

EXIT 44



# A Crane Named Steve

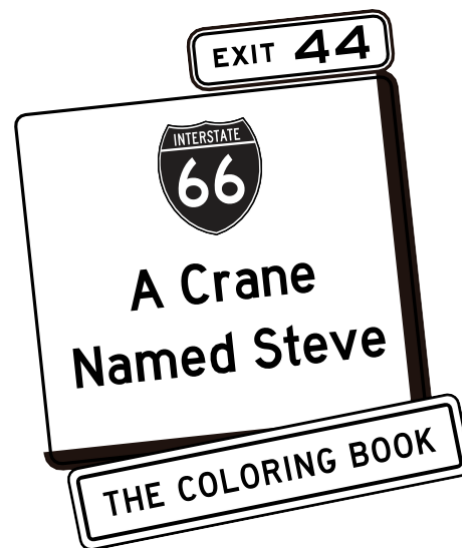
THE COLORING BOOK

By Katherine Gotthardt  
Illustrated by Patrick King





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Written by Katherine Gotthardt  
Illustrated by Patrick King



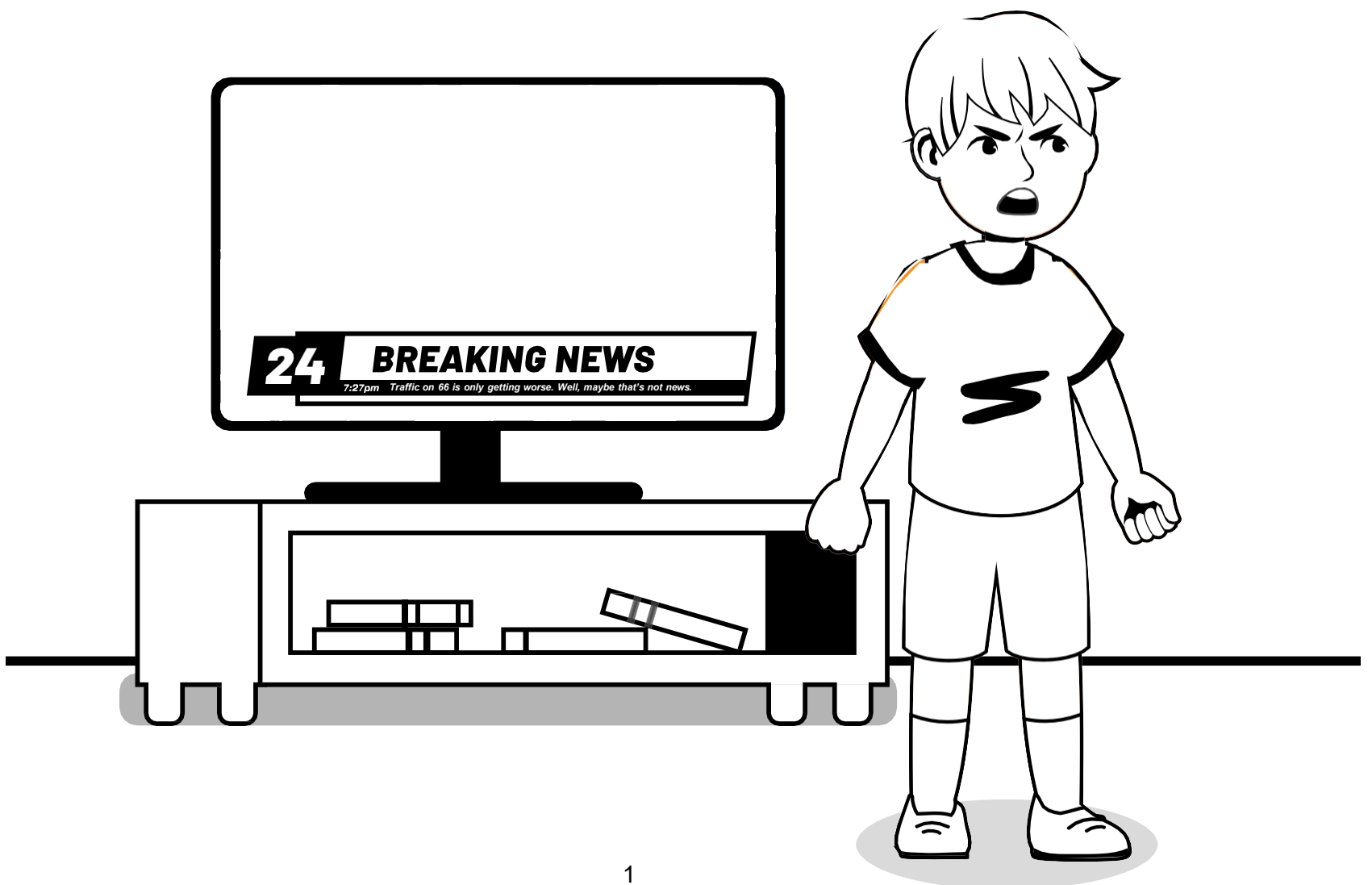
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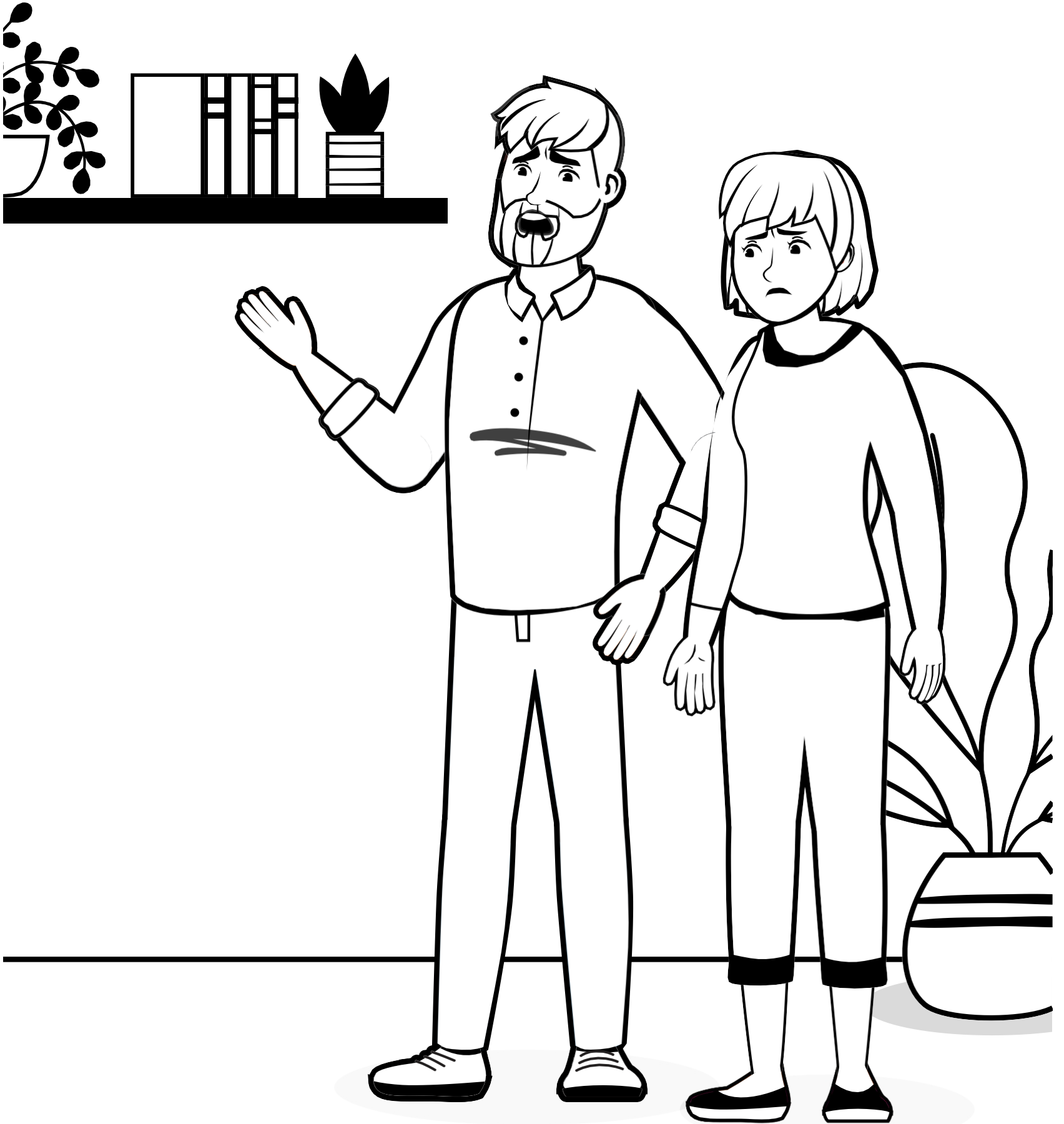
*To all hard workers, to everyone who  
has ever had to move, and to all who  
are currently stuck in traffic.*

**One day, my mom and dad told me something I did not like.**

**They said there was too much traffic where we lived. They wanted to get new jobs and live somewhere else.**

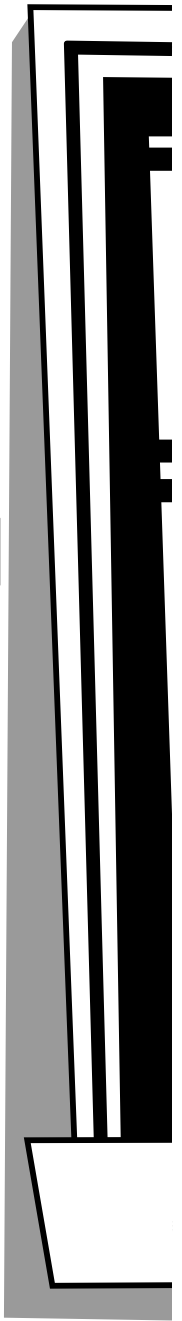
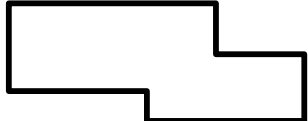
**They said it would be better. They said we would have more time together. But I was very, very mad! I did not want to move.**

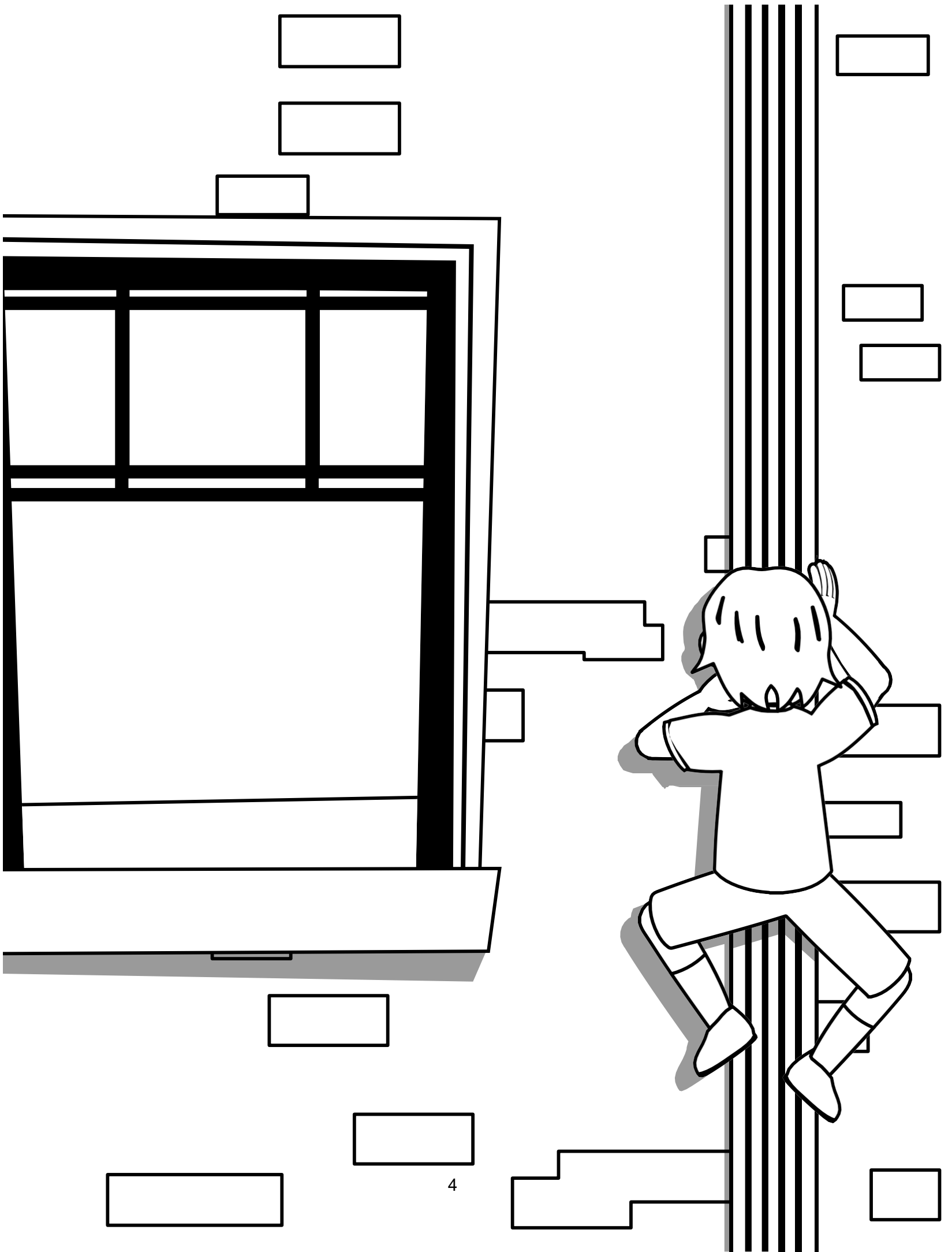




**They told me it would be okay.  
Then they told me to go to bed.  
So I stomped off to bed. But I  
thought, I'll show them!**

**I opened my window, and I  
slid down the gutter. I hit the  
ground (ouch!) and I started to  
run.**





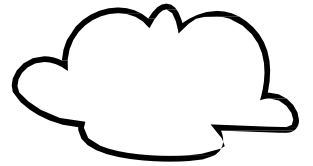
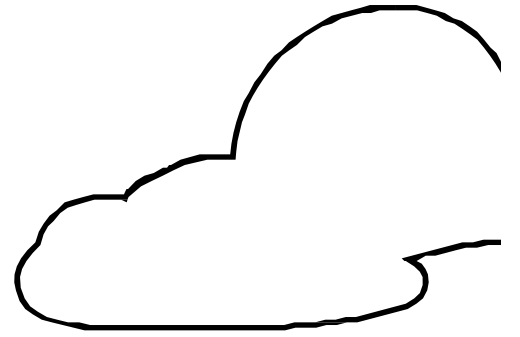


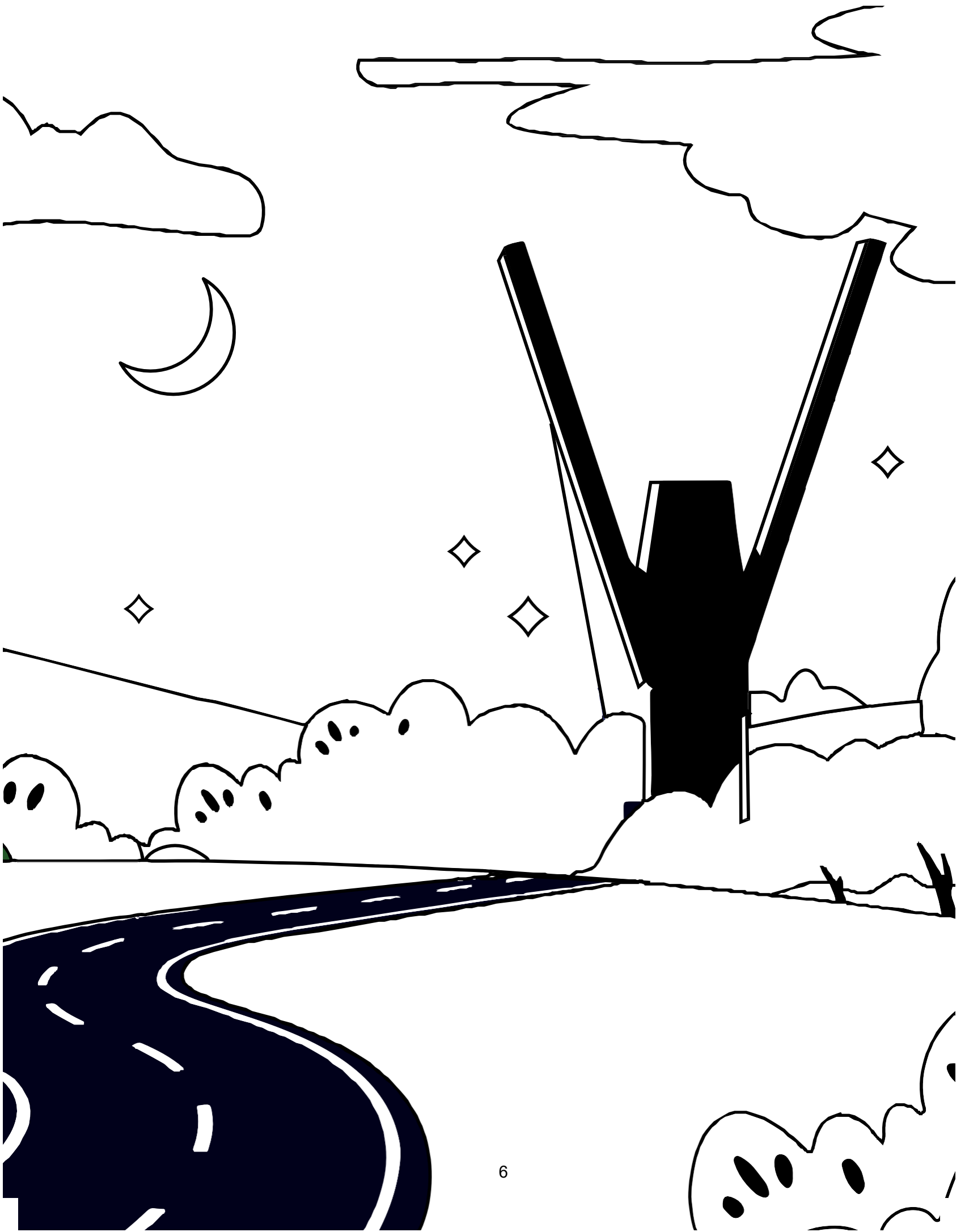


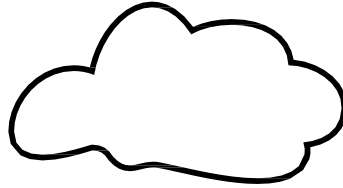
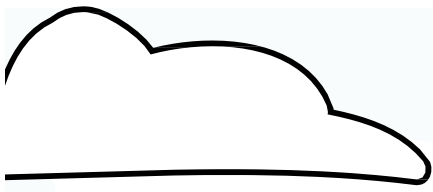
**I ran so far, I went all the way  
down by the highway.**

**Then I stopped and looked up.**

**What was THAT? It was huge!**







**It was the scariest thing I'd ever seen! It looked like a machine with arms.**

**And then...it suddenly moved!**



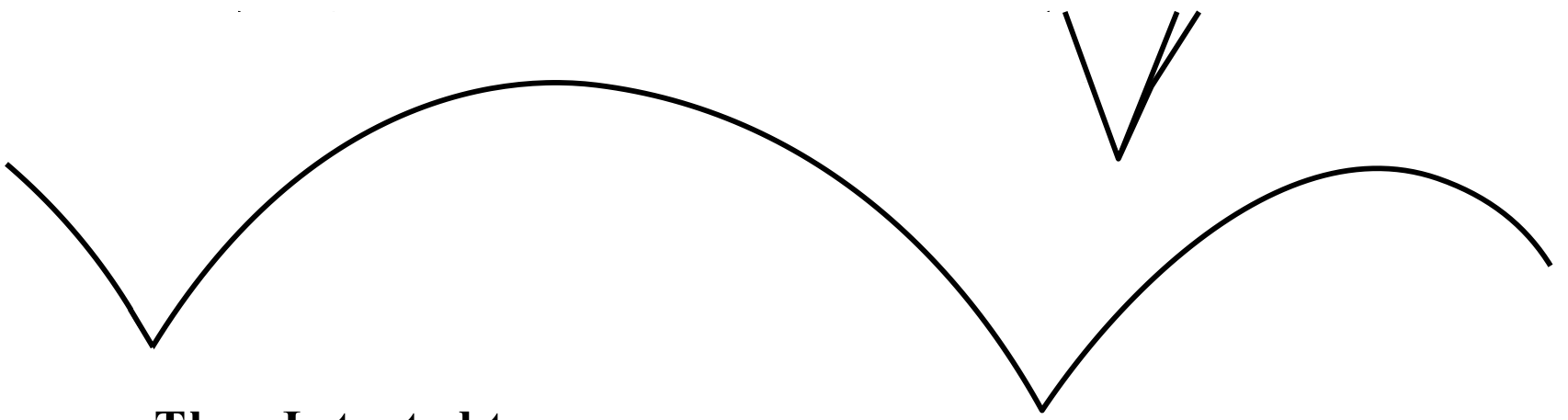
**And then...it said hello to me!**

**And then...“My name is Steve. I’m a crane.”**

**“You...you talk?” I asked. Steve nodded.**







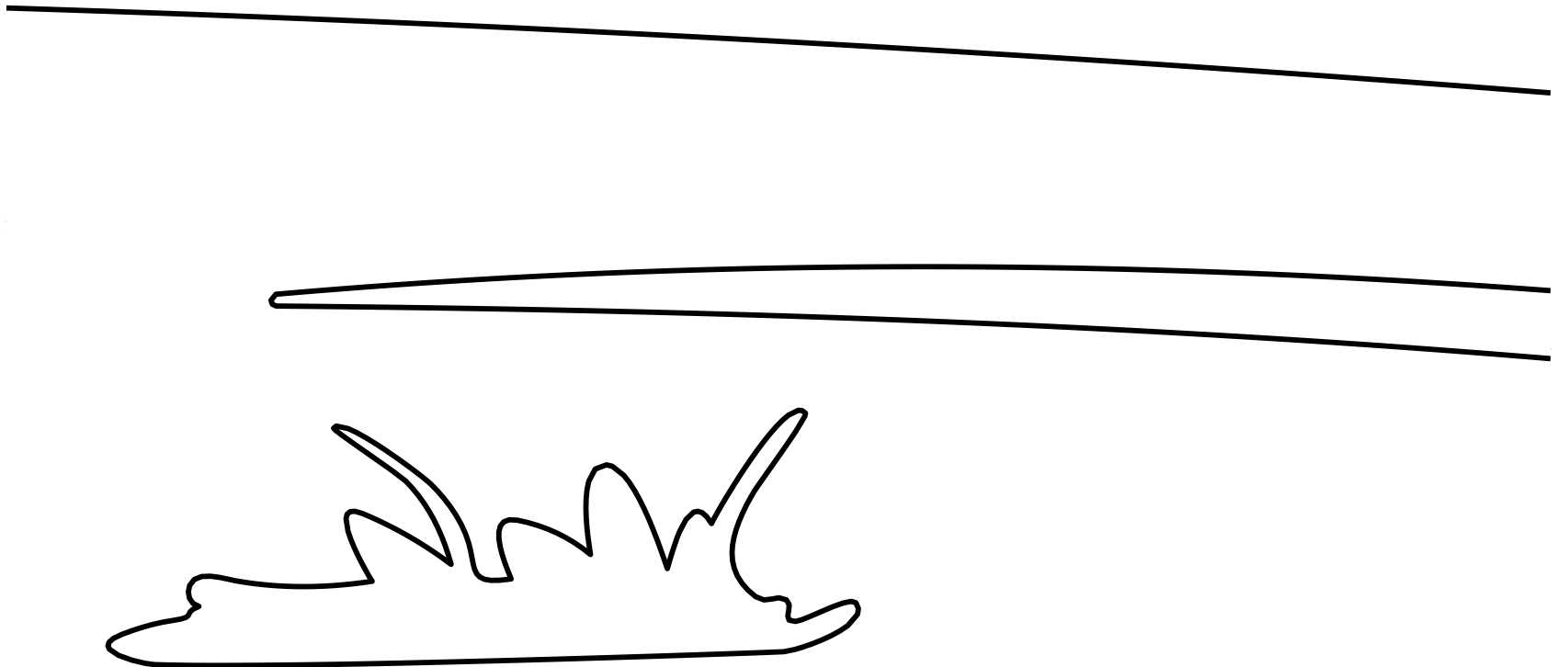
**Then I started to cry.**

**“Oh, it’s okay,” Steve said. “I won’t hurt you. Tell me what’s wrong.”**

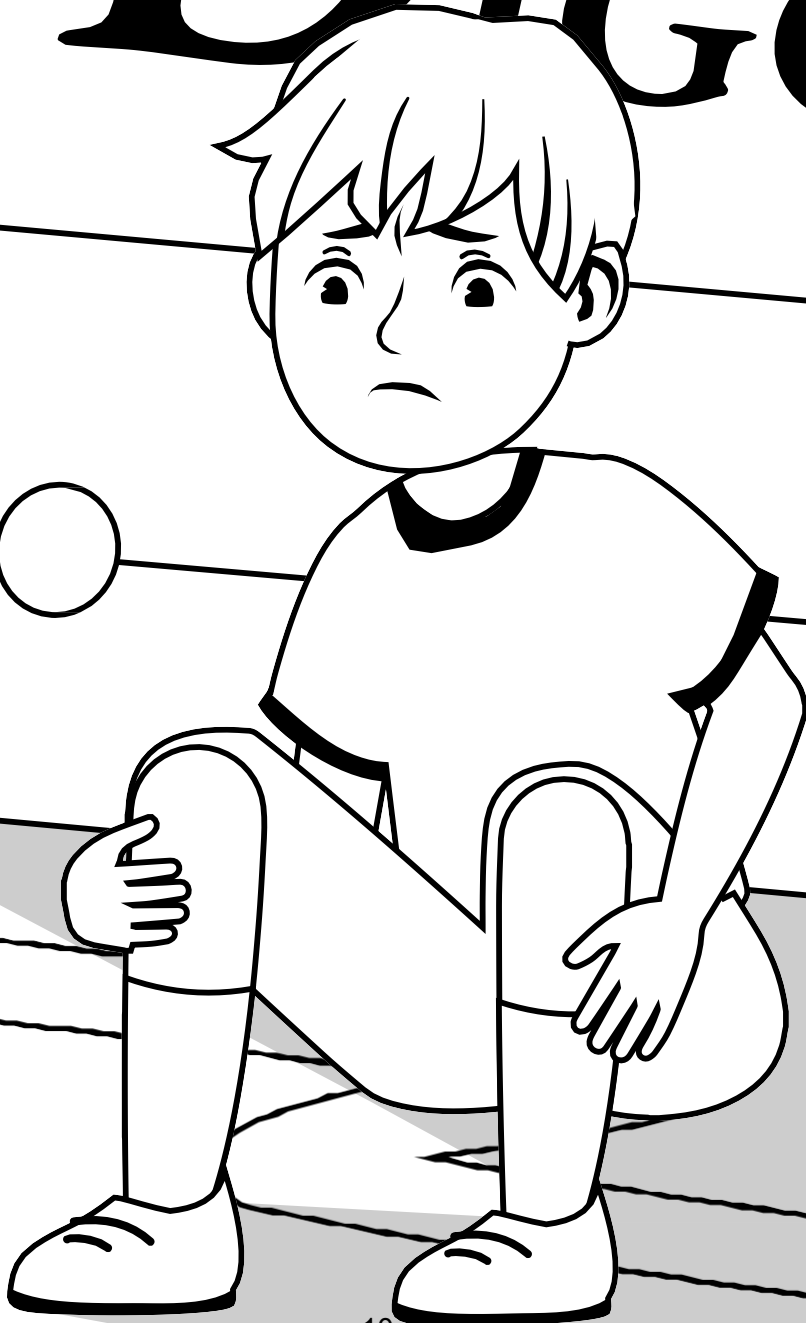
**I wiped my nose on my sleeve. “My mom and dad want to move,” I said. “And I don’t want to!”**

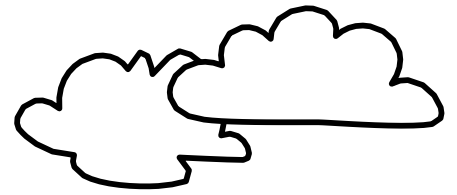
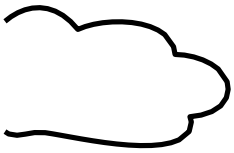
**“Why don’t you want to move?” Steve asked.**

**“All my friends are here. And I like my house and my school. But mom and dad don’t like it here. They are stuck in traffic all the time.”**



# DIGGIN



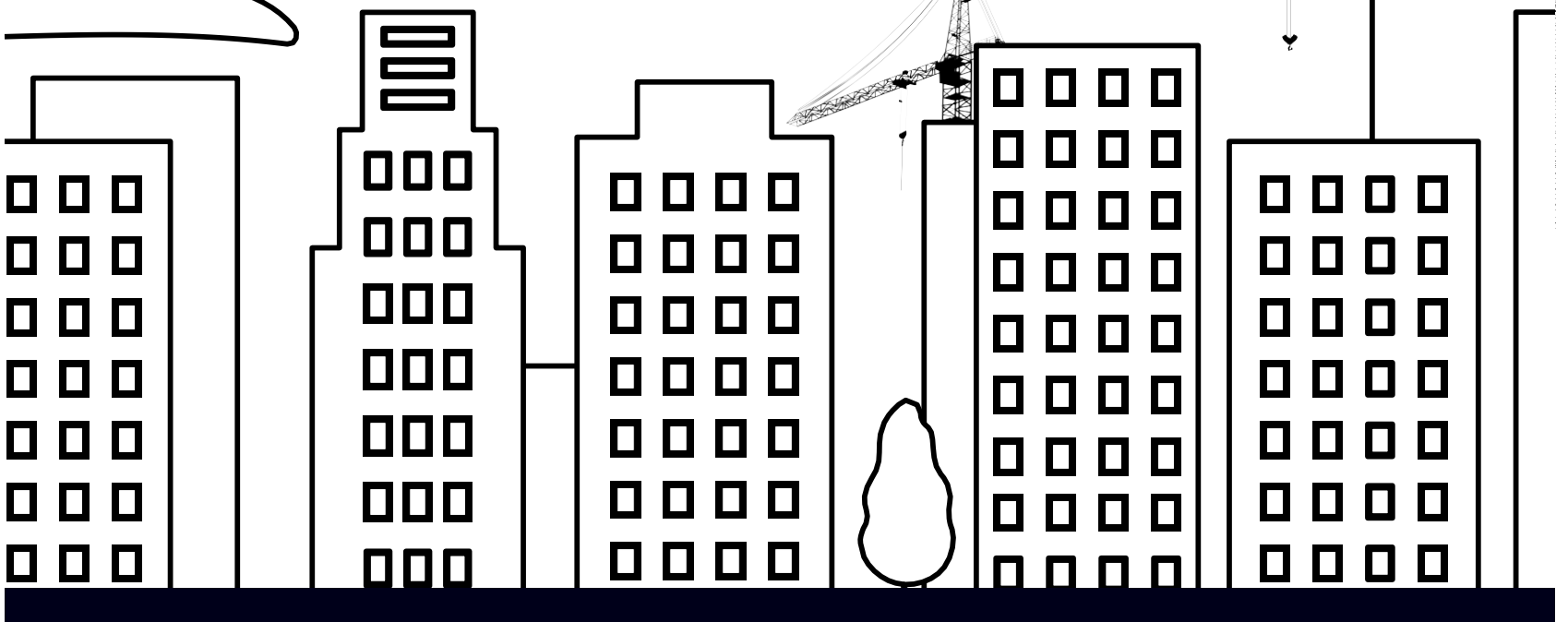
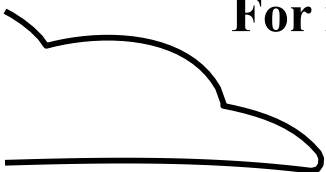


**“Well, I work on bridges and roads,” Steve said. “I help make highways bigger and safer. And I help build bridges and move heavy things.”**

**Steve continued. “I also have brothers and sisters who work on buildings and help make whole towns and cities! But I can’t fix all the traffic. And I have to move for work, like your mom and dad. I do a job, then I go to another place where they need me. I keep my old friends, but I make new ones, too.”**

**“Really?” I asked. “You don’t mind?”**

**“It can be hard, but I like to meet new people. And I like how happy people are to meet me. For instance, I like meeting you.”**







**“I like meeting you, too,” I said. “Can we be friends?”**

**“Of course!” said Steve. “Even when you move, I’ll still be around. But it’s late. Shouldn’t you be home in bed?”**

**I nodded.**

**Then the huge crane made a creaking noise. He bent down and asked, “Need a lift?”**



**I nodded. And home I rode, on that great, big wonderful crane!**

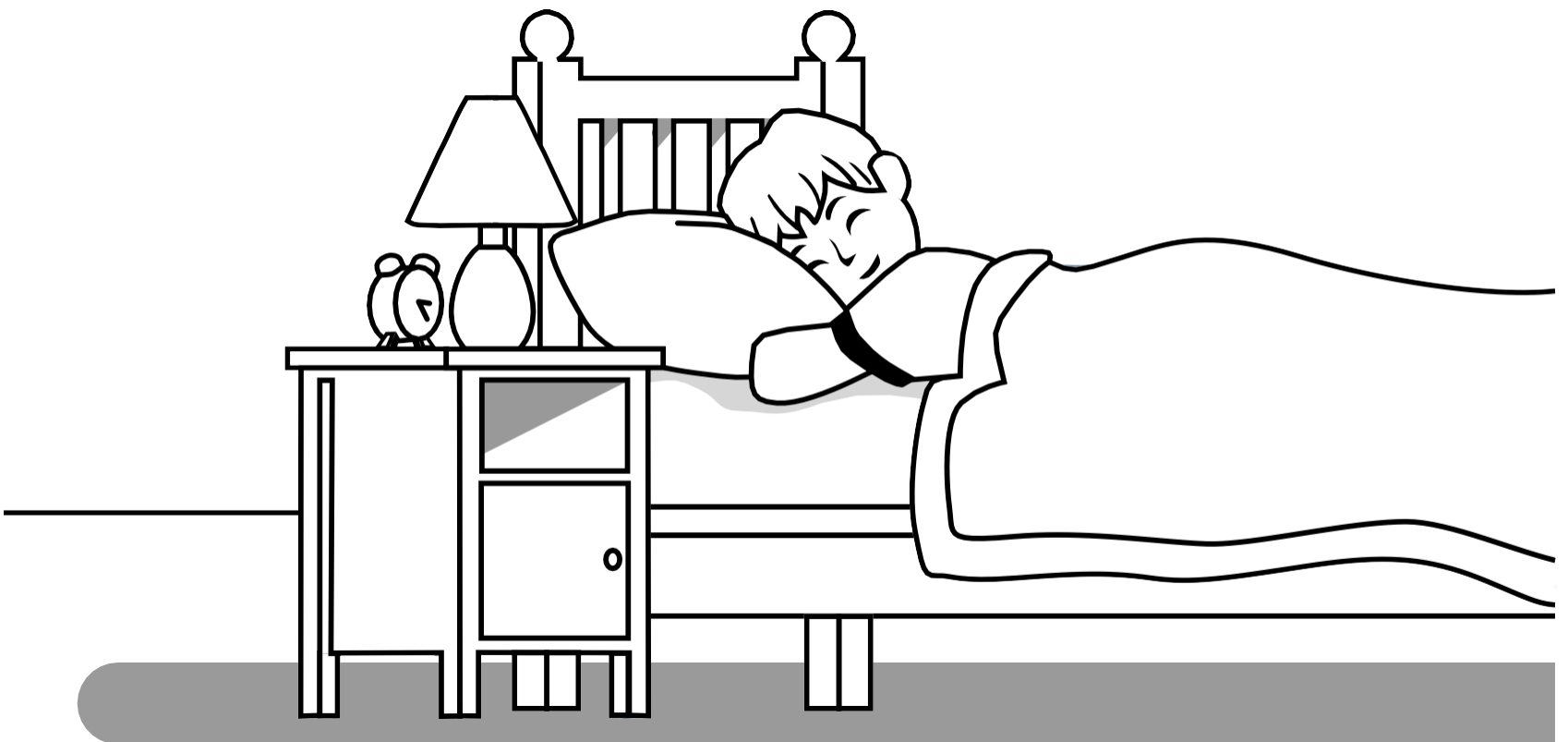


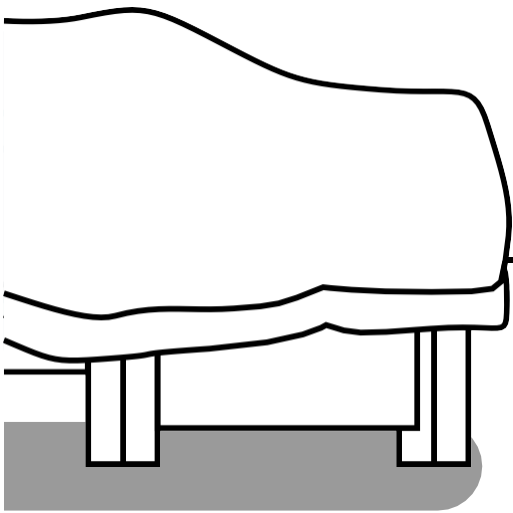
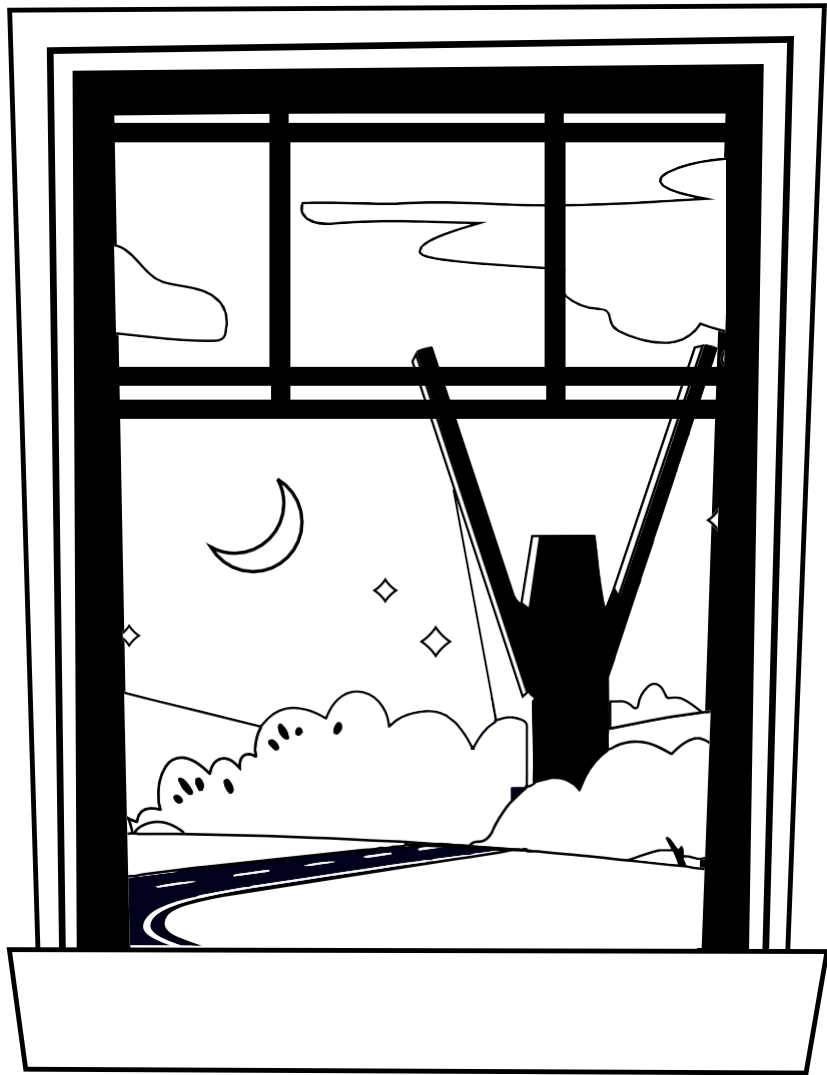
**He brought me right back to my window. I slipped inside and climbed into bed.**

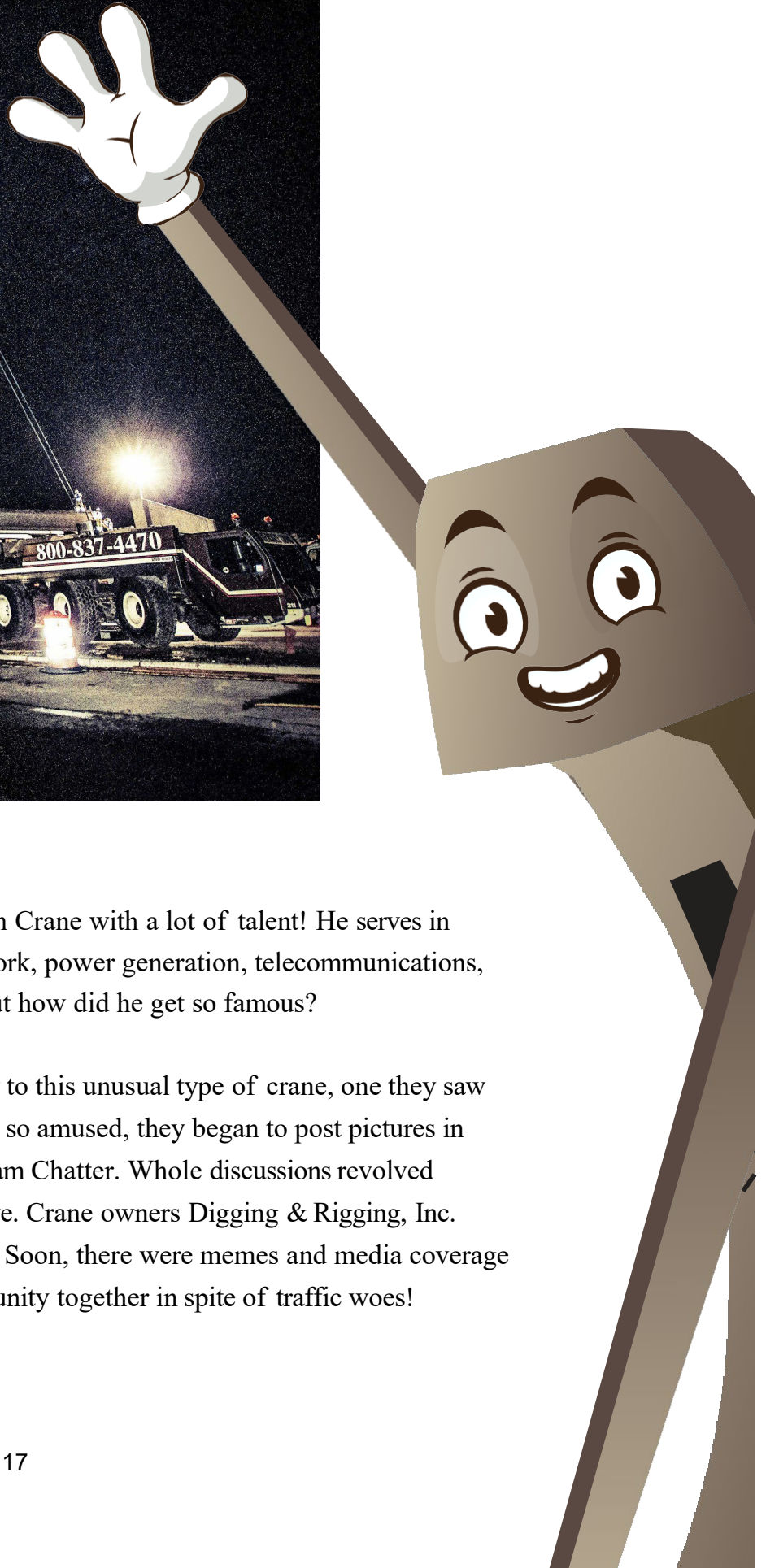
**“I’ll see you soon!” Steve said.**

**I smiled and waved at my new friend.**

**He made me happy again, that crane named Steve.**







## About Steve the Crane

“Steve” is a LIEBHERR LTM1500 600 Ton Crane with a lot of talent! He serves in commercial construction, road and bridgework, power generation, telecommunications, plant and facility maintenance and more! But how did he get so famous?

A group of northern Virginians took a fancy to this unusual type of crane, one they saw each morning on their commute. They were so amused, they began to post pictures in their Facebook group, Western Prince William Chatter. Whole discussions revolved around the crane they decided to name Steve. Crane owners Digging & Rigging, Inc. joined in the fun by giving Steve a nametag. Soon, there were memes and media coverage of this fun crane who was bringing a community together in spite of traffic woes!

## About Digging & Rigging, Inc.

Established in 1981, Digging & Rigging is a family-owned and operated crane and rigging company that boasts a reputation for dependability and professionalism. From a fleet of carry deck, rough terrain, crawler and all-terrain cranes, to a heavy-haul division, Digging & Rigging is uniquely suited to provide unparalleled service regardless of the task.

Digging & Rigging, Inc. utilizes some of the newest, most well-maintained technology in the crane, rigging and hauling industries. Next-generation synthetic hoist rope, hydraulic gantries for indoor rigging, multi-axle steerable trailers: these and many more specialized tools allow Digging & Rigging to tackle even the most rigorous of jobs.

Digging & Rigging, Inc. continues to strive to accomplish those tasks other companies deem impossible and set ever higher standards of excellence in the crane rigging, and hauling industry. See fun photos and learn more at [DigRig.com](http://DigRig.com).

## About the Author

Award-winning author and educator Katherine Gotthardt, M.Ed. enjoys writing poetry and prose for children and adults. Her children's books are designed to teach young readers important life lessons, while helping them cope with difficult emotions.

Katherine writes full-time, partly as a marketer, partly as a freelancer and partly as a poet. Read more about her at [KatherineGotthardt.com](http://KatherineGotthardt.com).

## About the Illustrator

Patrick King is founder and CEO of Imagine, a branding, digital marketing and advertising agency in Manassas, Virginia. Patrick's experience in branding, graphic design, website development, marketing technology and doodling has helped him win Imagine dozens of local and national awards. His love of art, creativity and public service has not only enabled him to grow Imagine, it has spurred him to take on other projects like book illustrations, non-profit promotion and charitable initiatives. Learn more at [ImagineDC.net](http://ImagineDC.net).



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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

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