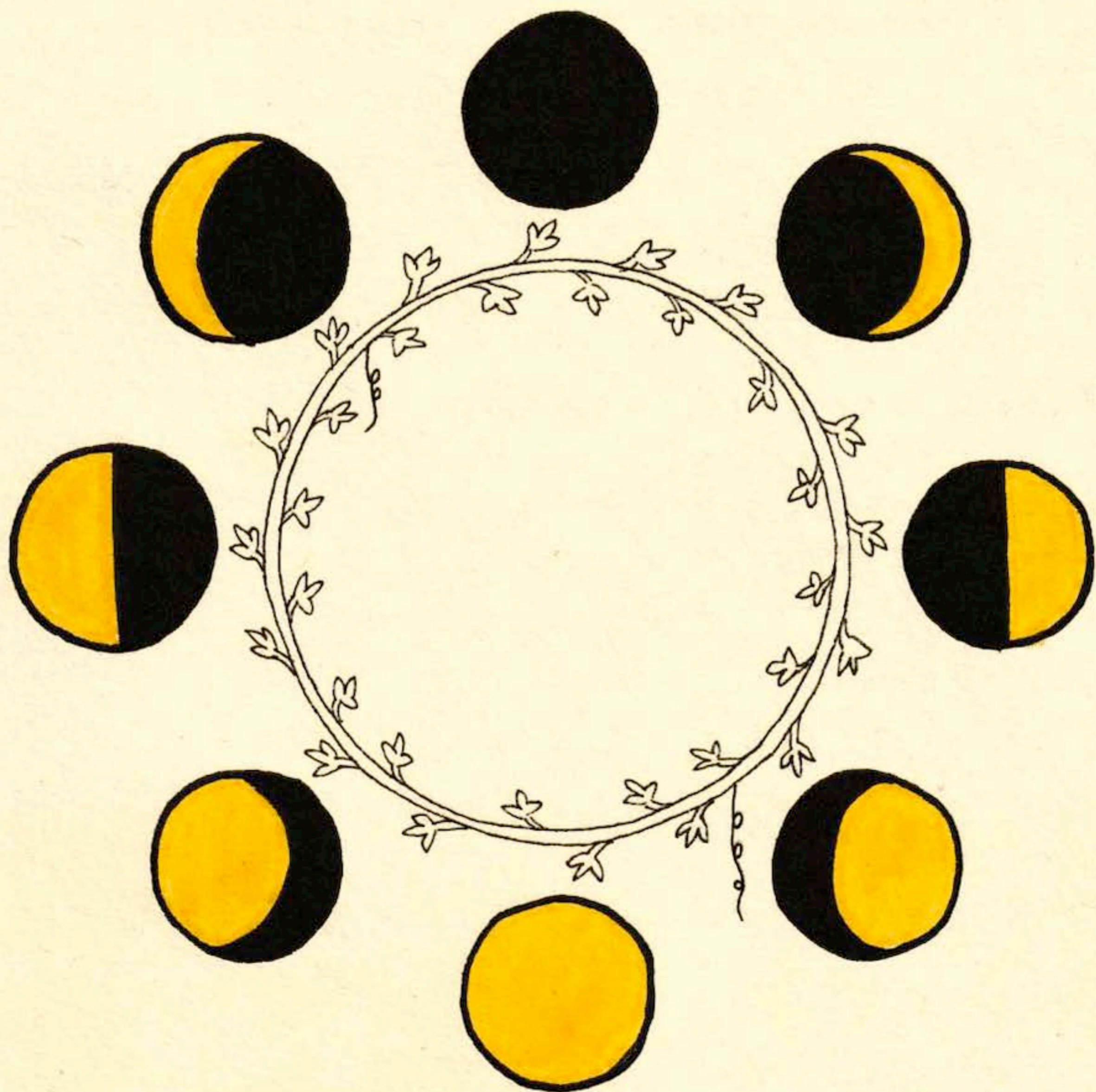


# WAKE

*a journey inward*



RICHE OCEAN  
AUTUMN 2020

# wake

## verb

- 1 emerge or cause to emerge from a state of sleep; stop sleeping
- 2 become alert to or aware of
- 3 cause (something) to stir or come to life
- 4 evoke (an echo)

## noun

- 1 watch beside a corpse before burial; attendant lamentation and (less often) merrymaking

# SEPTEMBER

I. *losing you, losing me, phantom selves*

II. *shedding skins that hold memories of you  
to make myself whole again*

III. *so many parts of myself  
just falling away  
falling into depths*

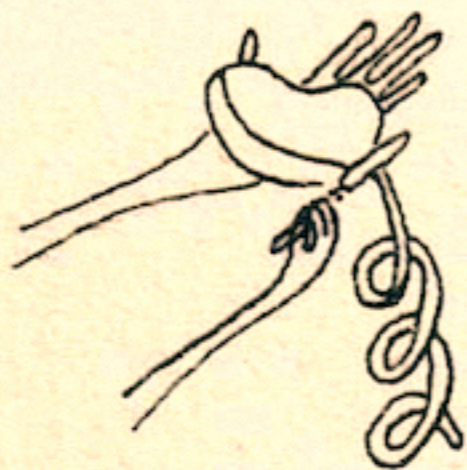
*unknown*

*unknown*

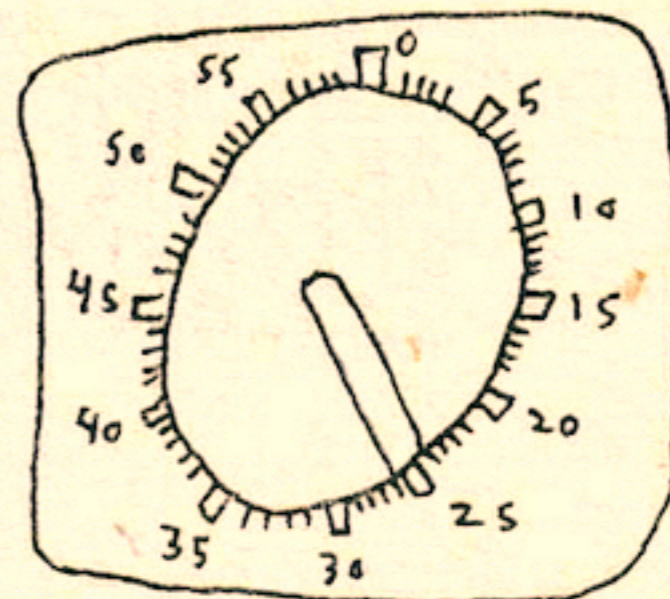
*unknown*

*there is peace to be found here*

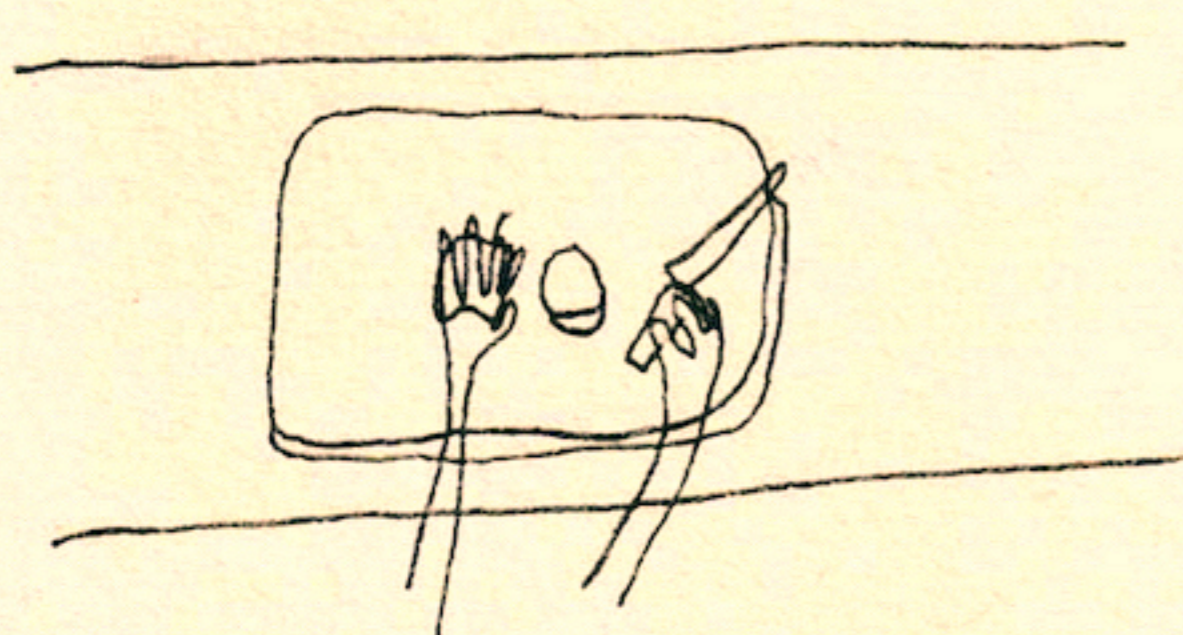
1.



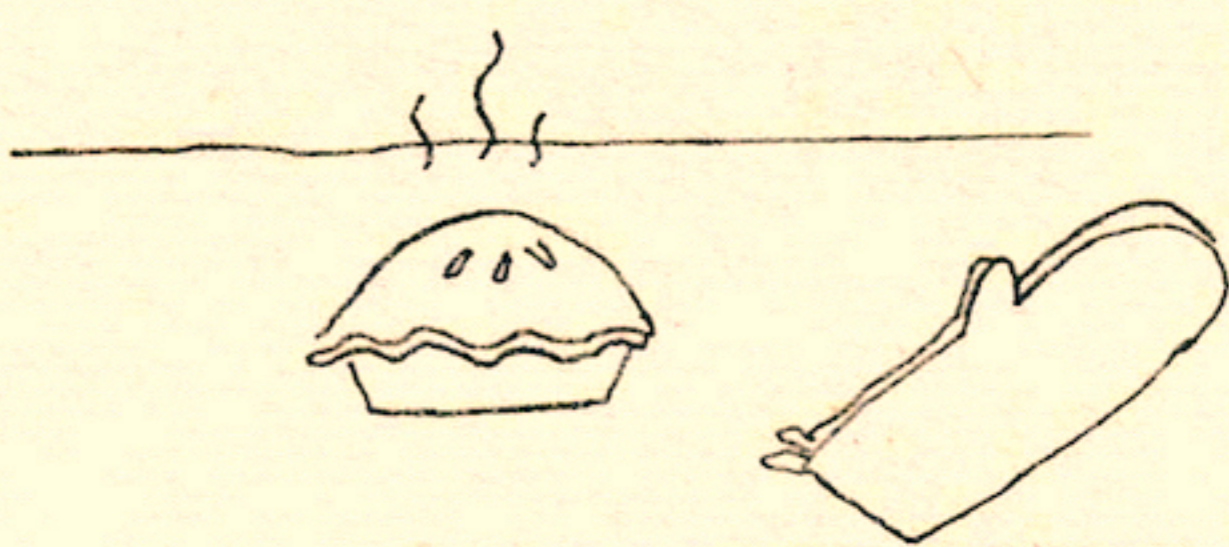
6.



2.



7.

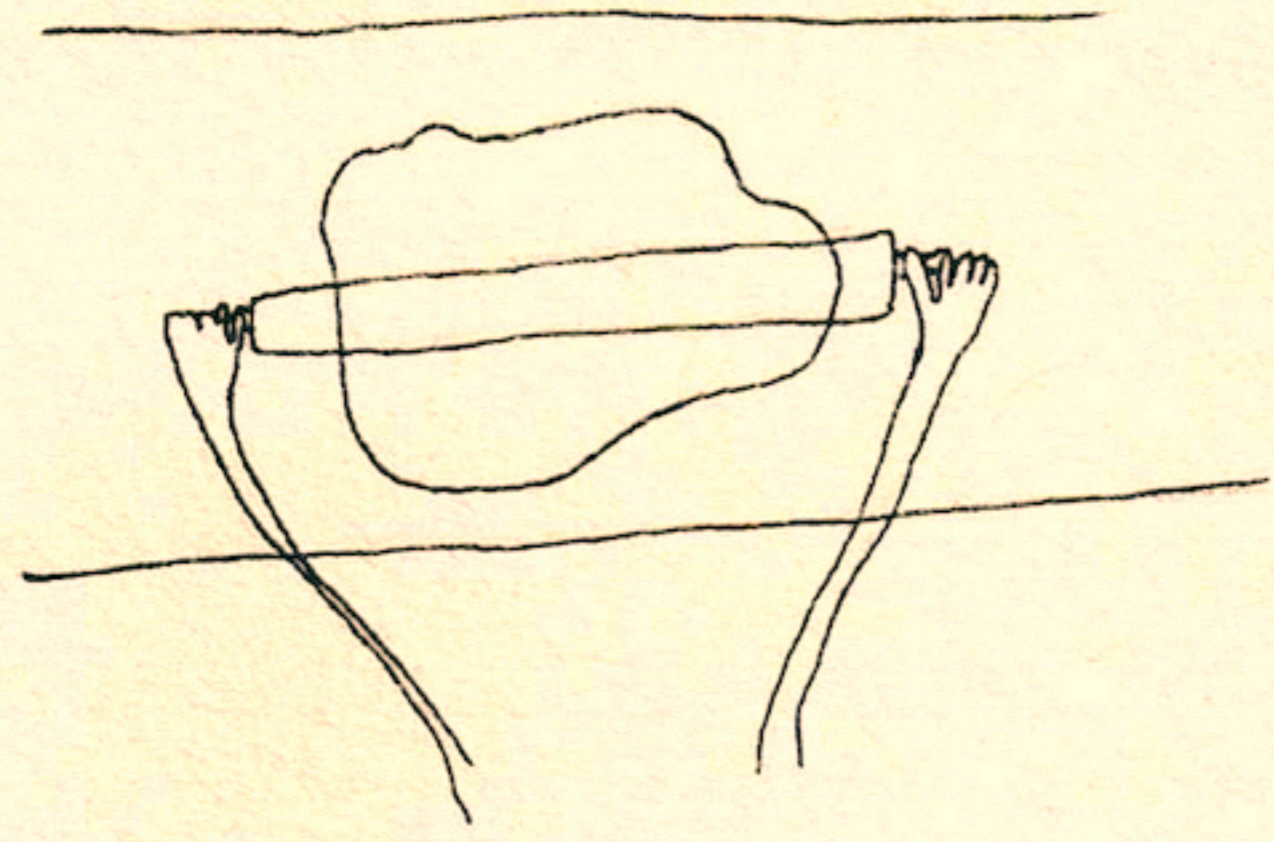


3.



- go to the orchard
- weep
- collect anger off of trees
- pluck sweet ripe sorrows with glee

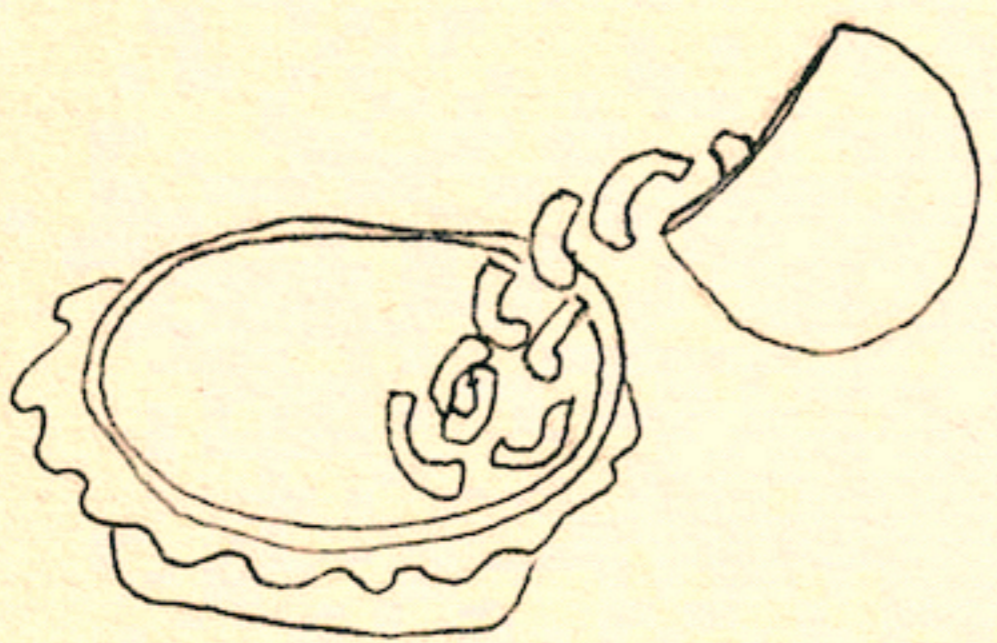
4.



basket teeming with raw feelings,

- gather yourself
- go home
- transform today's harvest from hurt into dessert

5.



fresh out of the oven, burnt mouth on the first bite

even then, it taste it: bitter sweet

# OCTOBER

a minute twenty-seven into a song  
suddenly, sharply  
i'm reminded of you

bursting at the seams  
the stitches don't hold  
-again-

*drip*

liquid pools at my feet  
marking another subway stop

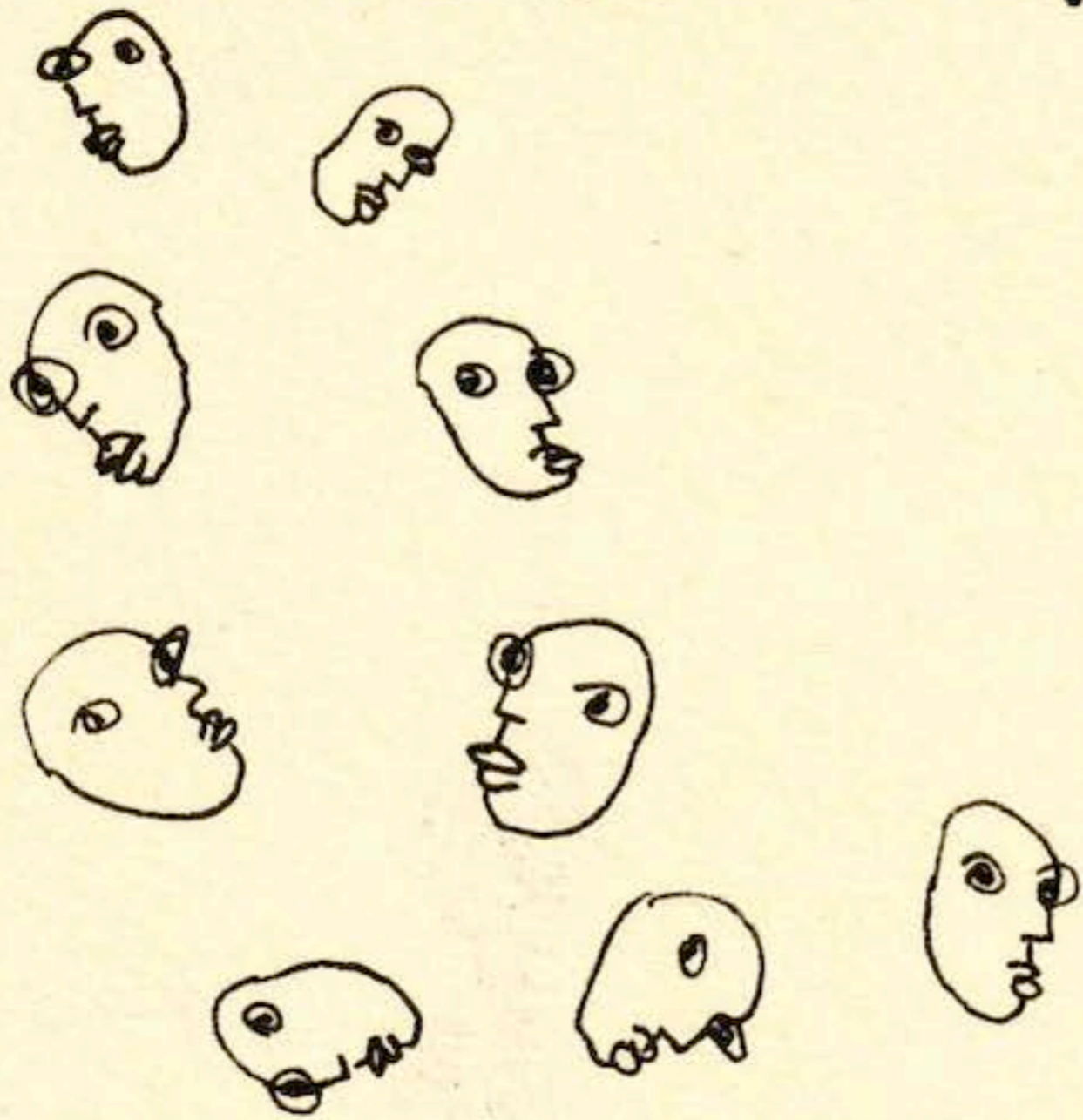
*drip*

mapping moments of renewed heartbreak

*drip*

blood crumbs leave a trail  
from what i can't go back to

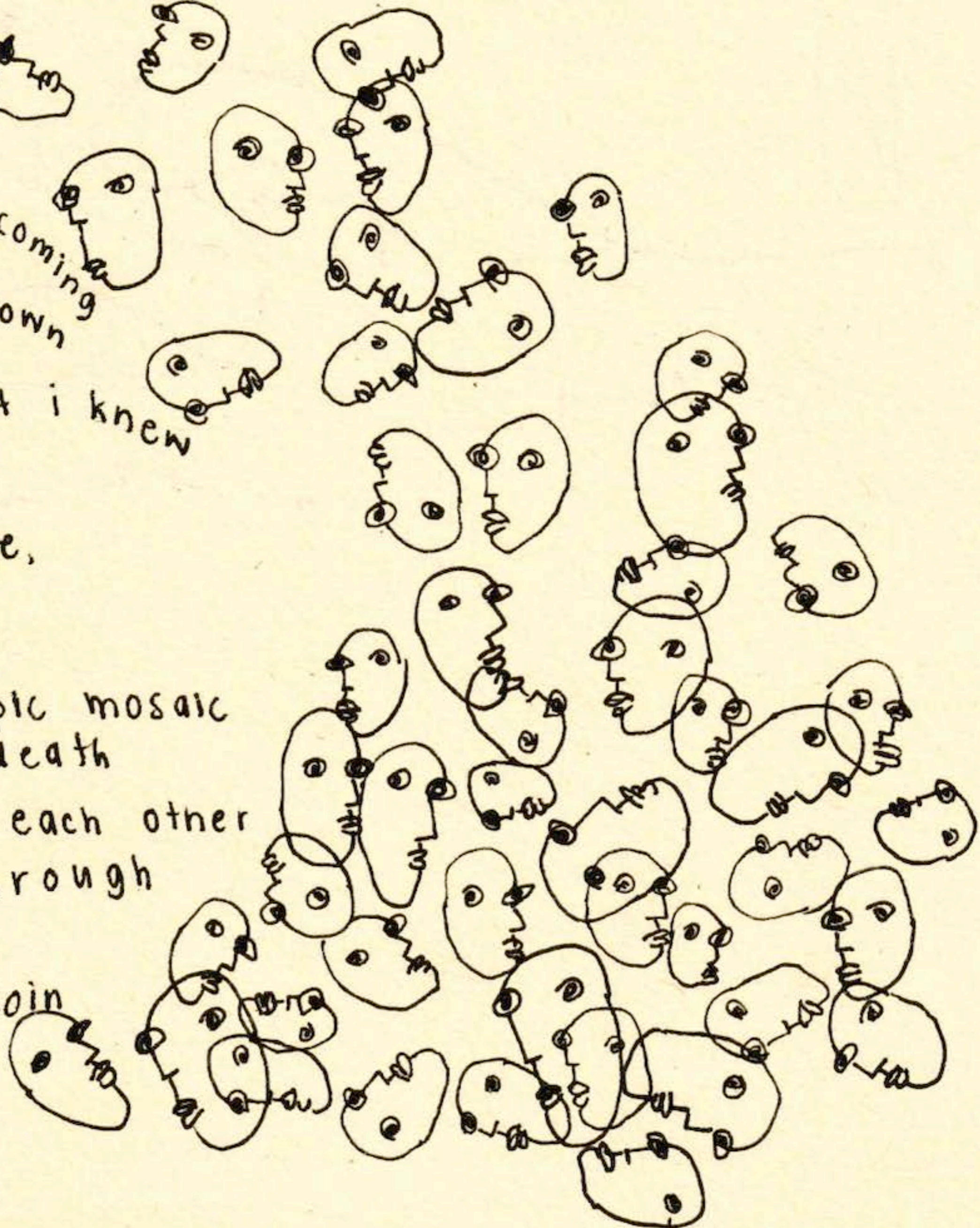
# NOVEMBER



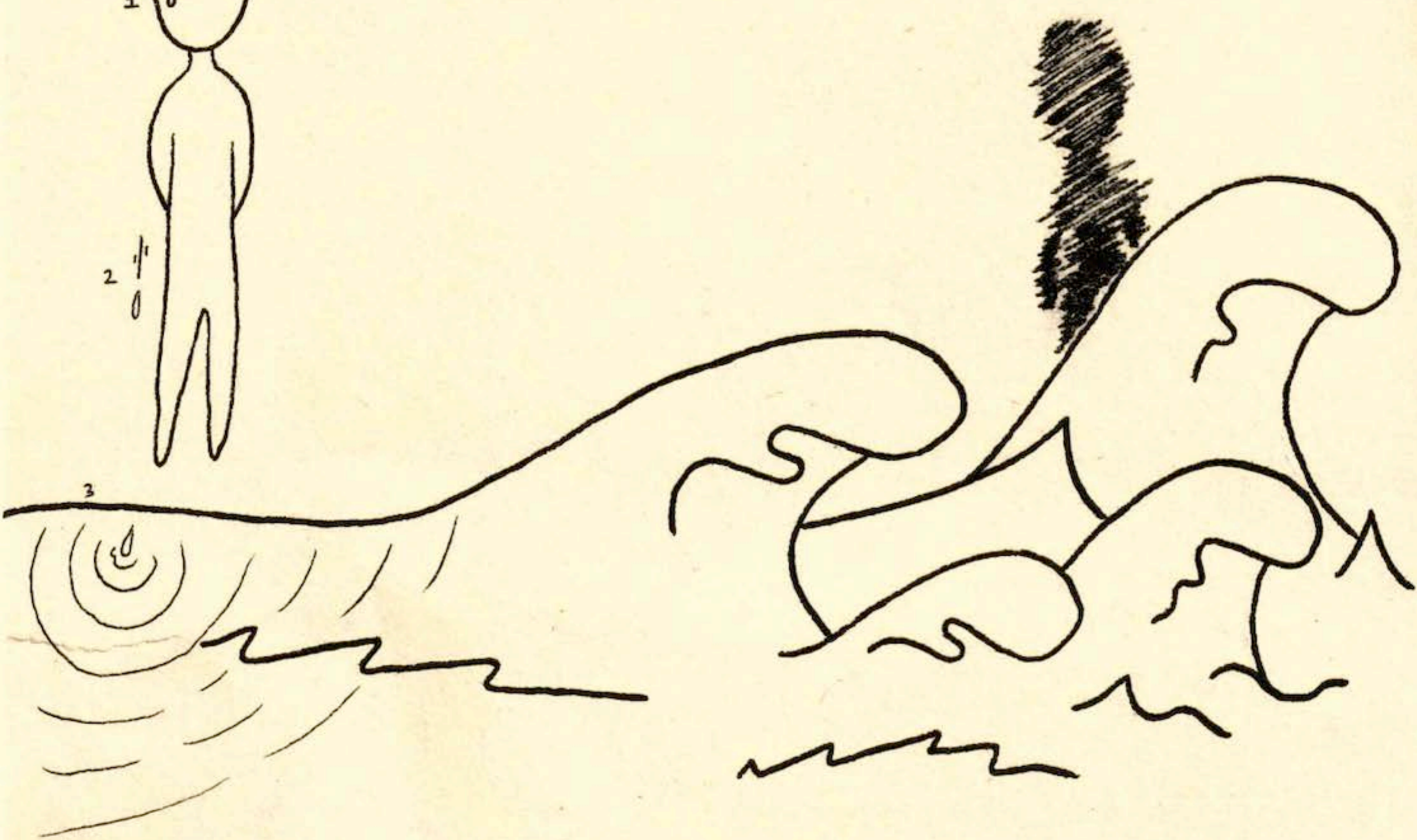
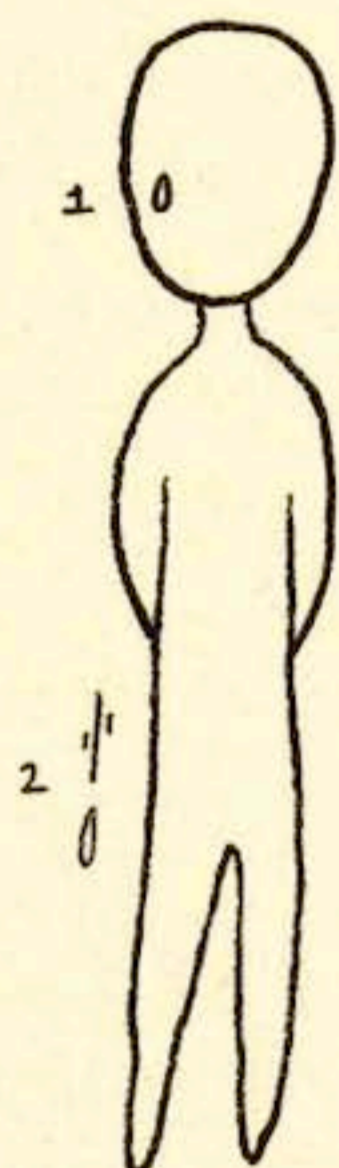
I. memories blur  
in my dreams  
linearity is left at the door  
faces fall into faces  
floating in feelings  
it's you, but it's not  
but anyway it's all the same  
a rose by any other name...

II.  
basking in unbecoming  
blessed with  
the breaking down  
of everything  
i once thought i knew

cells fracture,  
multiply,  
dissolve  
a kaleidoscopic mosaic  
of life and death  
falling into each other  
creation through  
destruction  
sides of a coin

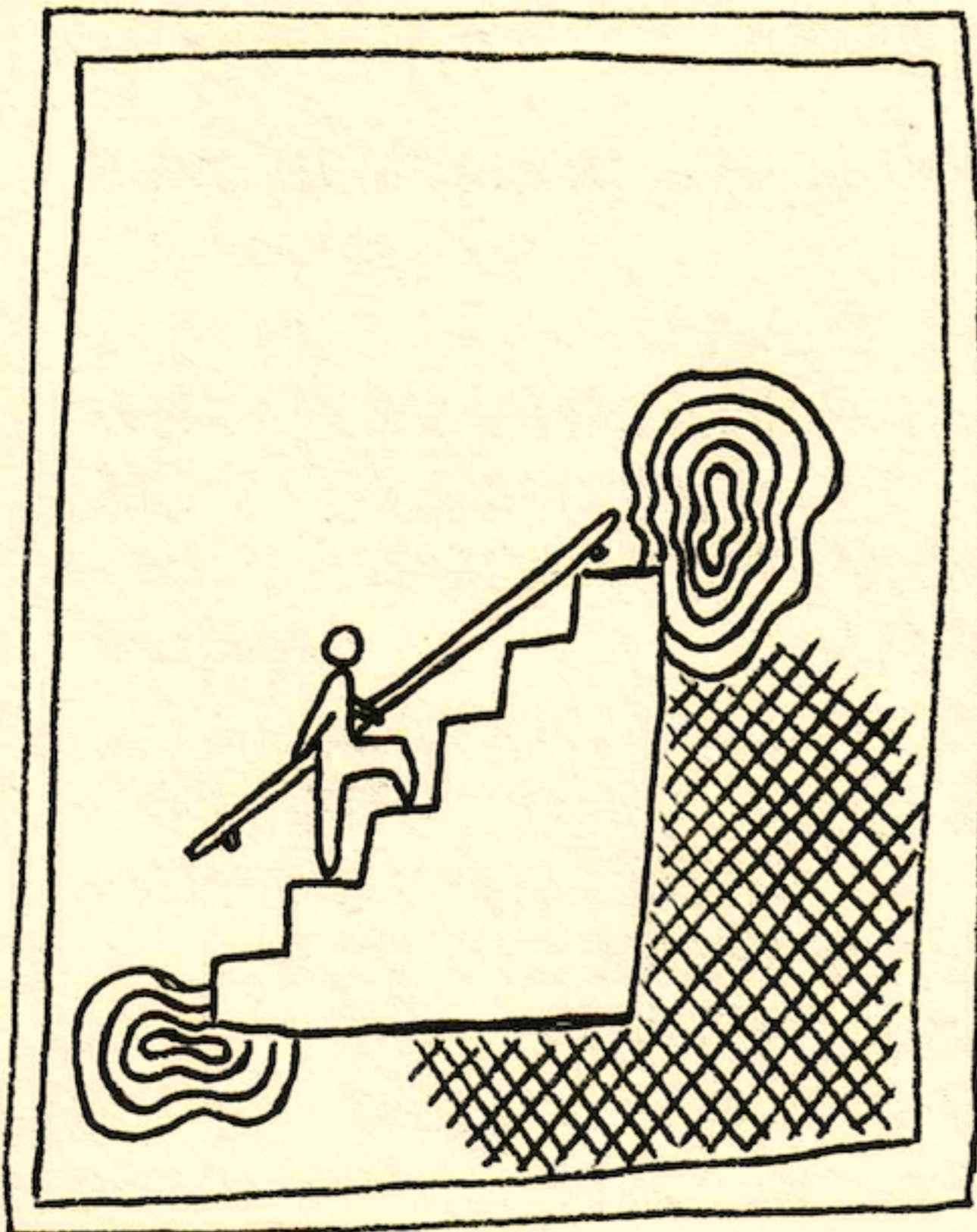


# JANUARY



# APRIL

WALKING DOWN MEMORY LANE,  
EXCEPT THE LANE IS A  
STAIRCASE AND KEEPS  
SHIFTING. I'M DISORIENTED.





# MAY

driven ~~him~~ forth ~~from the~~  
~~the~~ words ~~of the~~ cried ~~and~~ shattered ~~the~~  
~~the~~ peace. ~~the~~ the last

~~the~~  
~~the~~ before the hurricane,  
~~the~~  
~~the~~

~~the~~ square, ~~the~~, the  
~~the~~ burning ~~the~~  
~~the~~ heart ~~the~~

~~the~~ the shadow of the tangled  
~~the~~ flooded  
his whole being. ~~the~~

~~the~~  
~~the~~  
~~the~~

~~the~~ Was that  
boyish love? Was that chivalry? Was that poetry? ~~the~~

~~the~~ packet of pictures ~~the~~  
~~the~~  
~~the~~

hours ~~the~~ in thought and ~~the~~  
dreams, ~~the~~

~~the~~ long letters ~~the~~  
written ~~the~~ carried  
~~the~~ to throw ~~the~~  
~~the~~ among the grass ~~the~~

~~the~~  
~~the~~ Was it  
possible ~~the~~

~~the~~ the memories condensed

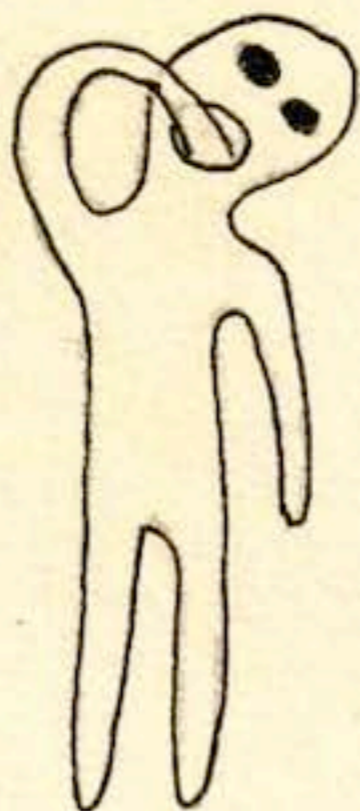
JUNE



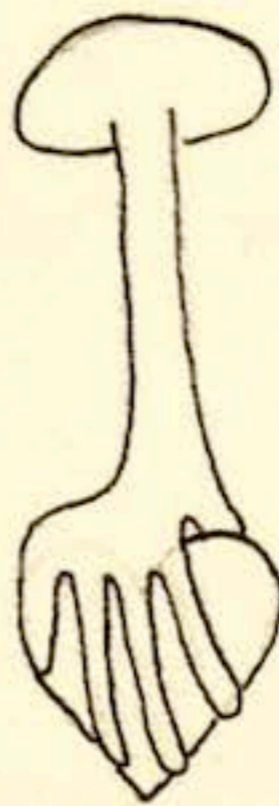
1



2



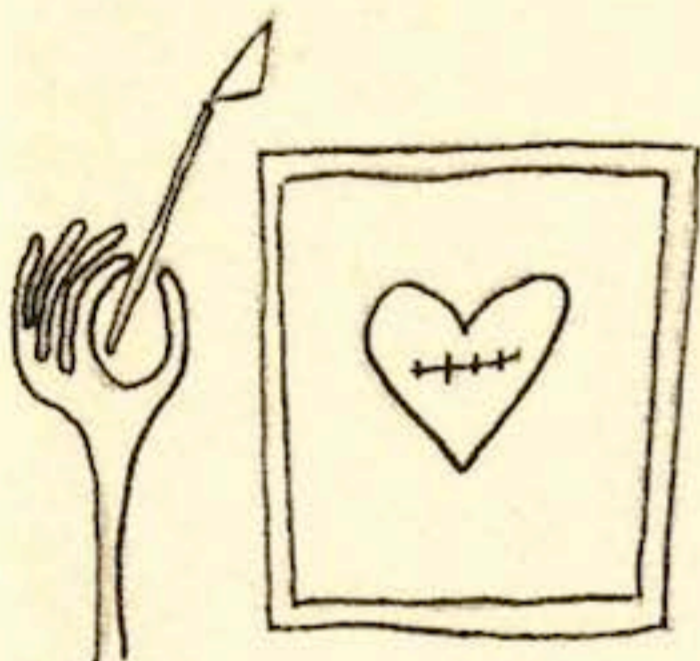
3



4



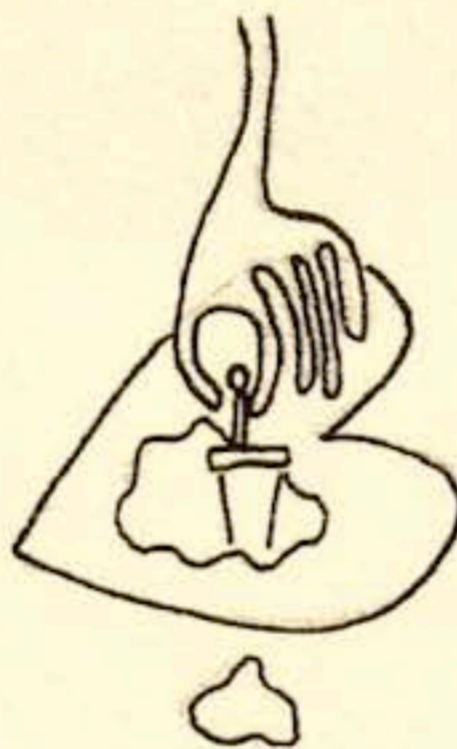
5



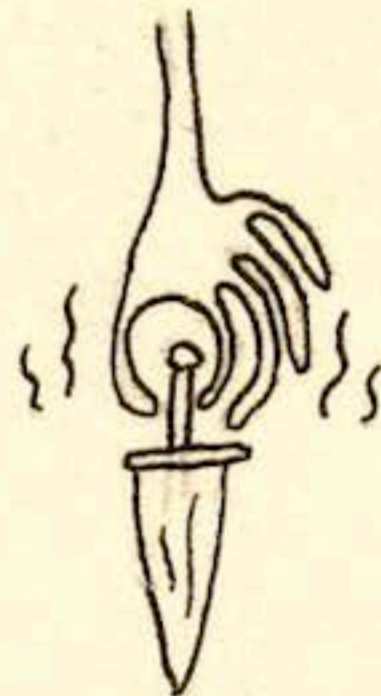
6



7



8

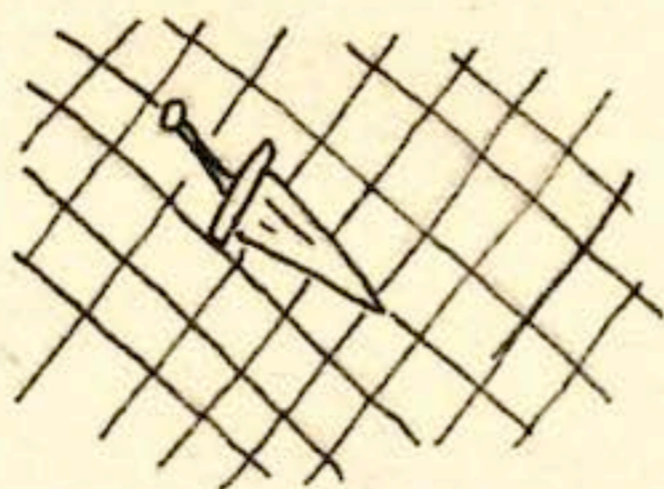


9

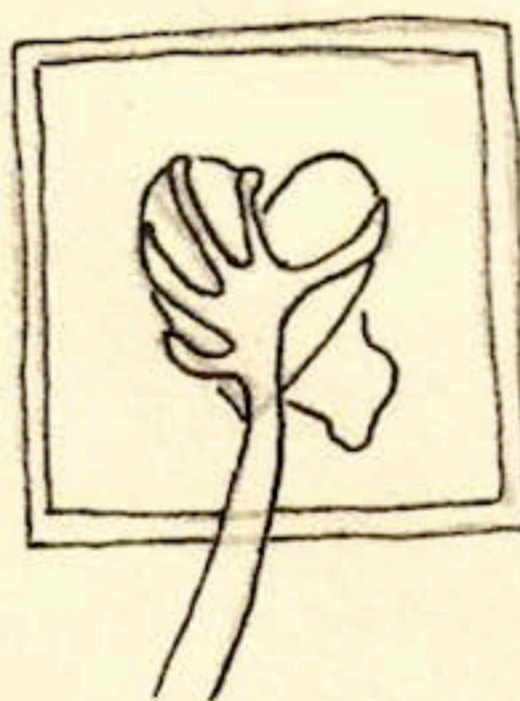


10

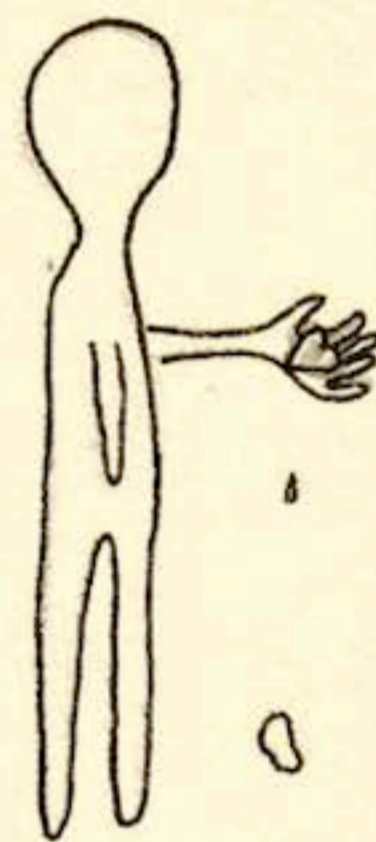
\*CLANK\*



11



12



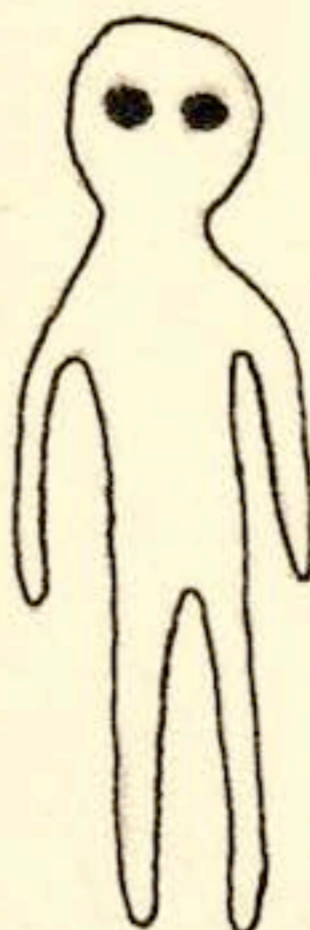
13



14



15



16



I. ROCKS

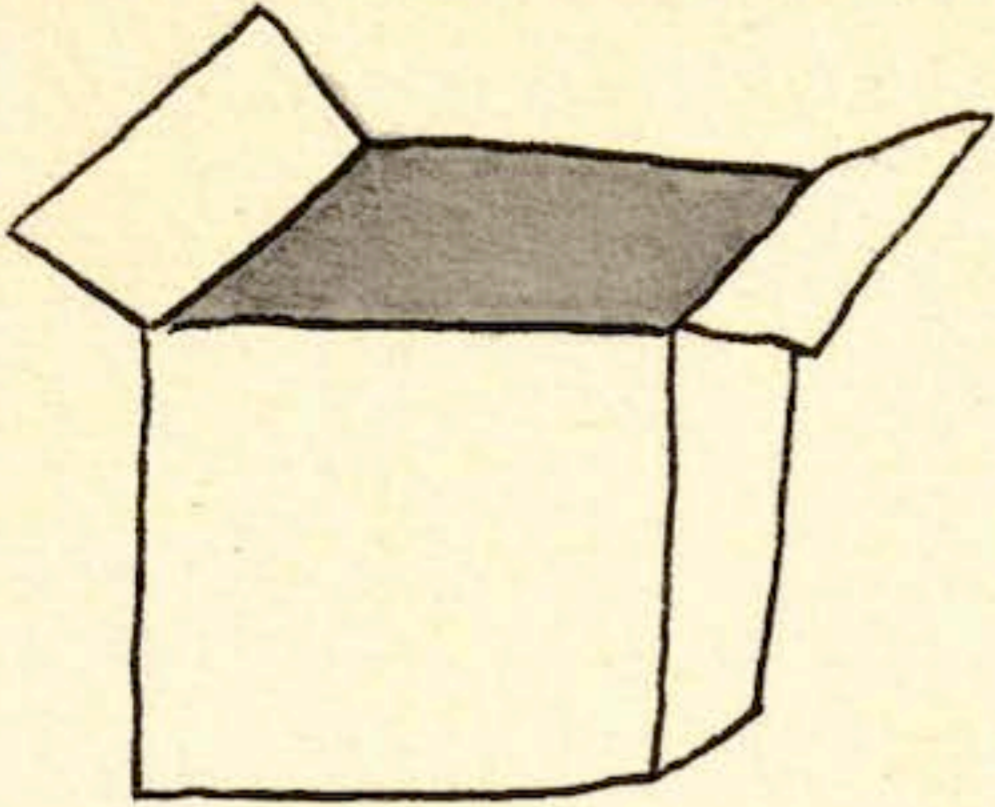
RIPPLES  
RIPPLES  
RIPPLES  
RIPPED UP INSIDE  
[UNRAVELING INTENSIFIES]



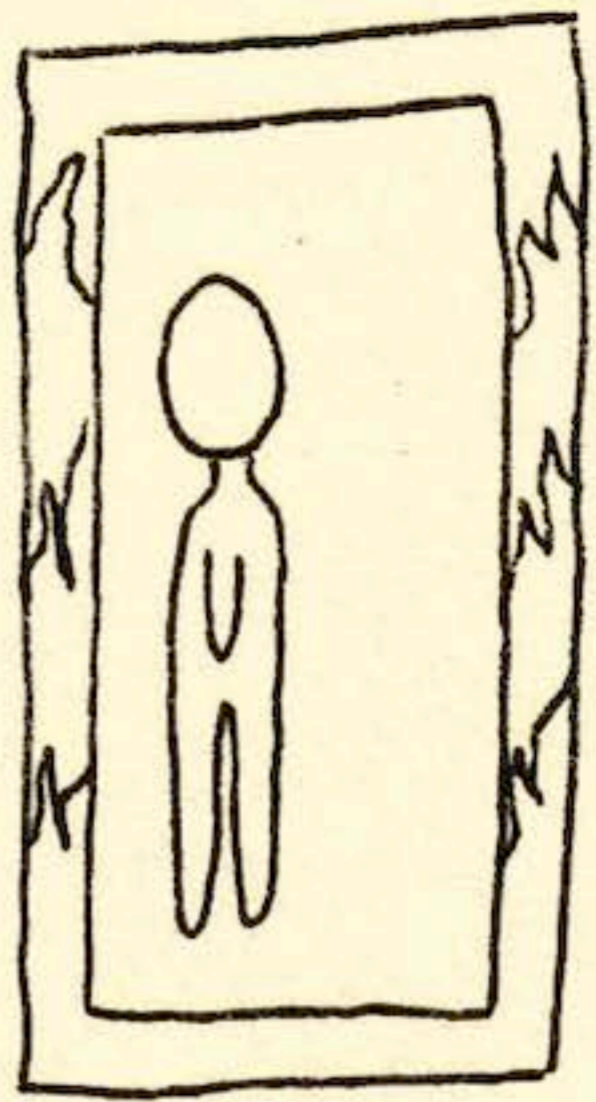
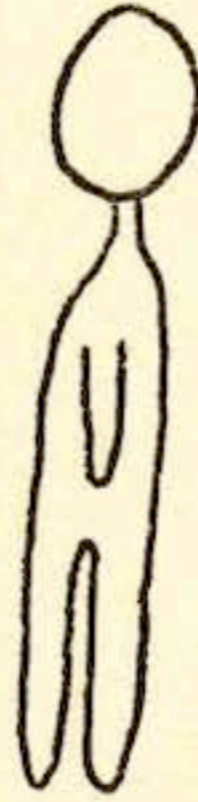
II. dust bunnies haunt me at night  
skins i'd shed collect around my bed  
dancing in my head to the beat  
of my hurried heart

# AUGUST

1

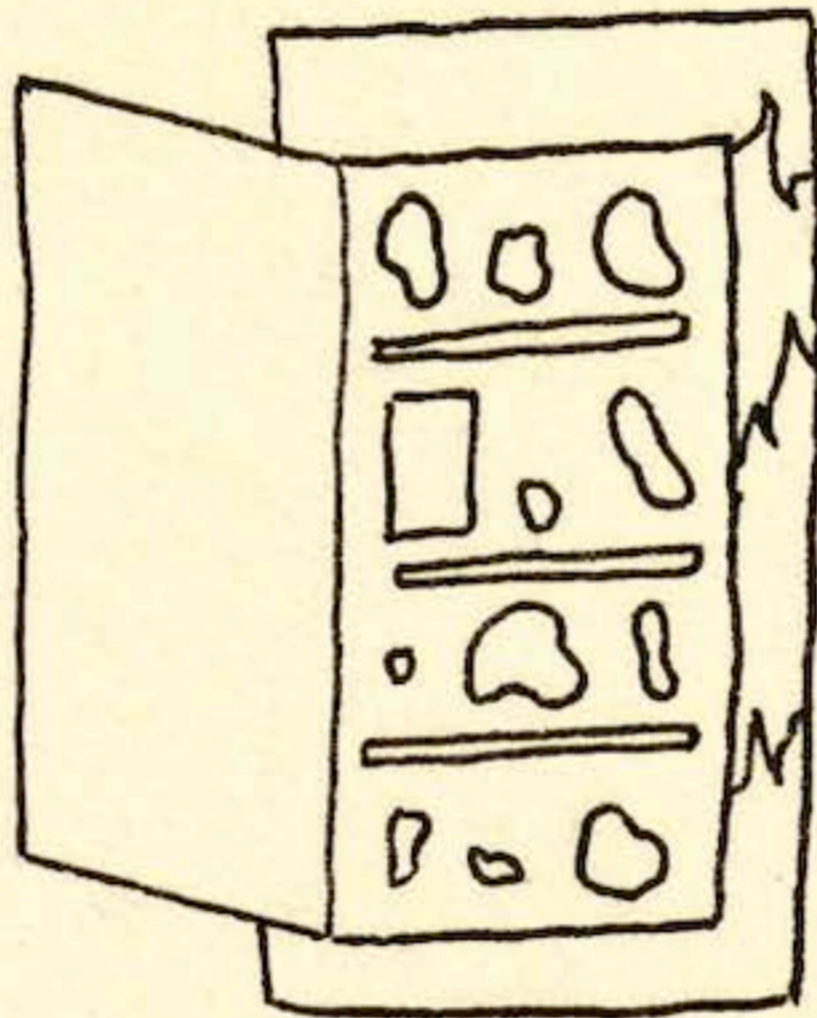
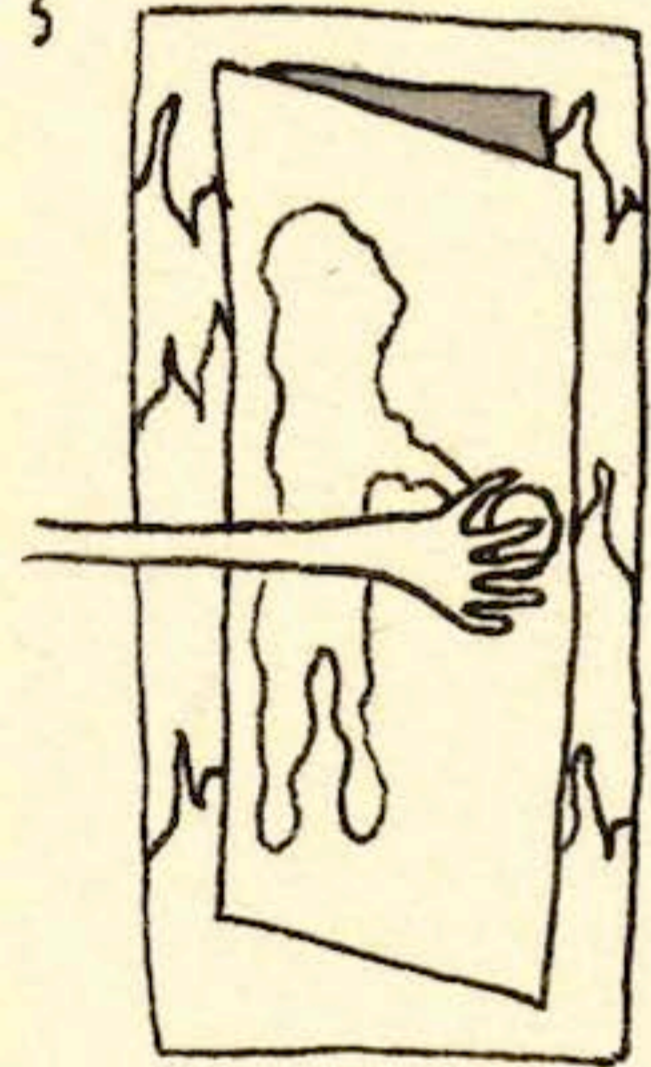


2



you don't have to

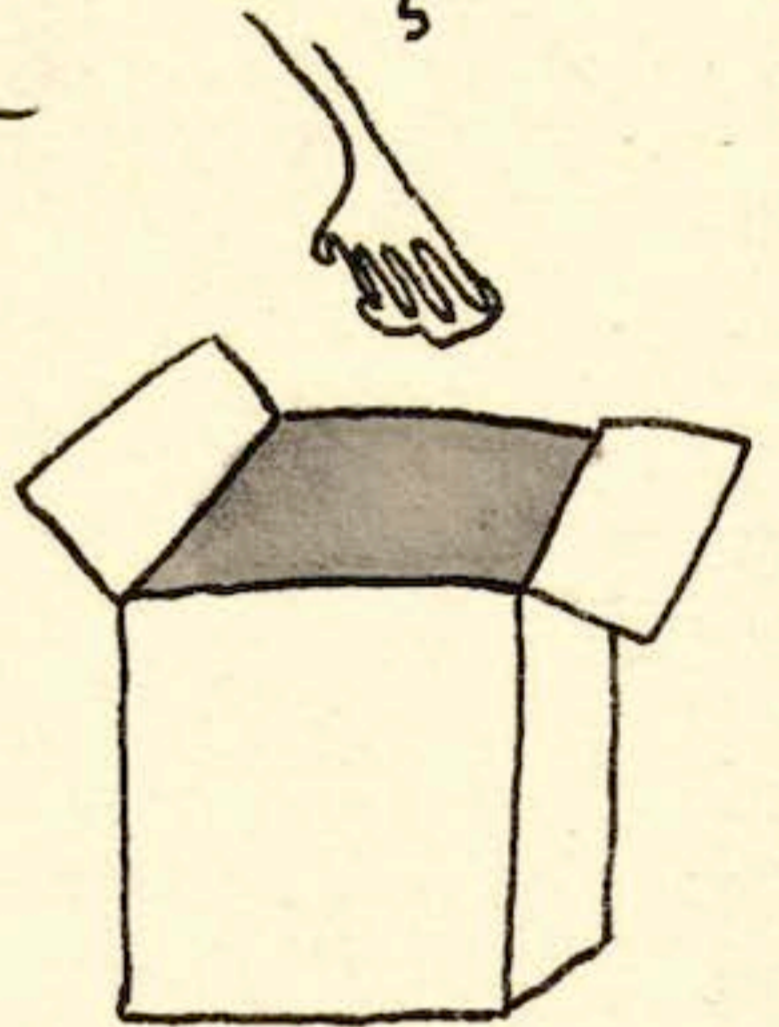
3



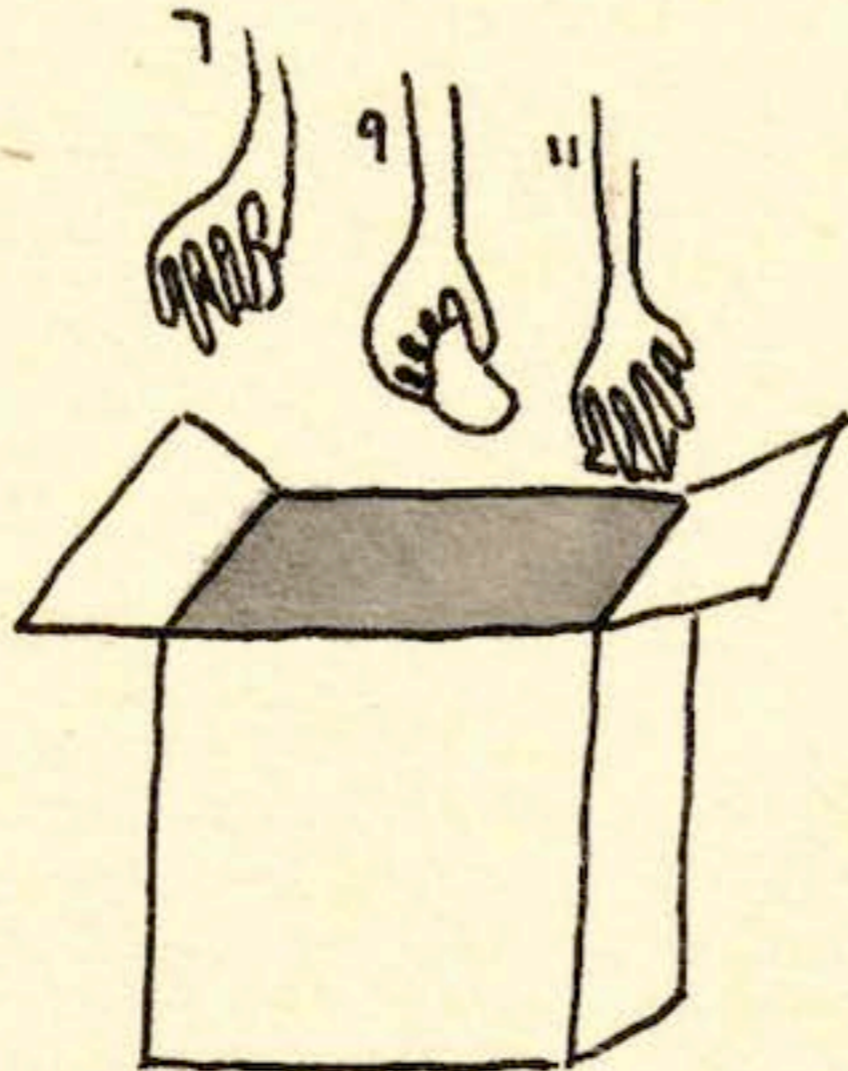
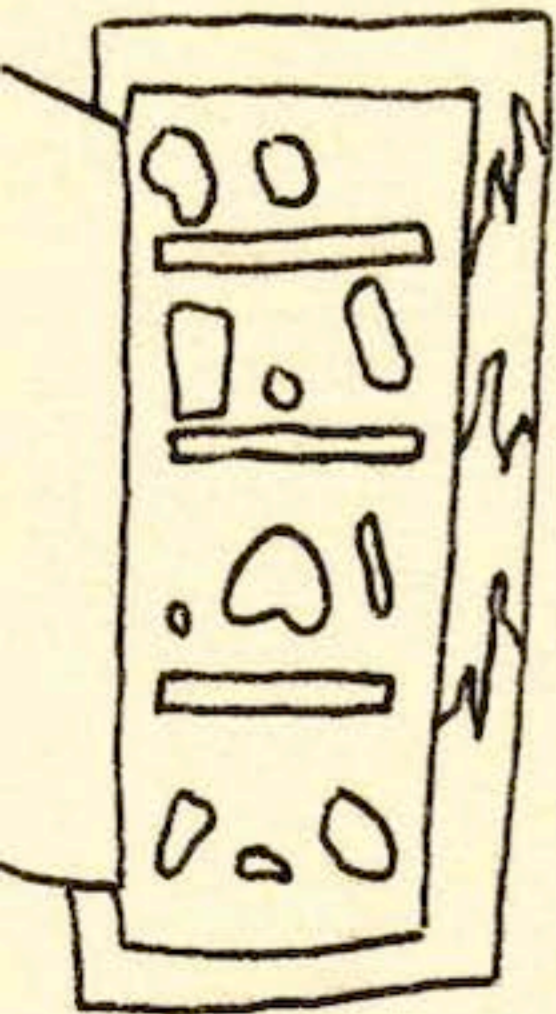
4



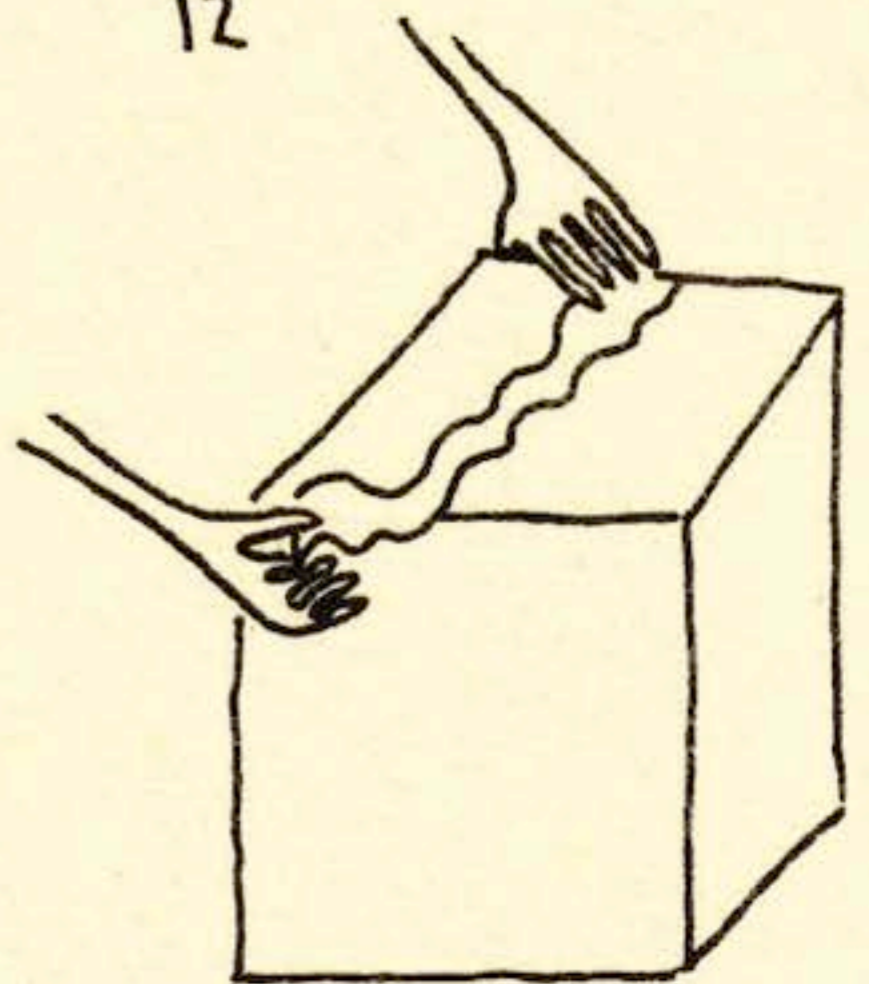
5

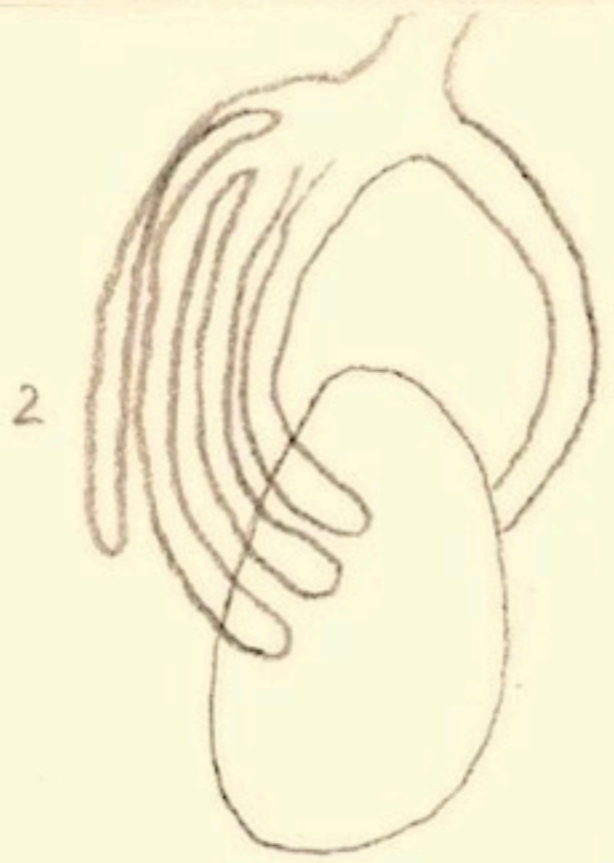
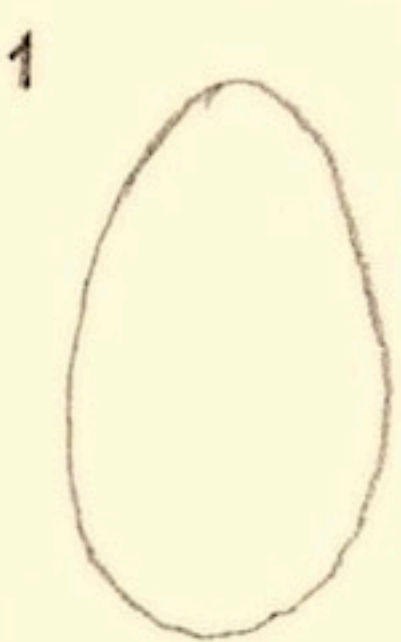


carry this any longer

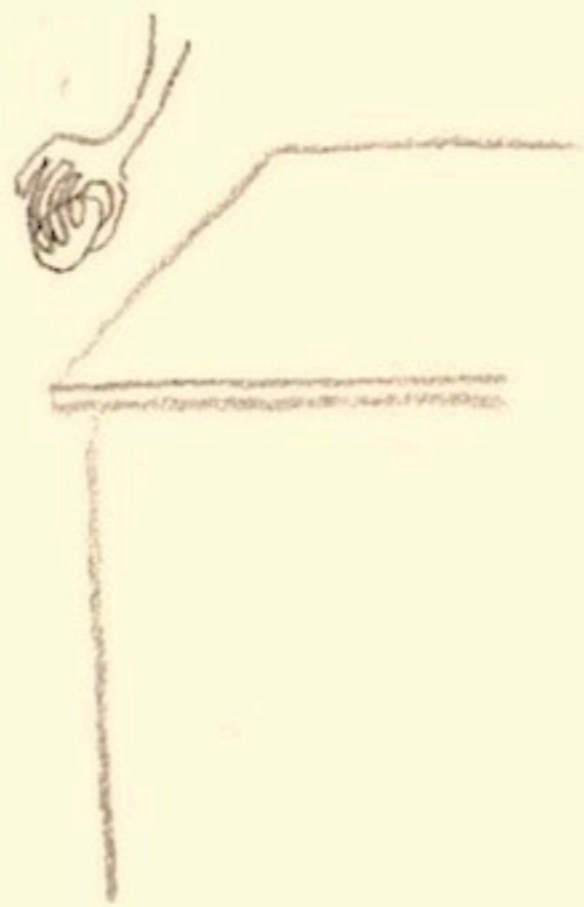


12





3



4 CRACK



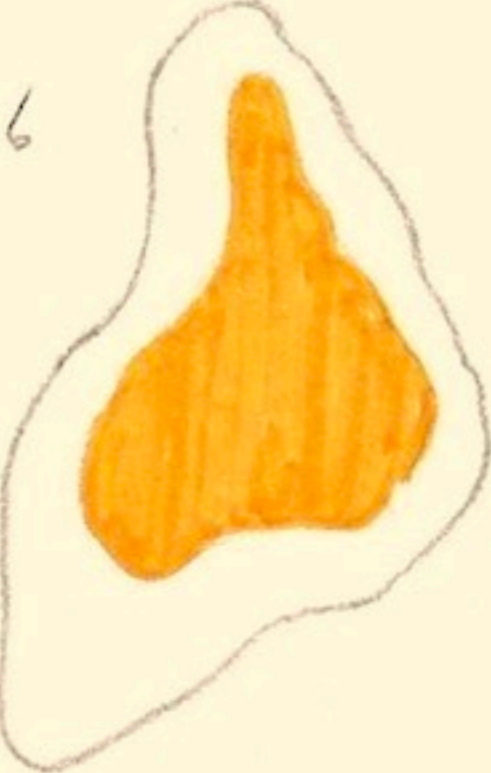
5

10

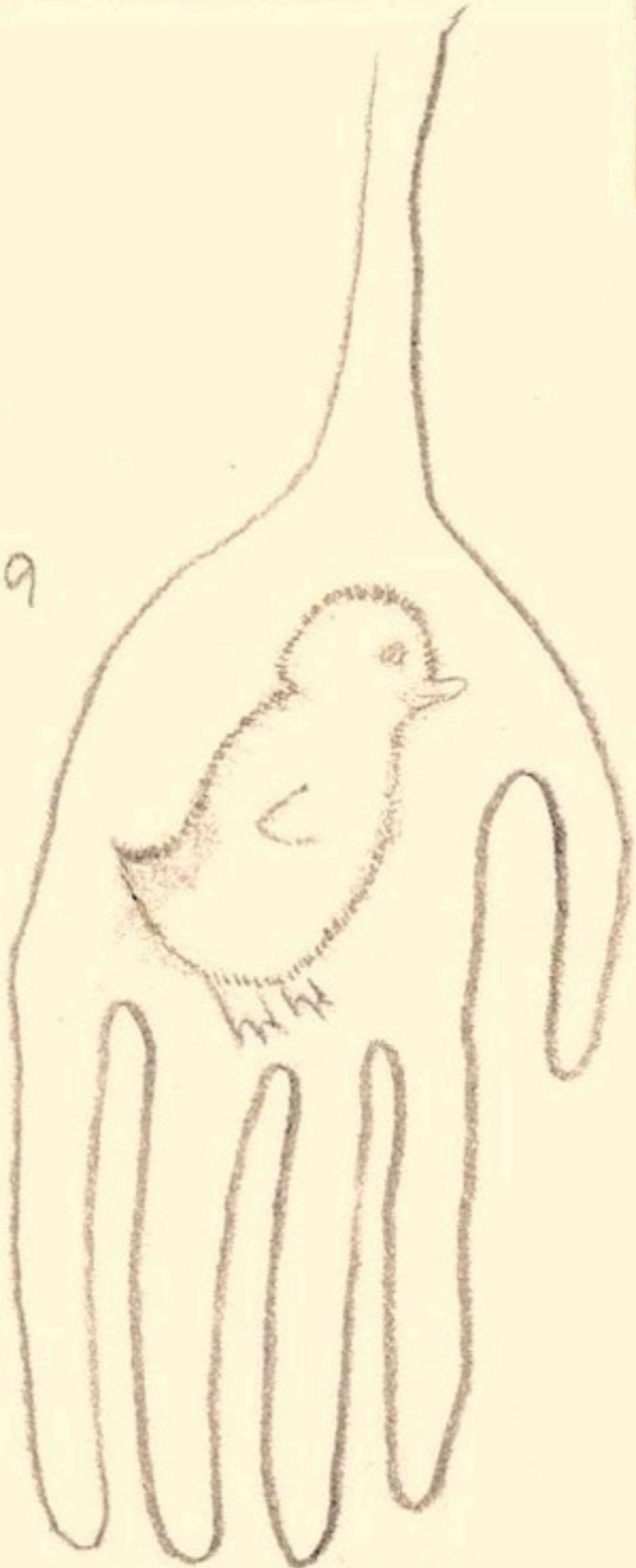


+ 1

LVL



6



9



7



8

# SEPTEMBER

15

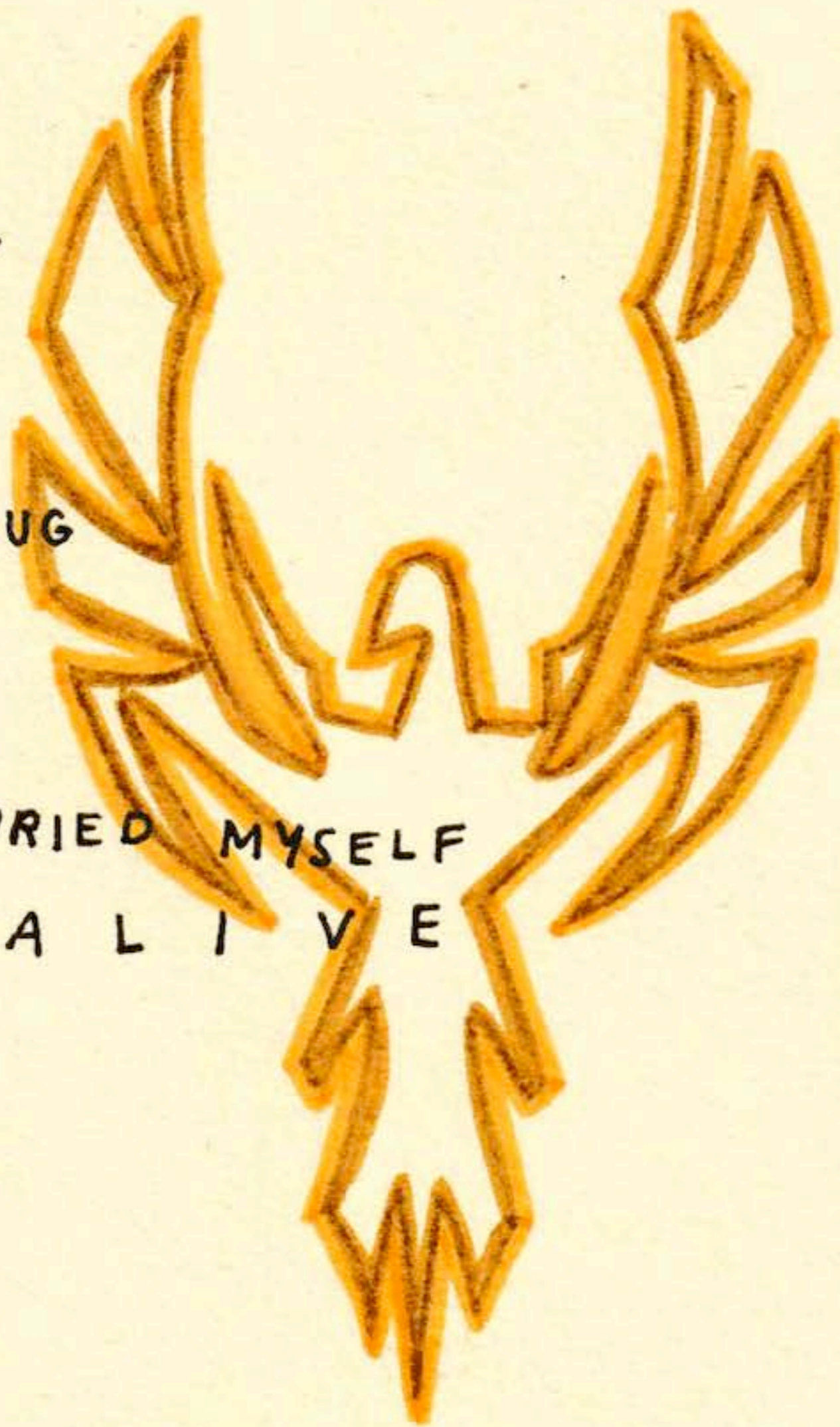
I TOOK UP THE SHOVEL WITH ABANDON

AND DUG

AND DUG

AND DUG

AND BURIED MYSELF  
A L I V E



(CAN YOU IMAGINE MY DELIGHT  
AT SEEDLINGS STUBBORNLY  
REACHING FOR SUNLIGHT)

# OCTOBER



end,  
and,  
and,