

THE KING OF

THE WIZARDS



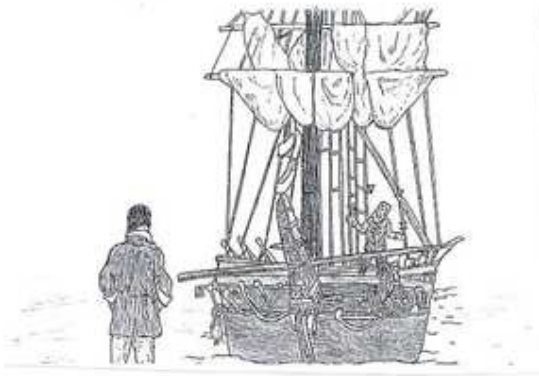
A long time ago, a fisherman called Hamish and his wife Catriona lived happily in a small white house. Every day he left in his boat to catch fish and Catriona sold them in the market.

One day Hamish was out at sea and laid the net in the sea. He led the net and he realised that it was very heavy. He put it onto his boat, when he saw a wooden box. He was very surprised. He opened the box and found a little baby boy. Hamish led him to his house. He was very happy because they didn't have any children. When Catriona saw him, she got very happy.

"Let's call him Calum," she said.

Calum grew up and was a kind, friendly boy.





Hamish taught him to fish and they went out in the boat everyday except on Sundays, because on Sundays Calum went to the port to look at the sailing ships.

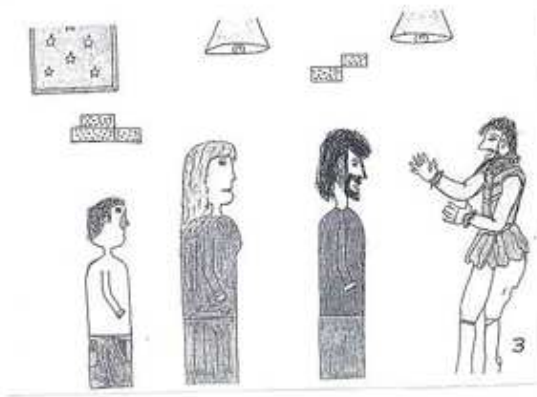
When Calum was seventeen a big sailing ship arrived in the port of the town. A tall, good-looking man stood on the deck. He was juggling balls with spikes very fast.

“Do you like juggling, Calum?”, asked the juggler.

“Oh, yes!”, Calum answered, surprised because he knew his name.

“Do you want to become a juggler? Take me to your parents. I want to talk to them”, said the juggler.





“Father, mother,” said Calum, “this man wants to talk to you”.

“We love Calum dearly,” said Hamish. “I found him at sea when he was a baby.”

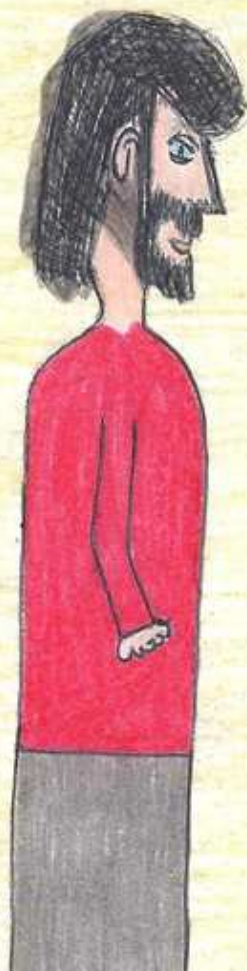
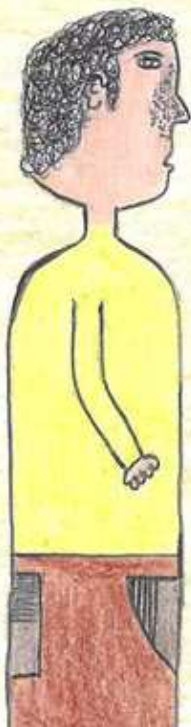
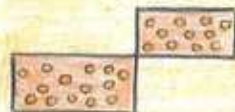
“If Hamish found him at sea, then Calum is a fairy child-a magical child,” thought the juggler.

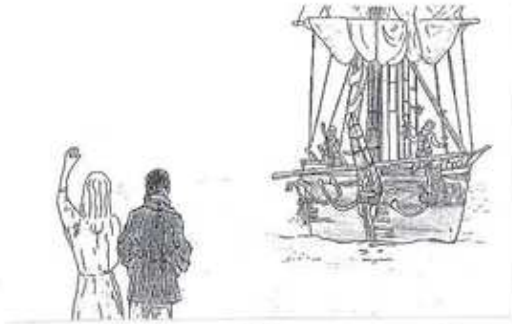
“Give me your son for a year and a day,” said the clever wizard, “and I will teach him how to juggle.”

“Do you want to be a juggler, a good juggler, Calum?” asked Hamish.

“Yes father, I do,” said Calum.

“Very well,” said Hamish, “you can go and when you come back you will be a good juggler.”





Calum said goodbye to his parents and left his home with the juggler.

After a year and day the juggler and Calum went back home. Calum was now an excellent juggler.

“Your son is a good juggler,” said the man. “If he stays with me for another year and a day he will become the best juggler in the world.”

After that time he did not return to his home.

“Catriona,” said Hamish sadly, “I must go and find Calum.”

He walked and walked but he did not find Calum.

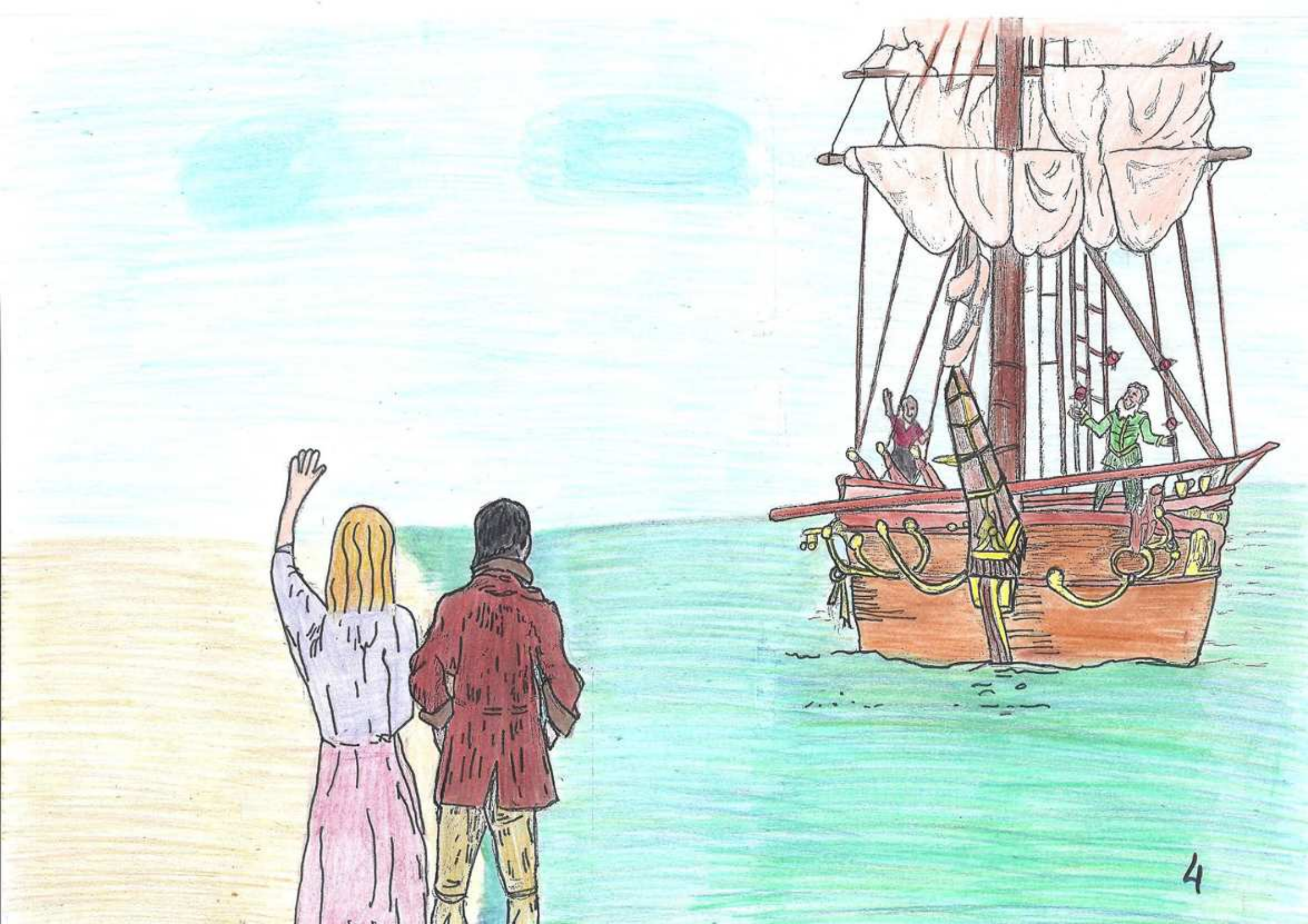
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One night Hamish saw a little old house in the forest. A very old, kind wizard opened the door. Hamish told the old man about his long journey.

The old man listened carefully and was suddenly sad.

He gave Hamish a warm red blanket and he fell asleep near the fire. Early the next morning the old man gave Hamish some breakfast.





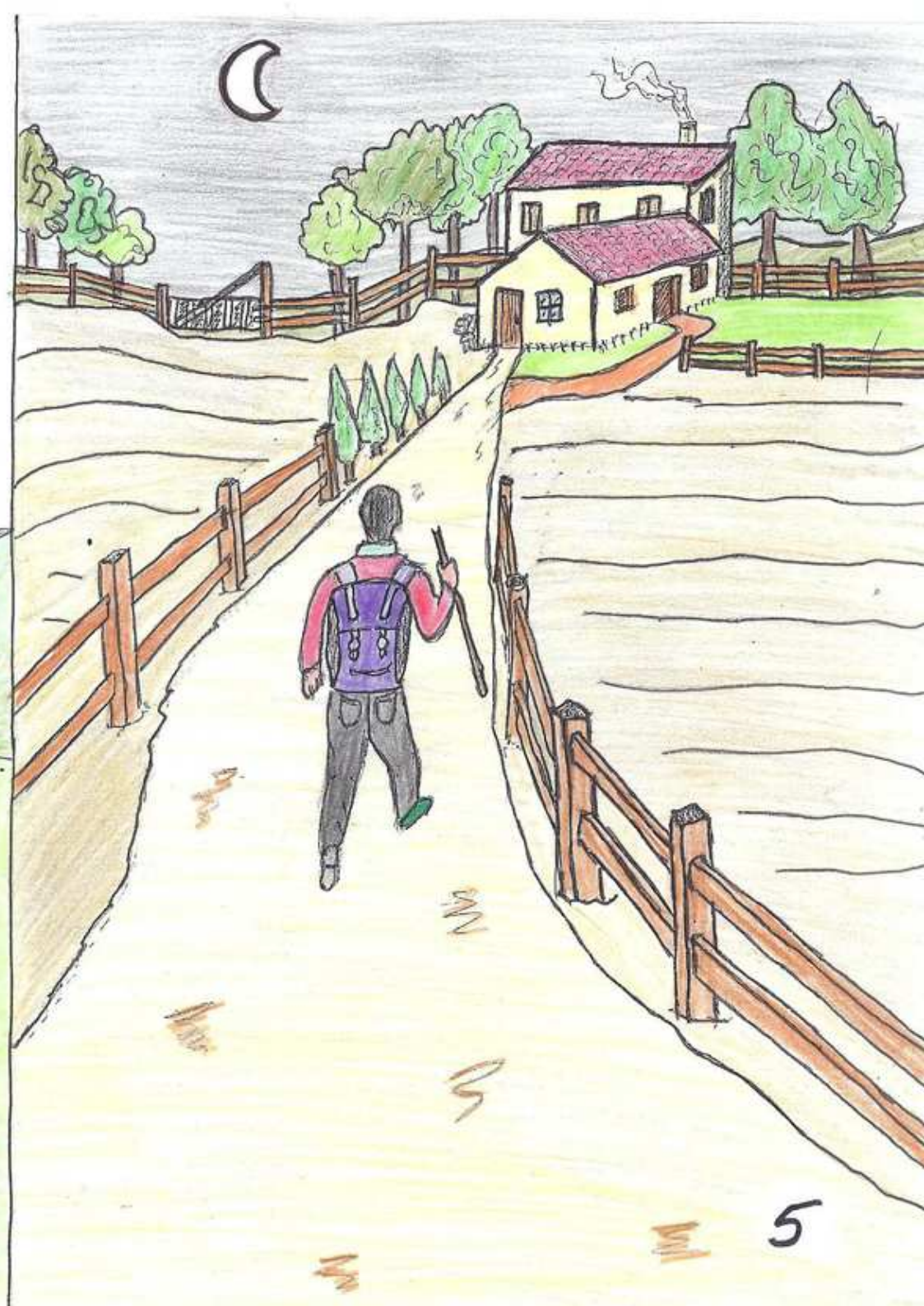
Then the old man said:

-“Today you must go to the King of the Wizards. He lives in a dark castle on a high hill. In his tower there are fourteen pigeons”.

-“But, how will I recognise my son?” asked poor Hamish. “Pigeons all look the same”.

-“Calum is the pigeon with a tiny black feather”, said the old man.

“Look at all the pigeons slowly and carefully. Then choose that one and you’ll have your son again!”





Hamish followed the old man's instructions and he was scared when he saw the evil wizard...

The King of Wizards recognised Hamish, and he wasn't happy.

-“What do you want?” the wizard asked.

-“I want my son, Calum,” said Hamish.

The wizard offered different things but Hamish insisted

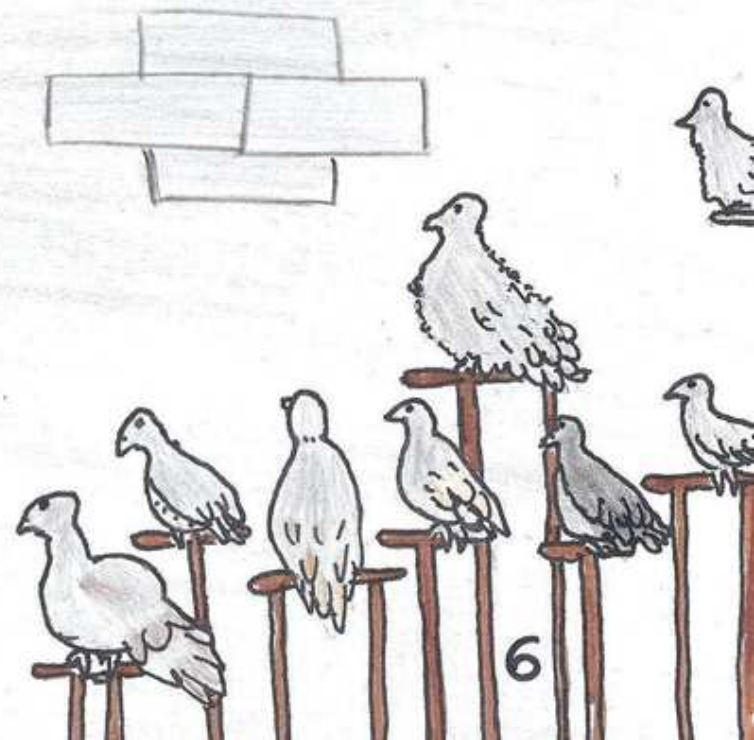
-“I want my son, now!” said Hamish angrily.

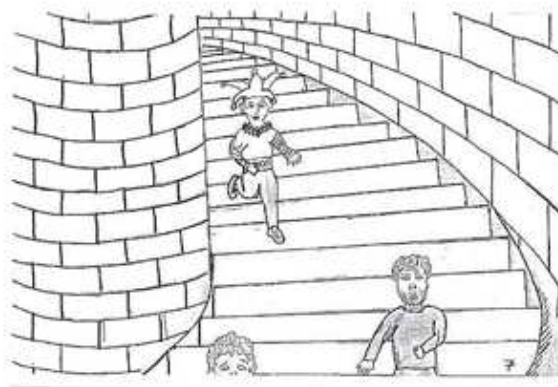
-“Follow me to the tower!” he said laughing.

-“Now Hamish, choose the pigeon and you can have your son, Calum,” said the wizard.

Hamish walked and looked at all the pigeons. He saw one with a tiny black feather on its head.

-“I'll choose this pigeon”, Hamish said.





Suddenly Calum was standing in front of his father.

- Father!!! said Calum.

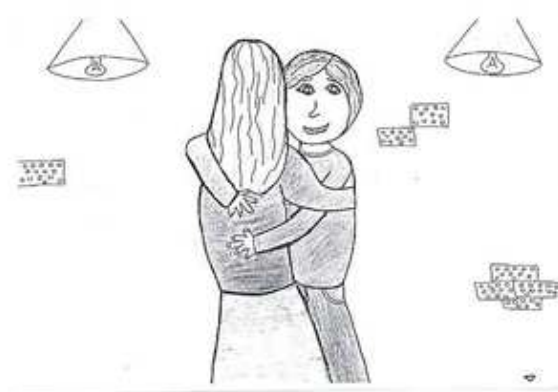
The wizard was very angry and cried, "Get out of here! One day I'll come back!"

Hamish and Calum ran down the stairs and out of the castle.

They stopped at the old man's house in the forest and thanked him.

Then they went home.

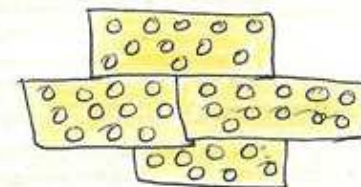
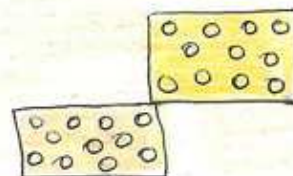
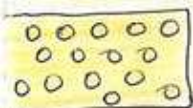
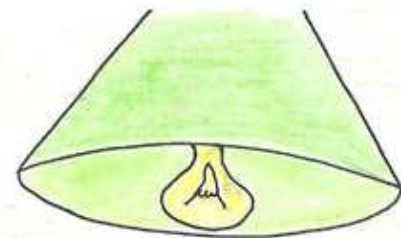
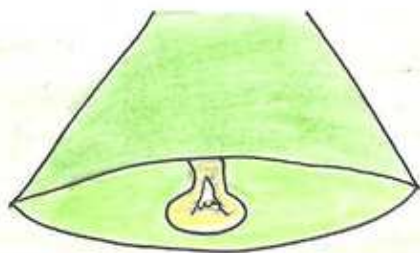


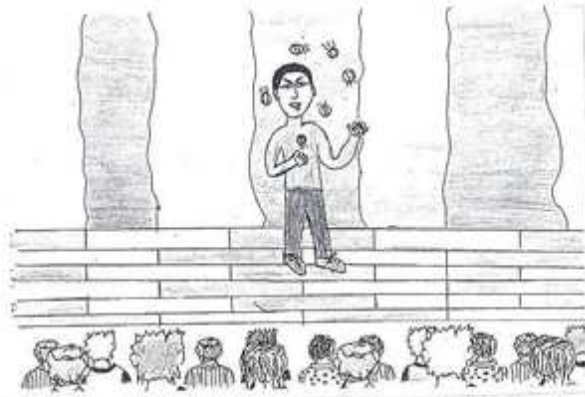


Catriona was very happy when she saw Hamish and Calum. She could not believe her eyes.

-“Calum, my dear boy!” she said. “I’m very happy to see you. Thank you for bringing him home, Hamish!”

-“Oh mother!!” said Calum, “I don't want to go away anymore. Now I'm the best juggler in the world”.

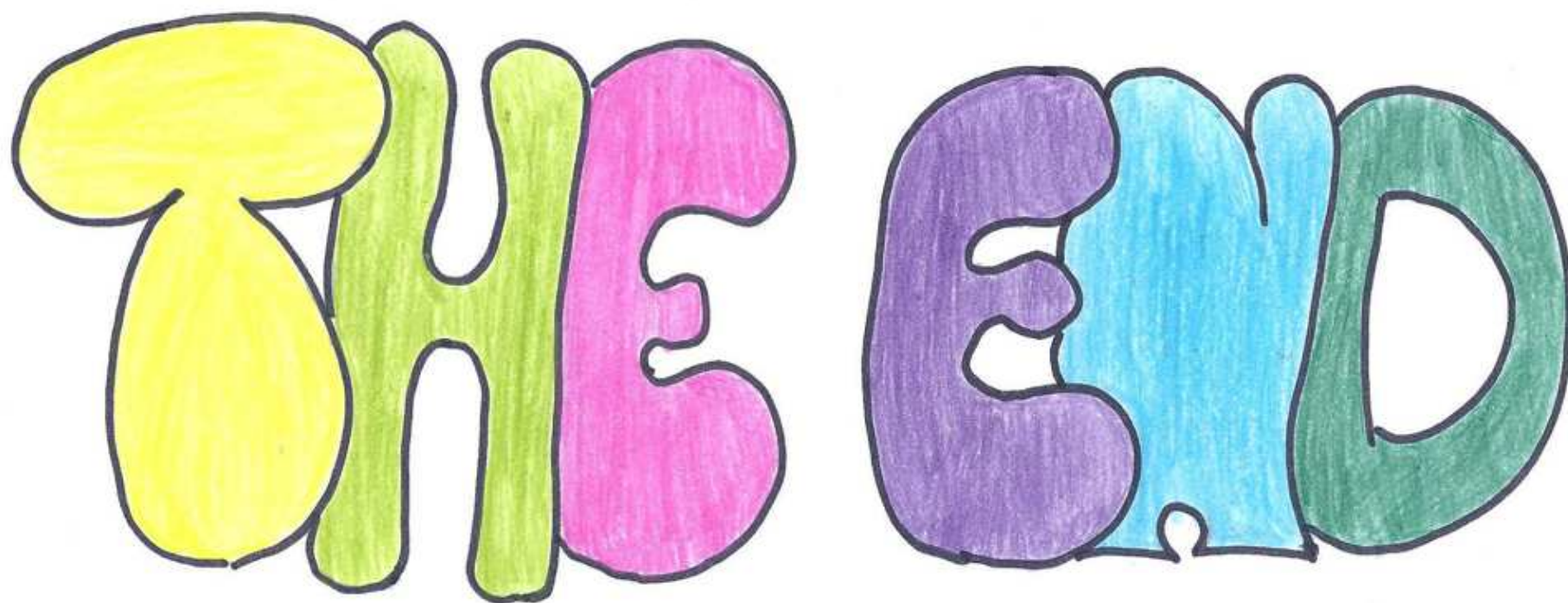




Calum became the town juggler. The people always enjoyed his tricks. His hands moved very fast and everyone was surprised. People from different towns came to see him. The children liked Calum a lot. He became famous and made a lot of money. Now Calum and Hamish only went fishing for fun. The beautiful sailing ship never came to the port again. But on stormy nights the people of the town told scary stories about the King of the Wizards.



THE END



Adaptación de la leyenda escocesa "The King of the Wizards".
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