

BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR

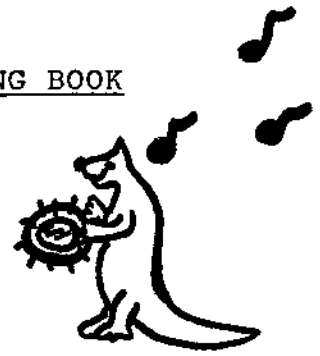


ARTWORK:
© 1991 Jim Feliciano

Story and Coloring Book

BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR - STORY/COLORING BOOK

ARTWORK BY JIM FELICIANO (c)1992



ADAPTED FROM SCRIPT BY KEN & ANNA BEHRENS

THIS STORY WAS ADAPTED FROM THE HALF-HOUR MUSICAL, "BOBBY, THE BIBLE BEAR," PRESENTED BY THE SHEKINAH KIDS DRAMA TROUPE. IT WAS WRITTEN, PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY KEN & ANNA BEHRENS. COPYRIGHT 1991 & 1992 BY SHEKINAH MUSIC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, INCLUDING PUBLIC PERFORMANCE, WHETHER OR NOT FOR PROFIT. THE TAPE, BOOK AND ARTWORK MAY NOT BE COPIED OR REPRODUCED WITHOUT EXPRESS PERMISSION OF THE AUTHORS.

FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE STORY/COLORING BOOK OR TAPE, FOR BOOKINGS OF THE PLAY OR FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT KEN & ANNA BEHRENS, 101 WHITTIER AVE., ROME, NY 13440, (315) 337-3933.

* * *
MANY THANKS TO ALL THE CHILDREN AND PARENTS INVOLVED IN THE SHEKINAH KIDS DRAMA TROUPE AND TO PASTOR MAGEAD AND BEVERLY SALLOUM OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH, ROME, NY, FOR ALL THEIR LOVE AND ENCOURAGEMENT. THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED OUT IN ANY WAY WITH THE PLAY & TAPE.

* * *
TAPE CREDITS

MUSIC & LYRICS BY KEN & ANNA BEHRENS

PERFORMED BY ORIGINAL CAST MEMBERS OF SHEKINAH KIDS DRAMA TROUPE

RECORDED AT THE "THIRD TEMPLE" SOUND STUDIO, 315 WEST EMBARGO ST., ROME, NY 13440, (315) 337-1914; STEVE GALILEY, SOUND ENGINEER.

BIBLE BEAR - MARK RUDD

UNKNOWN SMALL ANIMAL - SARAH JAKUBIEC

MONICA POWERS

TEACHER - SUE HALEY

JOHN BOLOS

BULLY #1 - JONATHAN PERKINS

SQUIRREL - VENESSA COLE

BULLY #2 - JOSHUA MARACCHION

RABBIT - BRIDGET TERRIER

CLASSMATE - ELIZABETH SALLOUM

KEYBOARDS BY KEN BEHRENS AND JOHN BOLOS, JR.

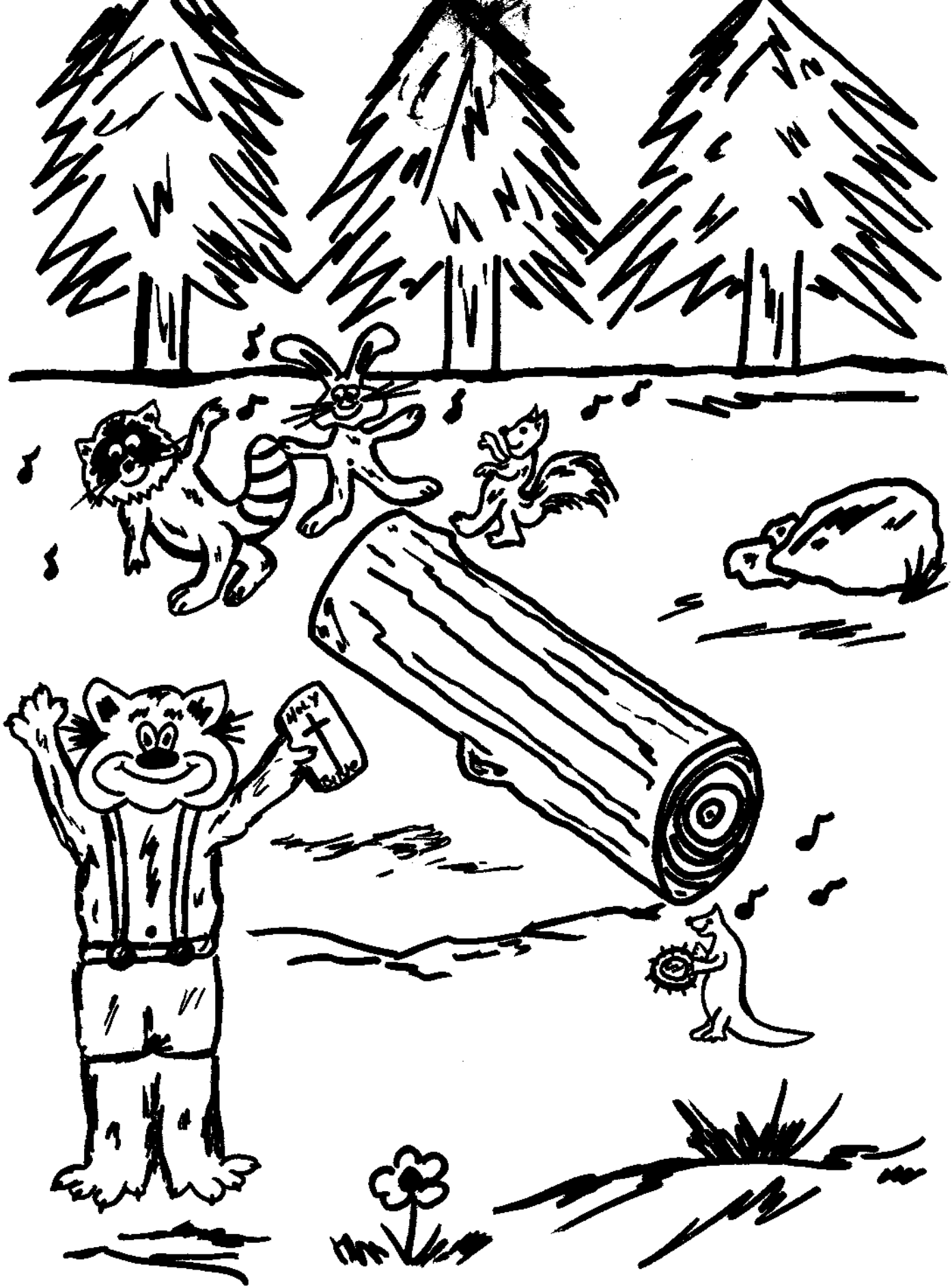
ALL PRAISE AND GLORY TO THE LORD, WHO MAKES ALL THINGS POSSIBLE THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS US! (PHIL. 4:13)

ONCE UPON A TIME...

...THERE WAS A BEAR NAMED BOBBY WHO GAVE HIS LIFE TO JESUS. HE LIVED IN THE WOODS WITH HIS FOUR ANIMAL FRIENDS - THE RACCOON (WHO HAD JUST HAD A NEW BABY), THE SQUIRREL (WHO LOVED TO FIND THINGS), THE RABBIT (WHO NEVER HAD A CARE IN THE WORLD), AND THE UNKNOWN SMALL ANIMAL. THE UNKNOWN SMALL ANIMAL WAS REALLY A BABY MINK WHO HAD ESCAPED FROM A MINK FARM. SHE WAS TOO LITTLE TO KNOW WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL SHE WAS, AND NONE OF THE OTHER ANIMALS HAD EVER SEEN A MINK BEFORE. SO THEY JUST CALLED HER THE "UNKNOWN SMALL ANIMAL." BOBBY ADOPTED HER, AND SHE FOLLOWED HIM EVERYWHERE HE WENT.

BOBBY READ THE BIBLE ALL THE TIME AND TAUGHT THE ANIMALS ABOUT GOD. THIS IS WHY THE ANIMALS CALLED HIM "BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR," AND THEY WERE ALL VERY HAPPY. THEY ALL LOVED TO SING AND DANCE AND CELEBRATE HOW GOOD IT WAS TO KNOW JESUS.

IF YOU PLAY THE TAPE, YOU CAN HEAR THE SONG THEY SANG. YOU CAN EVEN DANCE ALONG WITH THEM!

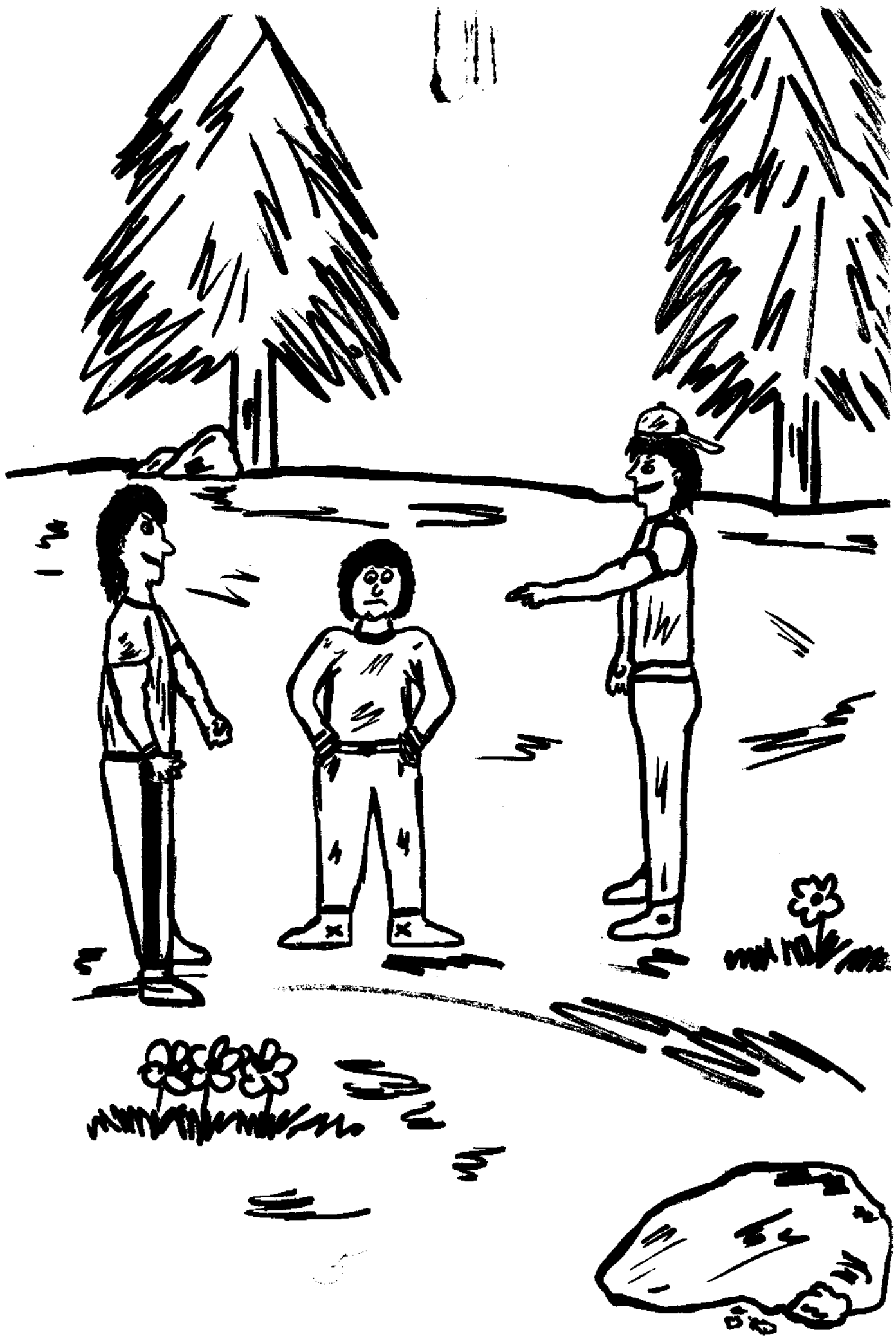



AT THE EDGE OF THE WOODS THERE WAS A CHURCH. ONE DAY, AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL, LITTLE MICHAEL WAS STANDING AROUND THINKING. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER HAD TOLD THE CLASS THAT MORNING THAT THEY SHOULD BE LIKE JESUS. FOR EXAMPLE, THEY SHOULD ALWAYS LOVE THEIR ENEMIES; THEY SHOULD NEVER TAKE ANYTHING THAT DID NOT BELONG TO THEM; AND THEY NEVER HAD TO BE AFRAID BECAUSE GOD WOULD TAKE CARE OF THEM. MICHAEL WANTED TO BE LIKE JESUS AND ALWAYS BE KIND TO PEOPLE, BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW. "AFTER ALL," HE THOUGHT, "JESUS WAS GOD'S SON AND I AM ONLY A LITTLE KID."

MICHAEL DIDN'T KNOW IT, BUT GOD WAS WATCHING. AND GOD HAD A PLAN FOR MICHAEL. GOD WOULD TEACH HIM ALL THESE THINGS WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR AND BOBBY'S ANIMAL FRIENDS.

MICHAEL WAS STILL THINKING ABOUT HIS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS WHEN, SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE WOODS CAME TWO BULLIES. THEY WERE BORED AND IN THE MOOD TO PICK ON SOMEONE SMALLER THAN THEMSELVES. THEY SPIED MICHAEL AND BEGAN TO CALL OUT TO HIM. "HEY, SHRIMP!" THE FIRST BULLY YELLED, "ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE HOLY ROLLERS?" "WHERE'S YOUR BIBLE?" THE SECOND BULLY CHIMED IN. THE BULLIES STARTED TO CIRCLE AROUND MICHAEL, WHO WAS BEGINNING TO GET WORRIED. HE DIDN'T ANSWER THEM. "WHY DON'T YOU PREACH US A SERMON?" THE FIRST BULLY TAUNTED. "LEAVE ME ALONE!" DEMANDED MICHAEL, AND OFF HE SCOOTED INTO THE WOODS TO HIDE. "YOU BABY!" THE BULLY'S CALL RANG IN HIS EARS.

IF YOU PLAY THE TAPE, YOU CAN HEAR THE TWO BULLIES BRAGGING ABOUT HOW MEAN THEY ARE.





MICHAEL PLOPPED DOWN ON A FALLEN LOG TO CATCH HIS BREATH. "JUST WAIT," HE MUTTERED TO HIMSELF, "I'M GONNA GET THOSE GUYS. WHEN I GET BIGGER - I'M REALLY GONNA GIVE IT TO 'EM!"

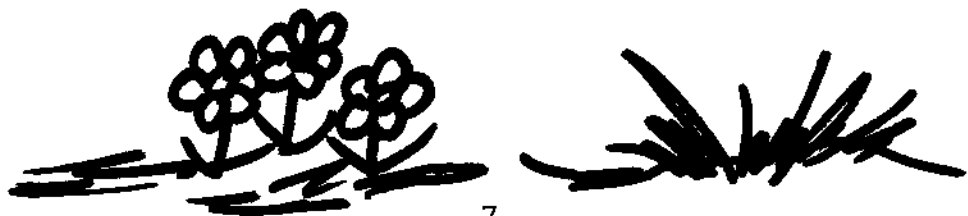
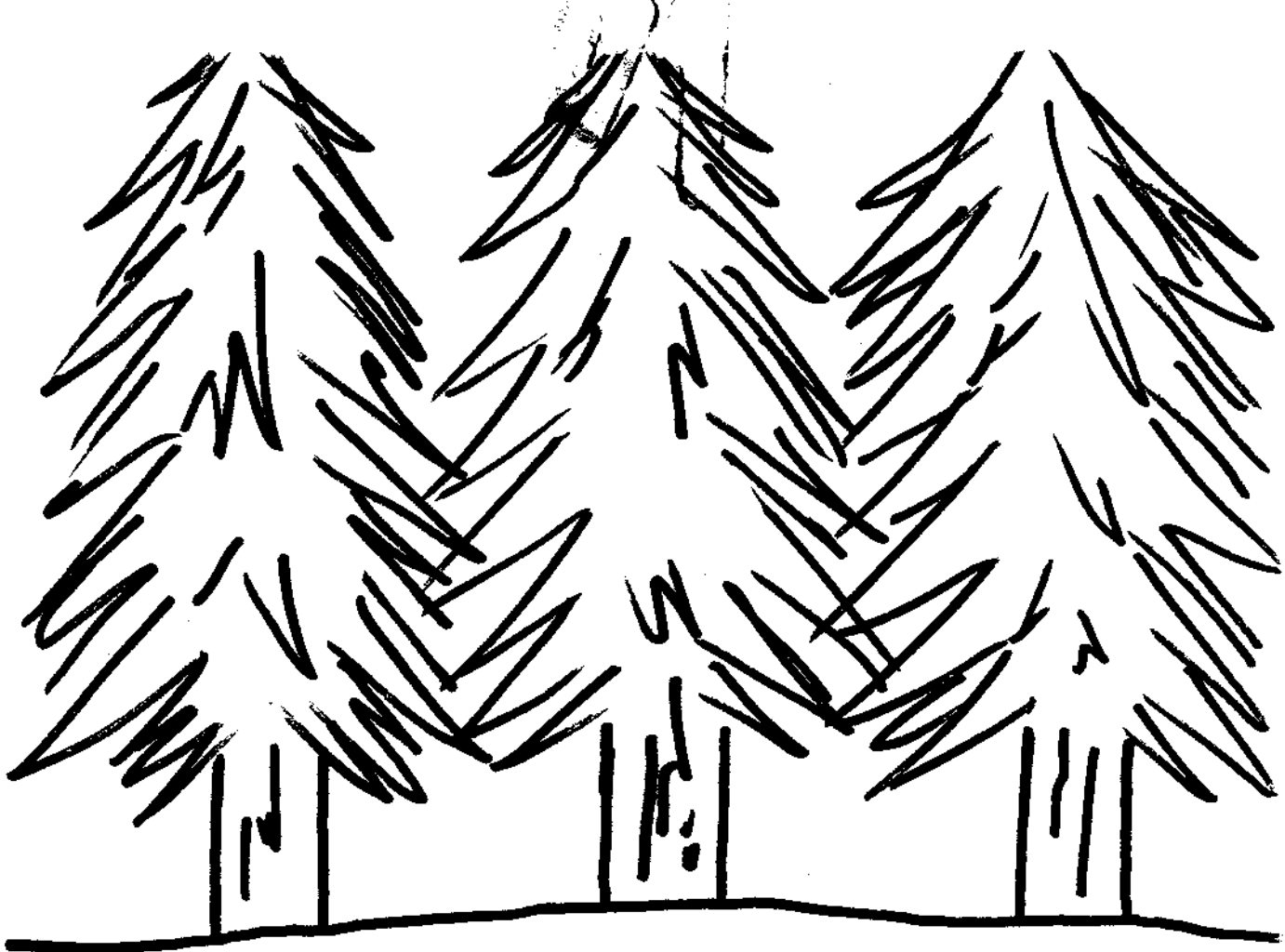
"WHO YA GONNA GIVE IT TO?" A CURIOUS VOICE ASKED MICHAEL. IT WAS MRS. RACCOON AND HER NEW BABY. THEY HAD BEEN LISTENING.

"THOSE TWO BULLIES BACK THERE WHO THINK THEY'RE SO BIG!" ANSWERED MICHAEL. "MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO HELP ME; IT LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE JUST GAVE YOU TWO BLACK EYES!"

"OH, I COULD NEVER DO THAT! BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR TAUGHT US THAT GOD NEVER WANTS YOU TO HURT PEOPLE BACK IF THEY HURT YOU. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PRAY FOR YOUR ENEMIES!" SHE REPLIED.

MICHAEL SHOOK HIS HEAD. "YOU CAN PRAY FOR YOURS," HE SAID, "I'M GONNA GET MINE!"

"OH, OH!" EXCLAIMED MRS. RACCOON, "I'VE GOTTA GO GET BOBBY! HE'LL TELL YOU!" AND OFF SHE SCURRIED WITH HER BABY IN TOW.



MICHAEL HAD CAUGHT HIS BREATH BY NOW AND WAS JUST ABOUT TO STAND UP, WHEN HE SPOTTED SOMETHING LYING ON THE GROUND NEXT TO HIS RIGHT FOOT. HE REACHED OVER TO PICK IT UP. IT WAS A WALLET! MICHAEL LOOKED THROUGH IT AND FOUND LOTS OF MONEY -- ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY ANYTHING HE'D EVER WANTED!

"HI, WHATCHA GOT THERE?" THE PERKY LITTLE VOICE BELONGED TO MISS SQUIRREL, WHO HAD JUST HAPPENED BY ON HER WAY FROM A SEARCH FOR NUTS. SHE GAZED UP AT MICHAEL, HER BROWN BASKET SWINGING FROM HER ARM.

"I JUST FOUND ALL THIS MONEY," MICHAEL EXPLAINED. "THINK OF ALL THE BASEBALL CARDS I CAN BUY NOW!"

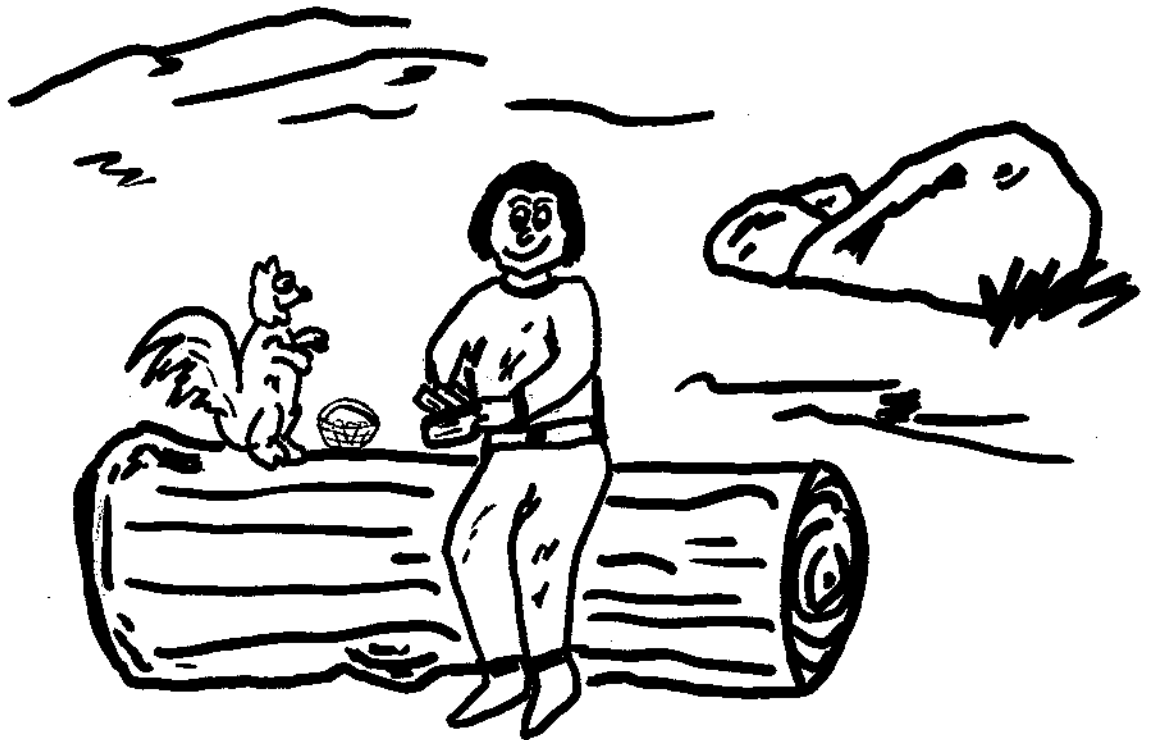
"IF YOU FOUND THE MONEY, THEN THAT MEANS SOMEBODY ELSE LOST IT," MISS SQUIRREL REPLIED WISELY. "AREN'T YOU GOING TO GIVE IT BACK?" SHE CHALLENGED HIM.

"OF COURSE NOT!" HE ANSWERED. "FINDERS KEEPERS!"

"THAT'S NOT WHAT BOBBY THE BIBLE BEAR TAUGHT US," REPLIED MISS SQUIRREL.

"WELL," ANSWERED MICHAEL, "I'M NOT BOBBY THE BEAR!"

"I'M GONNA GO GET BOBBY; HE'LL TELL YOU!" SHE REPLIED, SCAMPERING AWAY.



MICHAEL PUT THE WALLET IN HIS POCKET AND DECIDED TO START OUT FOR HOME. HE NOTICED THAT THE WIND HAD PICKED UP AND CLOUDS WERE ROLLING IN OVERHEAD. HE KNEW THAT IT WOULD BE RAINING IN A LITTLE WHILE. HE LOOKED AROUND AND REALIZED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHICH WAY LED OUT OF THE WOODS. HE'D RUN AWAY FROM THE BULLIES SO FAST THAT HE HAD FORGOTTEN TO LOOK WHERE HE'D BEEN GOING. NOW, IT SEEMED, HE WAS LOST!

"WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?" MICHAEL LOOKED DOWN AND SAW A SHY LITTLE RABBIT HOLDING ON TIGHTLY TO THE CARROT SHE'D BEEN MUNCHING ALL MORNING.

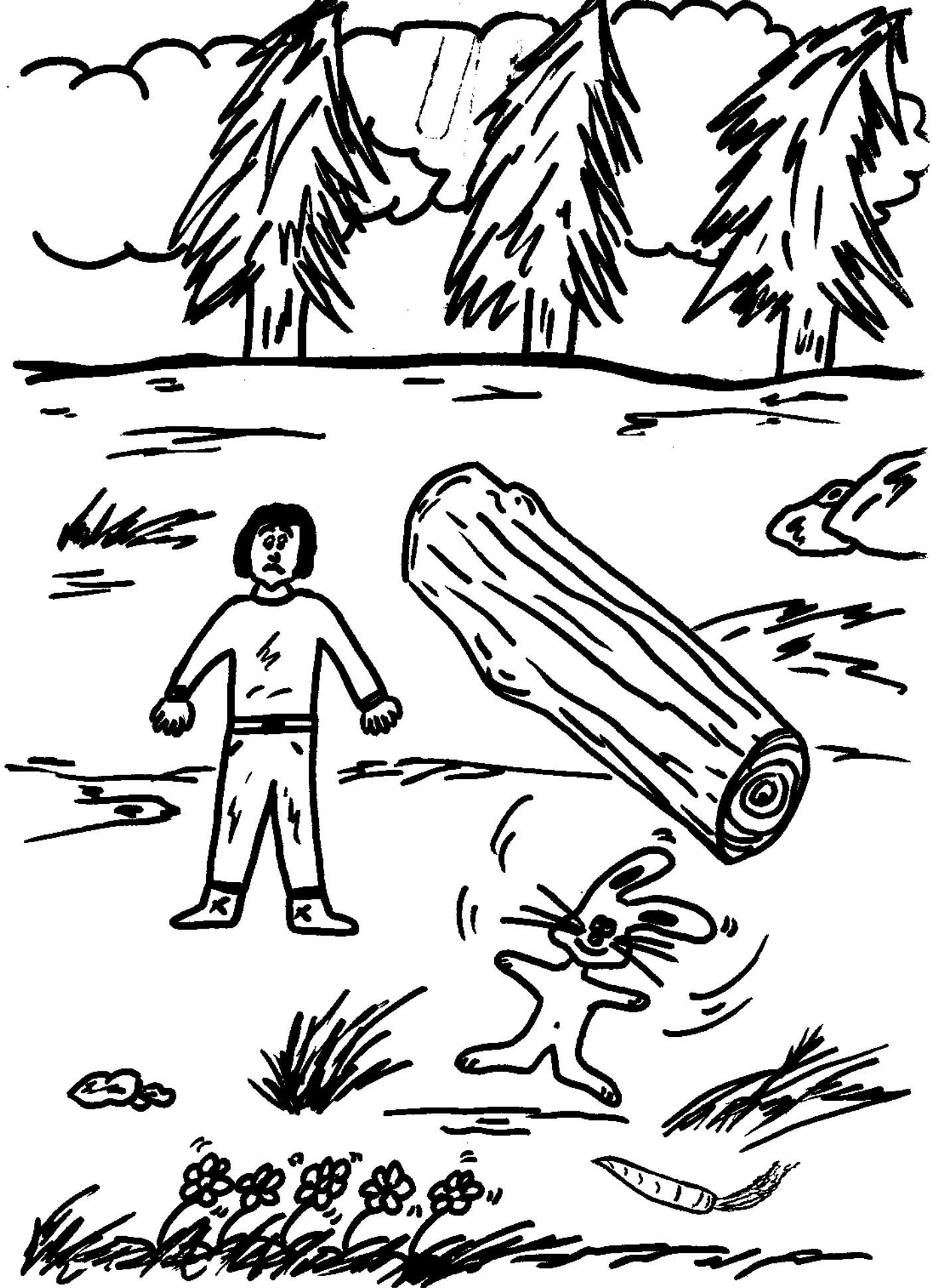
"I HAVE TO FIND THE WAY OUT OF THESE WOODS," MICHAEL TOLD HER. "I'M LOST!"

THE GENTLE RABBIT HEARD THE FEAR IN MICHAEL'S VOICE. "OH," SHE SAID, "I'VE NEVER BEEN OUT OF THESE WOODS MYSELF, SO I CAN'T SHOW YOU THE WAY OUT. BUT THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT." SHE TRIED TO MAKE MICHAEL FEEL BETTER.

BUT HE POINTED TO THE SKY AND SAID, "OH YEAH? LOOK AT THE SKY! IT'S GETTING DARK AND WINDY -- THERE'S GONNA BE A STORM SOON! I'VE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!"

"DON'T BE AFRAID, GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU," THE RABBIT TRIED AGAIN TO CALM MICHAEL DOWN. "I'LL GO GET BOBBY THE BEAR, HE'LL TELL YOU!" AND SHE HOPPED QUICKLY AWAY.

IF YOU PLAY THE TAPE, YOU WILL HEAR MICHAEL SING ABOUT HOW SAD AND LOST AND LONELY HE IS. AND YOU WILL ALSO HEAR BOBBY'S ANSWER.



MICHAEL WASN'T AFRAID OF BOBBY AT ALL. KNOWING JESUS HAD MADE BOBBY KIND-HEARTED. HE WASN'T A SCARY BEAR.

"JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND?" MICHAEL ASKED BOBBY. "AFTER ALL, I'M NOBODY SPECIAL."

BOBBY ANSWERED HIM, EYES TWINKLING, "OF COURSE! IT SAYS SO IN LOTS OF PLACES IN THE BIBLE." BOBBY OPENED THE BIBLE HE ALWAYS CARRIED WITH HIM. HE FLIPPED THE WORN PAGES UNTIL HE FOUND REVELATION, CHAPTER 3, VERSE 20. POINTING OUT THE VERSE TO MICHAEL, BOBBY CONTINUED, "IT SAYS THAT JESUS IS STANDING AT THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART. IF YOU'LL LET HIM COME IN, HE'LL EAT WITH YOU. IN BIBLE DAYS THAT MEANT JESUS WOULD BE YOUR BEST FRIEND AND SHARE EVERYTHING WITH YOU -- YOUR GOOD TIMES, YOUR BAD TIMES, YOUR LONELY TIMES, YOUR FUN TIMES. THERE'S A SPACE IN EVERYONE'S HEART THAT ONLY JESUS CAN FILL. "LOOK HERE," THE KINDLY BEAR CONTINUED AS HE FLIPPED MORE PAGES, "JOHN 3:16 SAYS: 'FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT DIE, BUT WILL HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.' JESUS DIED FOR US SO THAT WE COULD LIVE FOREVER WITH GOD IN HEAVEN," BOBBY EXPLAINED. "HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD WITH GREAT POWER AND WHEN WE TRUST HIM AND BELIEVE IN HIM, HE SHARES THAT POWER WITH US SO THAT WE CAN LIVE THE WAY GOD WANTS US TO AND DO THE THINGS THAT JESUS WOULD DO." MICHAEL WAS FASCINATED. "OH, I SEE. YOU MEAN THAT IF I ASK JESUS TO BE MY FRIEND, HE'LL ALWAYS BE THERE TO HELP ME DO THE RIGHT THING AND HE'LL BE THERE FOR ME SO I WON'T BE LONELY AND AFRAID?" ASKED MICHAEL.

"EXACTLY!" BOBBY REPLIED. "AND LOOK HERE. IN PHILIPPIANS 4:13 IT SAYS THAT WE 'CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS US.' JESUS IS SO POWERFUL, THERE'S NOTHING HE CAN'T DO. WHEN WE WALK WITH HIM, WE ARE ABLE TO DO ALL THINGS, TOO!" BOBBY EXCLAIMED.



I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO HAVE JESUS AS MY FRIEND, BOBBY. WOULD YOU HELP ME ASK HIM? I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY," MICHAEL SAID. "SURE!" BOBBY ANSWERED. "IT'S EASY! JUST REPEAT AFTER ME: LORD JESUS, I KNOW THAT YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD AND THAT YOU DIED AND ROSE FOR ME. I AM SORRY FOR ALL THE BAD THINGS THAT I HAVE DONE. THANK YOU FOR FORGIVING ME FOR MY SINS. PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART NOW AND BE MY FRIEND. I WILL LOVE AND SERVE YOU AS LONG AS I LIVE. THANK YOU, LORD!" MICHAEL REPEATED THE PRAYER AFTER BOBBY AND THEY BOTH SAID, "AMEN!"

MICHAEL FELT HAPPINESS AND EXCITEMENT IN HIS HEART THAT HE HAD NEVER FELT BEFORE. HE KNEW THAT JESUS WAS HIS FRIEND! "I'M NOT DONE PRAYING YET, BOBBY," HE SAID. "O.K.," SAID BOBBY, "GO AHEAD!" THEY BOWED THEIR HEADS AGAIN. "JESUS, THANK YOU FOR FRIENDS LIKE YOU AND BOBBY. PLEASE HELP ME GET HOME BEFORE THE STORM COMES. AND PLEASE HELP THOSE TWO BULLIES MEET YOU, TOO, SO THEY WON'T HAVE TO PICK ON ANYONE ANYMORE." BOBBY ADDED, "BLESS THEM, LORD!" AND TOGETHER THEY SAID, "AMEN!"

ALL THIS TIME, BOBBY'S ANIMAL FRIENDS HAD BEEN WATCHING QUIETLY CLOSE BY. THE RACCOON WAS SO AMAZED AT THE CHANGE THAT HAD COME OVER MICHAEL, THAT SHE COULD NOT HELP BUT ASK HIM, "I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO BEAT THOSE KIDS UP?" MICHAEL GRINNED, "I FEEL SO GOOD KNOWING JESUS, THAT I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYBODY. I JUST WANT THEM TO BE HAPPY LIKE I AM!"

BOBBY WAS VERY PLEASED. SO PLEASED, IN FACT, THAT HE GAVE MICHAEL HIS BIBLE. "HERE, MICHAEL, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAVE THIS."

"GEE, THANKS, BOBBY!" REPLIED MICHAEL.

"LOOK!" SAID THE RABBIT. "THERE ARE PEOPLE COMING. I WONDER WHO THEY ARE?" "OH, THAT IS MY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER AND CLASSMATES," MICHAEL ANSWERED HER.

MICHAEL'S TEACHER RUSHED OVER TO HIM. "MICHAEL!" SHE EXCLAIMED,
"I'M SO GLAD WE FOUND YOU! WE WERE WORRIED THAT YOU WERE LOST AND
THERE IS A STORM COMING UP!"

"I'M FINE," MICHAEL TOLD HER. "I HAVE JESUS FOR MY FRIEND NOW AND
I'M NOT AFRAID. BOBBY HERE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT HIM. HE EVEN GAVE ME
HIS BIBLE!"

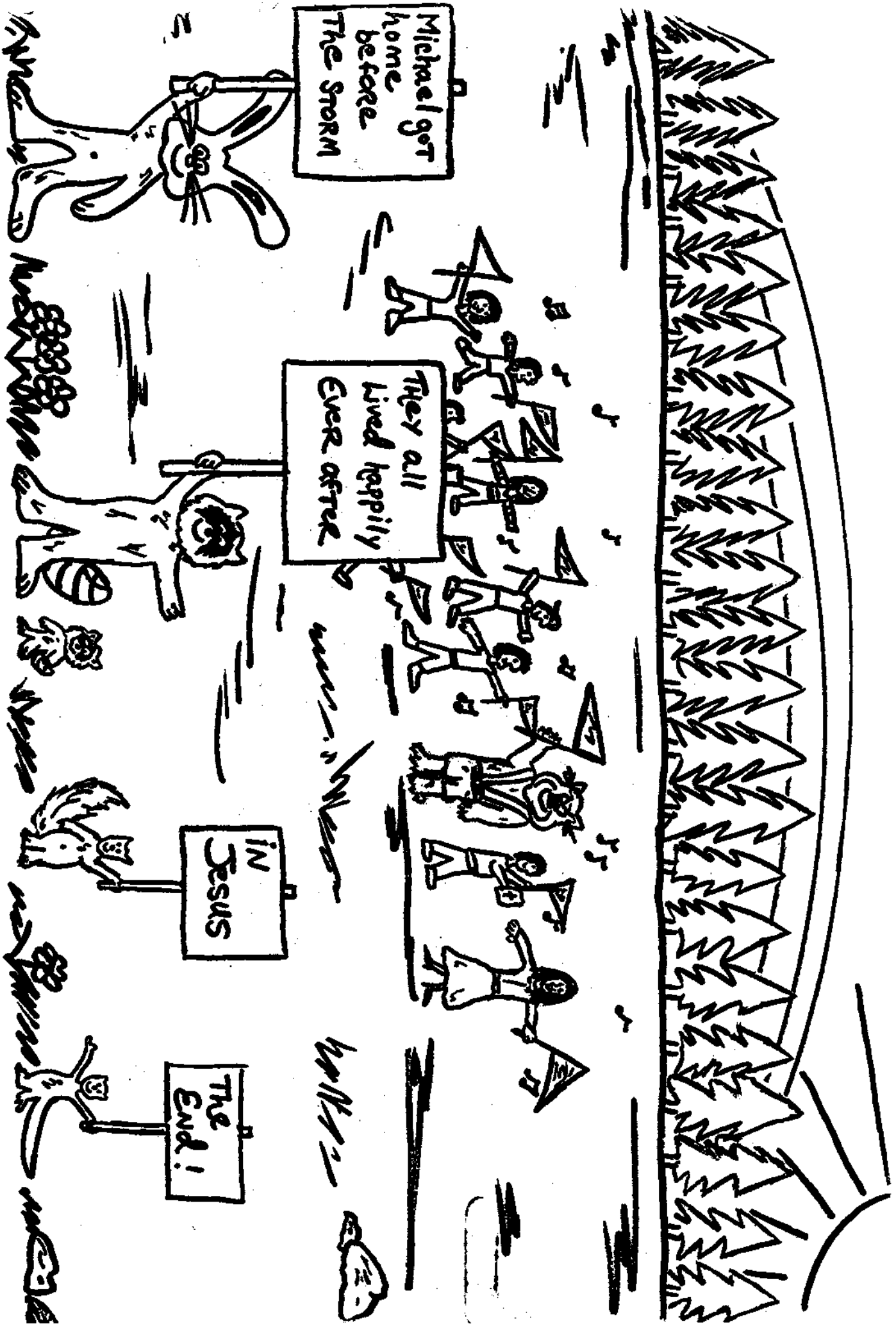
"PRAISE THE LORD!" REPLIED THE TEACHER. AND SHE AND BOBBY SHOOK
HANDS. MISS SQUIRREL CAME UP TO MICHAEL AND REMINDED HIM ABOUT THE
WALLET THAT HE HAD FOUND ON THE GROUND. MICHAEL TOOK THE WALLET
OUT OF HIS POCKET AND GAVE IT TO HIS TEACHER SO THAT SHE COULD FIND
THE OWNER AND GIVE IT BACK. GOD WAS WATCHING ALL OF THIS AND HE
SMILED. NOW HE HAD TAUGHT MICHAEL ALL THE THINGS MICHAEL HAD
WANTED TO KNOW.

EVERYONE WAS SO HAPPY THAT THEY DECIDED TO HAVE A PARADE AND SING
ABOUT JESUS. THE TWO BULLIES HEARD THE SINGING AND CAME BACK INTO
THE WOODS TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON. EVERYONE WAS HAVING SO MUCH
FUN THAT THE BULLIES WONDERED WHAT THEY COULD DO IN ORDER TO BE
HAPPY AND HAVE FUN, TOO. BOBBY SPOTTED THE BULLIES AND LEFT THE
PARADE TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT JESUS. HE TOLD THEM THAT JESUS
WANTED TO BE THEIR FRIEND, TOO. THE BULLIES ASKED JESUS TO BE
THEIR FRIEND AND JOINED THE PARADE WITH THE OTHERS.

MICHAEL GOT HOME BEFORE THE STORM AND THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER
AFTER -- IN JESUS!

...THE END!

IF YOU PLAY THE TAPE, YOU CAN HEAR THE SONG EVERYONE SANG TOGETHER
DURING THE PARADE. YOU CAN ALSO HEAR A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM BOBBY
THE BIBLE BEAR JUST FOR YOU!



Michael got home before the storm

They all lived happily ever after

IN Jesus

The End!