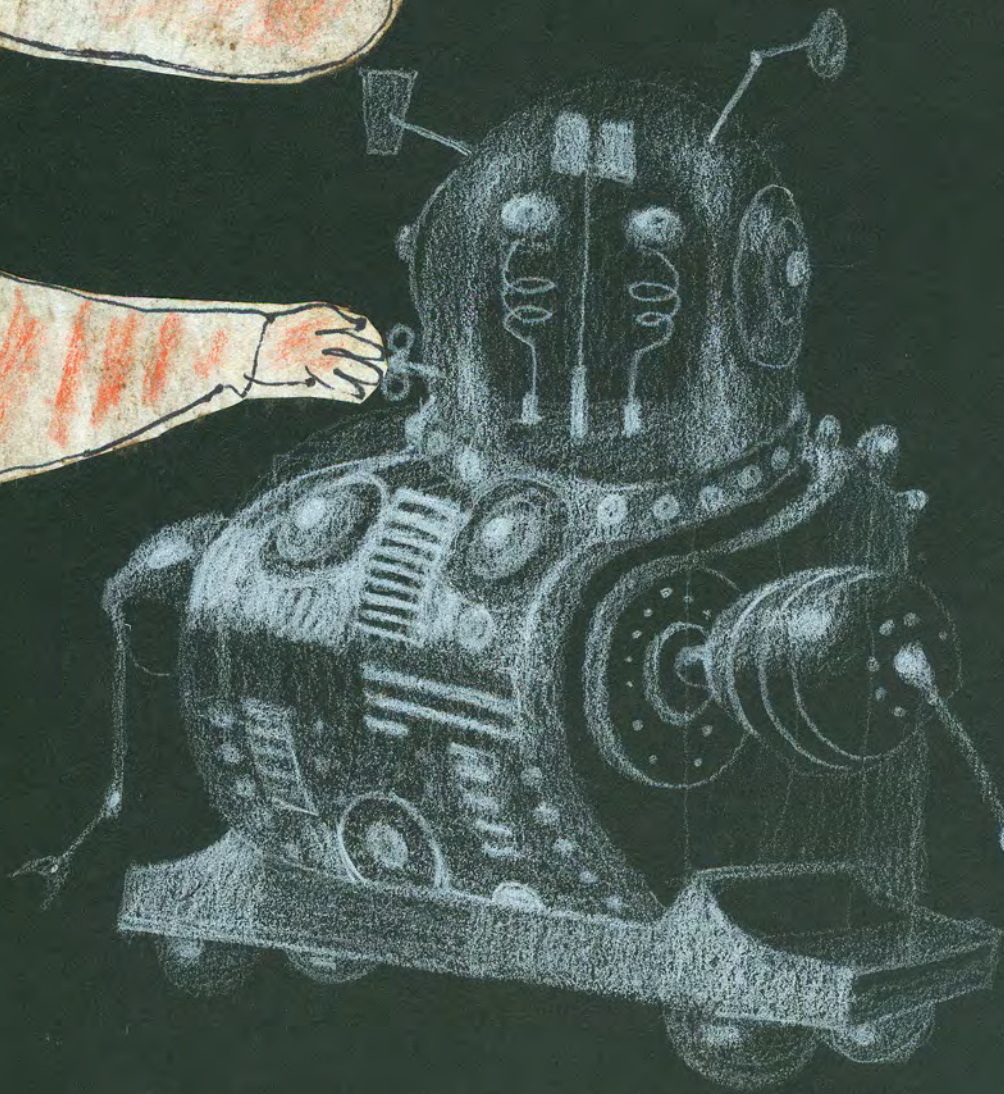




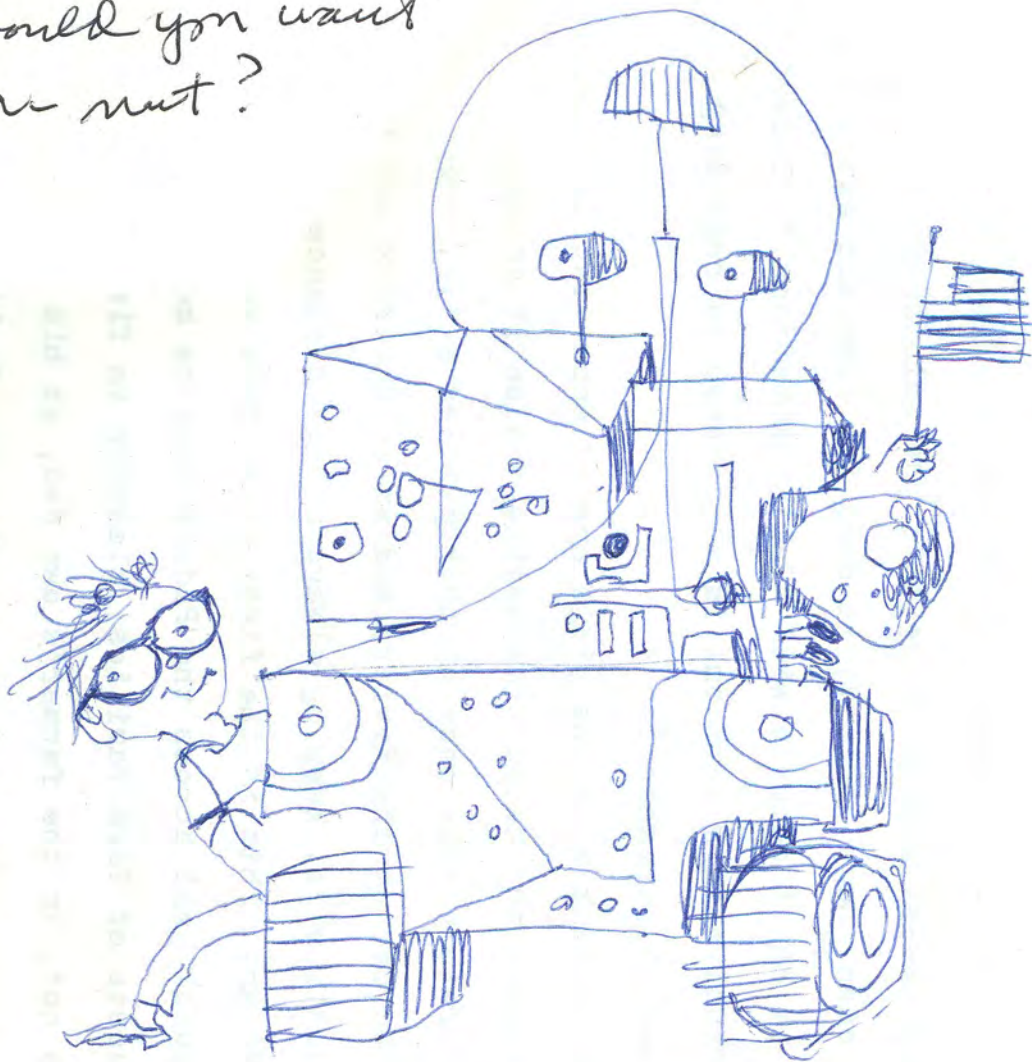
# XBLIND

a Book about  
MORPHIA  
MORPHIA





HOW TO TEACH  
A ROBOT THE  
ALPHABET, BUT  
why would you want  
to, you nut?



A ROBOT, that's what.

and what is an



words and pictures by R.M. POWERS



you ask.

go ahead, ask.

It is...

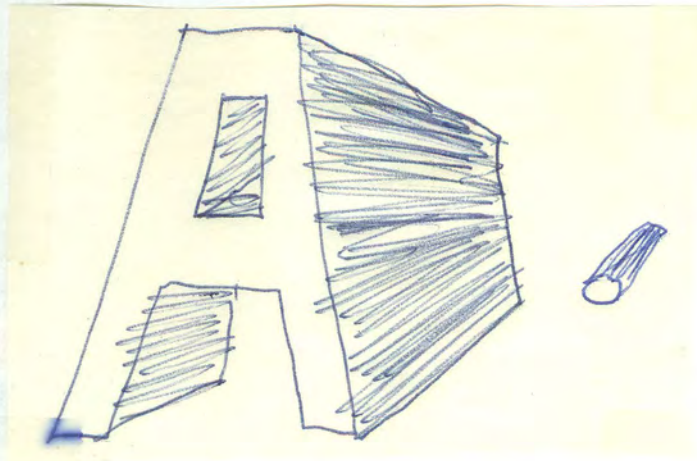
I love you, especially in the movies, and all  
wedding signifies a happy ending. <sup>In</sup> ERNEST AND  
wedding is pro forma, the ending tragic.

Look what this pair missel. They never had to be  
exposed more than momentary will and courage, more  
elated, daring, dramatic act. Although they did  
at happiness hangs from a thread fearfully fragile  
if they were spared the more terrible knowledge via  
and stubbornly, tormentingly, resists final rupture  
by down suckers who remain suckers, tormented by the  
fate of happiness until the end--an end not in our  
not of our own choosing.

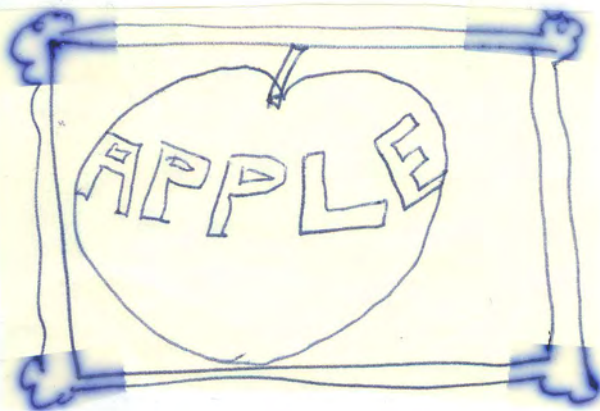
reluctance confers all lovers. Romeo and Juliet, who  
refused, took on/own obstacle <sup>exactly</sup> lovers who are no  
longer just exposed to scrutiny of them, some quitted  
; others thrilling and terrifying. Give me, then,  
endurance, love undimmed by the ravages of endurance  
which are doggedly and courageously done in just another

Copyright, etc.



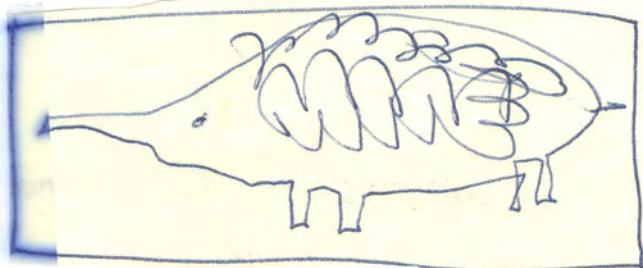


IN some books A is for



APPLE or

AARDVARK



or something that starts with A

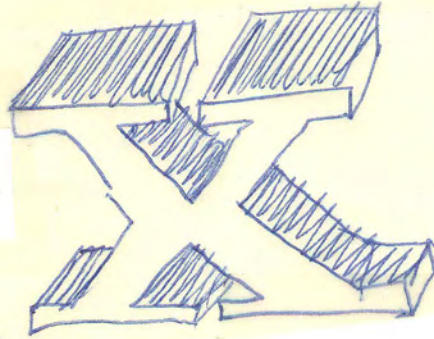
That's all right for an ordinary book.

But,

In this book



stands for



How's that for standing for something?

and



stands for  $p2\sqrt{96AX \frac{211}{291} - 4}$

which translated from arithmetic, means

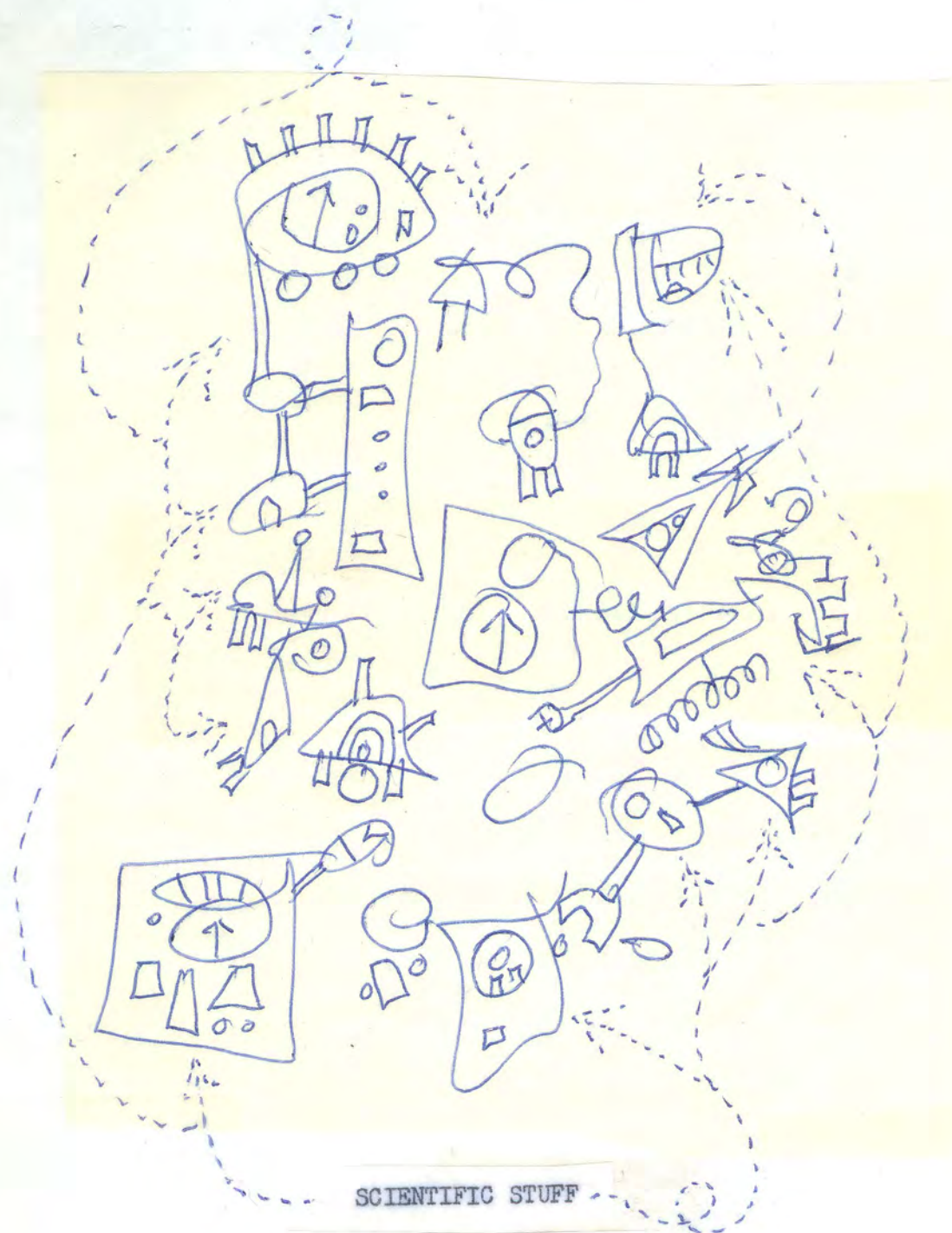
**(X)BLIND!**

on the Celsius scale. (Don't worry about this technical stuff.

it's real scientific and all like that.

Take my word for it)





which goes into an XBLND.

But what counts is the Robot.



And what is an XBLND? you ask

A robot, that's what.

That's the robot's name:



XBLND

a classy name for a robot, but hard to pronounce, eh?

Not at all; you pronounce

XBLND "chumley," in this country (USA)

and 'CHOLMONDELEY' in England.



XBLND

in Israel...

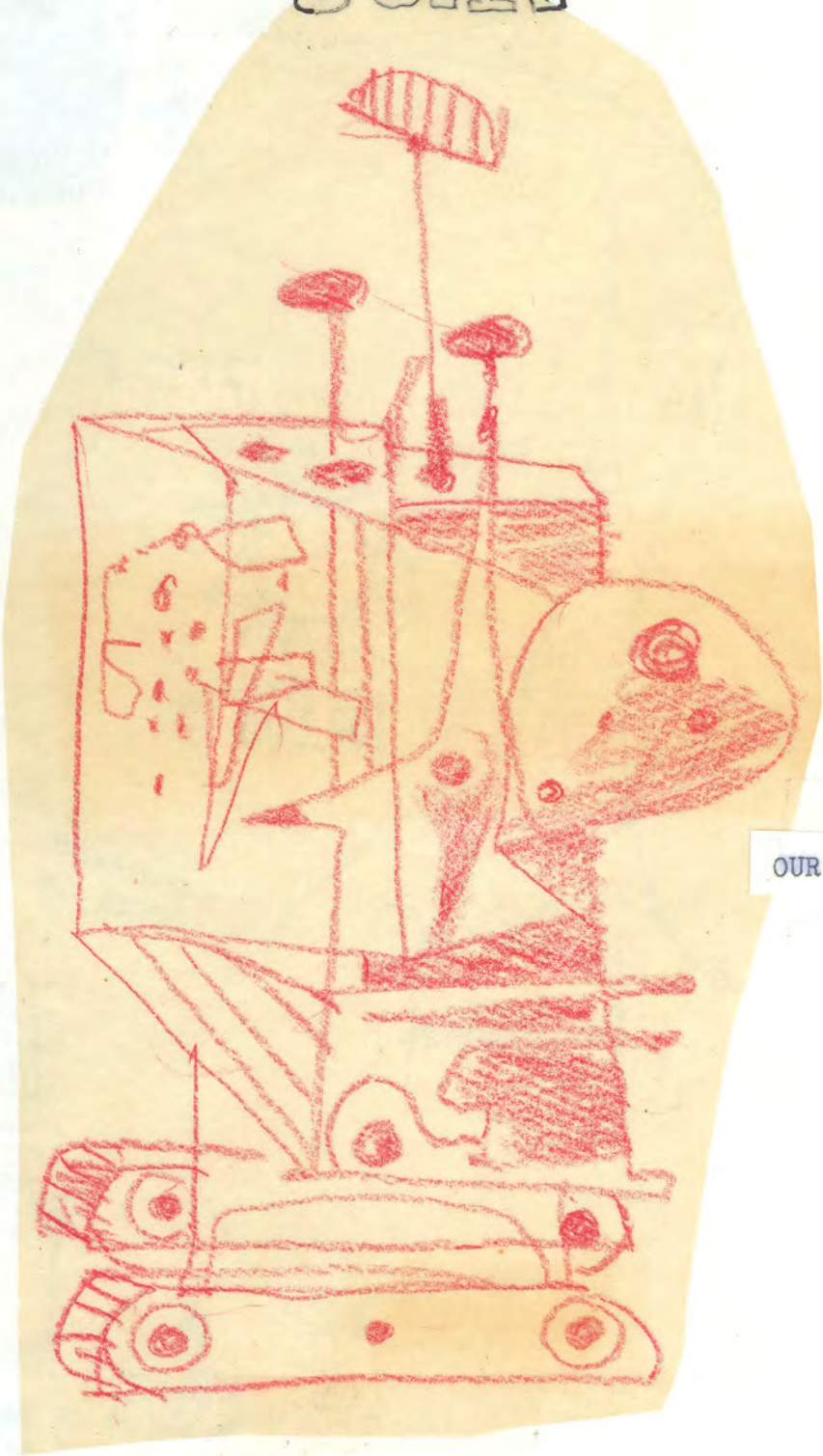


XBLND

in China



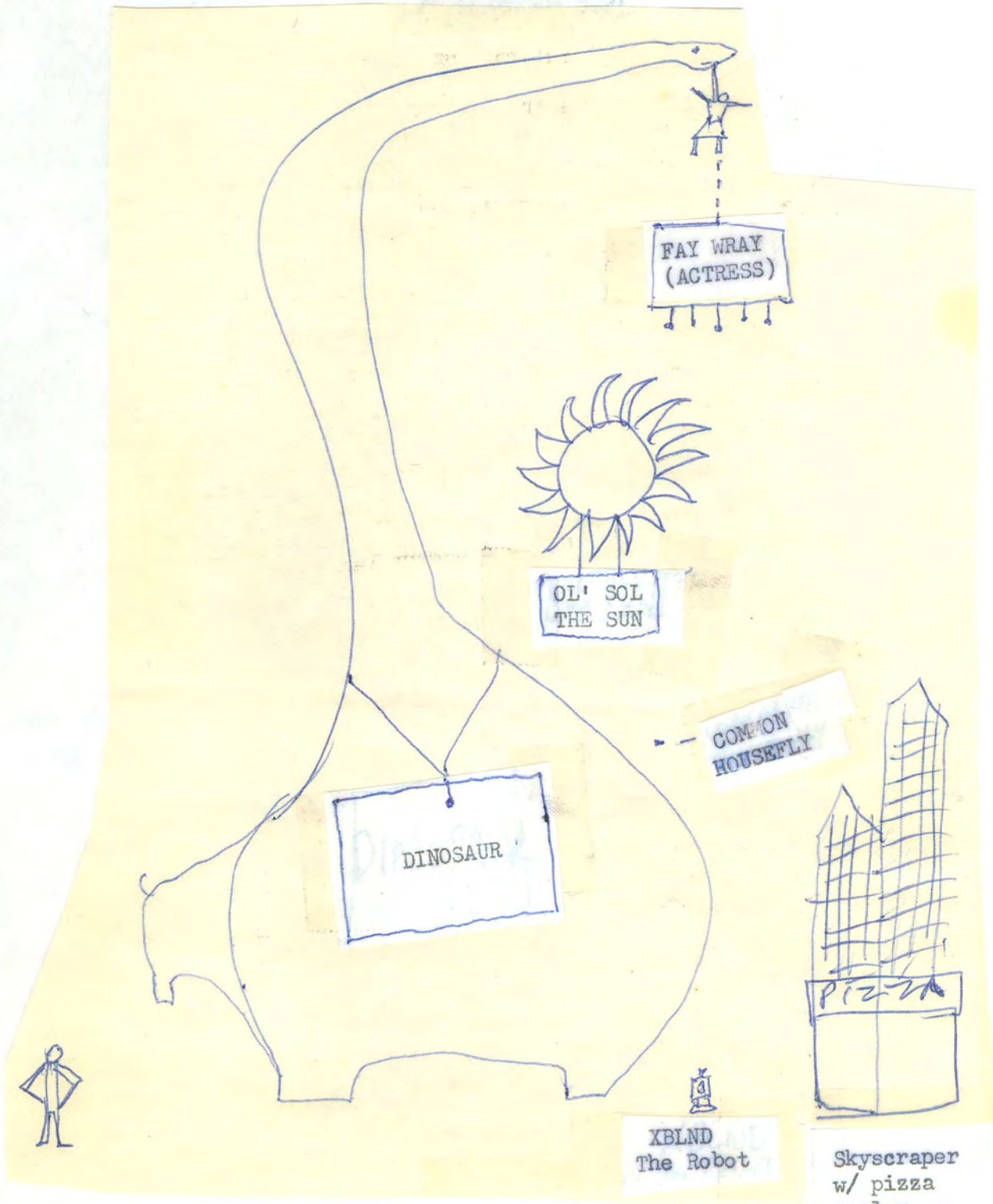
OUR



OUR VERY OWN ROBOT,  
name of XBLND

ROBOT

ROBOT



ROBOT



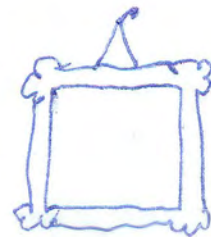
Now of course all robots don't have such interesting names, but that's their worry, right?

X also stands for EXTRA, and the B in XBLND stands for BIG, which our robot is, plenty.

BIG, EXTRA BIG.

I mean, our robot is extra big for a for a small robot. Still pretty small compared to a dinosaur, for example, or a cement factory or a pizza parlor.

**B**eing a robot means never having to blow your nose. Among other things. In fact, being a robot means not having a nose to blow, a big improvement over a cold in the nose, but not a big improvement over being able to smell, a hot sausage pizza, for example.



NO NOSE



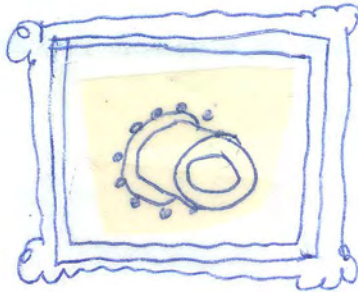
NOSE



SAUSAGE PIZZA



Now we were up to L in XBLND (Chumley), weren't we? L is for Like, a robot doesn't have a nose. N is for NOSE, also N is for no nose, which is what a robot has, no nose. No, no nose



THE NOSE THE ROBOT DOESN'T HAVE



Here is a famous saying:

The nose knows. Mr. Jimmy Durante said that, not to mention Barbra Strsnd.

So we woh't. Mention. Her.

D is for De-lovely, which having you're very own robot is.



*James  
Dante*



D is also for Deliriously dopey, which is the kind of feeling you get when you take your robot to the



Zo for Zoo and find that the animals are looking at who? W-hoo for who?

Your robot and you, that's who.

(Did you see STAR WARS? Our Robot Chumley, a.k.a. XBLND<sup>\*</sup>, auditioned for the part of the bigger robot, and he would have gotten it, except he looked too polished! Not Polish~~ed~~, polish~~ed~~). Also studio politics; out and out graft.

\*a.k.a. is technical cop jargon: it means "also known as"



THIS IS A POINT

END OF <sup>THE</sup> NONSENSE  
INTRODUCTION  
BEGINNING

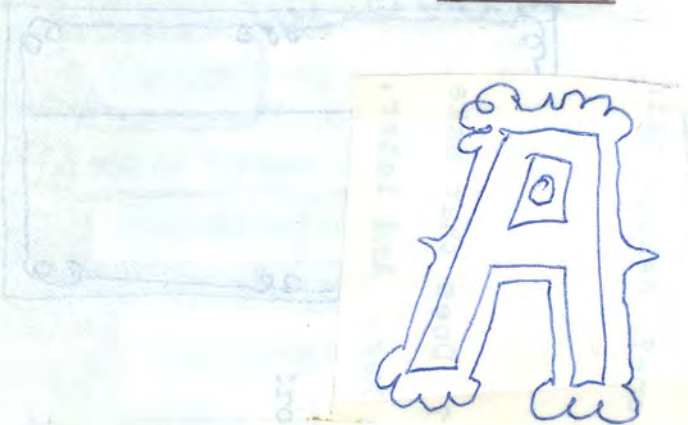
At this point, take a rest, or a nap,  
or a deep breath, or maybe meditate,  
because the excitement is about to  
begin:

WE ARE OFF TO THE ZOO!



# BEGINNING OF SERIOUS ROBOT STUFF

## AT THE ZOO

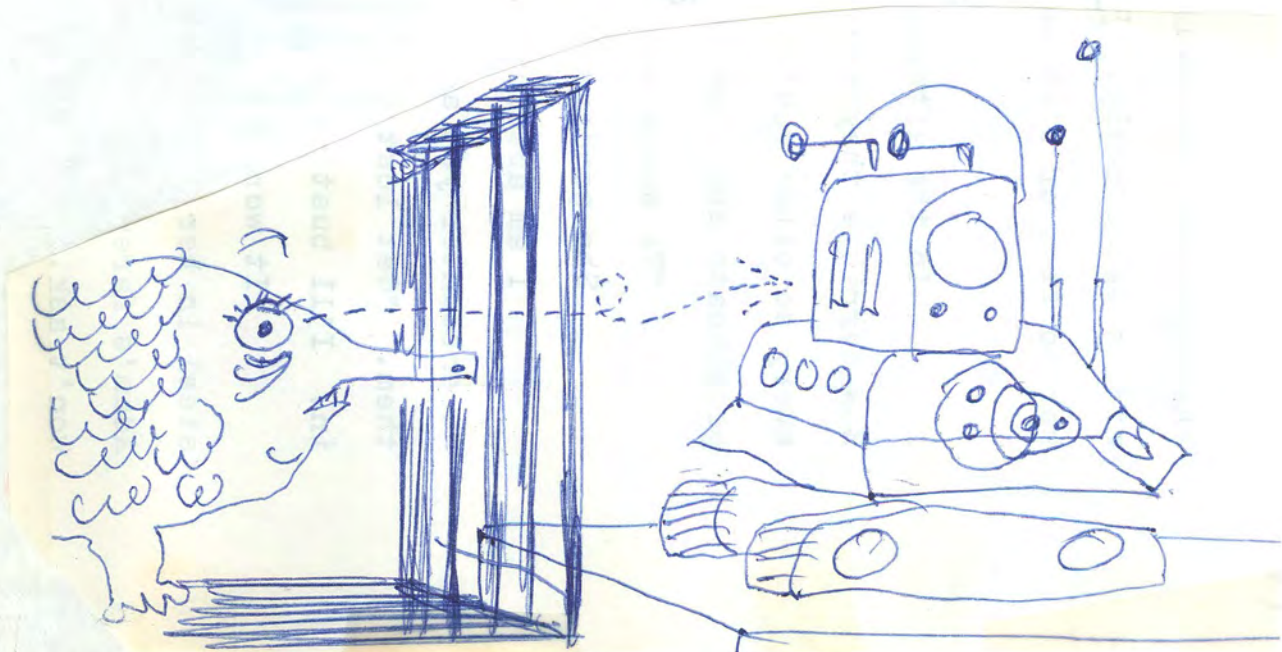


is for AARVARK, remember? yclept (named) AARON

who looked at our Robot and turned

into a ~~Who?~~ for Hoover vacuum cleaner.

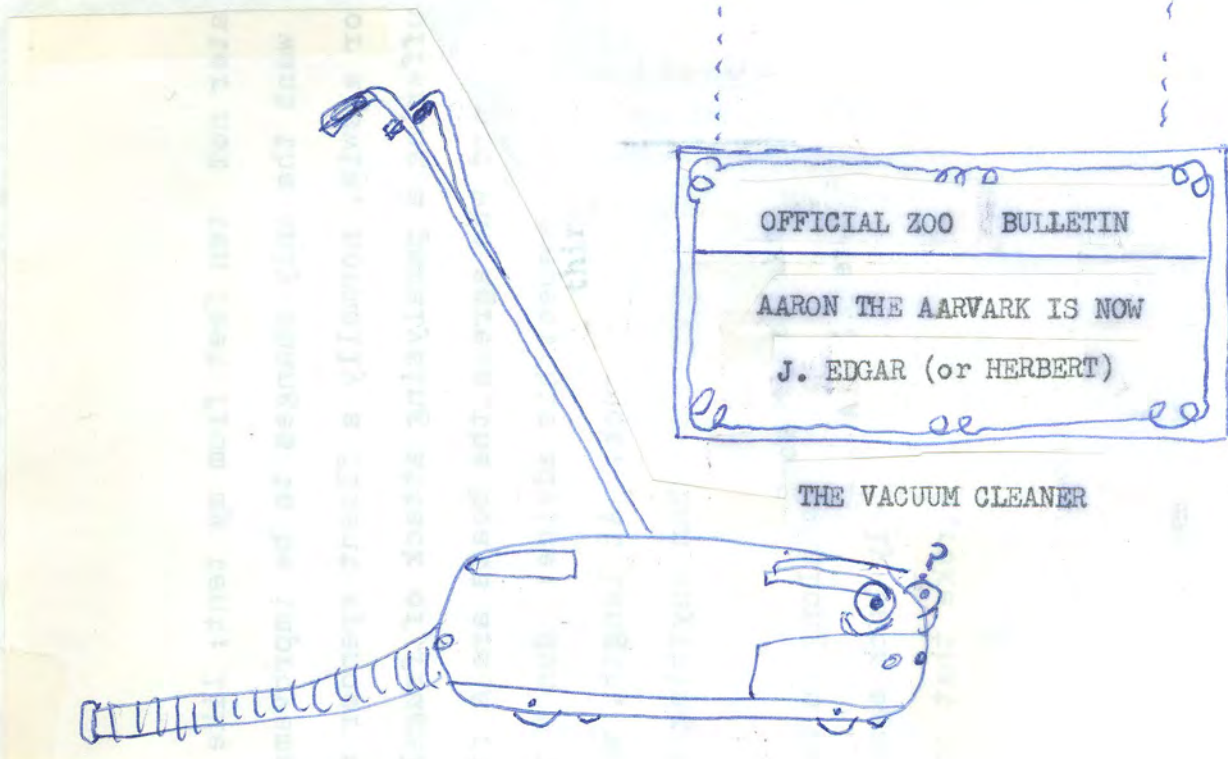
In shock,



Being the first Aardvark in history

to ever <sup>to</sup> catch itself looking at a Robot. And being looked at by a Robot

(Guinness Book of ~~Stout~~ <sup>FAR</sup> Records)



OFFICIAL ZOO BULLETIN

---

AARON THE AARVARK IS NOW

---

J. EDGAR (or HERBERT)

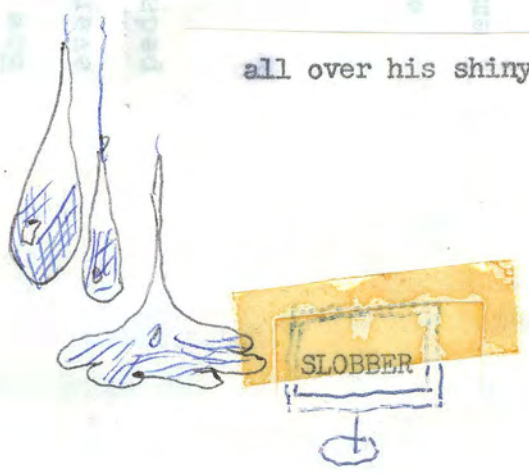
THE VACUUM CLEANER



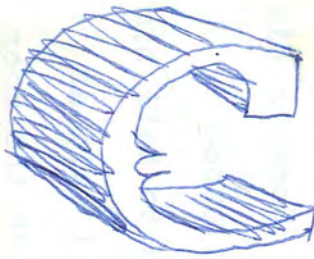
<sup>a</sup>  
 is for BISON (buffalo) named Bbob  
 who snorted 'what a slob' when XBLND

slobbered a baskin-robbins icecream cone,  
 gorilla-vanilla flavor with loco coconut,

all over his shiny tin front.





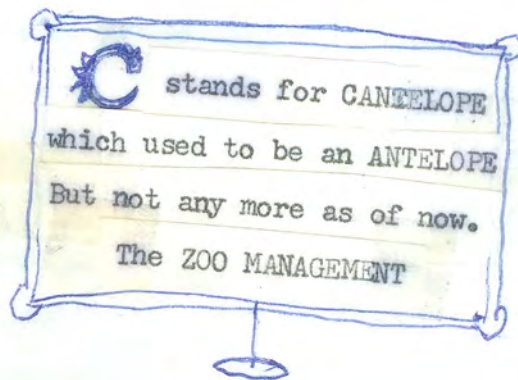
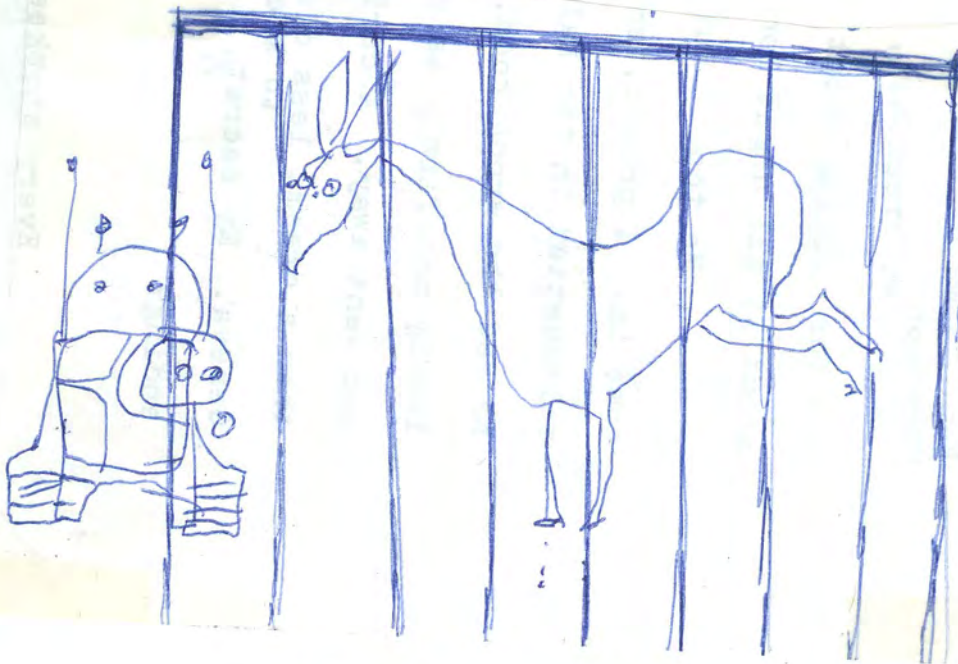


is for CANTELOPE  
which is what  
CANDY the Antelope

turned into in a state of stun

to find a Robot gawping at her, through the bars

of her cage.



**N**ow, if you were running a zoo, who would you put in the cages, smelly animals, or nice clean robots who don't smell (haven't got any noses to smell with, indeed)\*, and are nice and shiny besides?

Except of course when a robot slobbers icecream.

So let's have a zoo full of robots for a change, and give the animals a rest. Because it's hard work changing from an aardvark to a vacuum cleaner, or an antelope to a cantelope and if you don't think so, just try it.

So let's have a zoo full of robots for a change, and give the animals a rest.

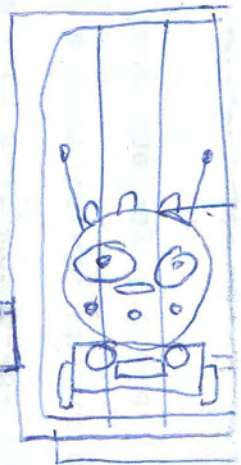
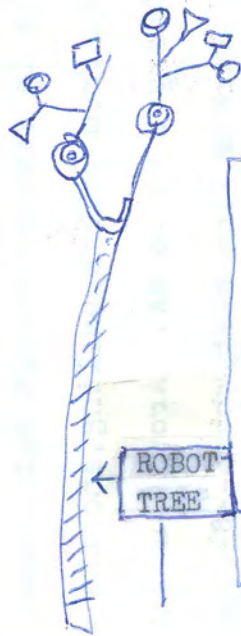
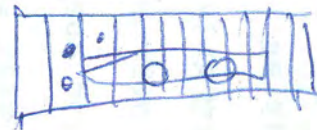
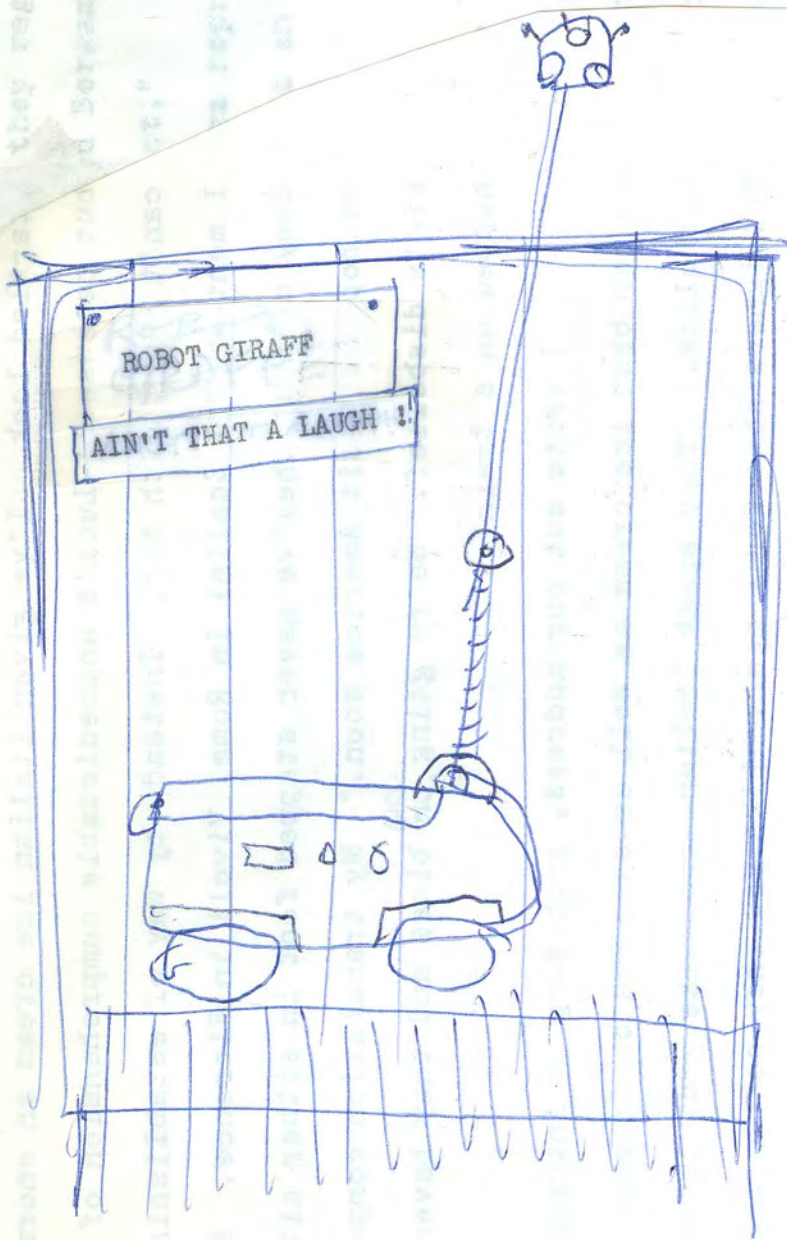


\* Footnote

Robots also don't have any teeth or eyebrows or esophaguses. Or dandruff.

What they do have is gizzards made out of wires and steel squiggles and little wheels and pieces of iron and copper and zinc and little needles that wiggle when they think. And Vitamin C tablets for good luck.



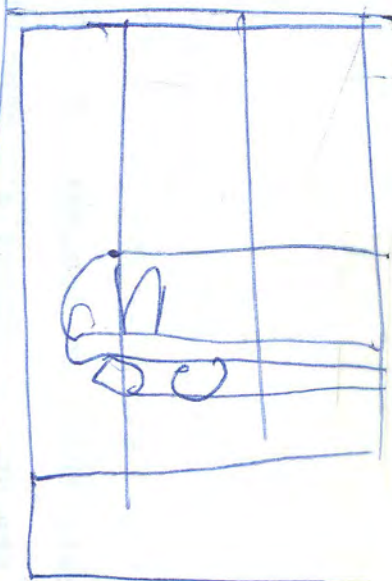
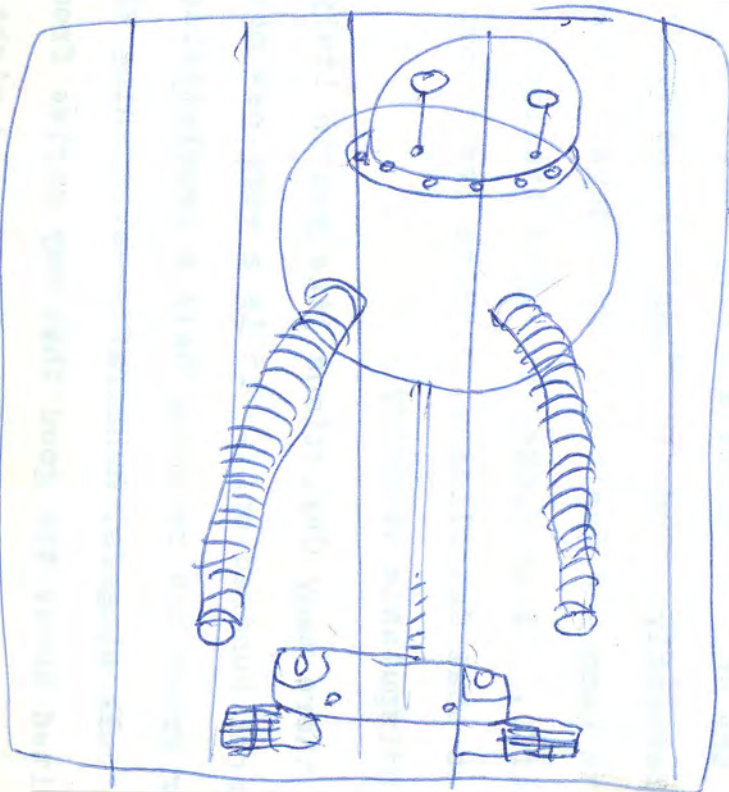
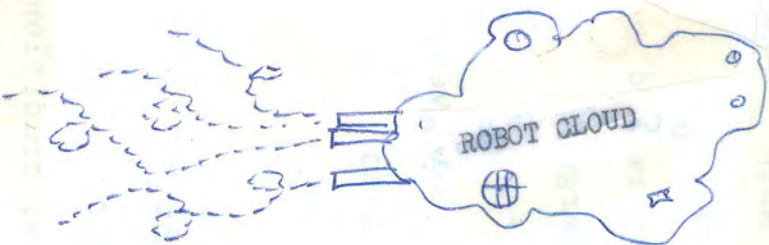


# ROBOT ZOO

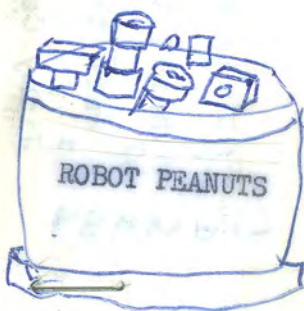
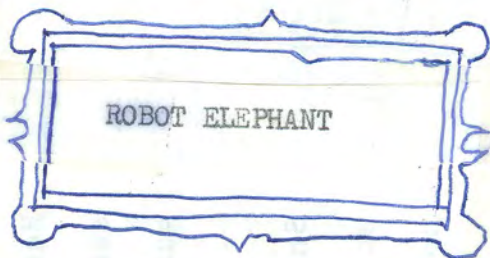
ROBOT BIRDIE



ROBOT CLOUD

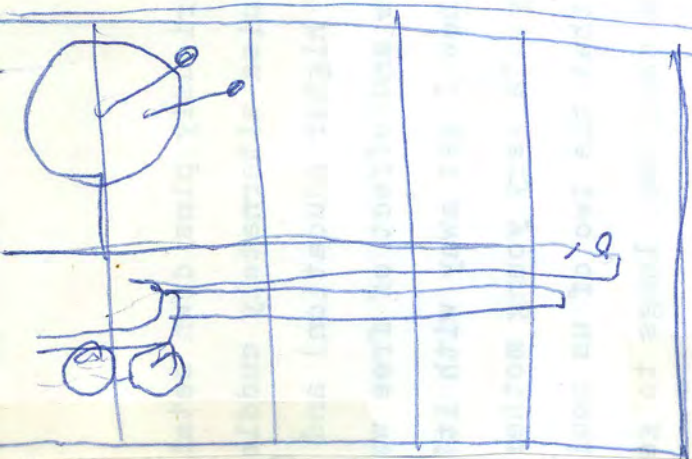


ROBOT ELEPHANT



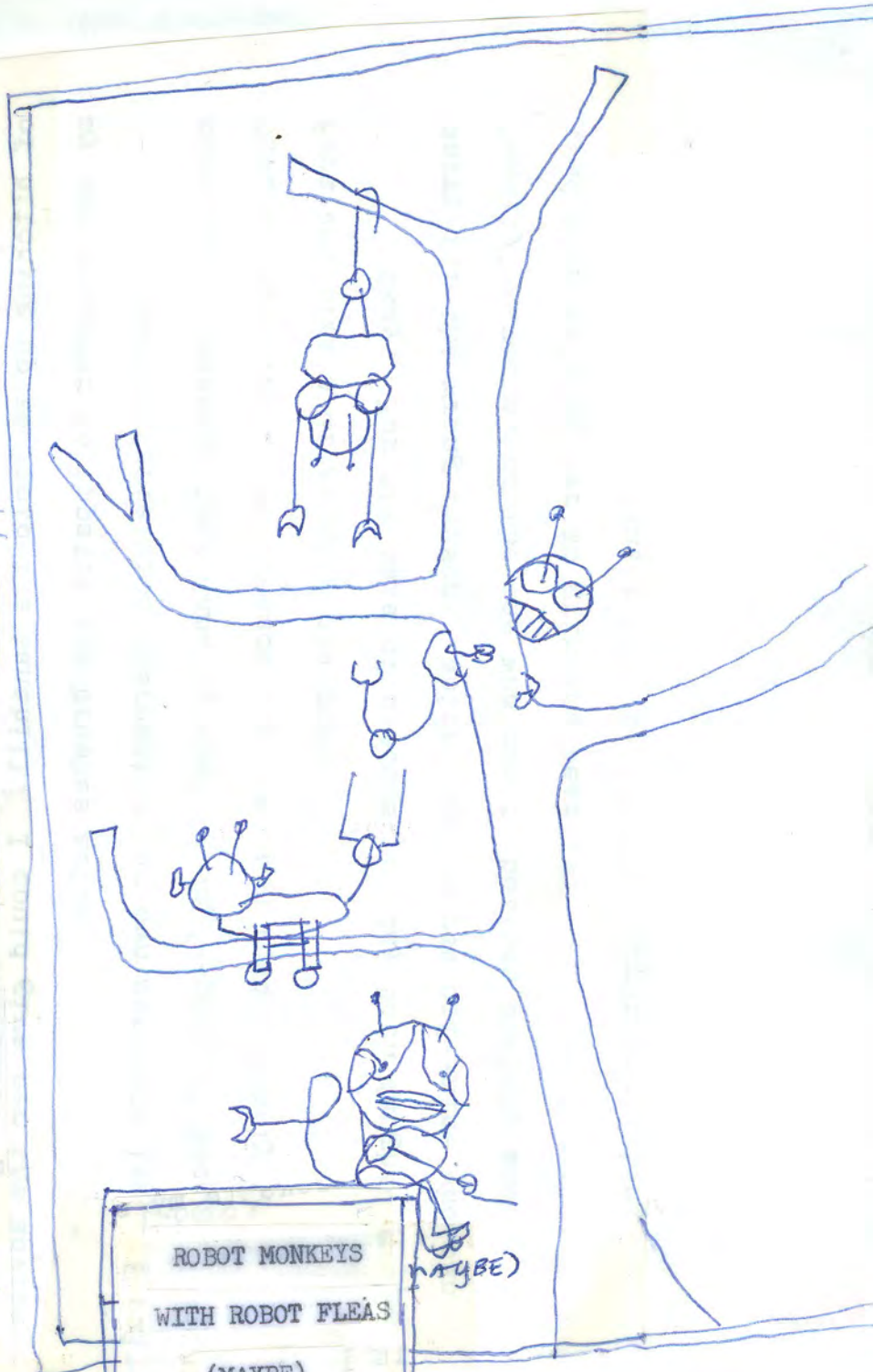
ROBOT PEANUTS





ROBOT ALLIGATOR

LET'S SEE THEM MAKE A PAIR OF SHOES  
OUT OF THIS ALLIGATOR



ROBOT MONKEYS  
WITH ROBOT FLEAS  
(MAYBE)

(MAYBE)

Seen enough robot animals?

In case you run into one

and it's not in a cage,

say a robot tiger,

here is a robot song to sing to keep it happy and not biting:

HIMPO, CHIMPO  
GIMPO, GIMPO  
GOMPO, GOMPO,  
GUMPO, GUMPO  
HABBA, CHABBA, CHUCK



LITTLE  
KID, NOT  
A ROBOT.

that should do it.



But animal Robots are easy.

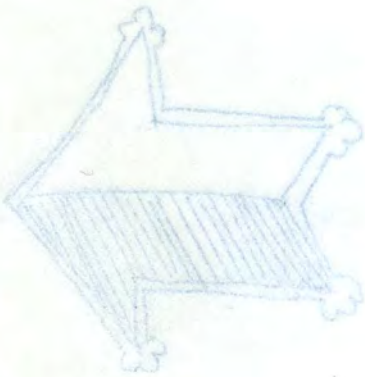
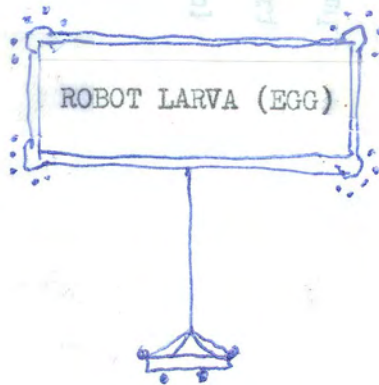


is for NOW

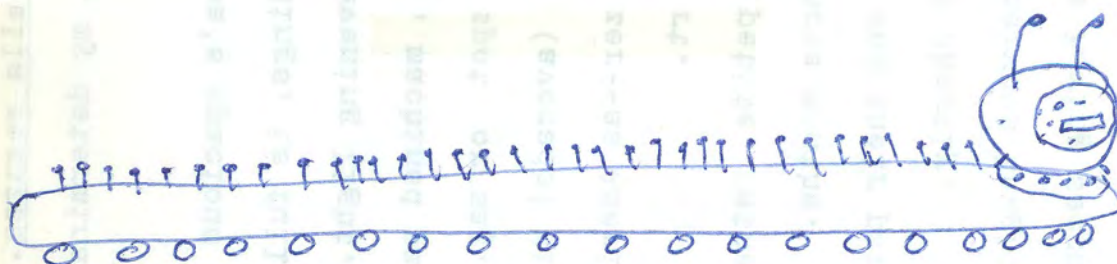
for something hard: we're going to make a Robot Butterfly.

First we make a Robot caterpillar

out of a Robot larva.



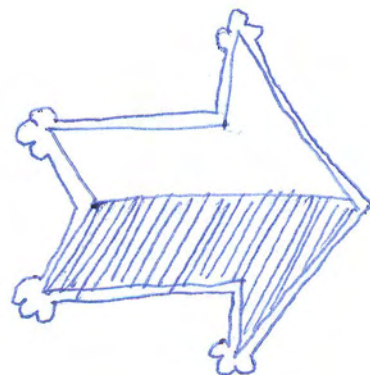
Next, the ROBOT LARVA  
turns into a  
ROBOT CATERPILLAR  
by a method we are  
not at liberty to  
disclose.



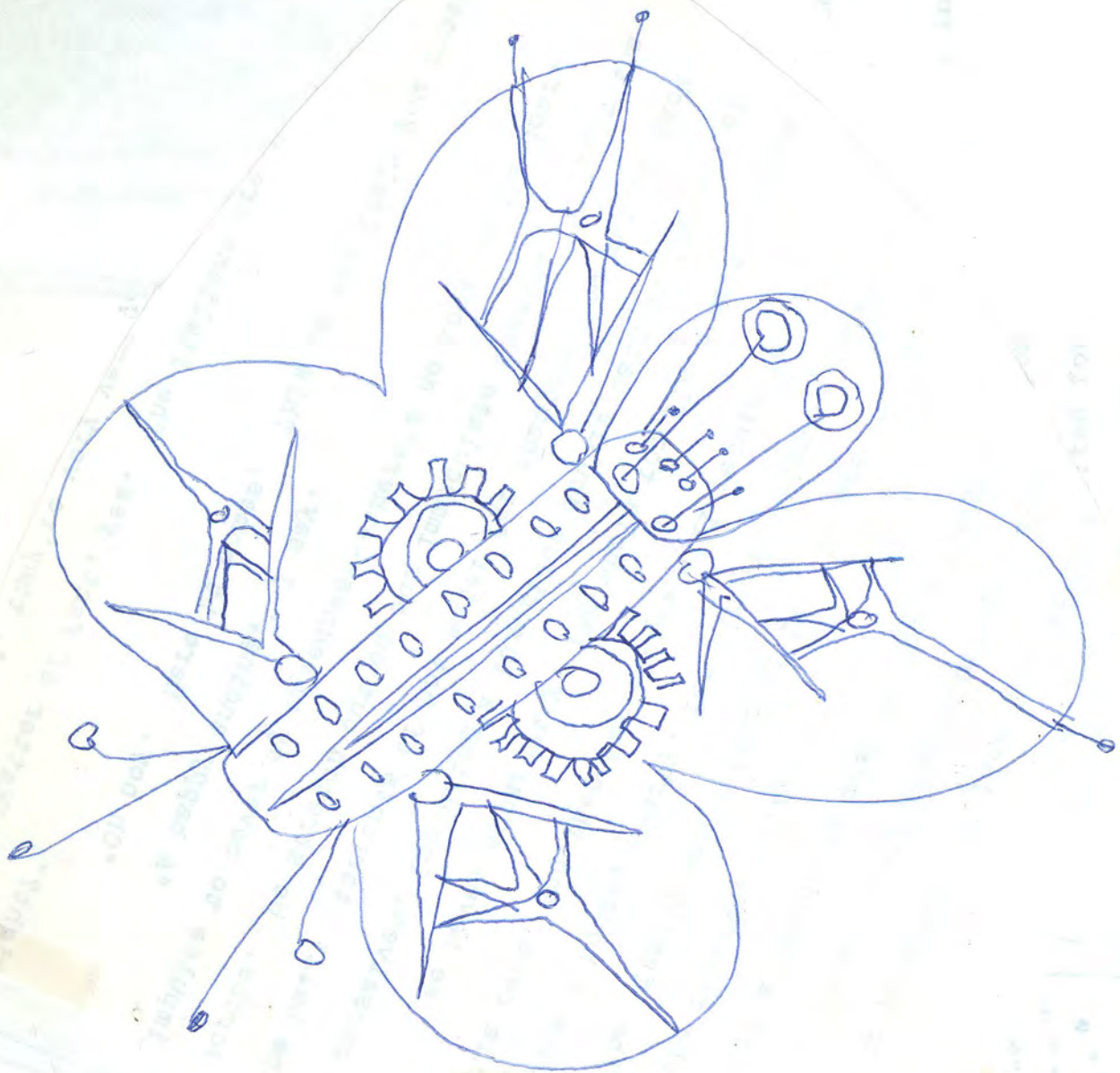
ROBOT CATERPILLAR WHICH KIND OF LOOKS LIKE PHYLLIS DILLER



is for which, which, that is  
THE ROBOT CATERPILLAR,  
turns into a  
ROBOT BUTTERFLY  
by a method you wouldn't believe  
even if we  
describe it to you.







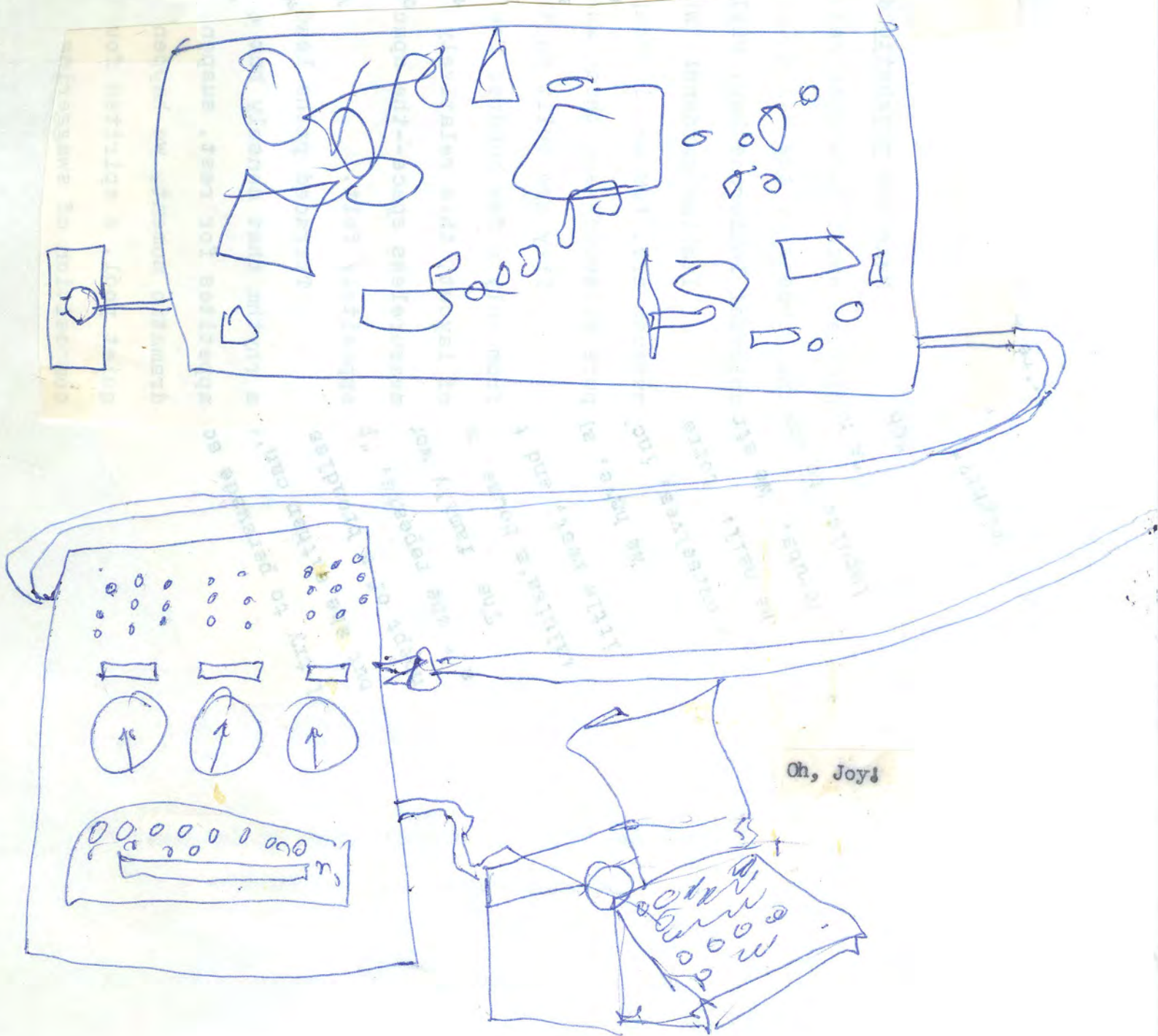
- and when the Robot Butterfly grows up, it turns  
into (you won't believe this) (at first)-



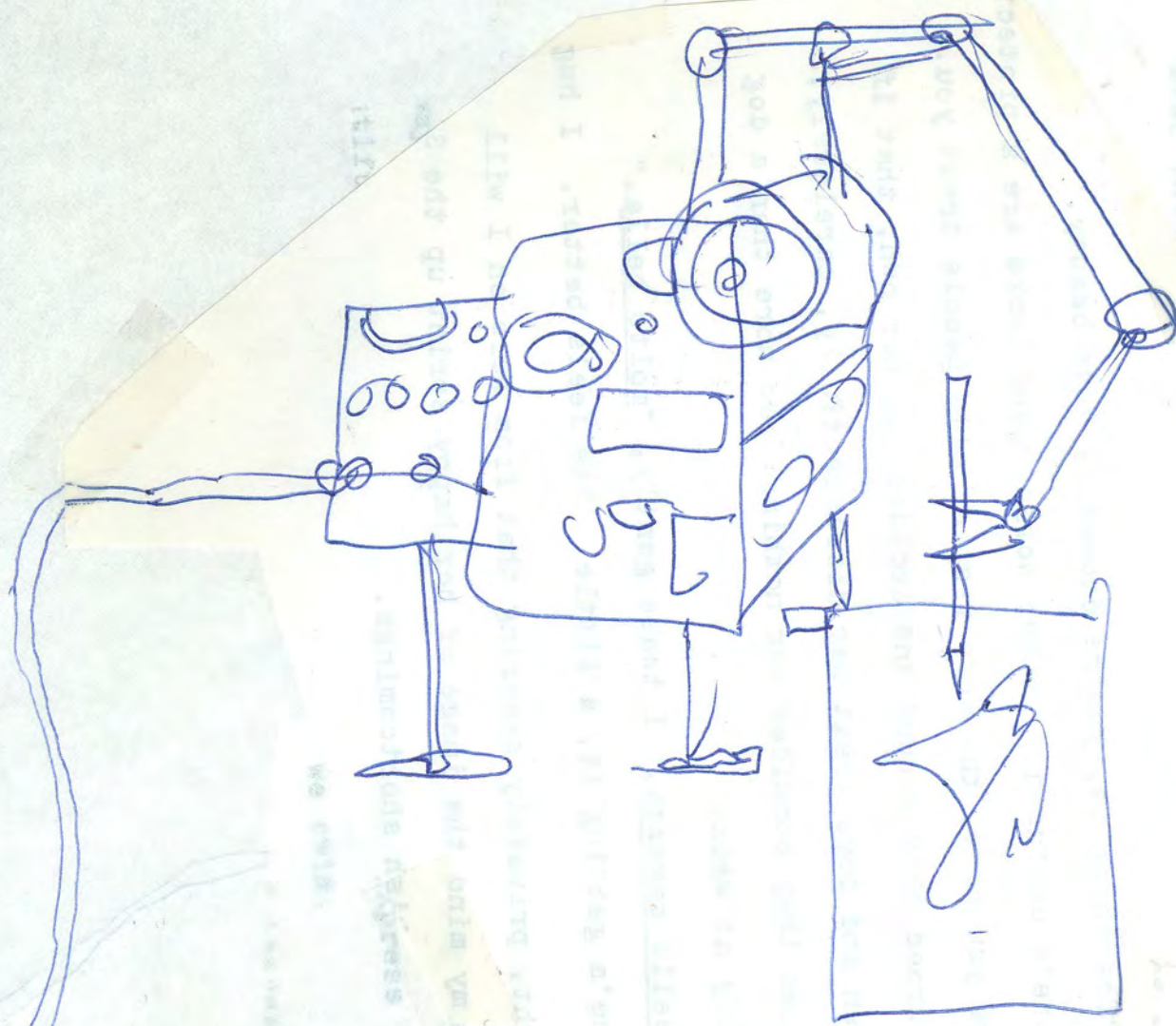
is for ZOUNDS!

and/or ZOWIE!

Our Robot Butterfly has turned into a special computer Robot which -  
writes kid's stories!



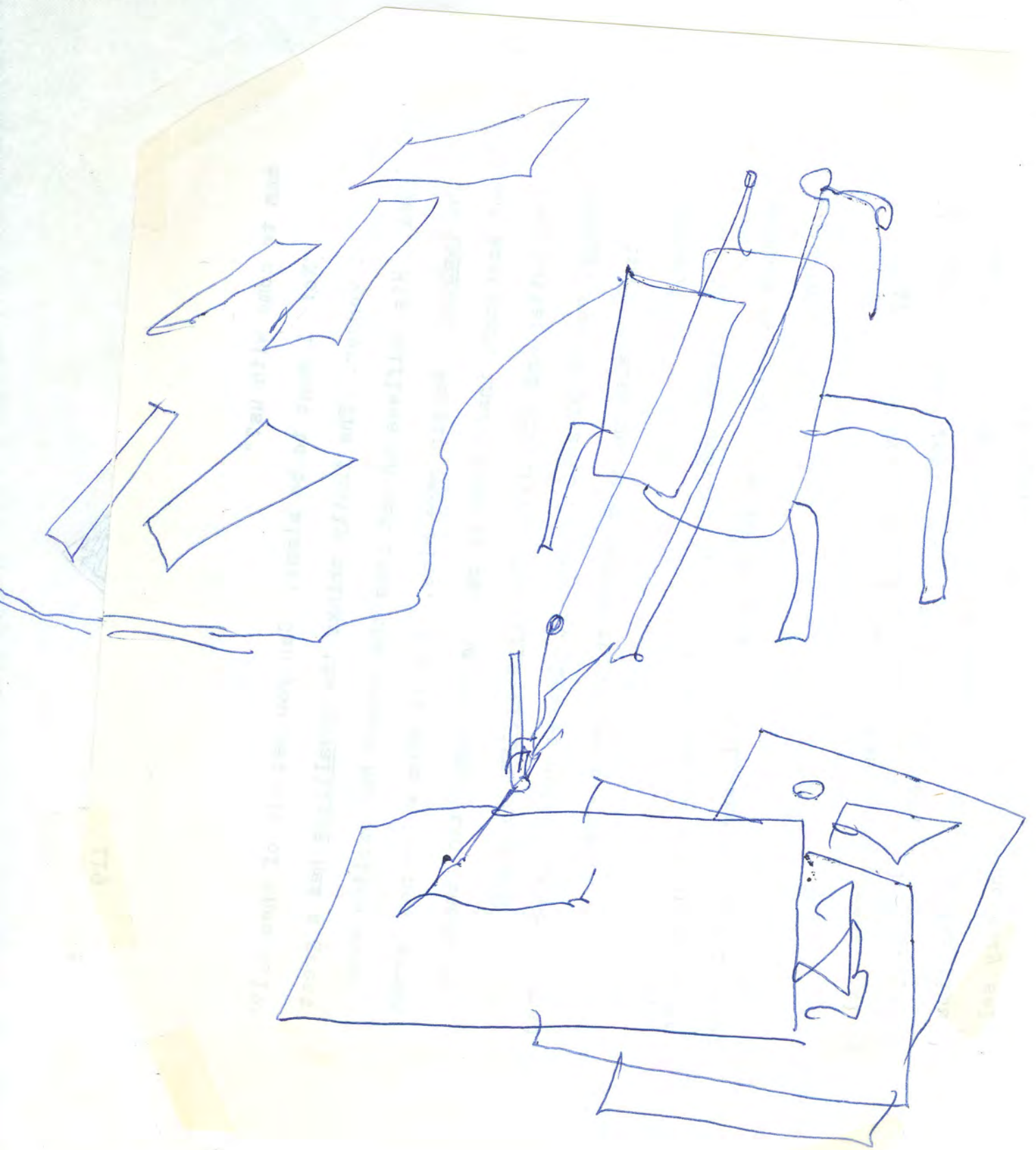




- and not only that, but the computer is plugged into an Artist Robot named Mr. Lefty, which not only draws left-handed pictures, but since it is connected to the same computer as the Writer Robot there are never any arguments between the two Robots.

Much better than real life.

Let's crank the computer up and see what it comes up with:





- wait a minute.

Something strange is being created by

the Robot Writer and Robot Artist:

man to come with us?"

"No! I want to be..."

I wonder. The

ea. His selfless... the breach has excited even

a leading. We sip... tell them we're not German

it American, inadvertently causing the Germanian flames to

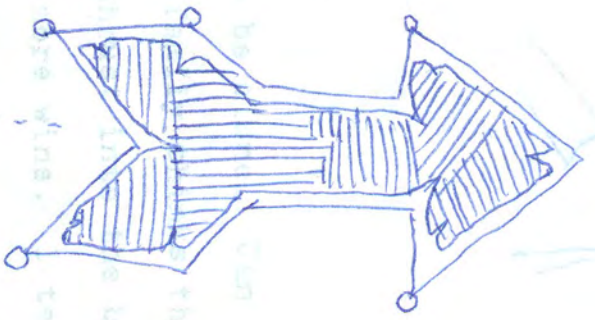
arm holder and writer. "No. ERZIEHUNG, SIKKUNG, SIKKUNG no.

ERZIEHUNG, but it pleases her and it pleases me--I never learned

Italian (pirates) no need before this summer--"to be alone.

ERZIEHUNG No."

At length, convinced, they drive off in search of other  
erfords of mercy, leaving us to achieve Lugano without further  
incident.



Can you get rid of them all?"

the cavalliere has a Great

the breach has excited even

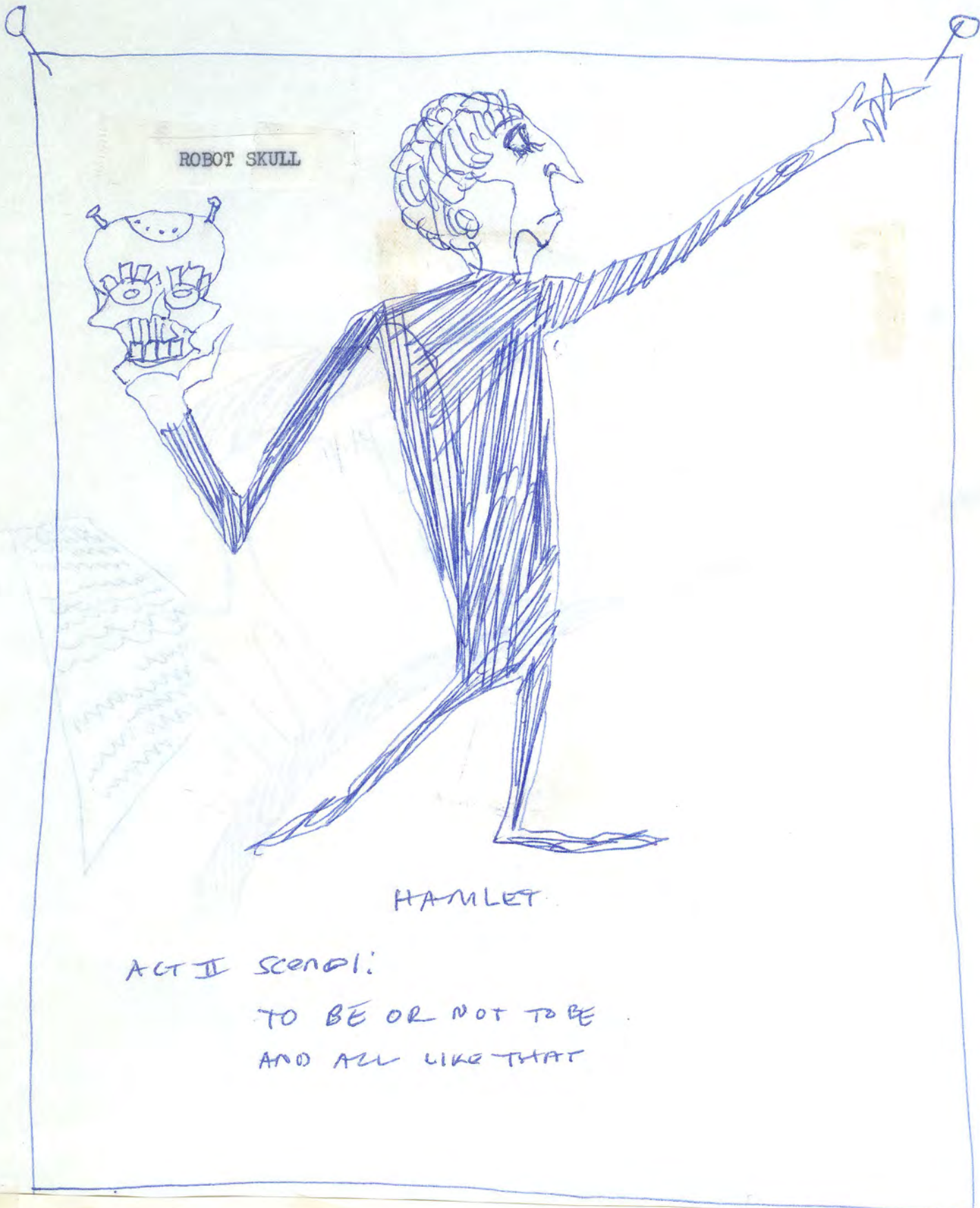
tell them we're not German

After shabby, potholed Italy, Swiss Lugano seems solidly

affluent, with pretty parks, elegant piazzas, and expensive

shops lining cool arcades. We waste valuable swimming time

the Italian Touring Club which supposedly will



ROBOT SKULL

HAMLET

ACT II SCENE I:

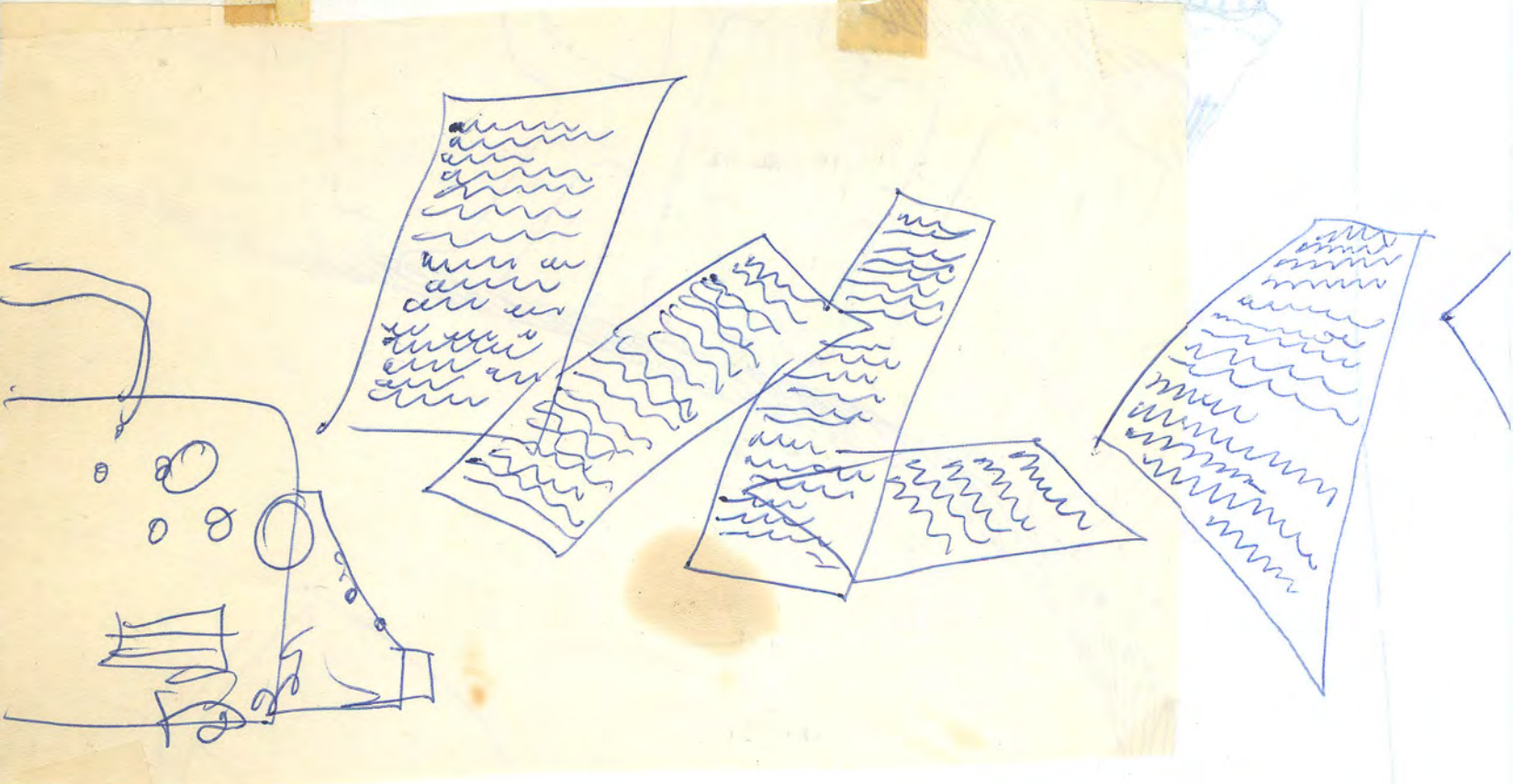
TO BE OR NOT TO BE  
AND ALL LIKE THAT

This is a kid's story?

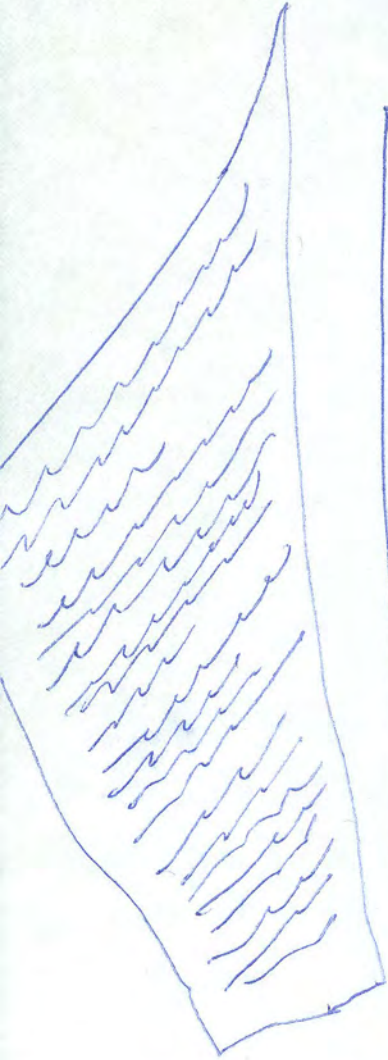
This is not a kid's story.



TRY AGAIN, Hypothetical Robot chimp,  
until you get it right.  
A real kid's story this time, please.



AND ALL THE TIME  
TO BE OR NOT TO BE  
A FEW SECONDS



Little Peter Rabbit was sad.

Farmer Brown was a nasty cryto-fascist goon

who hated bunny rabbits with some kind

of a sick sick sick anti-bunny hatred that was

painful to feel at the end of a shotgun

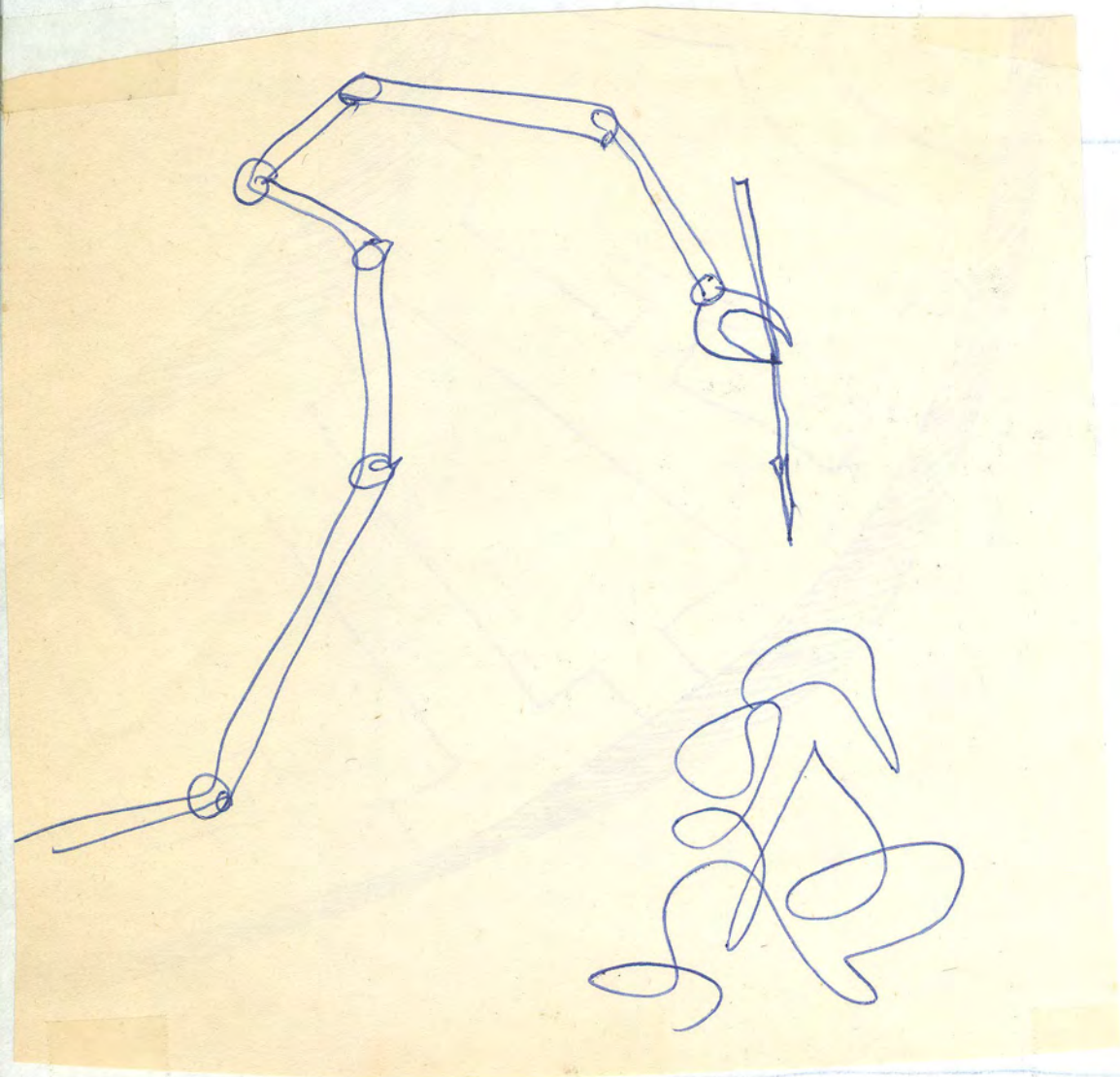
and disgusting to watch

even when he missed ----

much better

(probably a real page from  
ALICE in wonderland





BEATRIX POTTER drawing.

probably a TENNIEL  
drawing from ALICE

-much better!

Could get the Robot Caldecott.

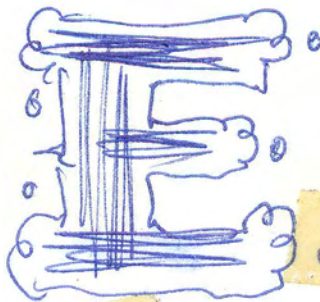
(A prize for Best).

and maybe the Newberry.

(Another prize for Best)

Fine!

That's <sup>the</sup> kind of a story a Robot could write  
if somebody would make it worth while, and <sup>when</sup>  
~~the~~ Robot ~~do~~ write a story, and you read it,  
it ~~would~~ <sup>will</sup> probably be called XBLND \*



is for

The End

\* and if you want to know what it  
would be about, just turn to page 1  
of this very book and start reading.

Again.



