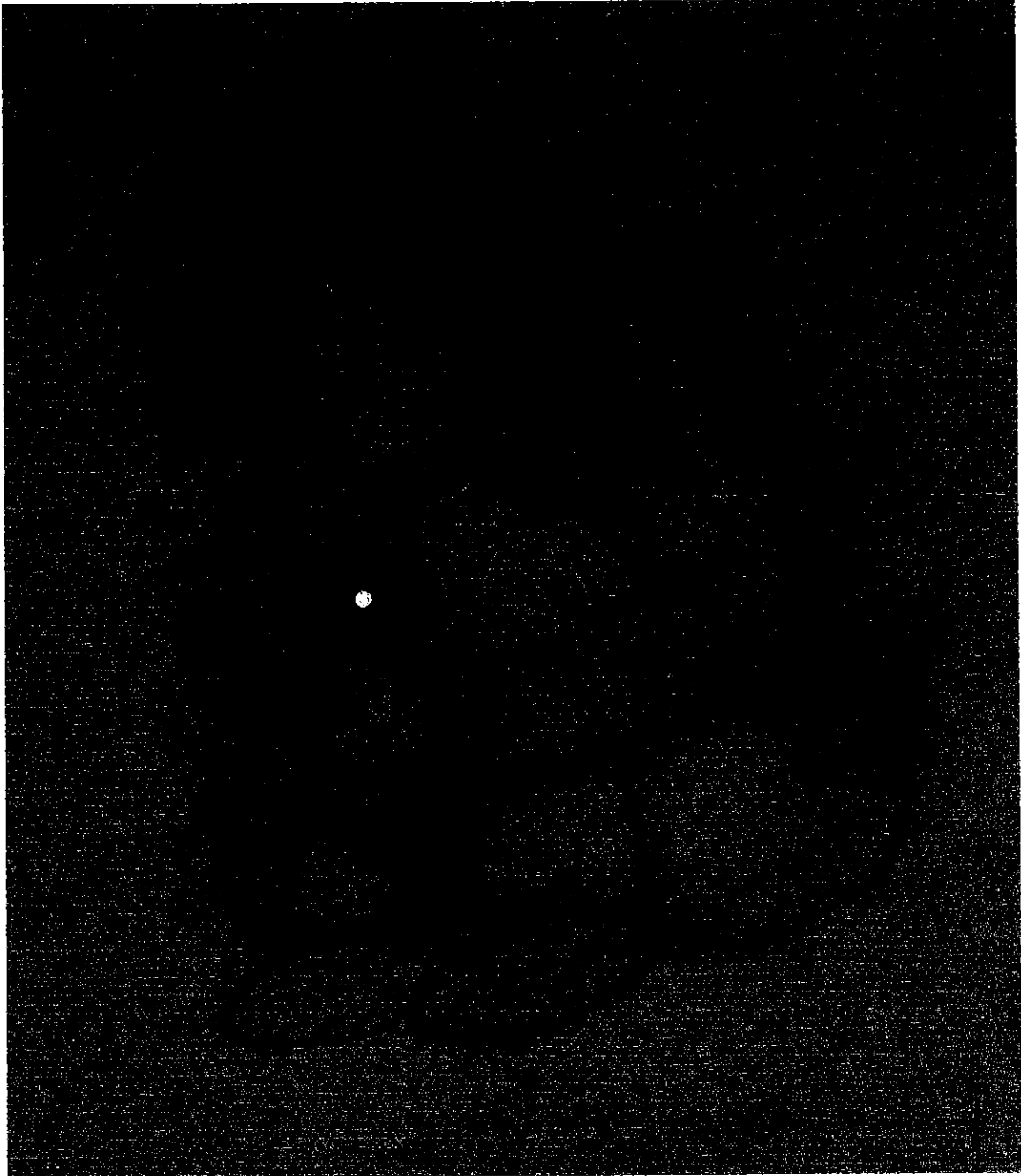


Finders Keepers



*Poems and illustrations by
Justin Bateman*

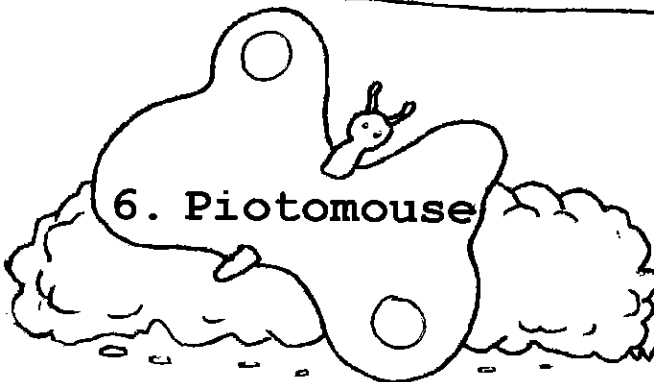
Wildlife:



3. Un-conker-a-ball



5. Flat-pack



7. Sky dive

8. Crazy golf

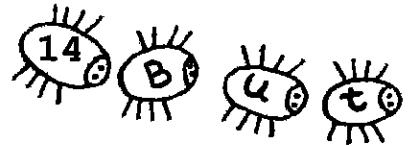
9. Arm pits

10. Plumbing

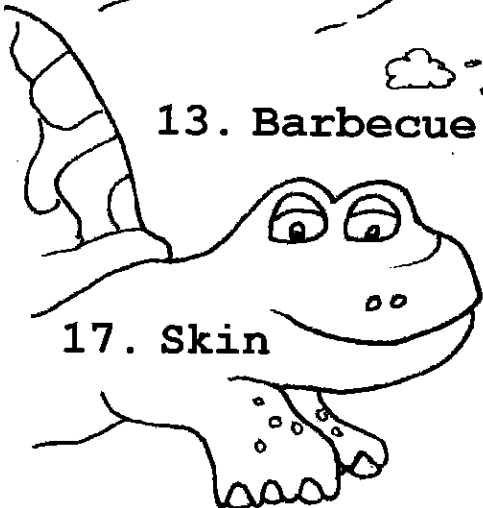


12. Sunbathing

13. Barbecue



15.

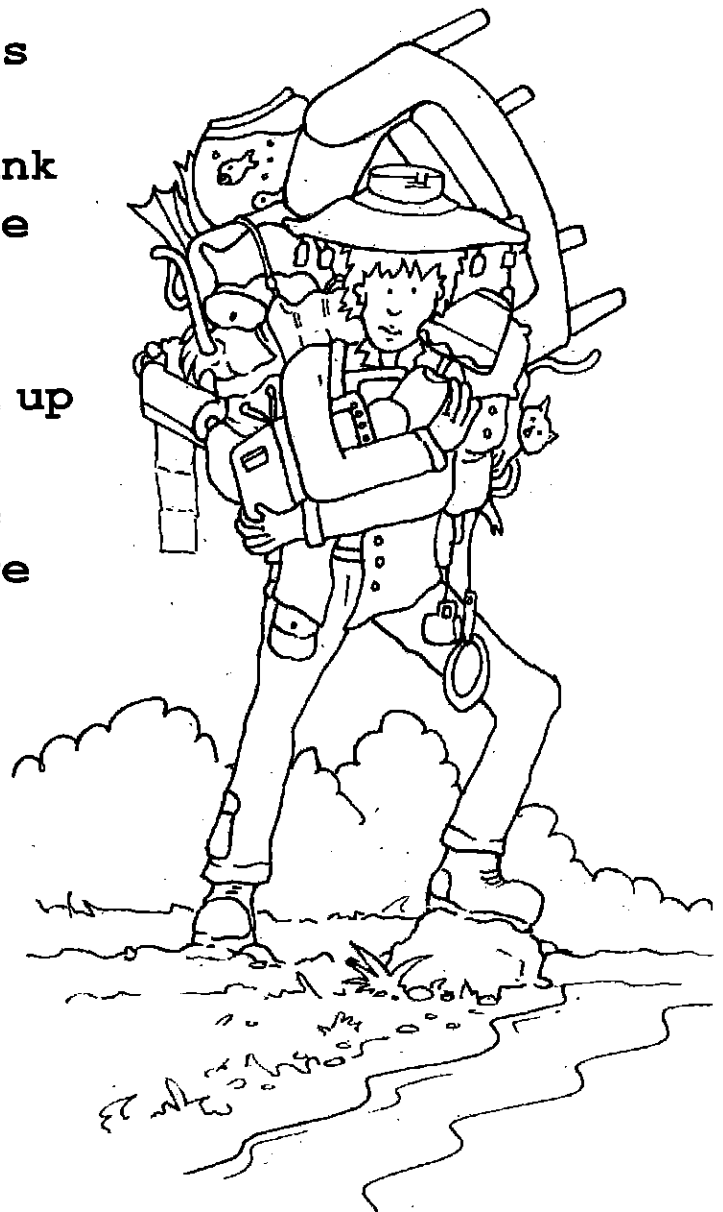


16. Allergy Allan

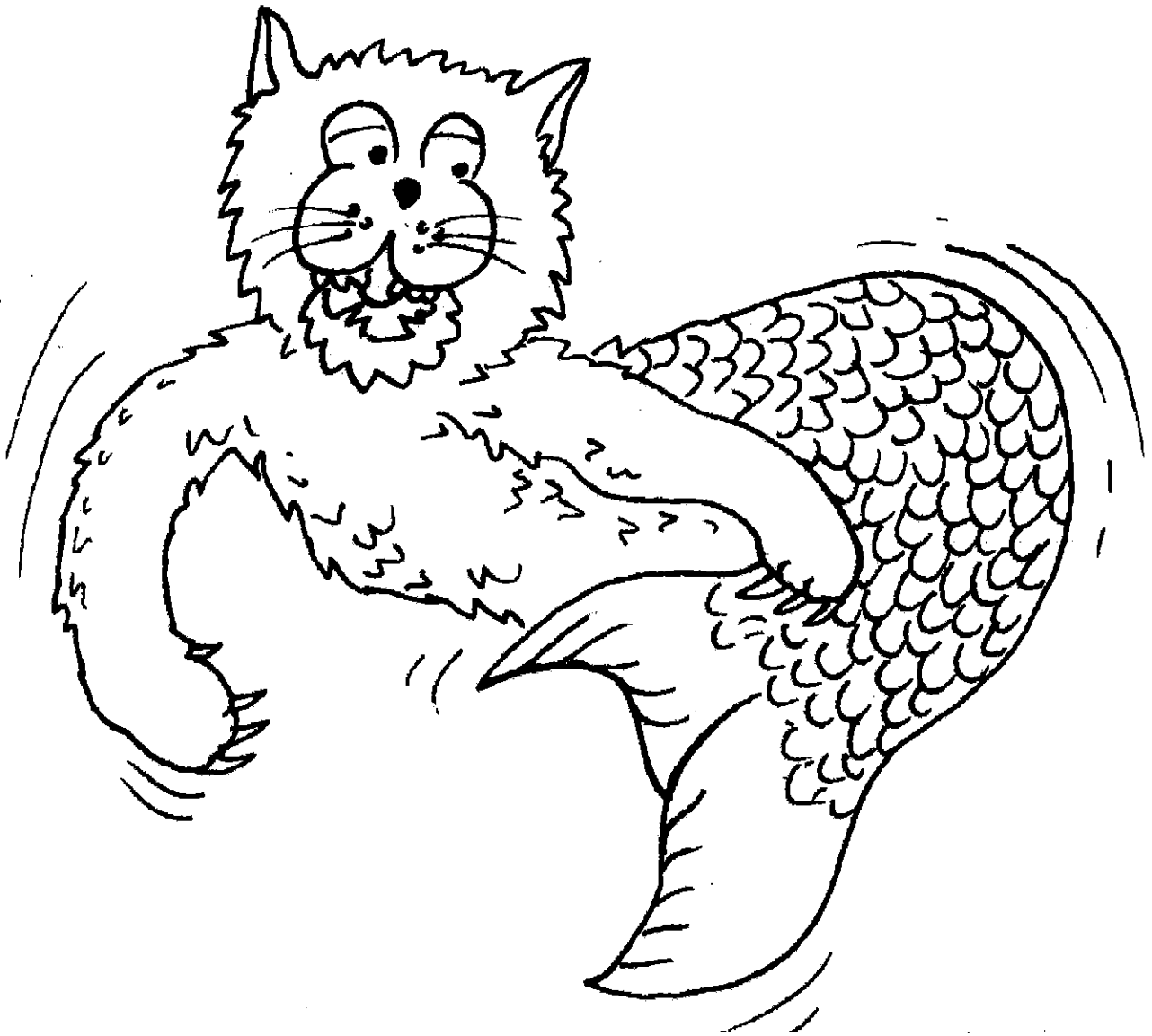
18. Catapult

Great outdoors .

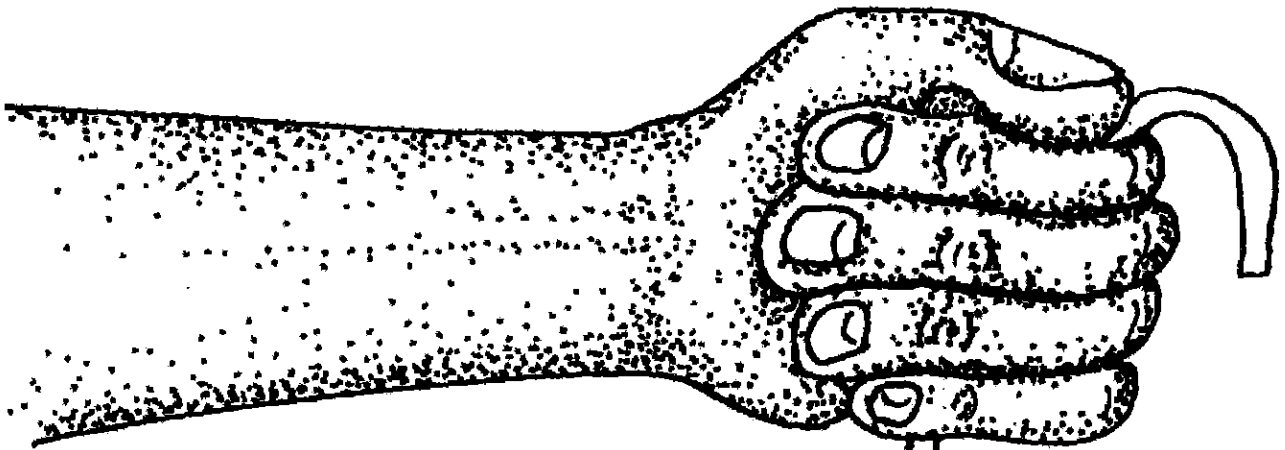
Let' s go back to nature!
Camping' s really neat,
Survive on next to nothing,
nothing but our two feet,
But of course we' ll need a
tent, and enough food to see
us through,
And I' d better take two
chairs, and a hairdryer
(that' s for you) ,
And what if it pours with
rain? We' ll need umbrella' s
and boots,
And I' ve packed the fish tank
with two spare nets, in case
we find some newts,
And I' ll bring the
television, it should pick up
the channels,
And I' ve got the couch, the
lamp and table and ten spare
flannels,
I can' t wait to get to the
campsite, it' s going to
be so much fun,
Off to the wilderness, to
be alone, along with
everyone .



Catfish



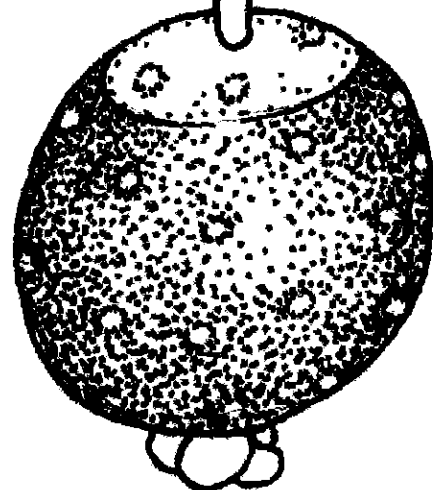
The catfish tried to catch himself,
And that must be because,
The catfish tried to catch himself,
When he realised what he was.

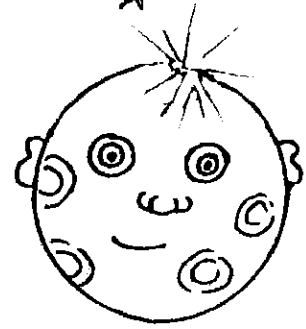
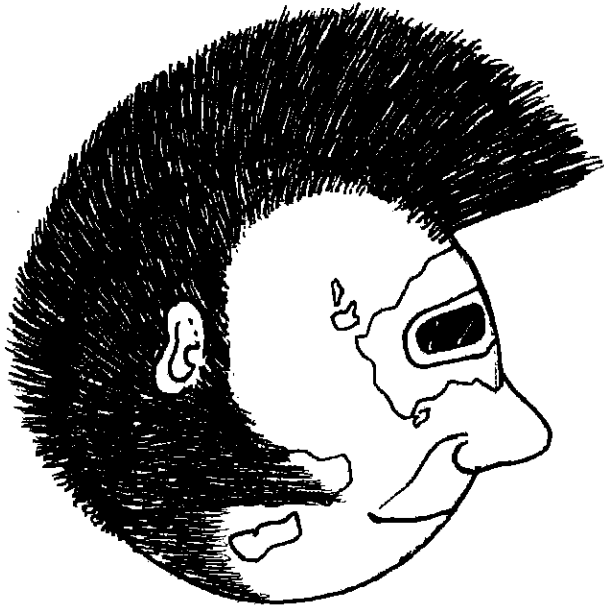


Un-conker-a-ball

No one can beat my conker,
It beats all the rest,
It holds all the records,
It's the very best.

No one can beat my conker,
Theirs are far too small,
Mines been freshly painted,
(It was my dads golf ball).





Lawnmower man

I was cutting the grass just yesterday,
When I heard a shrieking voice shout
"Hey"!

"You always cut my hair this way"

So I listened closely to the lawns request,
And by his instruction I cut the rest,

It took many hours to perm and blue rinse,

★ He must have been happy, I'm so busy since,
Bowl cuts, Mohicans, flat tops, the lot.

My last request is the best I got,

One special lawn who's hairs always been short

Is Wimbledon's best kept grass tennis court,

He said he was eager to keep in with the times,

He'd rather a quiff than out-dated tram lines,

So I did my best when the players went mad,

I tried to explain it was a passing fad,

Now I'm thinking bigger still,

There's no-one can stop me, at least

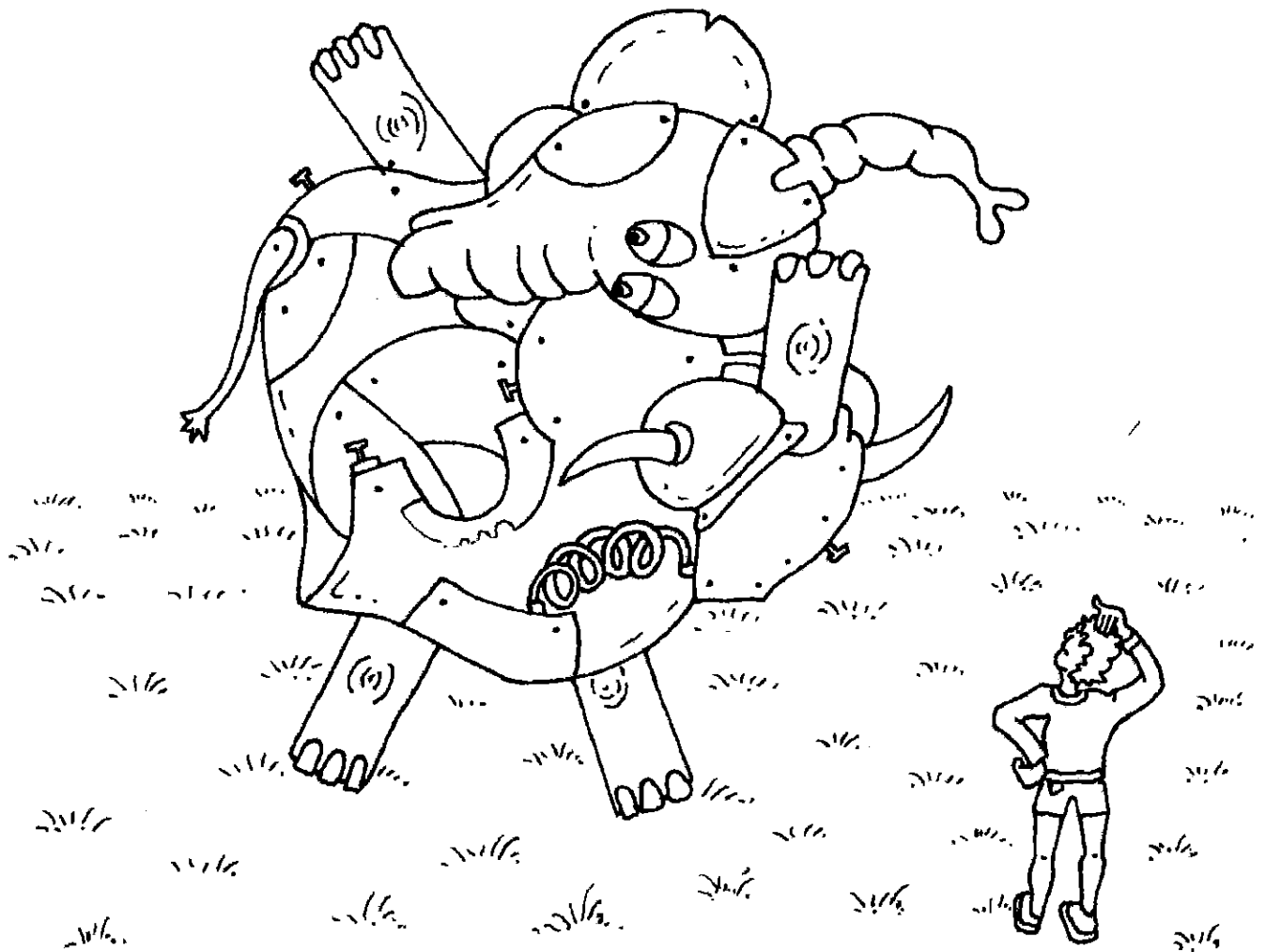
until.....

I've polished the moons great shiny bold head,

And given the world a Mohican instead.

Flat-pack

For my birthday I got a flat-pack,
It's made but I really can't see,
Quite how it's meant to assemble,
Just what on earth could it be?

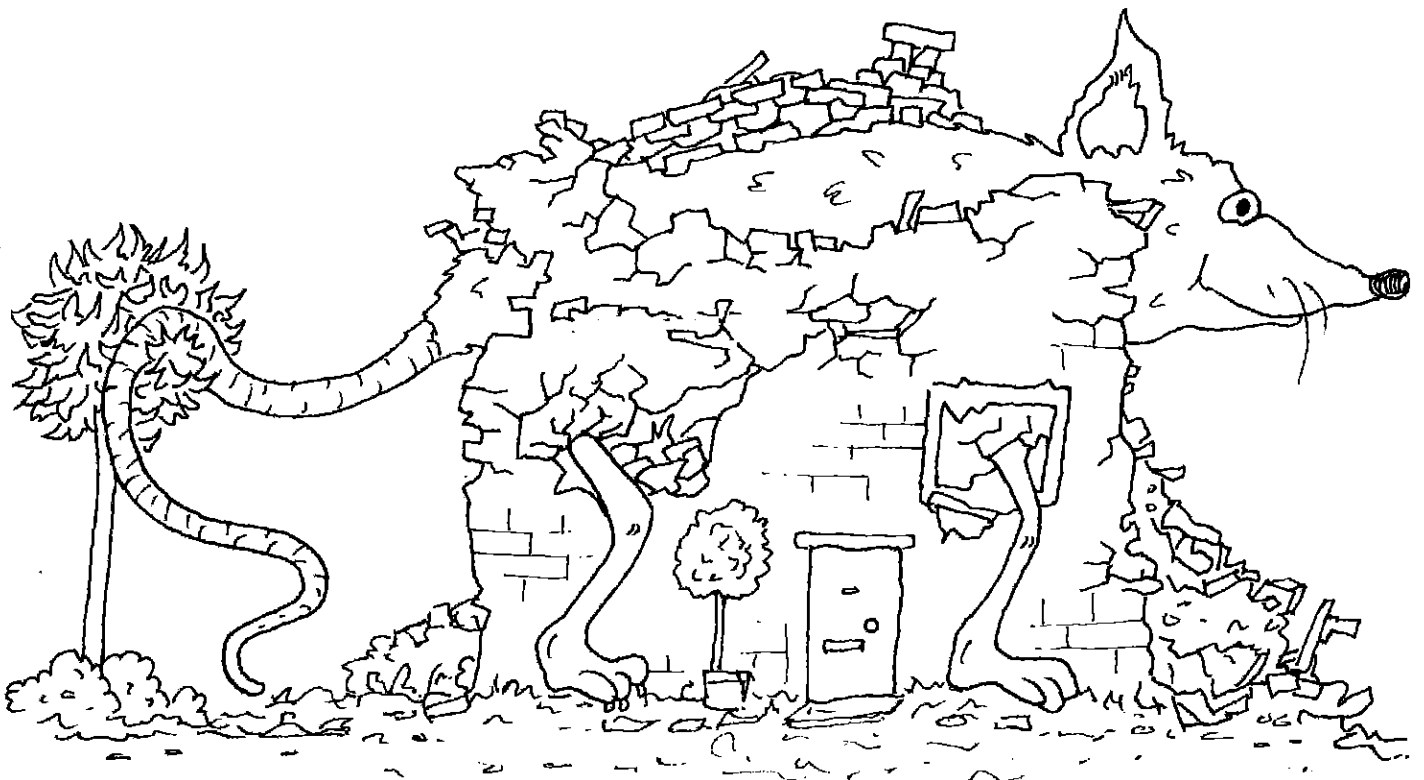


The Bronty Monty Piotomouse

The Bronty Monty Piotomouse,
Is an unusual mouse indeed,
It comes with an owners manual,
That as normal I forgot to read.

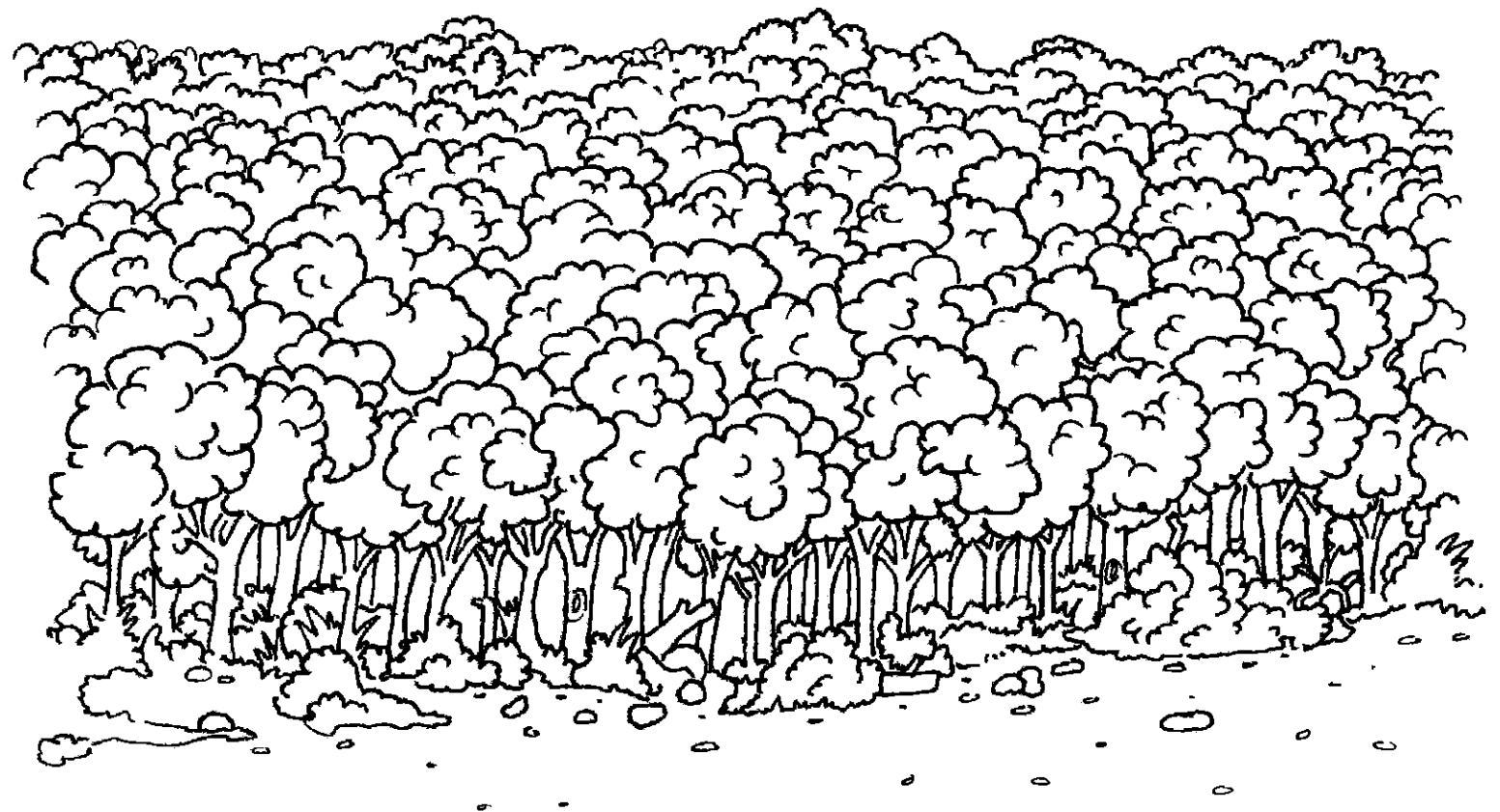
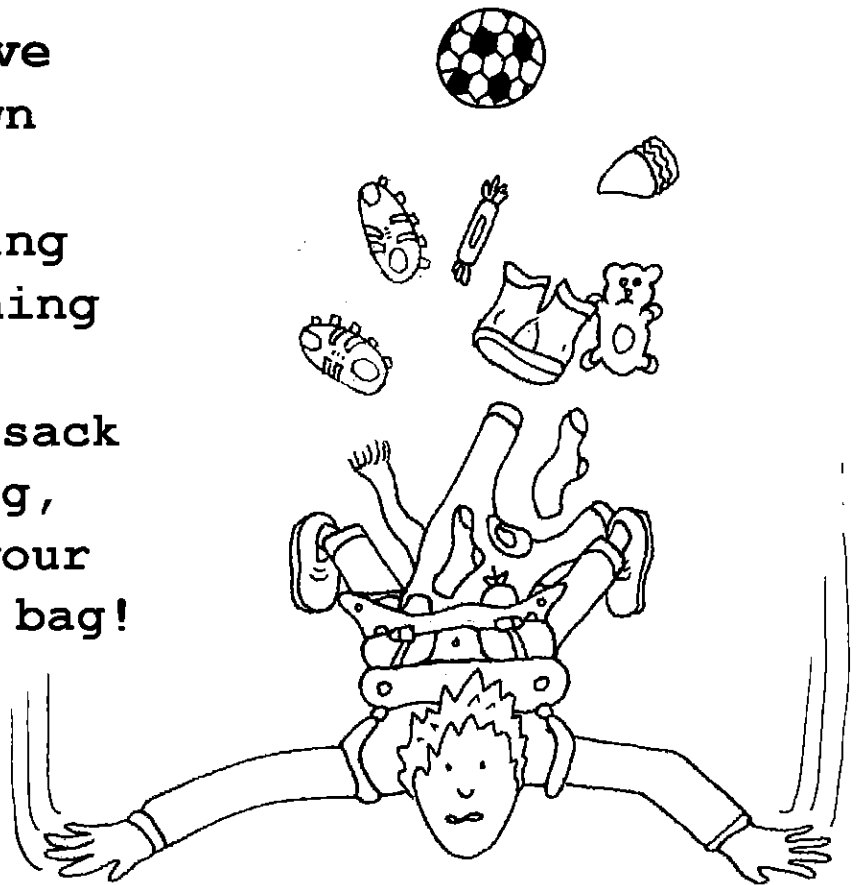
My friends had dogs and cats,
And I was allowed a small pet,
So I thought I'd buy a mouse,
How much smaller can you get?

The Bronty Monty Piotomouse,
Is an unusual mouse indeed,
I wish I'd read the manual,
It's such an enorMOUSE breed!



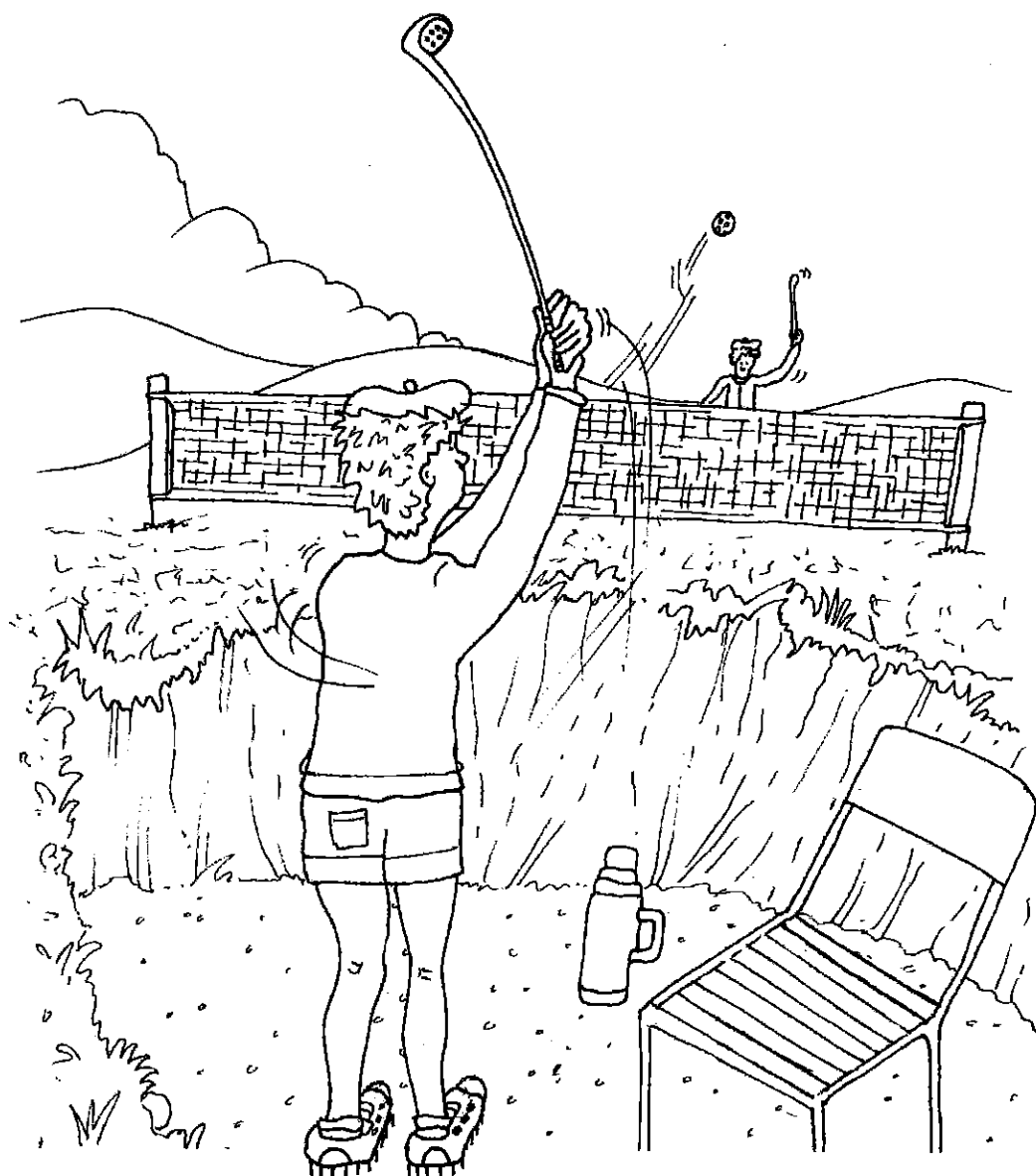
Sky dive

When you sky dive
prepare your own
pack,
Once your falling
there's no turning
back,
And on your rucksack
place a large tag,
To avoid using your
brothers school bag!



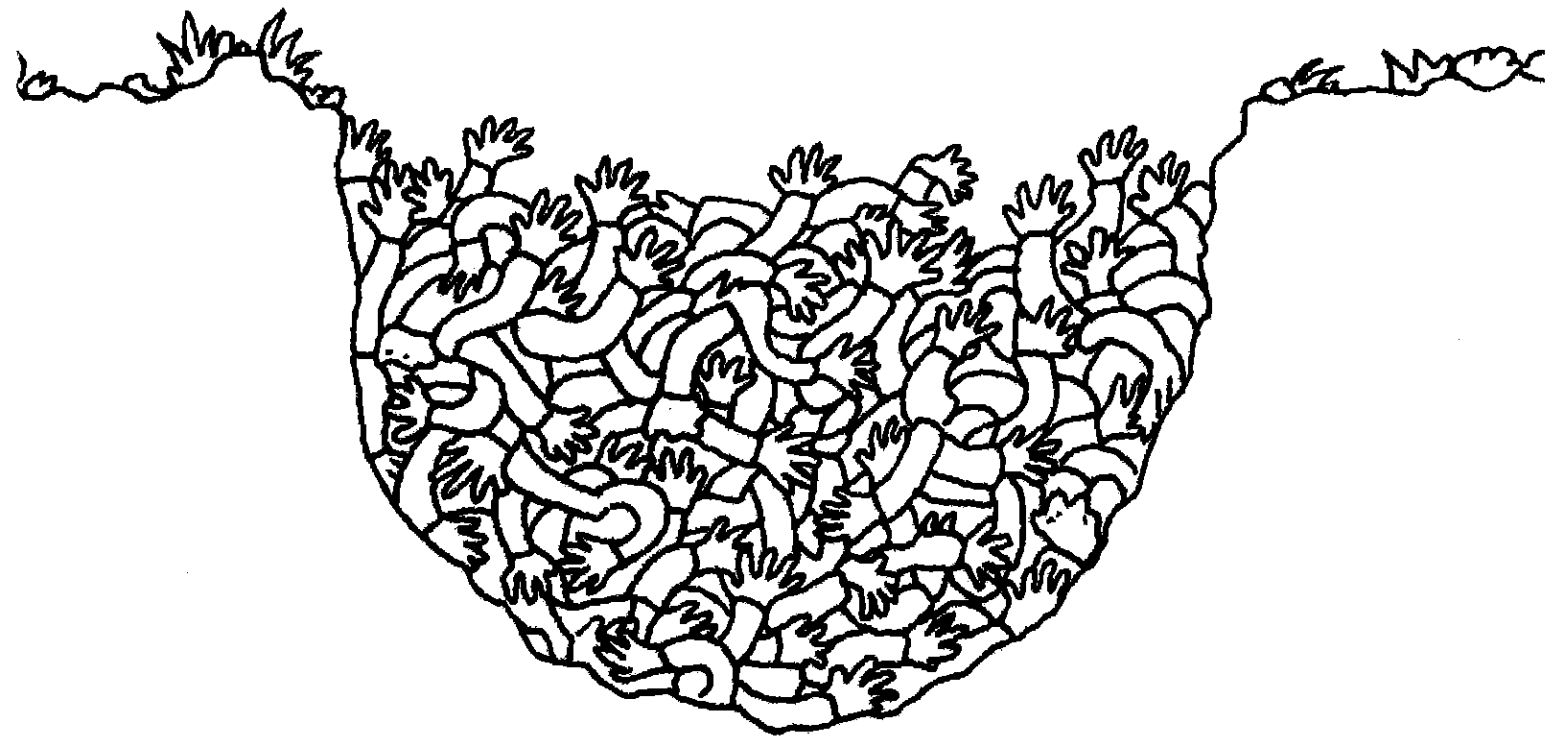
Crazy golf

Why am I wearing spiked white shoes?
The type that a sprinting runner would use?
There's a bunker, a beach with sand but no sea,
You could have said to bring a deck chair with me,
And really, what kind of racket is this?
It's clear when you serve that I'm bound to miss,
I've searched and I've searched but I can't find
the goal,
And with the state of this pitch, and the size of
that hole,
There isn't much chance of anything at all,
'Hah' ! I hit it, now where's my ball?



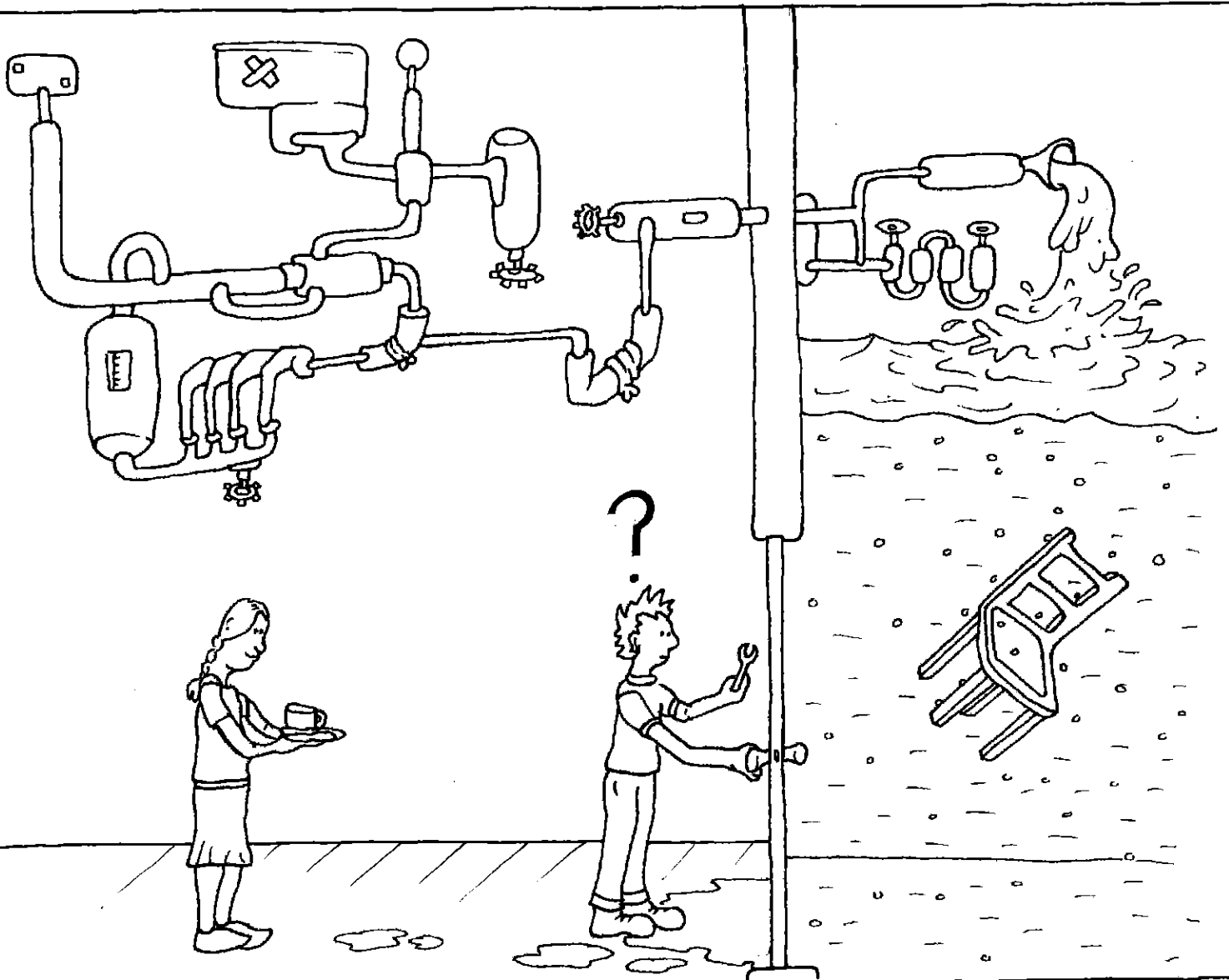
Arm pits

Armpits are a most horrible thing,
But what causes greater alarm,
Is there must be loads of people,
Who didn't want their arms!



Plumbing

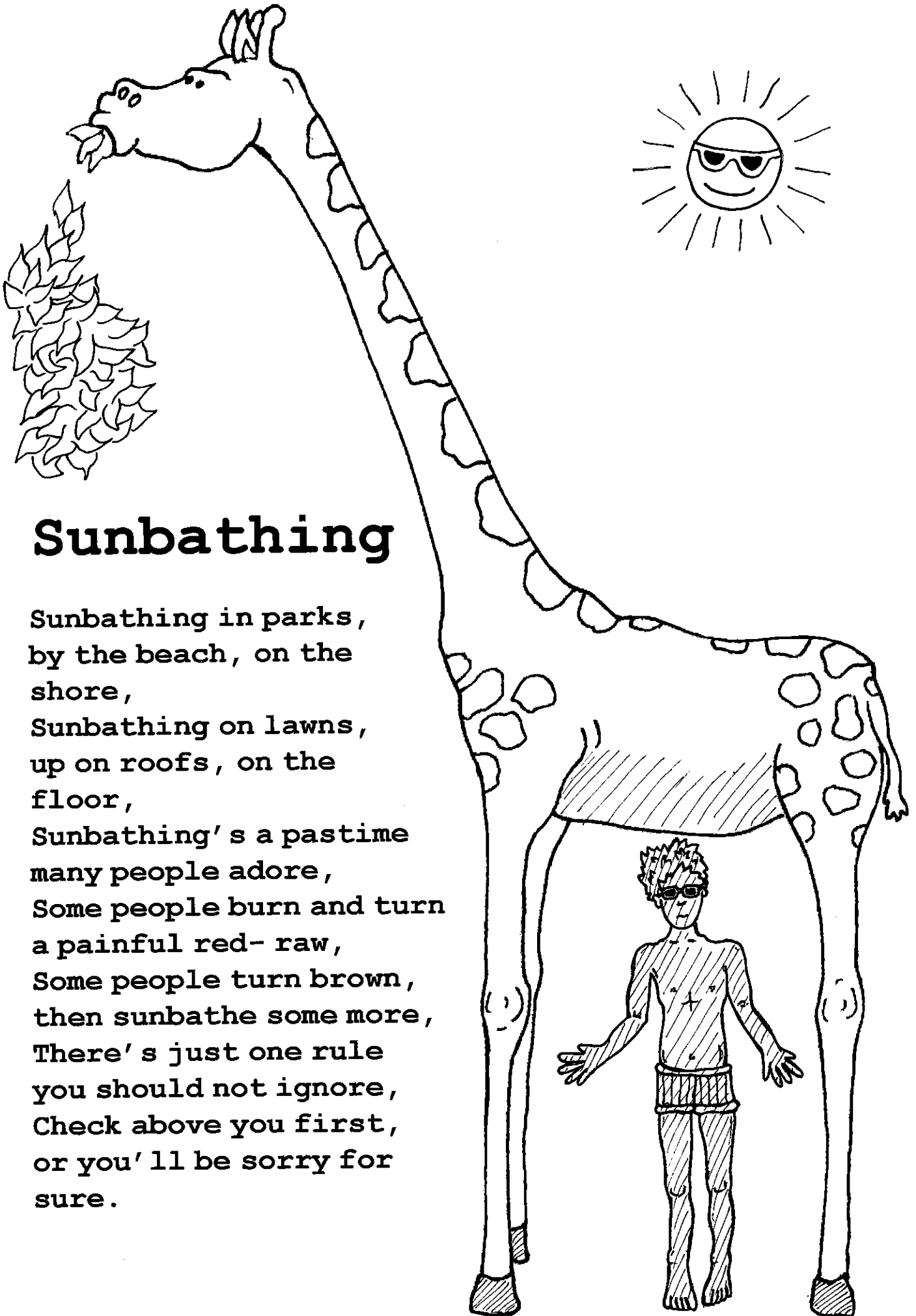
"The plumbing in here is a hazard my dear,
I've tried hitting the pipe with a hammer,
I turned some handles, and tightened some
bolts,
And twisted some pipes with a spanner,
I think I should check the water tank,
And reduce the flow to a pour,
I'll just pop through and fix the leak,
Why is there such a wet floor"?



Footnote:

My poor feet carry me every day,
So I just gave 'em a holiday,
It's clear if they left me here alone
I couldn't stand or leave my home,
So instead of them going and leaving me here,
I'm doing handstands, so we can stay near.





Sunbathing

Sunbathing in parks,
by the beach, on the
shore,
Sunbathing on lawns,
up on roofs, on the
floor,
Sunbathing's a pastime
many people adore,
Some people burn and turn
a painful red-raw,
Some people turn brown,
then sunbathe some more,
There's just one rule
you should not ignore,
Check above you first,
or you'll be sorry for
sure.

Barbecue

The best thing about having a
barbecue
Is if the food goes up in
flames,
It's merely regarded as
flame-grilled,
And no one ever complains.



But.

You've got a lovely voice ... but,

It can be more of a drone,

I really like your hair ... but,

It is a little over-grown,

Your clothes are really great ... but,

You can look quite a scruff,

I like your sense of humour ... but,

You've a very peculiar laugh,

I'd really like to see you ... but,

I'm going out tonight,

I'd really like to stay in touch ... but,

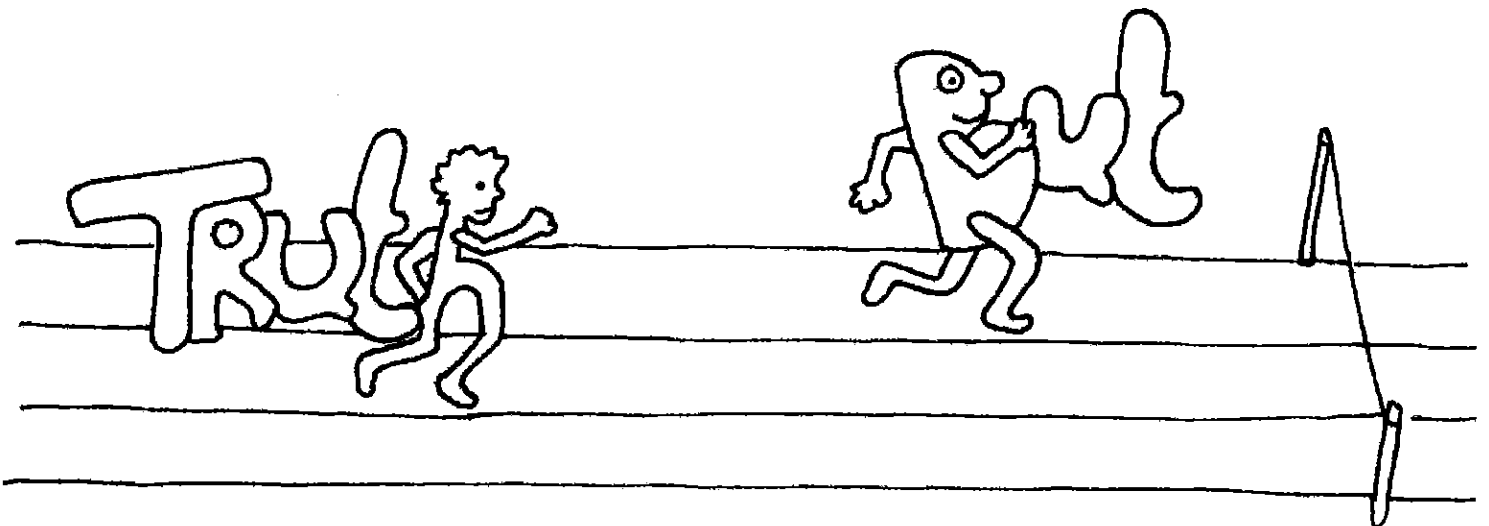
I can't promise that I'll write.

I've come round to believing,

There's no instinct in my gut,

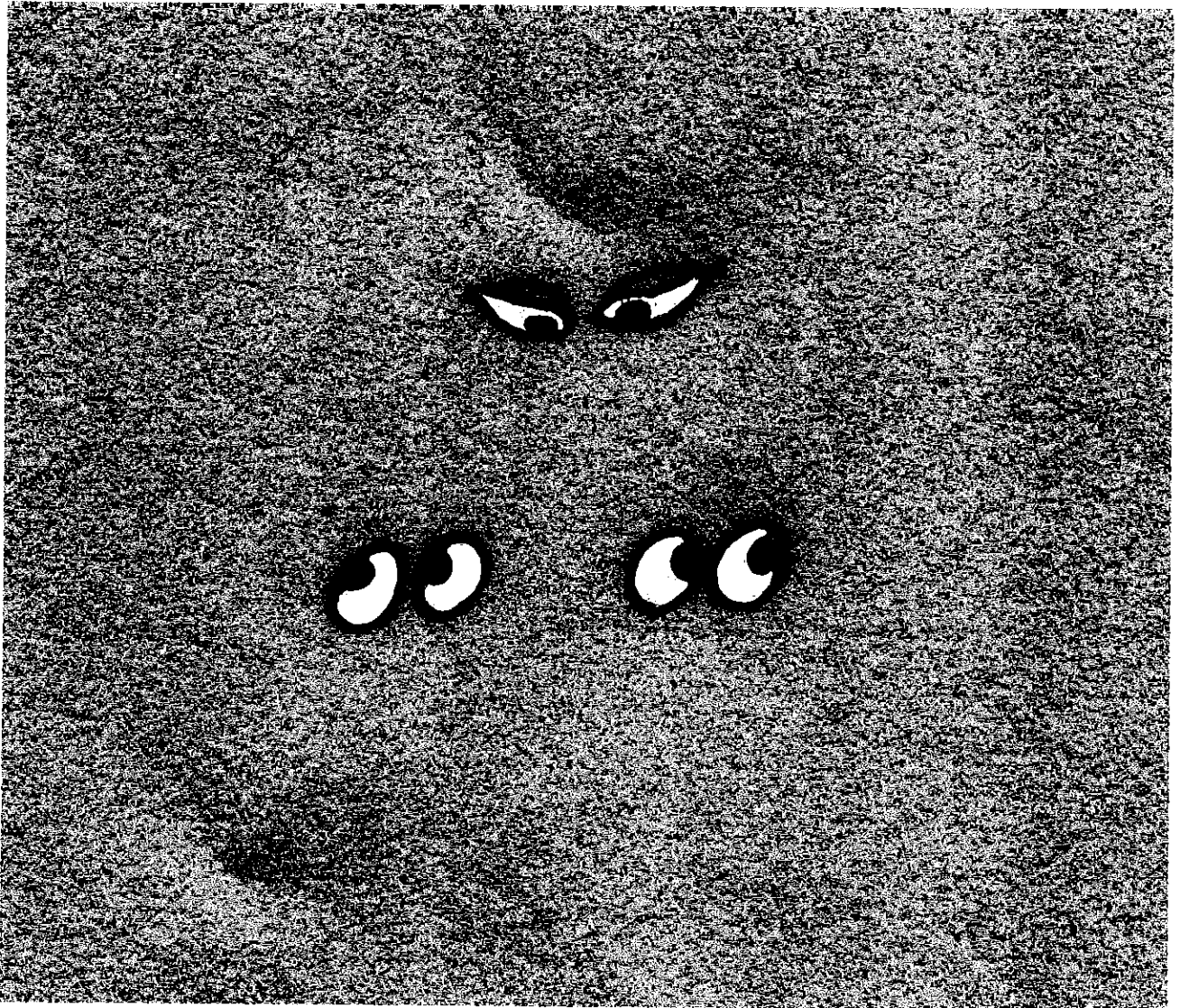
The truth of what they are saying,

Is always after ... but.



Dark

It's dark in here and I can't see,
I'm touching someone, is that you or me?
If this is my hand, why have I three?
Or is someone else's on my knee?



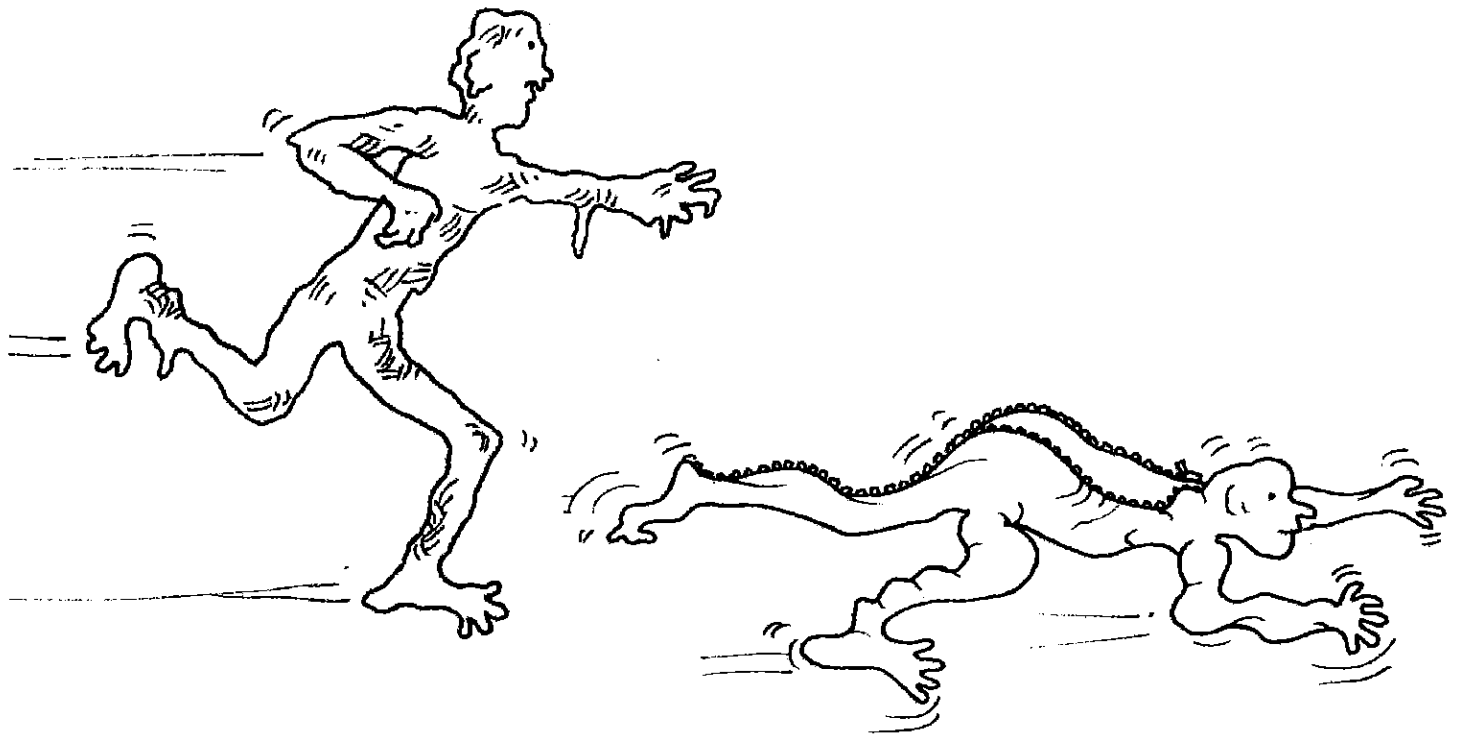
Allergy Allan

If you pick up a hiccup, be thankful it's not,
The hiccup that Allergy Allan has got,
I gave him some water, but his chest went berserk,
It was far too fizzy, and he started to burp,
So I gave him a fright, to scare them both off,
But instead he went white, and started to cough,
Burping, hiccuping, and coughing was worse,
So I took Allan to see the nice nurse,
I felt quite guilty, so I took some flowers,
Unfortunately he's not stopped sneezing for
hours,
I gave him a hanky when he started to sneeze,
But the dust from my pocket encouraged his
wheeze,
I ordered some food and a glass of coke,
A carrot got stuck and he started to choke,
He's ill so often it's hard to believe,
But he seems to get better whenever I leave!



Skin

Bats really make my skin crawl,
But what's worse is my crawling
skin,
As without it here to protect
me,
I can't keep everything in!



Catapult

Standing right here is a dangerous place,
It's where few like to be,
But there are times when you have to face,
The fear of adversity,
Not by choice or wrong decision,
But simply by timing and chance,
He may not have a stone in the
sling,
I shall hold my stance,
The elastic may snap, or his
hand may slip,
Whatever happens is
fate,
I'm not scared, I'm
no drip,
It's just
the waiting
I hate.

