

December 3, 2006

Ms. Lee Monroe  
Institute of Living  
69 Jefferson Street  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Ms. Monroe,

We are two students working on our public policy project for Professor Dina Anselmi's Child Development class at Trinity College. We initially focused on divorce as the topic of our policy project but due to divorce being an immensely broad topic we had to narrow it down a great deal. While we were in the process of researching and refining our search we realized that children had very little information readily available to them to get

through a divorce situation, especially compared with the seemingly limitless information that a parent had from both online and mandatory classroom time. This realization was what made us decide that we would do something to help kids get through divorce, now we only had to think of how we could most effectively do that.

You had previously met with my colleague Chandler Barnard and you suggested that maybe we use a comic book to better relate information about divorce to children. We have followed through with your suggestion and created a comic book that we were hoping that you could find a use for in your office. If you wouldn't use it specifically in your office hopefully you would find an appropriate place in the institute for children to get the most use out of it. We have done research and consulted with our TA and professor to help develop the comic to be realistic and helpful to a child.

In the comic the main character is faced with several difficult feelings that many children experience during a divorce such as if both parents still love them or if the divorce was their fault. Our character is helped through these situations by his friends and hopefully by reading this comic, children will realize that they are not alone in their situation and that there is hope for their family.

We have enclosed several copies of our finished comic that you will hopefully find a use for. If you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you again for being such a valuable resource and making such a good suggestion. Without you I don't think that our final project would have turned out quite as good as it did.

Sincerely,

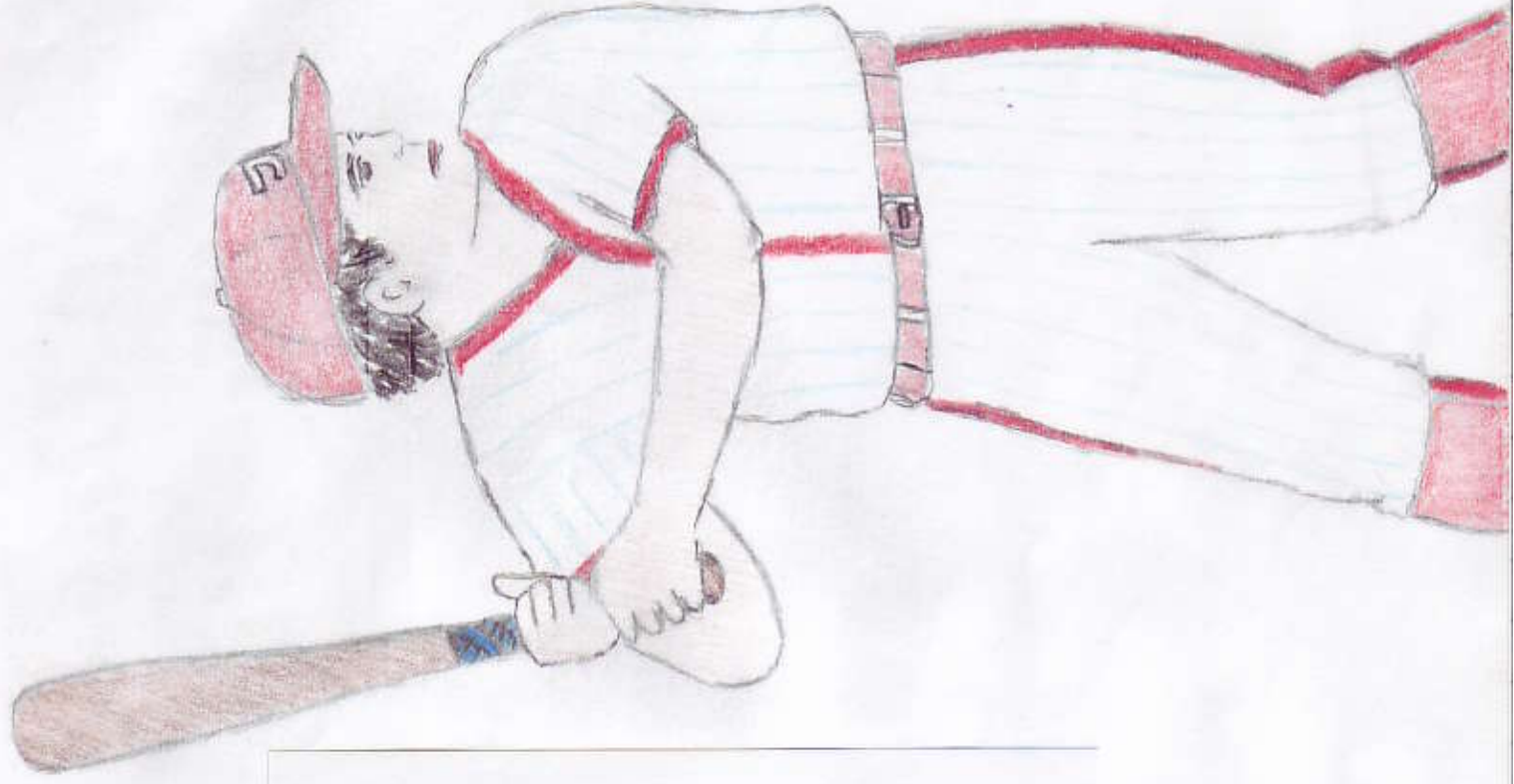
Ian Hendry  
Trinity College, Box #701532  
609-424-7392

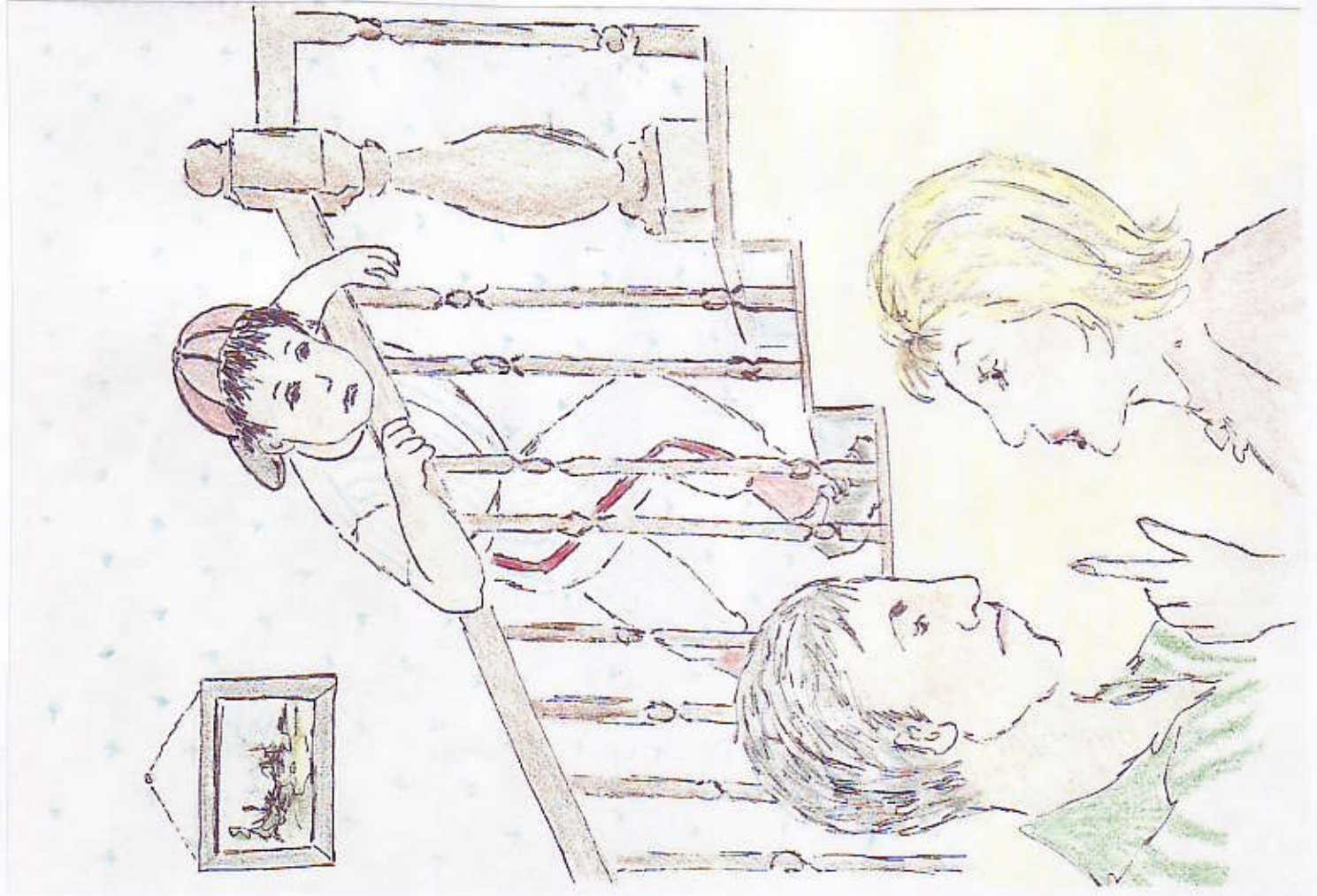
Chandler Barnard  
Trinity College, Box #701695  
806-252-3024

# *No One to Watch The Big Game*



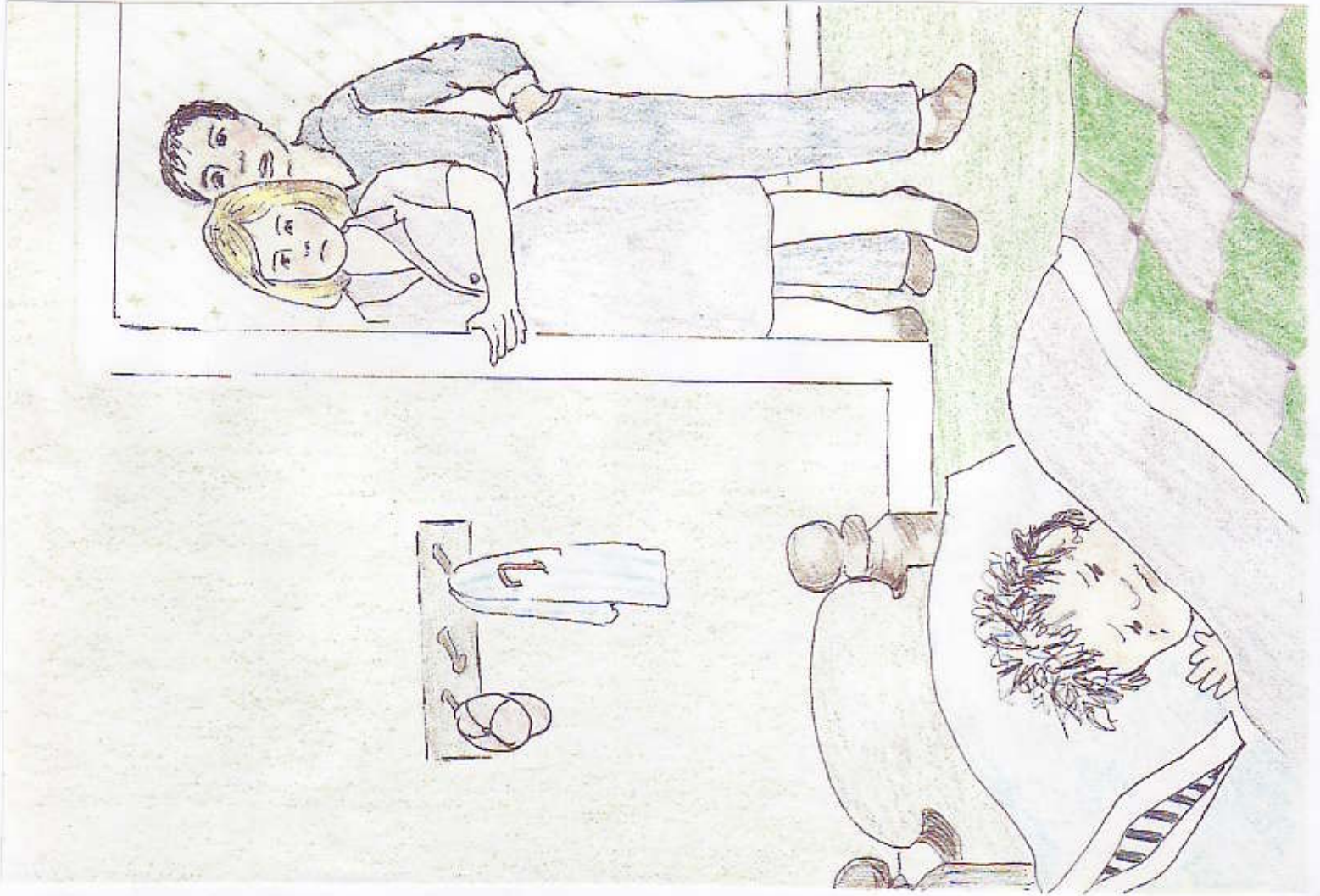
**There is nothing in the world that Jason loves to do more than play baseball. If he could, he would just skip third grade and play all day long. His team, the Tigers, is one of the best in his area and has a good chance to make it into the state championships. Jason practices extra hard today because all he can think about is winning that championship.**





**When Jason gets home he notices his parents are fighting again. It seems like they are always fighting. They don't even stop to say hi to him when he walks in the door.**

**Whenever his parents fight  
Jason runs to his room because  
their yelling is scary. He hides  
under the covers and sometimes  
he cries until he falls asleep.**



**One day, Jason comes home after a game to some sad news. As he comes in the door, excited about his team's win, his parents are waiting for him. They explain that his dad is moving out. Jason quickly goes from happy to sad. He doesn't even know what to do but cry. It is a sad time for the whole family.**



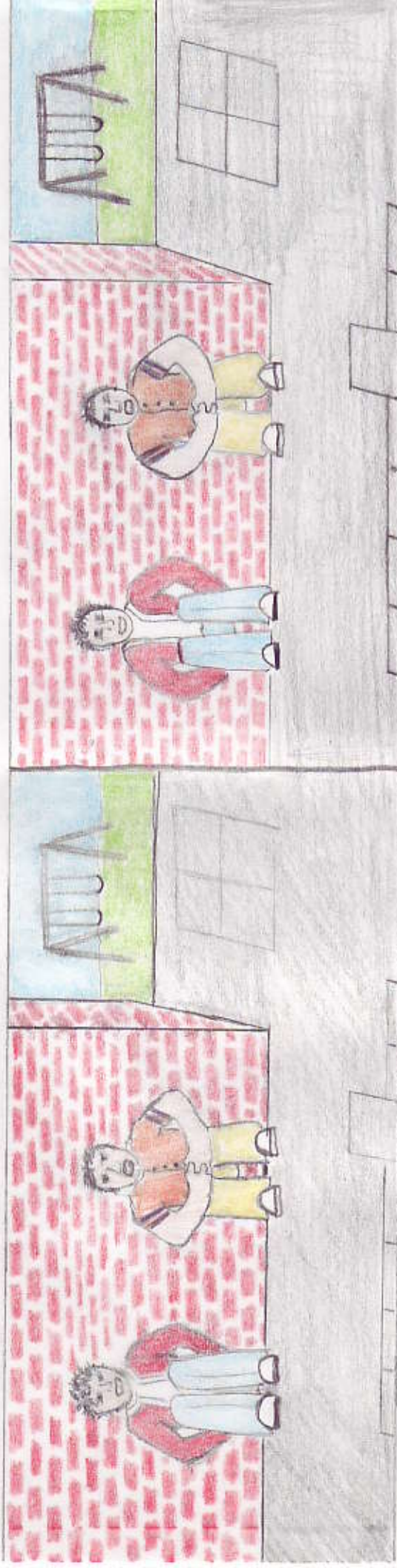
**Jason couldn't help being sad the next day at school. Jason's best friend Tom notices that he is upset and is quick to see what is wrong.**

But I won't see him anymore.

I'm sure you will see him. Maybe not everyday but at least on the weekend, that's when I see my dad.

Do you still have fun with him?

Yeah, this past weekend we played baseball



My parents are getting a divorce.

I'm sorry. Don't feel too bad though because a lot of kid's parents are divorced. Mine are.

No, mine are different, my dad is moving out. I don't think that he loves me anymore. I don't know if I'll see him anymore.

No, that is not true. Even though your dad is moving out he still loves you. As a part of divorce, usually either the mom or the dad moves out.

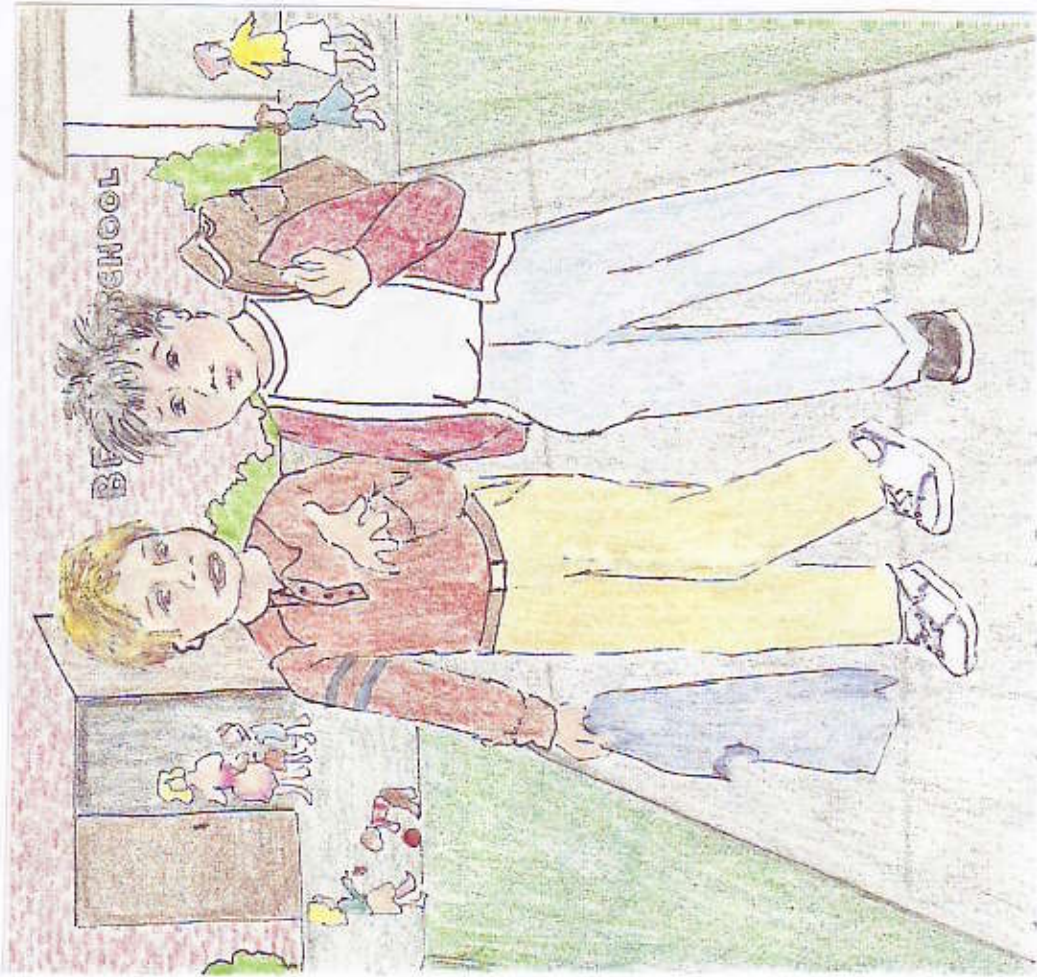
Really! My dad and I play baseball all the time.

Do you want to play catch right now?

Yeah let's play until recess is over.

**After talking to Tom, Jason is feeling a little bit better. He tries hard to keep focused on his baseball season.**

**The Tigers have won 14 games in row and are in the state championship. On some days though, Jason still thinks about the divorce and can't help but wonder why it is happening. Tom notices that Jason is looking pretty down again.**

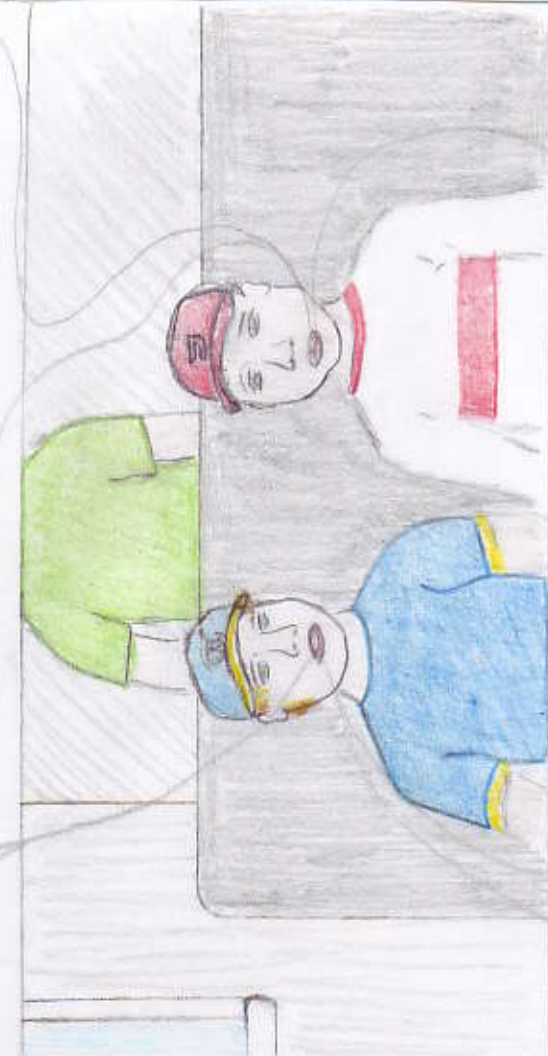


Are you still sad about the divorce?

Yeah

I thought you were ok?

I was, but I thought about it more and I think it was my fault that my parents got divorced?



Why?

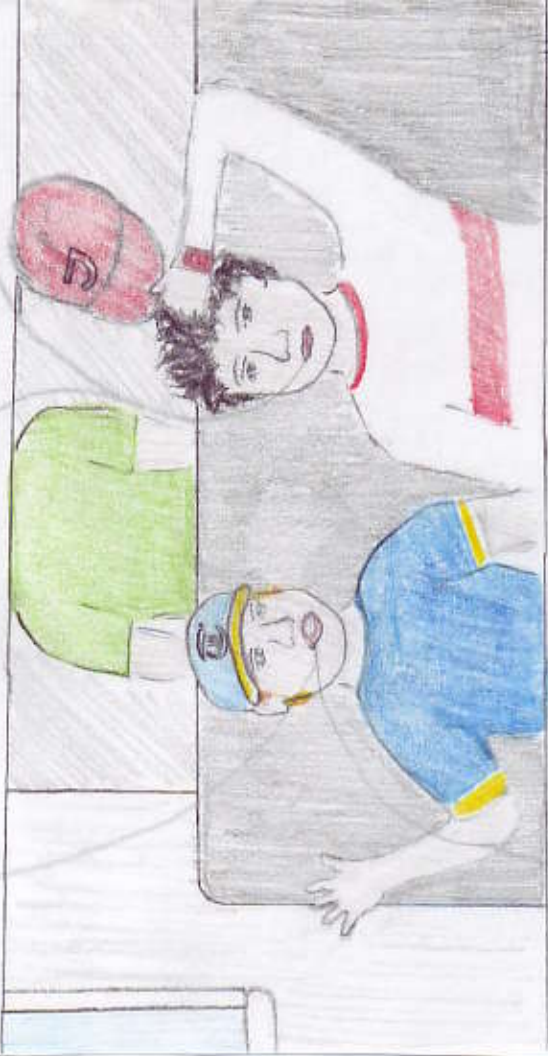
Because sometimes my parents would be mad at me for coming home late from practice and then they would yell at each other.

The divorce was not because of you. Parents argue sometimes, you did not make them mad at each other.

You really think so?

Yeah, divorce happens because moms and dads don't get along anymore, not because of anything their children do.

I guess maybe it wasn't my fault, they argued even when I wasn't in trouble too. Do you think they will both come to the game?



I don't know Jason, but I'm sure they will both try and be there because they still love you the same.

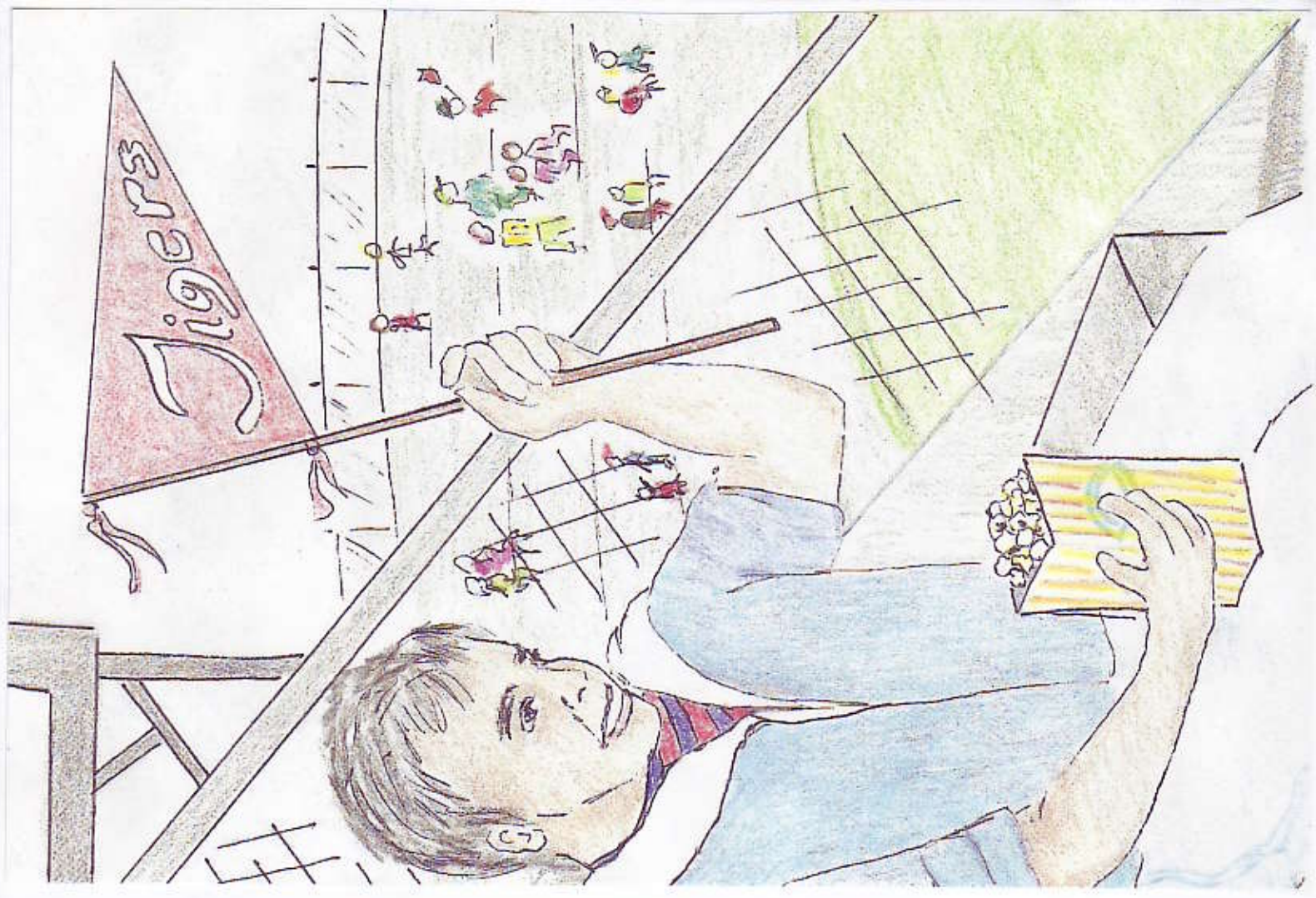


**After talking to Tom, Jason realizes that the divorce is not his fault. He is feeling much happier. Today is the state championship game but Jason is still worried about whether or not both of his parents will show up to the game. But right now he has to focus on getting that first pitch just right.**

**At the end of the second inning, Jason realizes that his mom is cheering for him in the stands with a sign that has his number on it. Even with her cheering, he is still having a tough game. The Tigers are down by 2 runs.**



**The Tigers battle back to take the lead going into the bottom of the ninth inning. The only thing that Jason has to do is strike the last batter out to win the championship. Jason throws the second strike and then looks up to the stands for encouragement and notices that his dad is there cheering for the Tigers. Jason feels an extra rush of excitement go through his body. He winds up for the big pitch and...**



|        |   |          |   |
|--------|---|----------|---|
| Tigers | 5 | Visitors | 4 |
| Inning | 9 | Out      | 3 |
| Ball   | 1 | Strike   | 3 |

**STRIKE THREE!!! The Tigers win the championship. Jason can tell his mom and dad are both very proud because they are jumping up in down. Jason is happy that his team won the championship but he is even happier that both of his parents are there for him.**

**The End**

Handwritten scribbles and marks at the bottom of the page.