

# WHICH TREE... IS ME?

A light self-analysis activity that enables students to reflect on their own character traits by seeing the parallels alluded to in descriptions of the different kinds of trees.

## **Option #1: Walk-Around**

Hang each 8x10 captioned picture in a different location around the room. Students walk around holding their stack of Traits. As they pass each paper, they stick on a Trait that they think matches the 'tree parable' trait displayed. There can be a few different ones for each paper. At the end of the allotted time, collect all the papers and facilitate reflective conversation.





















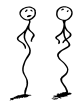



## **Option #2: Partner Match-Up**

Each pair of partners receives a Which Tree is Me paper along with a stack of Trait cards. Together, they analyze the tree parables and match up the corresponding Traits.

## **Includes**

Student Handout  
Tree Posters  
Trait Cards  
Growth Cards

# WHICH TREE... IS ME?

|  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD,<br>THERE IS A LARGE FOREST.                                    |    | THERE ARE SOME TREES WITH<br>VERY SHARP BRANCHES<br>THAT CAN SCRATCH OTHERS. |    |
| AND IN THIS FOREST, MANY<br>DIFFERENT TYPES OF<br>TREES GROW.                          |    | AND SOME TREES WITH<br>SOFT BARK THAT GET EASILY<br>SCRATCHED.               |    |
| LARGE TREES, SMALL TREES,<br>AND ALL KINDS OF<br>IN-BETWEEN TREES.                     |    | SOME TREES ARE HIDDEN<br>OFF TO THE SIDE, AMONG<br>THE ROCKS AND BUSHES.     |    |
| THERE ARE SOME THAT<br>GROW TO TOWERING<br>HEIGHTS.                                    |    | OTHERS ARE FOUND<br>FRONT AND CENTER, RIGHT<br>IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST.  |    |
| AND OTHERS THAT<br>CROUCH DOWN LOW.  |    | EACH SEASON ANEW,<br>THE TREES WAKE UP TO<br>TRY AND FIND NOURISHMENT.       |    |
| THERE ARE SOME<br>TREES THAT LIKE TO<br>GROW ALONE.                                    |  | SOME WILL FIND IT IN<br>THE WINTER, AND OTHERS<br>IN THE SUMMER.             |   |
| AND OTHERS THAT GROW<br>TOGETHER, IN CLUSTERS<br>AND GROUPS.                           |  | SOME TREES EAT ALONE<br>AND DON'T LIKE TO SHARE.                             |  |
| SOME TREES GIVE SHADE.   |  | OTHERS ENJOY THEIR FOOD<br>AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS.                         |  |
| AND SOME TREES NEED<br>TO RECEIVE SHADE FROM<br>OTHERS IN ORDER TO GROW.               |  | AND SOME JUST GO HUNGRY.   |  |
| THERE ARE SOME THAT<br>PRODUCE FRUITS AND<br>SOME THAT RUSTLE THEIR<br>LEAVES NOISILY. |  | SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD,<br>THERE IS A LARGE FOREST.                          |  |
| SOME TREES HAVE<br>GNARLED, TWISTED TRUNKS.  |  | AND IF, ONE DAY, YOU<br>SHOULD HAPPEN UPON IT...                             |  |
| AND OTHERS GROW<br>STRAIGHT AND TRUE.  |  | LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE<br>GENTLE RUSTLING OF<br>THE LEAVES,                 |  |

my strengths

my areas for growth

the

FIRST STEP  
FORWARD  
IS INWARD

ראשית לכל מלחמה היא:  
הכר את עצמך (רבי איזיק שר)

my strengths

my areas for growth

the

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my strengths

my areas for growth

the

FIRST STEP  
FORWARD  
IS INWARD

ראשית לכל מלחמה היא:  
הכר את עצמך (רבי איזיק שר)

confident

ambitious

shy

humble

independent

private

social

cooperative

protective

caring

dependent

sensitive

generous

productive

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| complex      | resilient   |
| honest       | dependable  |
| defensive    | aggressive  |
| sensitive    | empathetic  |
| bold         | charismatic |
| resilient    | adaptable   |
| self-focused | private     |

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| leader       | outgoing           |
| introverted  | cautious           |
| self-reliant | introverted        |
| friendly     | community-oriented |
| nurturing    | generous           |
| vulnerable   | adaptable          |
| giving       | accomplished       |

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| experienced | troubled        |
| disciplined | straightforward |
| critical    | assertive       |
| gentle      | vulnerable      |
| outgoing    | prominent       |
| persistent  | hopeful         |
| independent | possessive      |

competitive

selfish

patient

overlooked

opportunistic

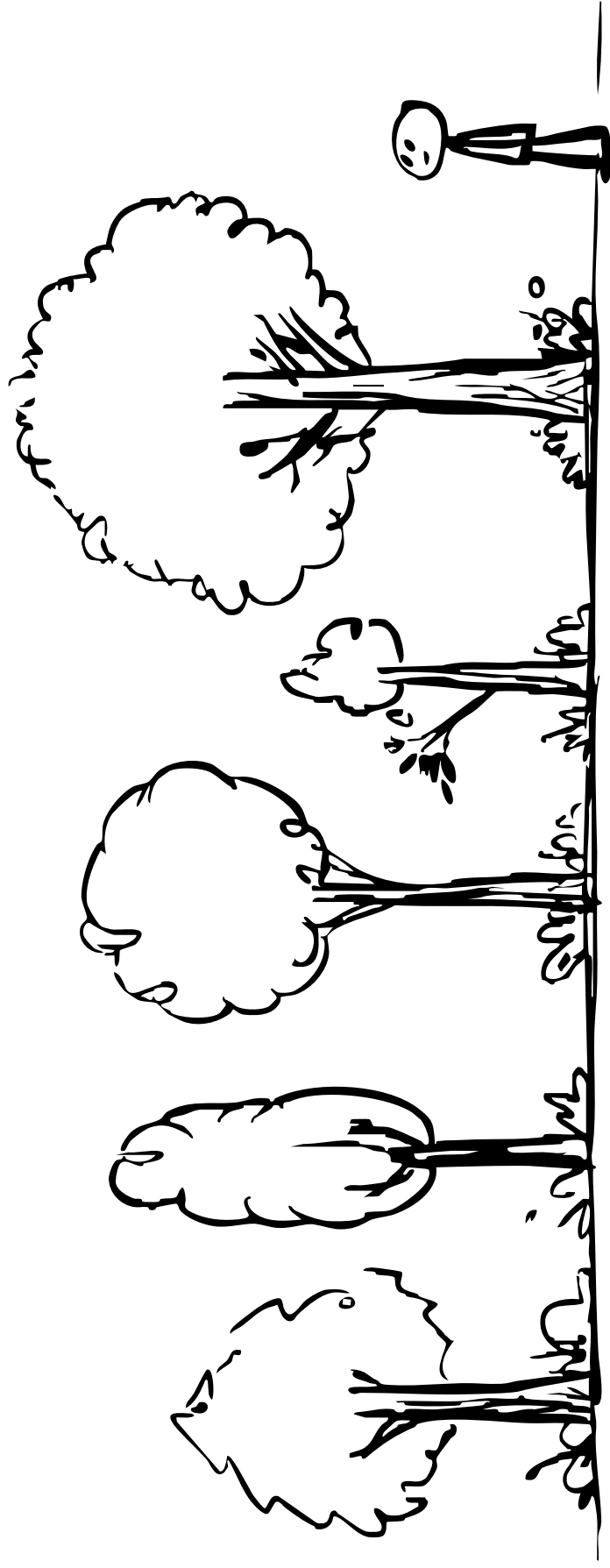
cunning

neglected

unlucky



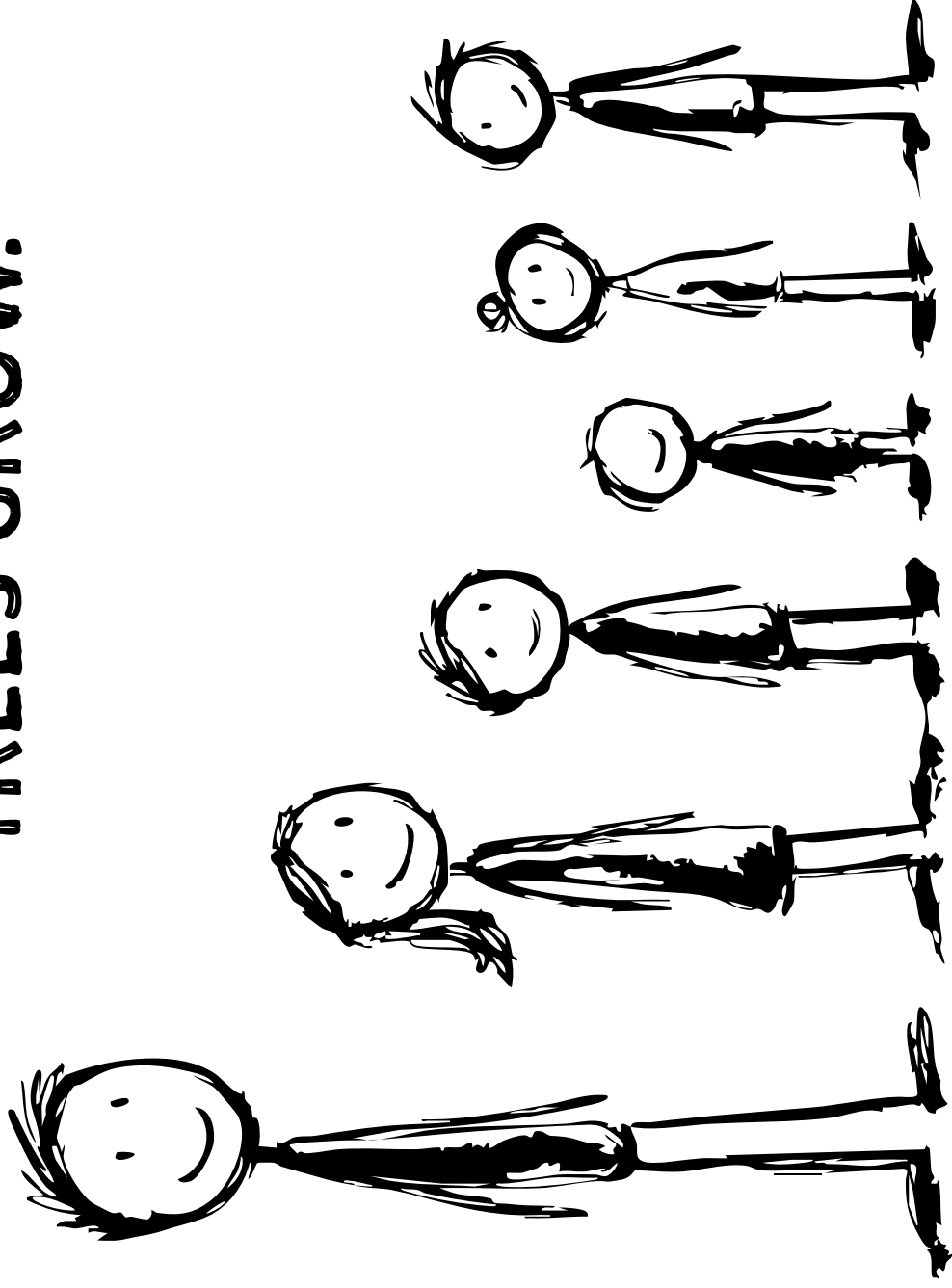
# WHICH TREE... IS ME?



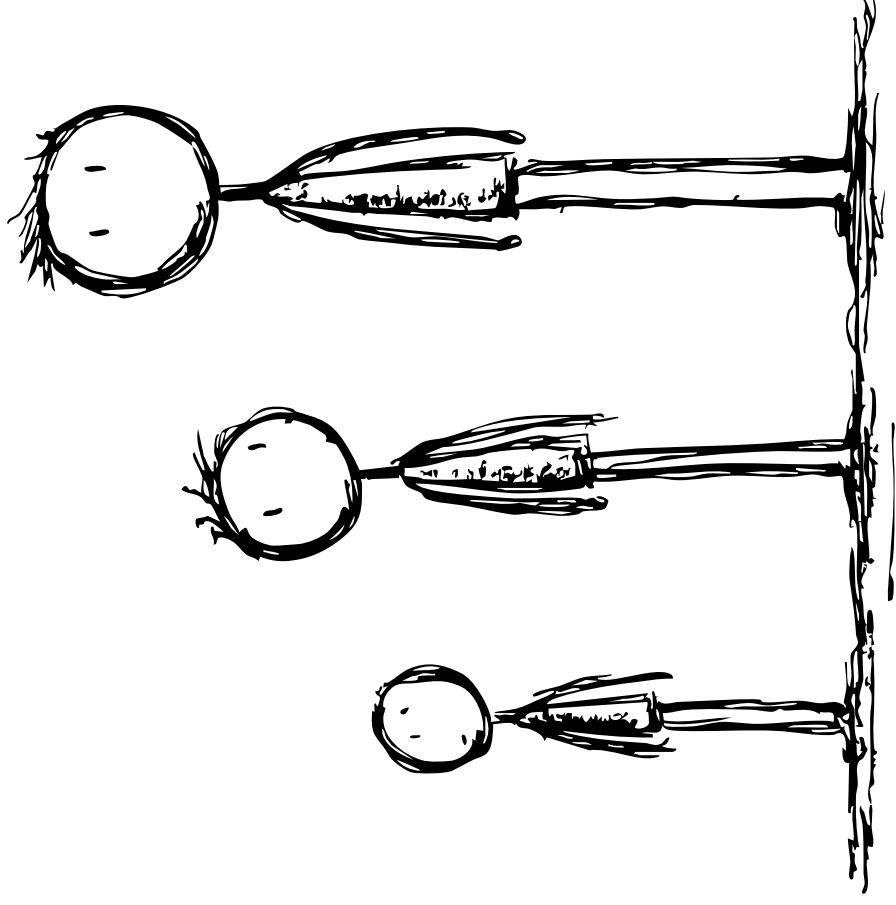
**SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD,  
THERE IS A LARGE FOREST.**



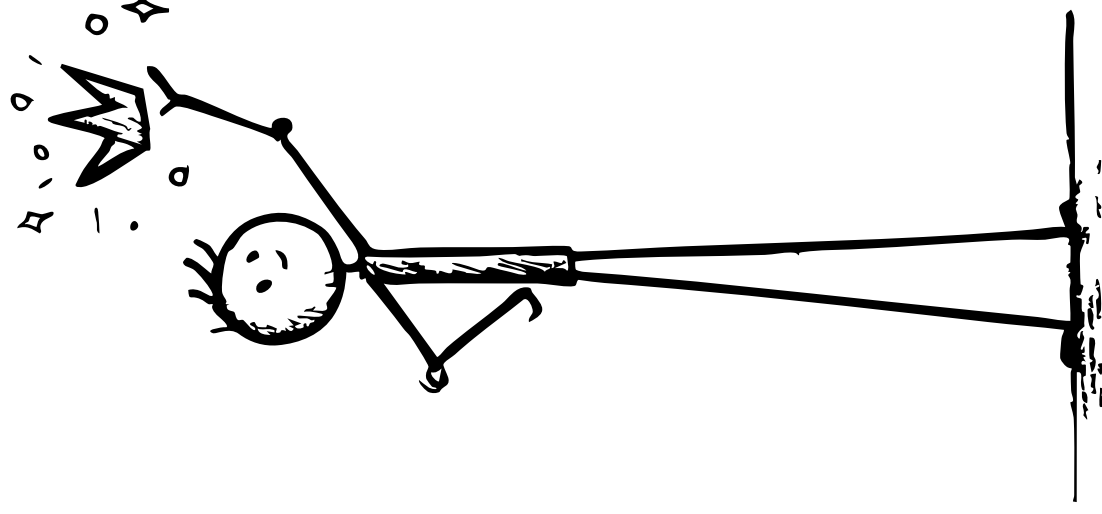
**AND IN THIS FOREST,  
MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF  
TREES GROW.**



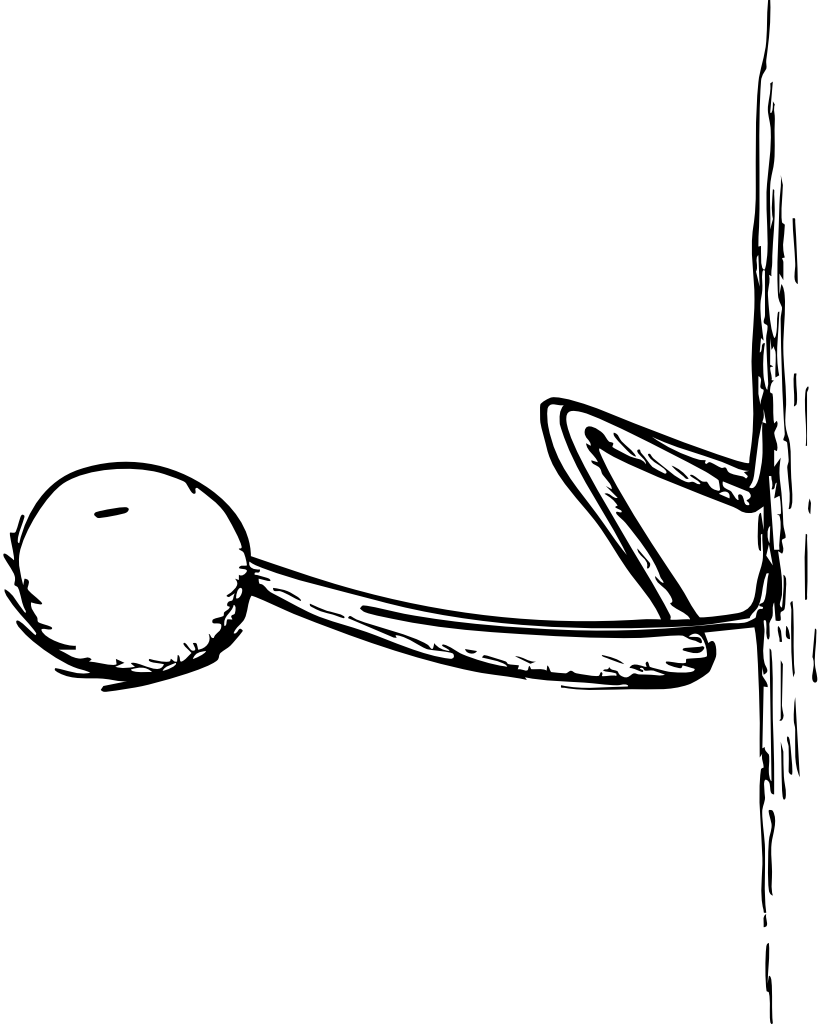
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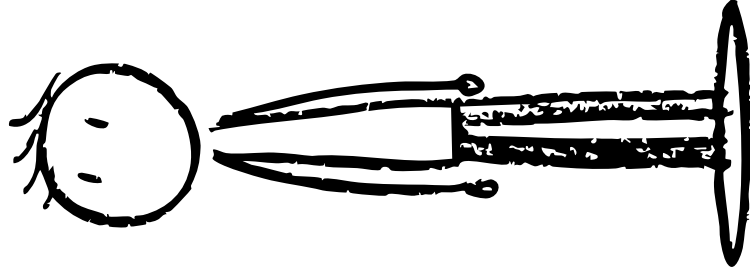
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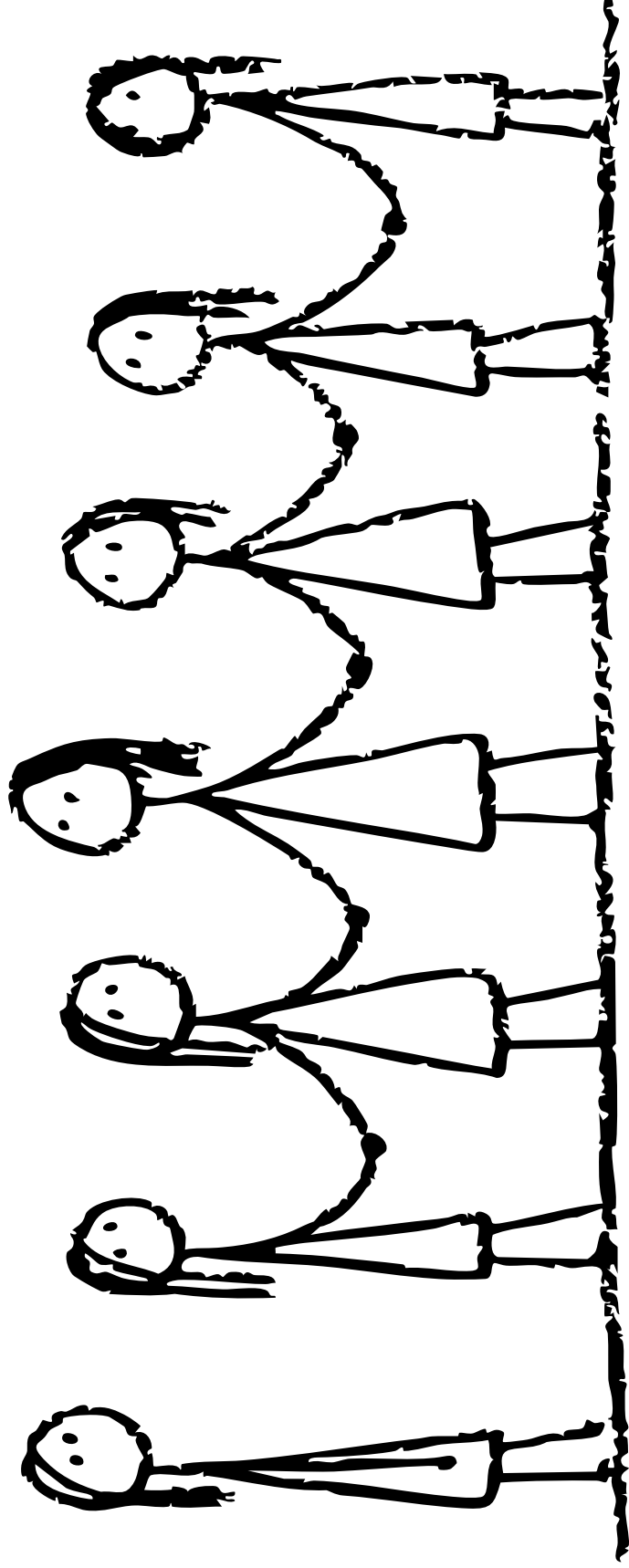
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**THERE ARE SOME TREES  
THAT LIKE TO GROW ALONE.**

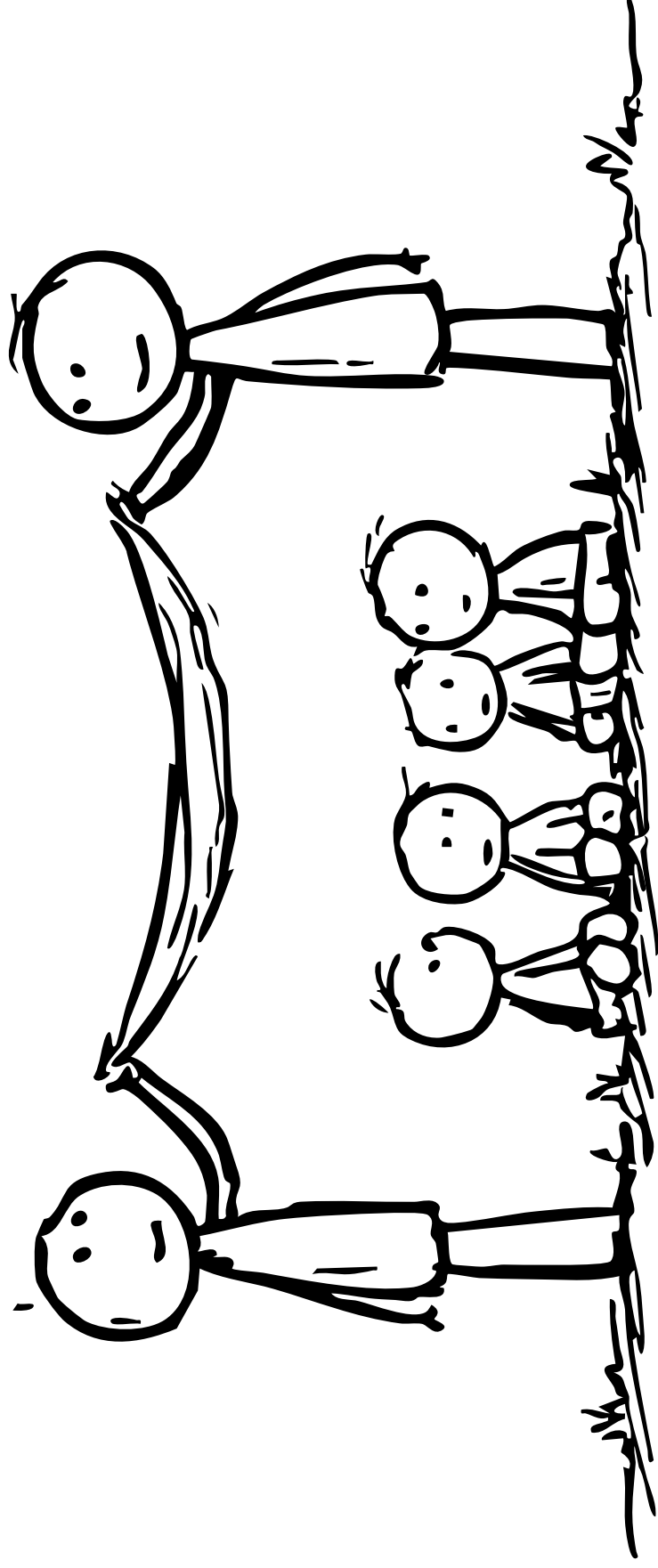


**AND OTHERS THAT GROW TOGETHER,  
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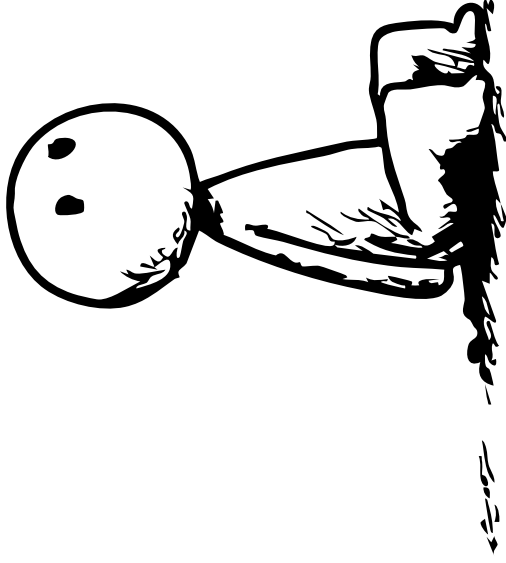




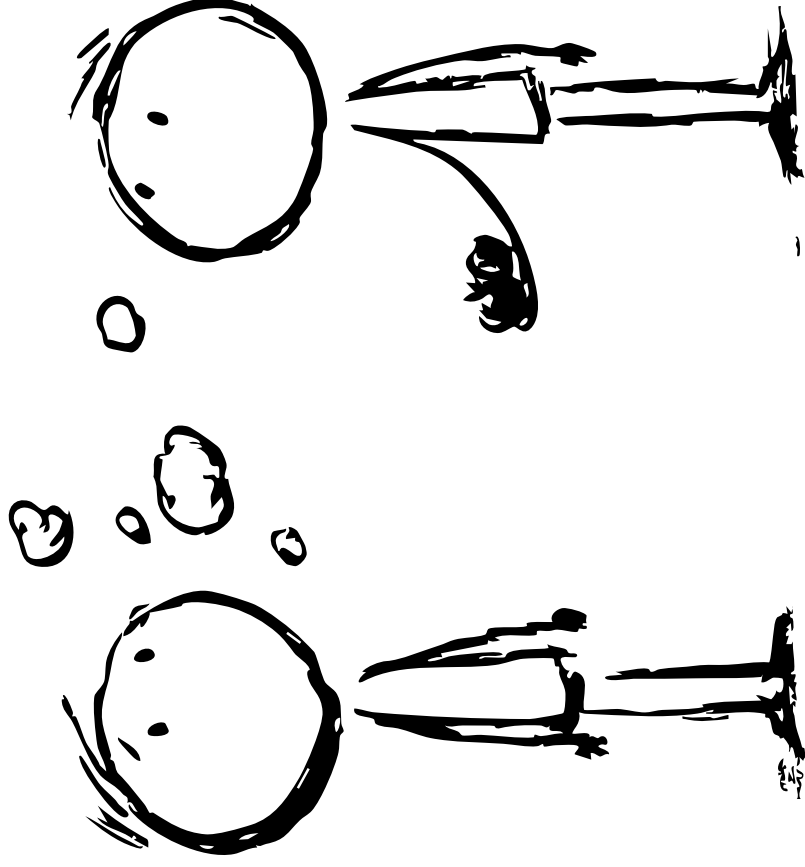
**SOME TREES GIVE SHADE.**



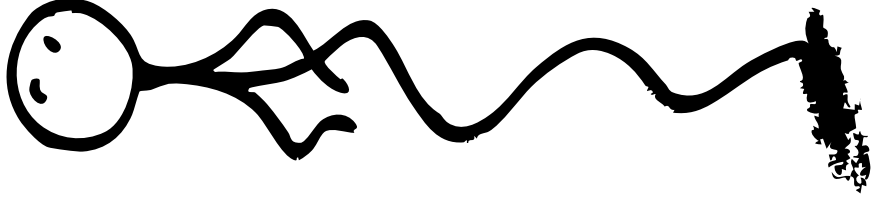
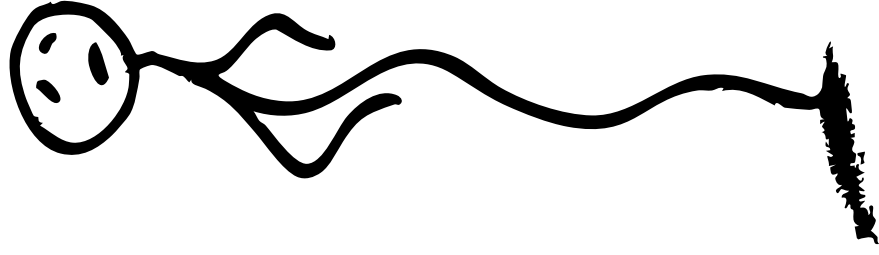
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ORDER TO GROW.**



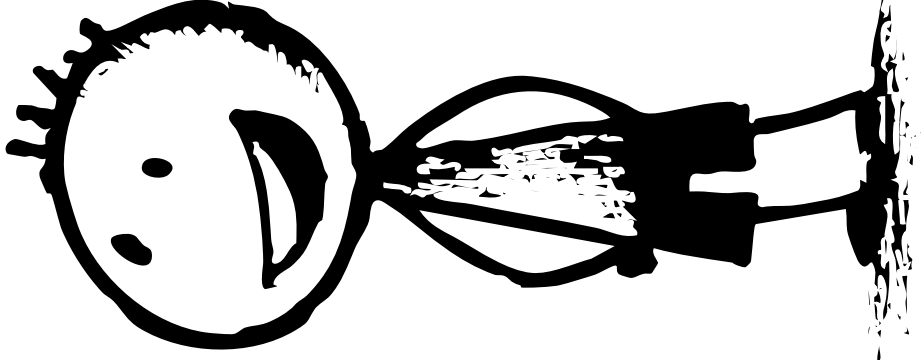
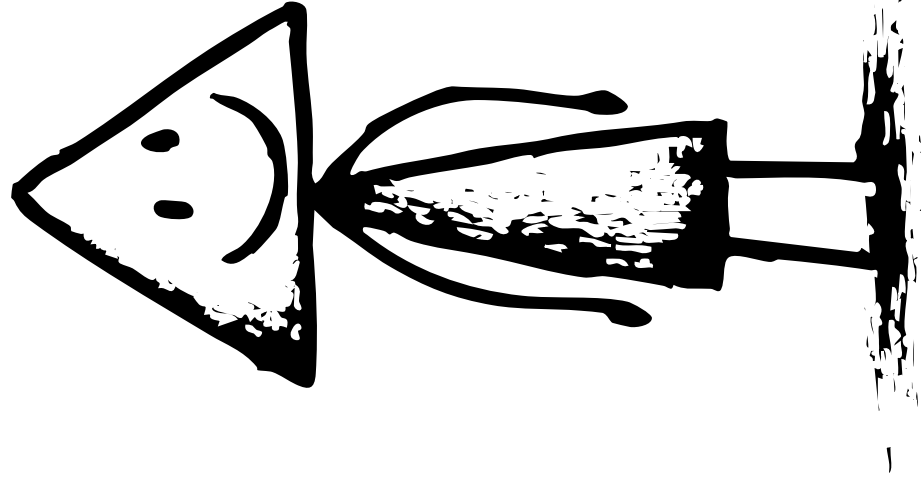
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PRODUCE FRUITS AND SOME  
THAT RUSTLE THEIR LEAVES NOISILY.**



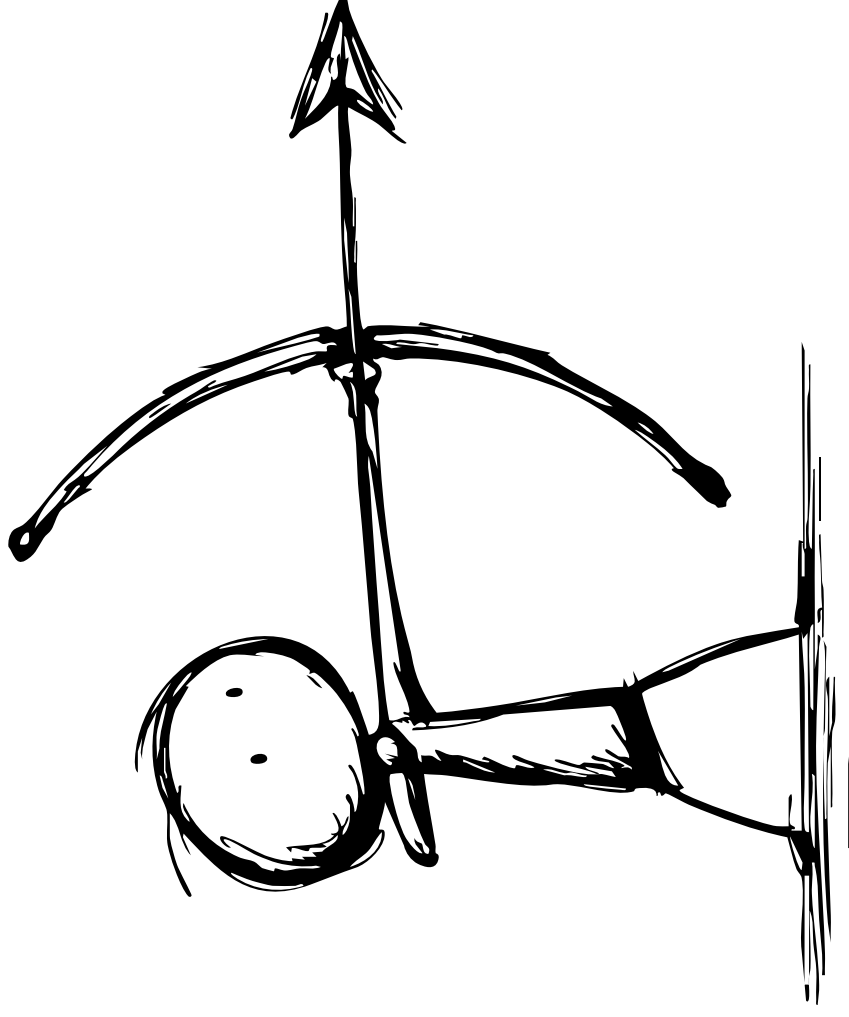
**SOME TREES HAVE GNARLED,  
TWISTED TRUNKS.**



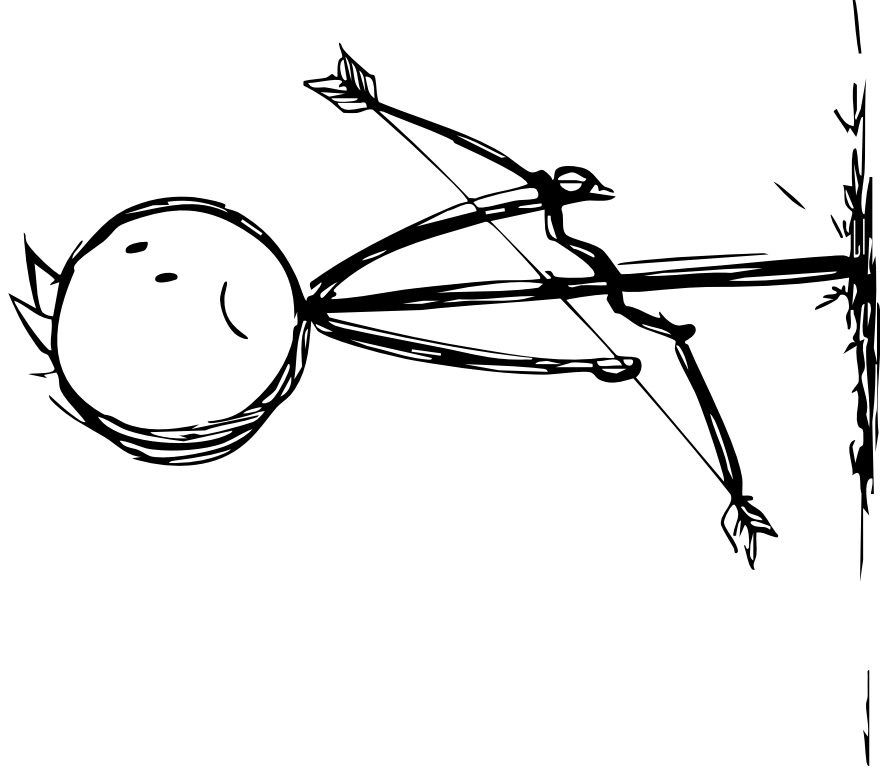
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STRAIGHT AND TRUE.**



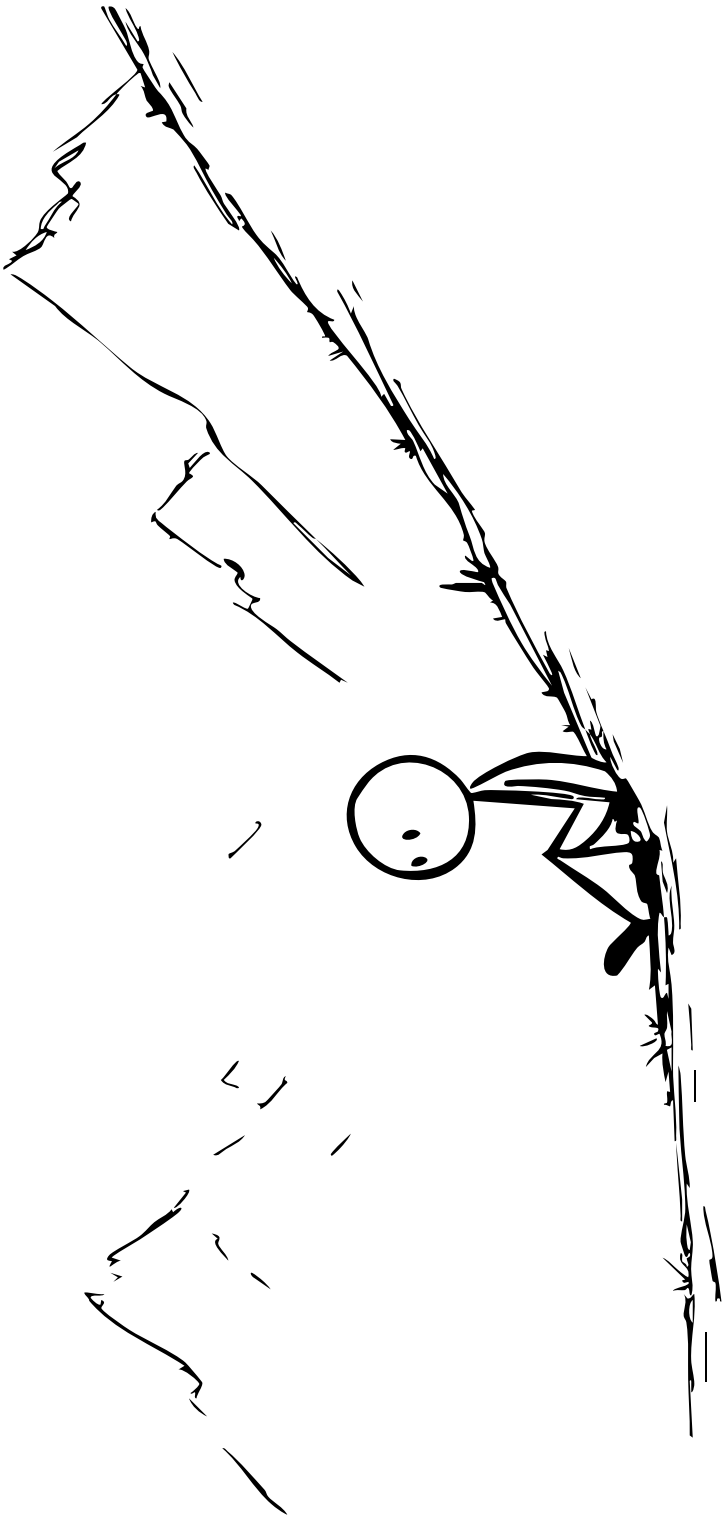
**THERE ARE SOME TREES  
WITH VERY SHARP BRANCHES  
THAT CAN SCRATCH OTHERS.**



**AND SOME TREES WITH  
SOFT BARK THAT GET  
EASILY SCRATCHED.**

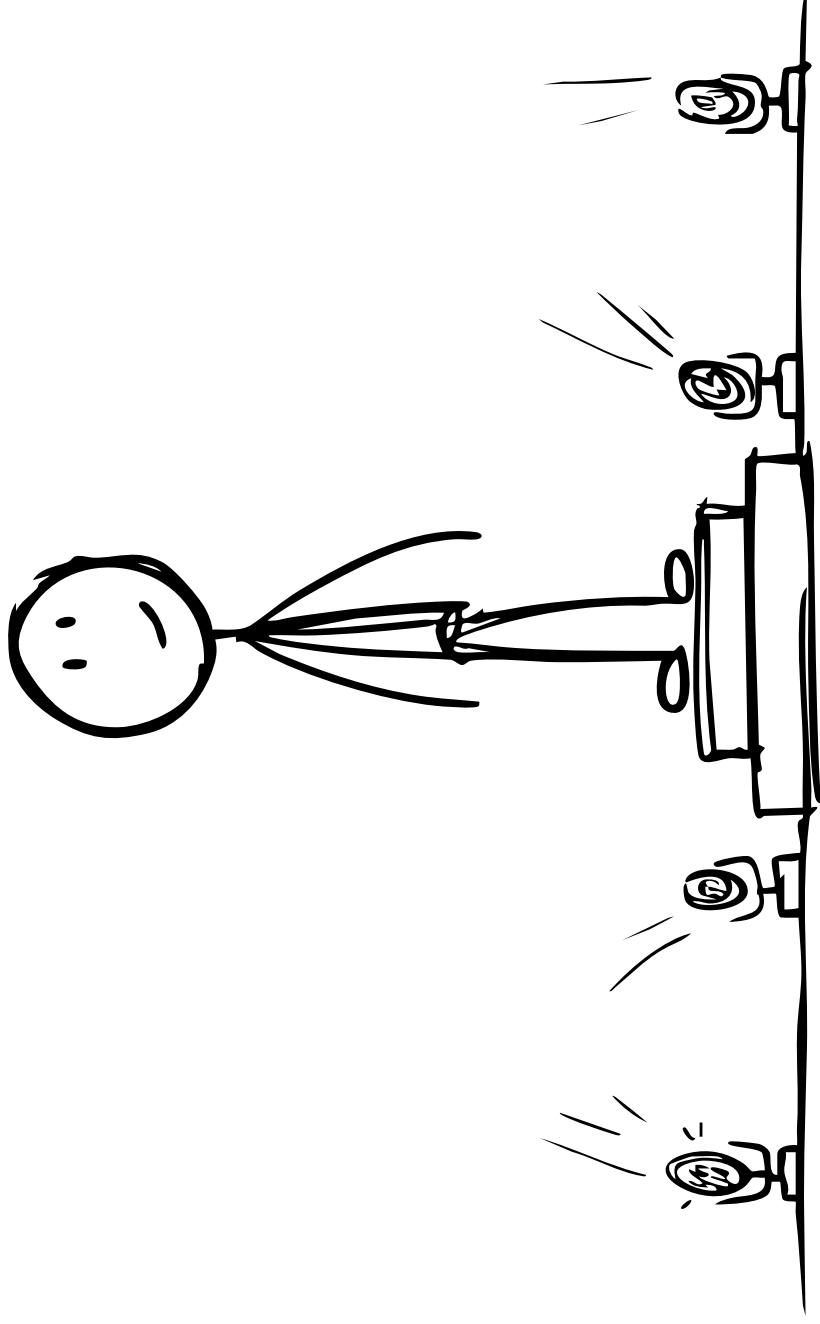


**SOME TREES ARE HIDDEN OFF  
TO THE SIDE, AMONG THE ROCKS  
AND BUSHES.**

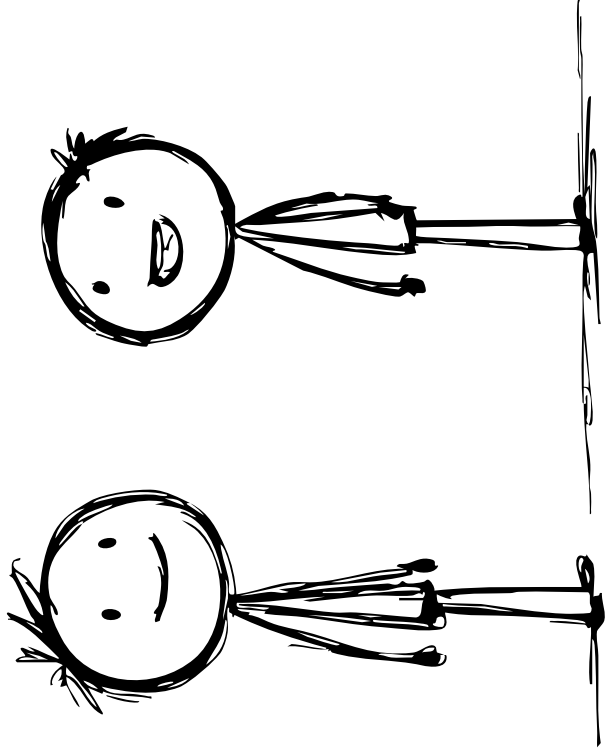




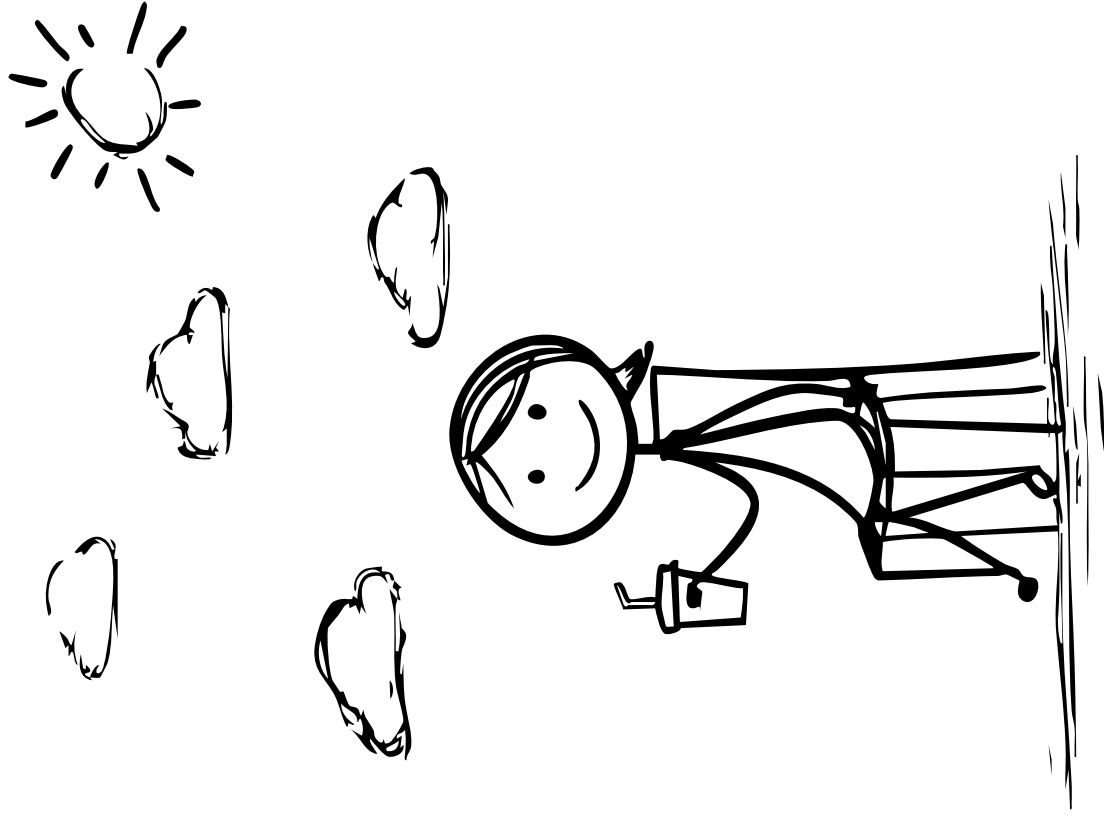
**OTHERS ARE FOUND FRONT  
AND CENTER, RIGHT IN THE  
MIDDLE OF THE FOREST.**



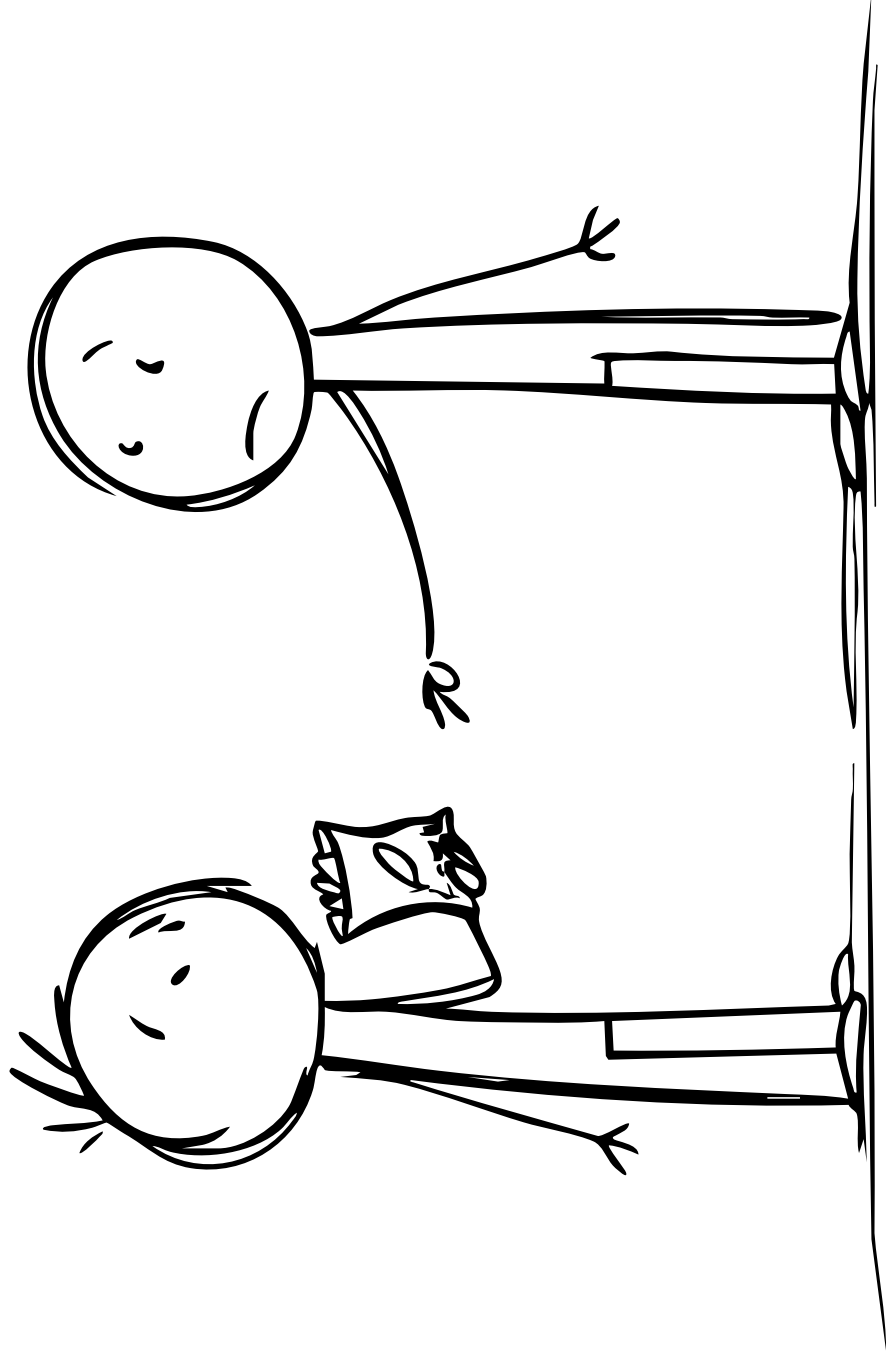
**EACH SEASON ANEW, THE TREES  
WAKE UP TO TRY AND  
FIND NOURISHMENT.**



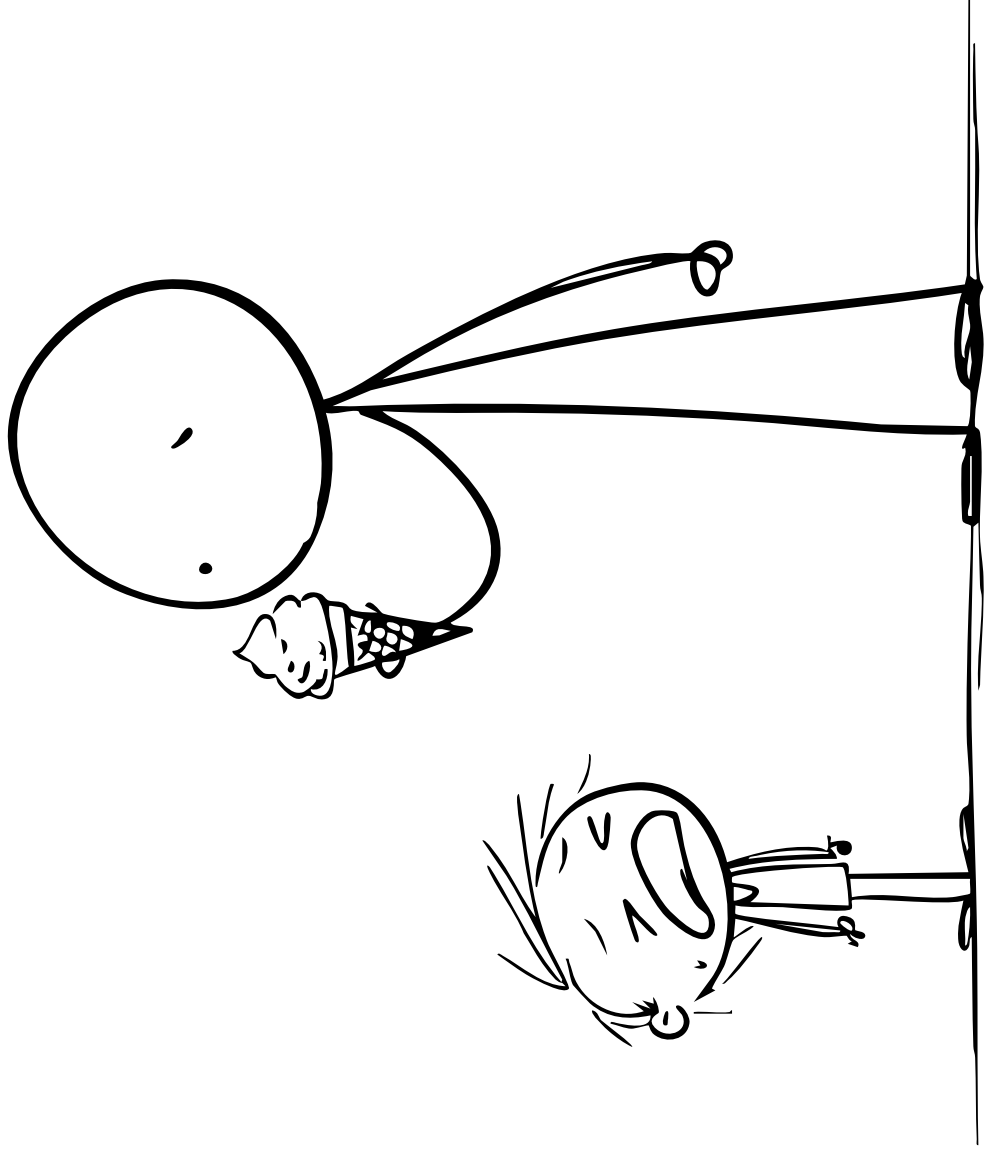
**SOME WILL FIND IT IN THE WINTER,  
AND OTHERS IN THE SUMMER.**



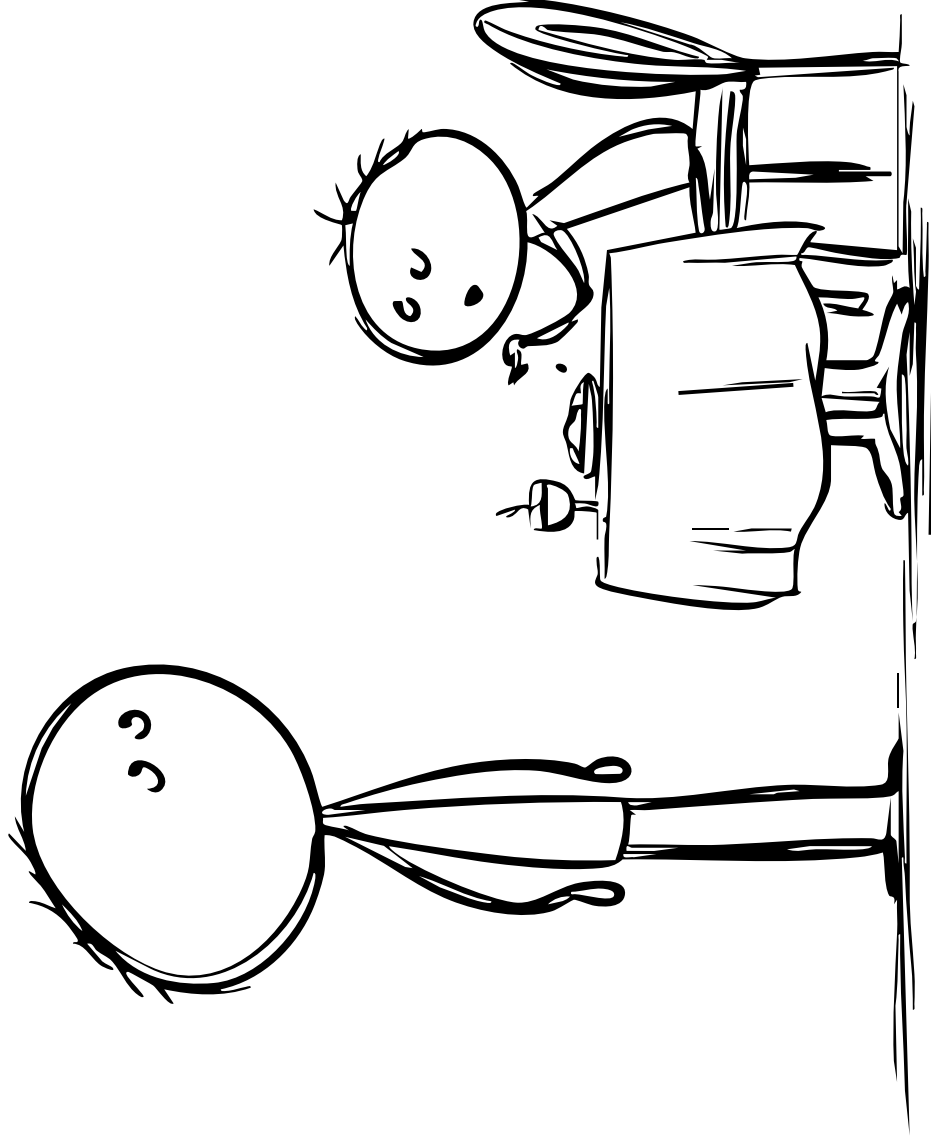
**SOME TREES EAT ALONE  
AND DON'T LIKE TO SHARE.**



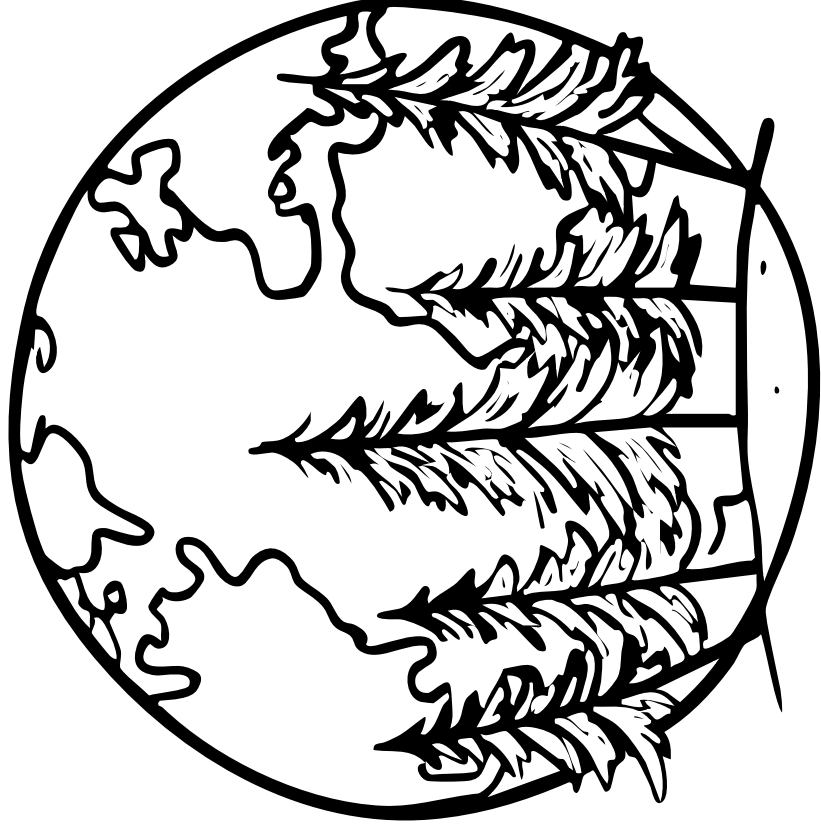
**OTHERS ENJOY THEIR FOOD  
AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS.**



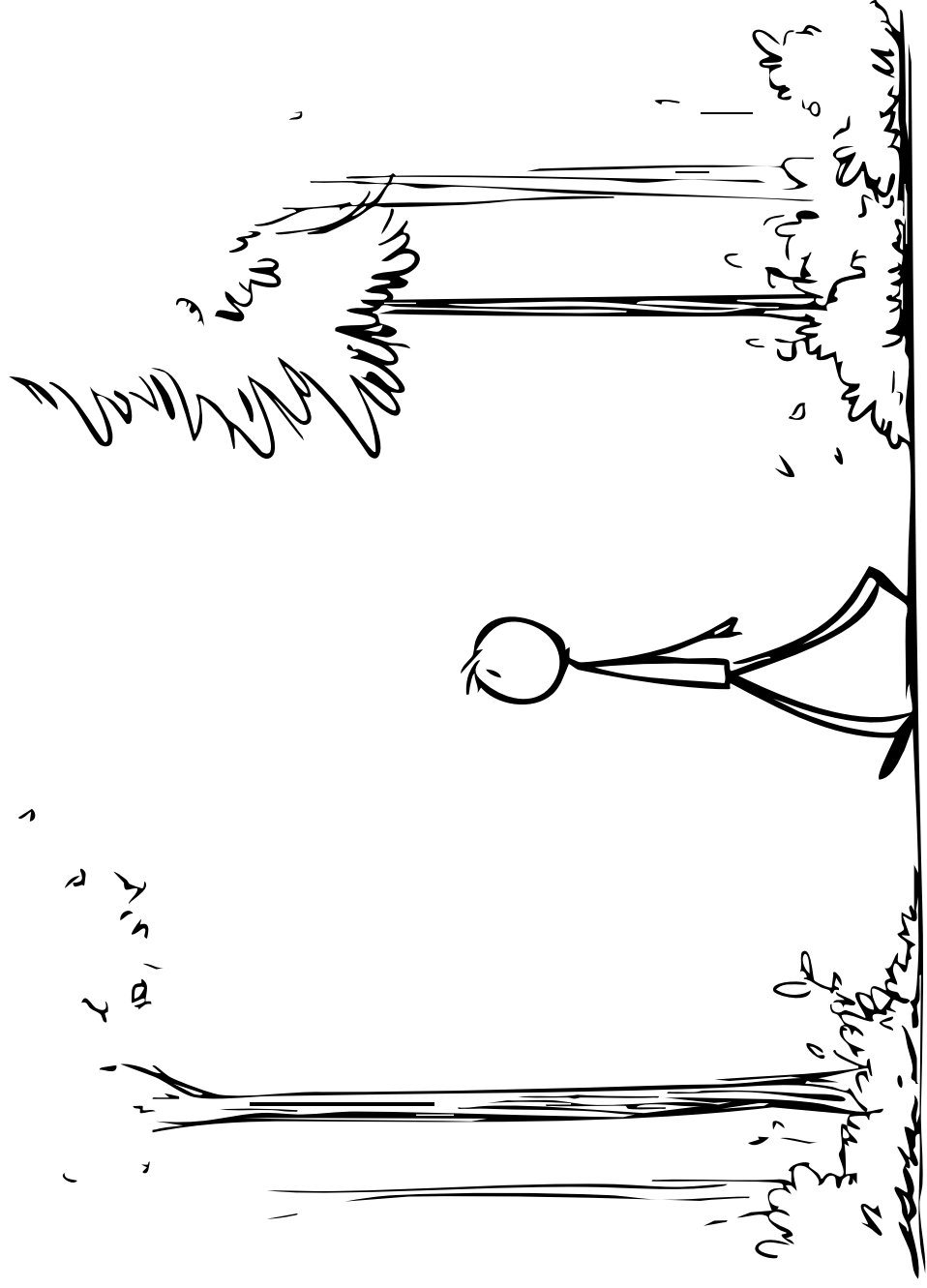
**AND SOME  
JUST GO HUNGRY.**



**SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD,  
THERE IS A LARGE FOREST.**



**AND IF, ONE DAY,  
YOU SHOULD HAPPEN UPON IT...**





**LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE  
GENTLE RUSTLING OF THE LEAVES.**

