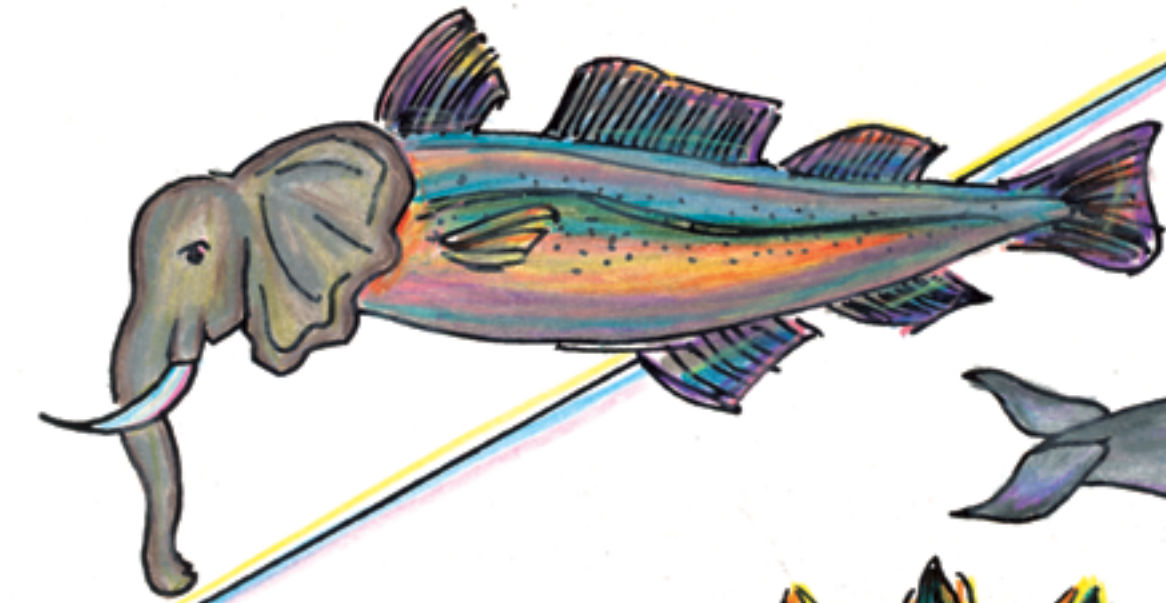
Or just watch the
world go by with
a friendly tree.

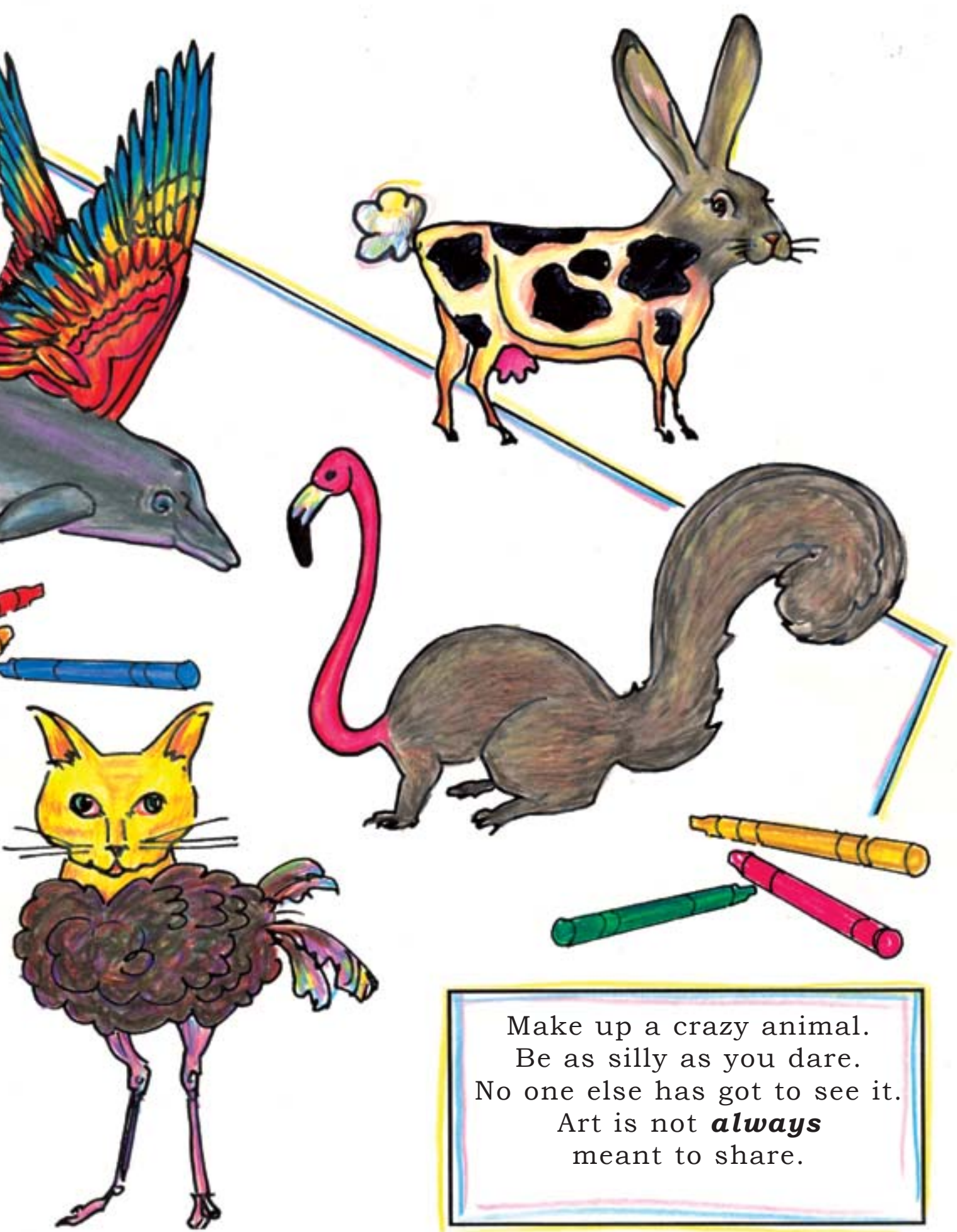


Take your book and **s t r e t c h** out on a popcorn cloud.



If that's too quiet?
Color up the whole room till it's **NOISY AND LOUD !!!**





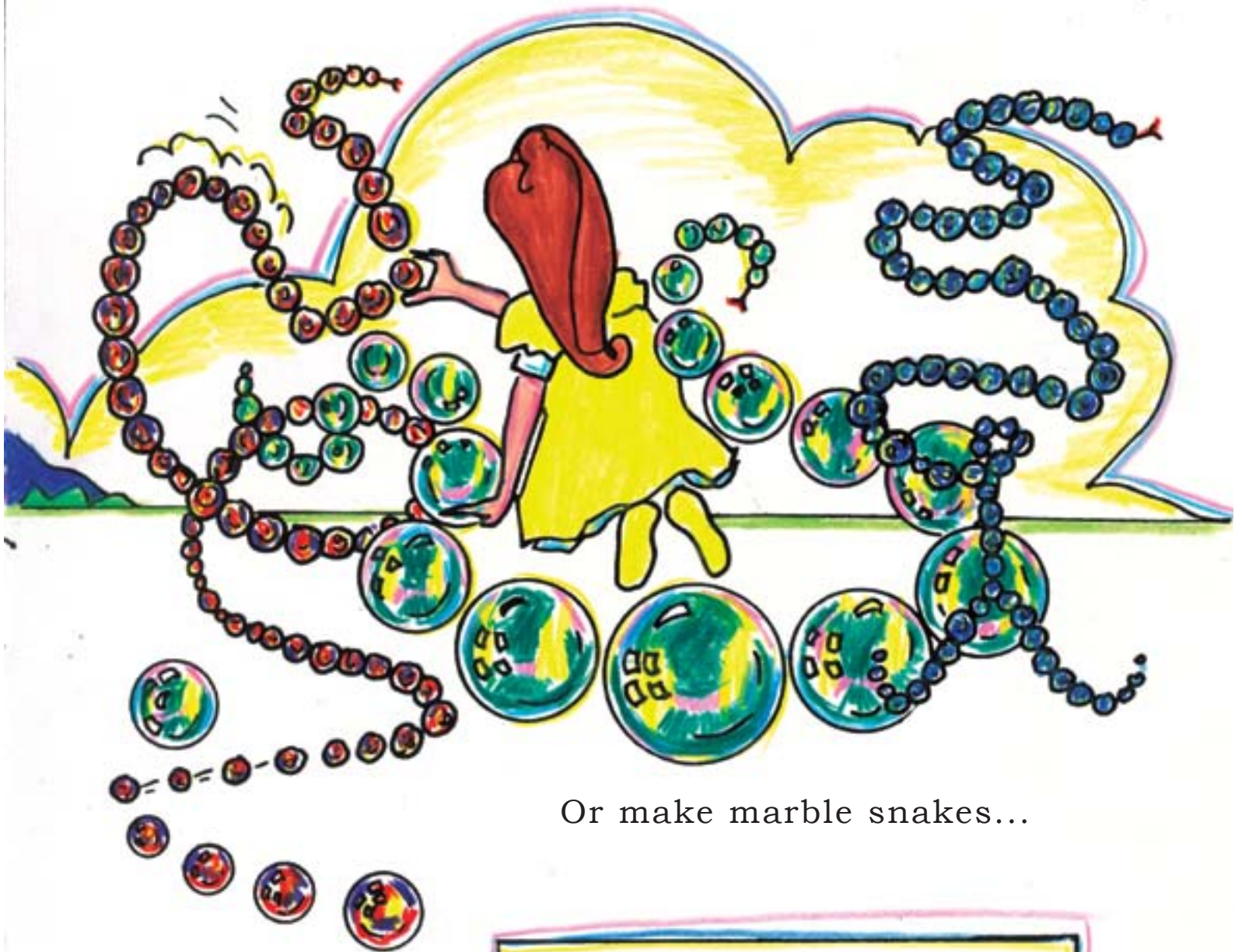
Make up a crazy animal.
Be as silly as you dare.
No one else has got to see it.
Art is not **always**
meant to share.



For a smile- Bake a mile-high, birthday cake...cake

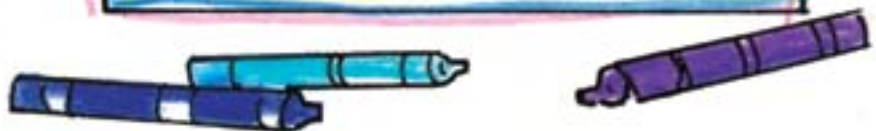
To cool off-
Take a break on a soft, snowflake lake.



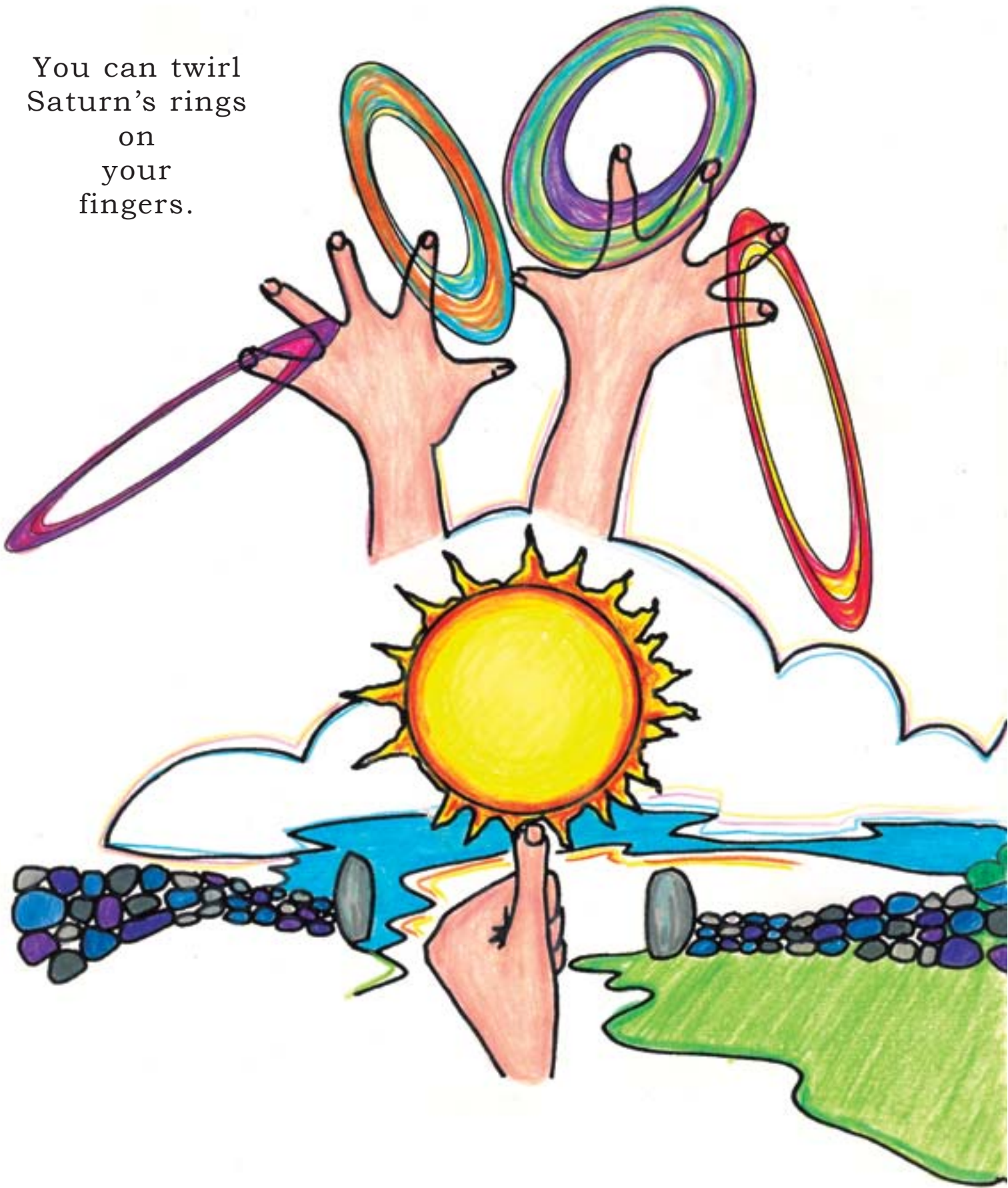


Or make marble snakes...

Don't worry
how it comes out.
In Art-
You just
can't
make mistakes.

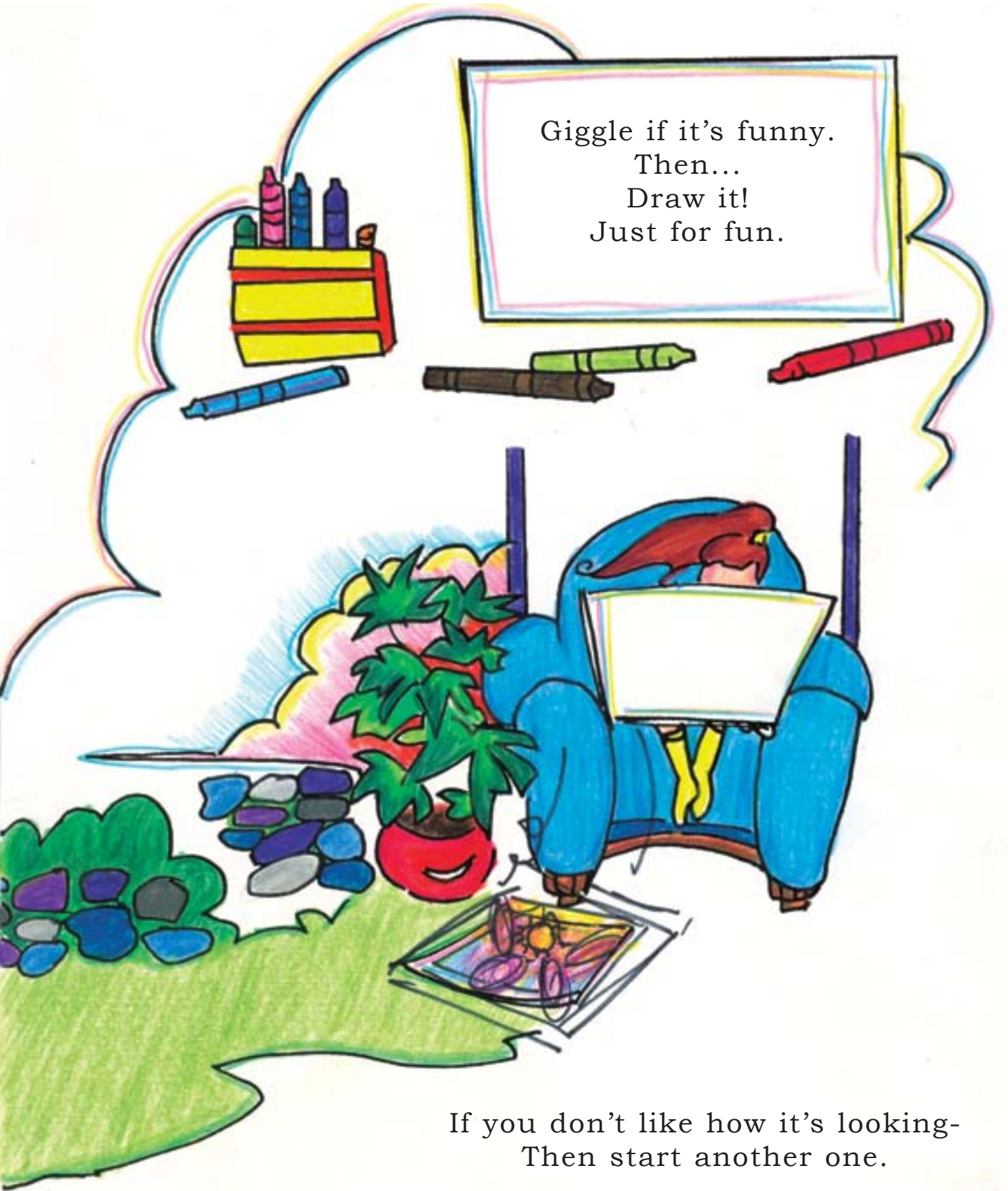


You can twirl
Saturn's rings
on
your
fingers.



Balance the sun on your thumb.

Giggle if it's funny.
Then...
Draw it!
Just for fun.



If you don't like how it's looking-
Then start another one.



Picture a place
you'd like to visit.
Think up some things you'd
like to be.

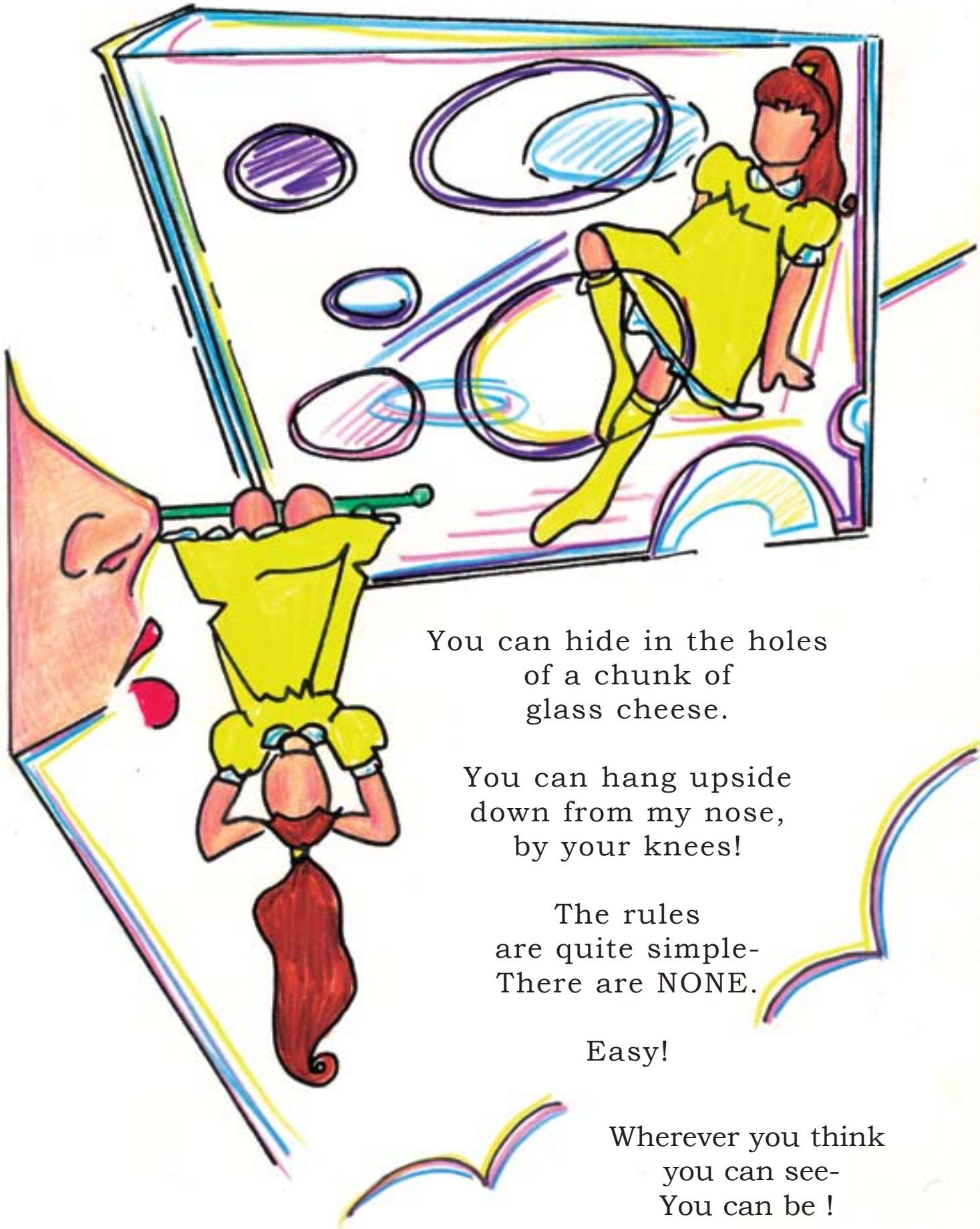




To
unlock
the
door
to
Make-Believe

Imagination is
The **KEY**.





You can hide in the holes
of a chunk of
glass cheese.

You can hang upside
down from my nose,
by your knees!

The rules
are quite simple-
There are NONE.

Easy!

Wherever you think
you can see-
You can be !

YOU be the ARTIST-
You can open that door.
Let in all the Wonders.
That's what they're
there for!



You can ski
down a bubble,
if
that's
what
you'd like.

Or ride the Double Crowns
Triple-

With no hands
...on your bike !!





You can try shoes that fly.



You can have a pet jet.



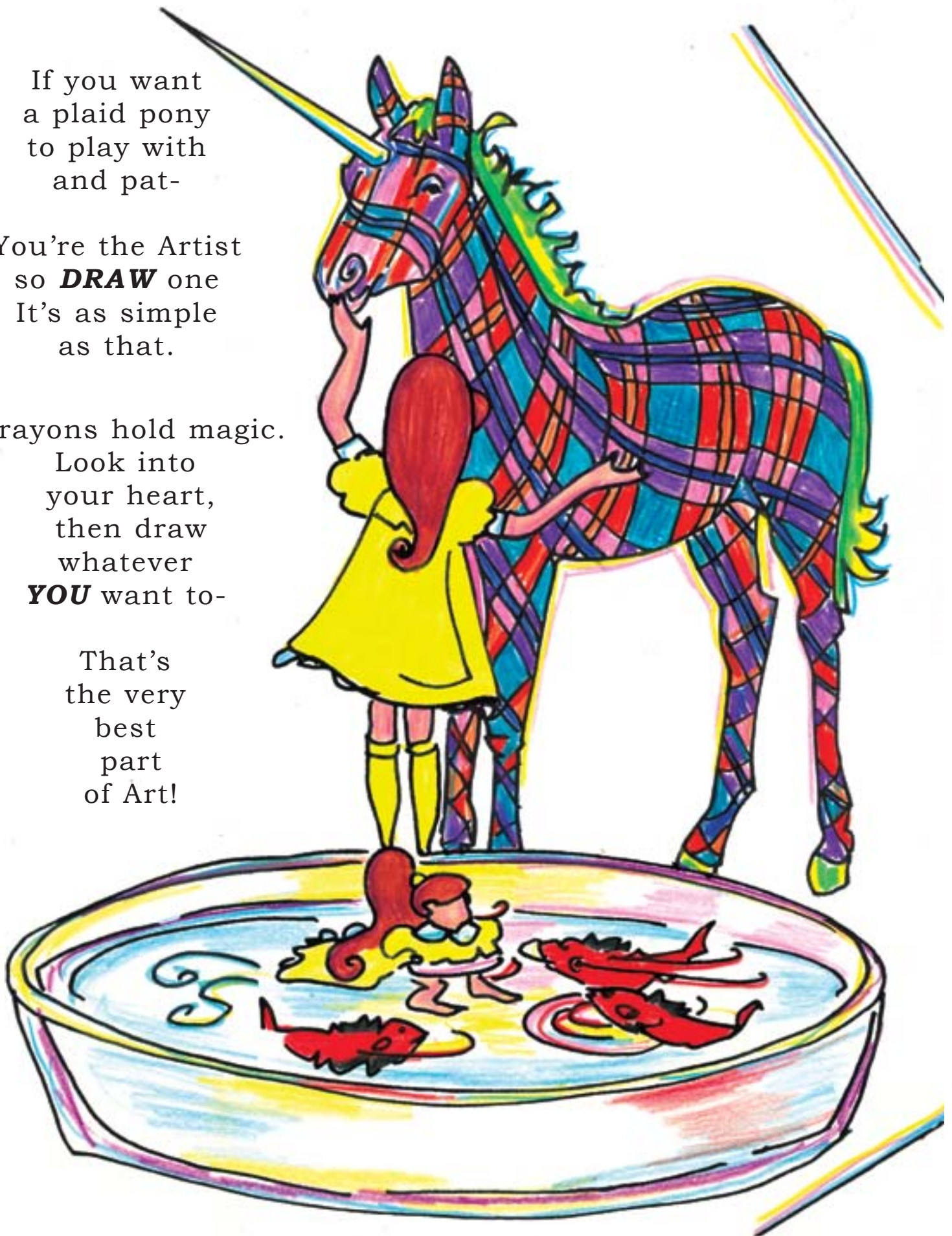
Or make it rain Music!
Do you get the trick yet?

If you want
a plaid pony
to play with
and pat-

You're the Artist
so **DRAW** one
It's as simple
as that.

Crayons hold magic.
Look into
your heart,
then draw
whatever
YOU want to-

That's
the very
best
part
of Art!

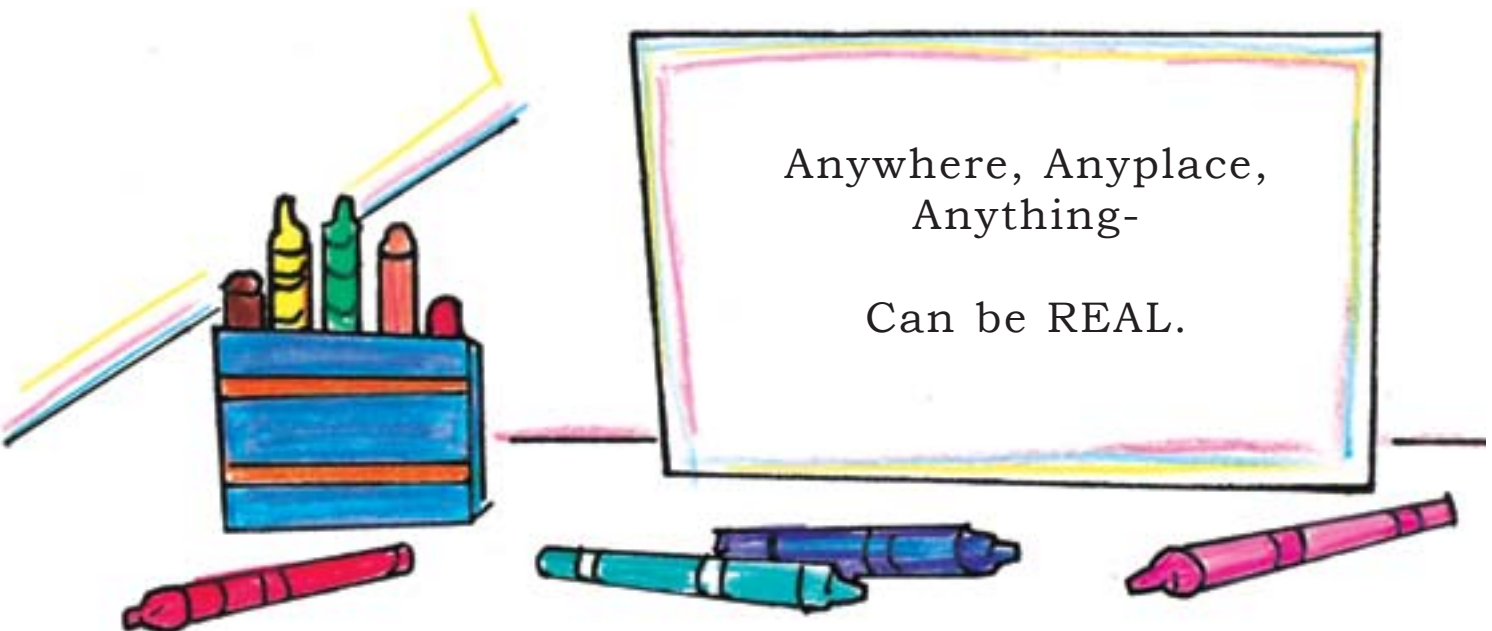


So the next time you think you have nothing to do-
because there's no one to play with-

You'll know that's not true...



With just crayons and paper and however you feel...

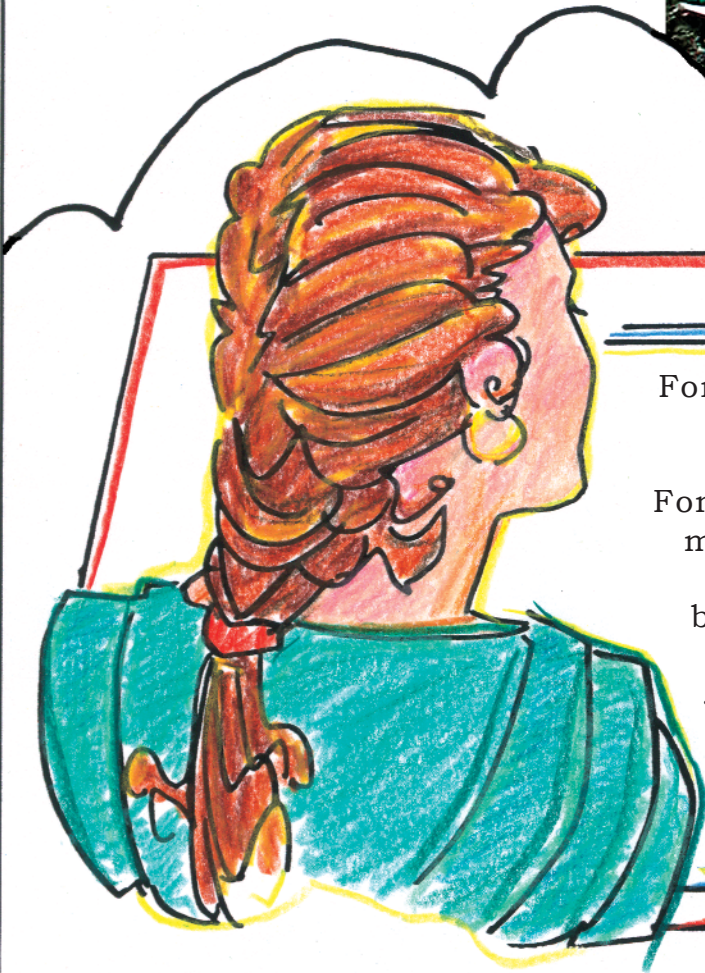




The End

...Of *my* story now
You be the Artist!

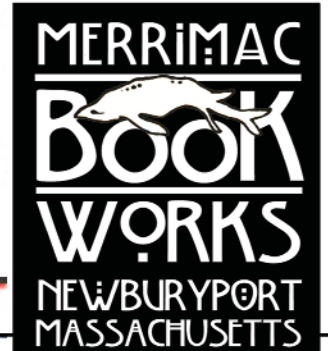
The
ART
Fairy



For My Sweet Tessa ~
and Mother.

For Hannah & Rachel,
my favorite nieces.
For my many
brilliant nephews.

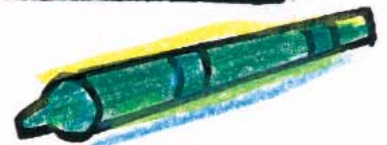
...and for all you
Budding
Artists
out there!

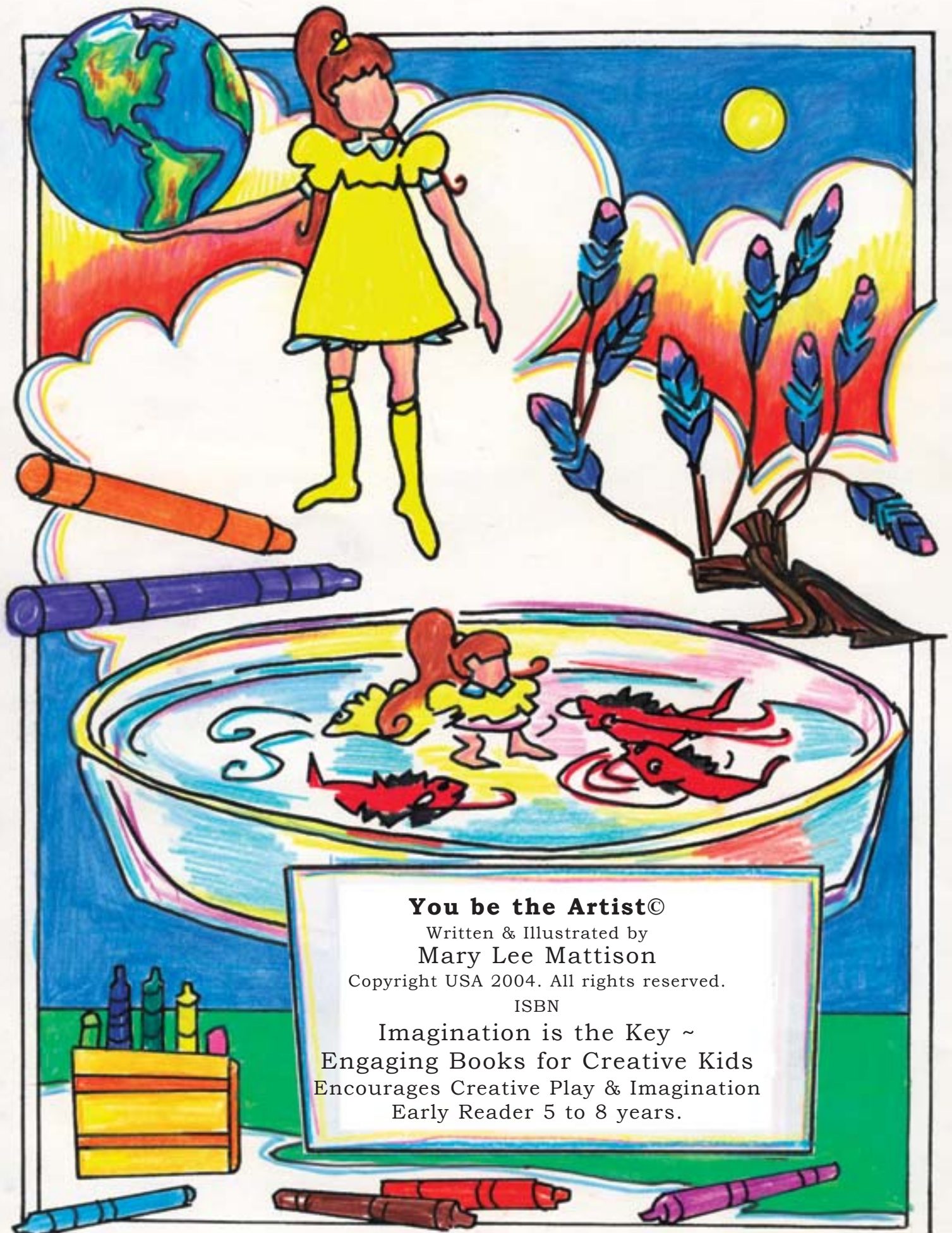


You be the Artist
encourages activity and celebrates the boundless possibilities created by looking at the ordinary world in new and unusual, sometimes downright silly ways.

New England artist Mary Lee Mattison inspires children to explore their creativity via an outrageous sense of humor, whimsical illustrations and wild imagination. She is known locally as **The Art Fairy** for giving out free boxes of crayons and original drawings to color.

www.theartfairy.com
www.maryleemattison.com





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ISBN

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Engaging Books for Creative Kids
Encourages Creative Play & Imagination
Early Reader 5 to 8 years.

