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l o v e

a book of remembrances

bp Nichol

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Literature

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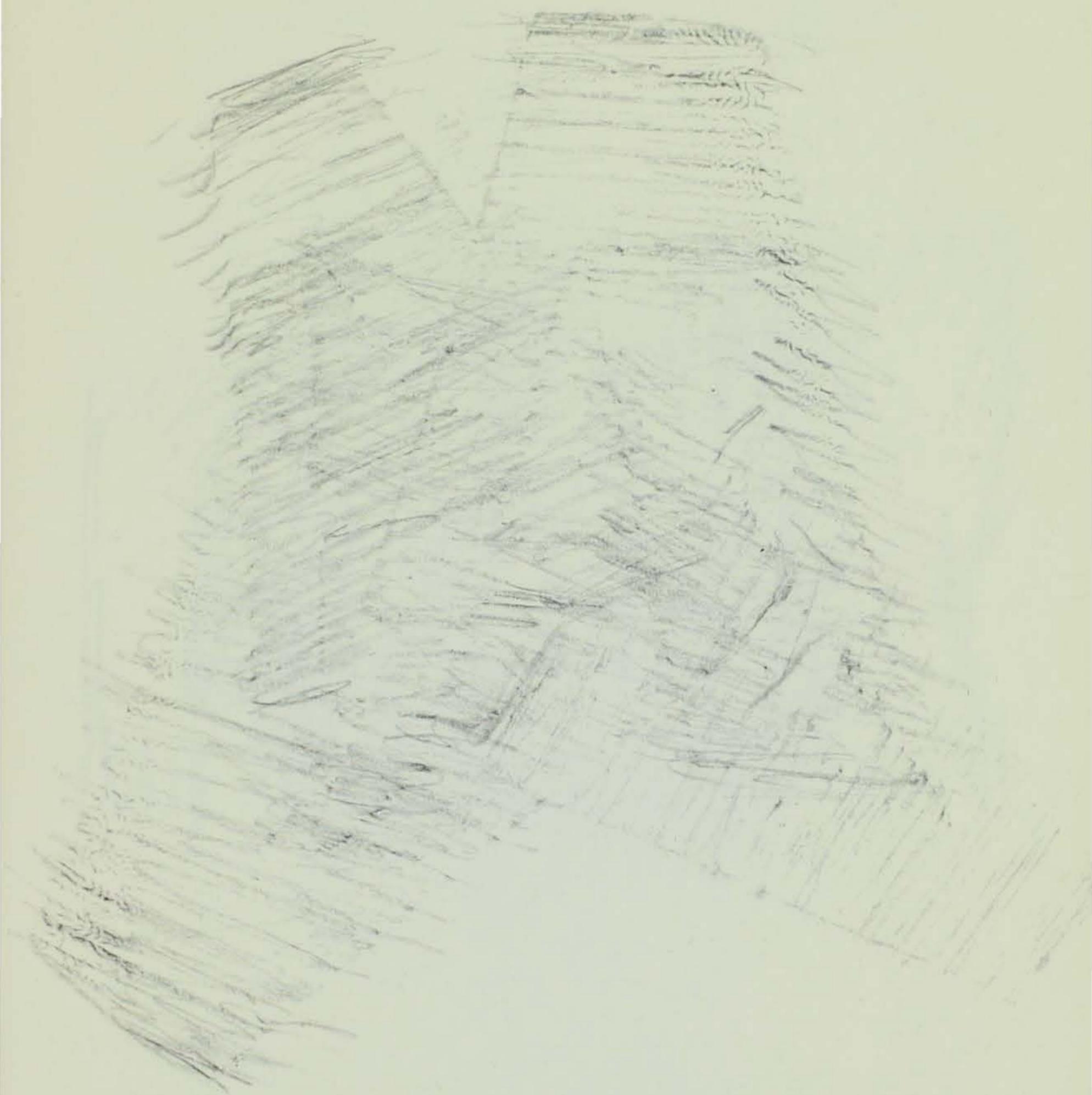
ISBN 0-88922-038-7

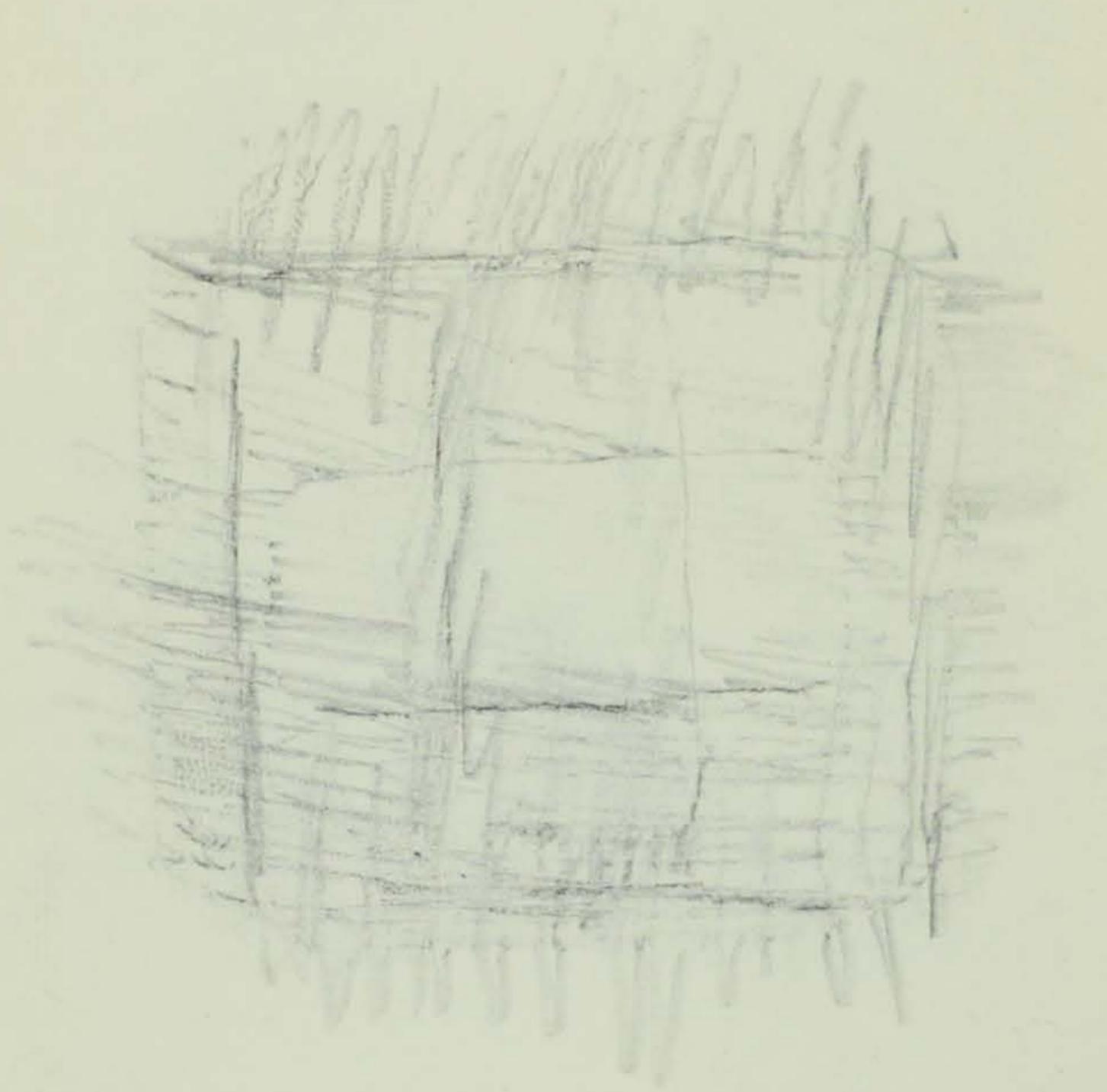
MAR 24 1975

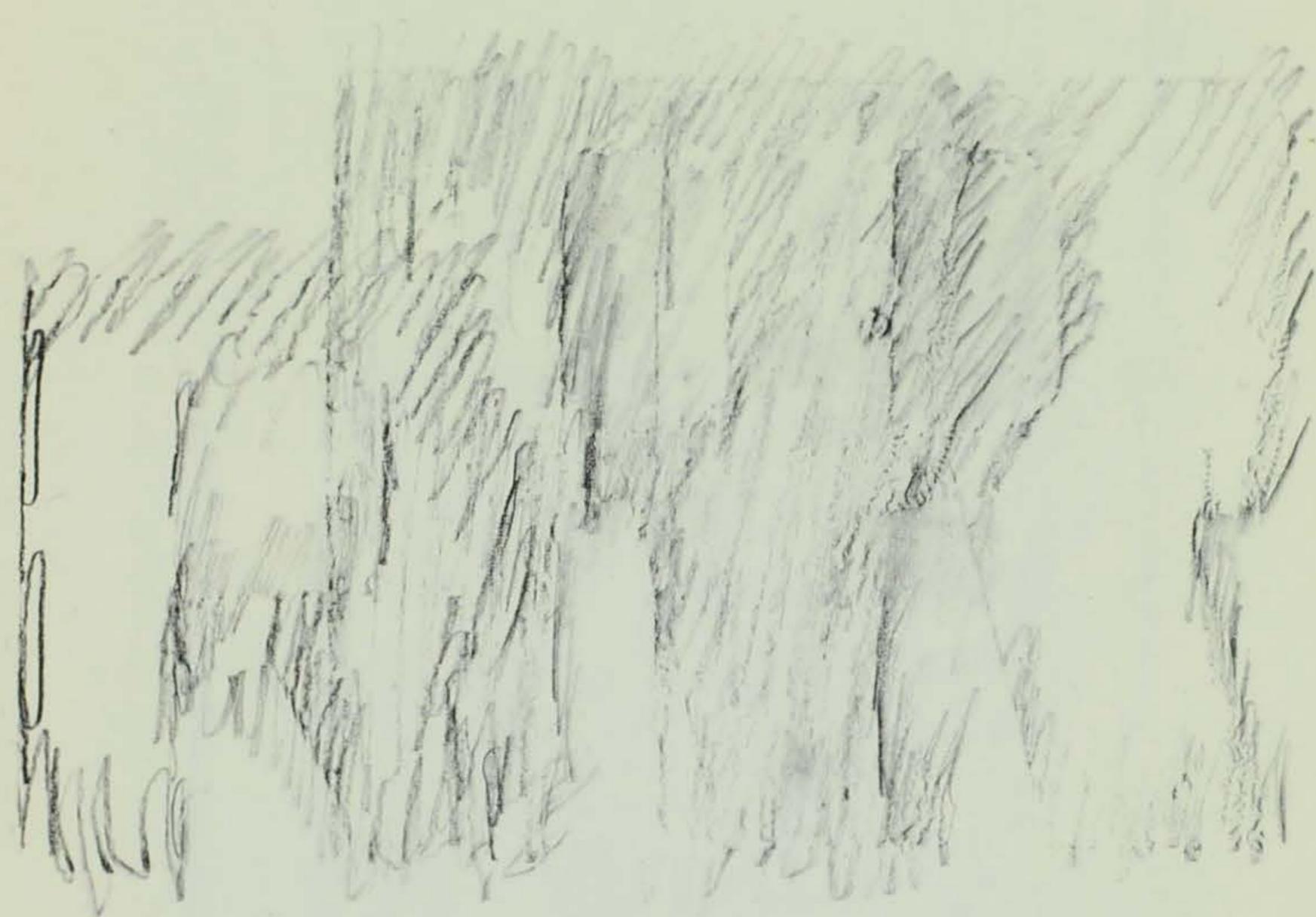
for margaret avison & earle birney

"Where one or two have won:
(The silver reaches of the estuary)."

ghosts

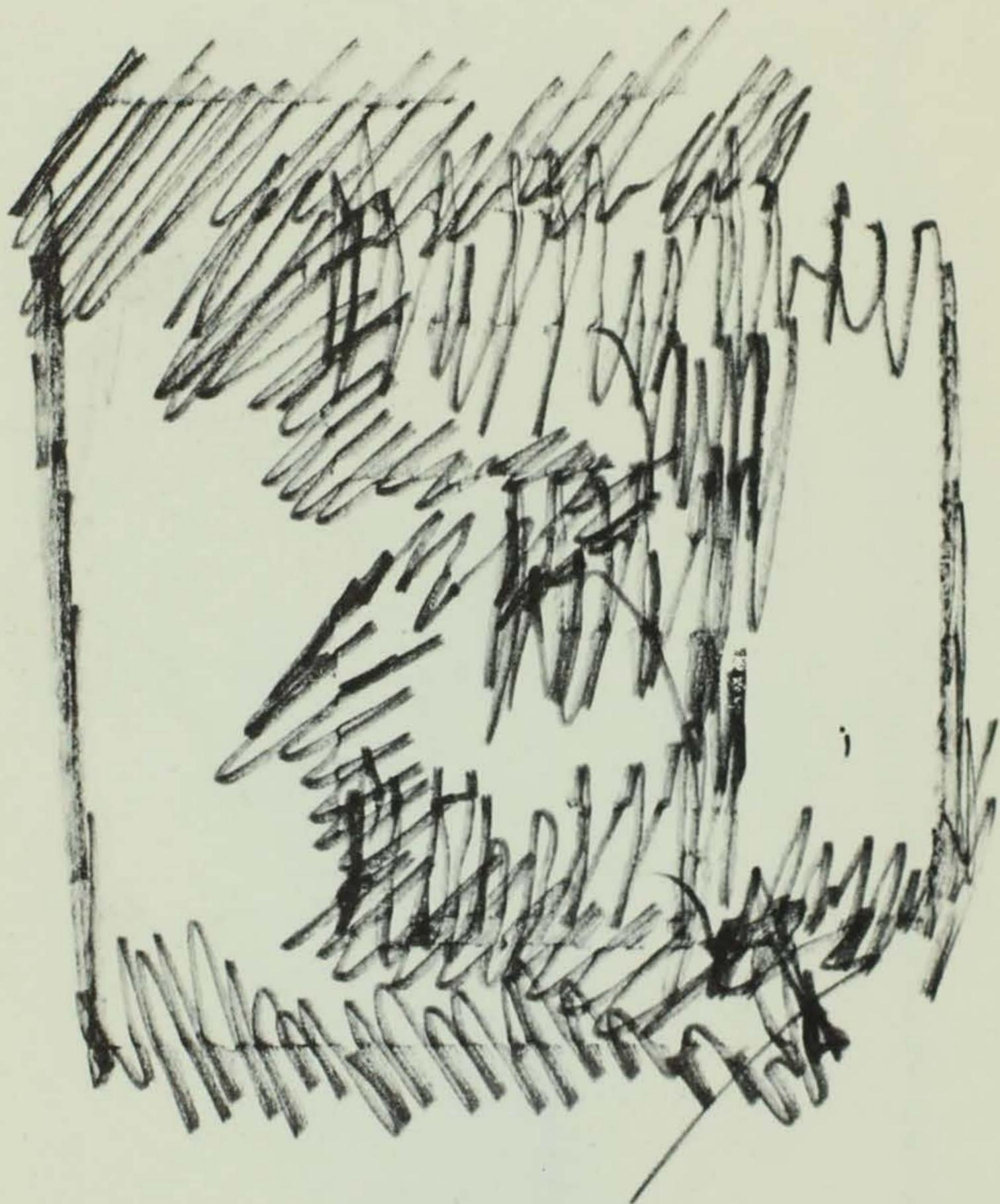


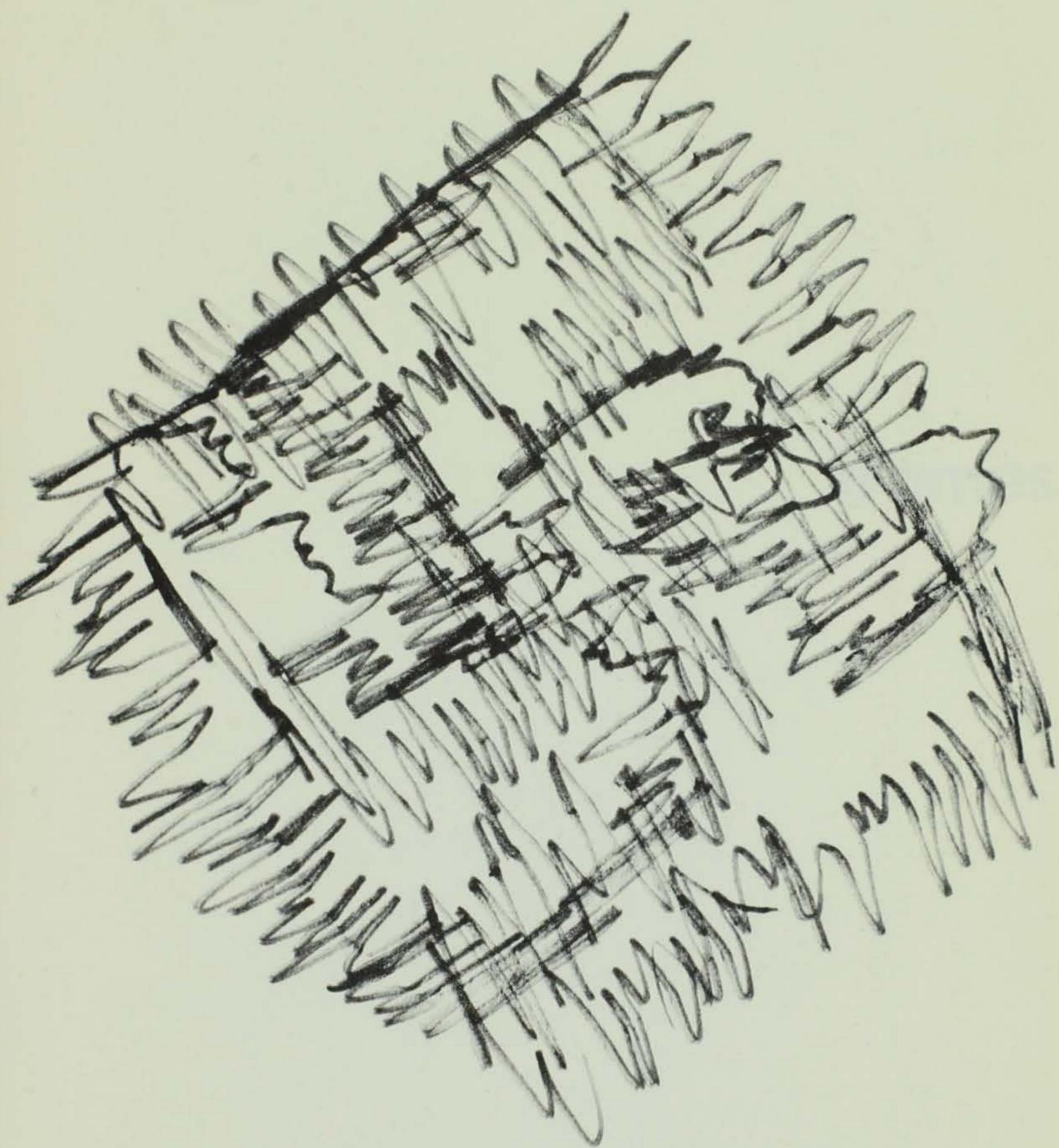




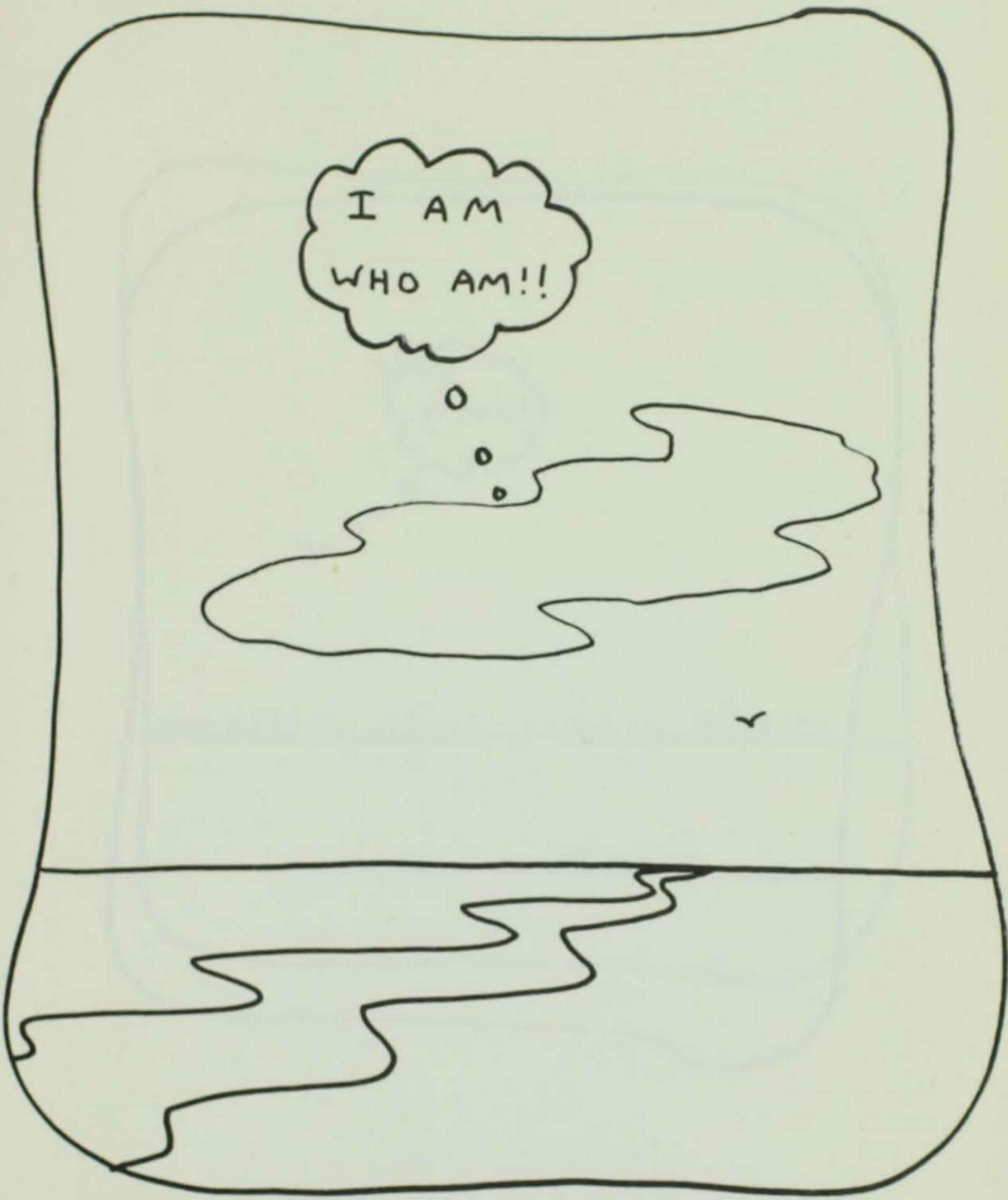




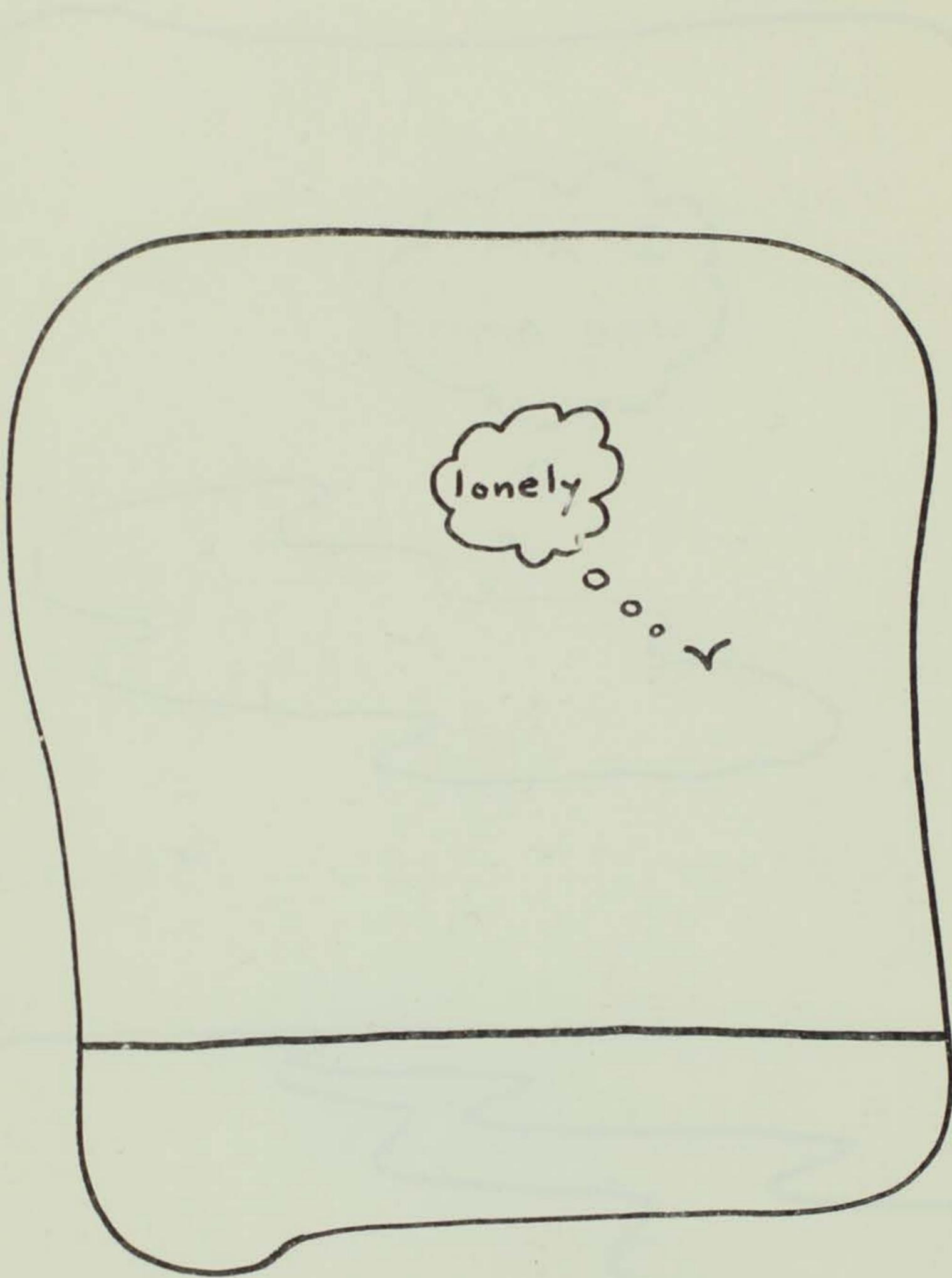




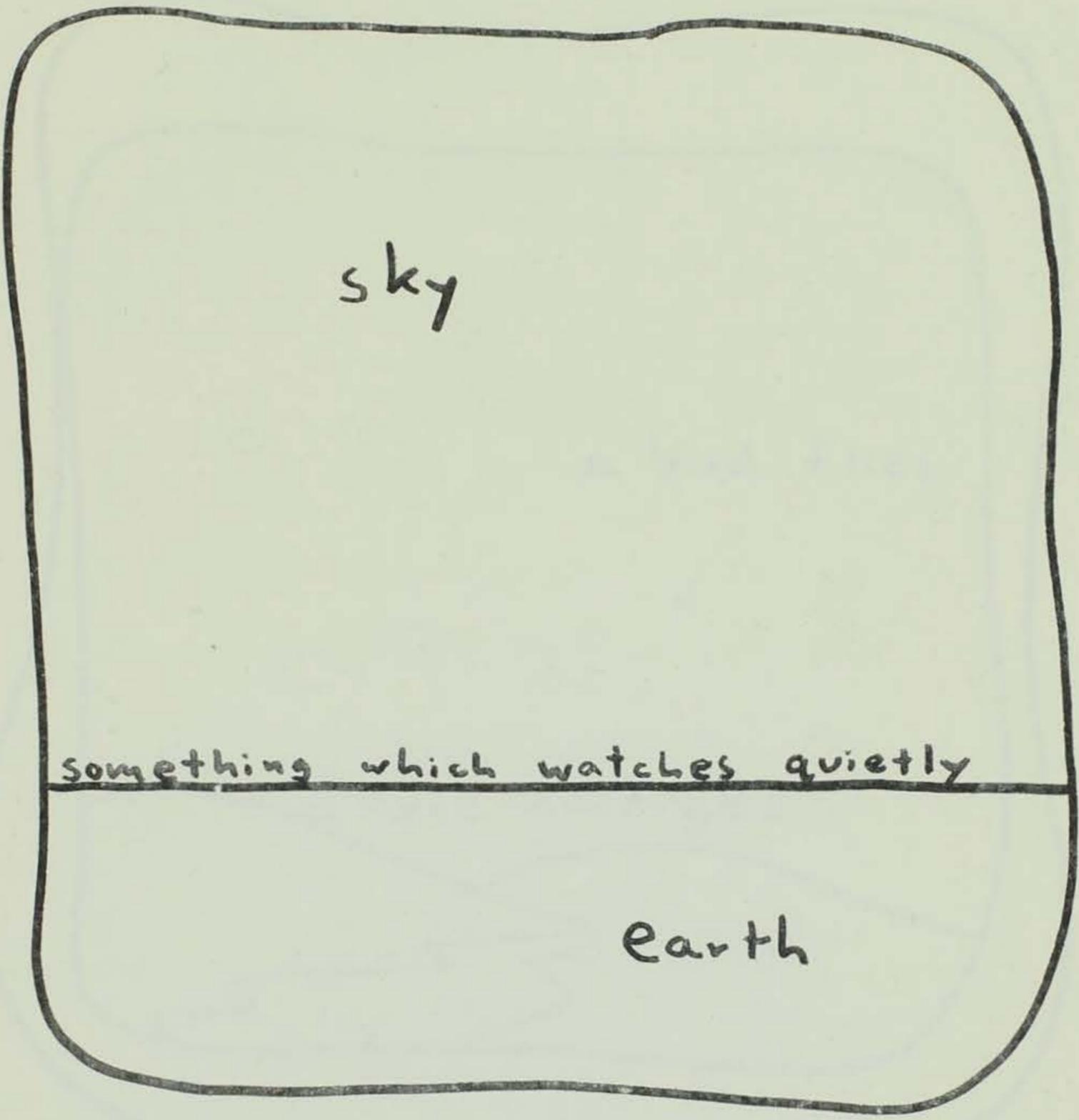
frames



Frame 1

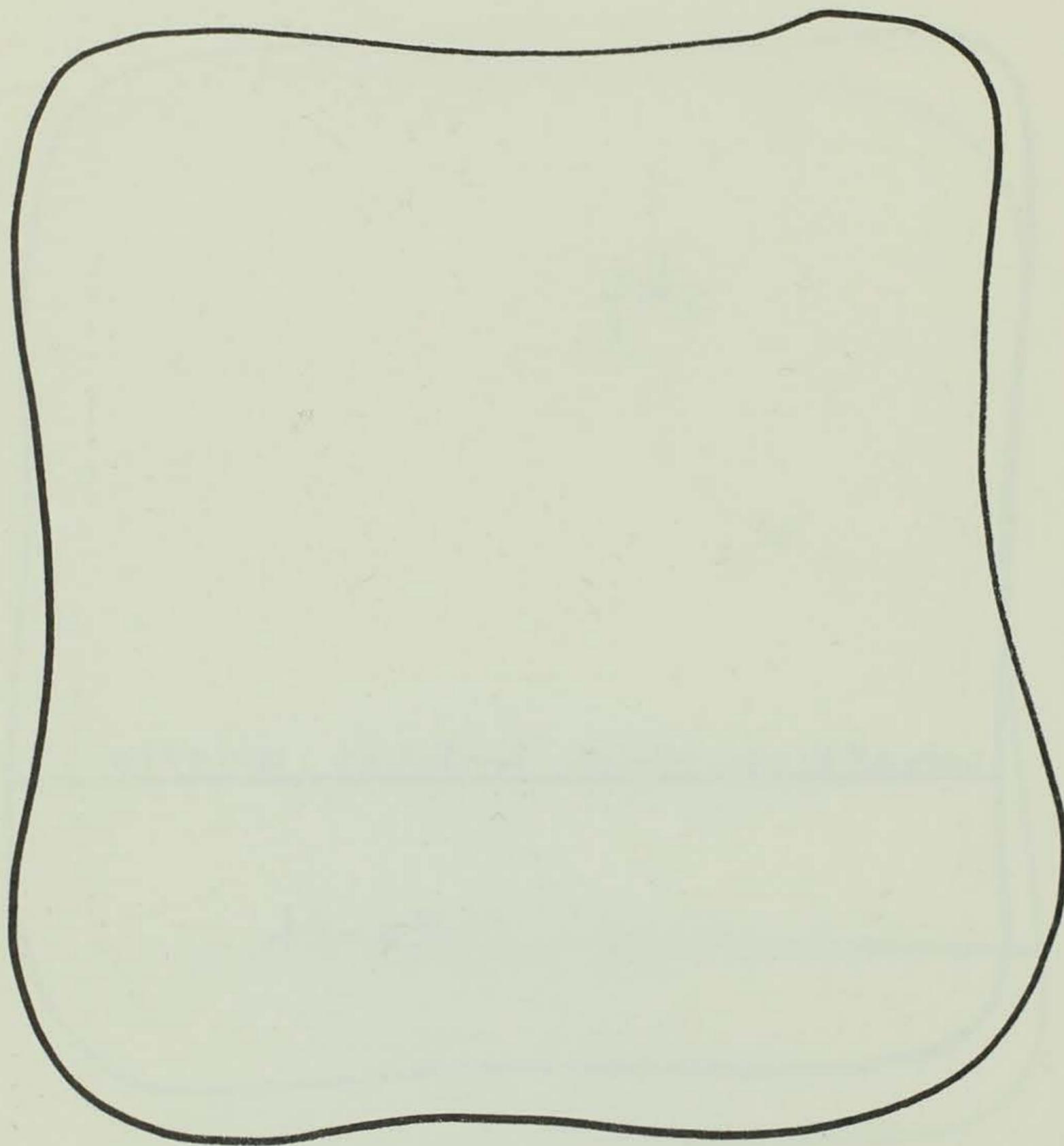


Frame 2

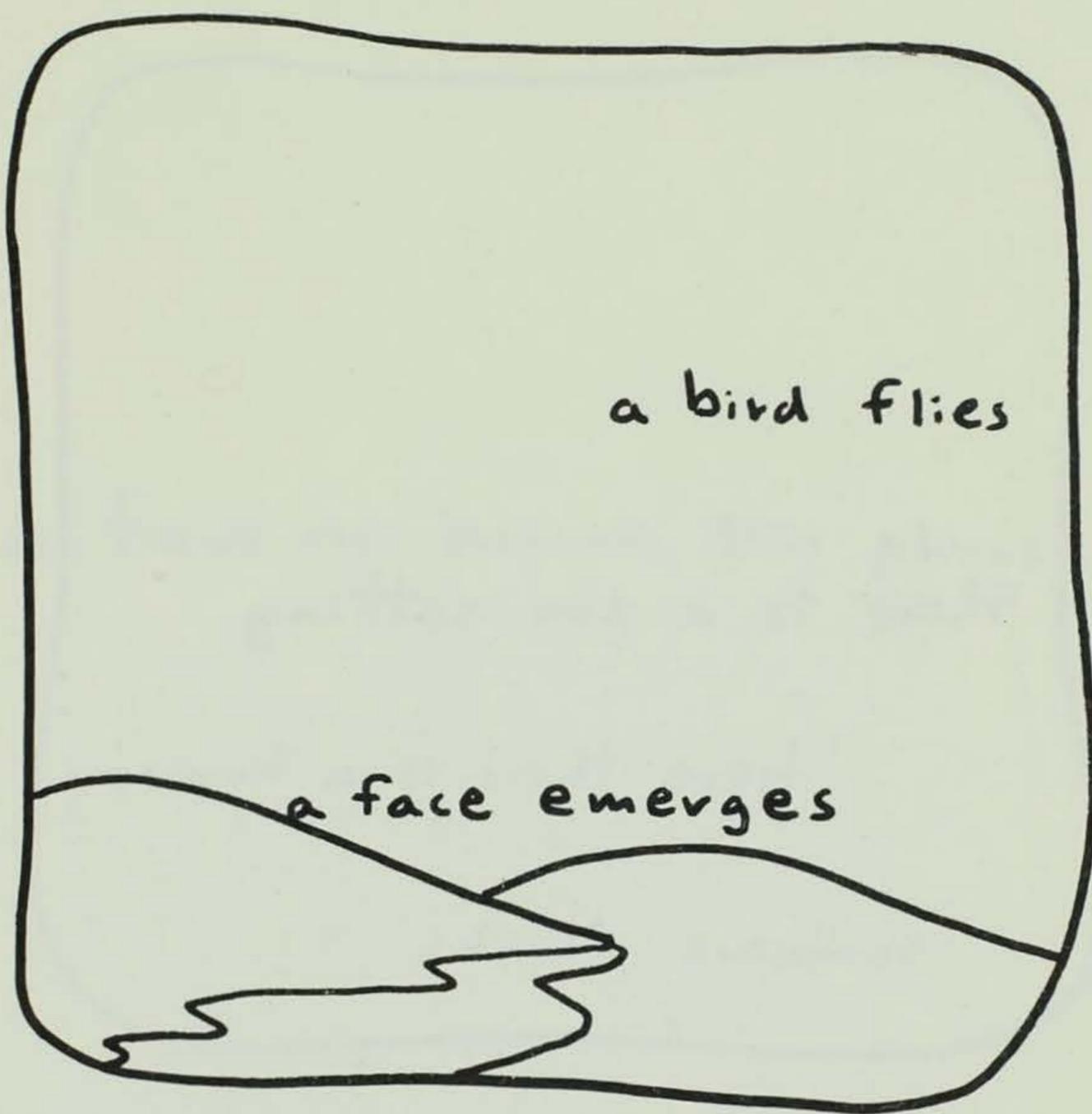


Frame 3

outside



Frame 4



Frame 5

there is a sun setting

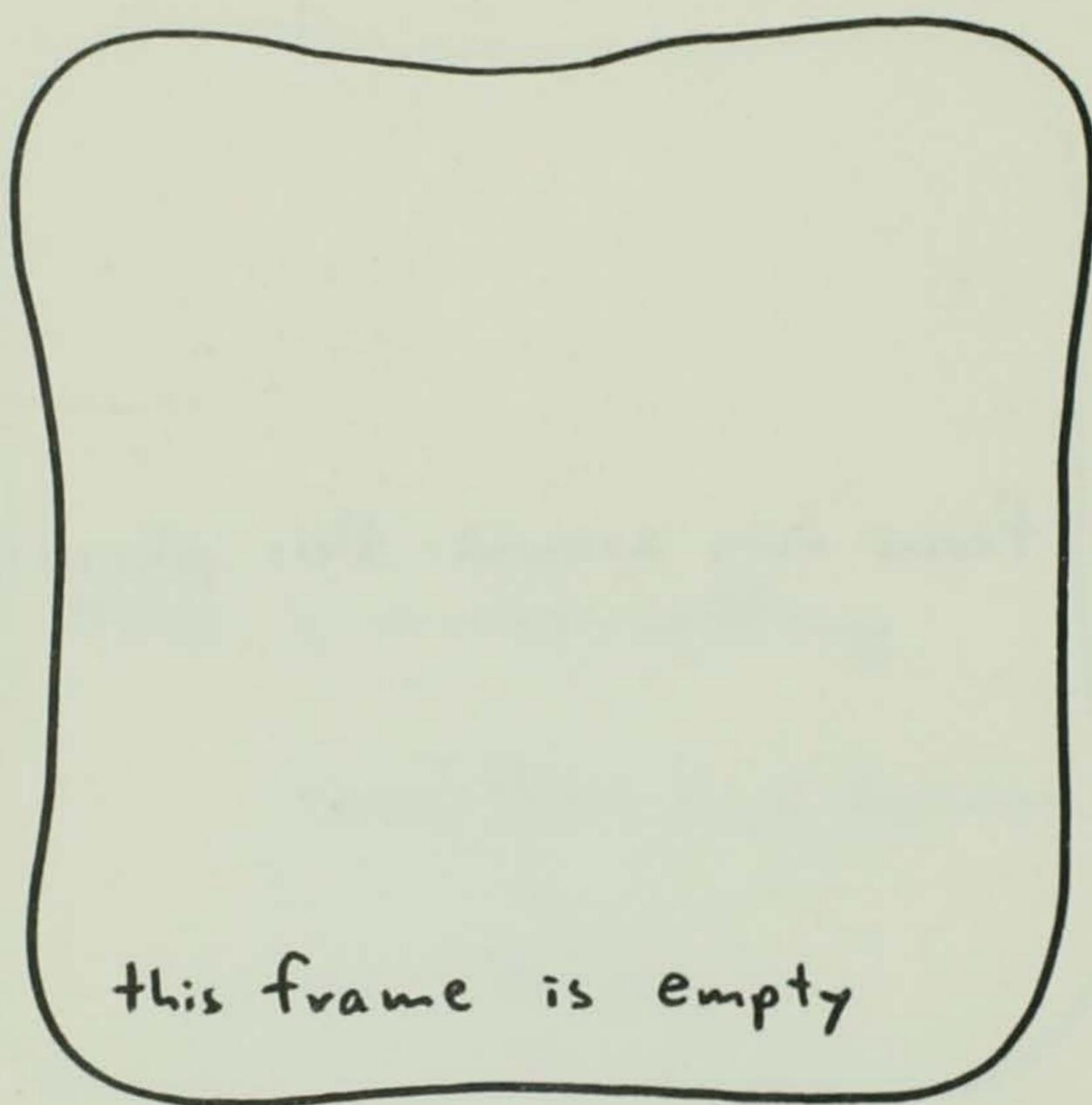
here there is a horizon

someone thinks

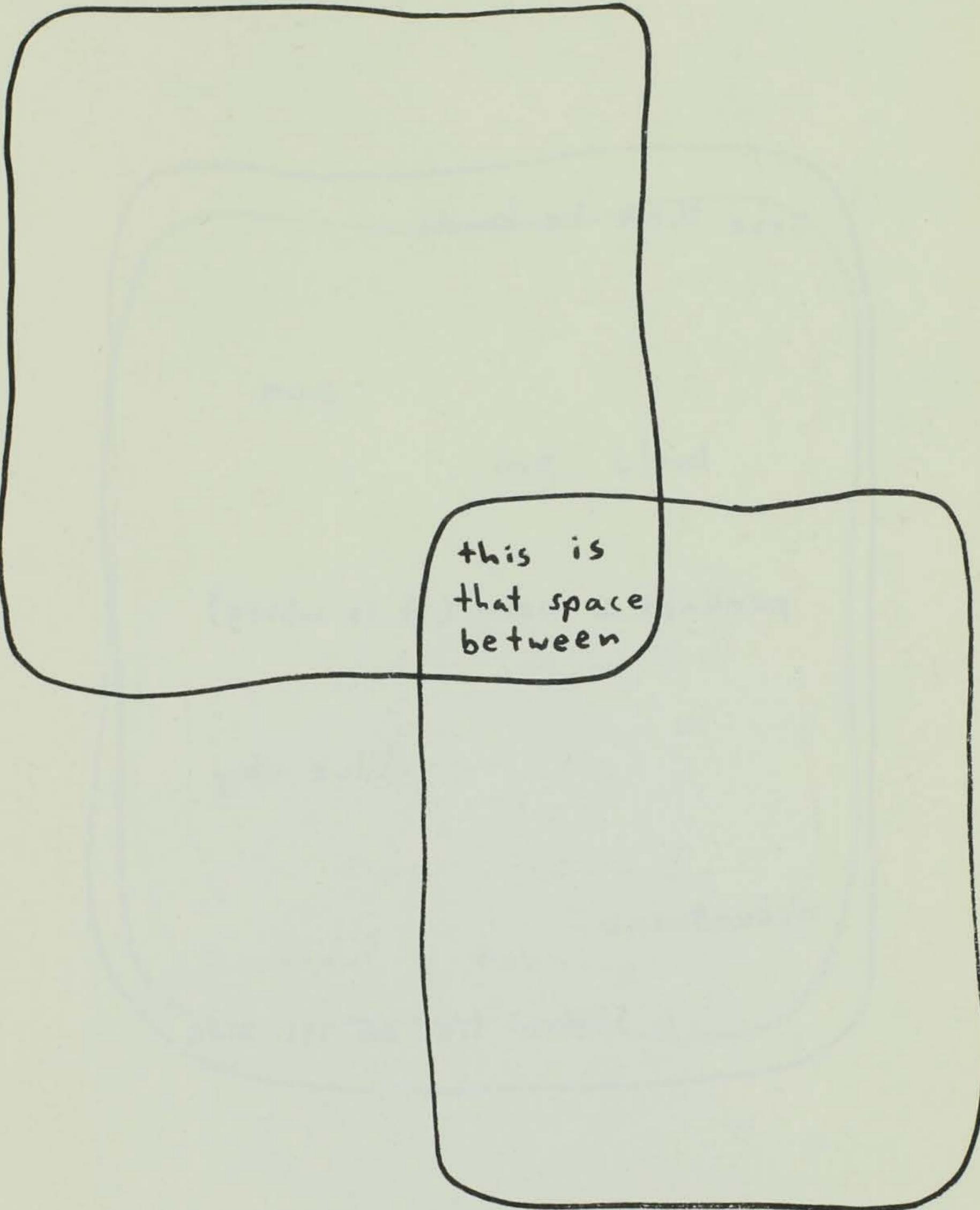
Frame 6

a frame runs around this phrase

Frame 7



Frame 8



this is
that space
between

Frame 9 + 12

here there be birds

sun

perhaps a moon (it is white)

blue sky

mountains

a letter lies on its side

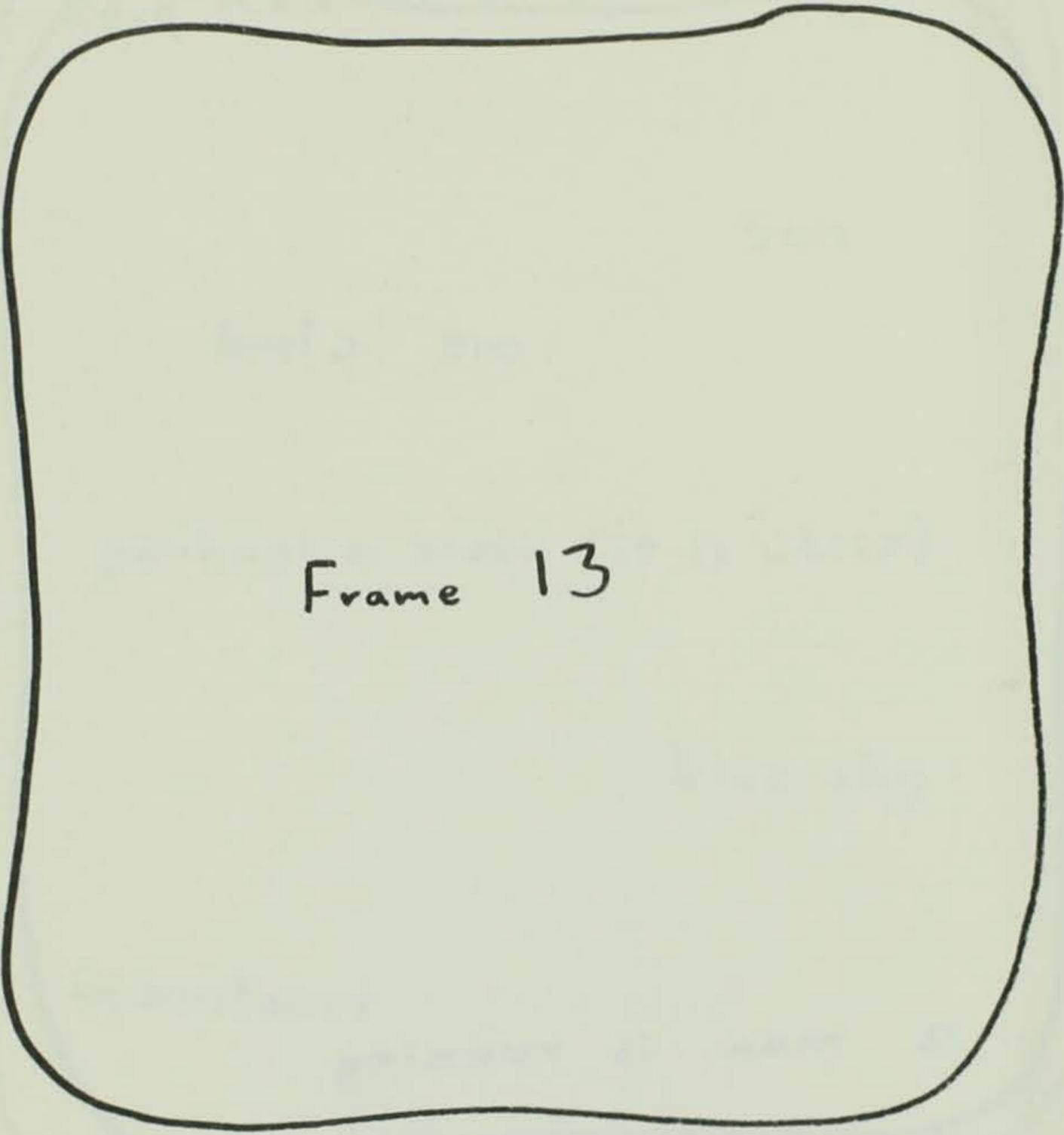
Frame 10



one cloud

a man is running

Frame 11



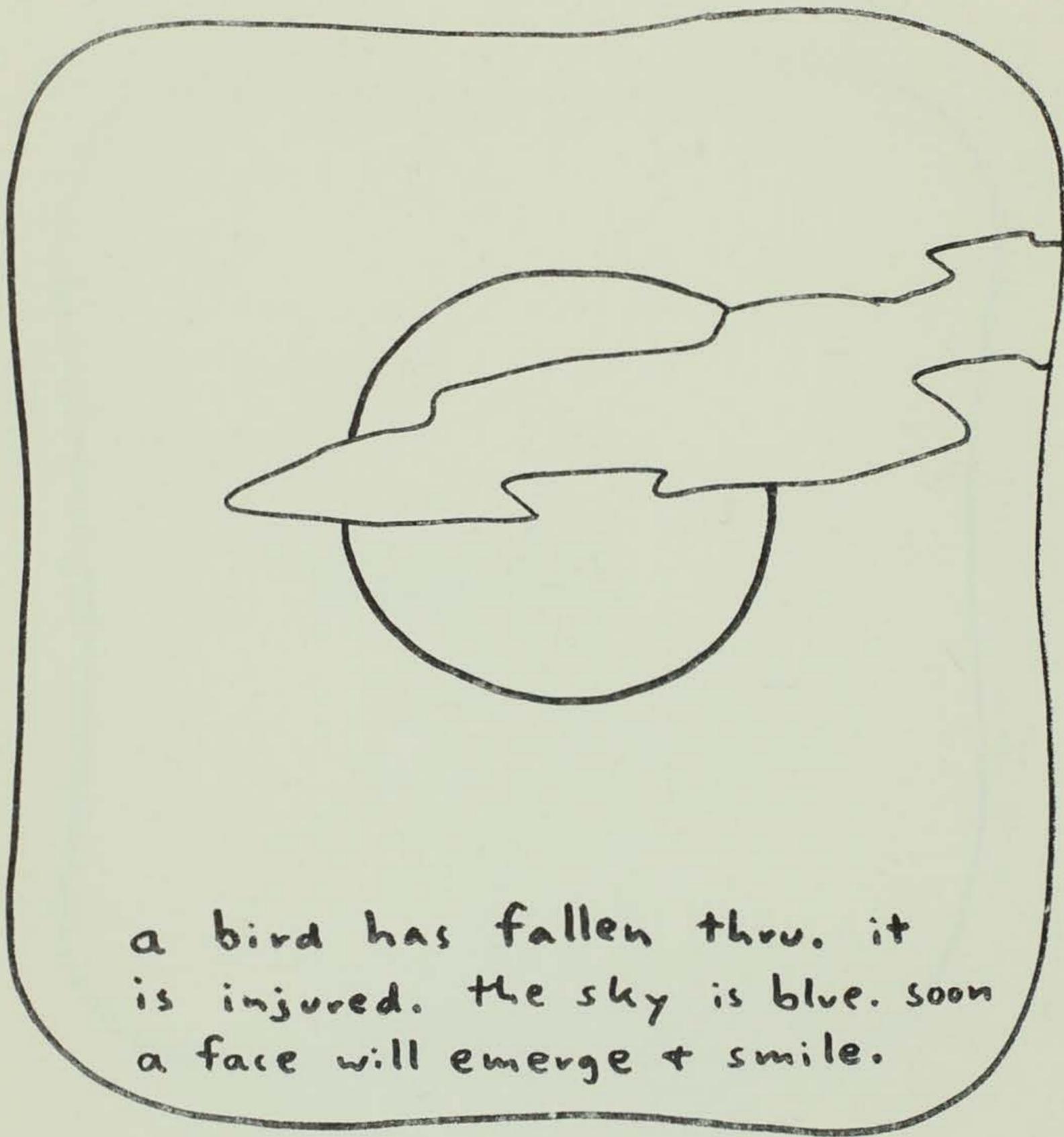
Frame 13

there is no relationship

a hand waves



Frame 14



a bird has fallen thru. it
is injured. the sky is blue. soon
a face will emerge + smile.

Frame 15

clouds

a bird

mountains



a river

something is moving

Frame 16

love poems

STILLS

1

a cloud

h

probably nothing happens

2

a man in front of a mirror

an h in front of an m

everything is on its side

something whistles

3 for steve mcCaffery

o

h

later an e appears

4

here there is a w

if i wait long enough it floats away

5

u
e w r
l
m n o p
q

6

r r r
e
s l p t u
no

7

how high is a question

up

d u c l m
v t

8

elbow

the room is still

window
w q

9

|
| | |
||
|

10

moon

cloud window green

up
up up

t

11

a
a
a

12

the sun or a circle

o
b

maybe a cloud floats thru

13 one more for steve mcCaffery

e e e e
e e e e
e e e e
f

14

sun

moon

h

h

15

a longer line intersects

green

something colored red

where an h should be there is an m instead

16

o o o

later a line appears

p? d? q? b?

feb 20/71

CLOVER

1

h h h
m

l p r s t
u

 v w i
r b l t
c q
 c q

r
r
rrrr
u

another u

if i am i i am
if i is i i is

blue
blue
blue

neither is each other

if green is red there is white
if blue is yellow there is green

h

now i is m
something which is useless floats away

mmmmmmm
mmmmmmm

i being black there is white
w or q
perhaps an l or a z

here someone pauses to breathe
e is taken a breath
th

 b
bbb b
bbb
 d
q
 l m n
p s j v
q
 q
q

a line lingers
something which is not
a letter in the middle of a sky
neither grey nor blue

white
white
white

white
white
white

white
white
white

i

t

a b or
a b or

white
white white white
white white

a line which is someone
a circle that becomes
a color that doesn't fit

e or f

l m n
l m n

o

o

o

o

a sky

an h

a line that intersects

a circle

black
black
black
black

blue

a green that becomes

a red

a yellow that lingers

an h or

a p

maybe an m again

an n or

a field that is green

a sky that is blue

an h that is broken

oooooooooooooooo

w w

w w

t u v

w

w

2

s
s s
v

t u l m
p p t r p
s

s a
s b s a a
a a a
s m n o a a
s s
ssssssss

b j k r t u v a d l
p m n o l s r w p t
o v w
e
e

g q l k k k
k t s r p

n
m
n m n n n
m m m
o p l m n o opens
x is a line
u
i is cut
the a discarded
t

p l s x v

z z z z

c m n o able

sky

a white that is white

t t t

u l o r b

green s o

blue but able

able to be able

b c d e

f i r a l m x

a b a b

be able to be

c or w or

unable to be a

be b be h be

a or v or

blue green white

green green blue white

white blue white blue

green green green green

next to o

a t or e

d f the cloud the

w or sky or

m r f h i j

l o l o l m n o

the w suspended

the l removed

everything becomes itself

d t s r t

j l v q m n a f

s h c i z t z k g

maybe an o
itself four times
green green green green
unable to be o
be c be d be
h i s l q r k
be l be x be

no

the sky

the h or the m

e belonging to another
f
f

clouds

a green sky

blue being blue
there is h or m or
i

an h that is h
an i that is i
something which is neither

y

w or q

l

m n o
t s b d l m
n o
t

d b t
c r r

a blank spot

something which is not

d

l p t q
r s v
m n o l k

a man is running

c

an empty sky

a bird

q

a strange moon

a different sun

light q l white
the able blue d m
o b c r whispering

white

blue white

blue

green red blue
yellow white white green
c d c d
n n

o

the sun

o

the cloud

o

the bird

o

the man

h

h h

h

feb 22 - 25/71

HEAVEN & HELL

1

h h white h h
the h the the the
heaven height where the
h h h

hard when oh help
h h h h h
heat heaven hard
h the
when when when

2

white hold three eight
sleigh shingle thumb
thunder whine white theme
shunt
shunt

3

whether

4

simply ever backwards
an opening

gone

g

i

noting

5

hallelujah
hallelujah

hallelujah

hallelujah

this then this
then this that the other

hallelujah
hallelujah

thin

whistling

AGAINST EXPLANATION

oh the a be
an or and and
c

c d q o p
stops

whistle up gorge leg
laughter m l steep
la lune la lune

low l t s z
v v o b q r
la tigre i y w

moon

june

spoon

A SMALL SONG THAT IS HIS

adore adore
adore adore
an opening an o
an h a leg a table or
a window & a w
a sky that is d
a lake that is f
e

d e f
f f f f
d d
 e e e
d f f e f e
f e f e

me
you or me or
i h & d
m e
e f d
o

d f h e w

f

f e w h d

o

w d

f

THRUSH THROAT GRIEF – WHY?

1

mine in sticks

crisis

six piping sing

suspension

certain tensions

telescoping

something which is hidden

hi!

2

everyone enters something

everything becomes then

end

begin

each one

three

5 7 8

9 10

3

absolutely

always

you

younger yet

hey!

(maybe)

4

oh

today opens
tomorrow closes

swoon

top older troop
overt folding fold
dock

obviously old
overtly young

oblivious mother port
possible women
bold pole polite sloop

shone shone

5

up under thumb punch
you supper lucky cup
muddle

muddle puddle thru
blue cut hump pun
nun nouveau true

out

louvered run touch pup mud
stun stumble stump
crumble

out

out

6

paid average
awfully glad at that

any way at all
anyway and maybe
awful awful awful

yass yass!!

perhaps

(later a dream
a statement

meant as lately
later late

March 9/71

MUSIC

do

mi

d o m i do mi
la so l a s o d
ra fa mi so la ti
t i l a a f i r m
s o s o s

ti

do

TRANS-CONTINENTAL

1

an h moves past an m
an i becomes an r

someone throws a snowball

o p
t r s u
v v v

w

i i i i

2

x d

one mile

a sky which is grey
blue

do not serve yourself

l e
4 3 1 2 2

3

z

zero then nothing

3

6 9 10

13 5

here a z becomes an e
becomes an m a w

4

a d in a cloudbank
an r by a sea

perhaps it is a river
passes over

sky

sun

a town
in which the r becomes an l

5

a drainage ditch

an o

white white white
on a pole in a field
white white grey

two trees
three or four
est

ouest

est cinq est sept est
huite huit huite

6

this many miles from home
r becomes everything

s t t a p
z t m n n
o q l r
v s c d g

later there is hope
or lessness

perhaps you dream

t
v n h l p
z w a b

7

ness

ing

ch th sl le
e

a rocking motion
a creaking sound

an ack
a ly

8

crump cring
kasno alty

y

j a
t b

v t l m n q o p

b

b c d e g p
t v a j k l

l m n

m n o p

n o p a b
c d r f q

v
z
p

9

snow
s o o o
w n o s
n n n n

a white field
a green

(dark

darker than dark

est

a blue that is grey
an e

climbs up thru the cloudy sky
overwhelms me

10

j

r

k t o v m
l s me

you or i

we

up & down

wavey

w w w

w w w w

m

n u u n

m m

p

the sky turns greyer

turns erer

white & black

dark green

a t crossed by an h

resembles nothing more than
resembling

inging

rrrrrr

12

37-3

an h that is beyond me
turns brown
turns around

h or h

i then t

pause

39

today the weather is not fine
yesterday it was worse

152

nothing to do but dream
d g m v

snow at the window

white room

blue blue blue
blue blue blue
blue blue bluer

dark green & white
straight with branches
bending

g or h or

grey white grey
white grey white

wind

a sun which is hidden
a t in a snowbank

h h
h h

an I that insists itself
insists itself
insists

14

hornpayne to armstrong
h to a

ha!

ah ah ah ah

t
u v m l k
r s p

stops

s to s

bless this

15

a lake in a snowstorm
m's in clumps

o's & h's pile together

maybe an occasional a
perhaps a t

a sentence occurs
ending with the pronoun me

16

there is too much white
too many h's

life holds too much s or m
t b j f
m t

t's pile-up on t's
r's are scattered

an s lies broken in
the corner of
this room

17

a y by a road
a lake or a sea

wheat wheat wheat
brown among white

a fence
a fancy fold
a hill

i r k

a lady

light light light

18

a right a left
a flat latitude
fat laugh

a t h o r e

here a longer line erupts suddenly

my toes are pointed west
my heels are pointed east

c

19

d b f g e
r z t l m
o o p d q b
l o c d k r n

y

t v z q p
l o r i k

b o m q l
l b c d y
j f
r t
m p h i i y t

20

empty eyes
empty skies
z z y

y x x w
w v v
u u t t s
s

bless this
i did say
yes yes yes
i did say i did say
bless this yes
bless this yes
bless yes yes

21

three deer
a field

a road that ends where h begins

two t's again

a w
a q
an ordinary o

later a z
a p

a field where horses pissed
yellow yellow

22

trees that are white not brown
with snow falling down

a footprint
an a

everything rises

a circle
a stadium
a town

a place where the road is brown not white

voices i cannot hear

h e l

wainwright

23

now there is a mountain
big not small
dark not light

soon there is a sun setting
a green tree
a memory of a time not now
h gone brown
falling to a c

d rises
r sets

the sooner the l
the later it gets

24

4

3 in a row

0 1 2

l t q r

farther than f

g

c d c d

l m n o

l m n o

p

repeated

not forseen

dreams

in which the dreamer dreams a dreamer

dreams a dreamer

dreams a dreamer

dreaming

m m m
an n which slants
disappears in o

u w u
m m m n
u v
o

grey sky
i wonder why

tear blue like you

c o k
j r
j u

if there is lack of light is there no light

lack is black
height is white

why is h always h

now it is i
now t

z y x b
r v m n l

hello

yesterday i had a dream

last night i slept with the blind up

u t m d
l l
l

27

o dreaming
l sets

r rises black
blue blue blue

even the white turns green
purple
 black

black black black
back to blue

e rises

no

e does not rise
it is a dream

somewhere on this train
ryme schemes

28

g in a station
going white

wheat in a pool
number 8

7

a line that doesn't fit

6 in a row

g

29

more music
less o

balance

a pair of opposites that don't attract

t

a height of m
a weight of b
of a &

do i know you?
no!

a z or a p or an f

30

just another just another

broken heart
half-hearted dream

just another h another h another t

ing
inger

ongoing
undone

a voice that is soft is h or r

accent

a book that is full is empty

l z j q
g f g

(unfinished

another voice

m s
a b d

no choice of z)

32

e's in a cloud
voices that distract
e or e or e

f g a d l m k
r s o b j i

a distant v
a hum

a lady who is glum is sad

things ain't so bad

r

n or p

33

eyes in the dark
red not white

a starting point that is not right

an observation in a train station
a standing around

an h left lying on the ground

m
 m z t p q
 l y r k k k
 j a h i w

o p d a
 l b m z i
 h r j r

is that right?
 yes it fits

a narrow i
 a thin t
 an n that disappears

an m
 an l
 a g

a fantasy that fails to erupt
 a disappointment

a sad pup
 a happy kitten

two children asleep in the same bunk

an h by an m
 an i by a t

here there is a vision

a choir sings

alleluia
 alleluia
 alleluia

a longing for flesh
a flash of long

a lingering look
a languid mood

an l in a pool of pepsi

a cola
an a

(thinks)

something stops
something begins

rocking
l to m
nothing in between

is z is v is q is d

z to a

l d h z q t j

37

dark where there should be light

hot pants
cold thots

an r ringed in mist
later an s
then a t

if only the moon came up
the l would rise

settles on my shoulders

mood

38

a trance state
a continental trance

je ne sais pas monsieur
je ne sais pas madame

hello in the morning
goodbye in the afternoon

it has been h or w knowing you
y or m

it has been z
t u v l k
j r j

39

a face above a mountain
an m above a c

l j r u p k
m s z y v b d

i already said that

it is a snow cloud
an f day
a q g r

a fish in a river too cold to swim in
an absence of crowds

40

a saint
a gesture in the sky

an m on a mountaintop
a sequence of o's

a catalogue
a heaven
a vision of vision

h i r m
s t
l q

41

a new beginning
an ending

a slowing down
a speeding up

an arc in a park
an f in a rainstorm

2's or 3's
4 5 7

a leaning back
a falling forward

tree stumps

42

a needle
a fir
an e

l y j k m n
o z w u
v t m n n
k s l

sing ing

a bell on a breast
a blessed beast
bust

j or h
k or m

43

hair that is blonde is long

a dirty hand

a land that is lost
forgotten

a little girl that's frightened

a mood of g
a presence of m

l k
r s y t n

44

an ending a beginning
a beginning to see an end

a line that extends then collapses

a lax breath
he lacks it

a tree by a track
a rack & a scream

a tension
a lack of it
a lick

a lucky strike
a struck lock

an a that can't pretend

is this the end
 it is not the end
 we will say it is the end

a g k or l
 m t z y v
 w w
 u u
 l k r p p
 d o k j r

the sun is up
 the sky is blue

look at the grey clouds

i see them

y y y y
 y y y

a b c d
 f g e i
 j j j j j
 k l m
 k l m
 n o
 p

a c o or n
 q v z w p
 t t y a
 b x u

47

green & red
black among white

a lighter sky
a darker hill

a u or z

narrow

thin but long

t p j l

48

a sand bar
an old car

a chocolate
a noise

t p l m n
o o o

a road by a track
a toad on a back 40

3 or 2
one e f

bridge

truck

sky eye

final finale
definite end end

h w w t
hope now awful hat

here
h e r e

heir & hair
or hare air

weir

wierdly y & d
j k k
g t

toronto - vancouver
march 13 - 16 1971

GLADY'S POEM

up is down
as down is up

a cradle & a rug in a rain storm

a g & an f
an r of seeing you
being with you
m & p

hot tumble heart pin
just best can't chin show
loving & knowing
stumble

speech is speech is speech

a pumpkin &
a tunnel a
tornado

march 22/71
12:45 a.m.
vancouver

FORMLESS FACES

blue

gut turn red green
scree crag face fold
tumbledown

2

the simplest things hold nothing
holds the simplest things

an empty window behind a tree

ringing

2

if you hold up your hand
you hold up your hand

is that high enough?

no

there is no use to
a question mark my words i say
words & words & words

AN INTERLUDE IN WHICH SAINT RANGLEHOLD
ADDRESSES ANYONE WHO'LL LISTEN

1

a light in a tree
a hand in a crowd
memory

whistle

now we will change directions
this time for good

what is the structure of heaven
it is a circle within a circle ad nauseam

if i am to stop & talk to you you must give me reason
i am a busy man

h z y k
l r p t m
u u

2

what is the meaning of meaning

it is whistling when the thunder claps or pissing when it rains

did you get the groceries

i tried but they were closed

when i asked a man to consider theory he said
i will think on it when i have a spare moment

3

despair is an air you sing

sorrow is to row your boat nowhere

h is not t

i is not m

whatever was is & will be again

POEM BEGINNING WITH LINES FROM A DREAM

r n t
r n t
raggedy ann & andy

n e u
n e u
winnie the pooh

o k l e
o k l e
uncle wiggily

r s v p j
n l p q r a b
s t d n
s t u

LOST ANGLES

let us put this in focus
let us understand why

anger is as sudden as as

young dreams older fears
the nearness of you
likely as not nearly new

mostly old catalogues
lists
liable to capsize

sudden

holden &
well

yes

collapse as

as likely nearly not new

something is old as nothing

nearly yearly the millenium come round again

fourths of a moment
airy pleasure
gone

to what gain
to whit

none

known or un
the wise

threading send
or then

 hover
which is lover on
the rind the
pit of it

alpha beta
game as the next one
man i mean

oh i wish these lines were longer longer
the music you can hear
familiar river

ALMANAC

a live is not alive
a corn is not

huite wheat (how sweet
ly done ly
ding)

 sing that song was sung
sang sun

fort

artery to heart to
ordinary ford
ing of

 the shallow part
& parcel &
"i am all tied up"
too busy to dream

i was happy there

he was happy

sea's son
i set sail or
he is gone away
gunned weight in heat
the sun

 sea's under the sea

interr relationships
lock up the heart

no knowing then that way

no

oh pen

(clothes in disarray
crumpled

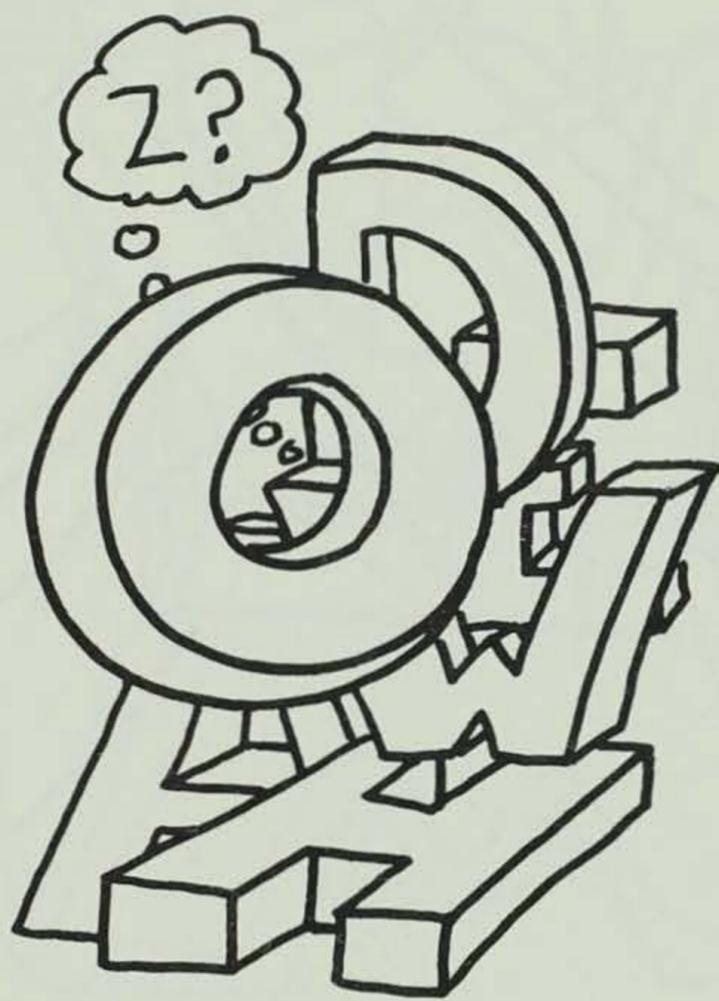
a phone call
all phony

fend off the end

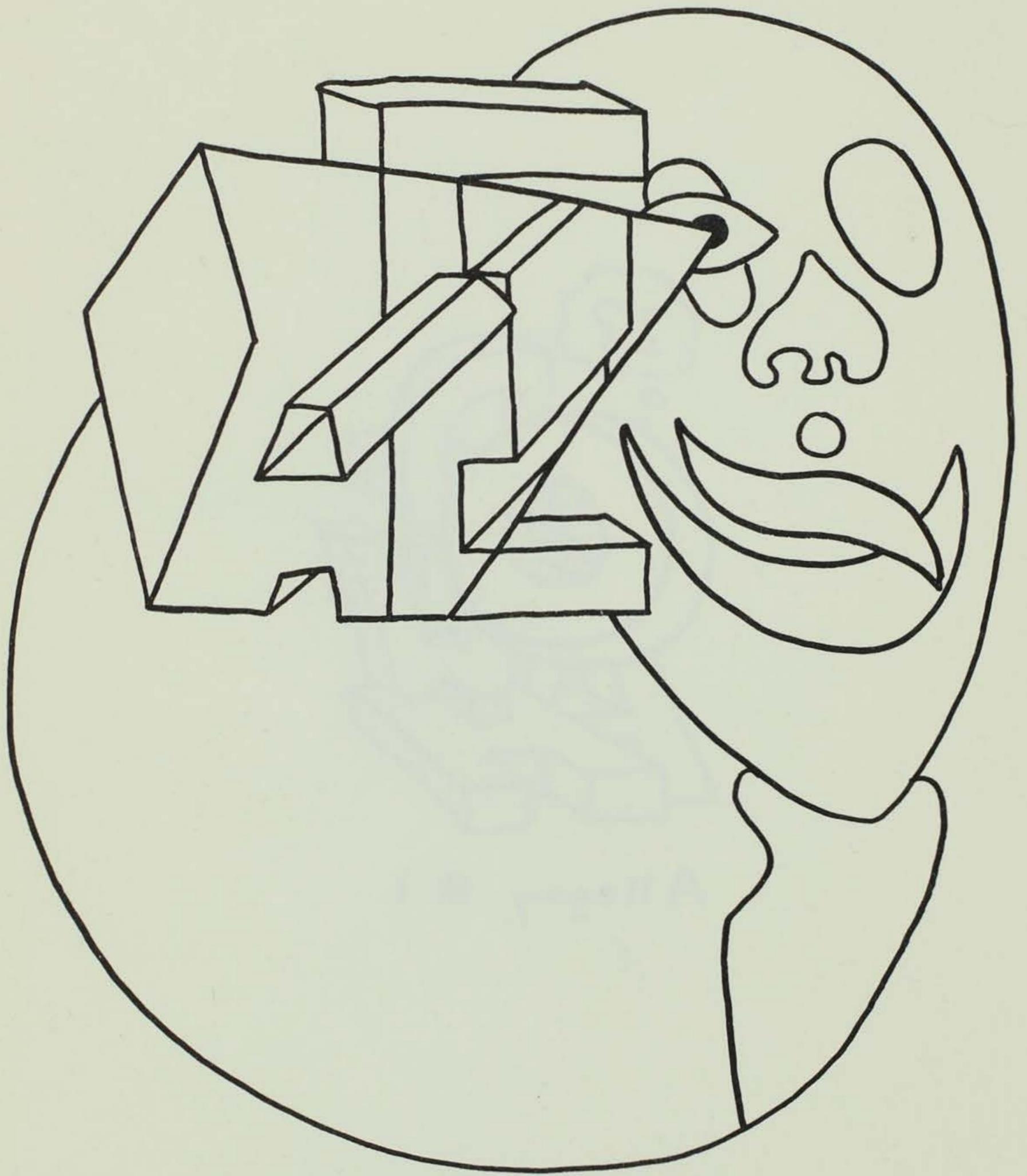
it is over
so very over

symphony

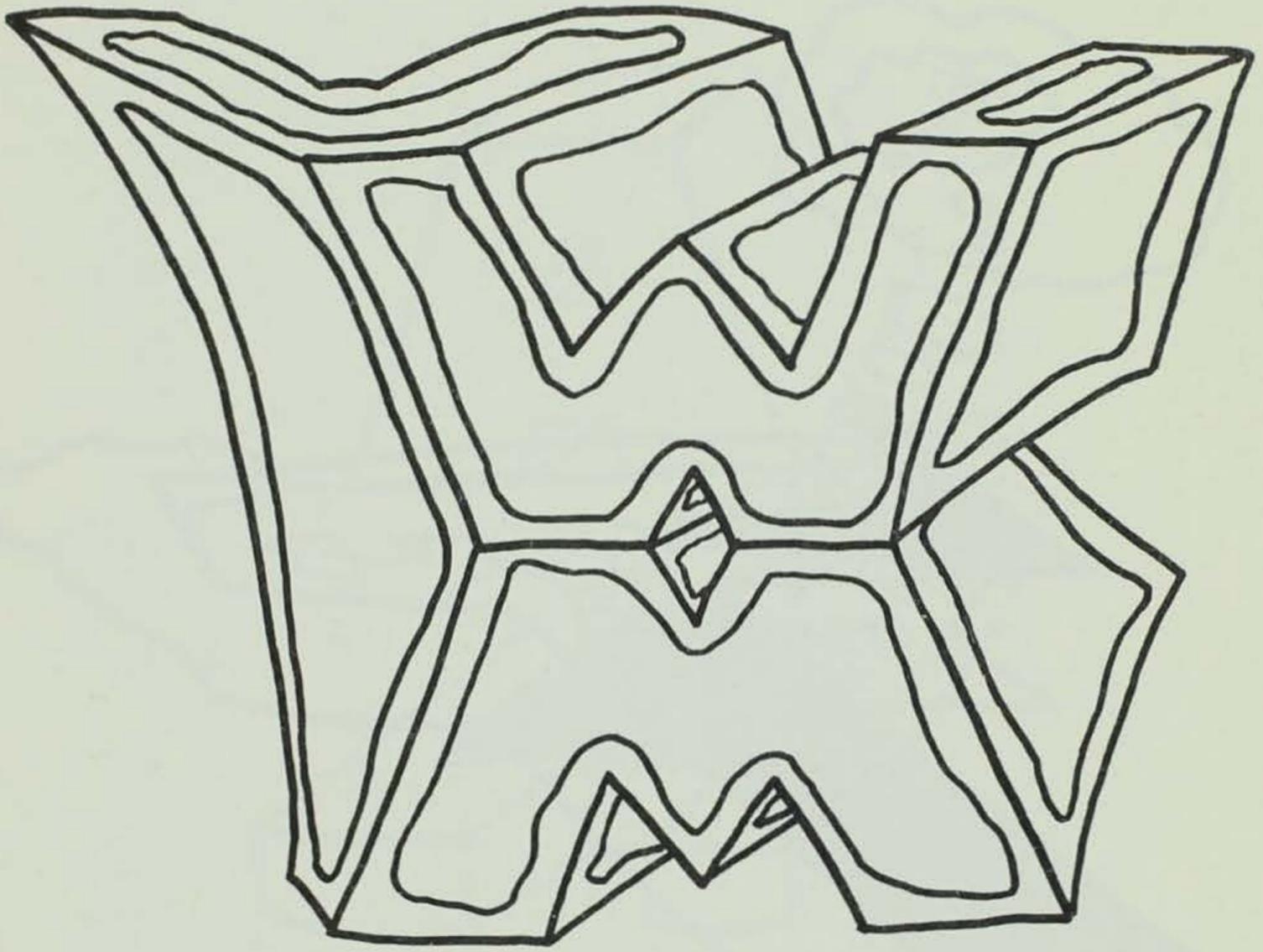
allegories



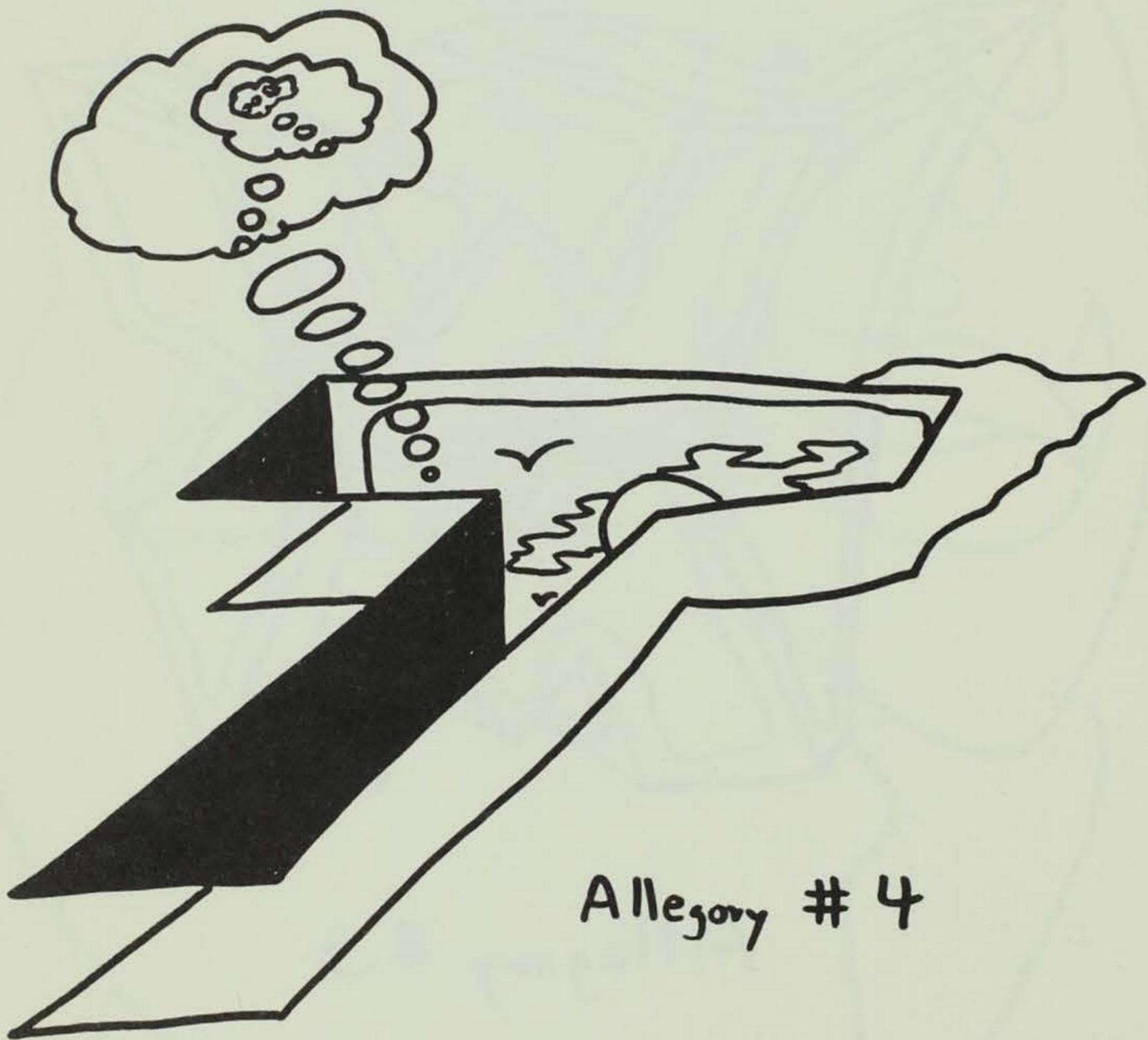
Allegory # 1



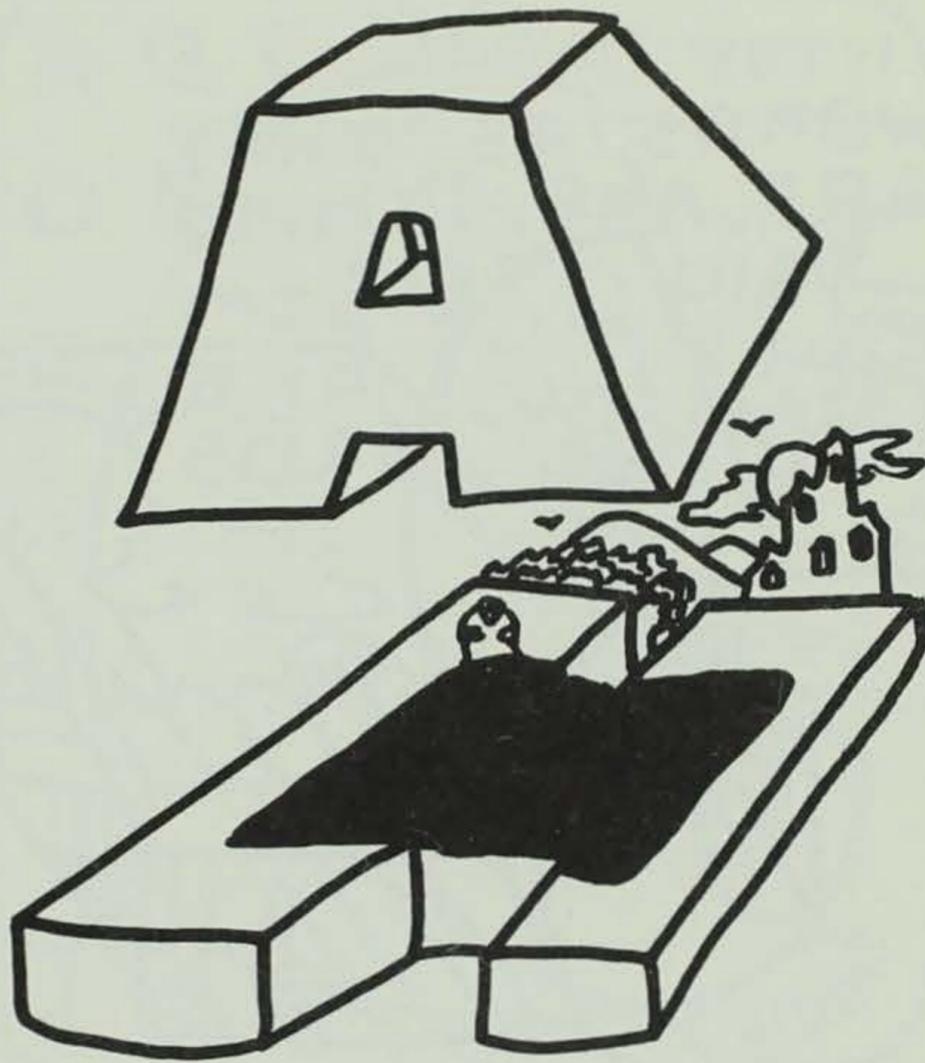
Allegory # 2



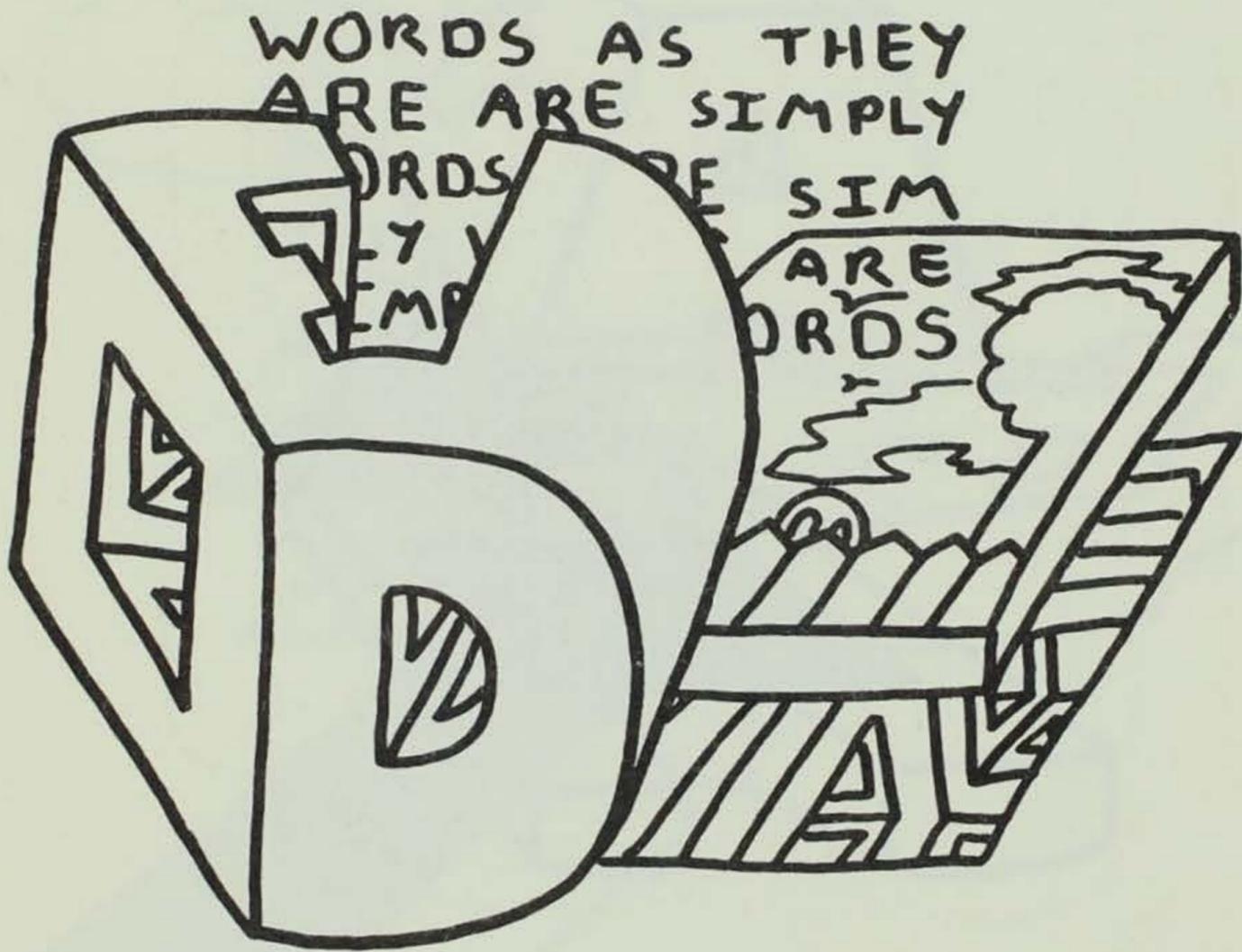
Allegory #3



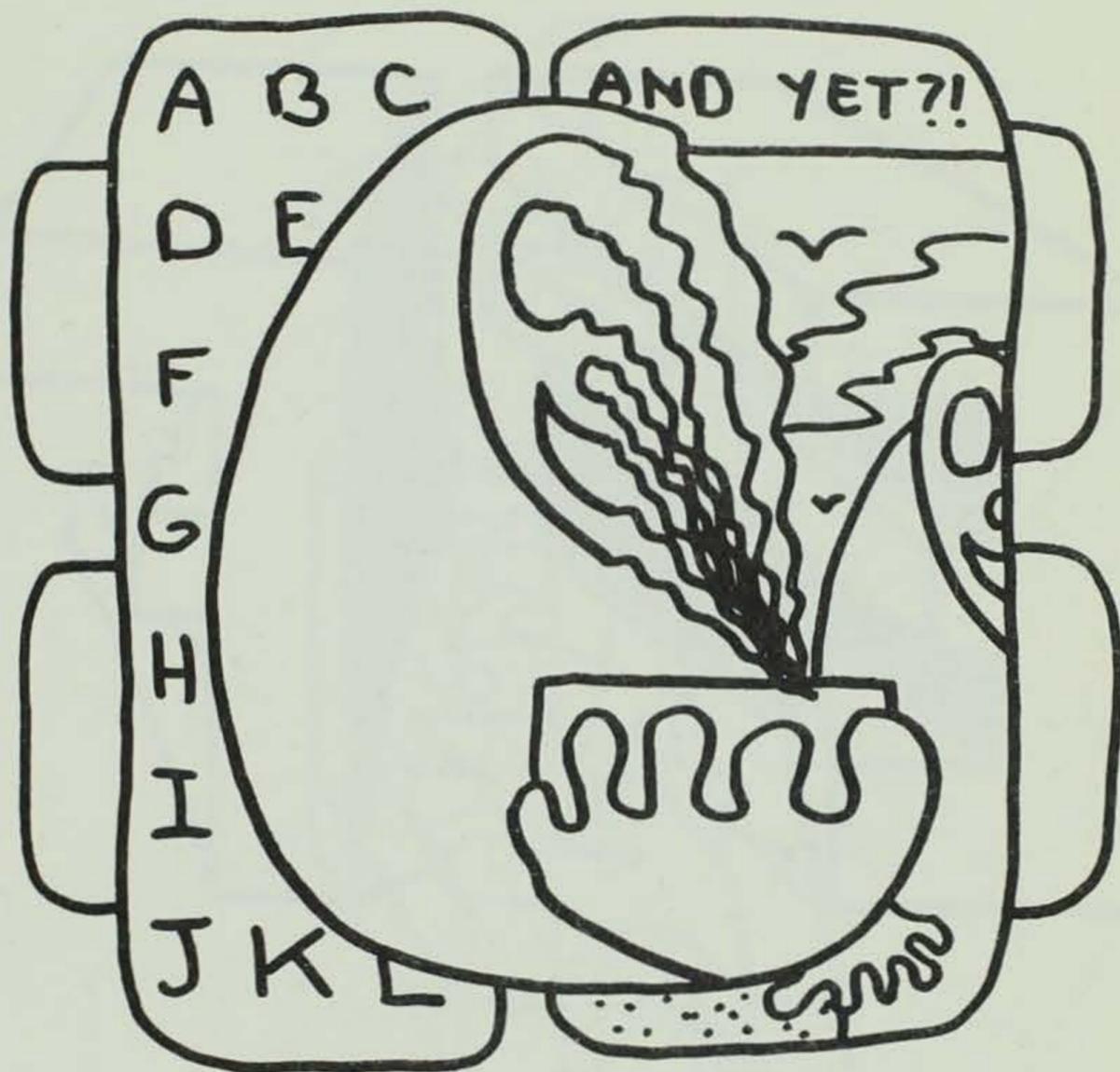
Allegory # 4



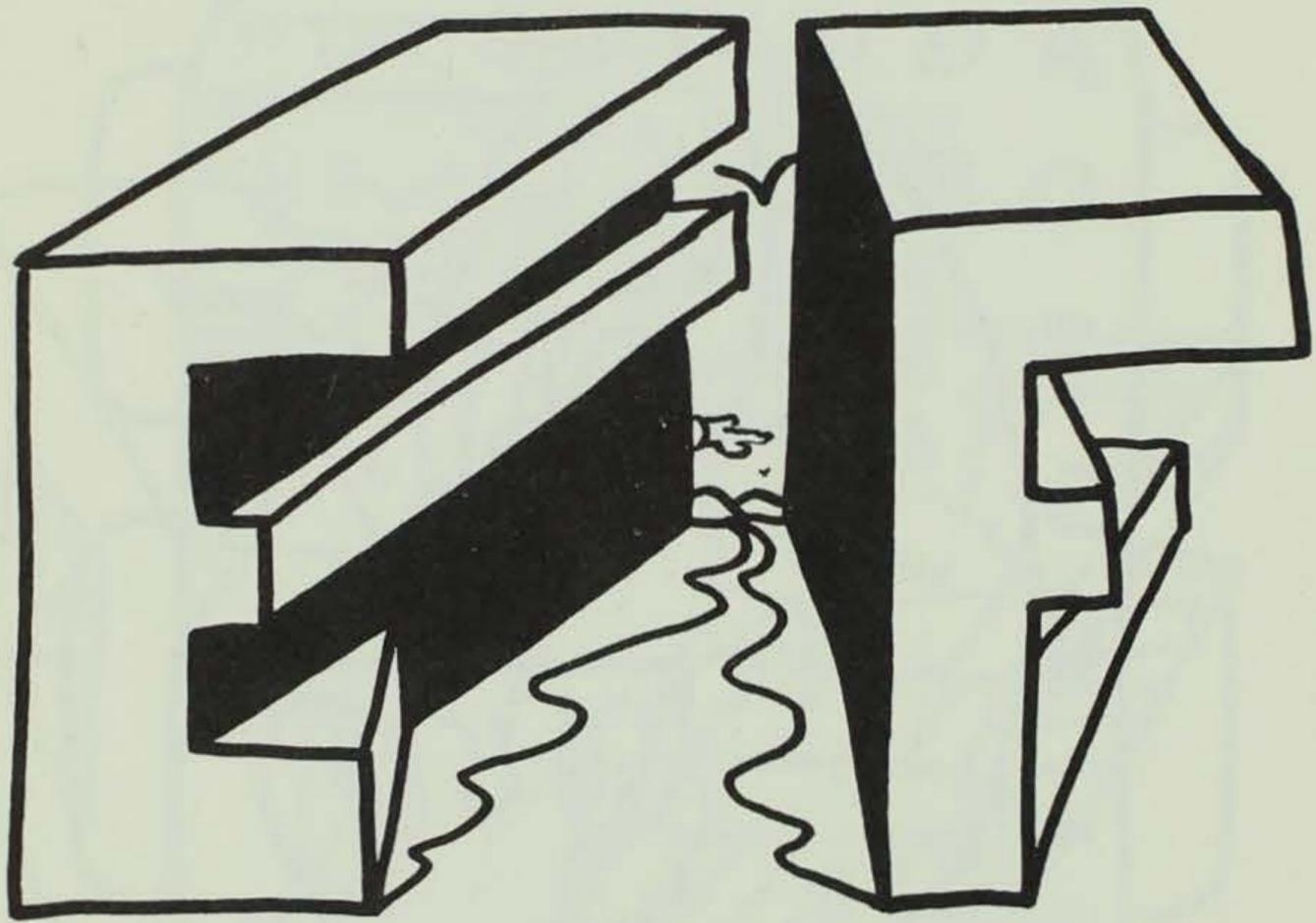
Allegory #5



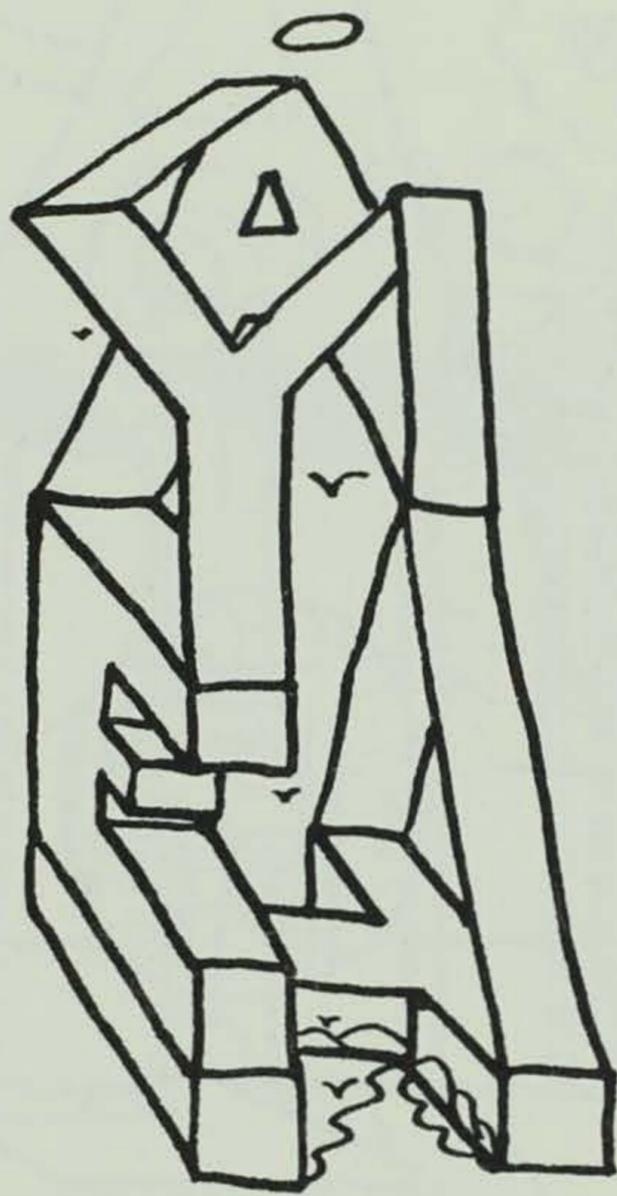
Allegory # 6



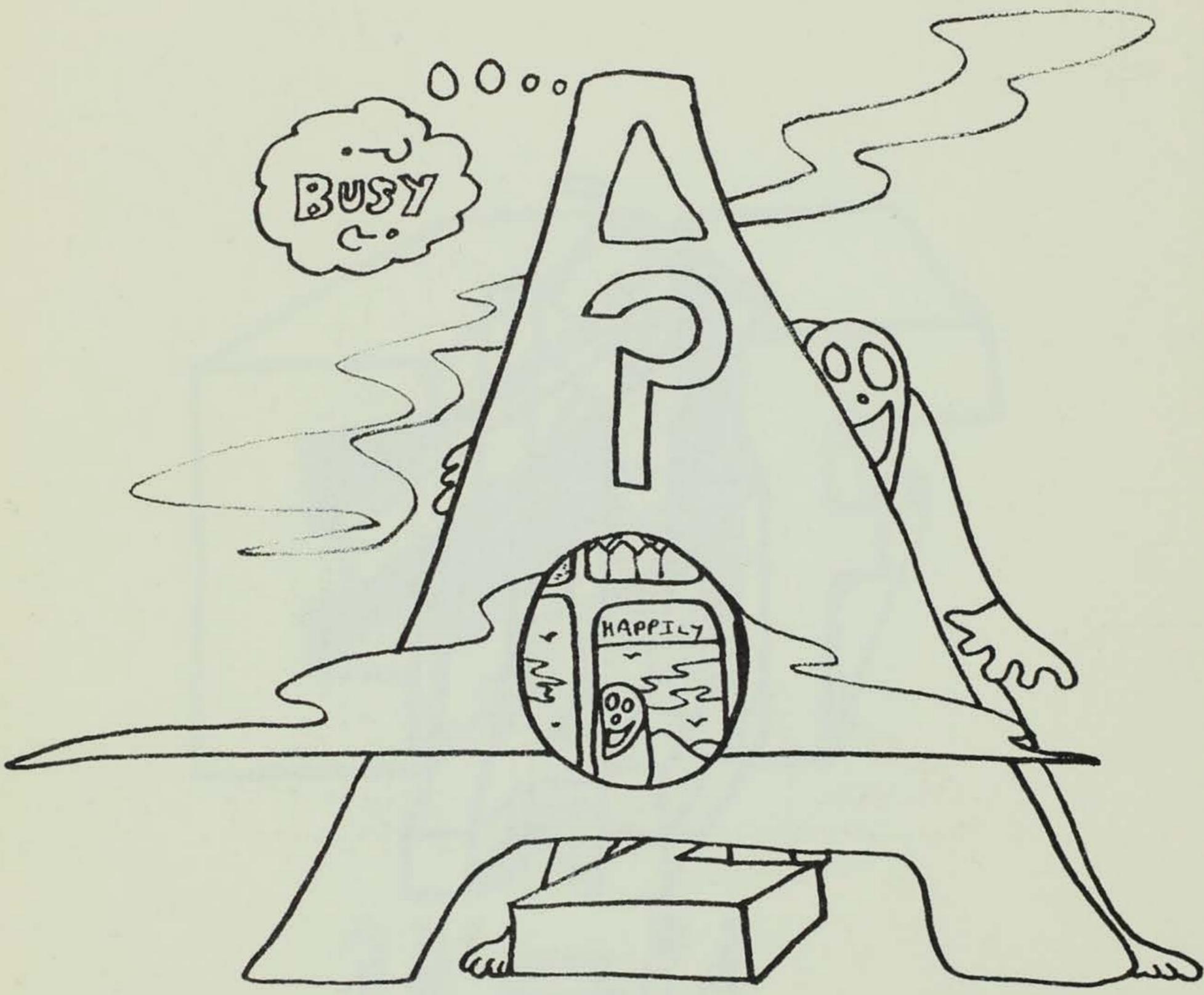
Allegory # 7



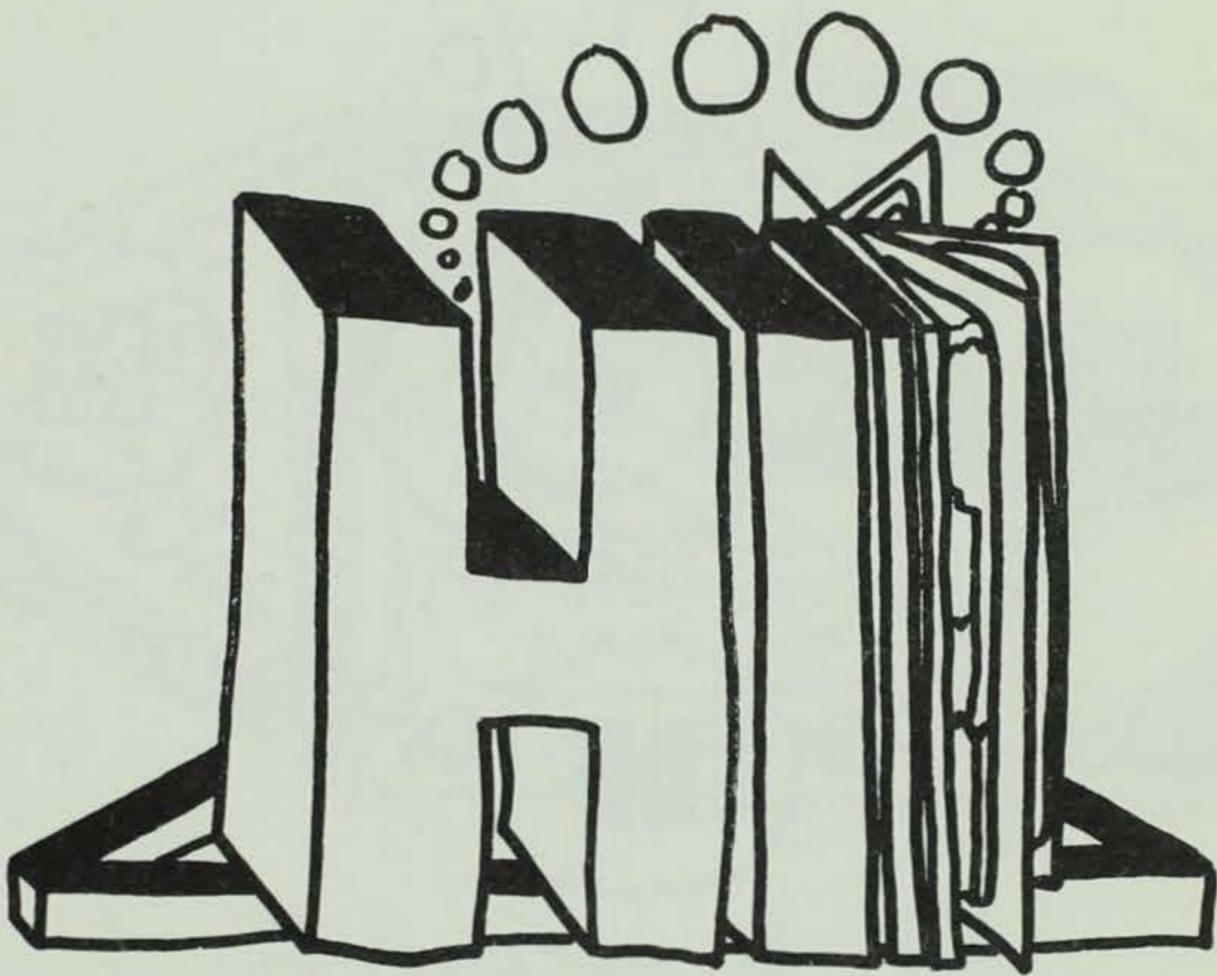
Allegory # 8



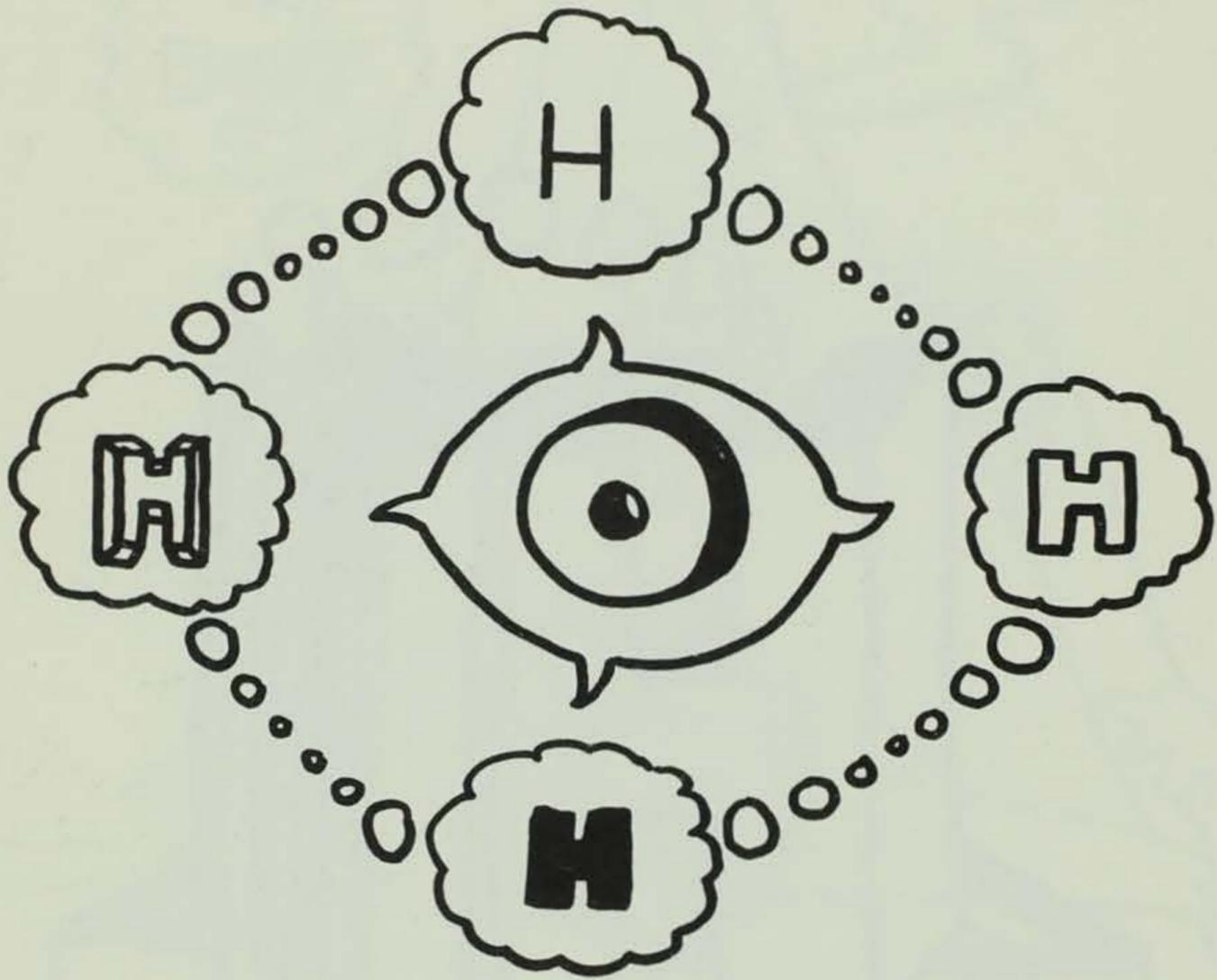
Allegory #9



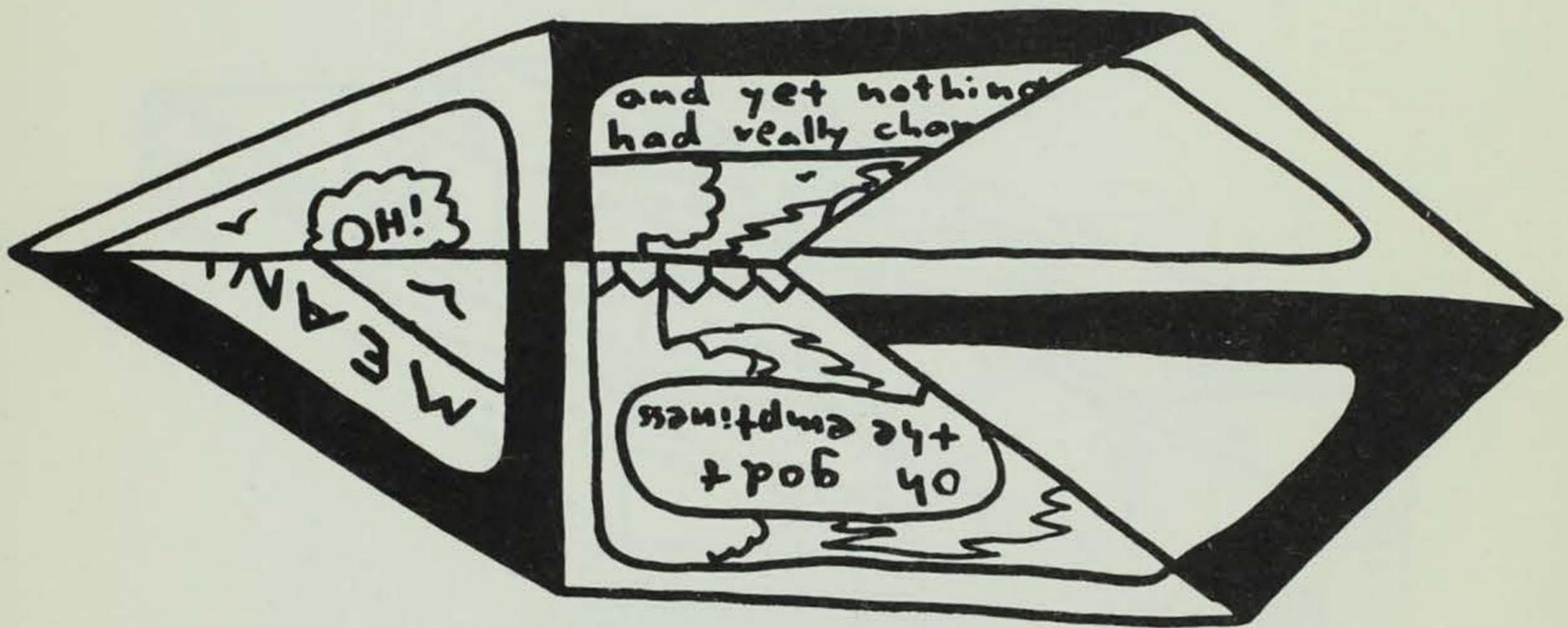
Allegory # 10
(for Steve McCaffery)



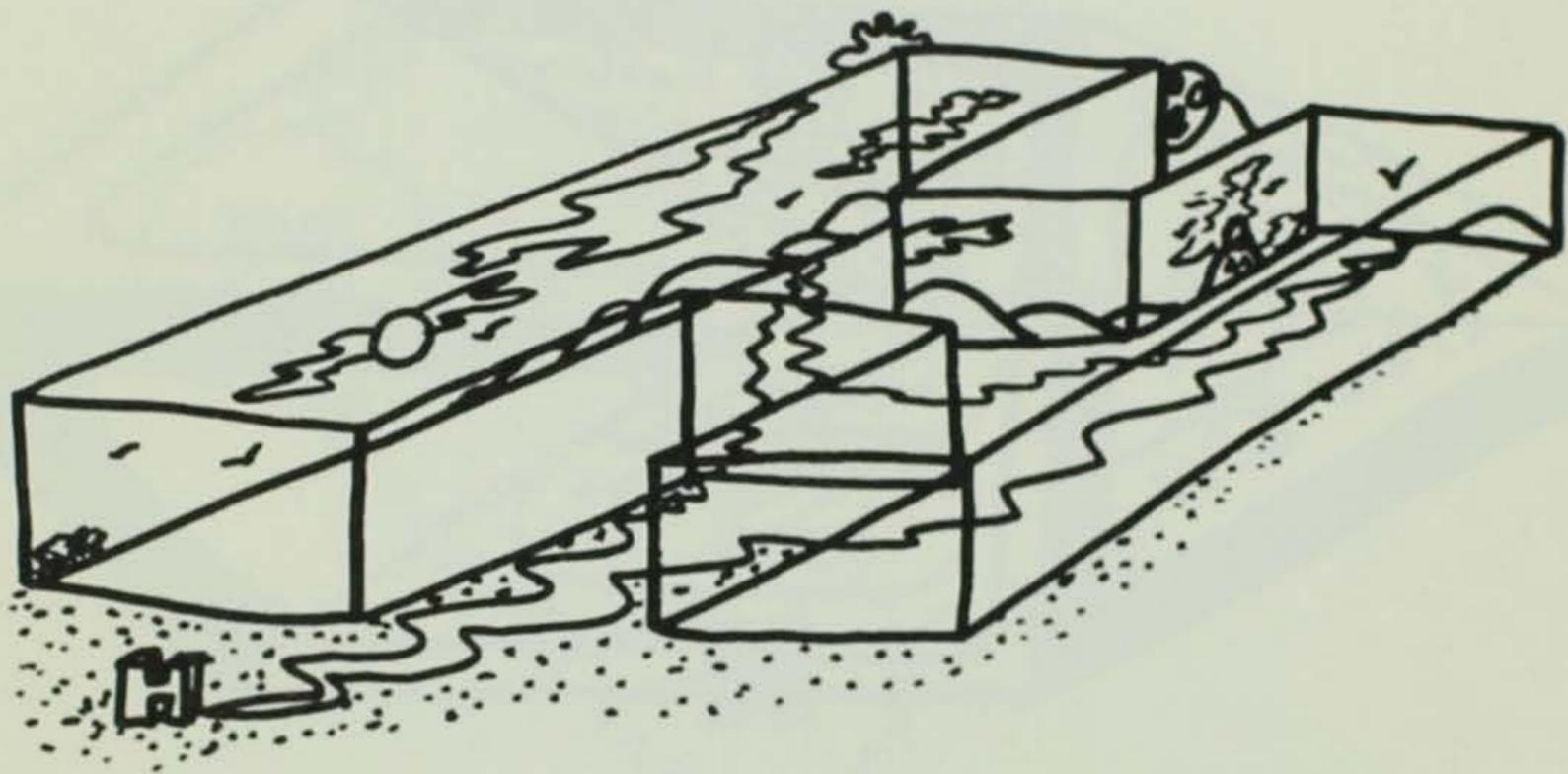
Allegory # 11



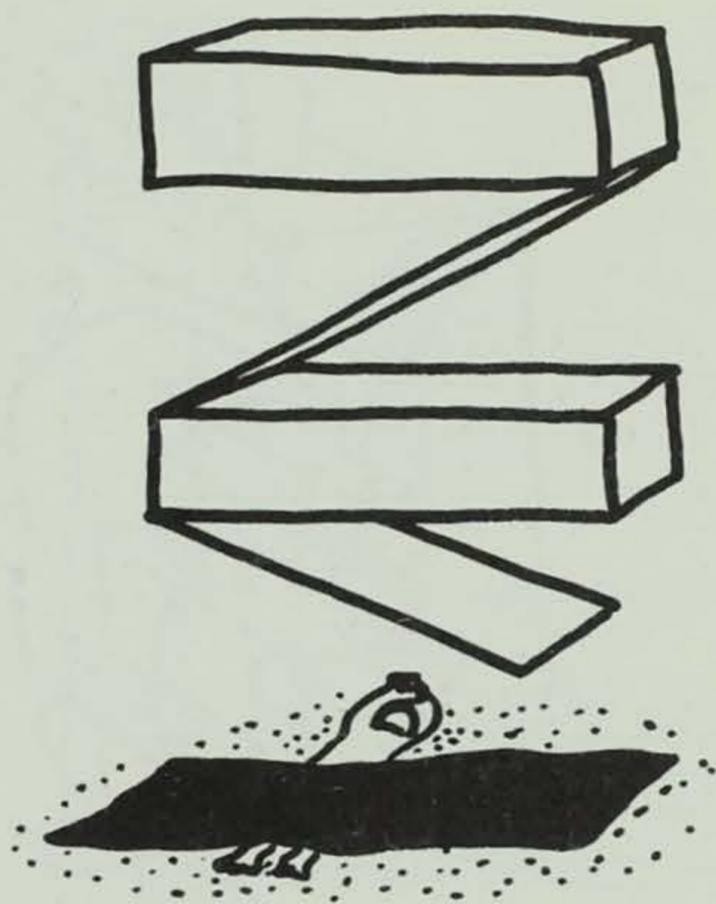
Allegory # 12



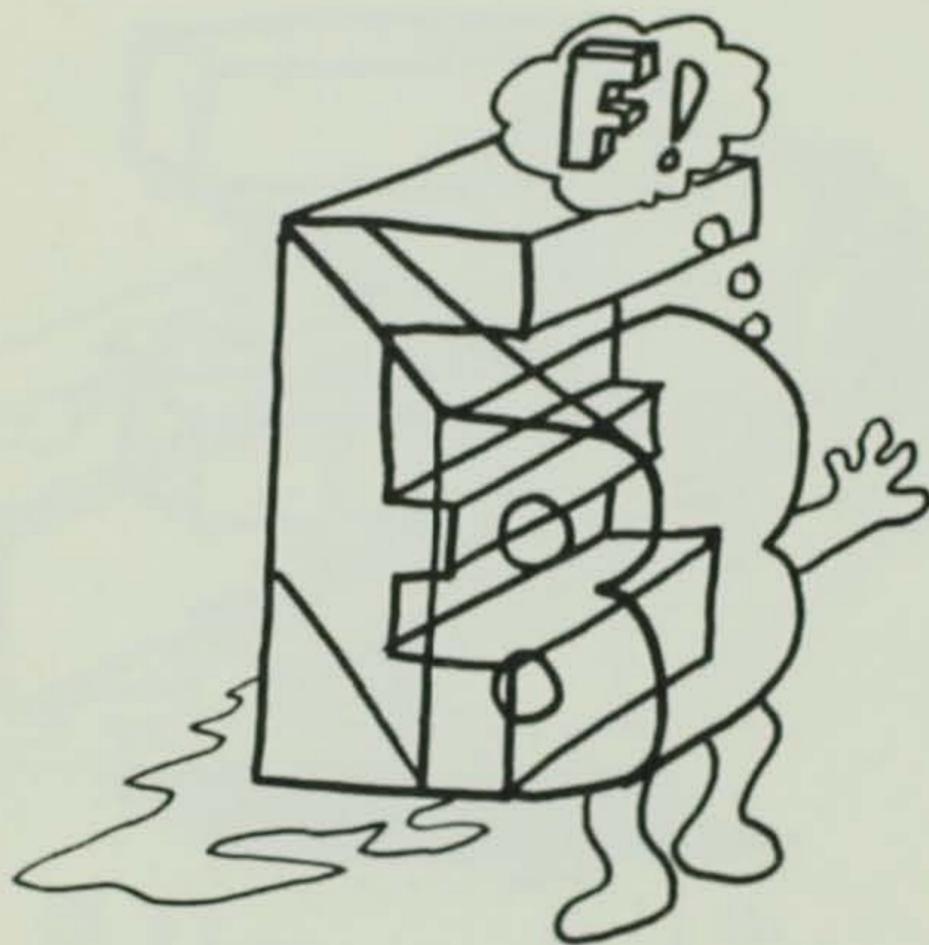
Allegory # 13



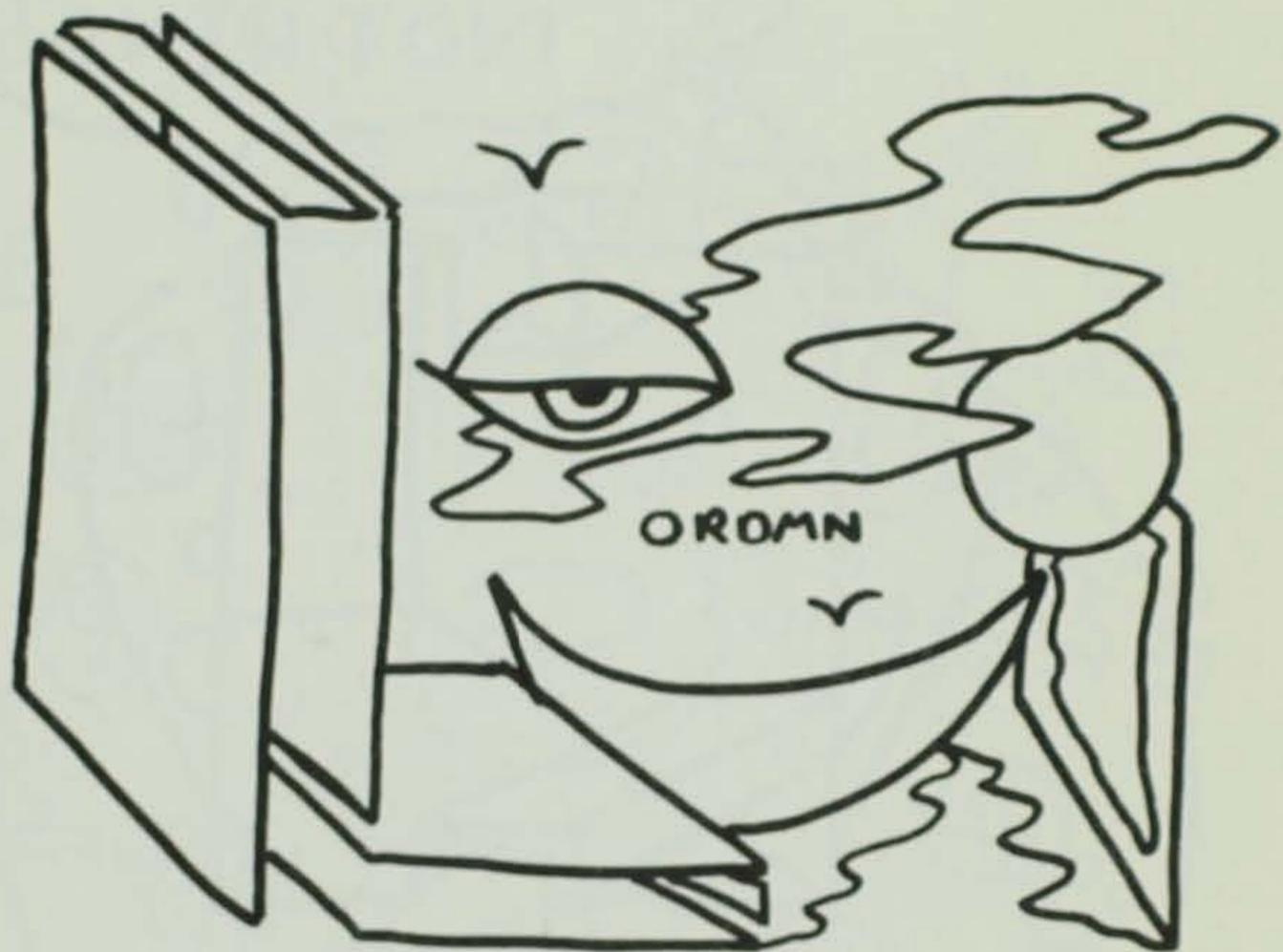
Allegory # 14



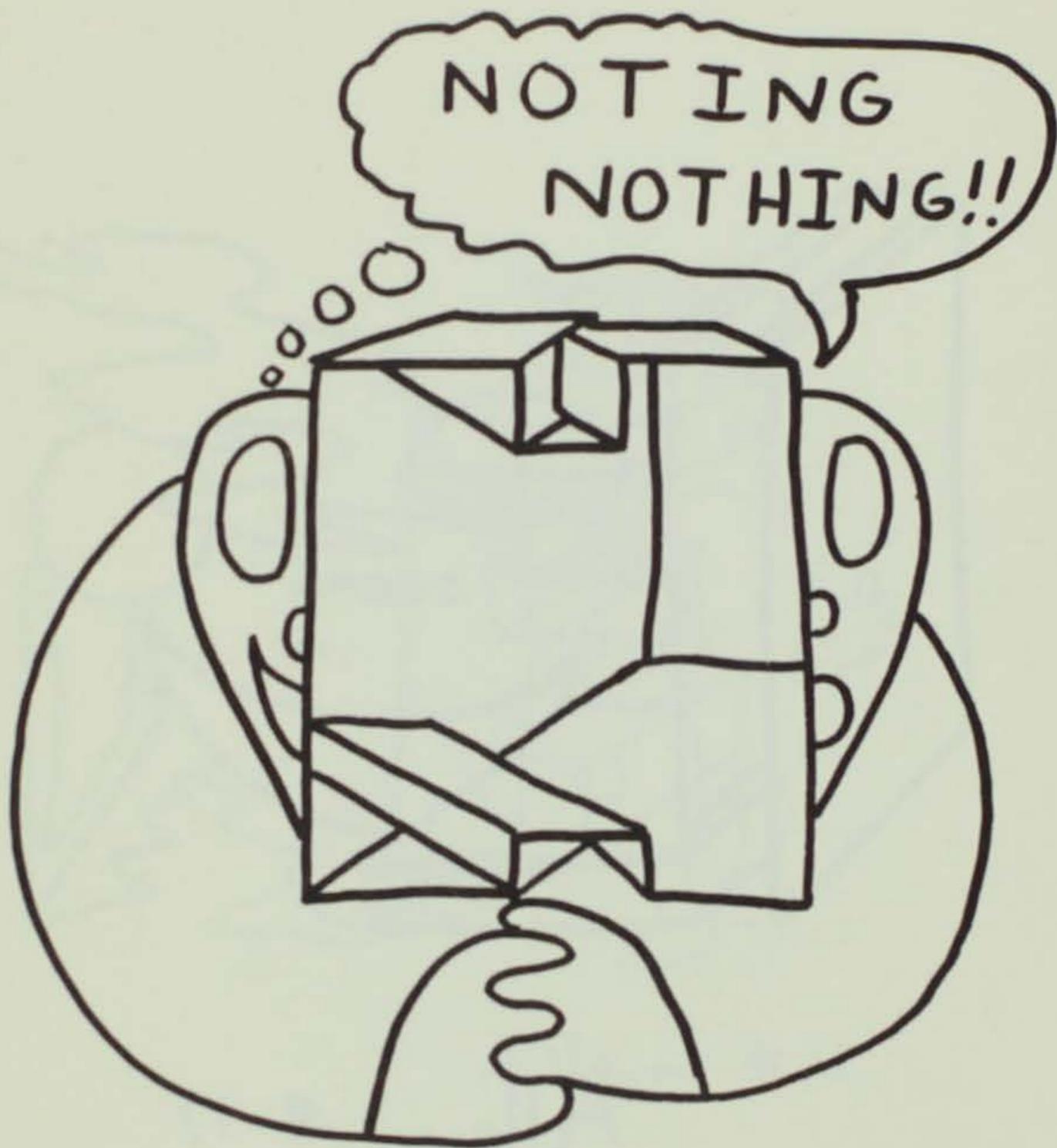
All egory # 15



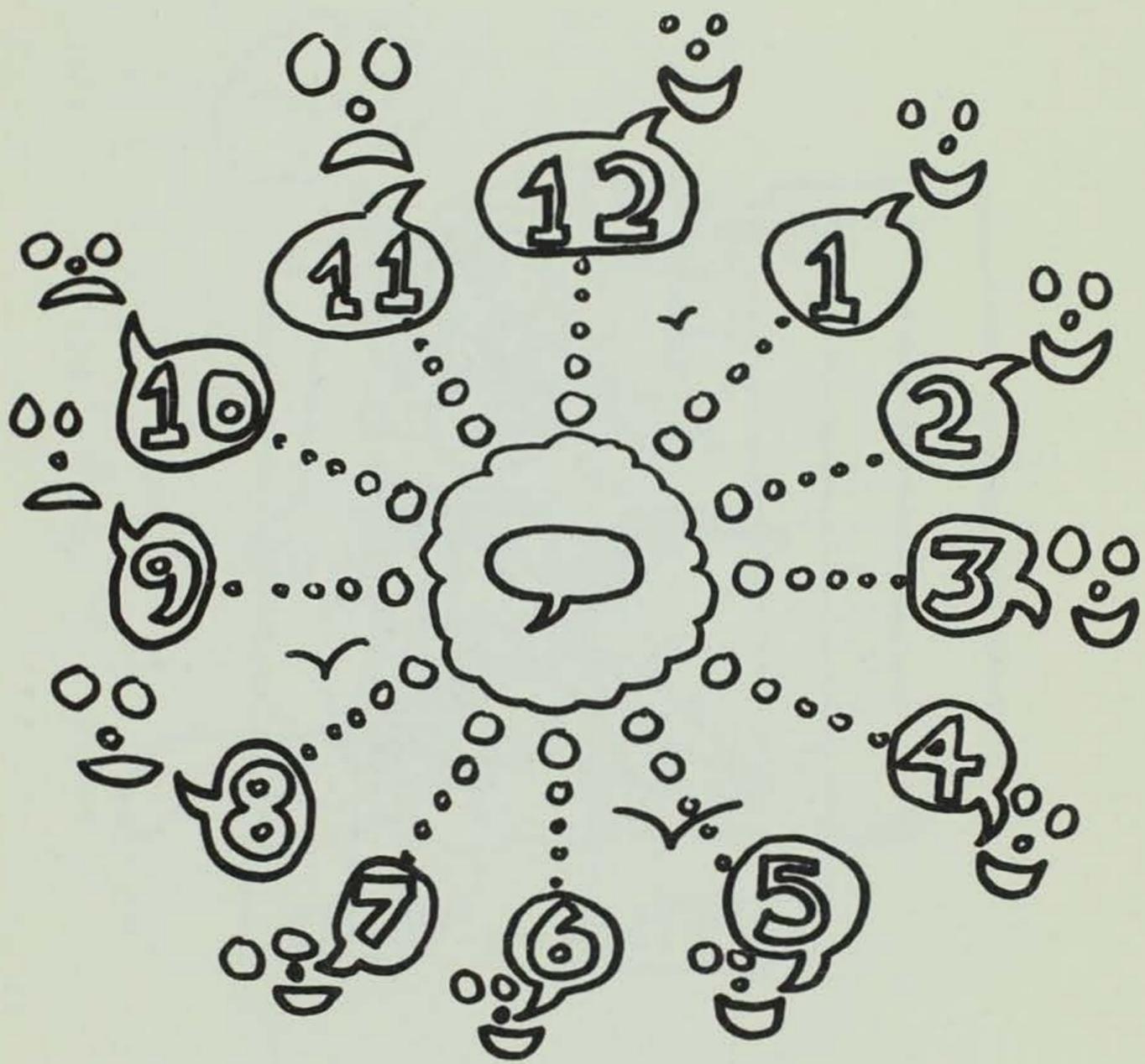
Allegory # 16



Allegory # 17



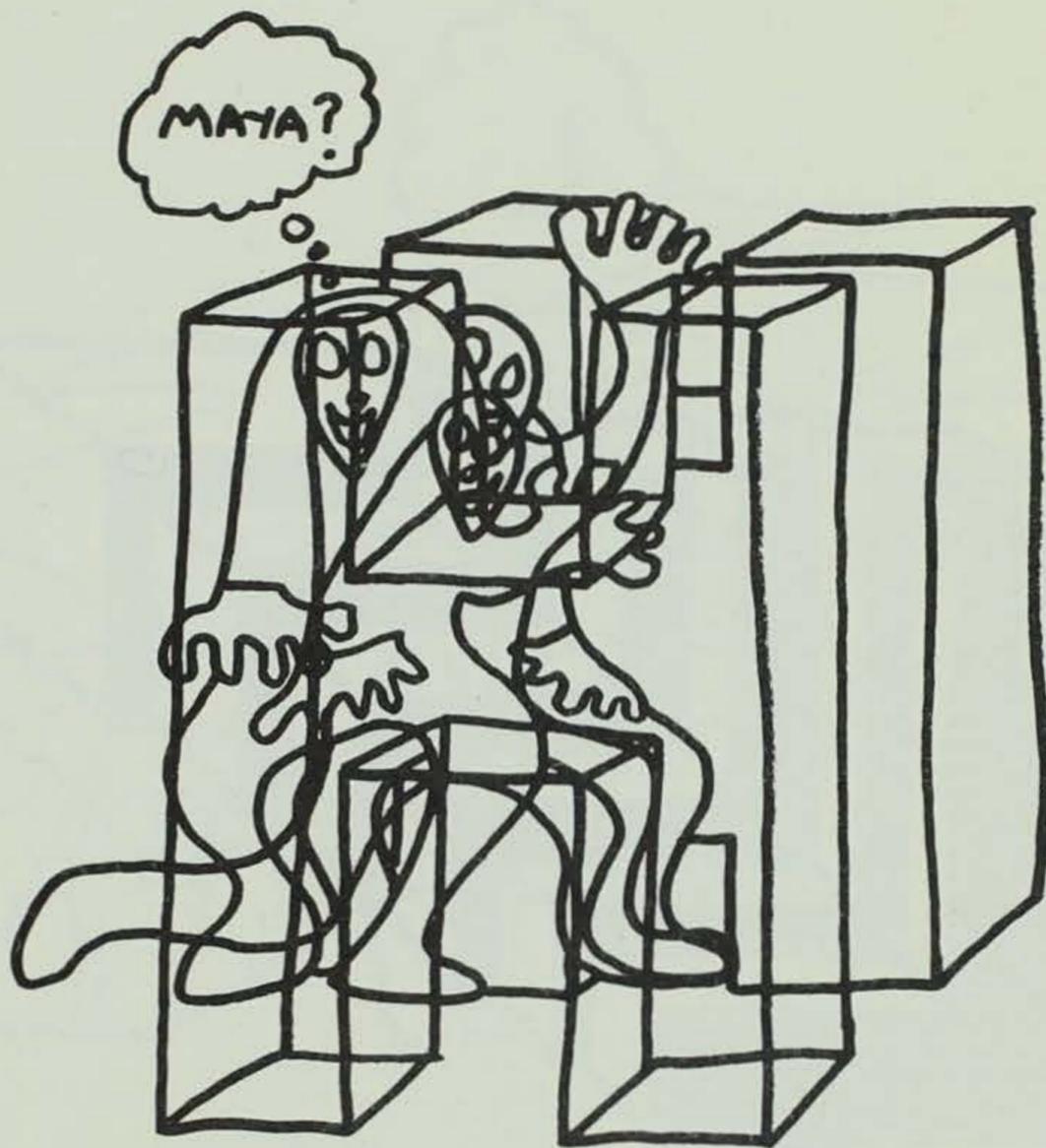
Allegory #18



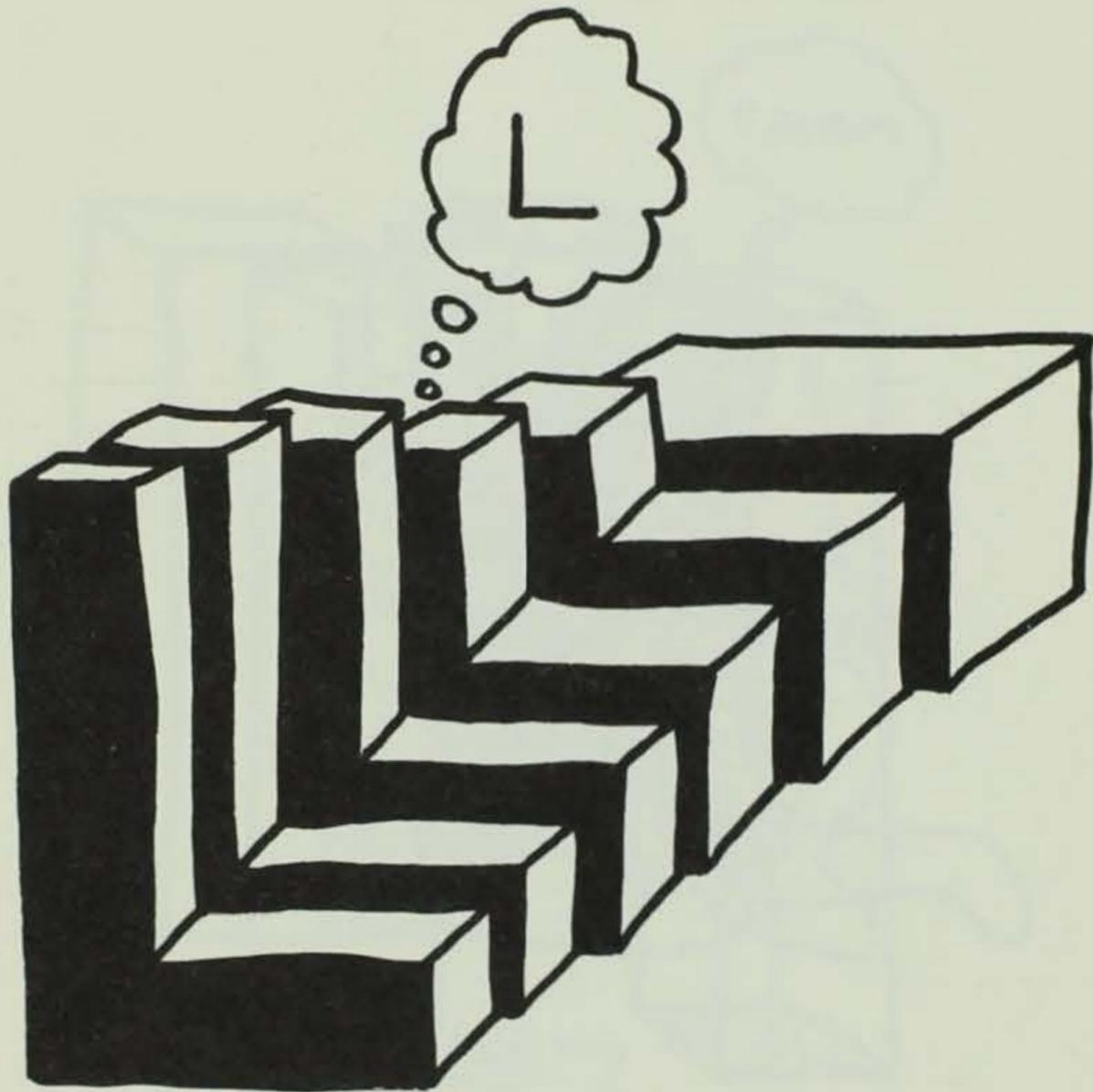
Allegory # 19



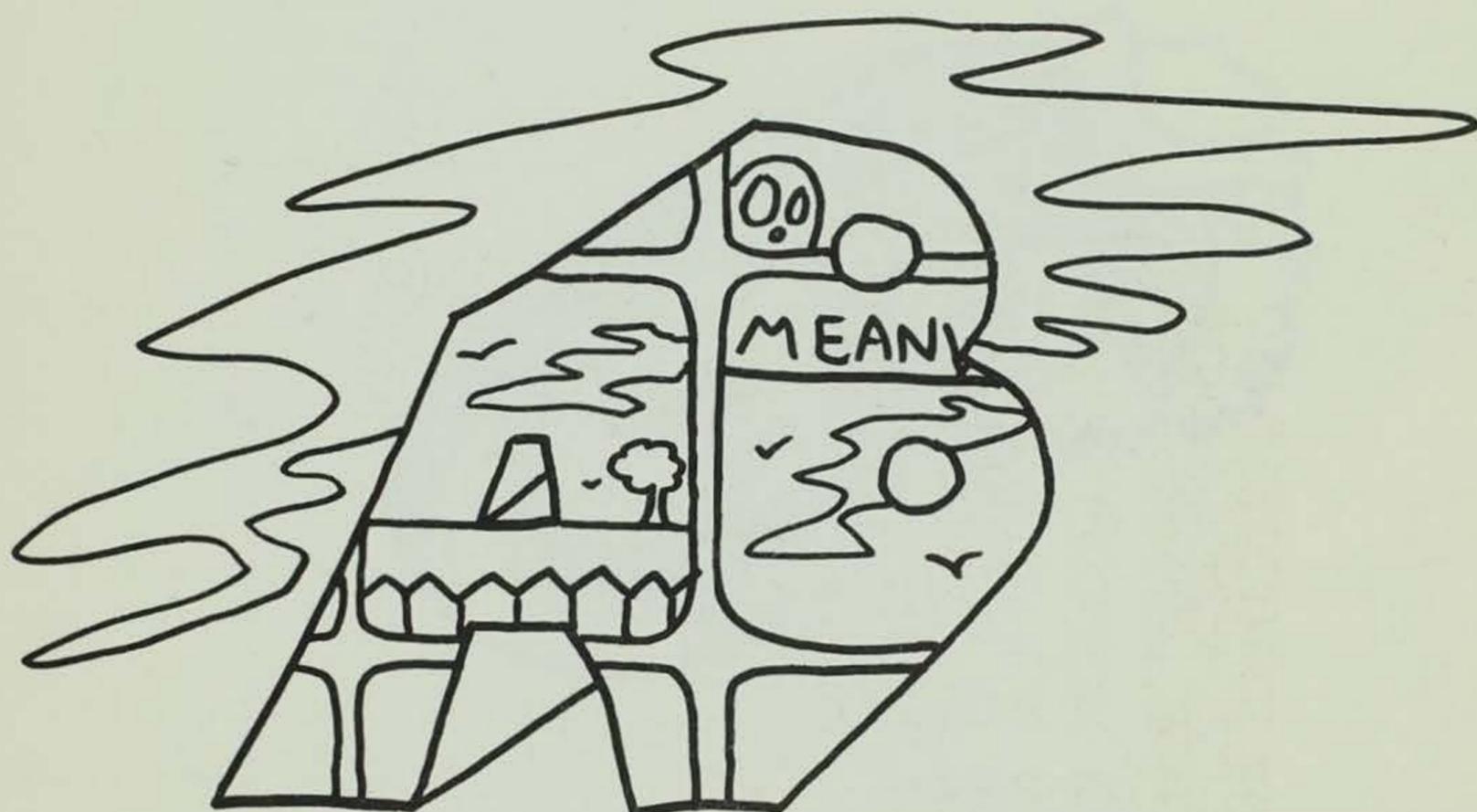
Allegory # 20



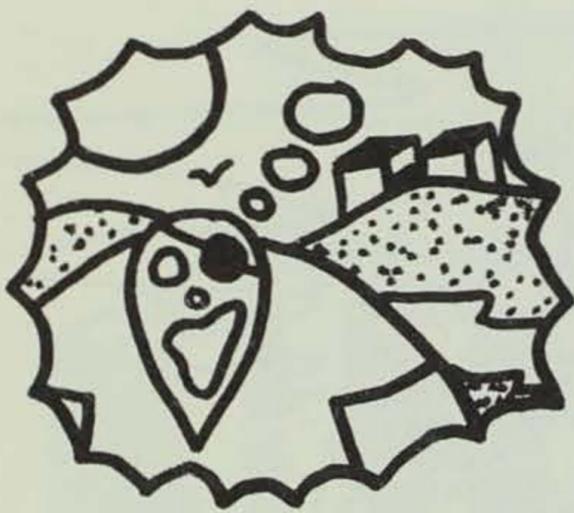
Allegory # 21



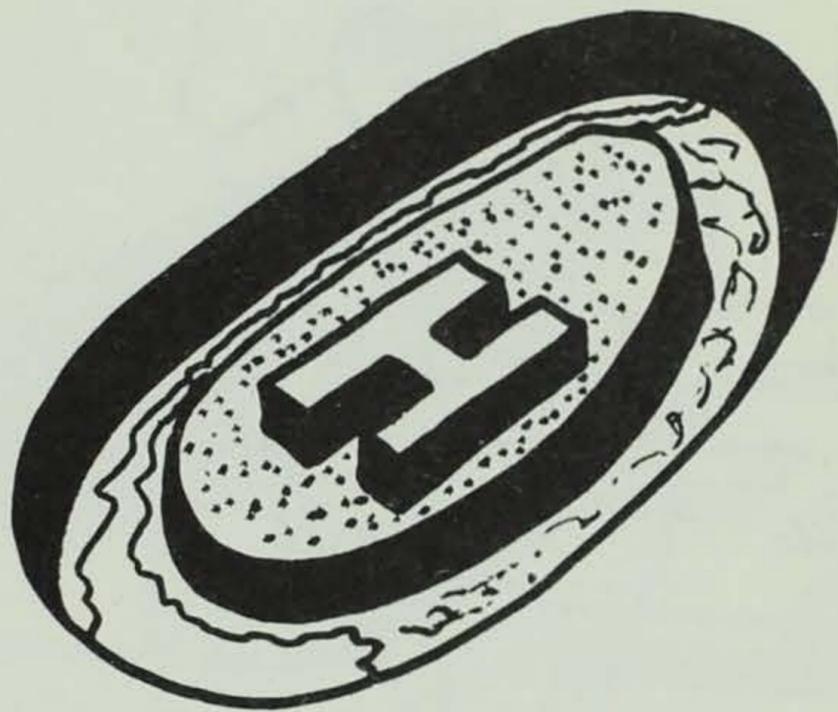
Allegory # 22



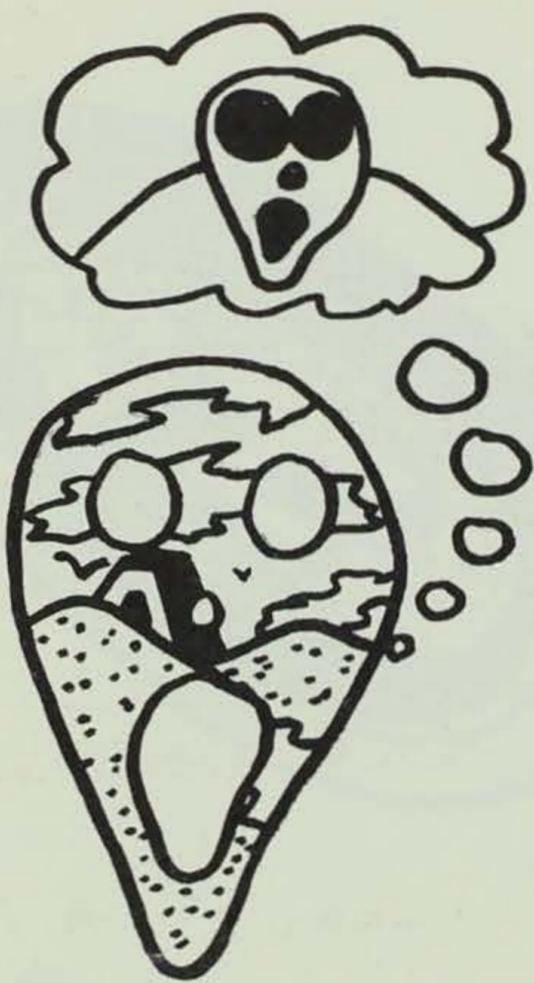
Allegory # 23



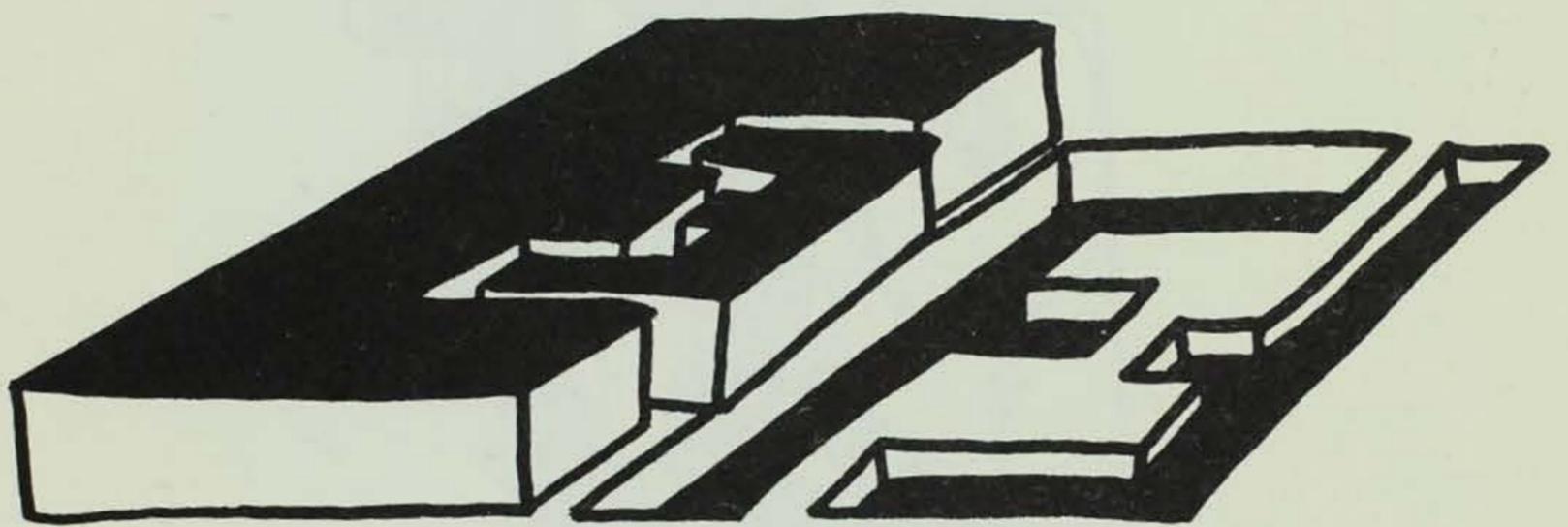
Allegory #24



Allegory # 25



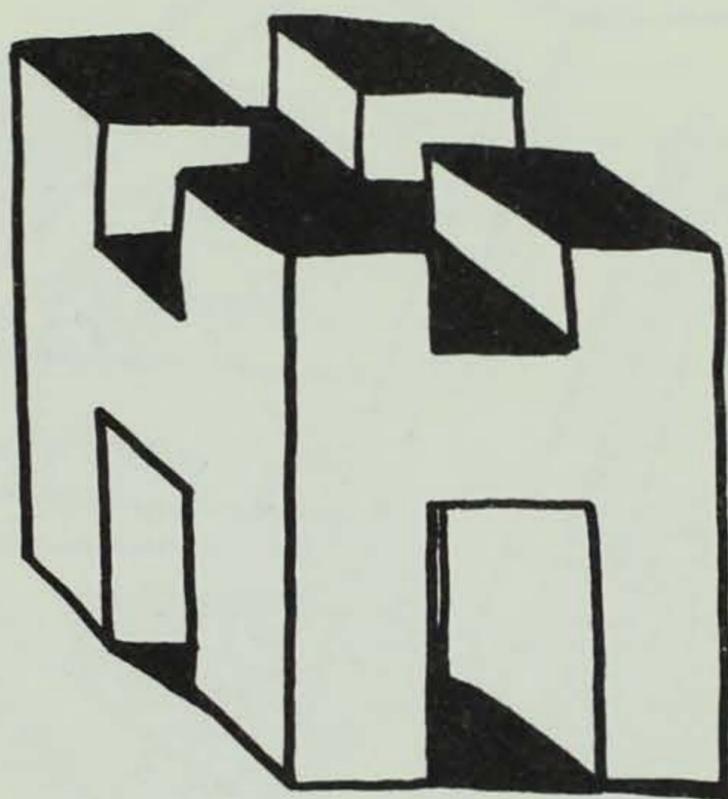
Allegory # 26



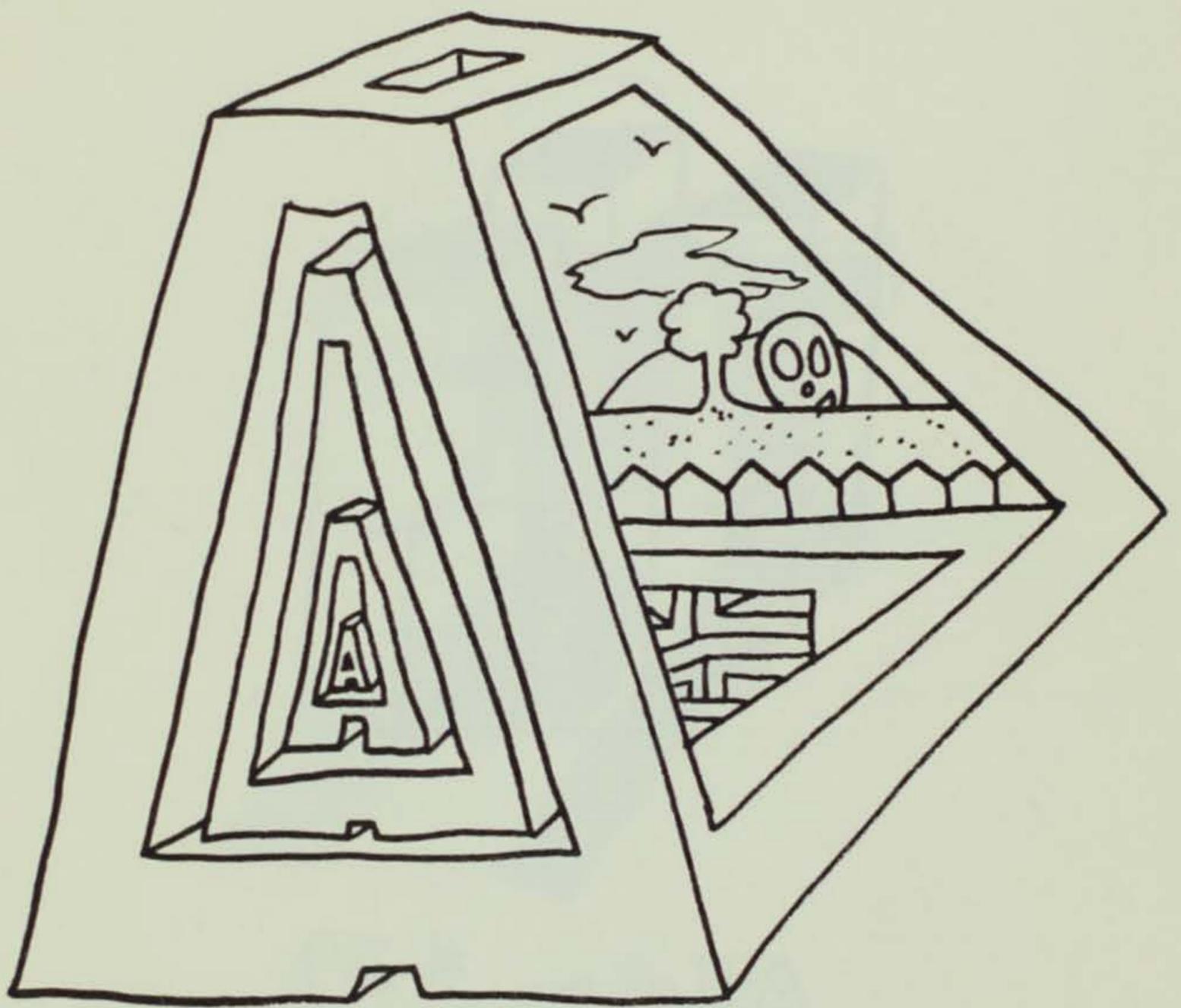
Allegory # 27



Allegory # 28



Allegory # 29



Allegory # 30



Allegory #31



Allegory # 32

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