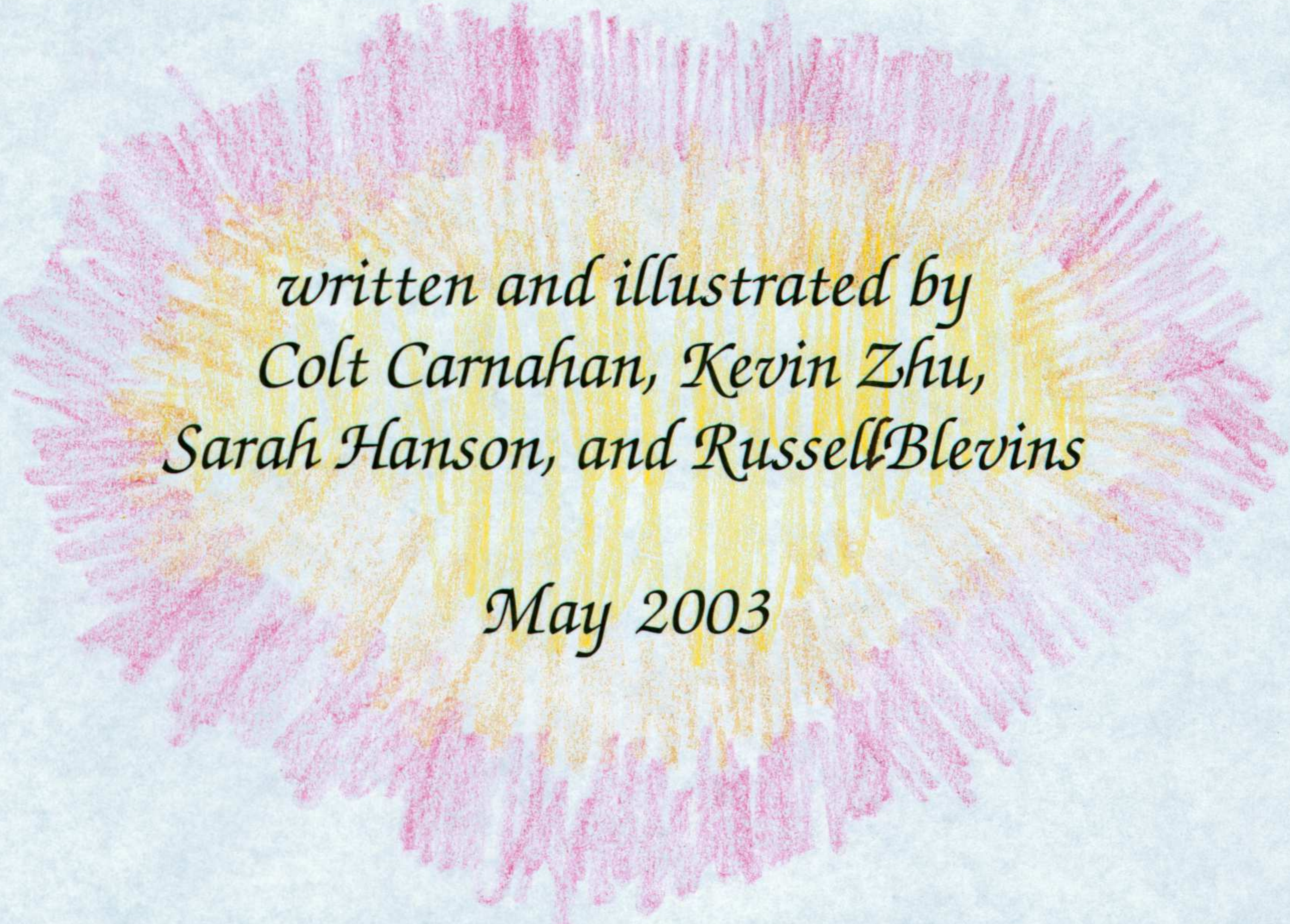




*When I Was Young
in Worthington: 1910s*



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May 2003



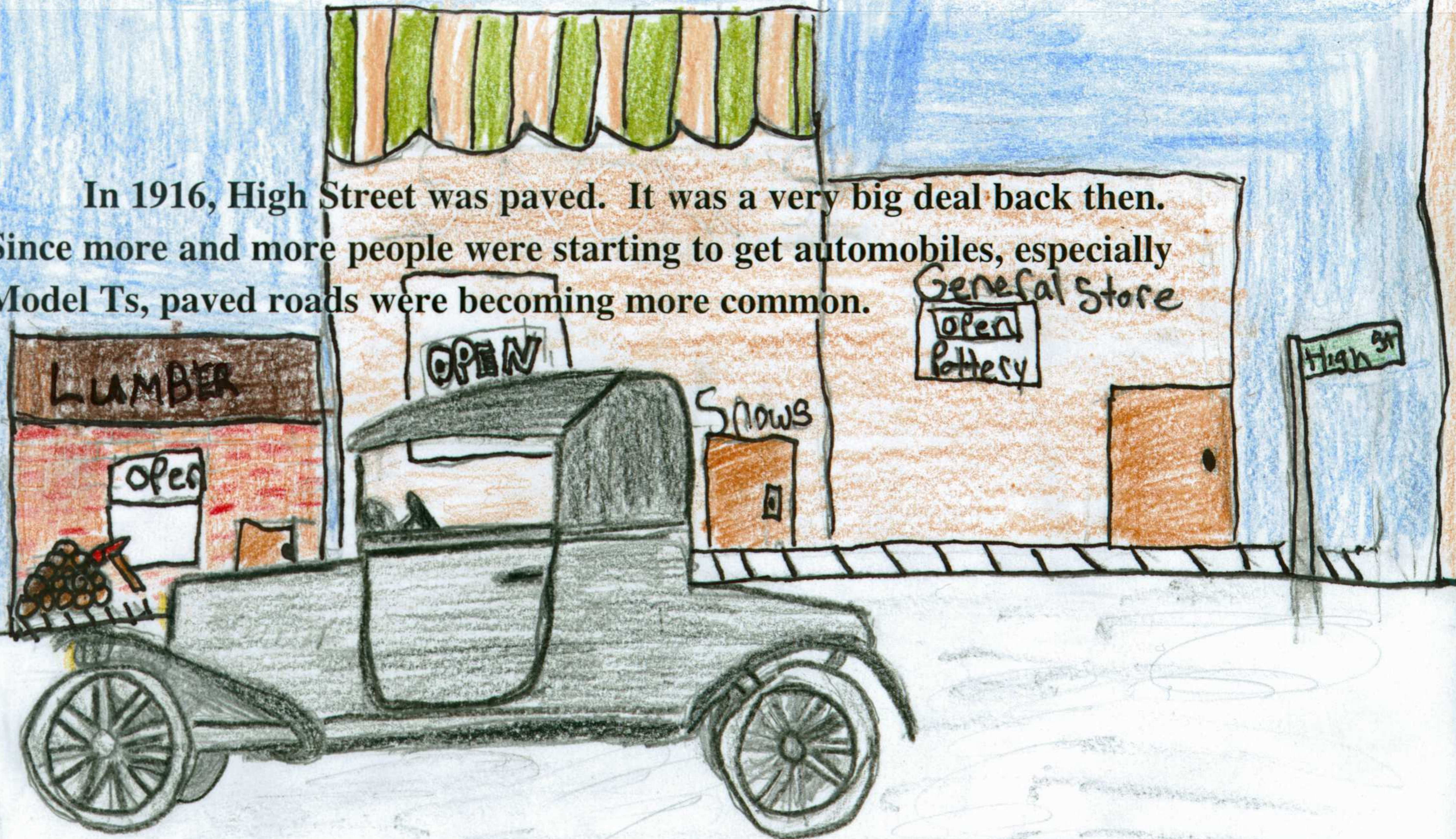
In the 1910s things were hard for our family. Father finally got a job in the 1913s at Potter's Lumber Company. Mother had no job at all. A few of our friends got a water system in their house. We didn't have enough money to get one, though.

I remember Haley suggested we plant pumpkin seeds so that we could sell them and get a little extra money. We told Mother and she thought that it was a great idea. It was spring, so Warren and I planted the seeds as soon as we could.

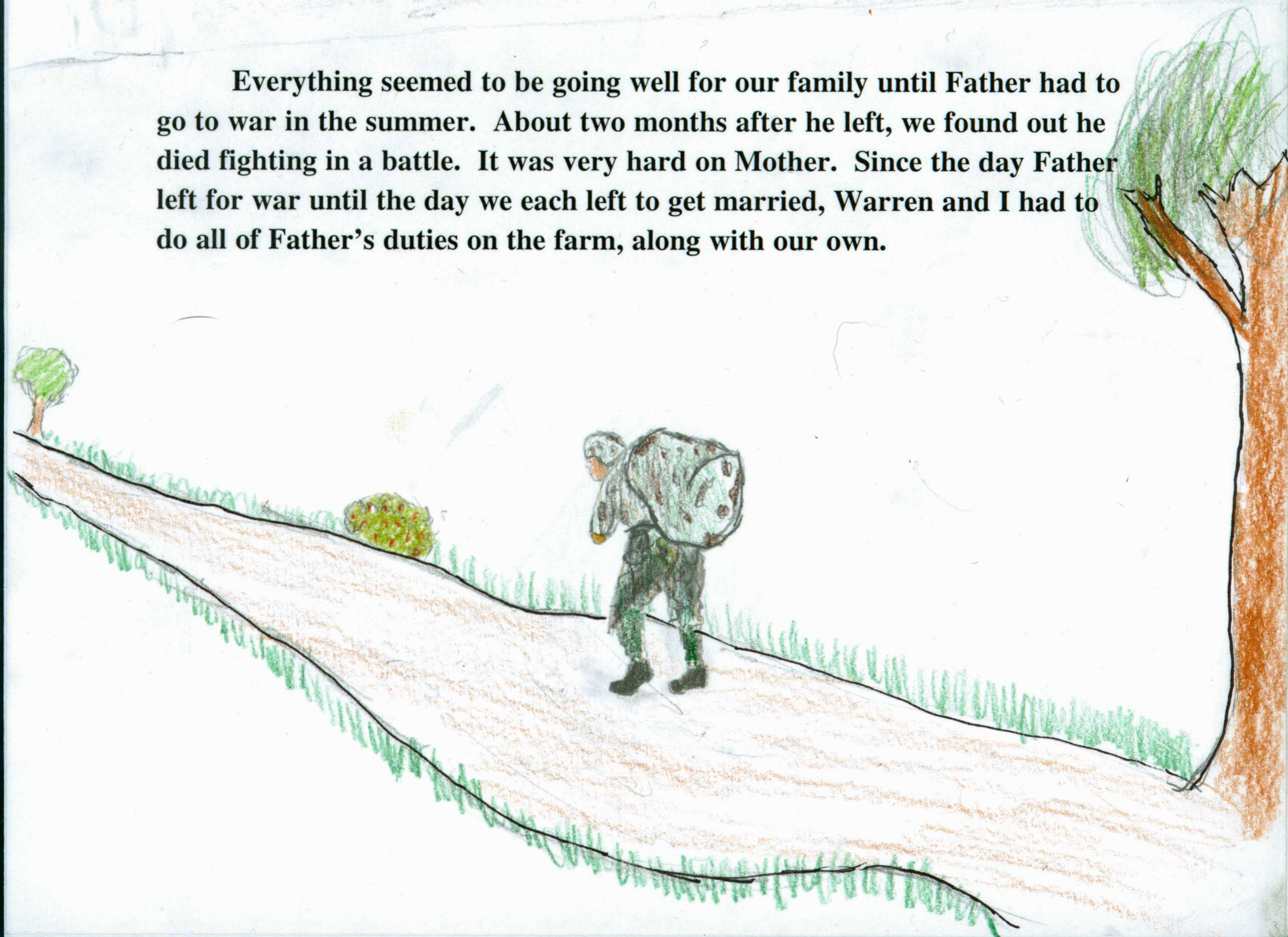
In the fall, we selected a few nice pumpkins that we could sell outside of Snow's Drug Store. We also chose pumpkins that Mother, Haley, and Frances could make into pumpkin pies. When we were selling them outside of Snow's Drug Store, Bill Moose, the last full-blooded Wyandotte Indian in Worthington, bought one to take to his family. Frances thought that was great.



In 1916, High Street was paved. It was a very big deal back then. Since more and more people were starting to get automobiles, especially Model Ts, paved roads were becoming more common.



Everything seemed to be going well for our family until Father had to go to war in the summer. About two months after he left, we found out he died fighting in a battle. It was very hard on Mother. Since the day Father left for war until the day we each left to get married, Warren and I had to do all of Father's duties on the farm, along with our own.





That Christmas was the first Christmas without Father. Not only was Mother sad, she also felt bad that she could not afford to give us a lot. She gave each of us an orange. She gave Warren and I a book to share, and made Frances and Haley each a rag doll. She made each of us a pair of mittens and socks. Even though Father was gone, Mother tried to make it a great Christmas, and it was.


During the next couple of cold months, we did not want to walk a mile and a half just to get to school. Mother did not disagree with that. So we decided not to go to school until it got a little warmer. When it got warmer, we would stop by the corner store on the way to school and buy a little snack or something small once a month. We used the money that we got from selling the pumpkins.



After the war ended, times started to get better. I graduated from school and we were finally getting used to Father being gone. Prices went back down from being up so high during the war. Mother found a job and it started paying good money after a few weeks.

Mother even bought us an A&W Root Beer. It was not an everyday thing like it is now. It was a big treat and if I can remember right it was to celebrate that I finished school.





In year 2003 I am now at a very, very old age and my great-grand children take care of the farm.