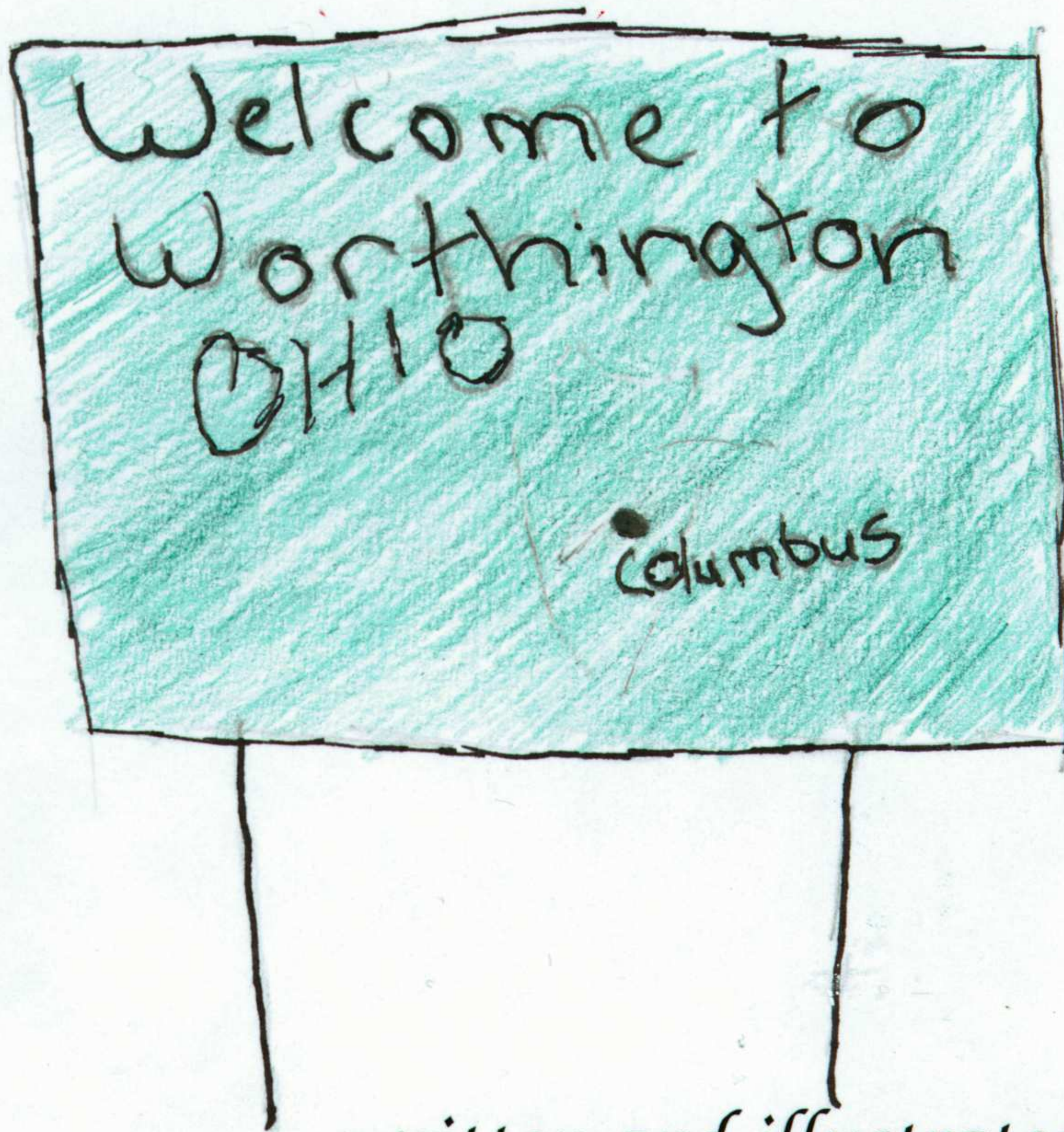


*When I Was Young
in Worthington: 1990s*



*written and illustrated by
Stefan Ritter, Daniel Colegrove,
Sean Smith, and Matt Sass*

May 2003

We dedicate this to the
soldiers who were in Iraq for all there
bravery and courage

The year was 1991 in Worthington, Ohio and a boy named Sean woke up at 6:31 a.m. He got ready to go to Worthingway Middle School. John, his little brother, was screaming at his father, Newton, because he had stepped on his Game Boy. It was now broken. Even though Sean's mother was making bacon and eggs, he grabbed a Pop-tart. He walked into the living room and sat down in the recliner and turned on the TV. Sean was watching the news and saw the soldiers fighting in Iraq. He dropped a few crumbs and left them there for his mother to clean up. His mother saw them 15 minutes later. For his carelessness, Sean got a lecture.



Sean walked out to the bus stop and saw the bus driver named Teddy.

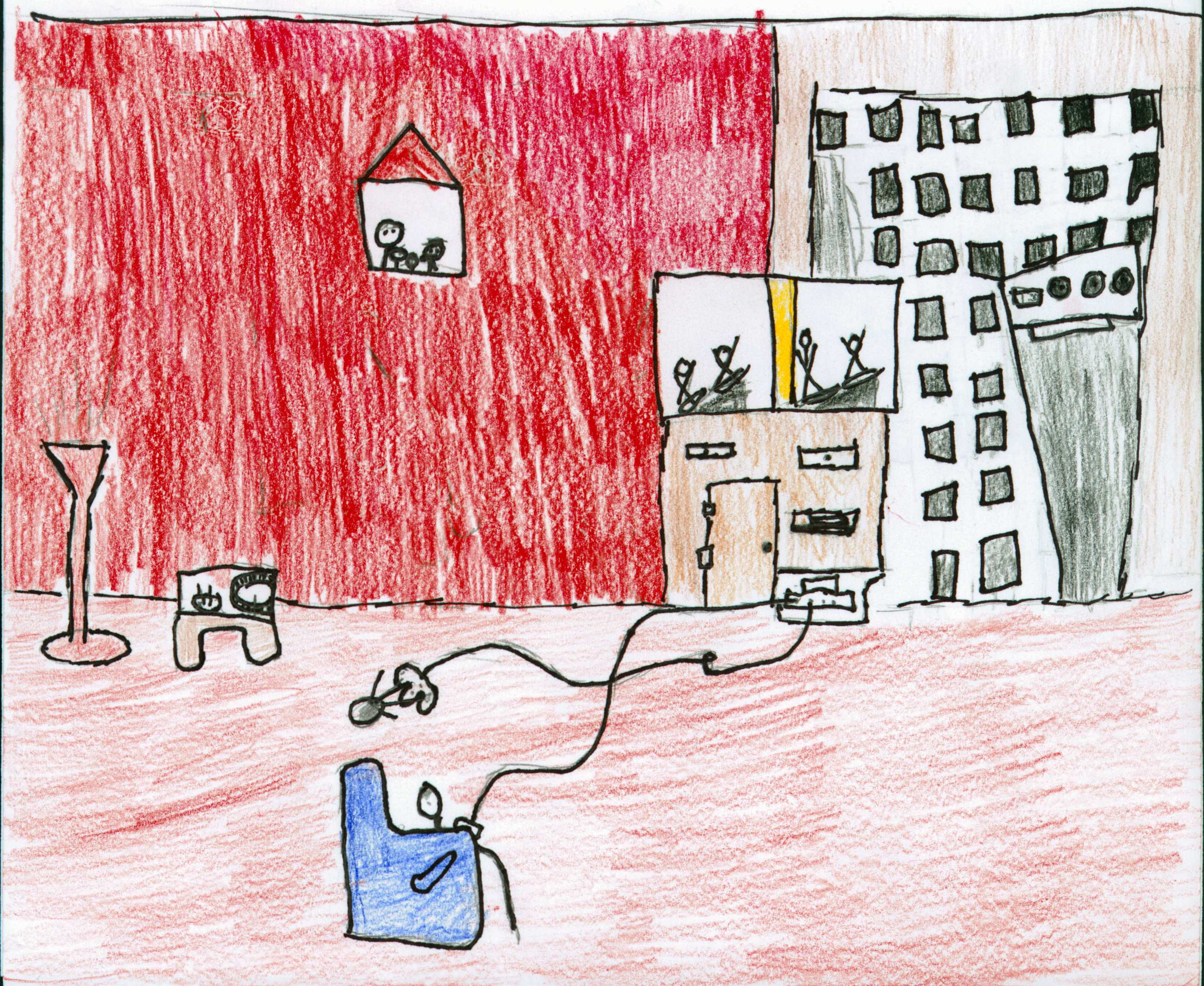
“Hi,” said Teddy.

Sean sat down in his assigned seat. During the bus ride everyone was screaming and hopping around the bus. Sean just sat there listening to Aerosmith on his CD-Player as the bus continued on to school.

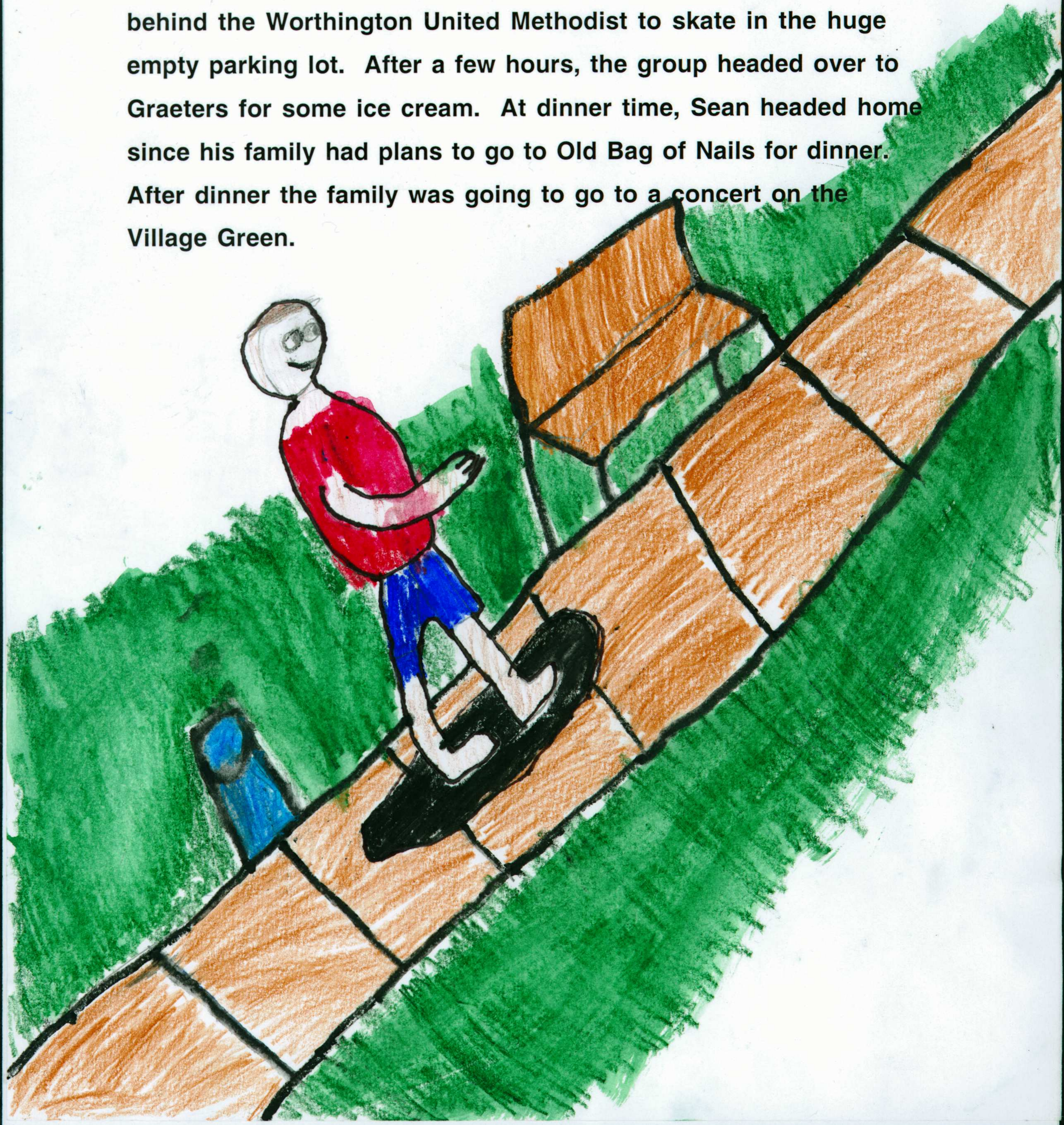
Sean did not have much luck in school. He wasn't a very good student in class and never paid attention. He got in trouble and got detention just about daily. The one room in the school Sean really enjoyed was the library. The library had thousands of books that grabbed Sean's interest. Sean had recently read about the 1850's. He learned about the one room school house which made him realize how lucky he was to go to a school as good as his.



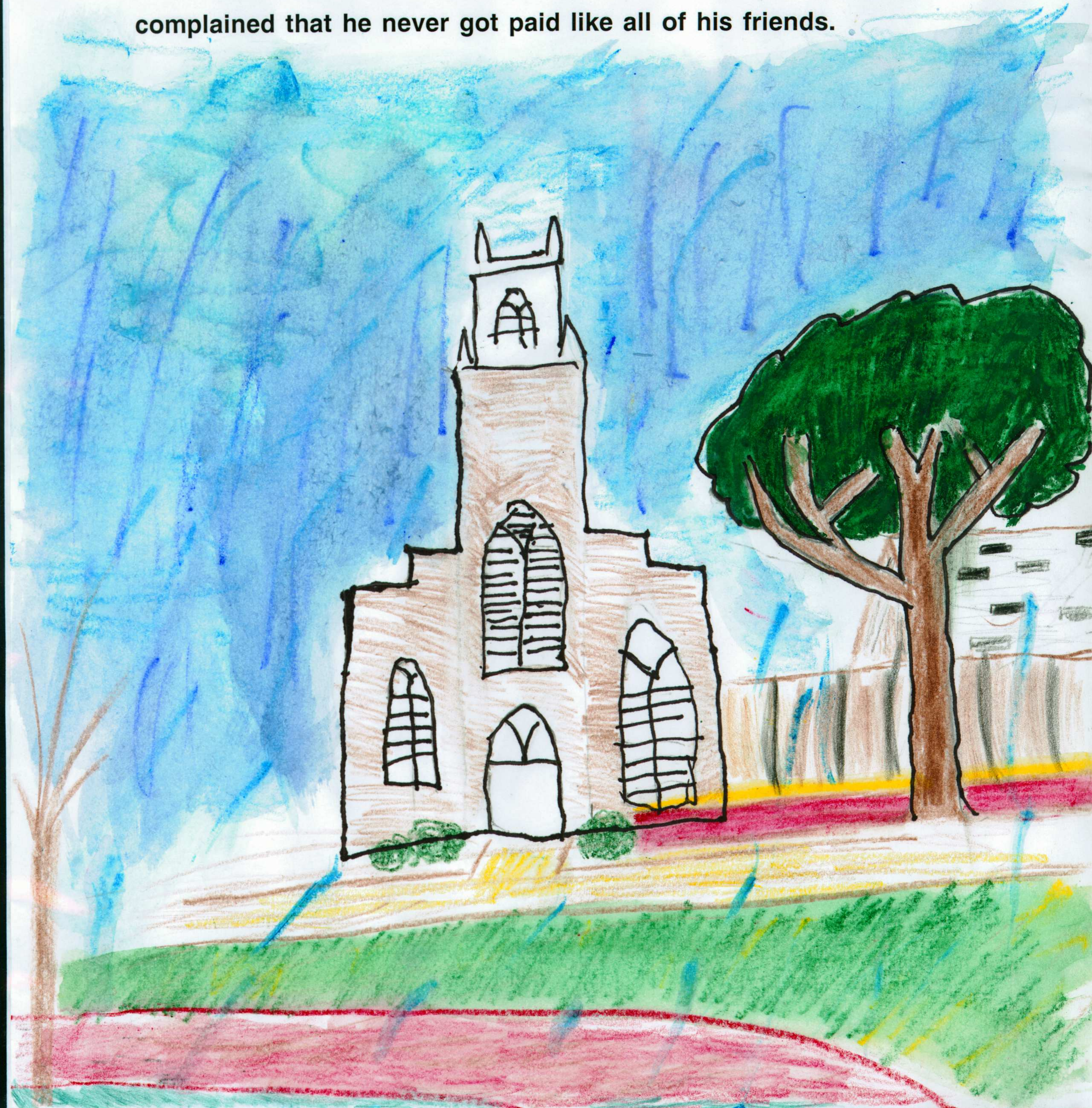
Every day after school and detention, Sean would stop at Kroger to buy a Krispy Kreme donut with sprinkles. He would then walk home. When Sean got home, he left his homework by the couch and played video games. He was always glad for Fridays because he could invite a friend to sleep over. When Jimmy, Sean's friend, came over they usually played Nintendo and then watched Jurassic Park for the rest of the night. In the morning, they played video games, again.



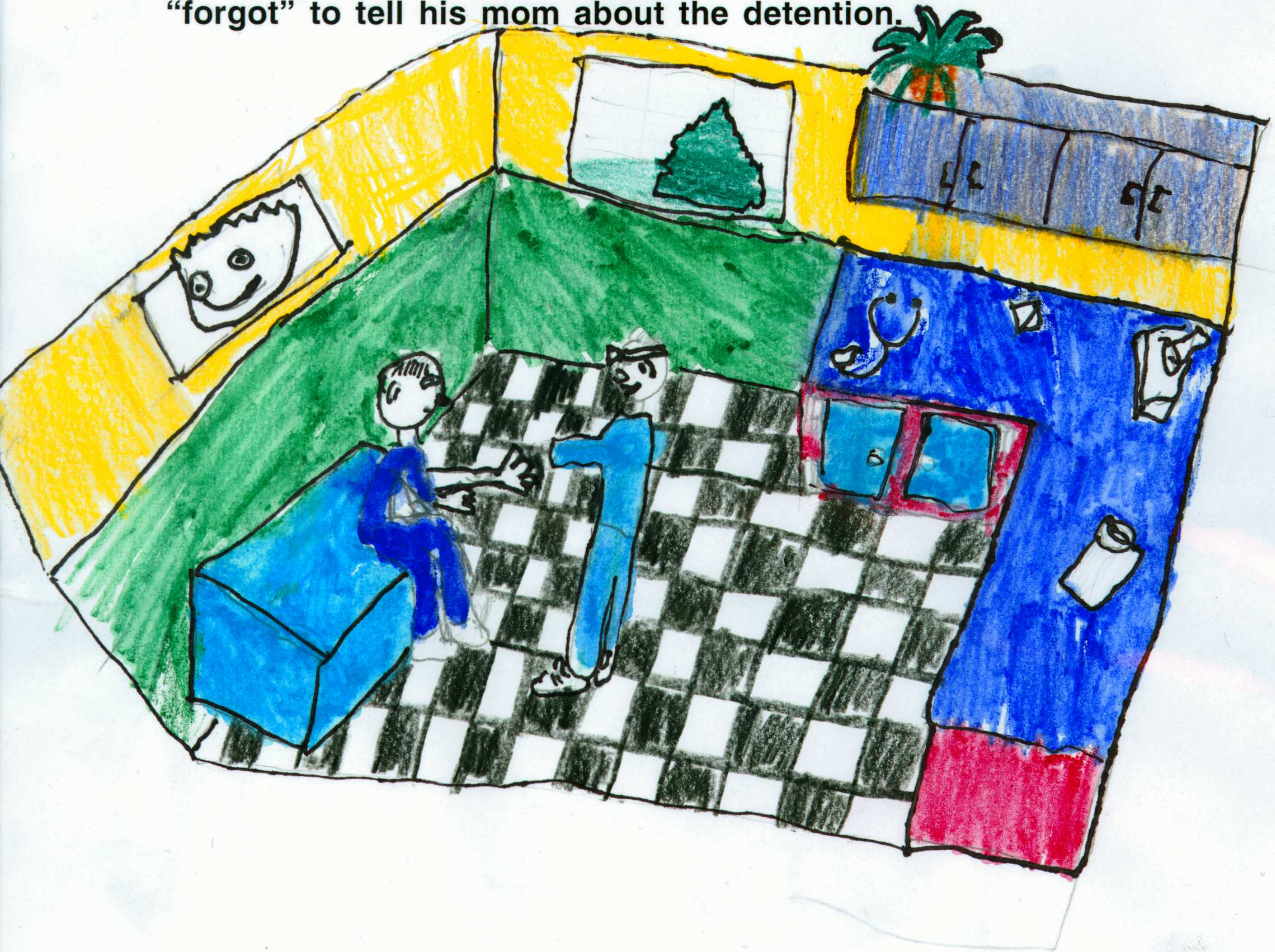
On Saturday morning Sean woke up about 10 am. He grabbed his skateboard and headed over towards Uptown Worthington to meet up with his friends. They were going to meet behind the Worthington United Methodist to skate in the huge empty parking lot. After a few hours, the group headed over to Graeters for some ice cream. At dinner time, Sean headed home since his family had plans to go to Old Bag of Nails for dinner. After dinner the family was going to go to a concert on the Village Green.



On Sunday, Sean's mother made him go to church, although he never paid attention and he always fell asleep. After church, Sean came home and his mother made him do chores. Sean hated emptying trash and emptying the dishwasher. He always complained that he never got paid like all of his friends.



On Monday morning Sean woke at 6:32. He ate a Pop-tart, got his school stuff, and went to the bus stop. When he got to school, he tripped as he walked down the steps to the school. At the nurse's office, the nurse put some bandages on Sean's wounds. During science, the class had to watch a video about germs. Sean fell asleep during the movie. When the teacher woke him up, she gave him detention. Later that night, Sean "forgot" to tell his mom about the detention.



When Sean did not come home on time the following day, his mom began to worry. After two hours in detention, Sean arrived home. He told his mom that he had stayed at school to help his teacher move some stuff around in the classroom.

The next day at school, the principal called Sean down to his office. The principal, Mr. Wightman, took him into the office and told Sean that he was drafted into the homework team. The homework team was a class for kids who don't do homework. They have time in class to work on homework together. When Sean's mother found out about him having to be on the homework team, she grounded Sean. By the end of the school year, Sean was always doing his homework and had agreed to continue doing so. He had learned his lesson.

