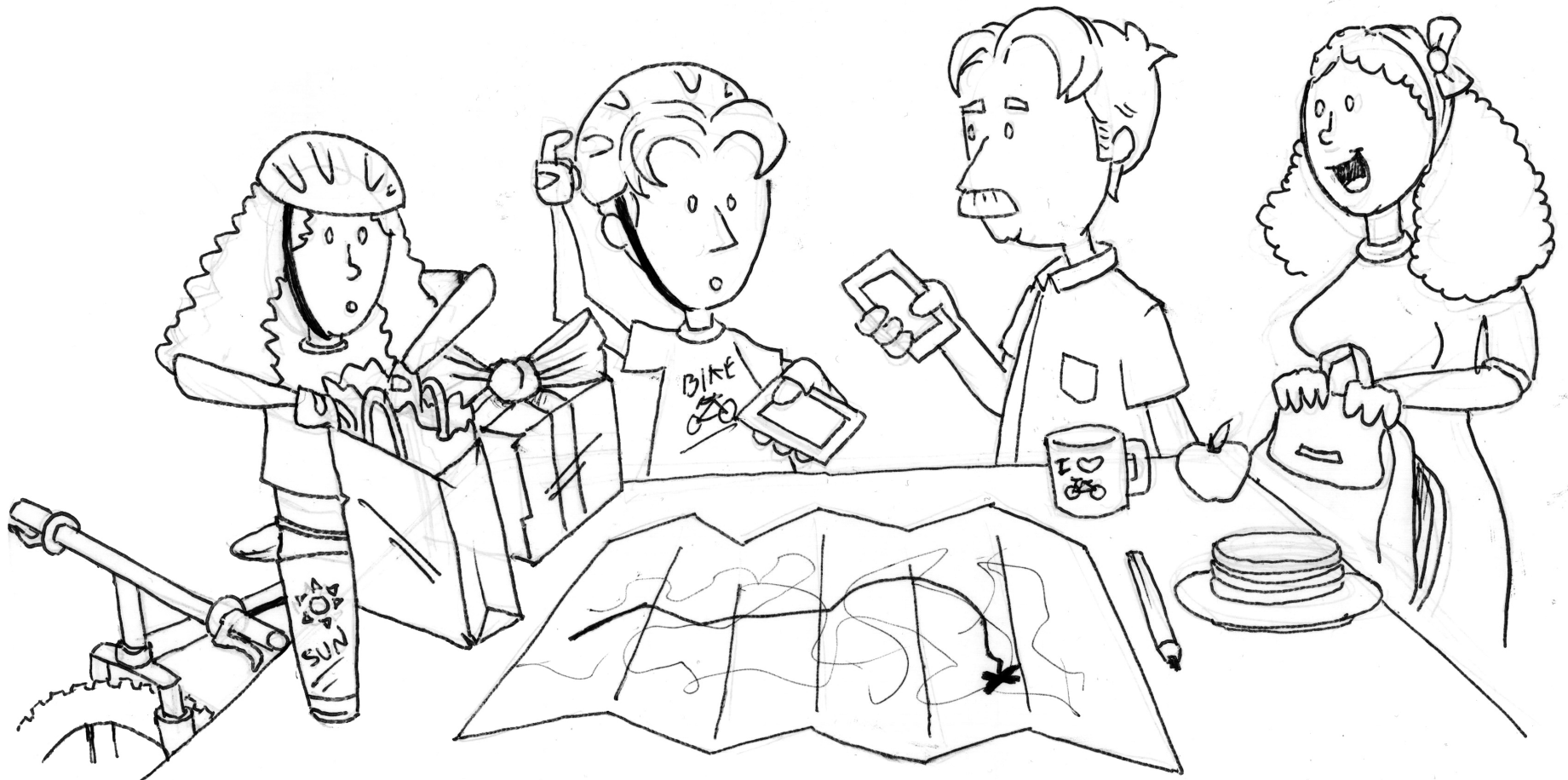


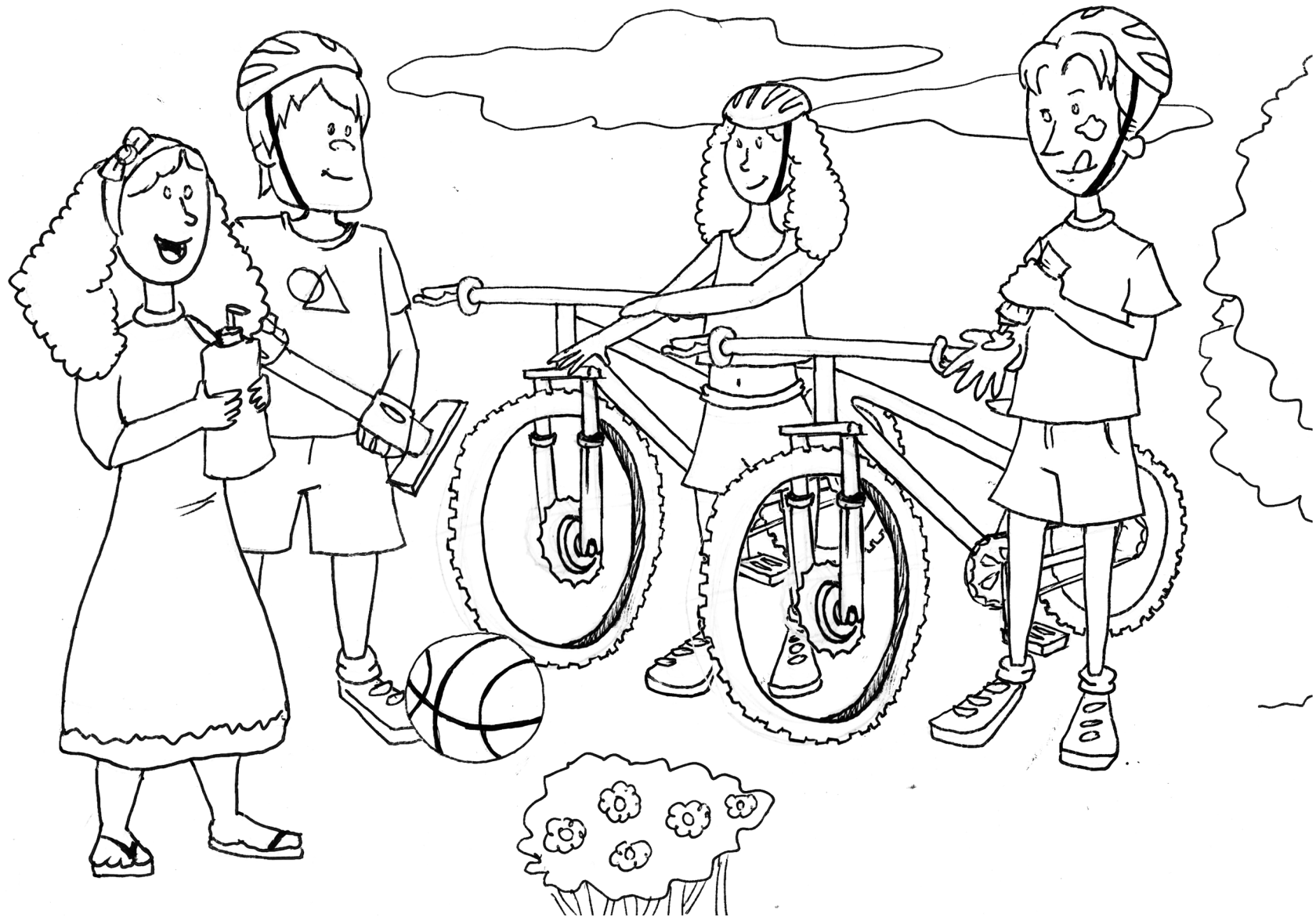


Wake up, Alma! Wake up, George! The birds are singing outside, the sunshine is streaming in the window, and George remembers that it's Gabe's birthday today! A fiesta and a piñata, oh boy! Alma says, "It's such a beautiful day, let's ride our bikes!" George, being a very enthusiastic brother, shouts, "YESSSSSS!"



At breakfast, they ask their parents if they can ride their bikes to Gabe's house for the fiesta. It's about a mile away on the bike path. Dad pulls out the map of the bike path and they carefully draw their route to the fiesta. They make sure Dad's phone number is in Alma's cell phone in case of emergency, and run to get dressed and pack their supplies.

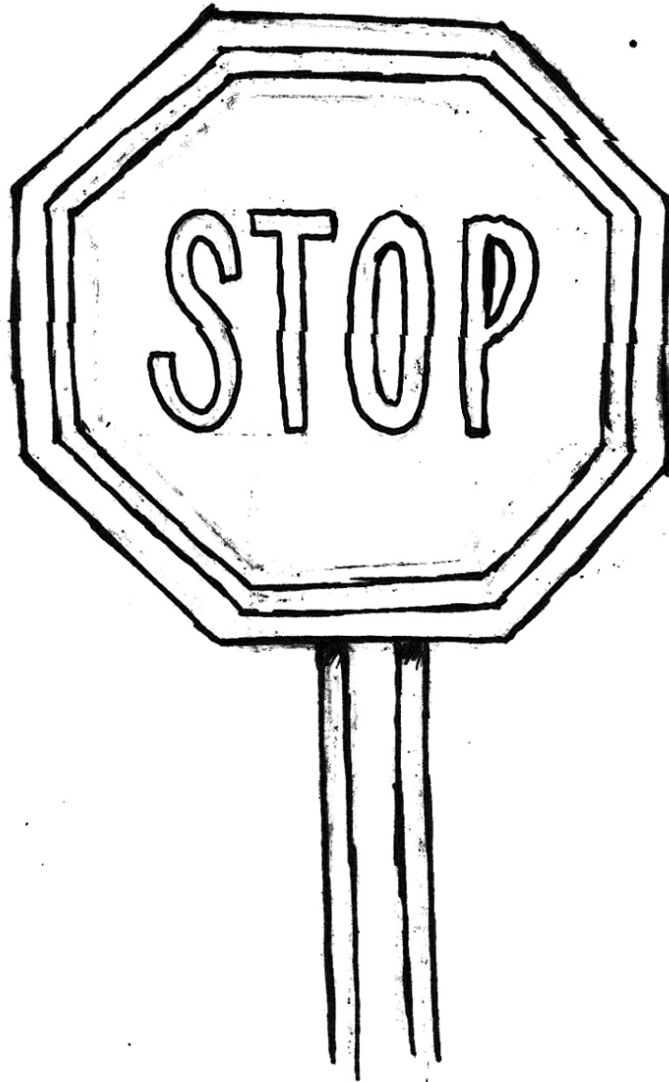
Here are their supplies: bike helmets, water, a snack, Alma's cell phone, a gift for Gabe, sunscreen and band-aids, just in case.



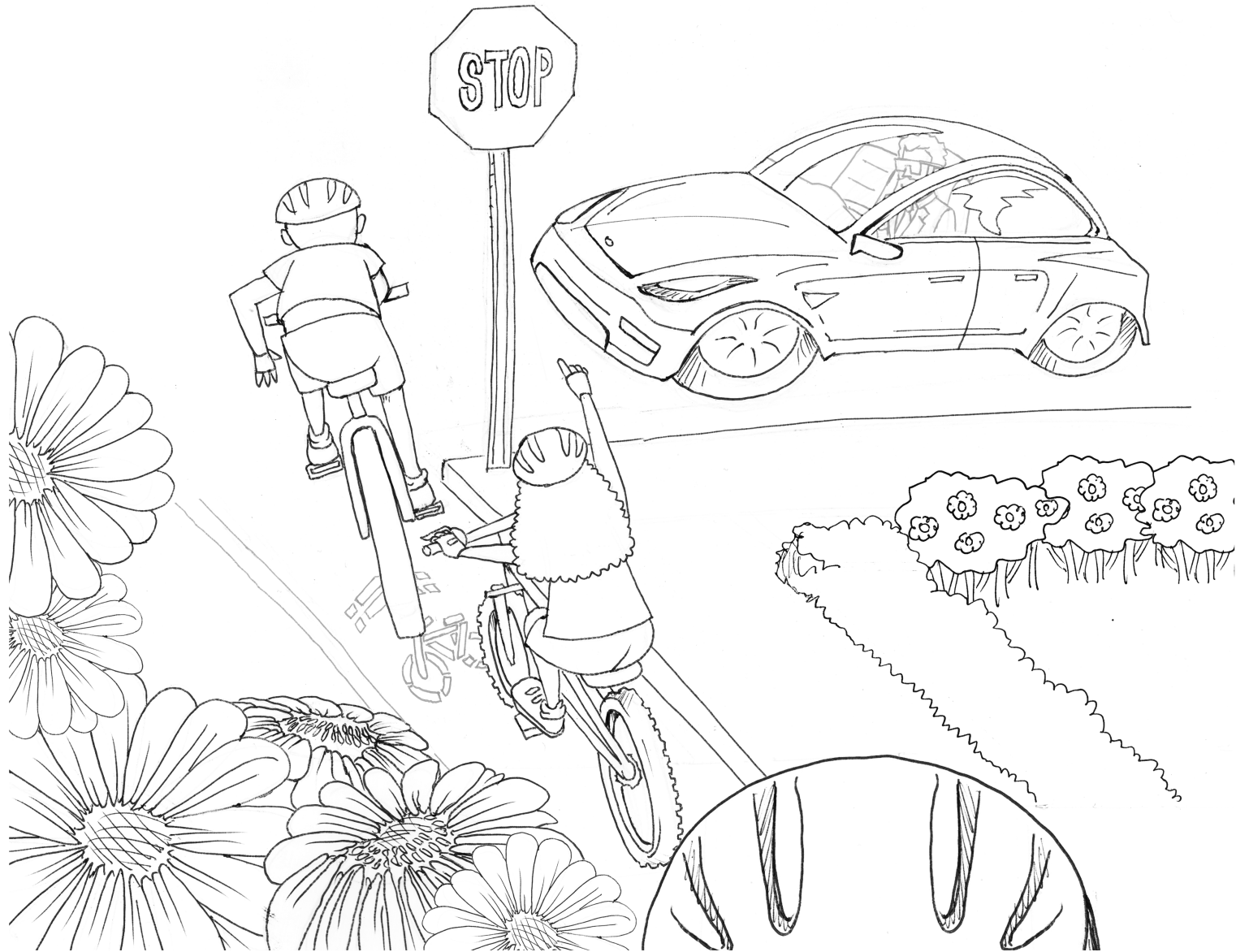
Their older cousin Tomas stops by. He plays basketball with Gabe. He asks, “Are you going to Gabe's party?”

“YESSSS!” George and Alma tell him. “We’re biking there!”

Mom helps them check their bikes, brakes and tires. She makes sure they put on lots of sunscreen, and wear their helmets, and they're off!

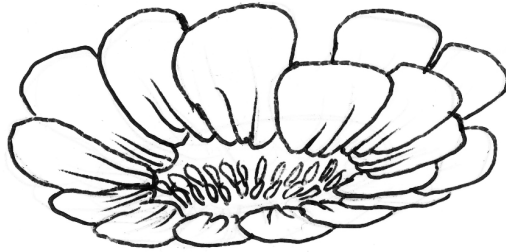
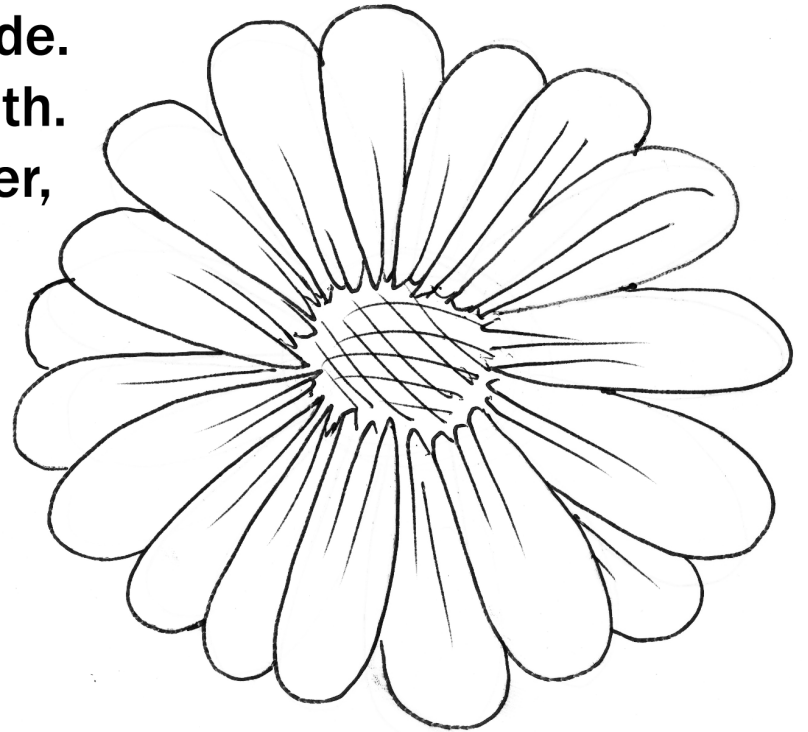


As they approach the bike path, they come to a stop sign. It looks like this:

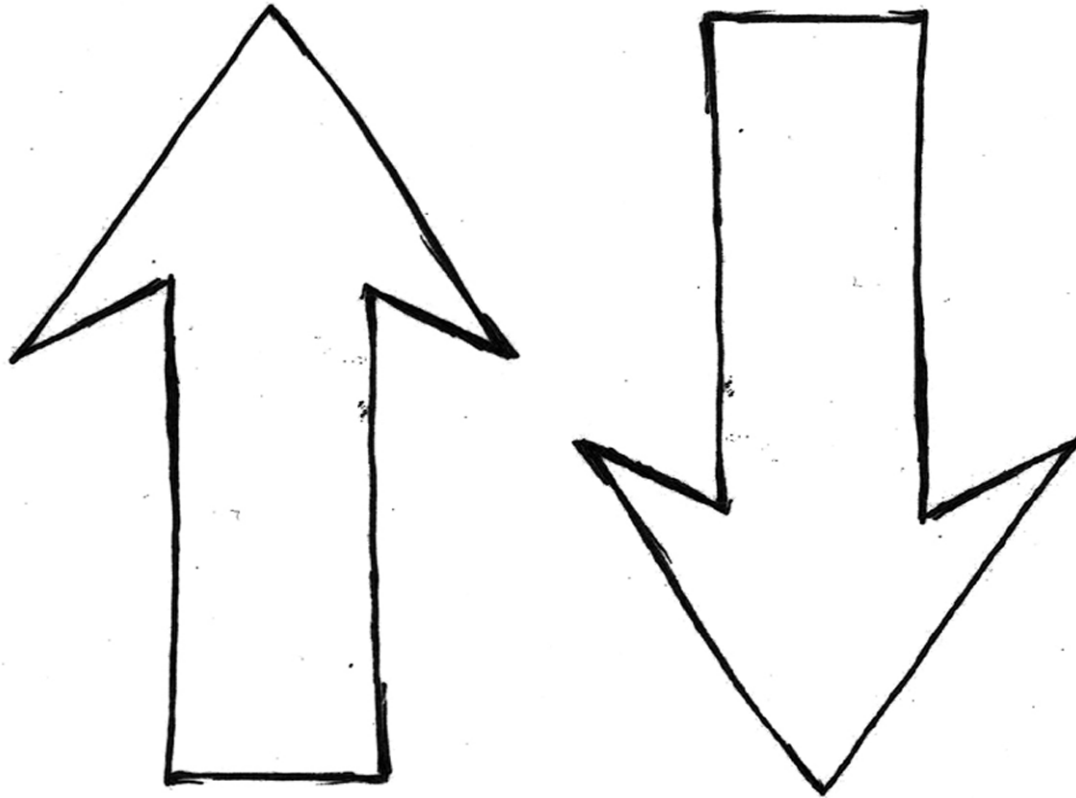


**They stop and look both ways. Is anybody coming fast?
When the coast is clear they ride onto the bike path.**

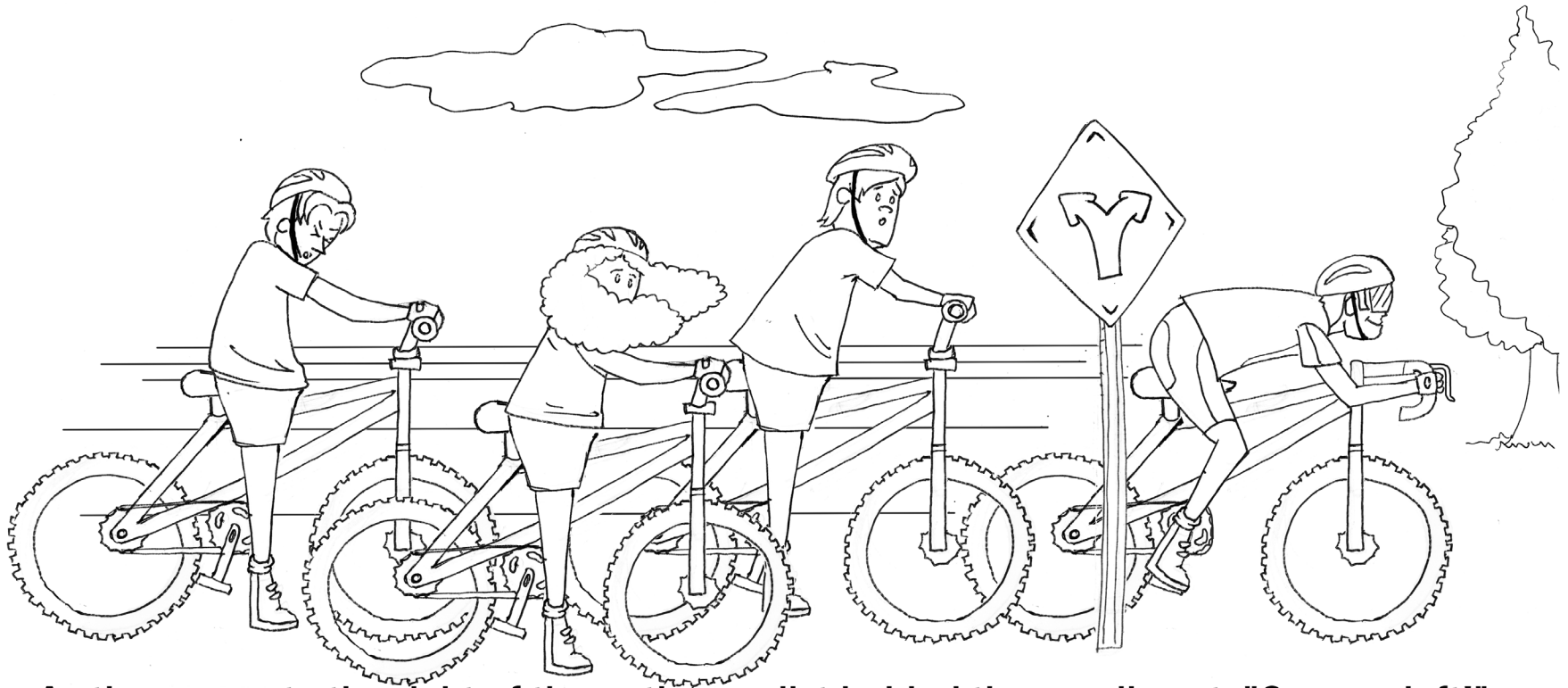
Riding down the bike path on this beautiful morning they feel the different temperatures as the bikes go through sunshine and shade. They look for colorful flowers along the path. One of the flowers is a California sunflower, and it looks like this:



Tomas notices a sign on the bike path:



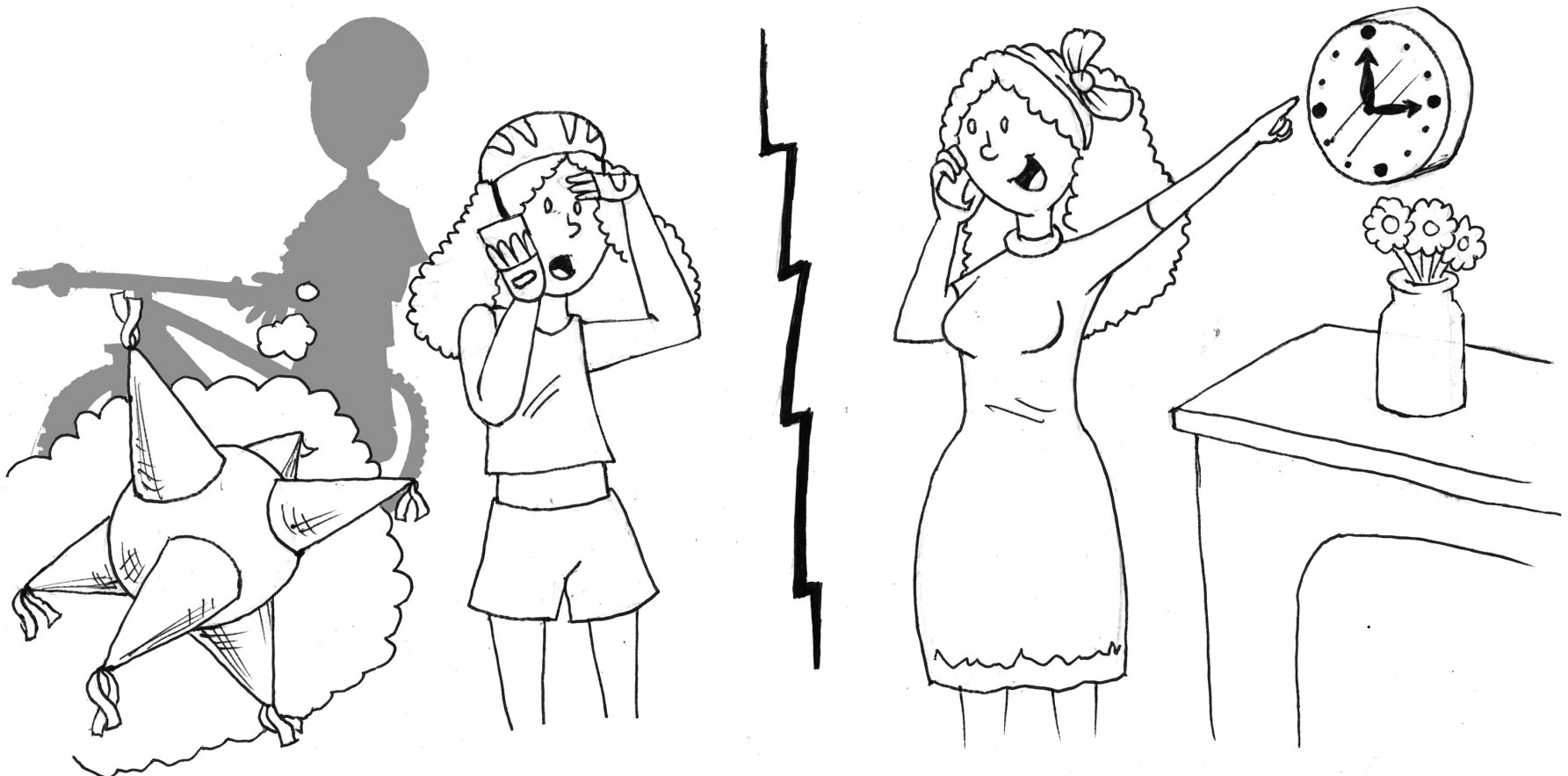
These arrows indicate the direction in which the cousins should ride. Tomas explains, “just like a car, we have to say in the right lane. If we’re moving too slow, we need to get even farther to the right.”



As they move to the right of the path a cyclist behind them calls out, "On your left!"
He passes them fast.
Alma says, "I'm glad we moved over!"



George says, "I'm thirsty," so they look for a wide place on the path where they can pull over and cool off. There's a bump-out off the path with a log for sitting, perfect! Alma pulls out the snacks and they sit and drink, enjoying how they feel after riding for a while, and how nice and cool the water is! Tomas puts another dab of sunscreen on Alma's nose, and George counts the riders going by.



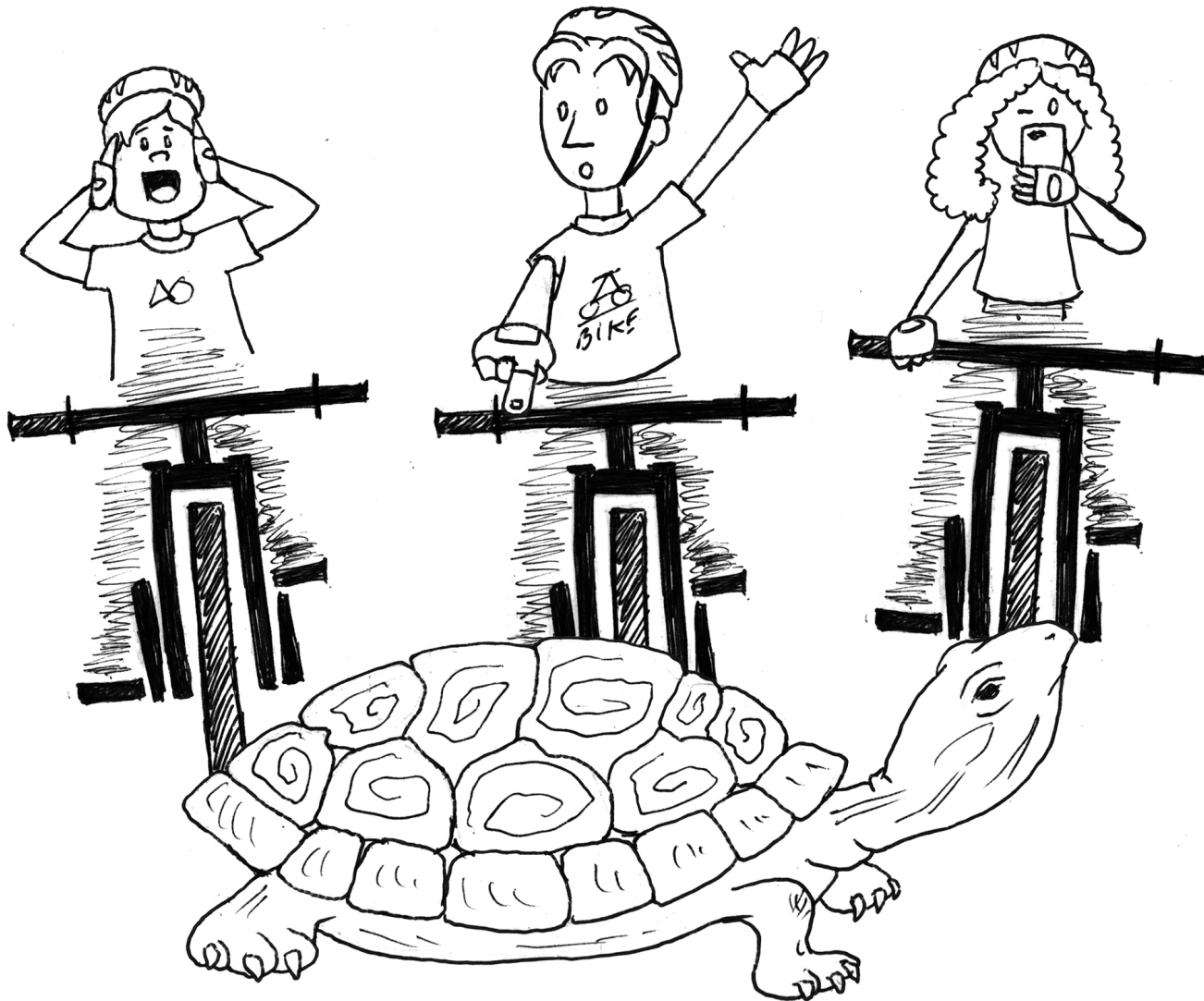
Ring, ring! Alma's cell phone rings. They pull their bikes off to the side of the path so Alma can answer.

"Where are you guys?" Mom asks.

Alma says, "We just got stopped at the log and now we're on our way."

Mom says, "OK, great, be careful – you'll be back around 3 o'clock, right?"

"Yes, see you then!" Alma says, and off they go again.



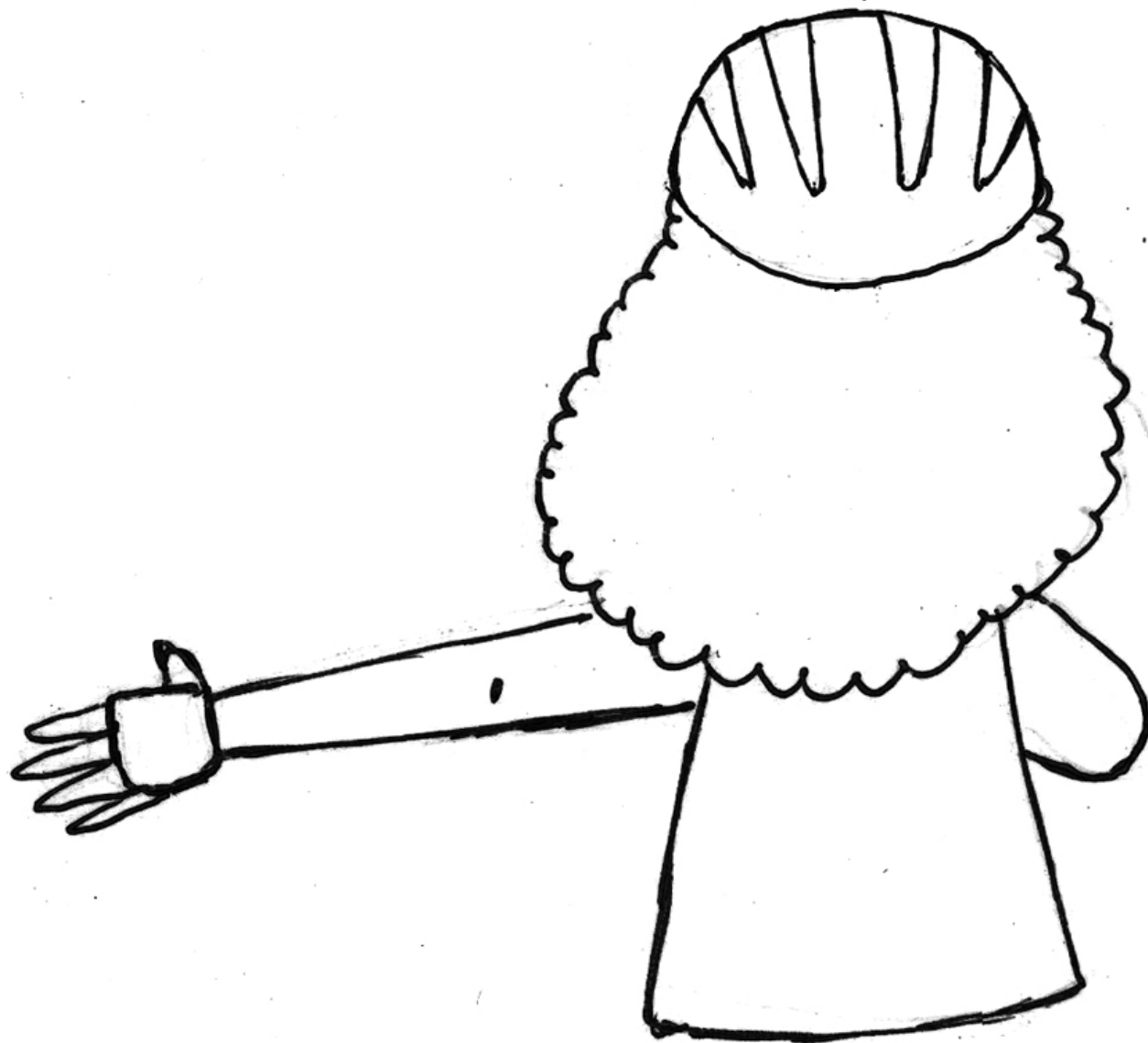
SCREEEECH! Tomas pulls both of his brake levers hard, and he shifts his weight back so that he doesn't get thrown off this bike. He takes his feet off the pedals, and plants them on the ground so he doesn't fall forward. George and Alma catch up.

"What happened, Cuz?" Tomas points to a turtle crossing the path in front of him.

"Wow," says George, "so cool! Alma, take a picture for me?"

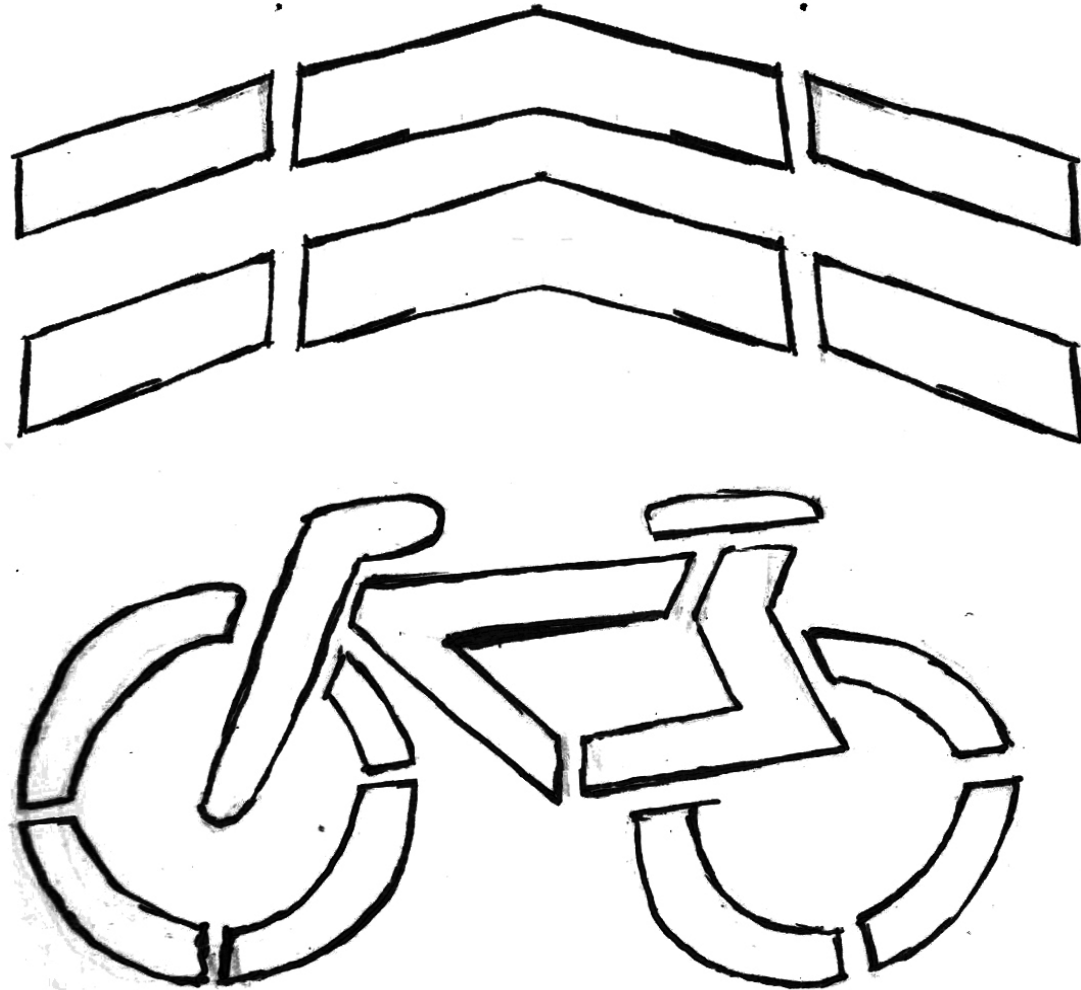
They don't want to get too close, so Alma takes the picture from where they are.

George's homework for class is done, bonus!!

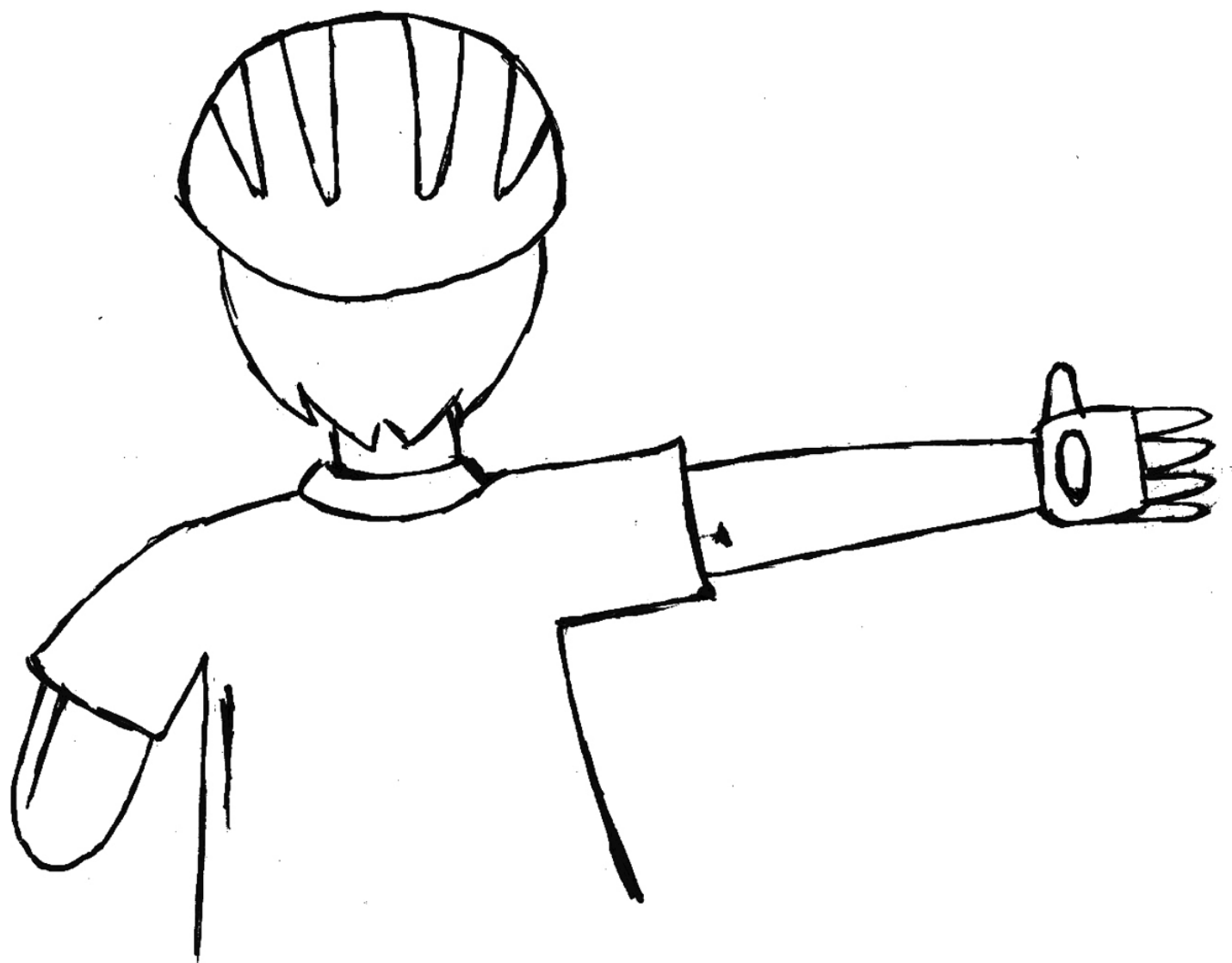


Before they pull off the bike path to head down Gabe's street, they turn their heads slowly and carefully to check behind them, and signal with their arms. This is what a left turn signal looks like:

All clear! They ride down the quiet street. There is a sharrow painted in the road – it looks like this:



This symbol means that the lane is too narrow for people on bikes and cars to ride side by side. The cousins ride their bikes over the sharrow symbol so that they aren't too close to parked cars, and they are very visible to people in cars behind them. They listen carefully, and a woman in a car pulls up behind them and patiently waits to pass.



Gabe's street is just ahead so they all signal right, like this:



Balloons on the mailbox! Laughing and music! They've made it to Gabe's house! The cousins have a wonderful time at the party, can you guess what was in the piñata?

YESSSSSS!