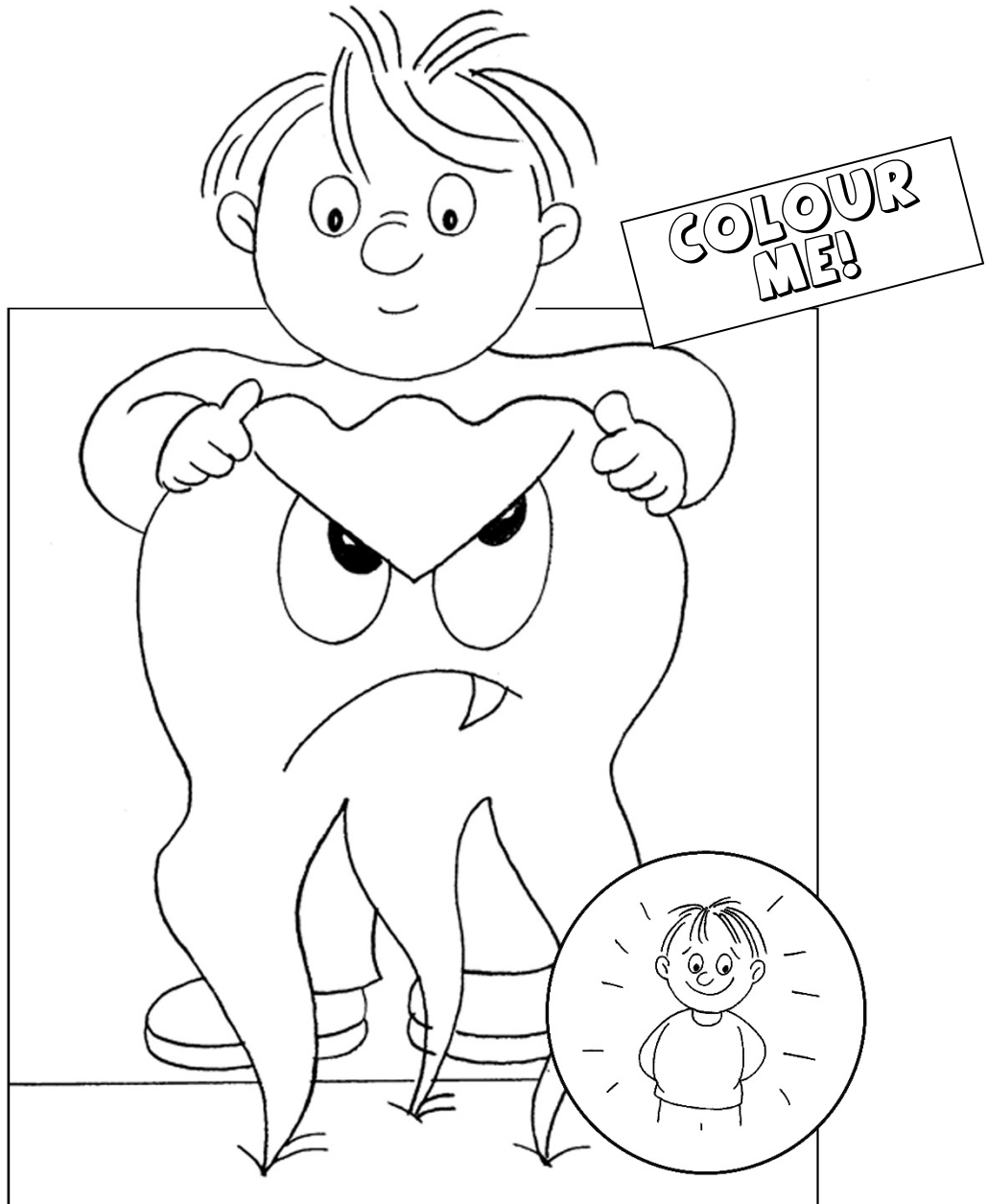
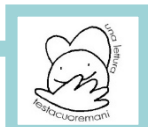
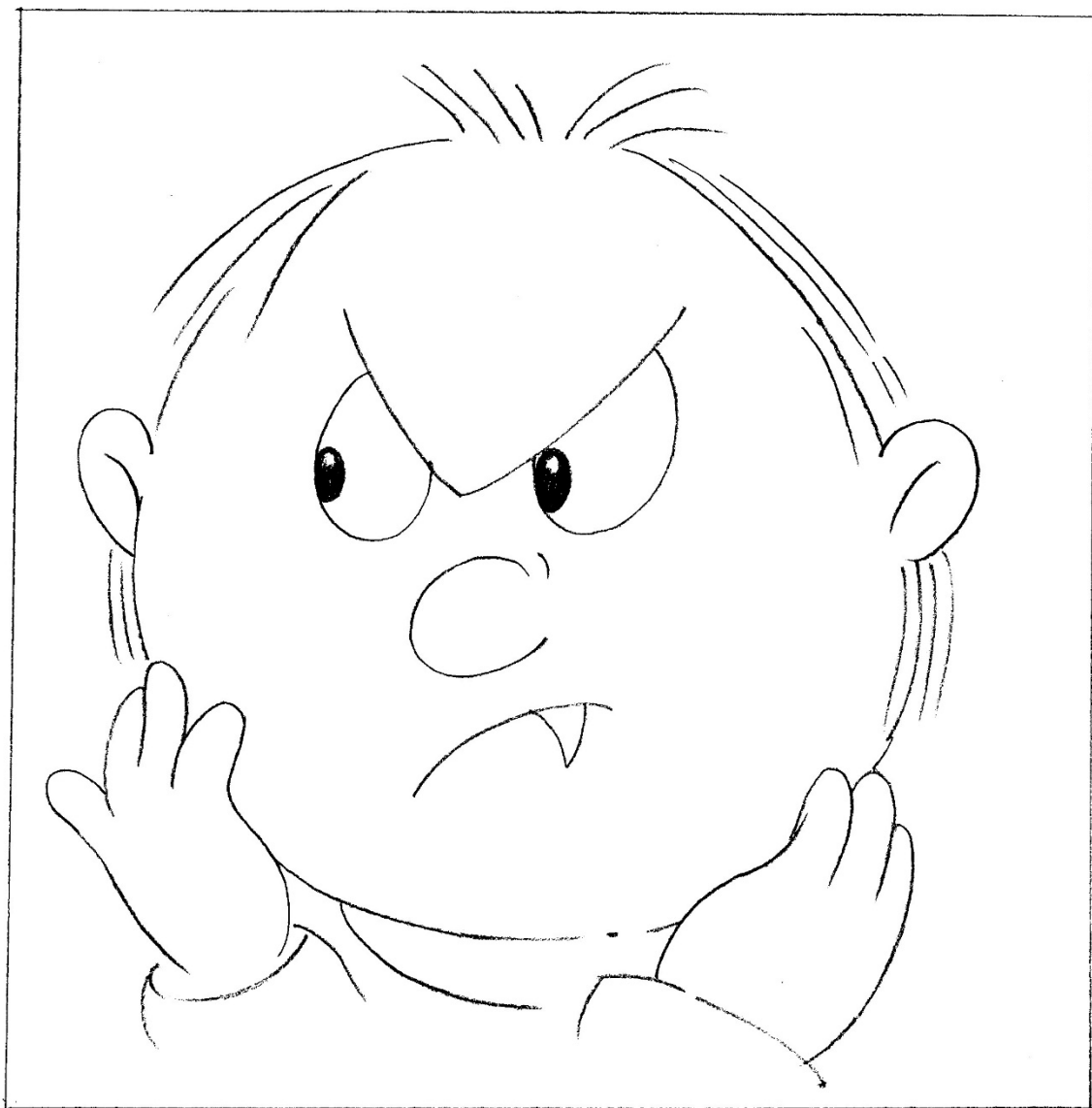


The Story of Dodo

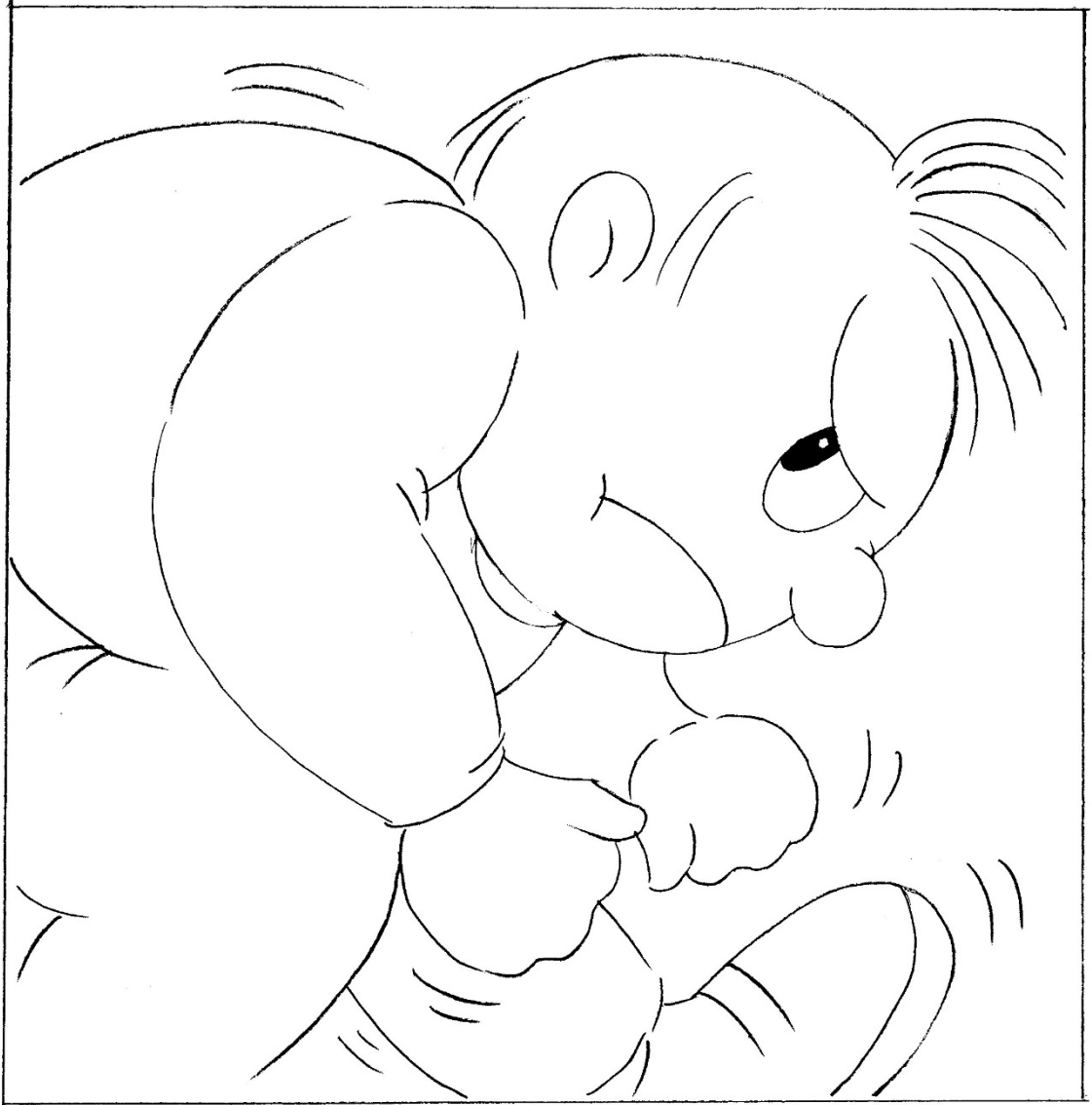


...and the rotten tooth

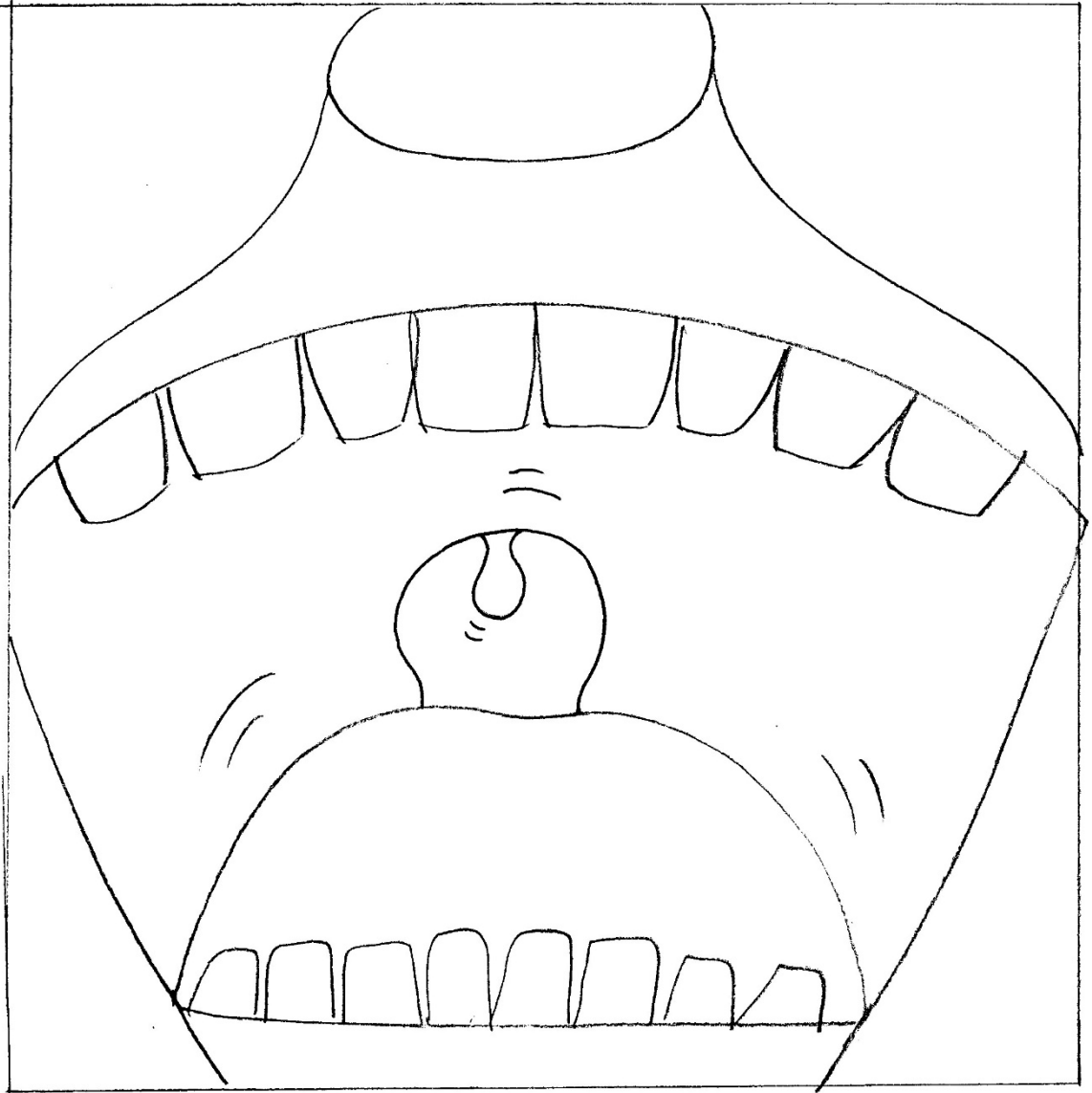




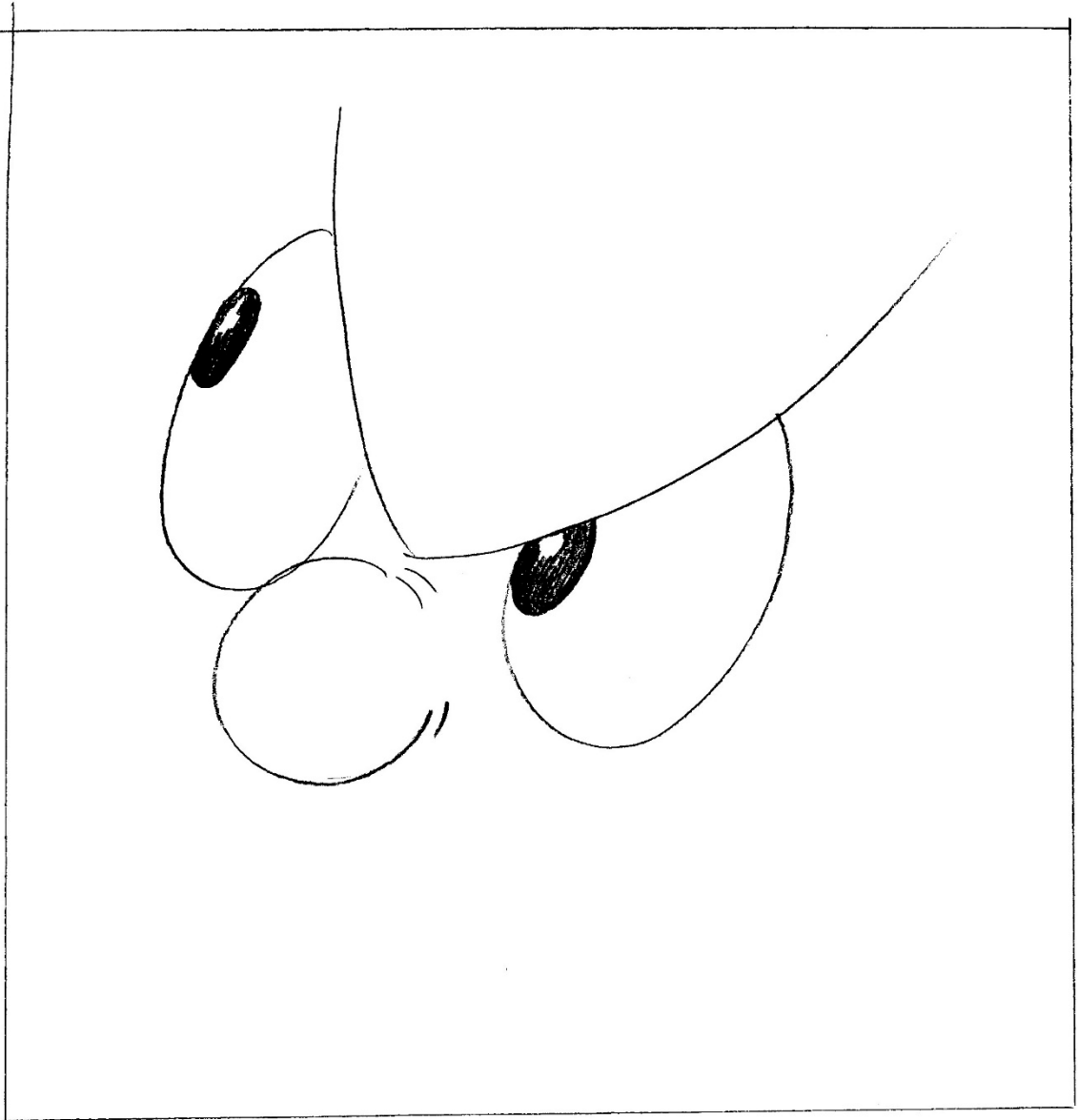
This is the story of Dodo.



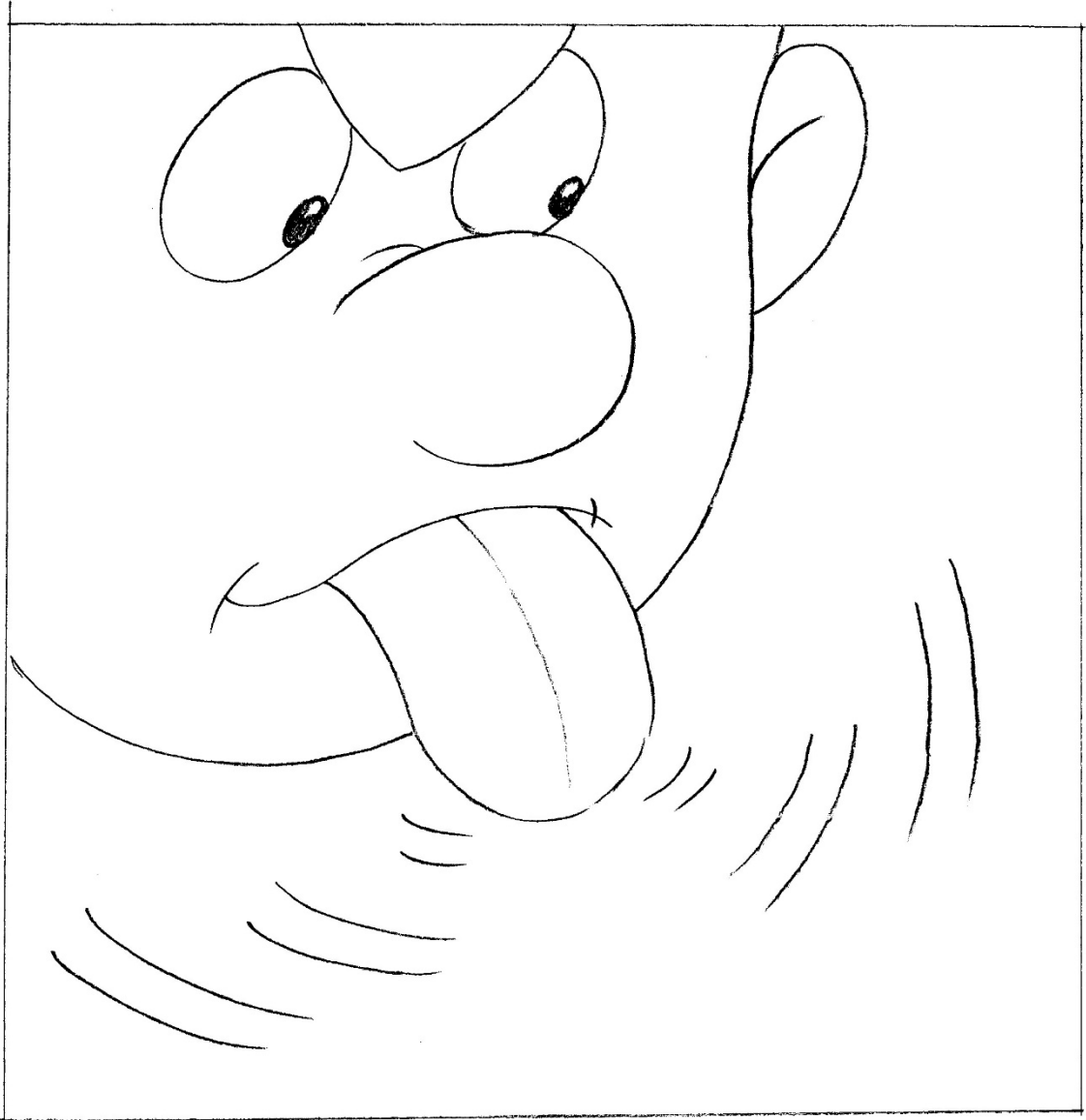
As you see, Dodo is a little boy. He is more or less just like all other kids of his age but there is something that makes him a little bit different...



He has an angry mouth.



... and angry eyes.



He has an angry tongue...



And angry hands...



Even his ears are... angry!



I guess you can see it for yourselves! Dodo is always angry. ALWAYS!



«I'm angry with everything and everyone!»

«I'm angry with the whole world. I'm angry with the entire Universe!»



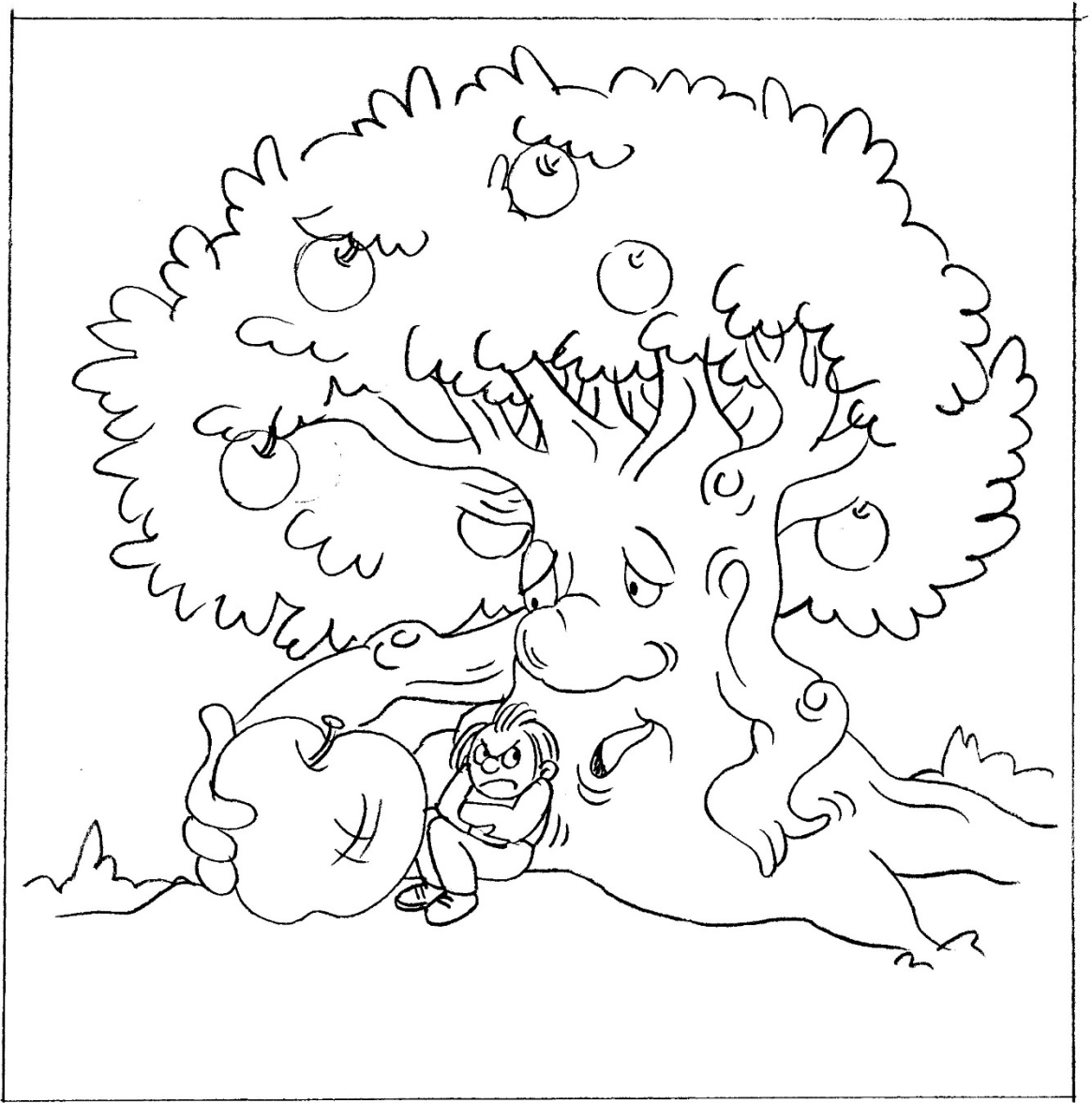
«Dodo», asked a little bird.

«Why are you angry with me?
Don't you like the sweet songs I
sing for you?»

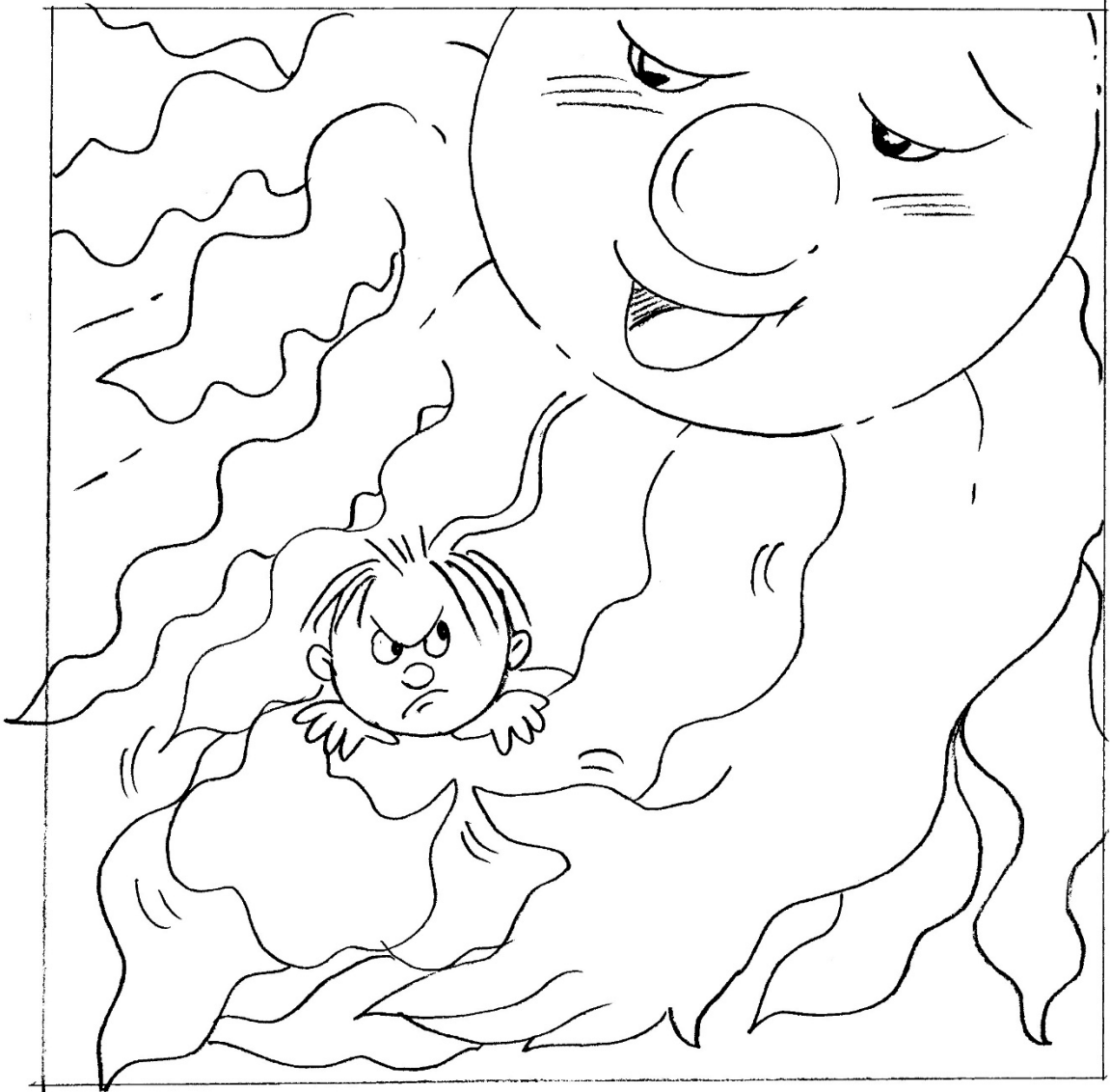


«Why are you angry with me?»
Asked a wild flower.

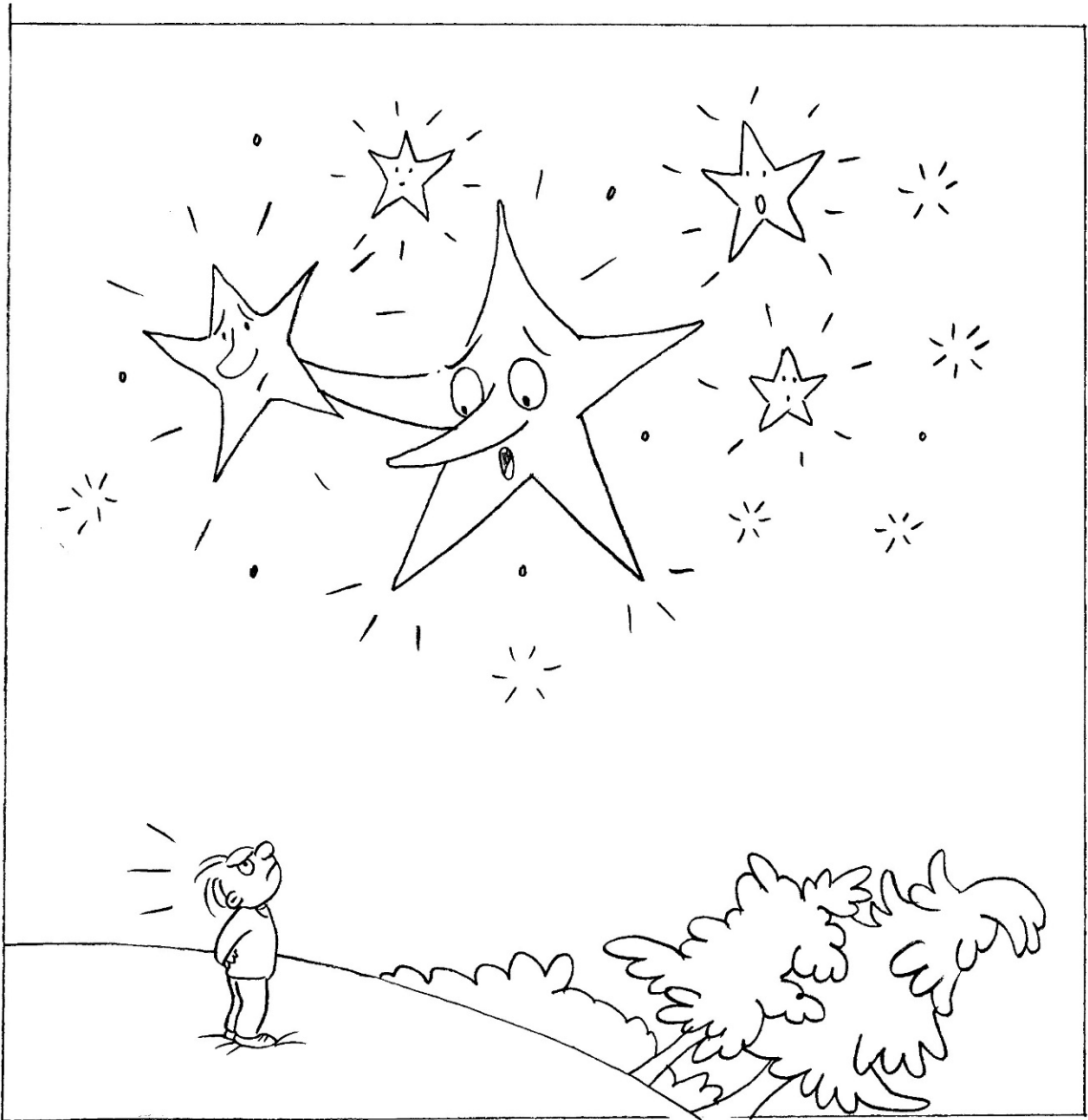
«Smell me! My scent is so good! It
was made for you!»



«Why are you angry with me?»,
asked an apple tree. «My branches
make shade for you and you can eat
my apples for free!»



«Why are you angry with me?»,
asked the Sun. «I warm you, I hug
you, I cuddle you with my bright
shiny rays!»



«Why are you angry with us?»,
asked the stars in the the sky.

«We shine and twinkle because we
love you».



But Dodo's ears were plugged and his eyes seemed shut, and he just became more and more angry!

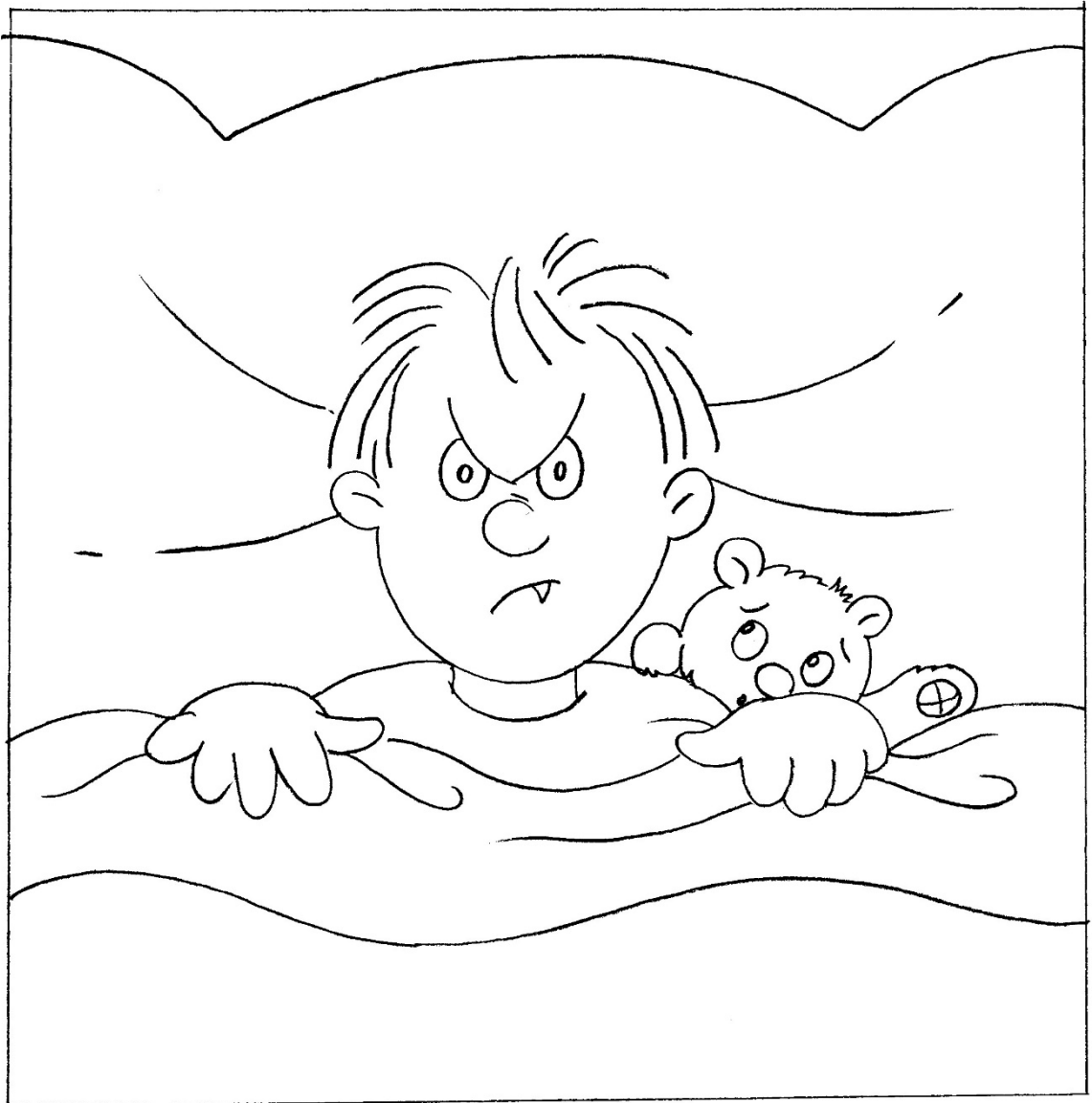


«You are really ugly!» He said to himself one day in front of the mirror.

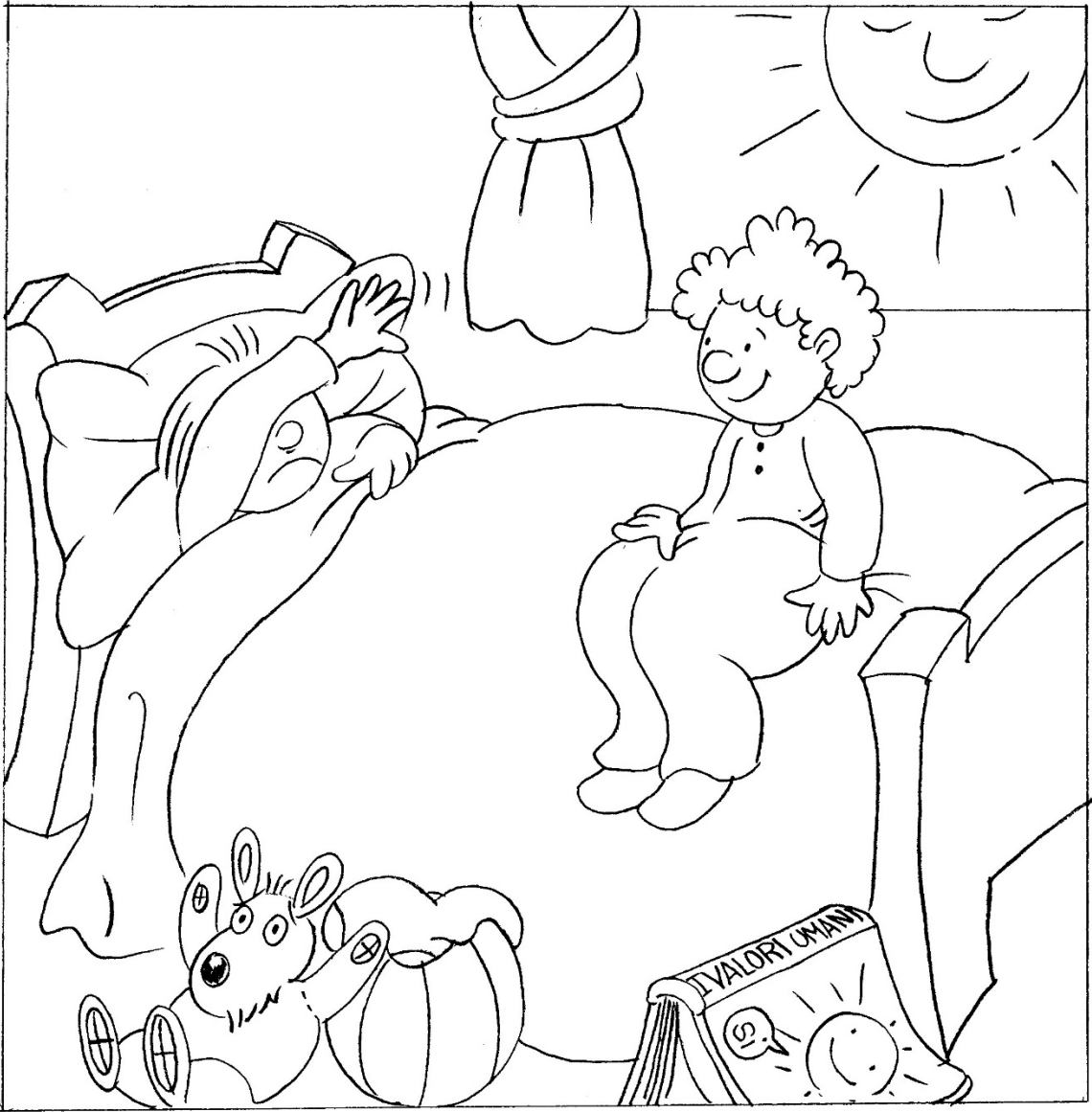
«I hate you, I hate you, I hate you!»



After he shouted and yelled and cried Dodo became so red in the face and so very hot.



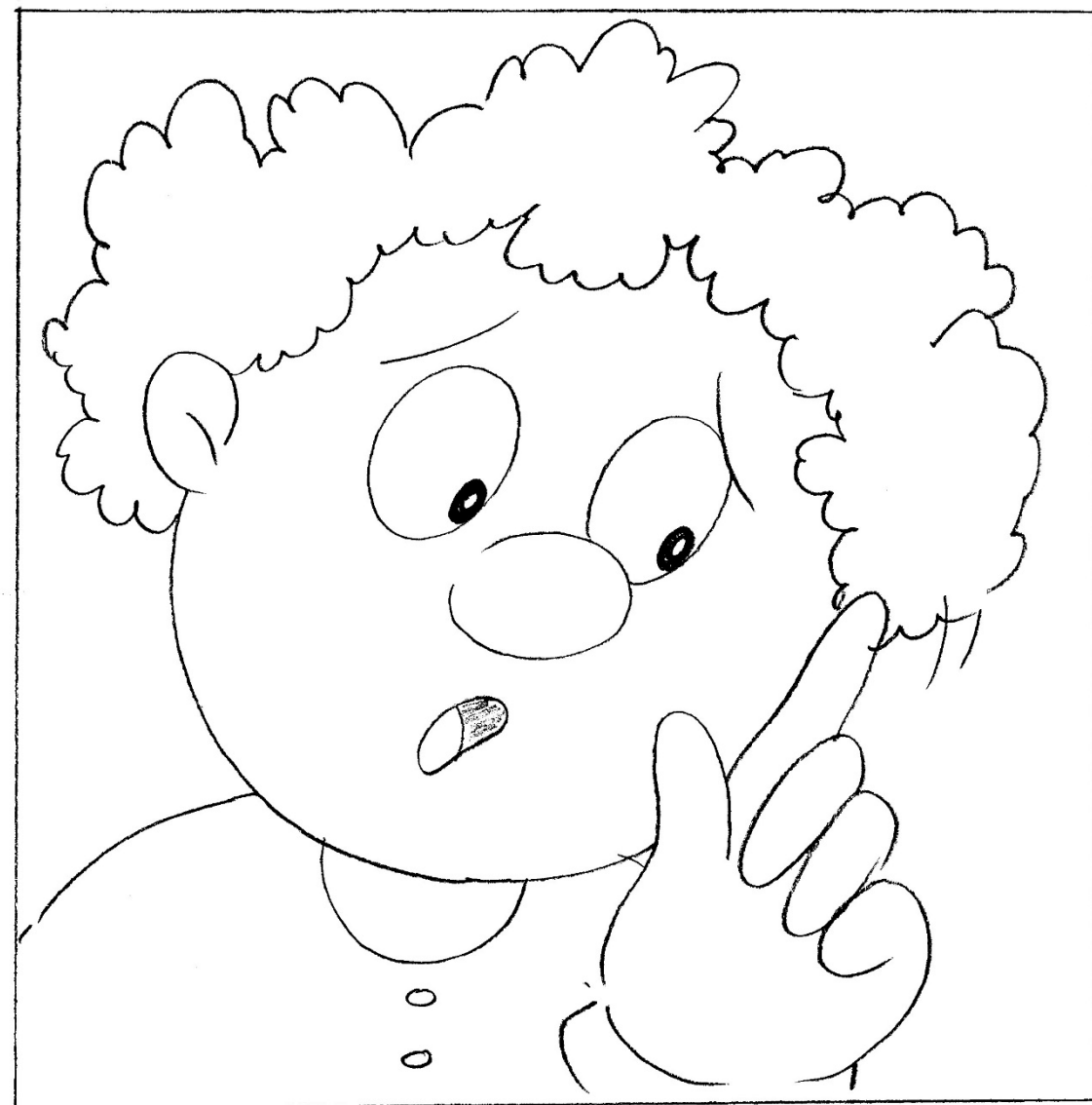
He stopped eating and sleeping
and became weak and skinny and
more and more angry!



But luckily Dodo had a friend. A real friend because even if he was always angry or always wanted to talk back and shout loudly at the entire world, his friend still loved him.



He knew that Dodo was worth a ton of gold and that his anger was only a bad disease so... one day, not because he was angry at Dodo but because he really cared for him, he said:



«Enough is enough! I'm taking you to see a doctor!»



«No! I'm not going!» screamed Dodo...
but he was so weak and so very thin that
his tremendous screech came out of his
mouth like... «Ok, I'm coming»... **SO....**

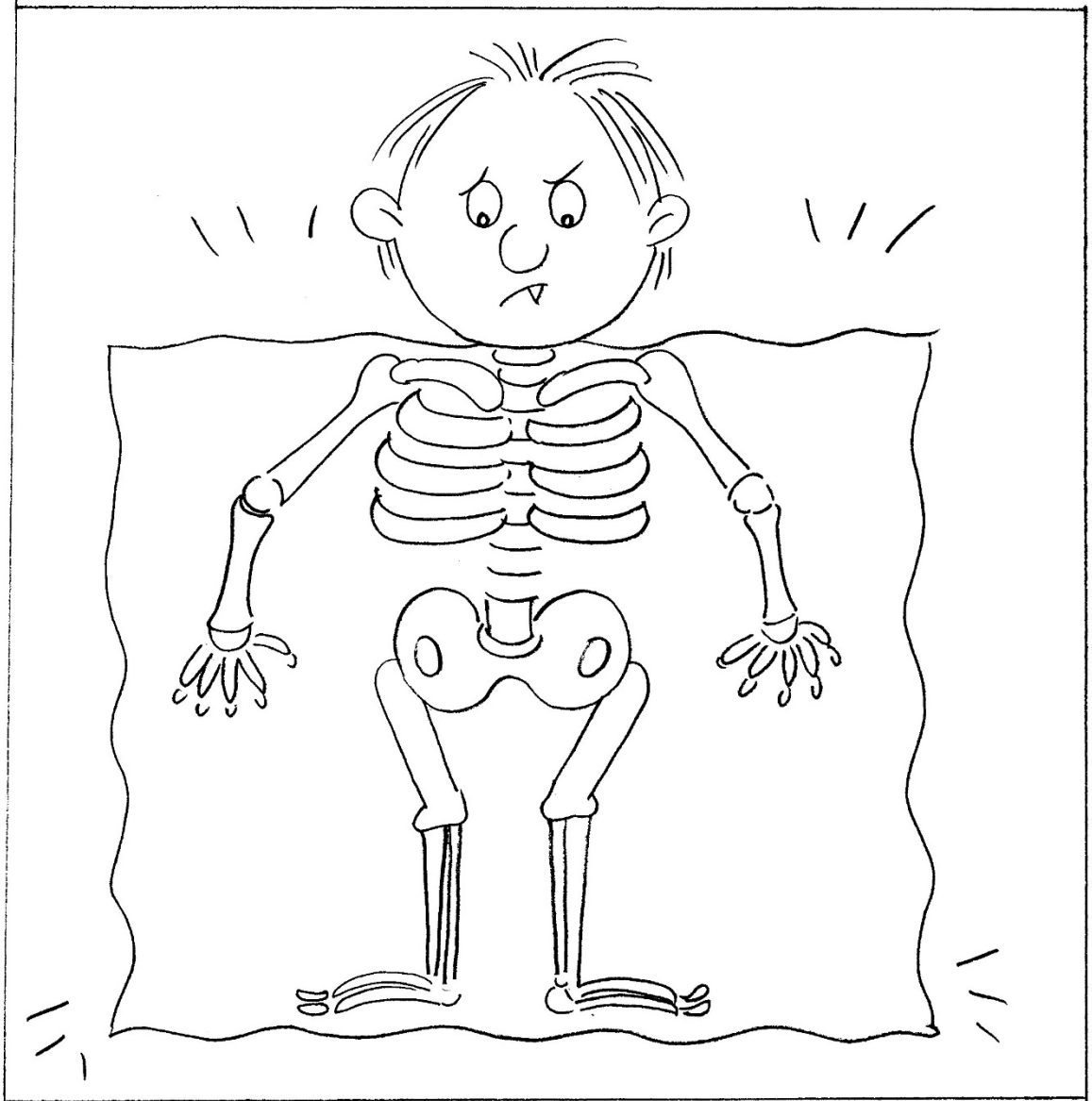


... Dodo bent his head, not too much but just enough, and went.



The cardiologist visited him for a long time and then he said:

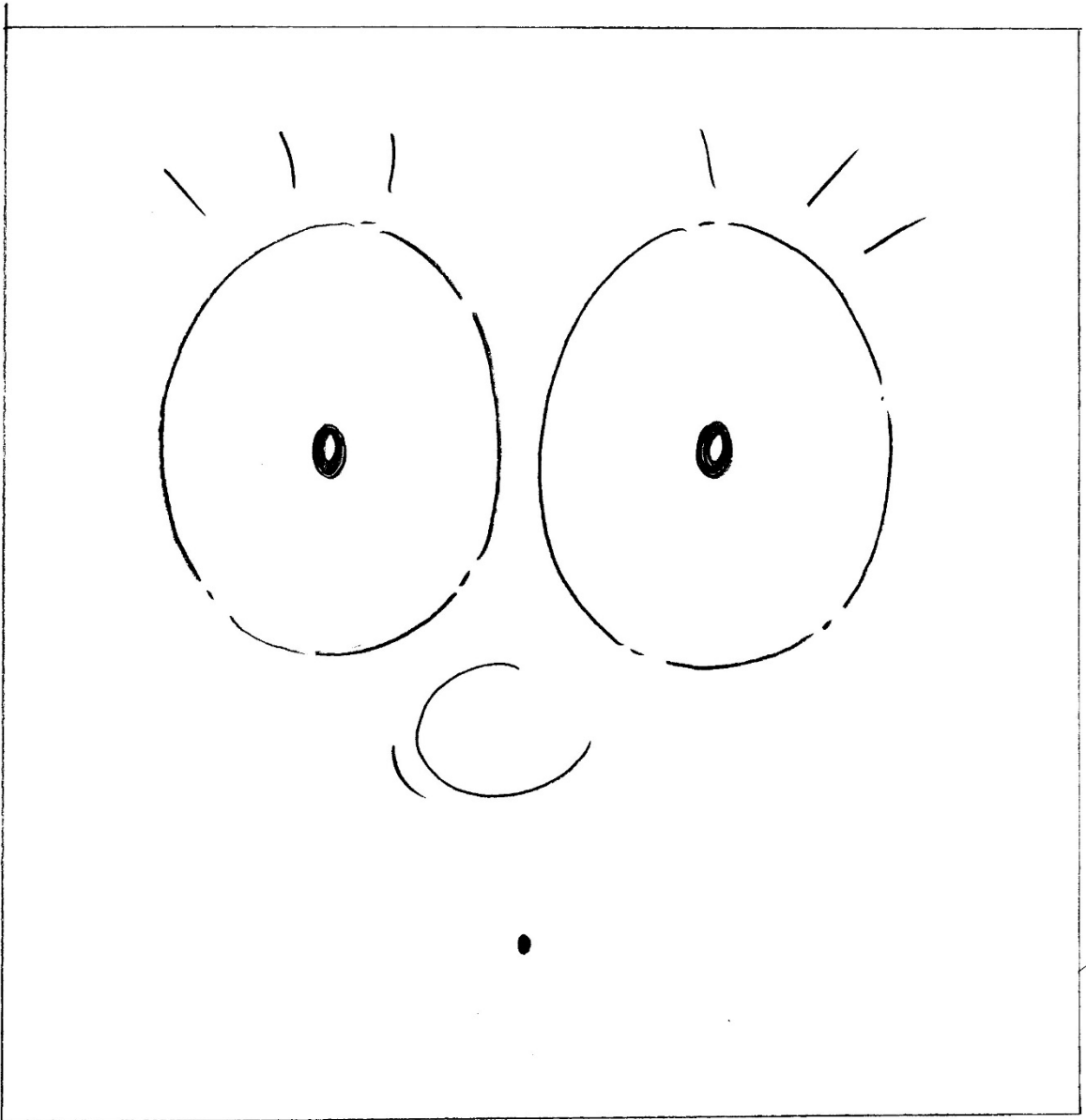
«My dearest Dodo. Your heart is in perfect shape! Be happy!»



The radiologist said:
«Perfect shape, Dodo, perfect
shape! Be Happy!»



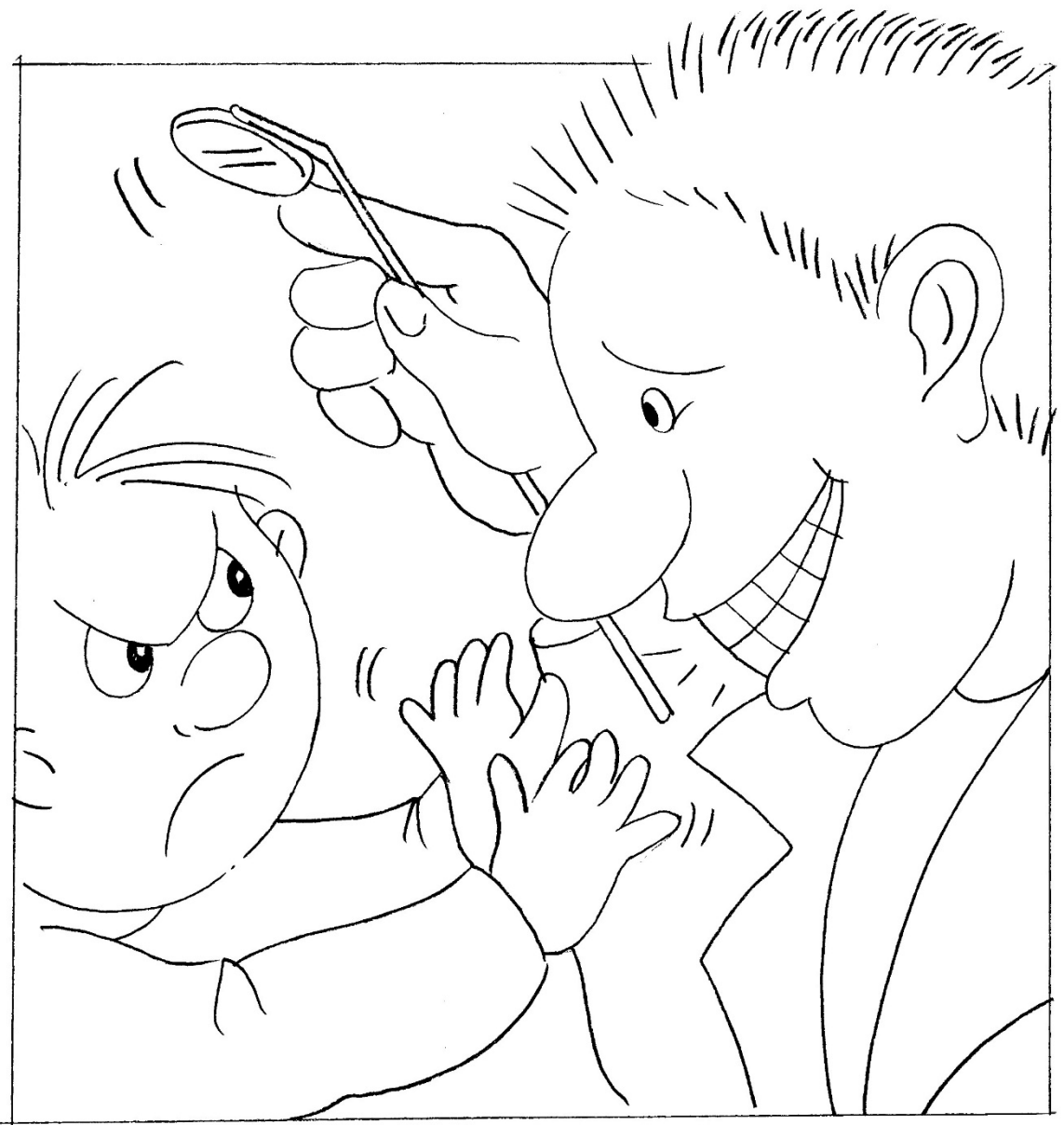
The ear, nose and throat doctor said:
«You're neither deaf, nor dumb boy!
Be happy!»



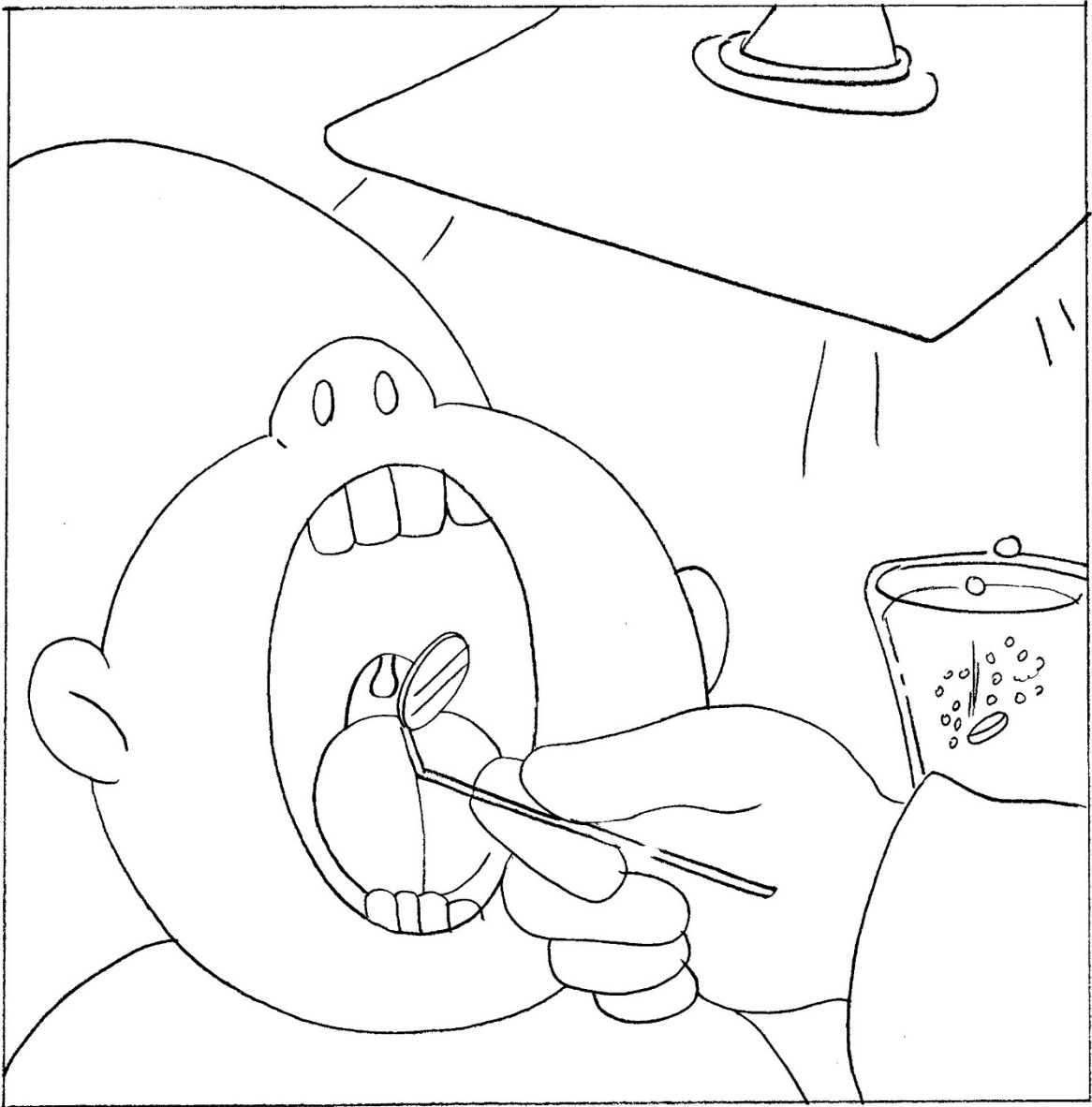
The eye doctor said: «Your eyes are as sharp as a hawk's. Be happy!»



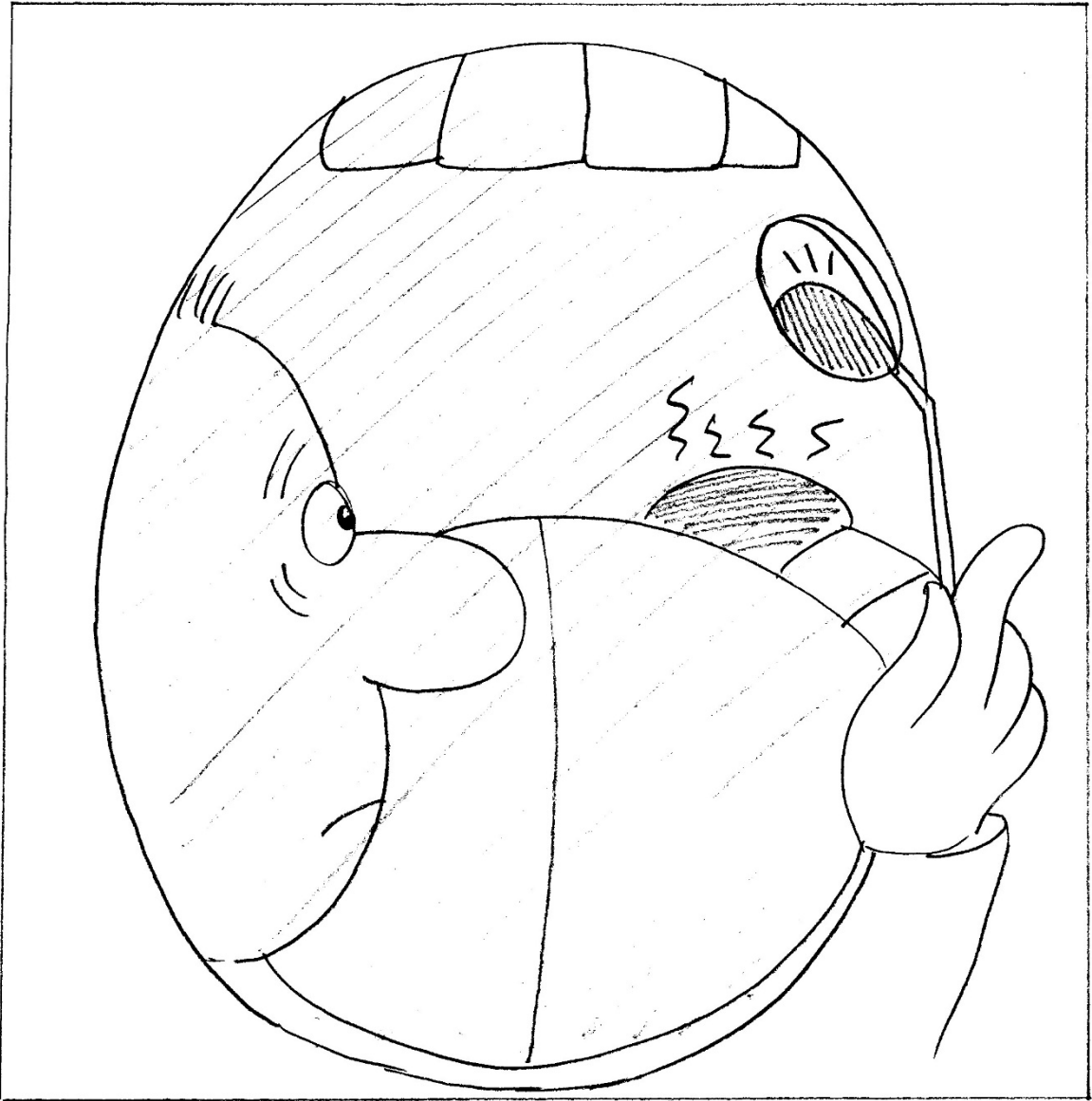
«Blood work's OK, lungs OK, liver OK, pipi OK. Everything's OK. Be happy!» But Dodo didn't feel happy at all. He didn't feel that everything was in shape. He felt worse and worse.



«Open your mouth wide! I bet you have a big yell to let out in there!», said the dentist.
«Grrr... don't touch me!»



But the dentist was right! He made Dodo open his mouth, not just a little bit but as much as he could, and then he looked inside and way back down near the biggest teeth he saw...

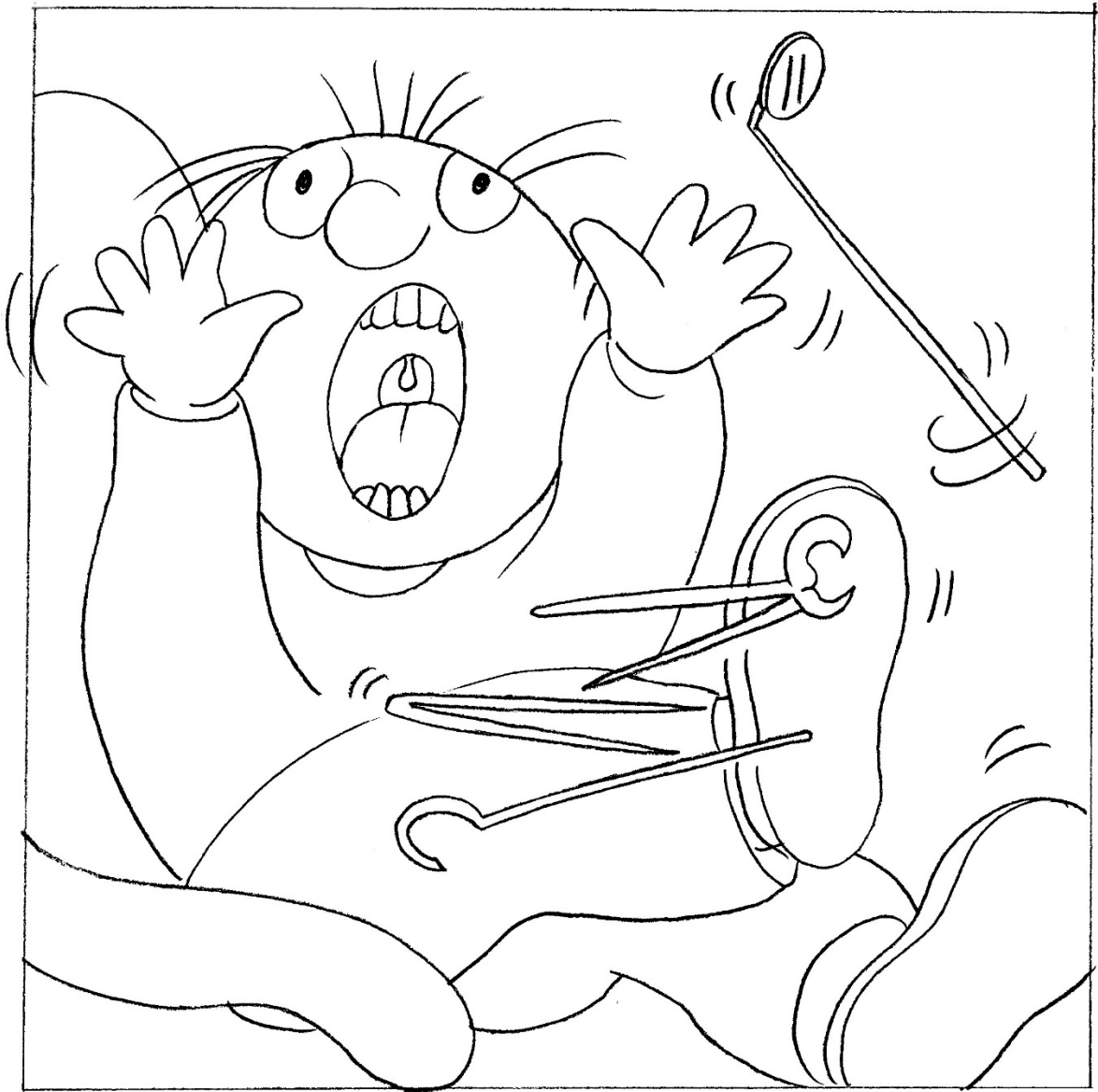


... a dark black rotten
tooth!



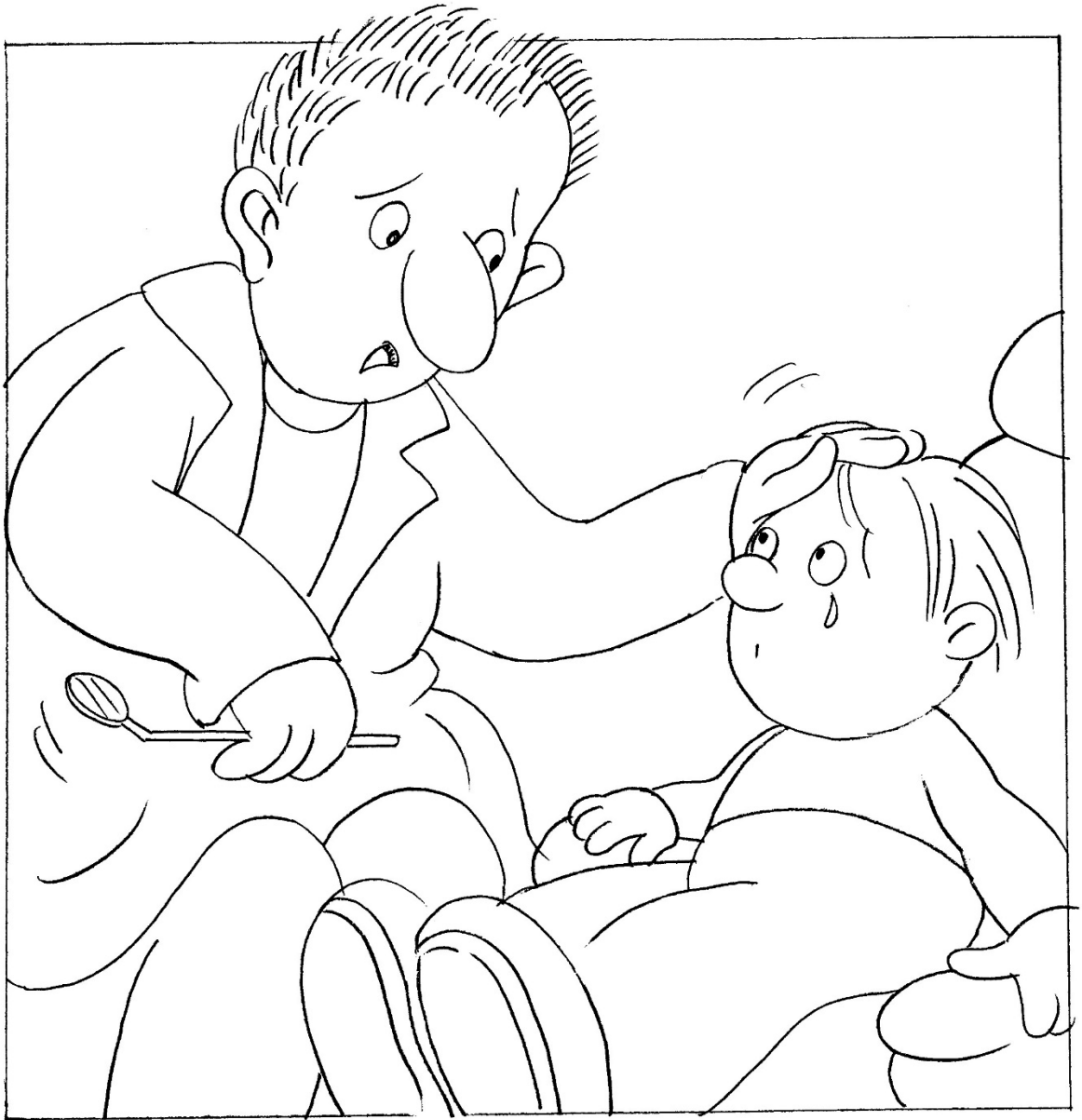
«You have a rotten tooth, my dear son! Lay back. I have to pull it at once.»

And the yell came out!

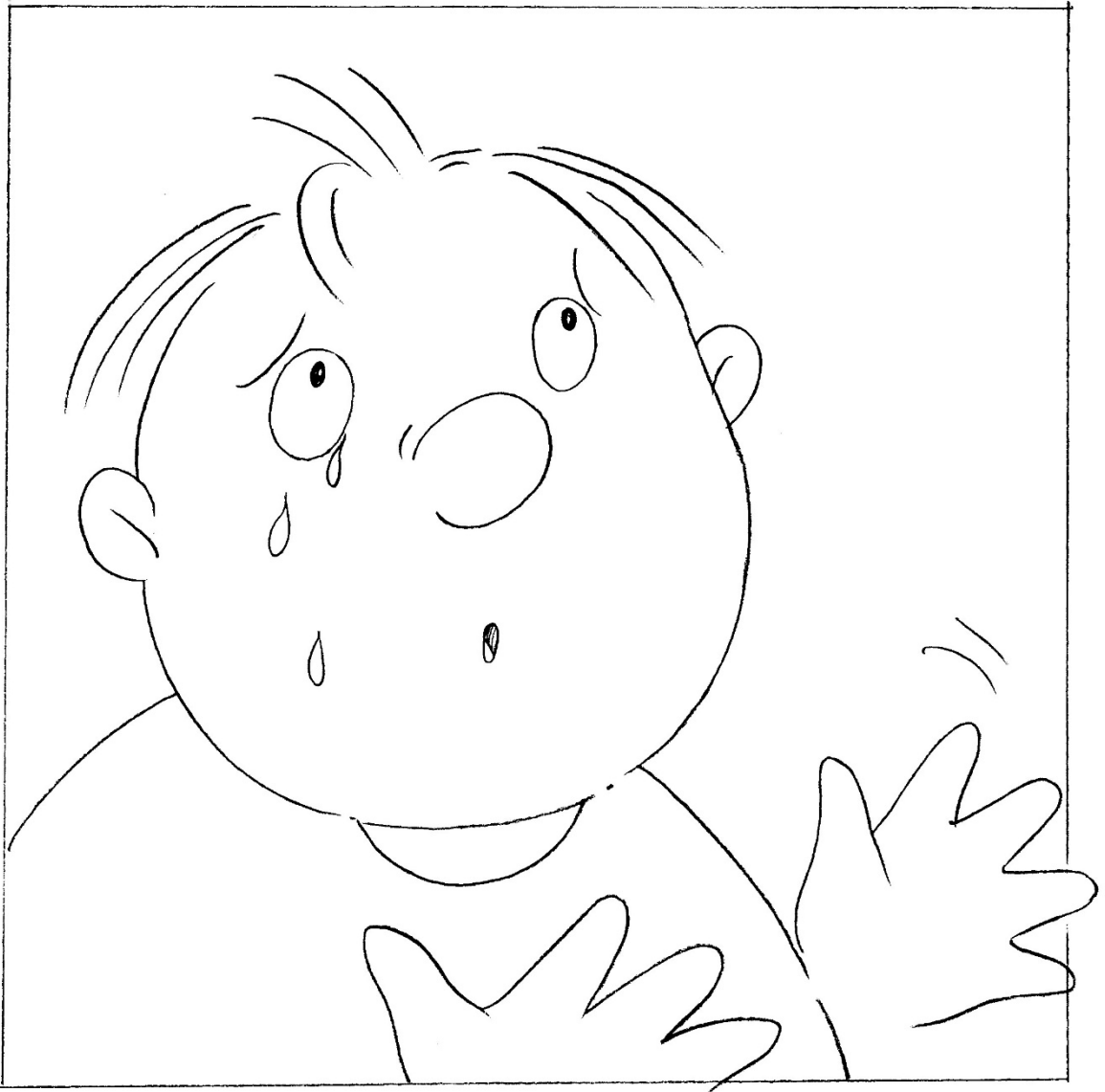


«NO!!!»

«I'll do anything you ask me to do but don't pull it out!» said Dodo.



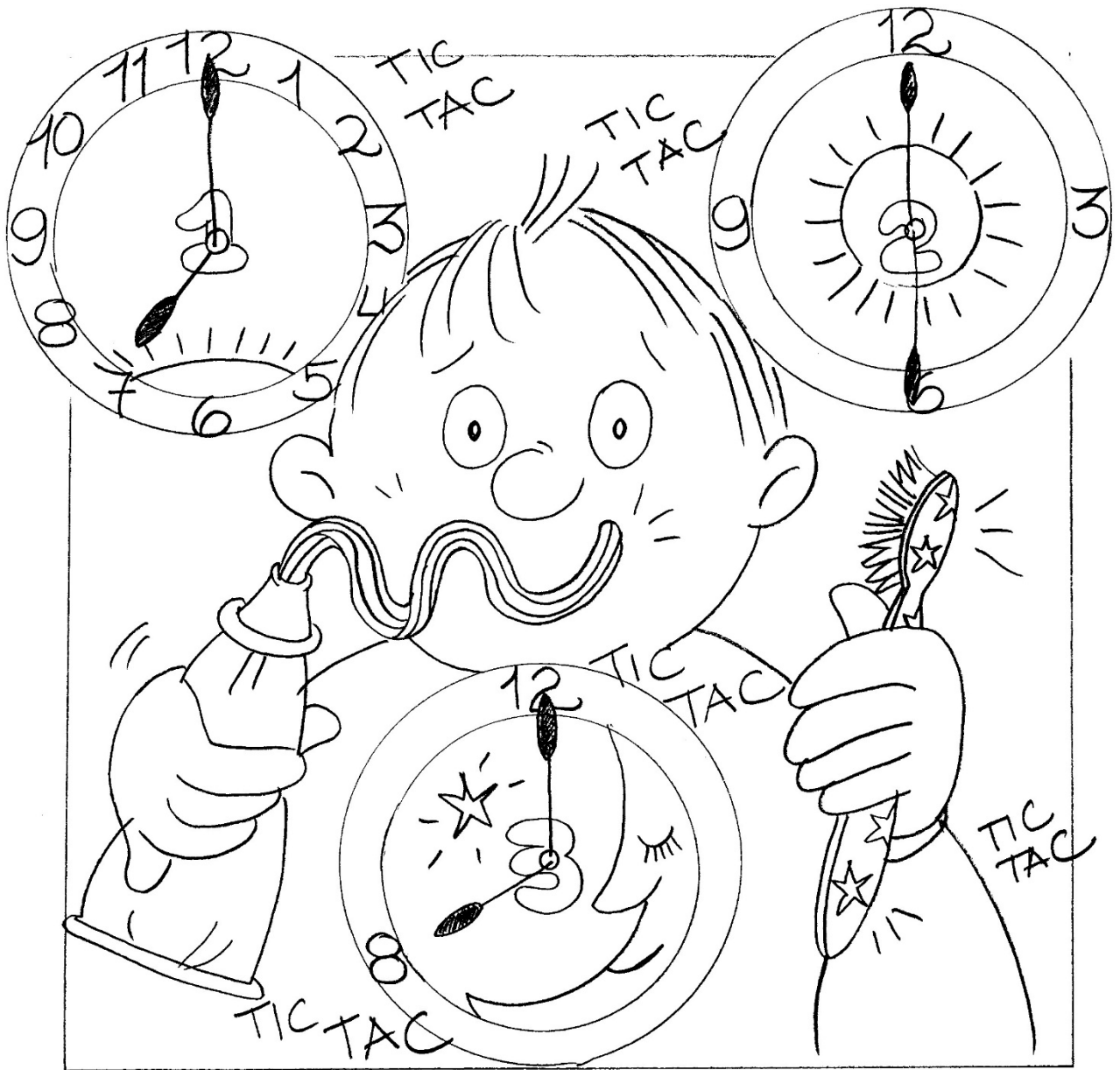
«Will you have the patience to take care of it Dodo? Will you really, with all your will, all your might?» asked the dentist.



«Yes», replied Dodo. «I'll heal it. I'll care for it. I really will.»



«Then this is what you need: a toothbrush and toothpaste. Use them every morning, afternoon and evening.»



Who knows... maybe it was because the toothpaste was mint flavoured and really good... or because the toothbrush was full of twinkling stars, or maybe it was because Dodo was so afraid of having his tooth pulled out... but instead of pulling out one tooth, he got into the habit of brushing all of them three times a day!



And every morning while Dodo was brushing his teeth, the sunlight came in dancing on the bathroom mirror, smiled at him and said:

«Good morning Dodo! It's a superspecial day. Hurry up and come and see for yourself!»

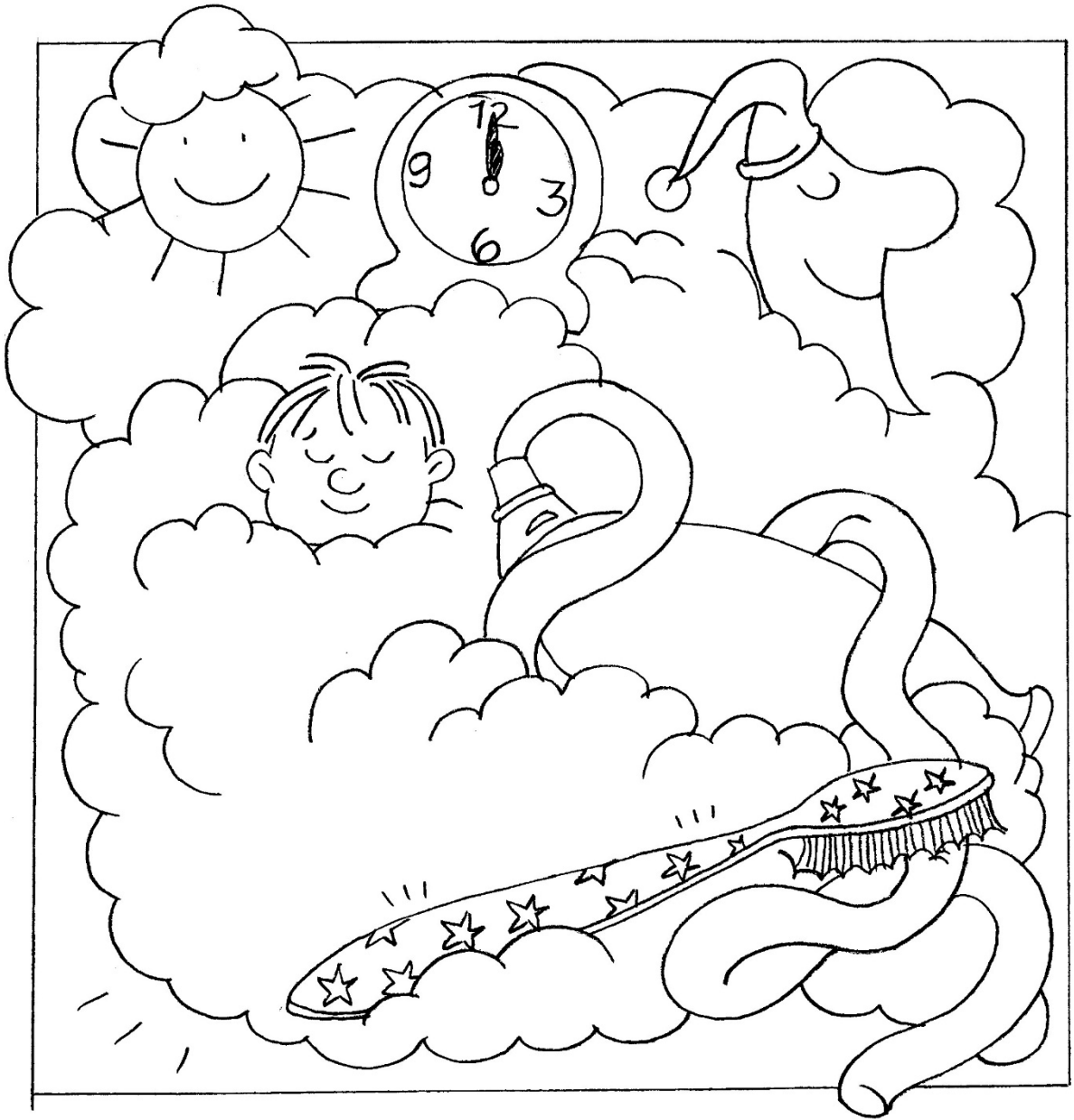


“Every afternoon a little bird would fly onto the windowsill and chirp happily and contentedly:

«Listen to my song Dodo, and sing along!
You can teach it to all your friends!»

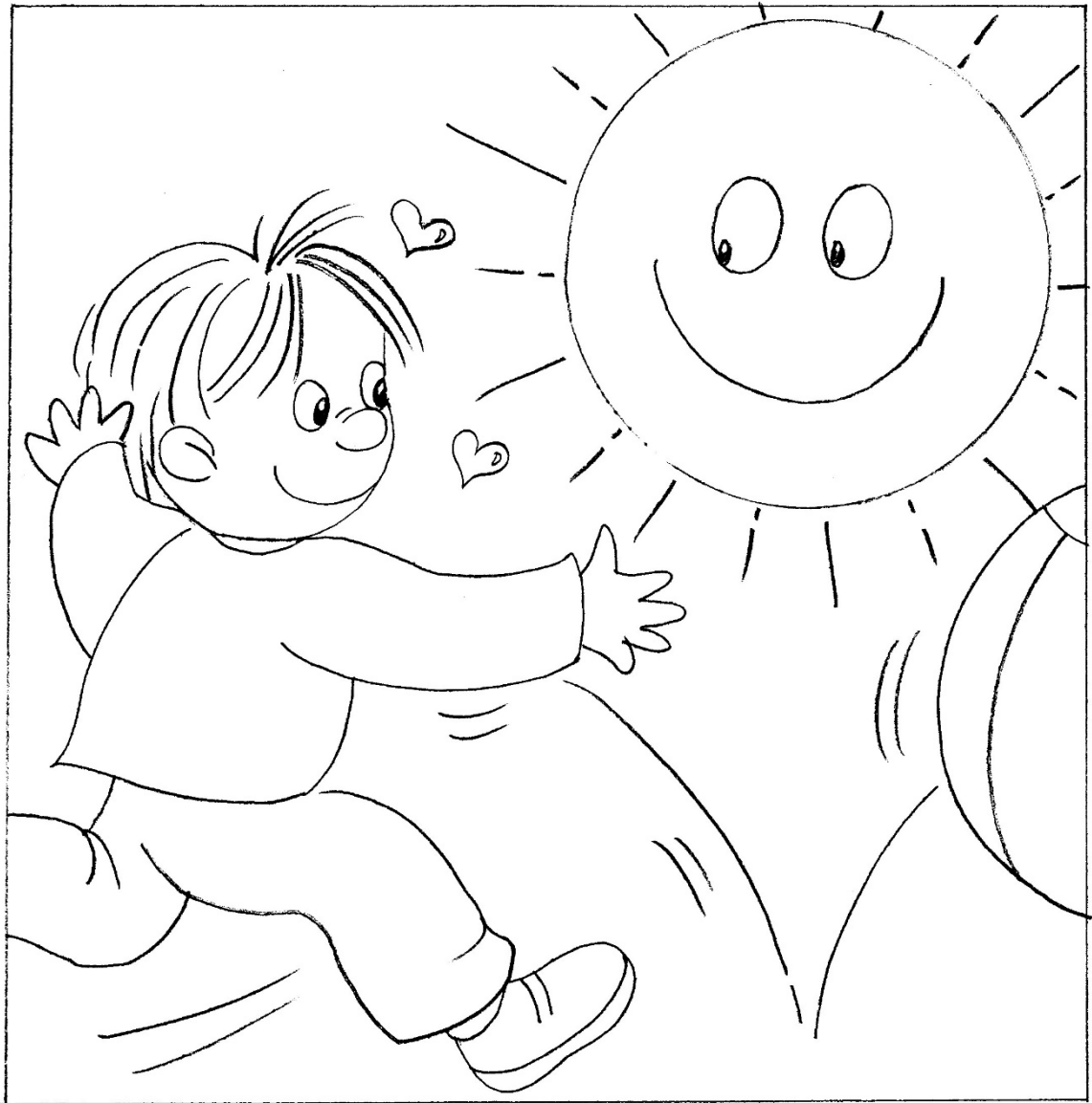


Every evening the stars in the sky would come in twinkling and spinning around to wish Dodo goodnight. «Goodnight Dodo! Sweet dreams, joyful dreams, golden dreams. Don't forget that we love you!»

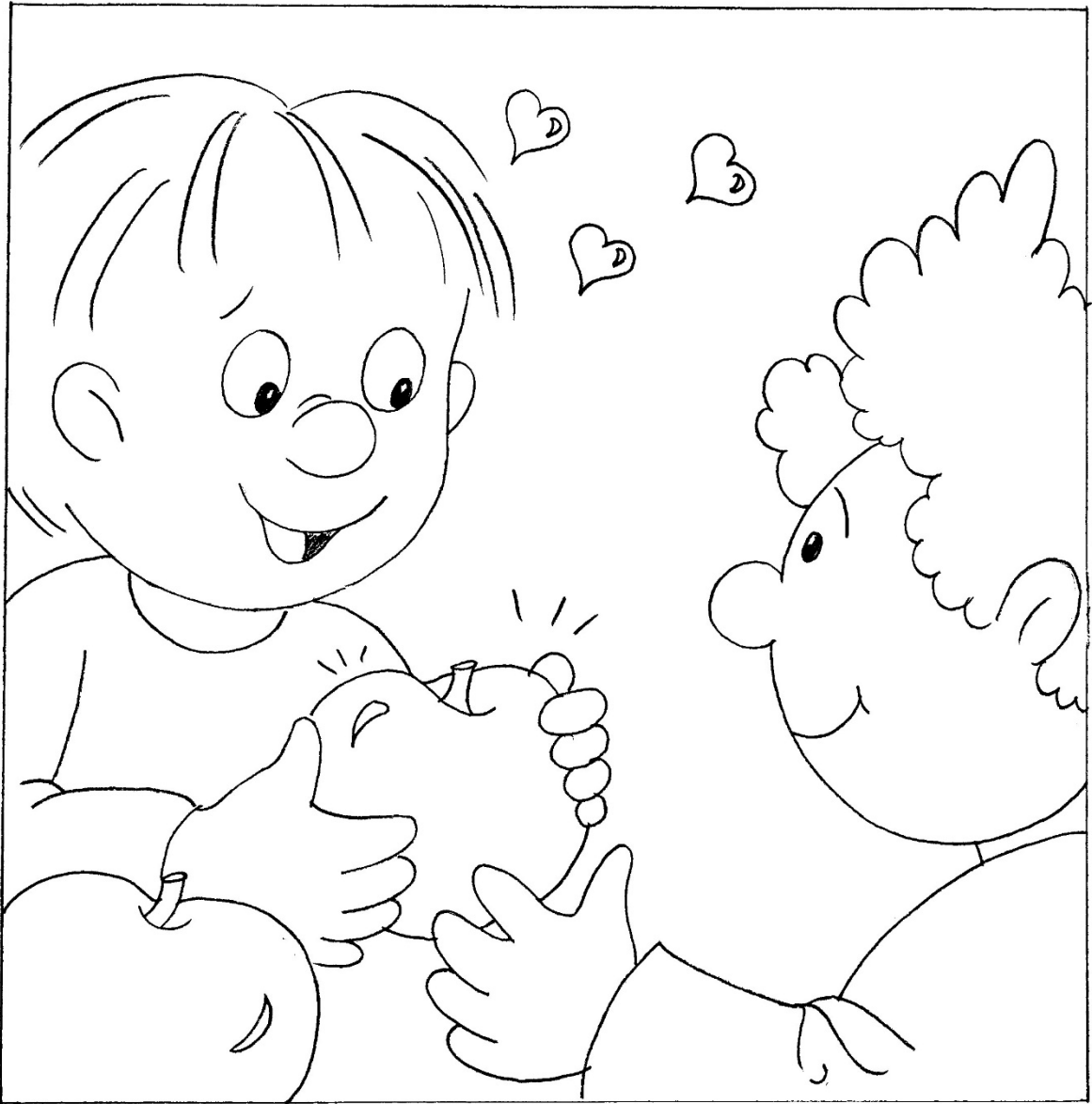


Day after day, night after night...

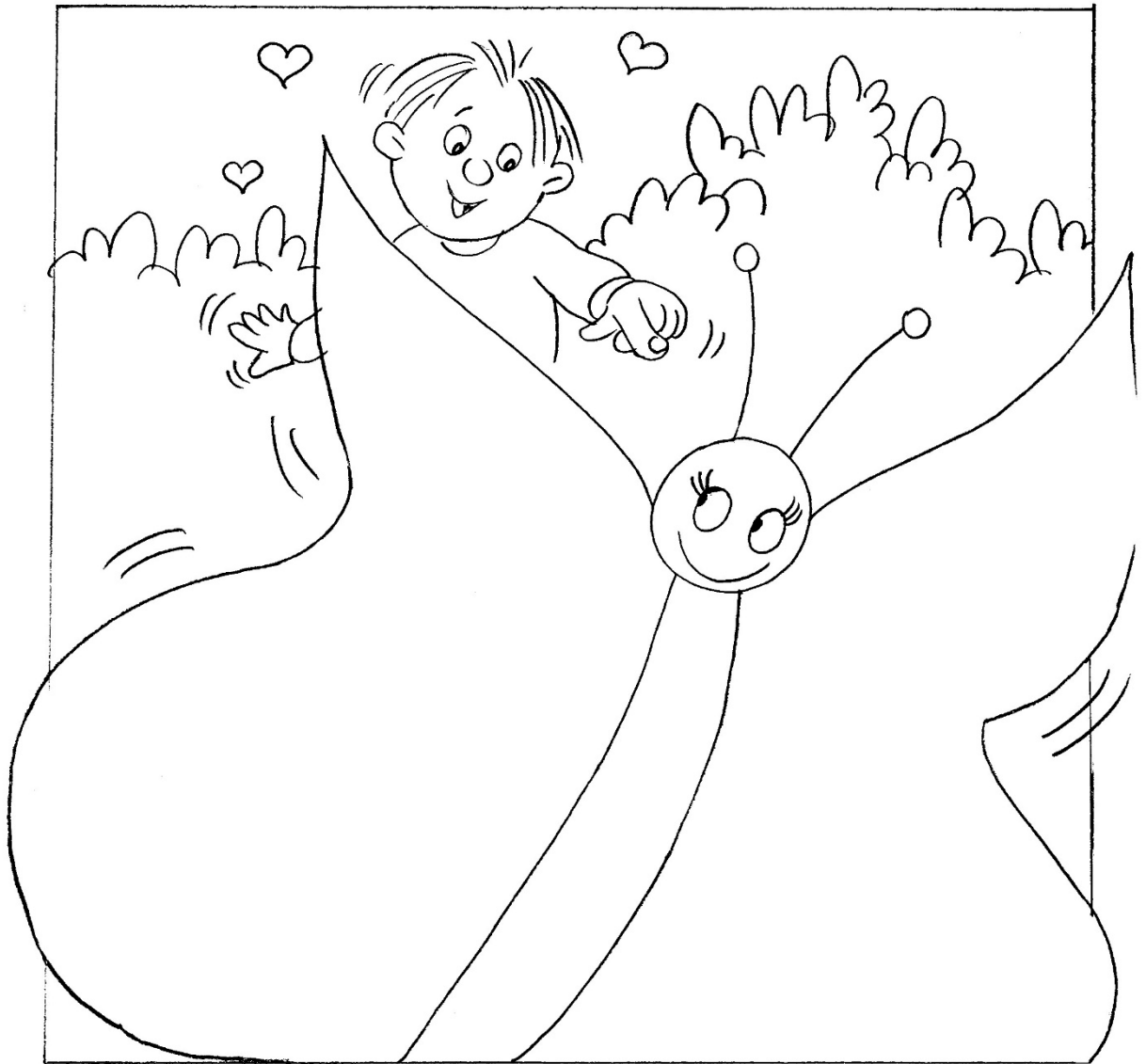
A little bit of toothpaste and a good brushing until one day Dodo finally began to feel better!



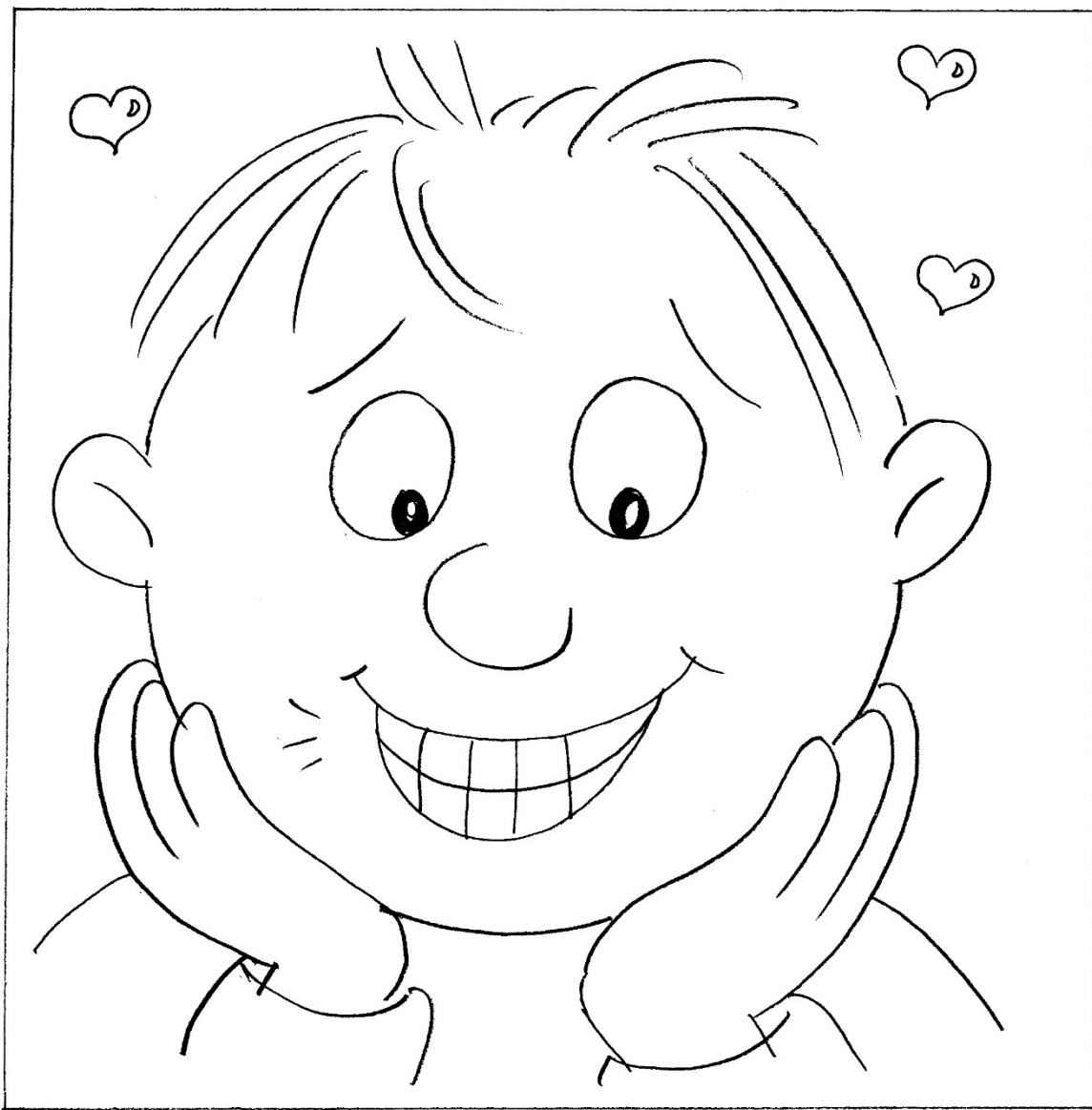
“Wow! What a day!”



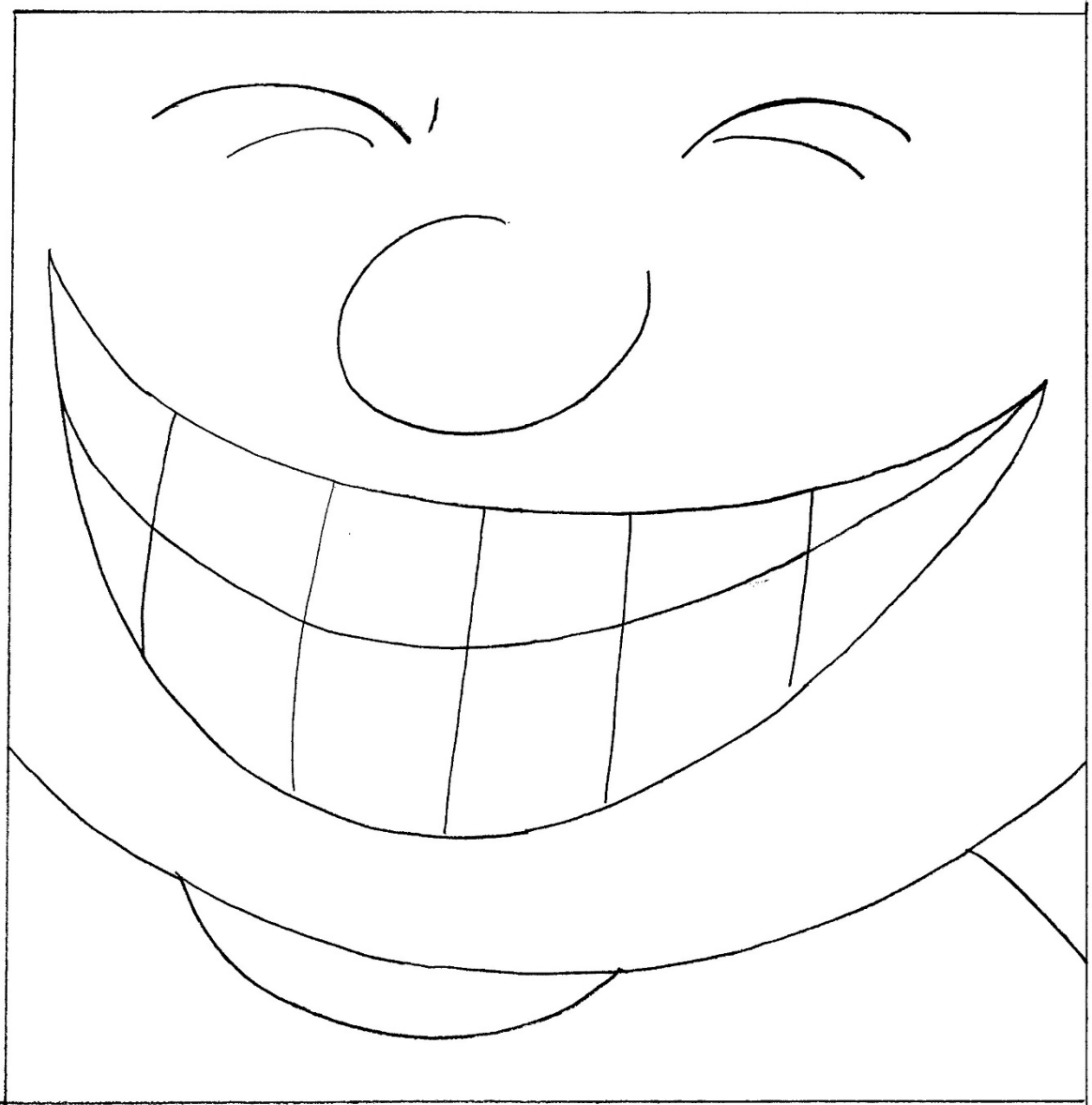
«Crunch... This apple is so sweet!
Do you want one, too?»



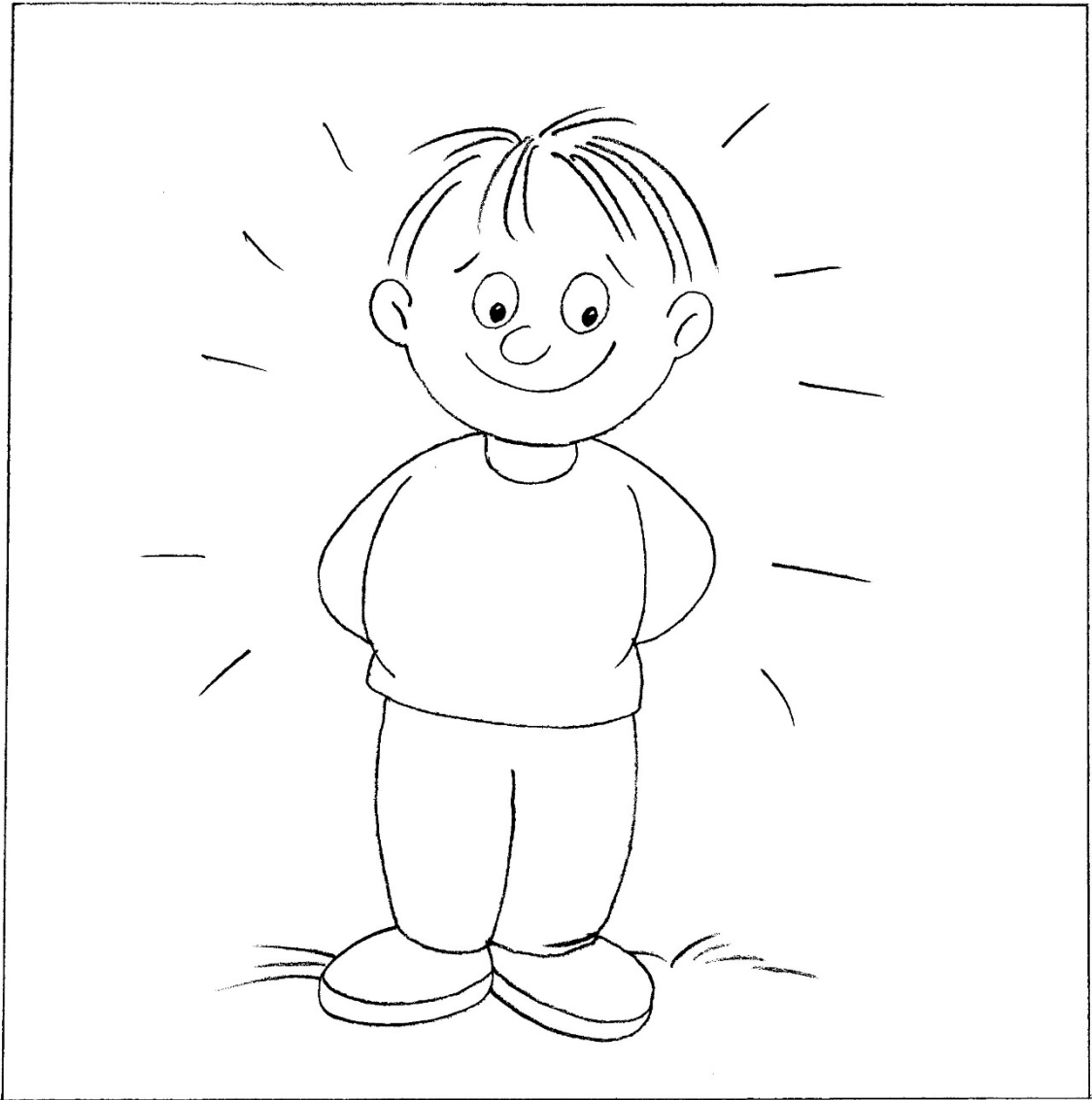
«What a beautiful butterfly!»



«Now I like everything in this world, everything around me and within me! It's a gift to be here!»



Hey! Did you see that smile? It's worth a ton of gold. And it's really his. It's Dodo's!



Dodo was really good. Thanks to his patience and efforts he was able to heal his rotten tooth all by himself. He doesn't hate the entire universe anymore. The bad disease called anger is gone. Now Dodo is happy. How about a big hand clap?!

Moral of the story:



Dente Sano in Mente Sano in Corpore Sano (Healthy teeth and a healthy mind make a healthy body... *and a happy life!*)

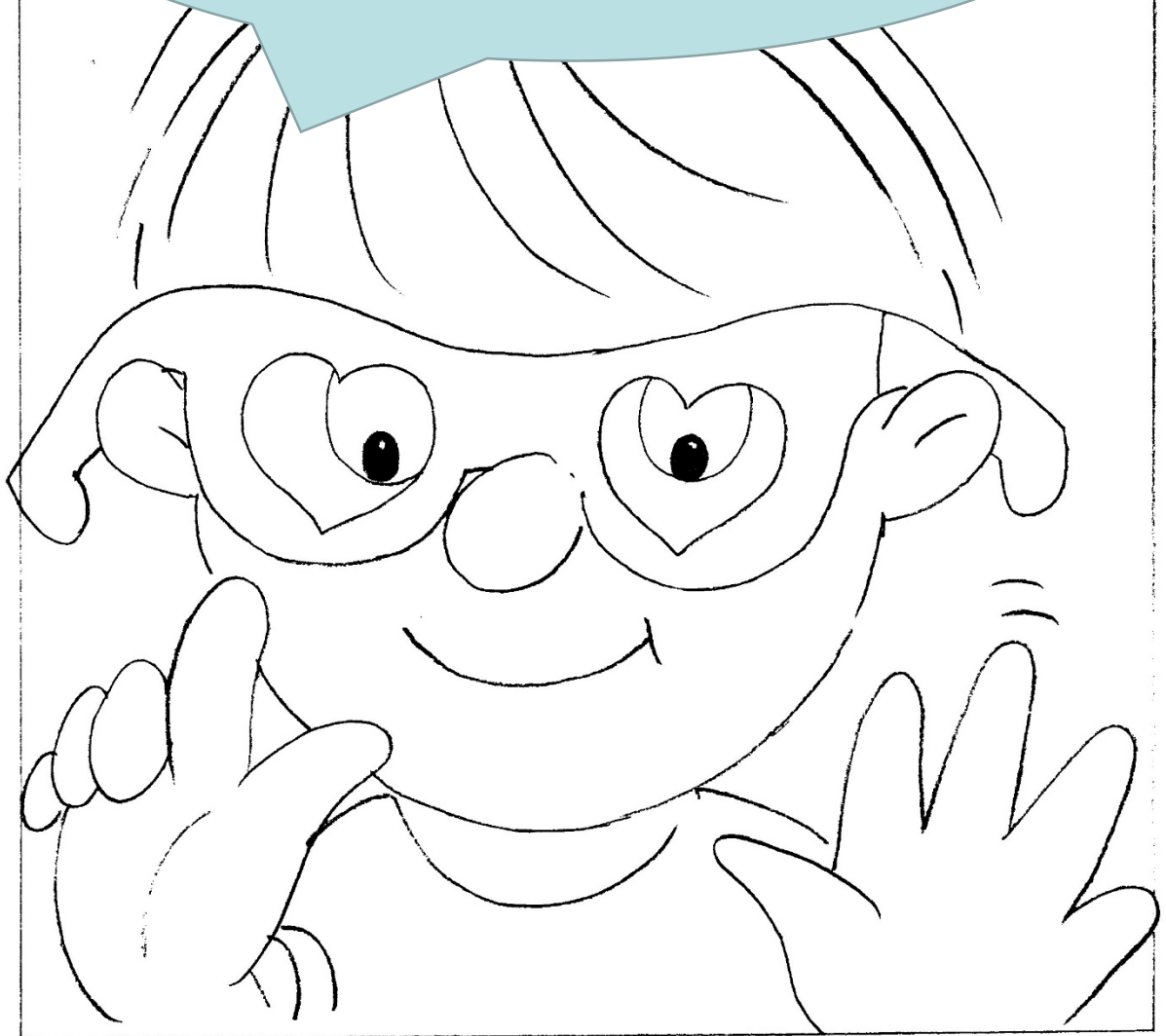


Practice and discipline
are not so boring. They
helped me change and
be happier!

«And by the way... if one day you have to have a tooth pulled out...»



«Hey! Don't forget to
always wear love
glasses so you can see
love everywhere!»



©suzannepalermo2003/kiba09@sunrise.ch

Do you have a pair?