

An A to Z Book Of Homelessness

By Ms. Morenoff's and Ms. Hassan's
3rd/4th grade class



This book is dedicated to anyone who reaches out to the homeless, and to homeless people themselves.

It is also for all the teachers and students, especially the teachers who made this book possible: Ms. Stroman, our art teacher; Ms. Rodriguez, our Spanish teacher; and Ms. Morenoff and Ms. Hassan, our classroom teachers.

Thanks to the people at Charlie's Place, Christ House, Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place, Neighbors Consejo, and N St. Village for letting us visit to do fieldwork. Lastly, thanks to Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 1-3 for the grant that helped us print our book.

Preface: A Home Without Walls

What does it feel like to live on the street? What do you need to survive? Where could you get help, if you wanted it? In this expedition named by students, we investigated these, and other questions facing homeless people in Washington, DC. Through readings, fieldwork, and expert visits, we explored many of the circumstances that can lead to homelessness, and realized that homelessness affects people of all ages, races, and religions.

Throughout the study, we asked ourselves how we can help while respecting people's dignity and humanity. We believe that kids can make a difference in the world, and that it is our responsibility to try.

An A to Z book of Homelessness

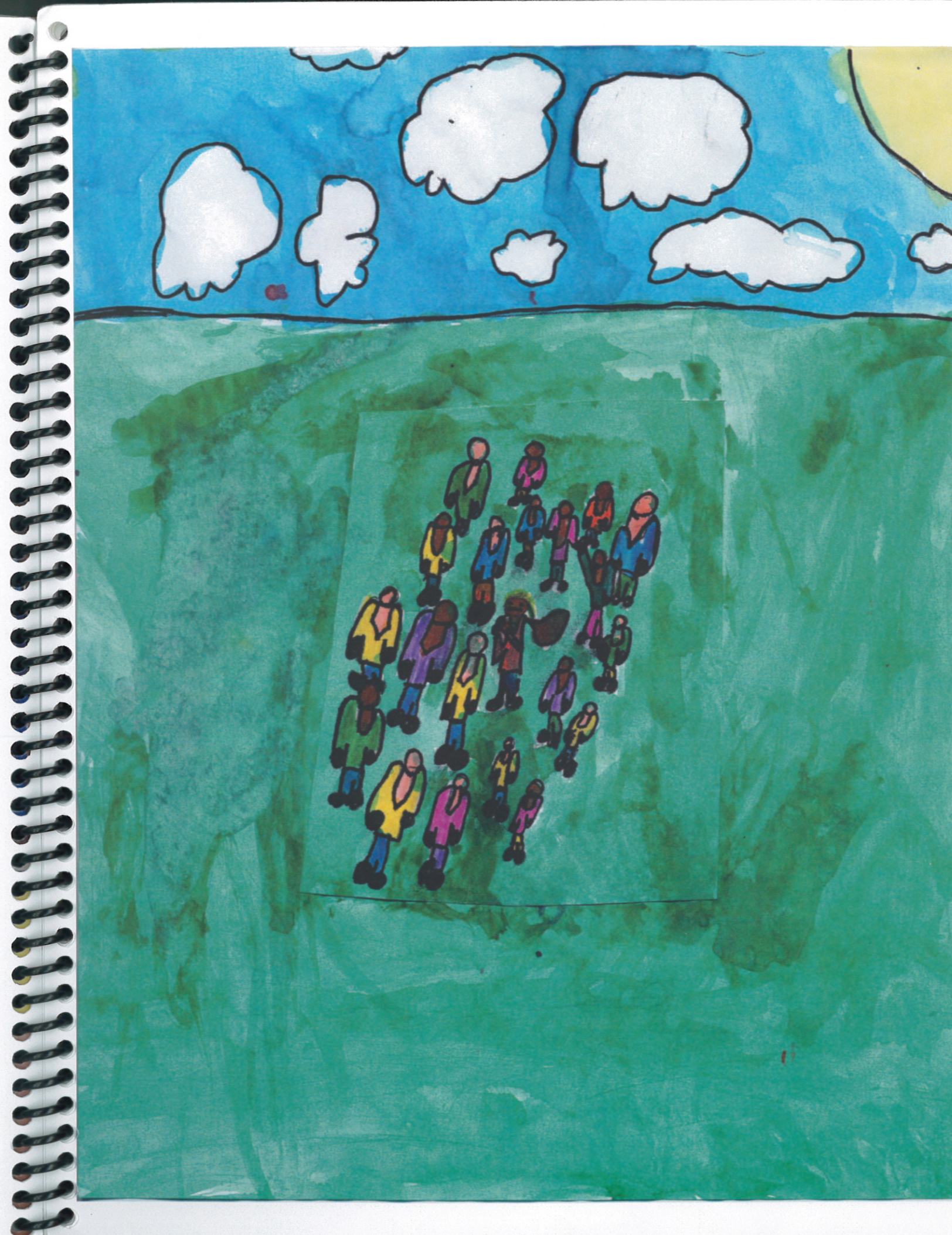
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A

A is for **abstract**. A homeless person is standing in the middle of the crowd. He cannot understand why they have a home and he doesn't.

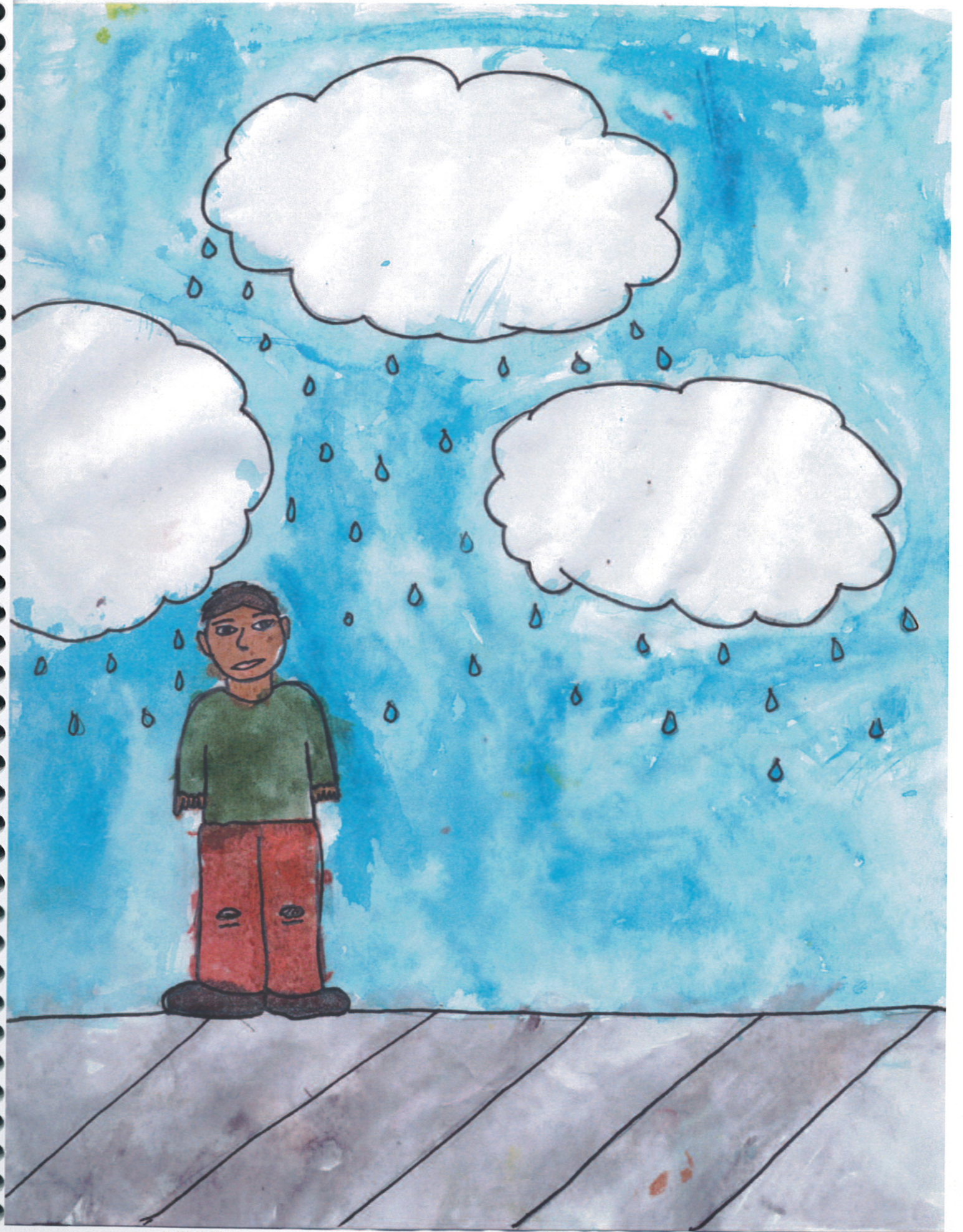
Una persona sin hogar esta parada en medio de la multitud. El no puede entender porque ellos tienen un hogar y el no.



B

B is for **bad weather**. He has no shelter to stay away from the **bad weather**.

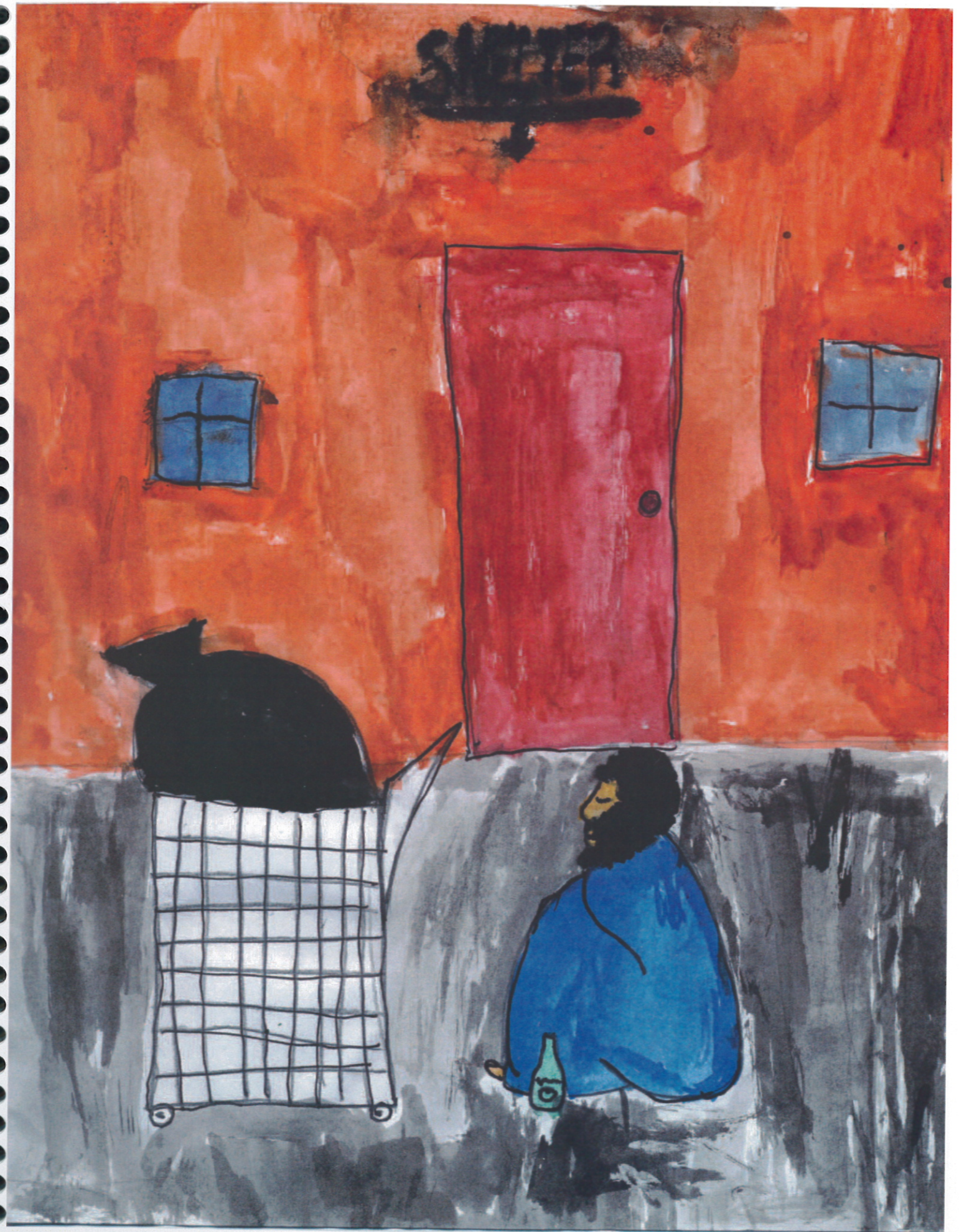
El no tiene asilo donde estarse y protegerse de el mal tiempo.



C

C is for clothes. I don't have enough clothes for winter.

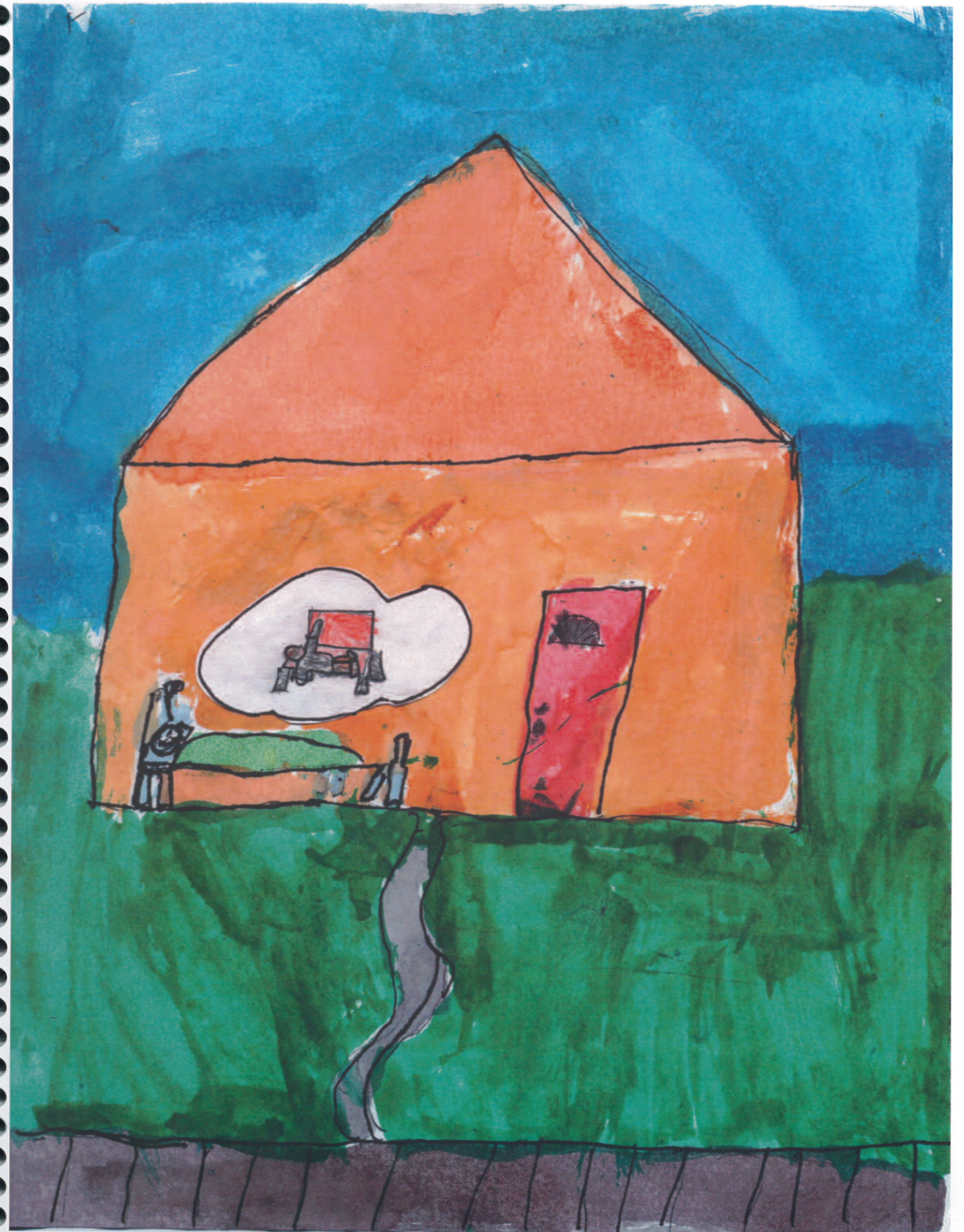
No tengo ropa para el invierno.



D

D is for **dream**. I had a **dream** that I was homeless. I was sleeping on a bench in Malcolm X Park.

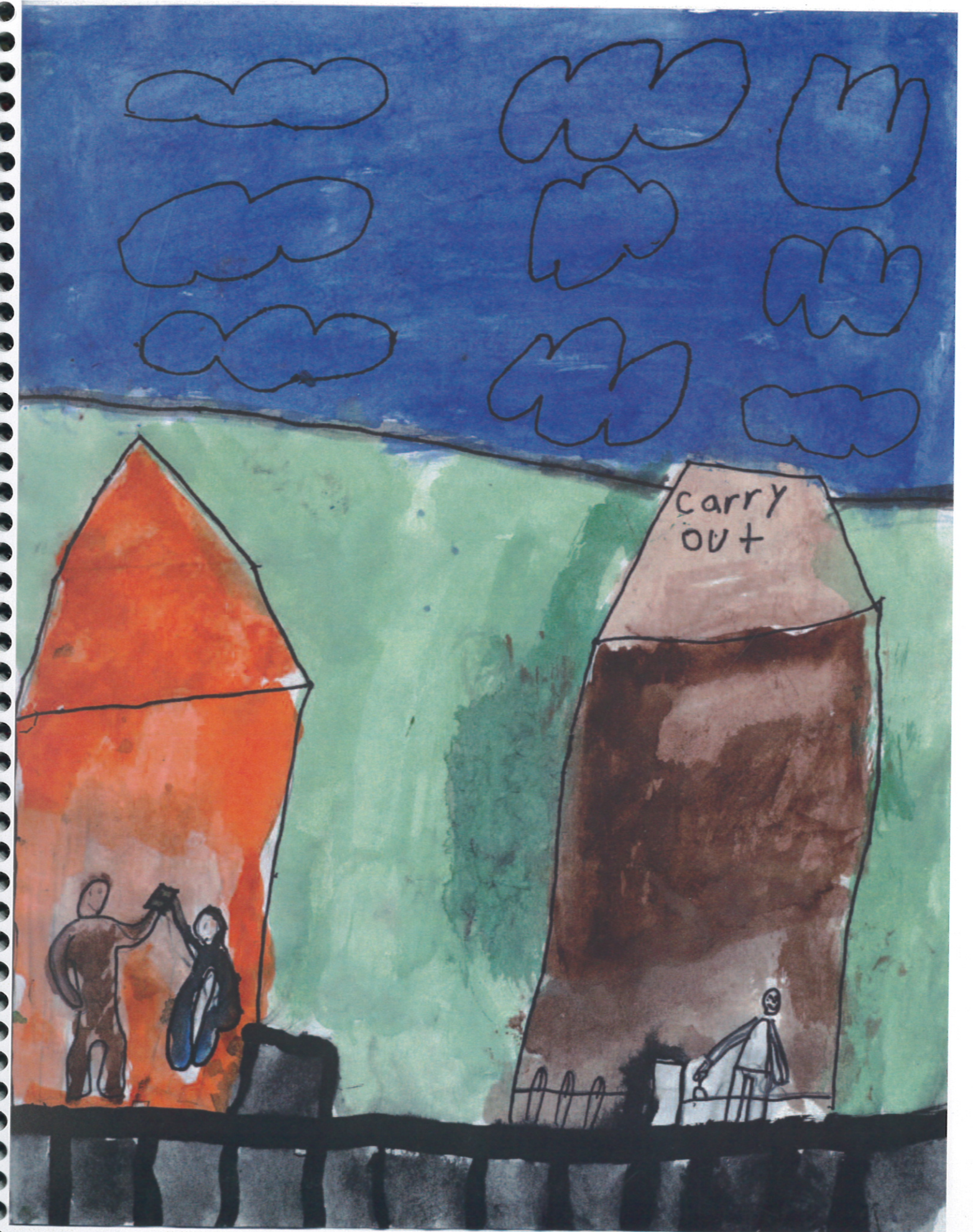
Yo tuve un sueño en el cual yo no tenía hogar. Yo estaba durmiendo en una banco en el parque de Malcolm X.



E

E is for **embarrassed**. When people look at homeless people, they get **embarrassed** because the homeless people look dirty out in the streets.

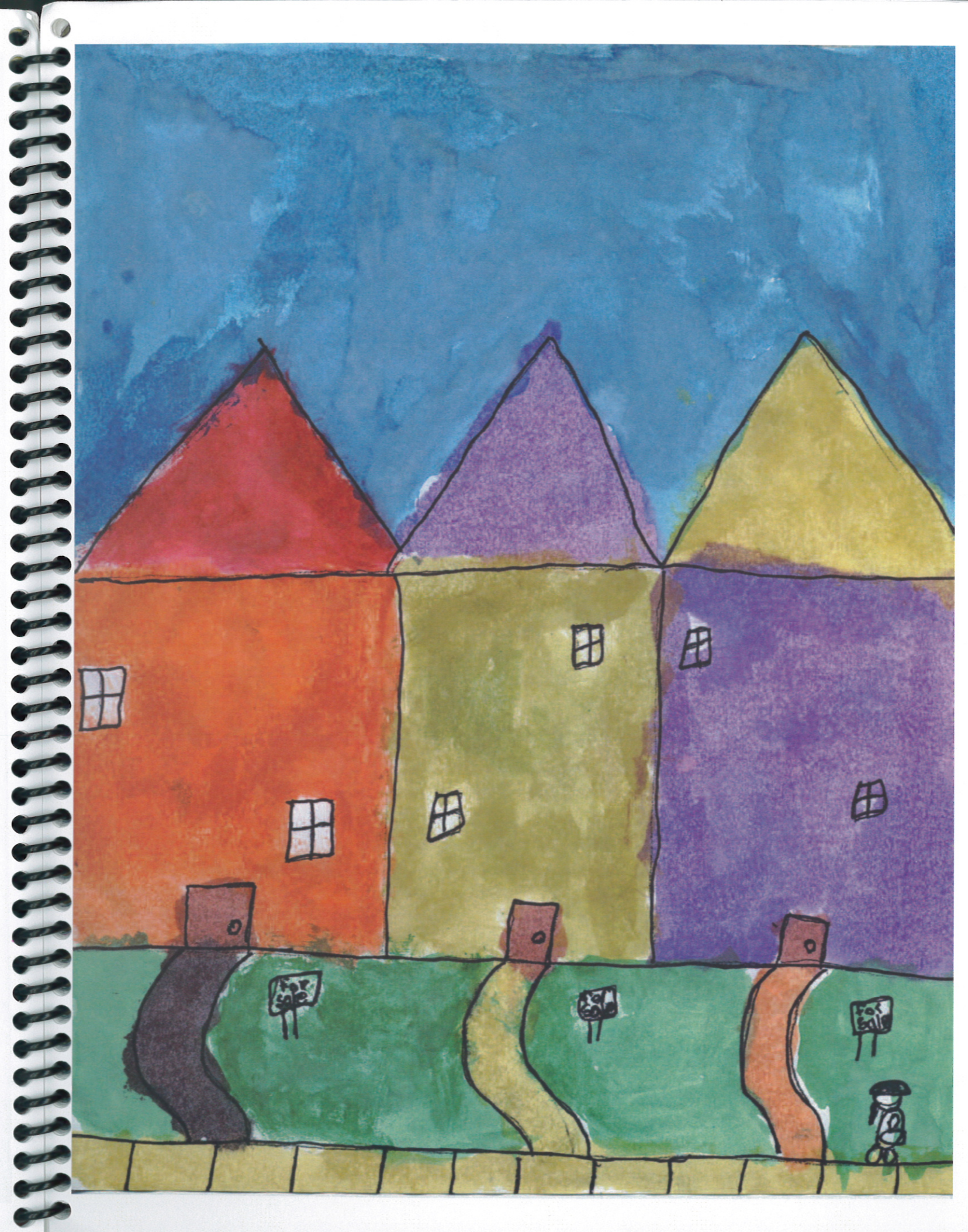
Cuando la gente ve a una persona sin hogar, ellos se avergüenzan porque las personas sin hogar andan sucios por las calles.



F

F is for **finally**. **Finally** I found a home to live in because it is about to snow.

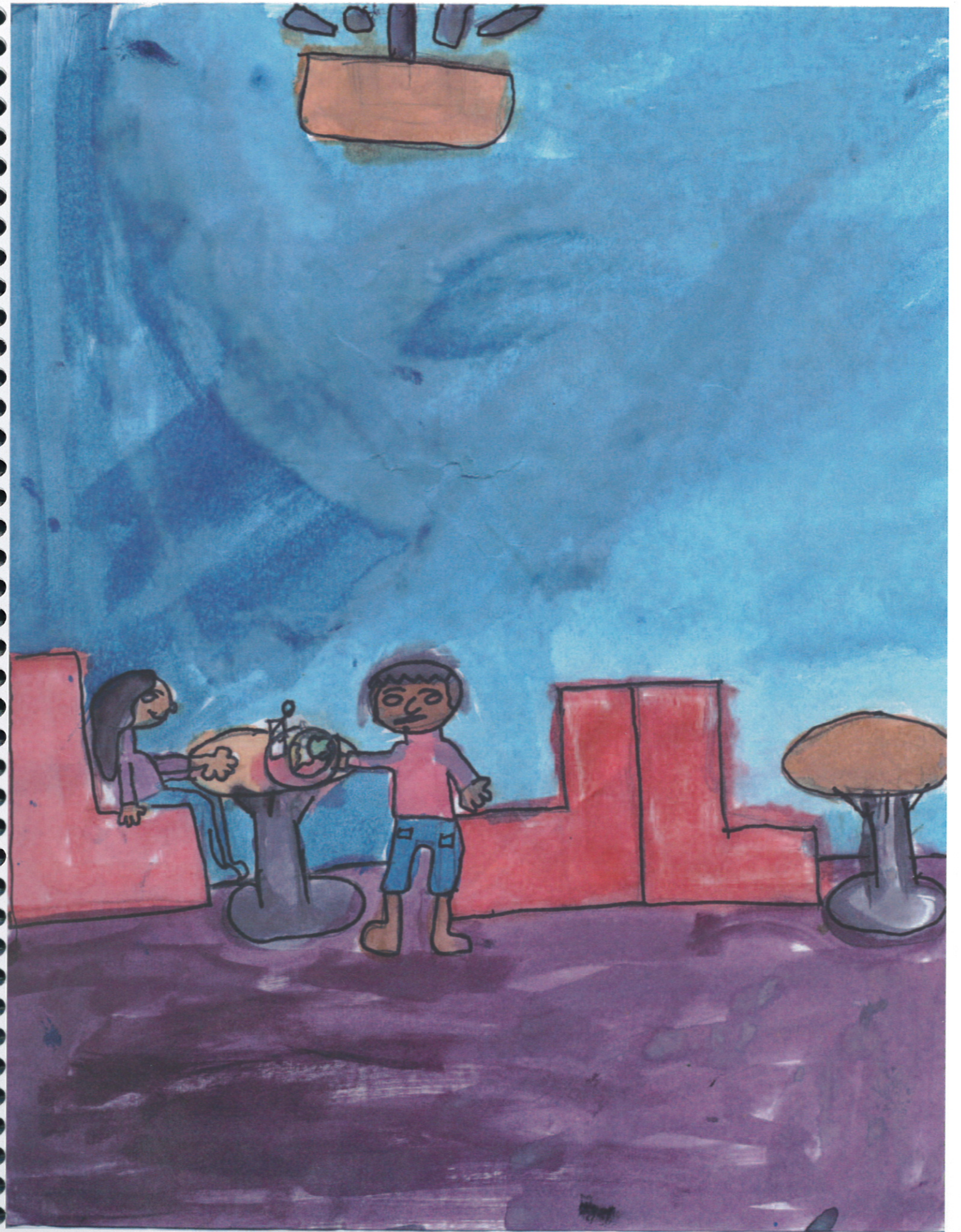
Finalmente, yo encontré una casa para habitar porque viene la nieve.



G

G is for **give**. I have no money to **give** you, but I can **give** you food.

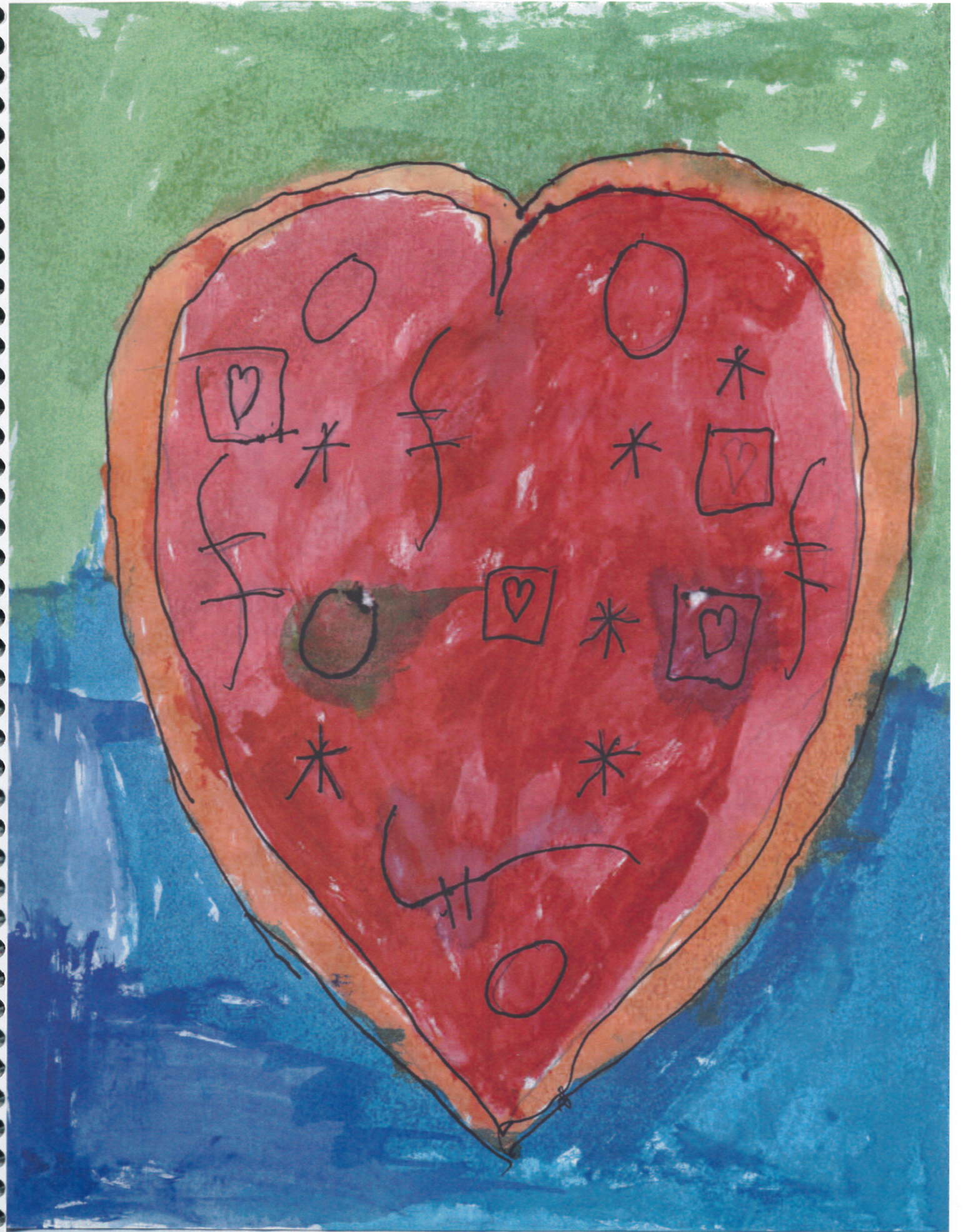
No tengo dinero para darte, pero puedo darte la comida.



H

H is for **heart**. Homeless people have **heart**. They help other homeless people.

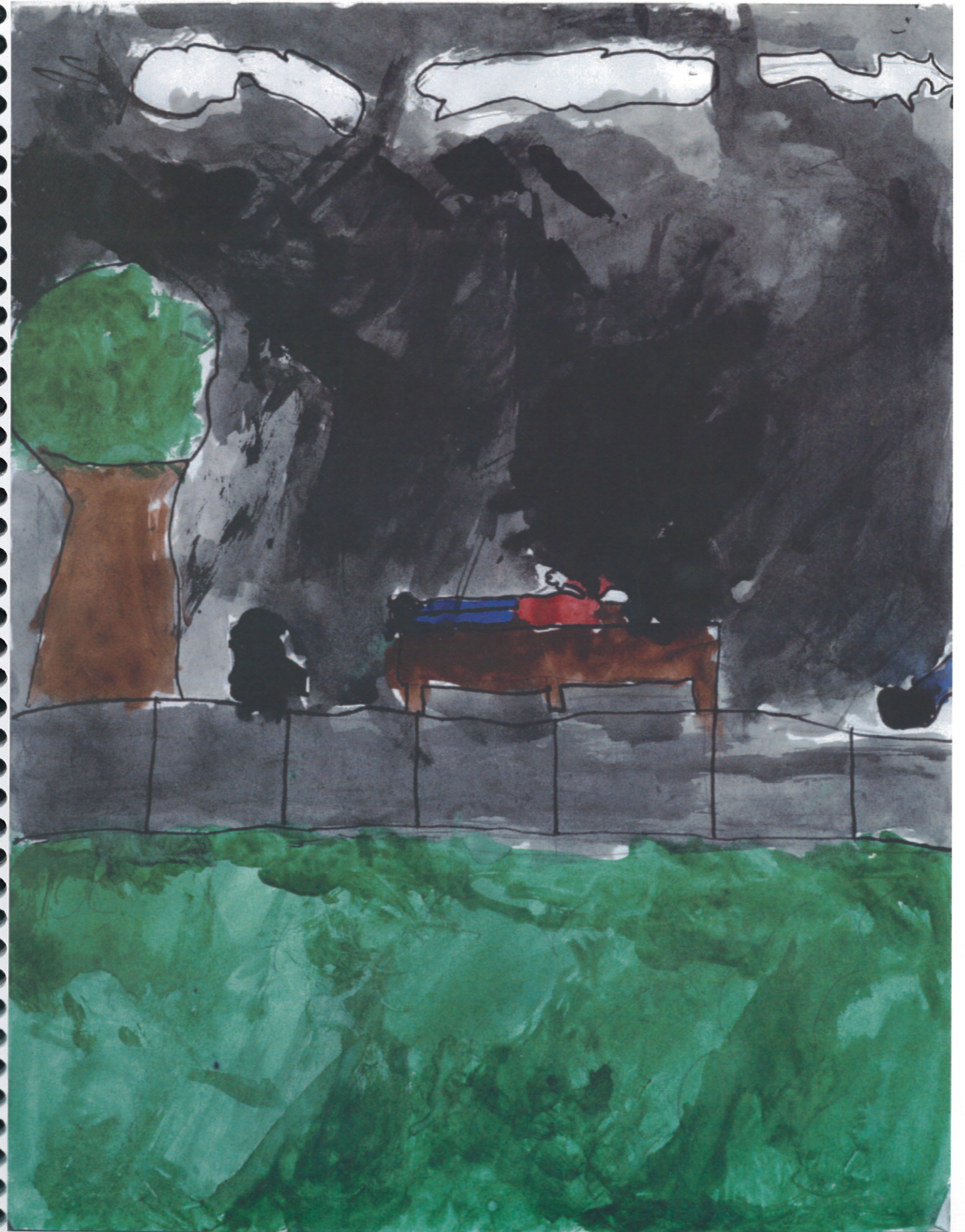
Las personas sin casas tienen corazón. Ellos ayudan a los otros sin hogar.





I is for **illness** and **injured**. Some homeless people walk with their **illness**. Some homeless people get **injured** living on the street. They lie on benches because they have nowhere else to go.

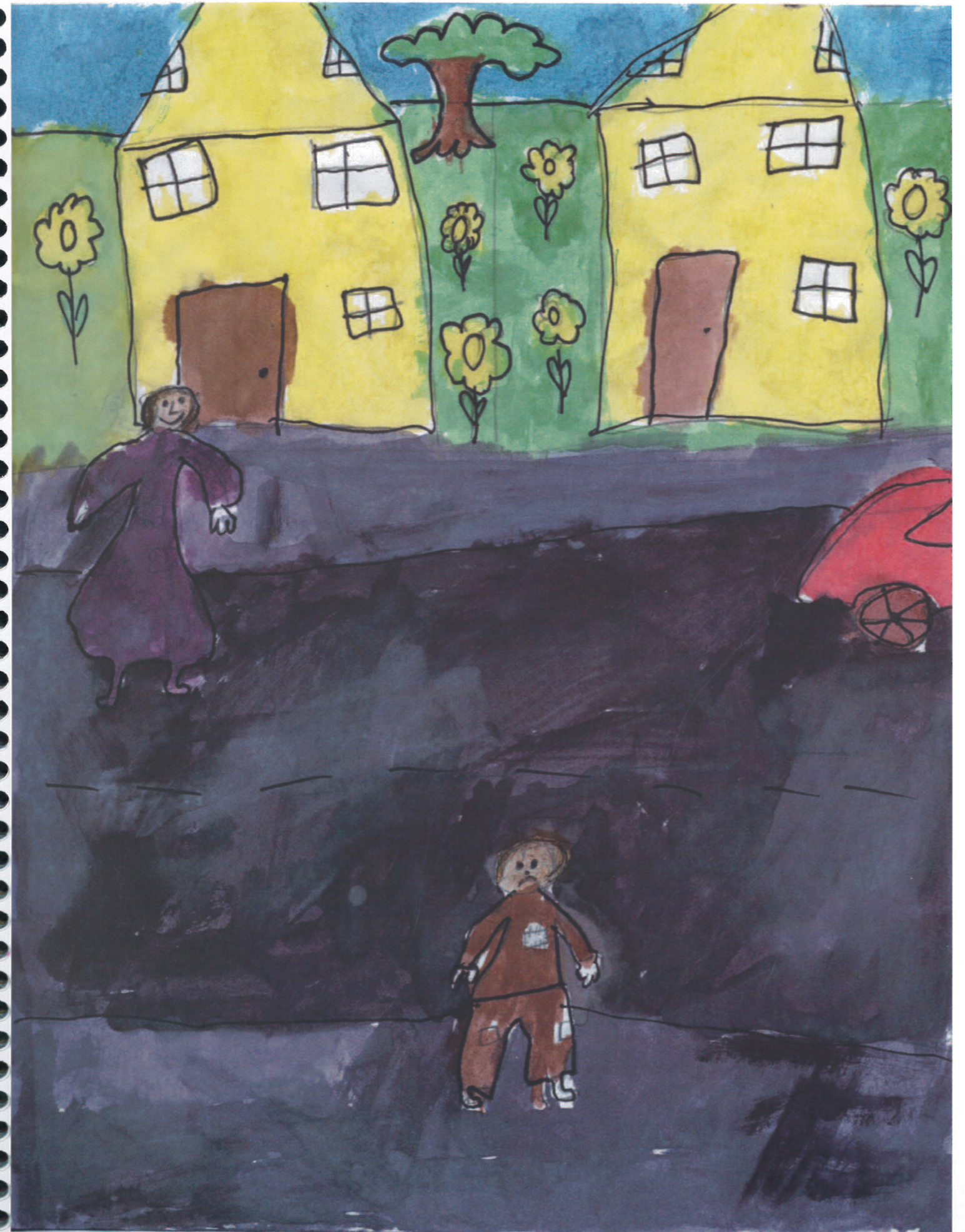
Algunas personas sin hogar caminan con sus enfermedades. Algunas personas sin hogar se lastiman viviendo en las calles. Se acuestan en bancos porque no tienen ningún lugar a donde ir.



J

J is for **jealousy**. So many people have things I don't. My **jealousy** is pulling me away.

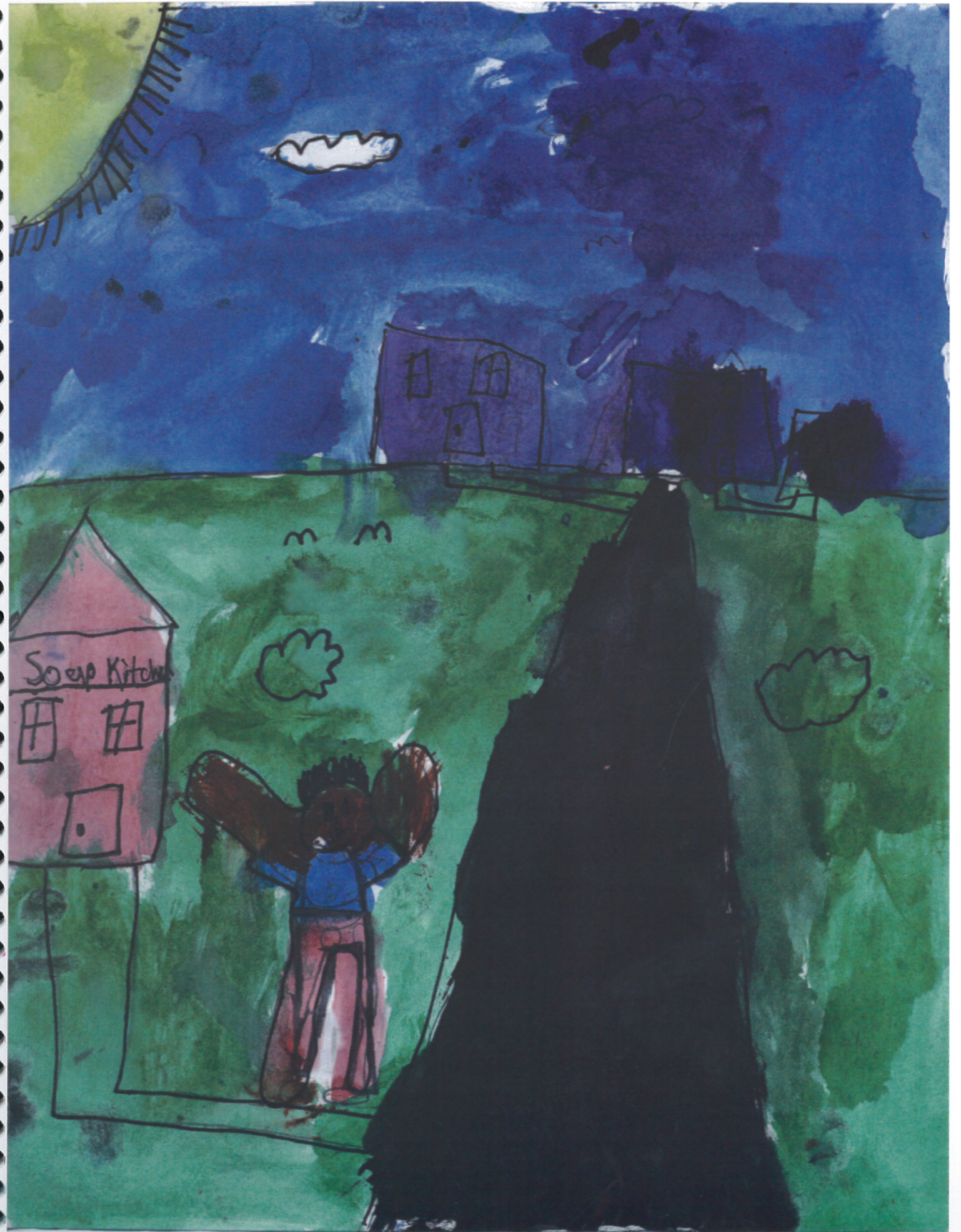
Muchas personas tienen cosas que yo no tengo. Mis celos me hacen a un lado.



K

K is for **kitchen**. Soup kitchens give free food to homeless people.

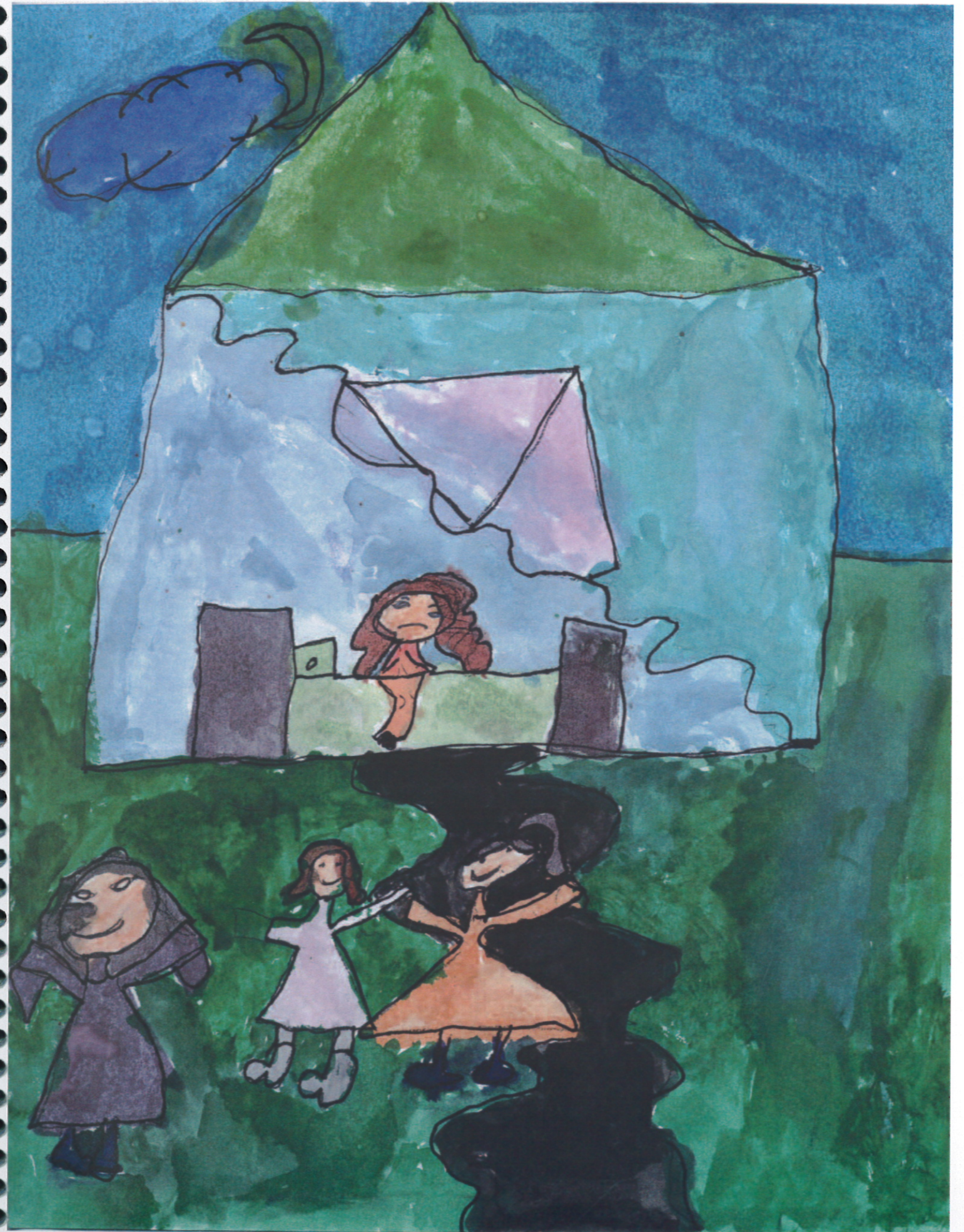
El comedor de caridad le da comida gratis a las personas sin hogar.



L

L is for lonely. I am lonely because people don't notice me.

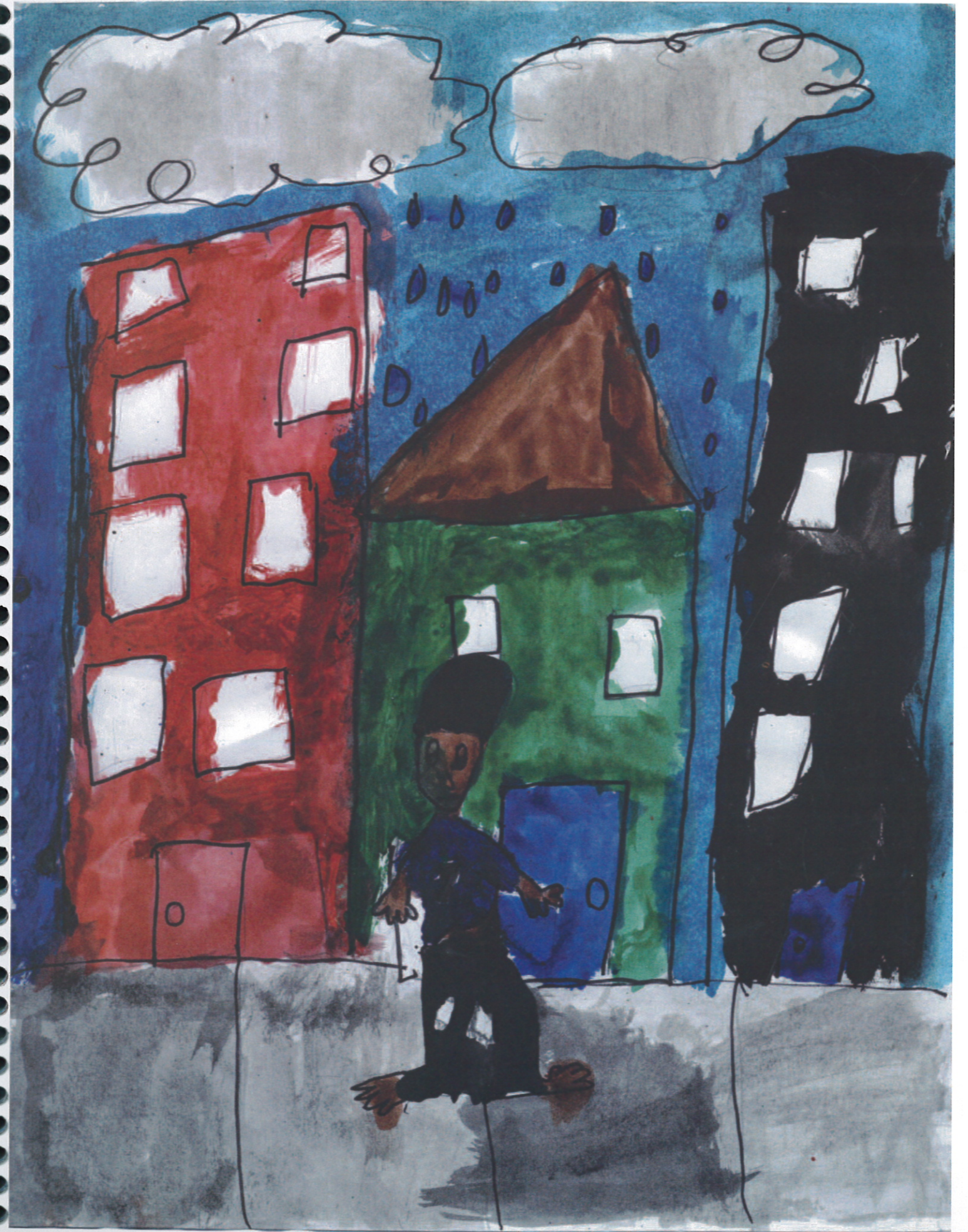
Estoy solo porque la gente no me percibe.



M

M is for **money** that I don't have.

Yo no tengo dinero.



N

N is for **nowhere** and **nothing**. My house was on fire. Then I had **nowhere** to go. So I went to my car and had **nothing** else.

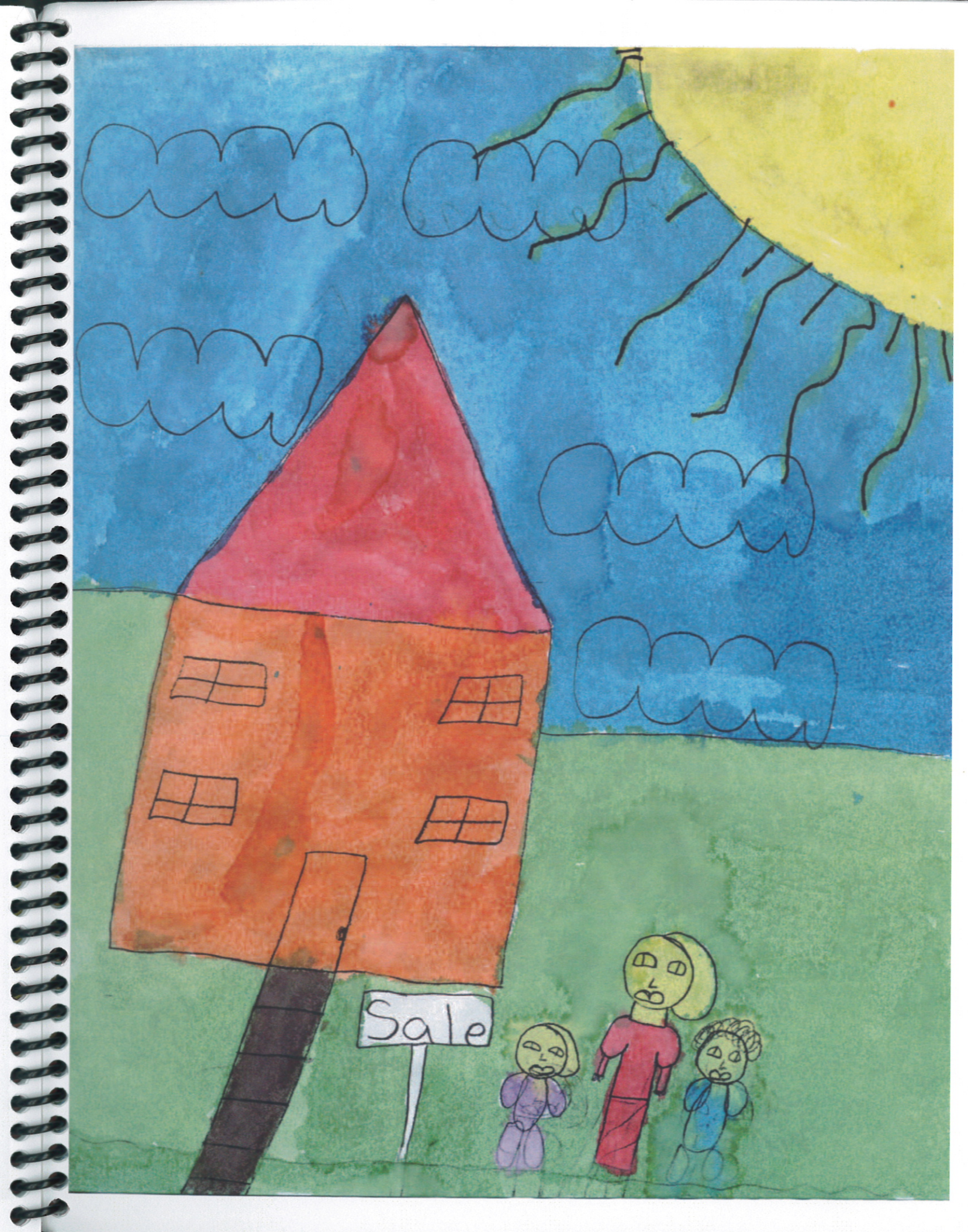
Mi casa esta en fuego. Entonces, no tengo adonde ir. Fui a mi auto porque no tenia a donde ir.



O

O is for **own**. I **own** a house now. The roof of the house is pink.

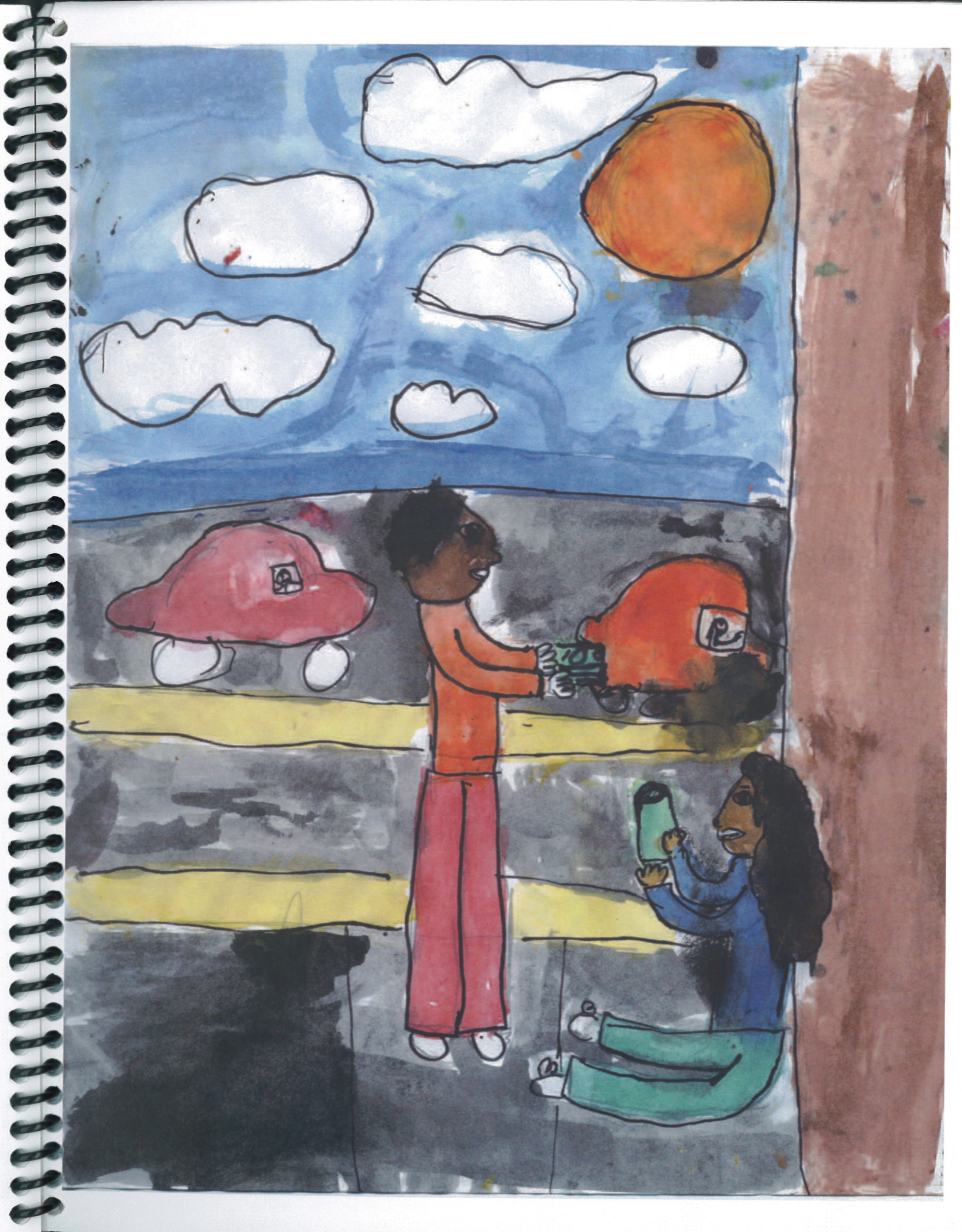
Ahora, poseo una casa. El techo de la casa es rosado.



P

P is for **pities**. The man **pities** the homeless person who is in need of help and money.

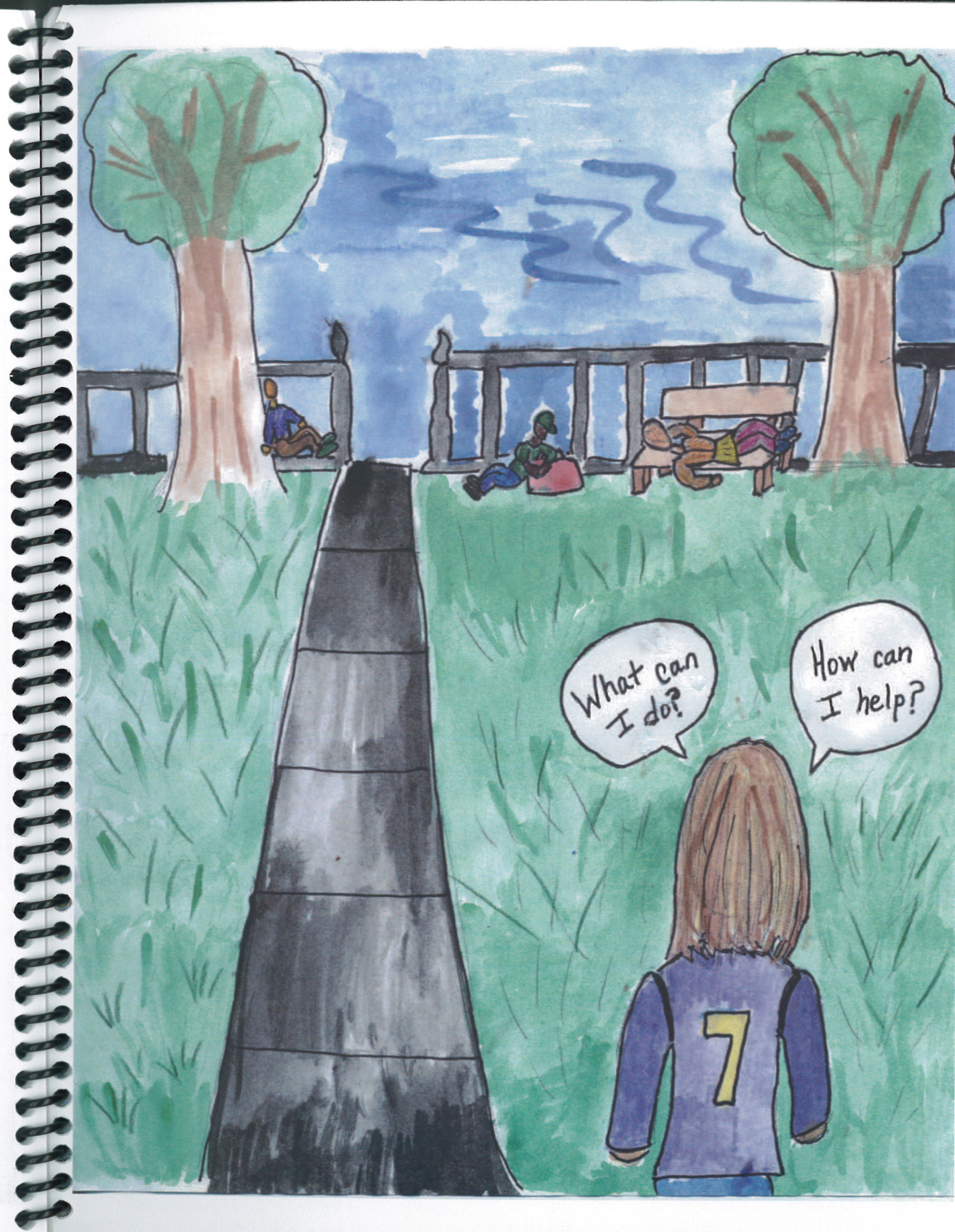
Al hombre le da lastima de la persona sin hogar quien necesita ayuda y dinero.



Q

Q is for **question**. You can help by asking **questions** about homelessness. What do people need? How can you help?

Puedes ayudar haciendo preguntas sobre personas sin hogar. ¿Que cosas necesita la gente? ¿Como puedes ayudar?



R

R is for **roof**, **rest**, and **room**. Now I have a home. I am in my **room**, on my bed, **resting** under my **roof**.

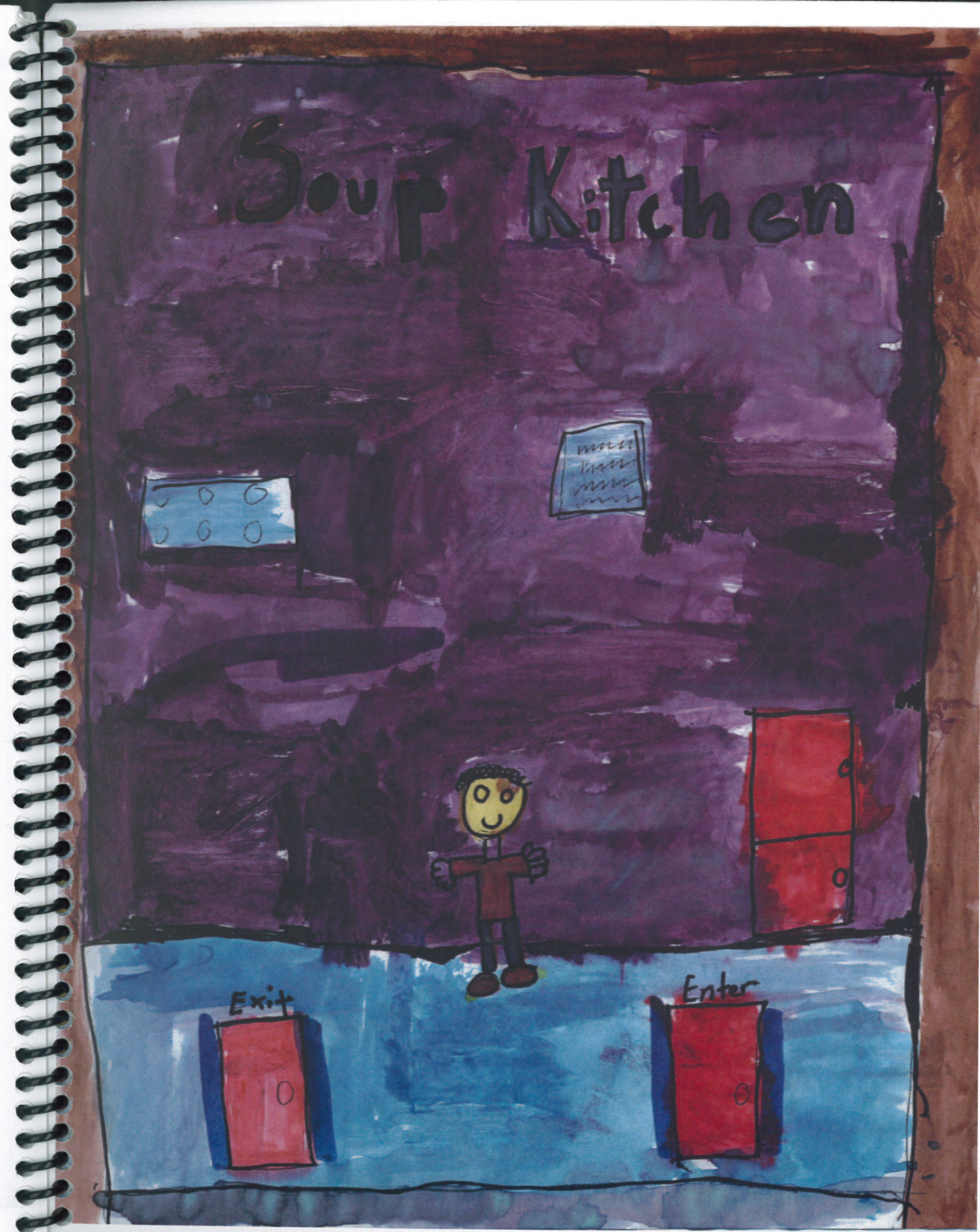
Ahora yo tengo una casa. Ahora estoy en mi cuarto, en mi cama, descansando debajo de mi techo.



S

S is for **soup**. One day there was a homeless person. And he asked for **soup**. The person at the **soup** kitchen said, "I will give you one for free."

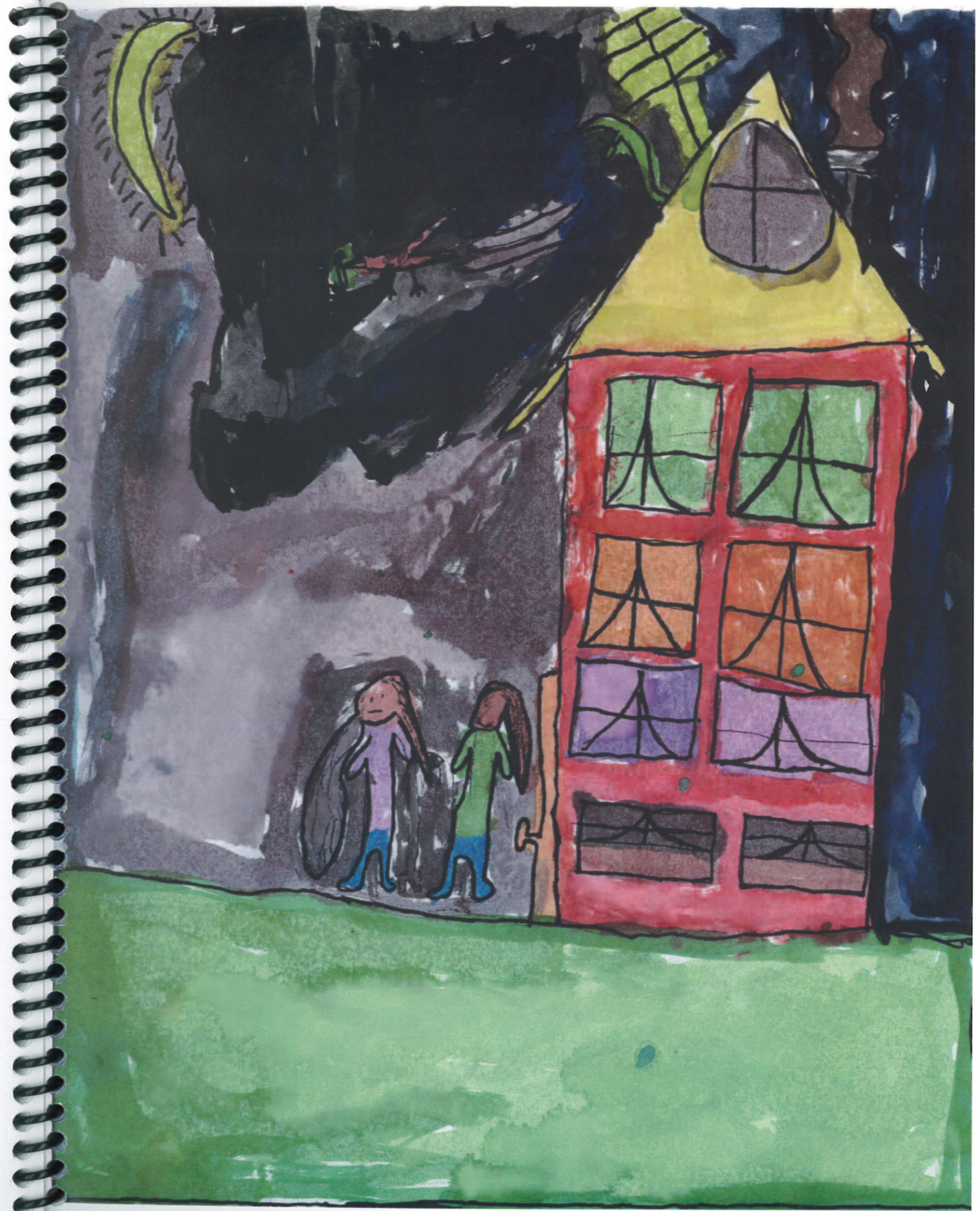
Un día, había un hombre sin hogar. El pidió sopa. La persona en el comedor de caridad le dijo, "Te daré una sopa gratis."



T

T is for **talking**. I am **talking** to someone for a house.

Yo estoy hablando con alguien para conseguir una casa.



U

U is for **unnoticed**. Homeless people are usually **unnoticed**.

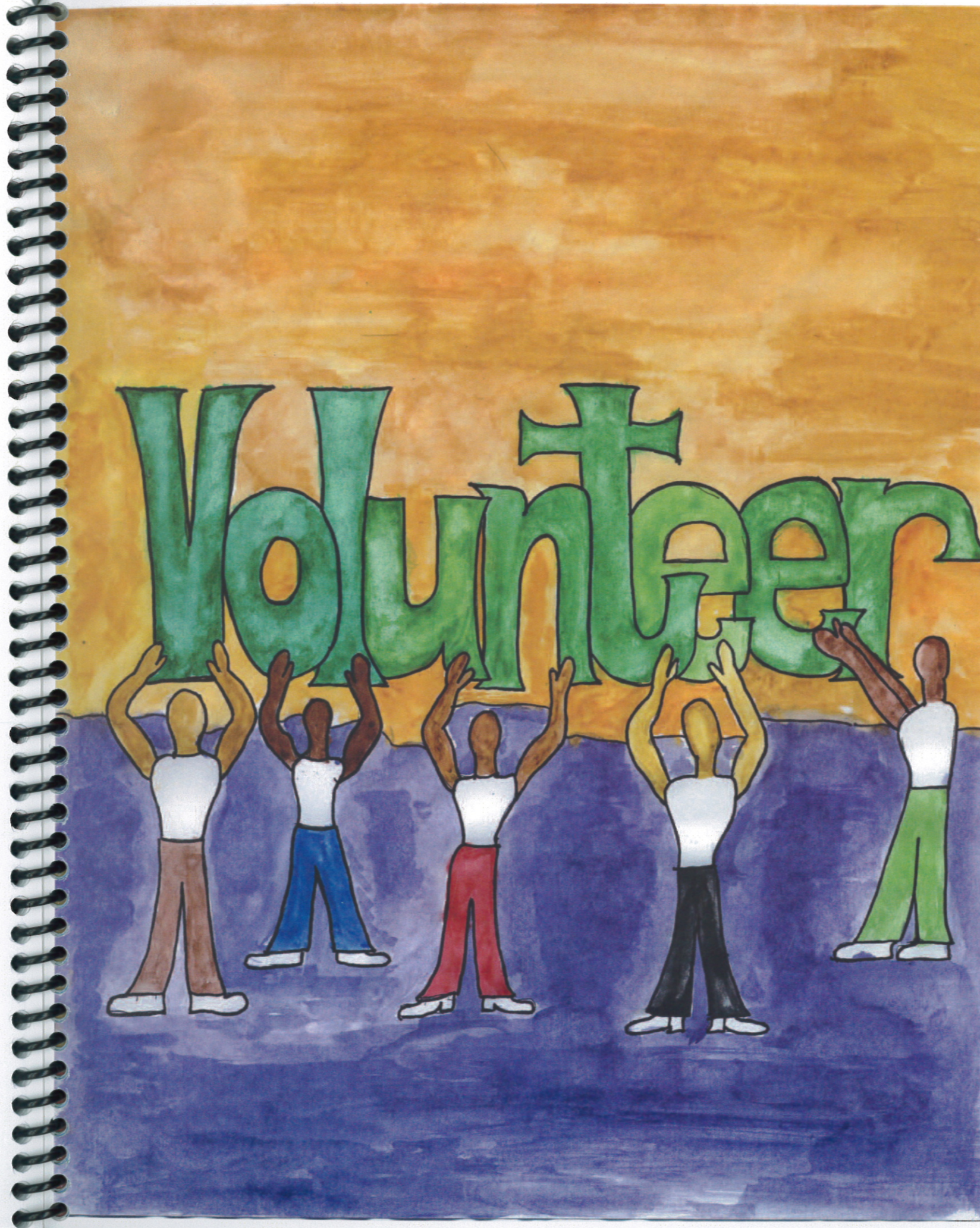
Las personas sin hogar pasan usualmente desapercibidas.



V

V is for volunteer. Thank you for your time.
Volunteers make a difference.

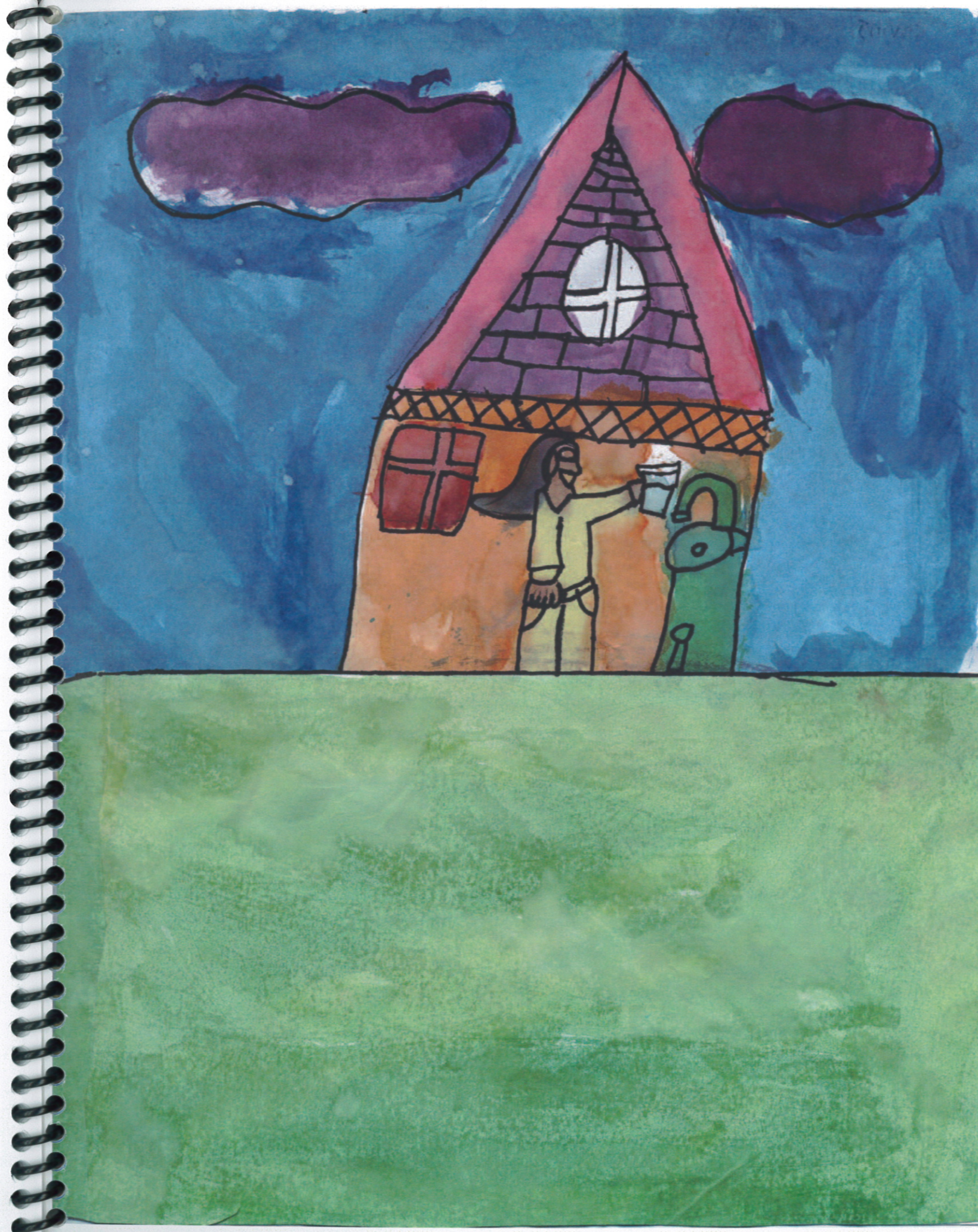
Gracias por su tiempo. Los voluntarios hacen una
diferencia.



W

W is for **water**. The homeless person found some **water**. She's very happy. She's drinking out of the **water** fountain.

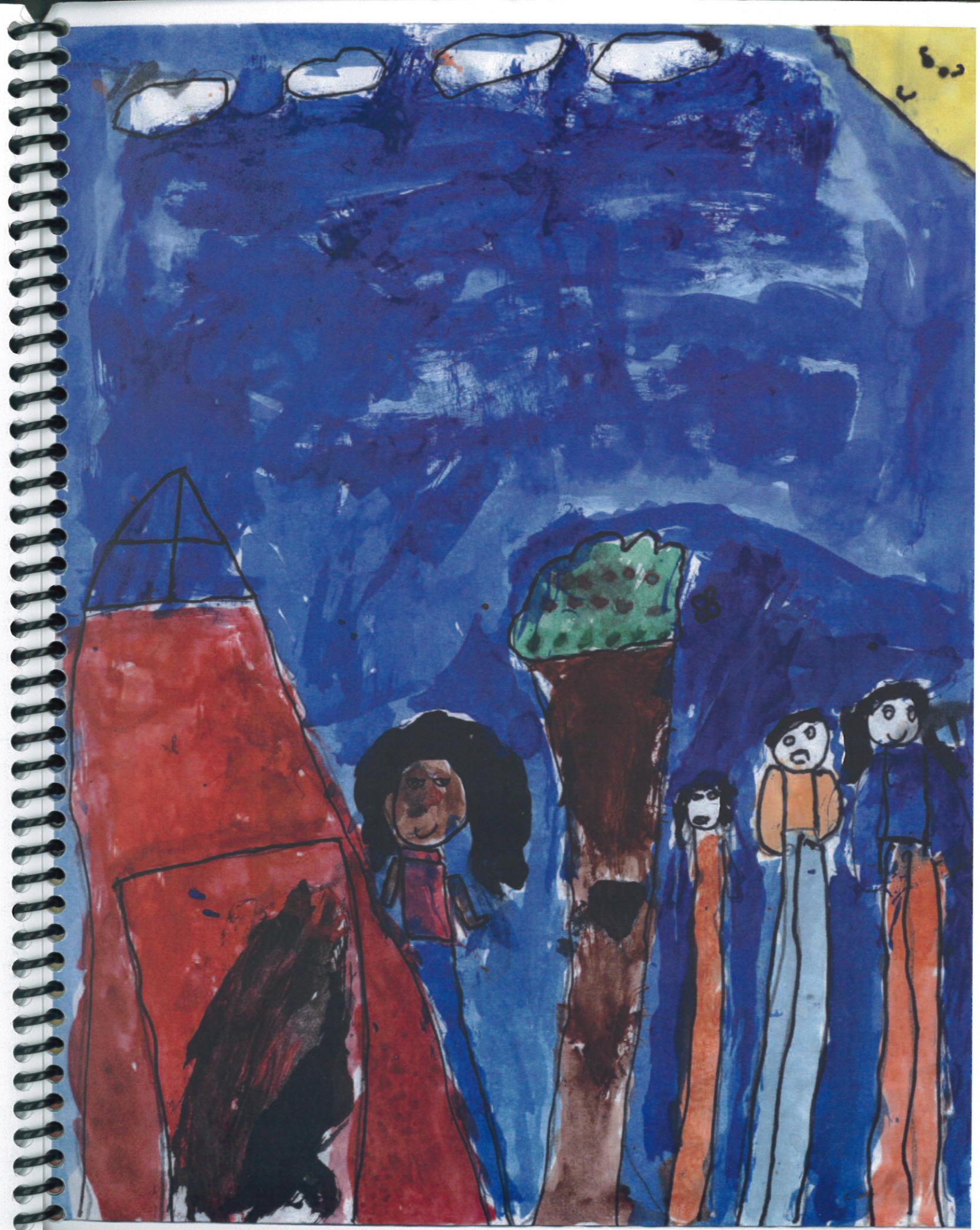
La persona sin hogar encontró agua. Ella esta muy feliz. Ella esta bebiendo de la fuente de agua.



X

X is for eXpert. She is an eXpert at finding a home for homeless people.

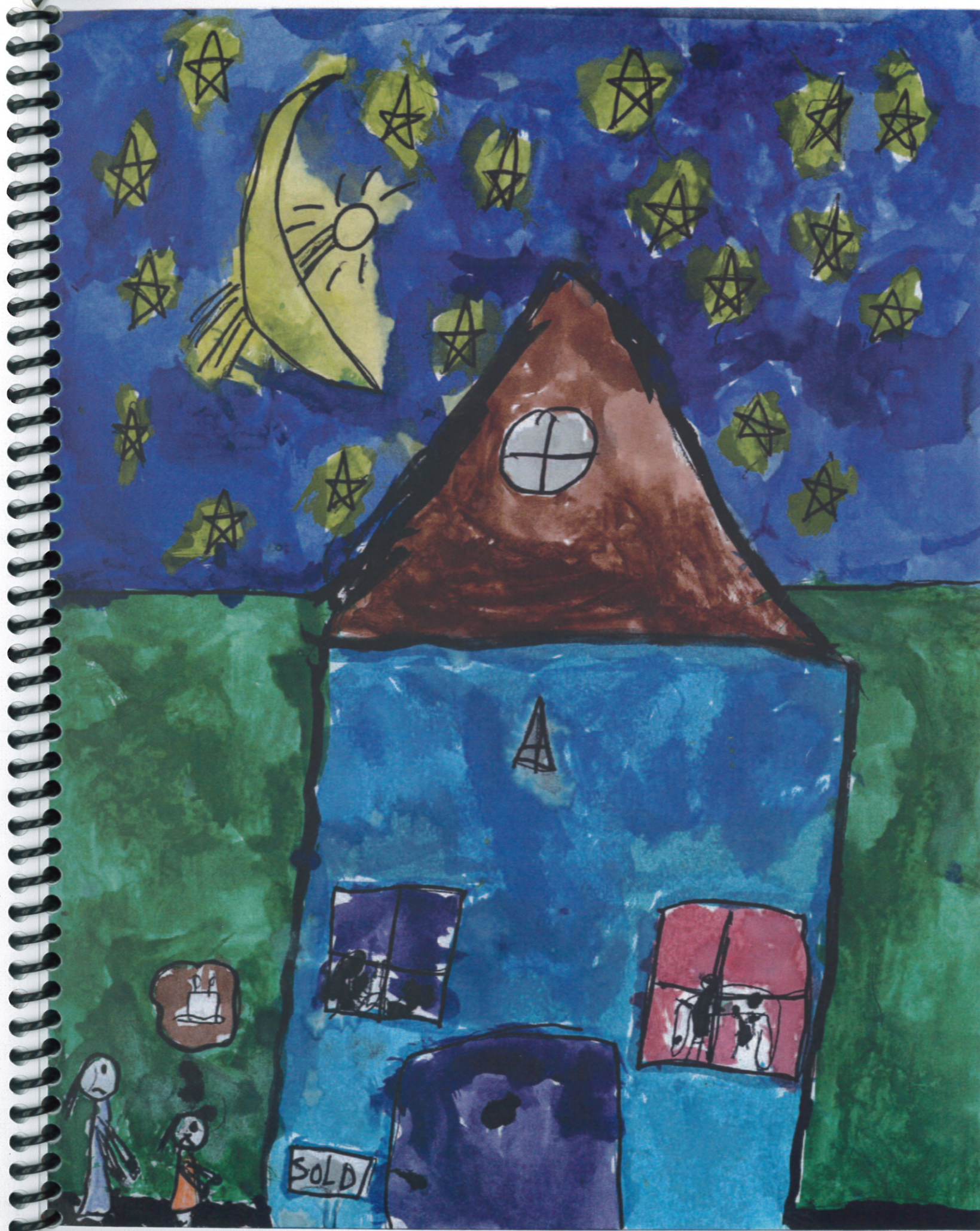
Ella esta una experta en encontrar casas para las personas sin hogar.



Y

Y is for yesterday. Yesterday was better than today.

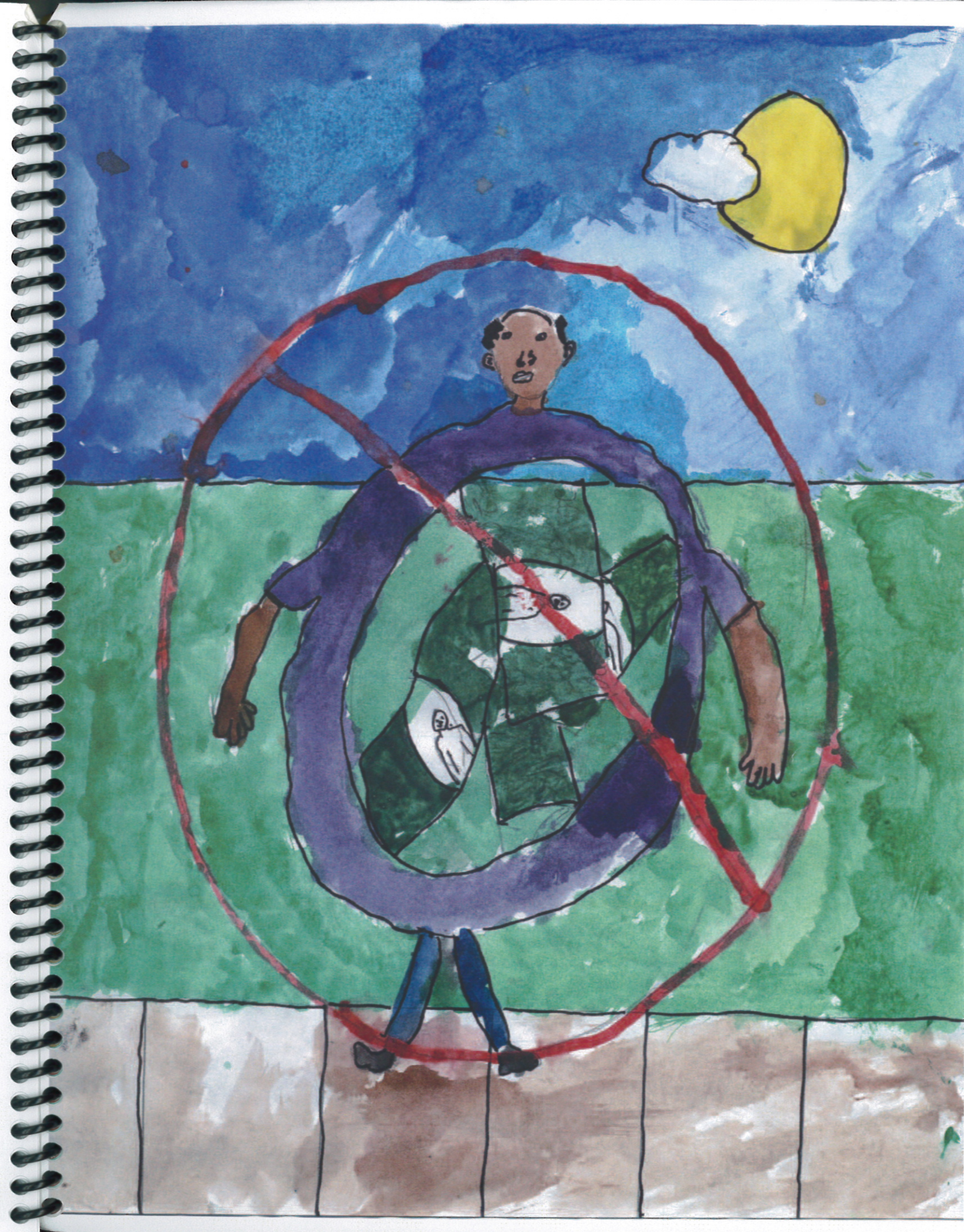
Ayer fue mejor que hoy.

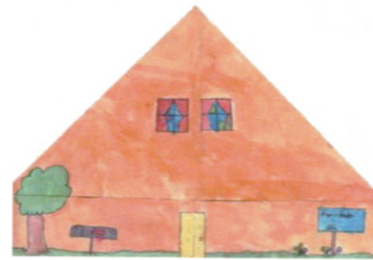


Z

Z is for zero. I feel like a big zero with no money.

Yo me siento como en cero porque no tengo dinero.





Our Process

Our class met visitors from several programs that help homeless people. Then, we chose which program we wanted to visit. The teachers put us in groups of 4 or 5 kids. On fieldwork, we asked questions about the programs.

Then we took the information we learned about homeless people and put it into this book. First, we had a Letter Lottery to decide who would plan each letter's page. Then, we had to brainstorm words that started with our letter. We chose one and used it to write a sentence.

In art class, we made 4 sketches to go with our sentence. We chose our best sketch to draw a full sized page and used crayons to add color. We had a critique and gave each other suggestions about what worked well and what we could improve.

Then we drew new drafts of our pictures and used watercolors to paint them. The last thing we did was outline the pictures with thin black marker.



List of Authors

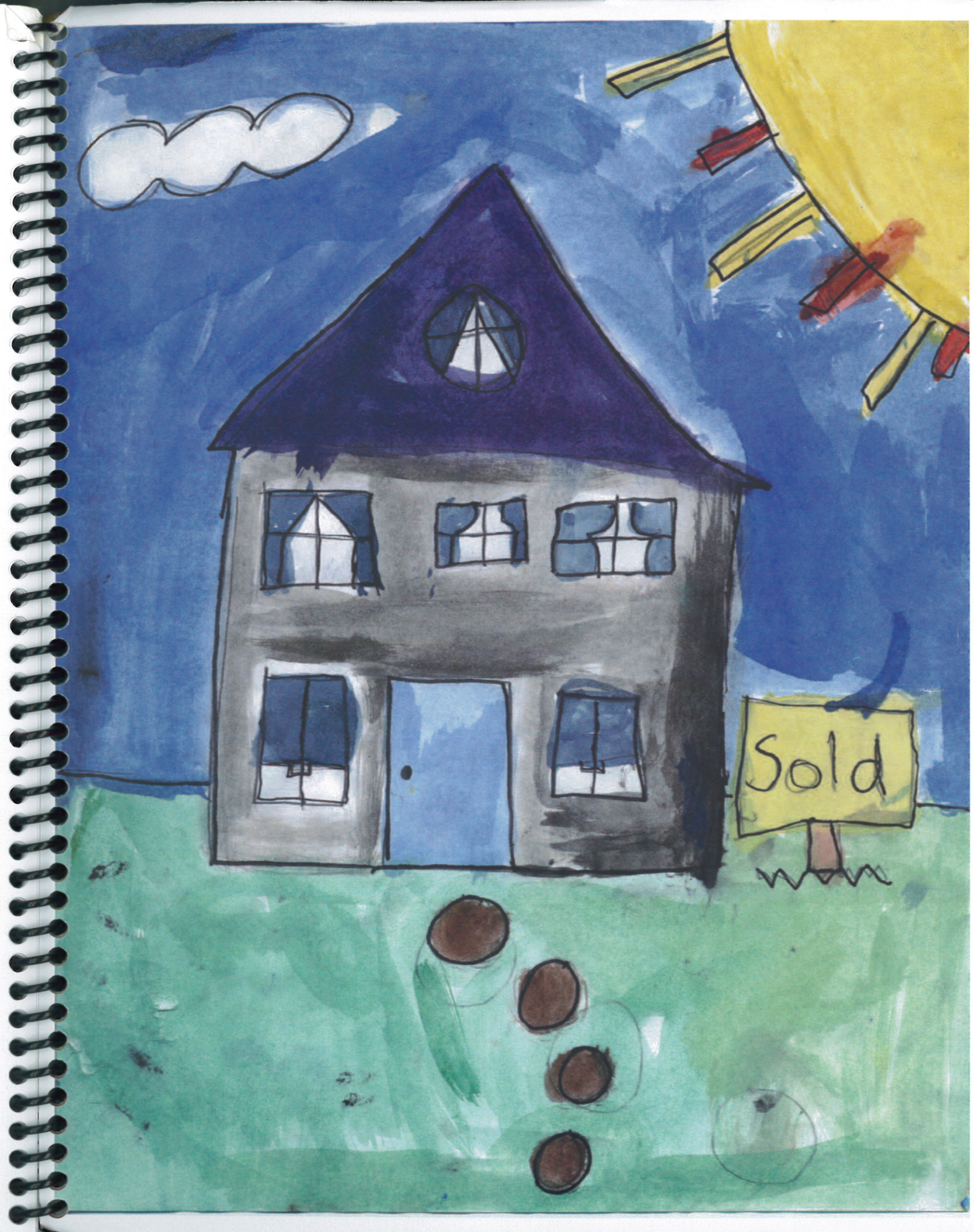
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A - Asher Payton | N - Anthony Reyes |
| B - Aya Mercer-Bonner | O - Kierane Tchemi |
| C - Anika Burg | P - Alice Pharr |
| D - Khamal Opiotennione-Renshaw | Q - Ms. Lisa Morenoff |
| E - Jason Hernandez | R - Noah Bell |
| F - Luis Arias | S - Keila Sanchez |
| G - Sharya Walker | T - Akili Tobechei II |
| H - Clarence Kenney-Wesley | U - Tony Frye |
| I - Kevin Alarcon | V - Ms. Aisha Hassan |
| J - Clara Lincoln | W - Kevin Johnson |
| K - Kenon Mitchell-Sewell | X - Brianna Blackmon |
| L - Lila Greenwood | Y - Talis Petropoulos |
| M - Justin Johnson | Z - Ruth Fikeru |

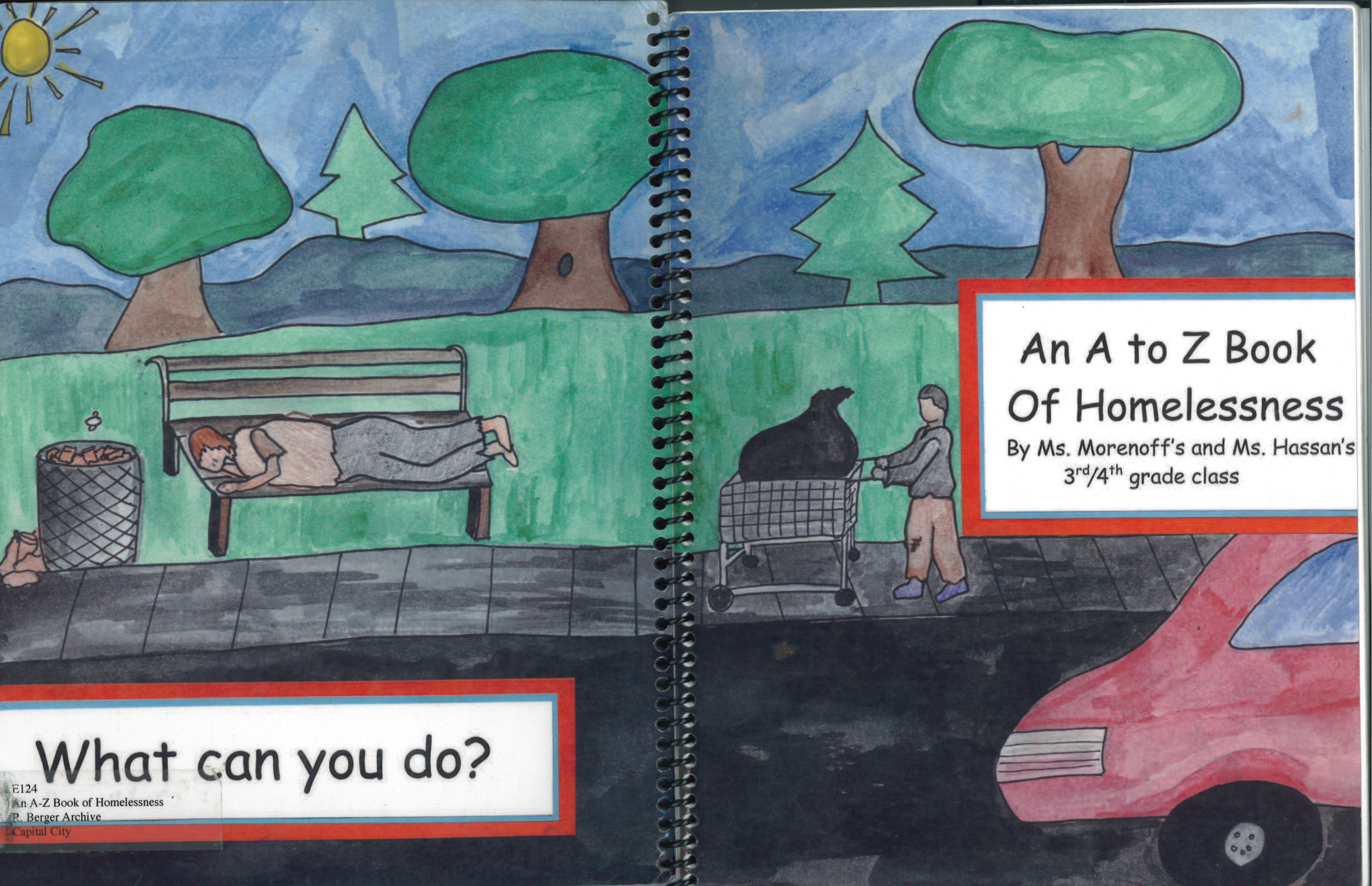


Capital City Public Charter School

Capital City Public Charter School serves students in Pre K - 8th grade. We use the Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound (ELOB) school design, which emphasizes project-based instruction to help students meet rigorous academic and character standards. We also use the Responsive Classroom management model, which focuses on respectful social interaction as an integral part of children's development. For more information, contact our school at the address below:

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What can you do?