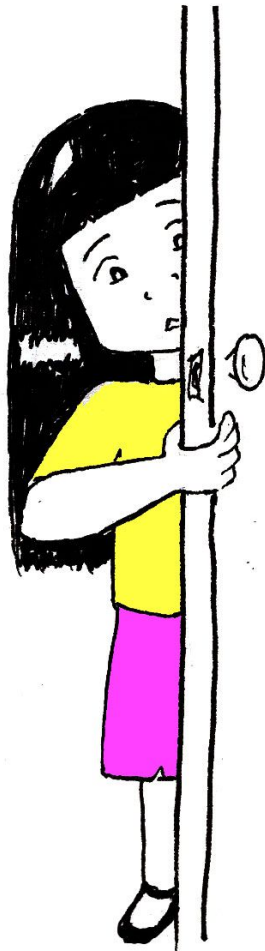


ROSITA  
GETS

# SCARED



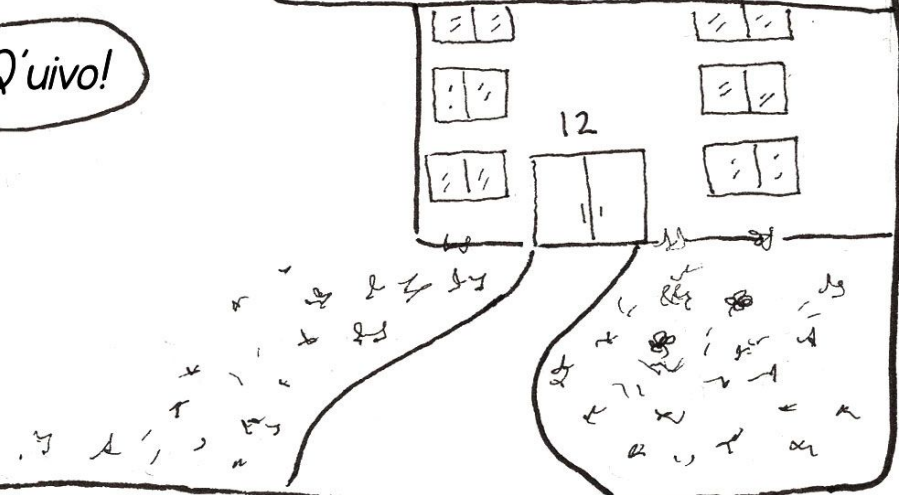
A COMIC AND ACTIVITY BOOK TO HELP  
IMMIGRANT CHILDREN TALK ABOUT FEAR.

BY VICKO ALVAREZ

This is Rosita.

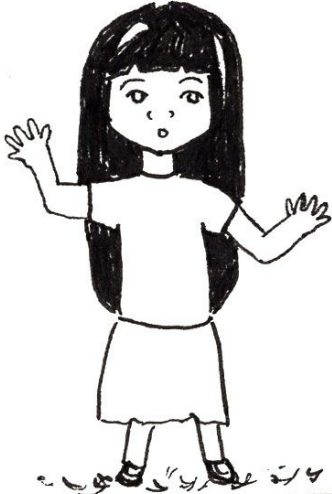


And this is where she lives now.



She's not really from around here.

Vengo de muy, muy...



Muuuuuuuu le jos.\*



\*I am from very, very, very far away.

¿De donde eres tú?  
Where are you from?



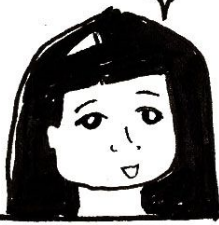
Rosita is still learning English, but she is learning fast at her new school.

My name is Rosita and I like cake.

My name is Rosita and I need to use the restroom.

EVERYBODY SIT DOWN!

Guuuuuuuuu  
niiiiiiiiiigggggggh.



She likes her new school, but some things are weird...

Lunch is weird.

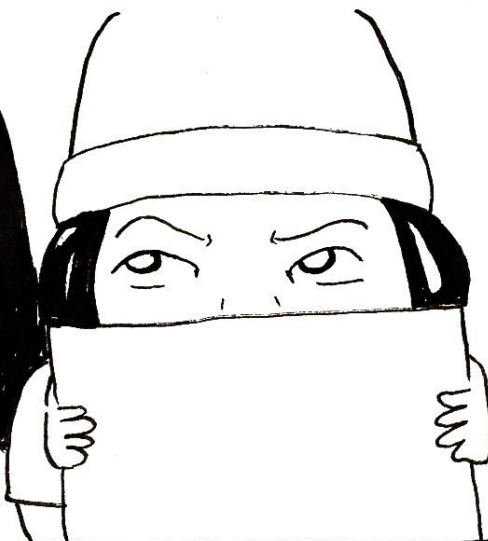


Recess is only 15 minutes??!

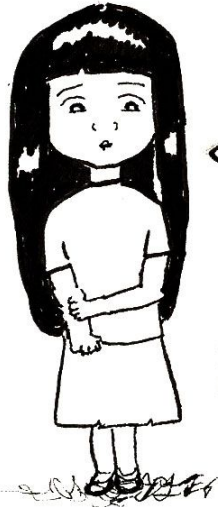


Even her new friends are a little weird...

*i*Hola,  
ScholaR!



Something really weird happened at school once. I'll let Rosita tell the story.



One day at recess, kids said to me "you're not from here, show me your papers". I don't know what they want but my friend ScholaR said to ignore them.

But I know they yell at me because I'm not born in this country.



Pero who cares! I am here now. I go to same school they do. I am a good kid, too. Why do they make fun of me? No sense.



Do people make fun of you sometimes?



What do they say?

*How does it make you feel?*

Draw or write how you feel on this page.



*What do you do to feel better?*

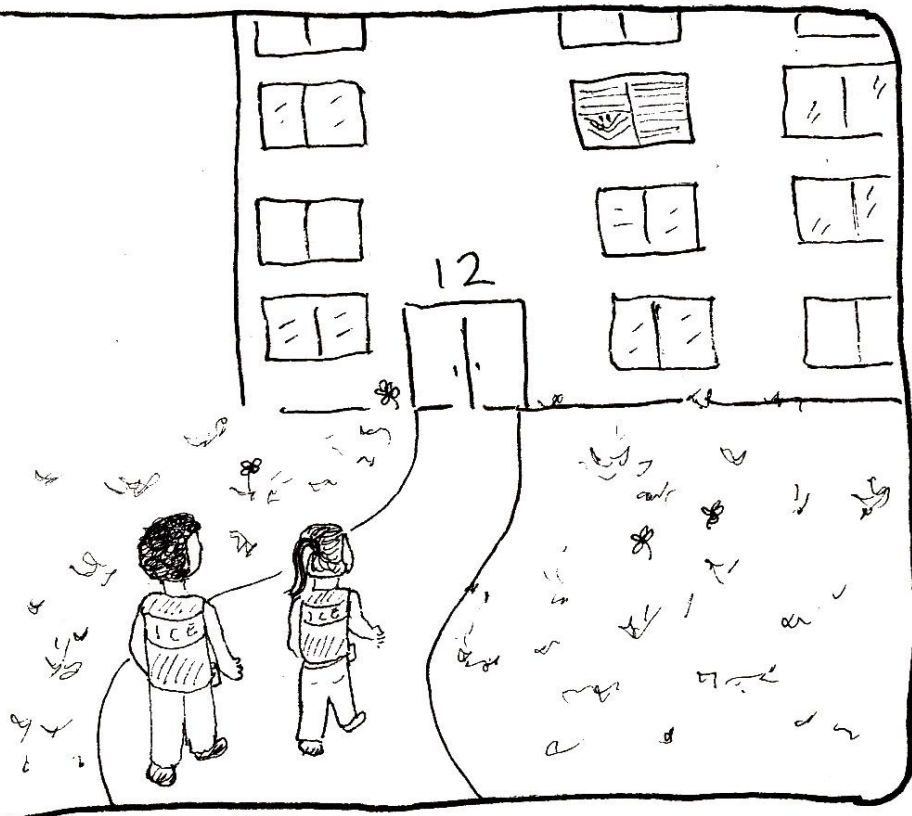


Something even weirder and kind of scary happened at Rosita's home one day.

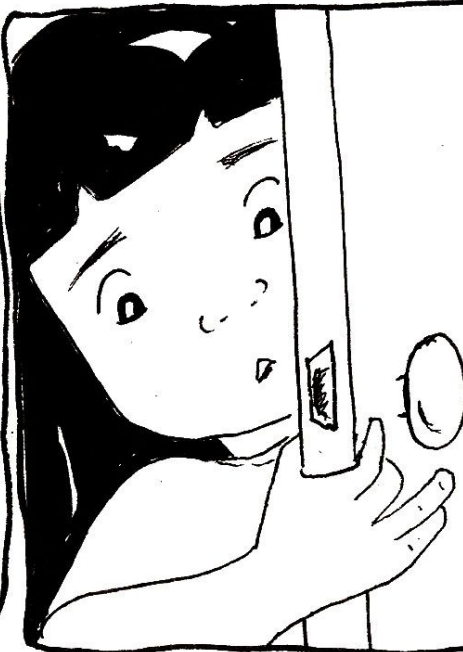
One day, something really weird happened that scared me.



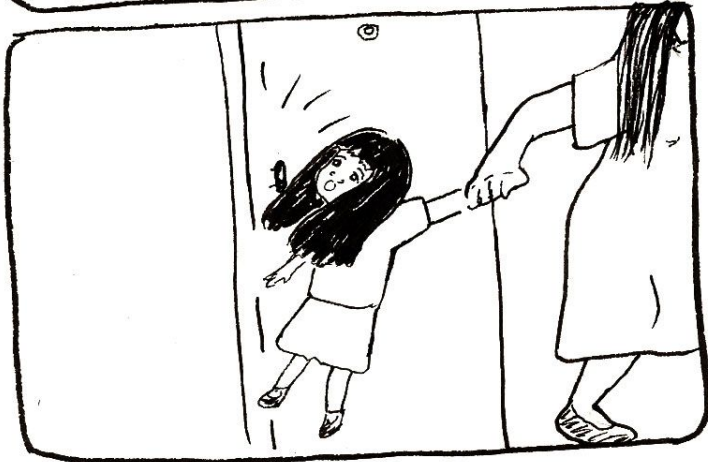
People came to where I live. They look like police but I'm not sure...



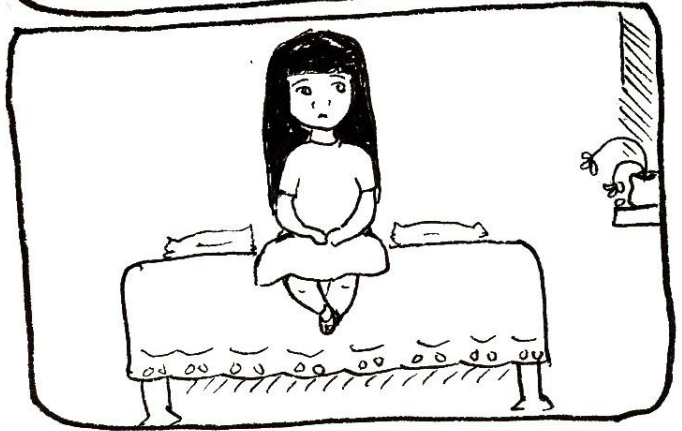
I heard yelling and I opened the door to hear better. I heard them yell, "Mr. Vidal, open the door!" Mr. Vidal is my downstairs neighbor.



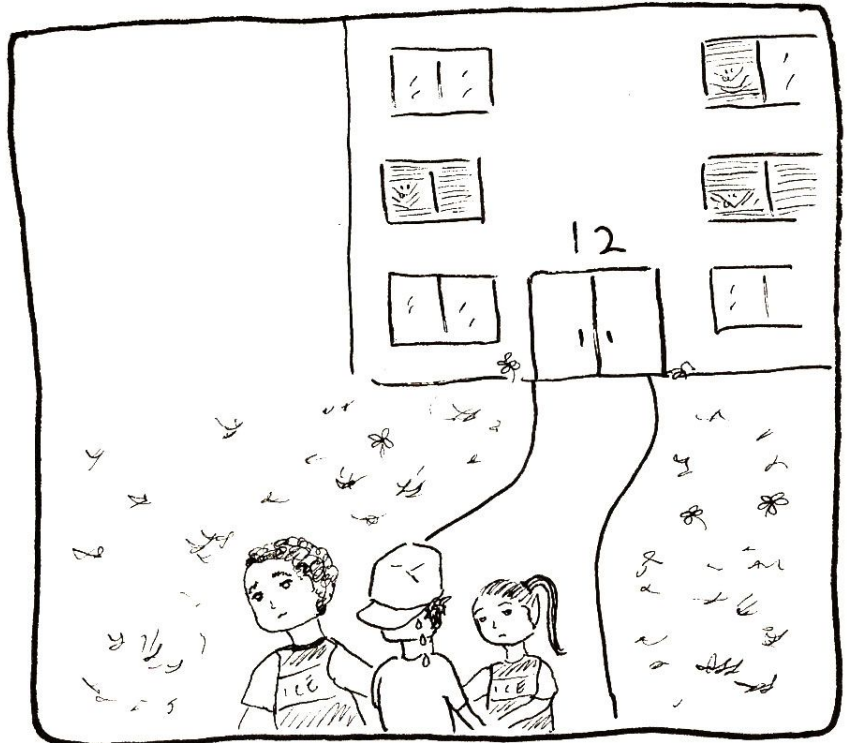
My mom saw me and she pulled me from the door and closed it hard!



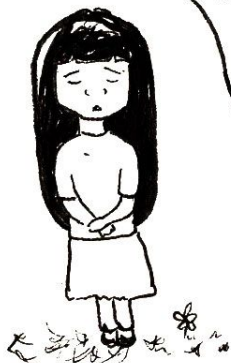
She told me, "vete a tú cuarto". "Go to your room". I did. But then it got really quiet.



I look out my window and I see the people take away Mr. Vidal.



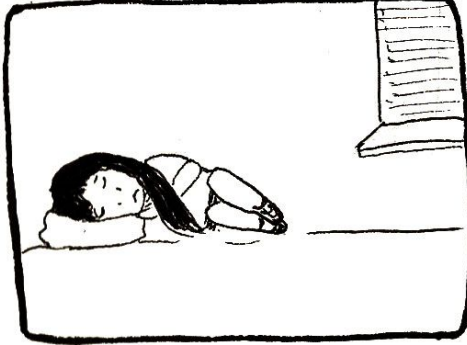
Mr. Vidal never came back. And I could not go outside for TWO WEEKS after this day. My mom said it was too dangerous. I did not understand why it was dangerous but I was very scared. I think Mr. Vidal also was not born here and that's why the people took him. I do not want those people to take me or my mom. It scares me... a lot...



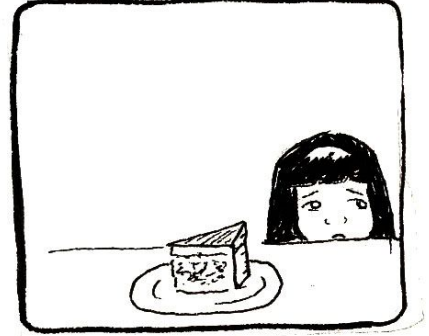
After this day,  
I did not want to play.



I felt tired a lot.



And I did not want  
to eat cake.



Have you been scared for your family  
before?  
What are some things that scare you?

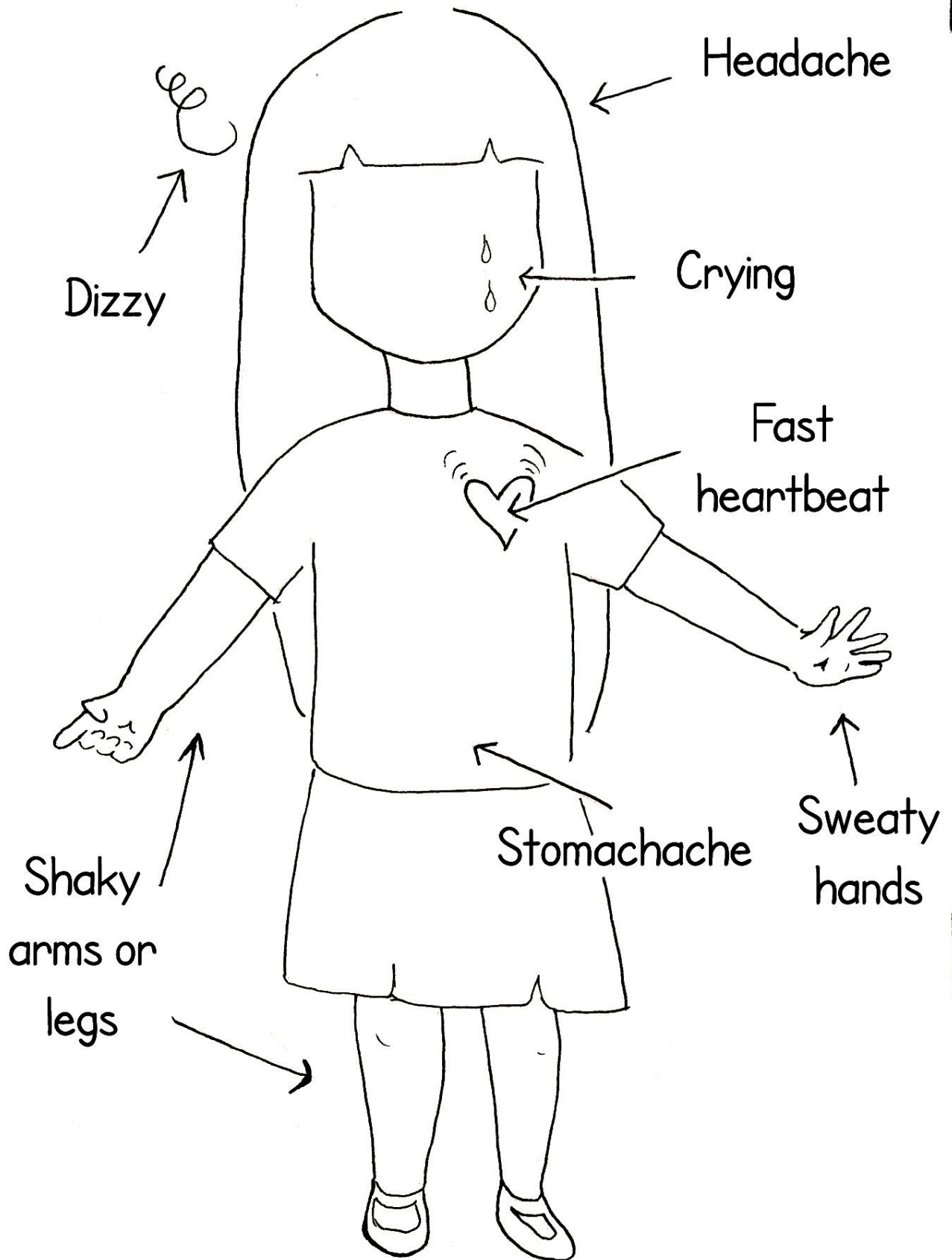


If you want a little break now, it's ok. Take your time.  
But if you want to keep going that is also ok. It's good to  
talk about what scares us but sometimes it  
doesn't feel good. It will be ok though.





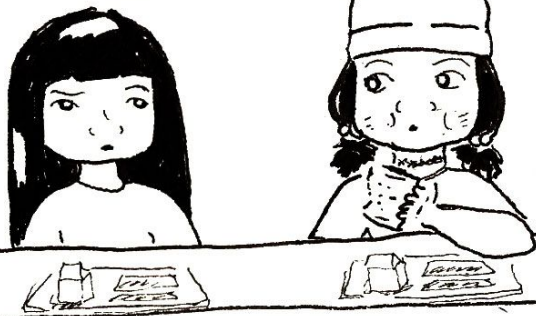
How does your body feel when you are scared or very worried?



Thank you for listening!  
I do not tell many people  
my scary story.



I told my friend, ScholaR, one time.



She gave me a hug...kind of.

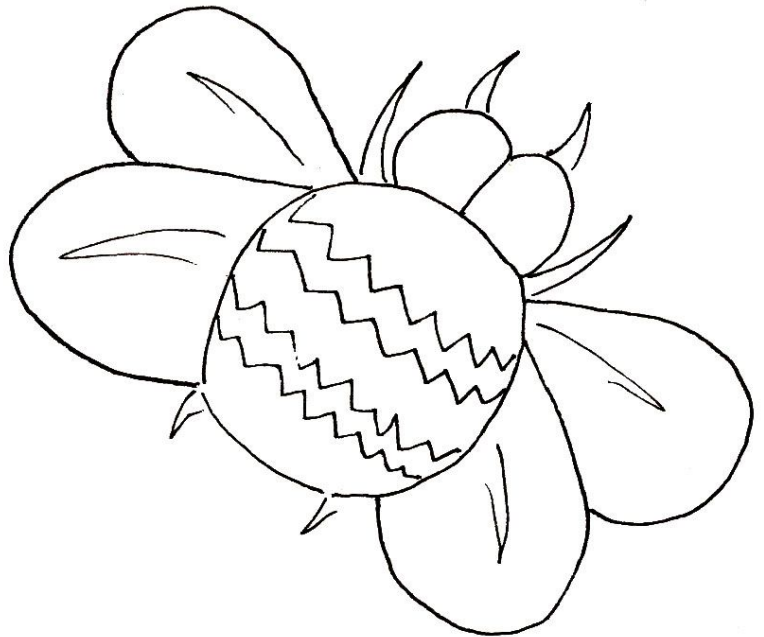
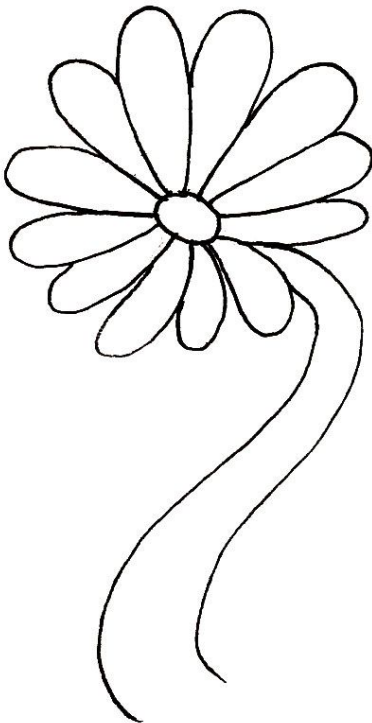
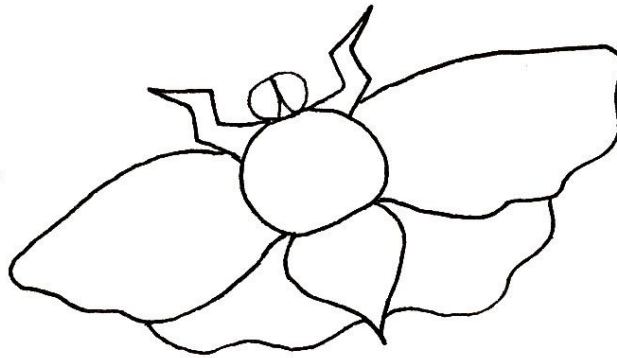
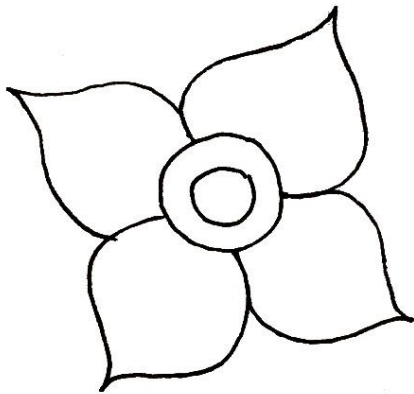
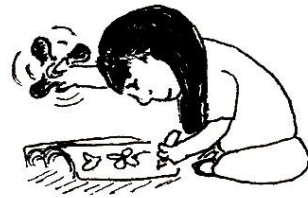


Do you tell someone about when you  
are scared? Draw them here.



Sometimes, if I do not stop being scared, my mom says I get "inquieta". That means like, I can't be still. I can't stop worrying and I squirm a lot. When I feel like this, I start to color and play with my fidget spinner!

Let's color!



*What helps me most when I am scared is talking to my mom. At night, we drink canela together and I ask her lots of questions.*

**“¿Donde esta Mr.Vidal? / Where is Mr. Vidal?”**

*- She says he is back in his country.*

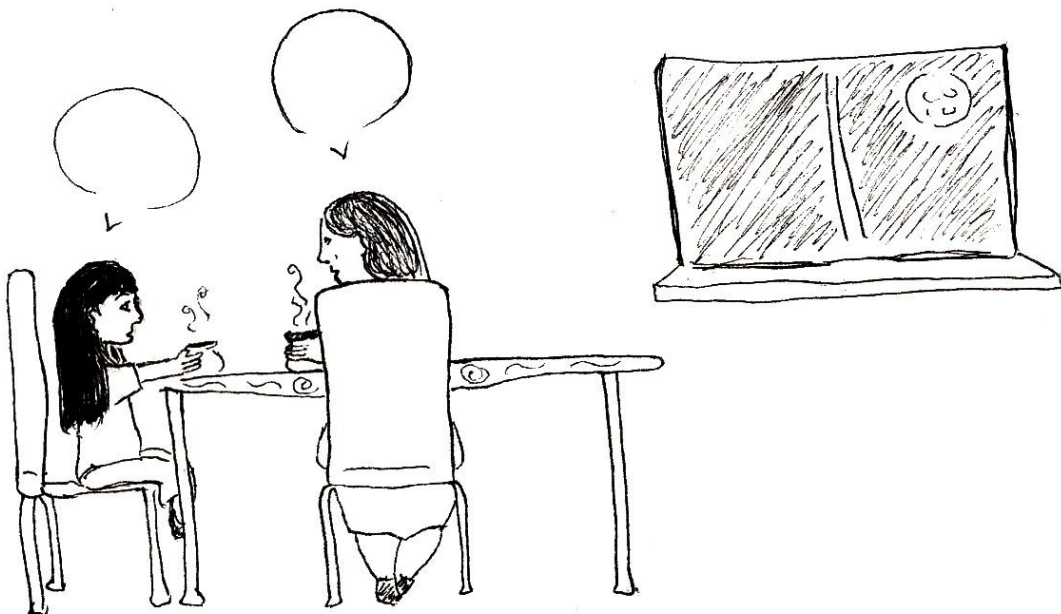
**“¿Porque se lo llevaron? / Why did they take him?”**

*- She says it is because he is undocumented.*

*He does not have “papers”.*

**“Nosotros somos indocumentados? / Are we undocumented?”**

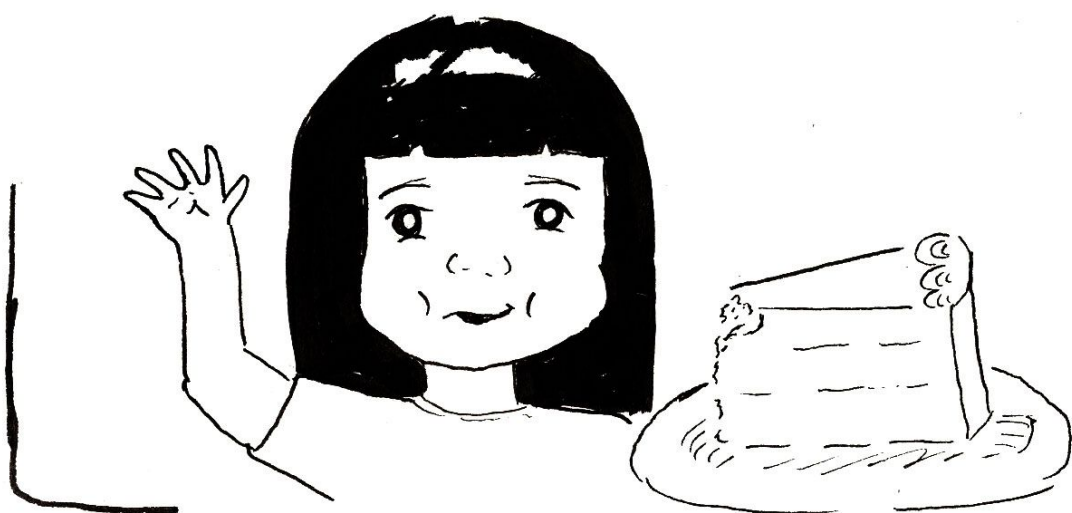
*- She says yes, but there are many people who are helping us stay safe and hopefully get papers.*



*I still have LOTS of questions. And I still get scared. Pero I am happy I have my coloring book to keep me calmada, calm, I am happy I have my friend to listen to my stories, I am happy I have my mom to answer my questions, and I am happy that there are people helping me and my mom stay safe.*

*I am also happy to eat this cake again.  
Thank you for reading my story! ¡Gracias por leer mi historia!*

*Bye!*



Thank you so much for reading Rosita's story. These last two pages are for readers to learn steps they can take to keep people like Mr. Vidal, Rosita, and her mom safe. The more we learn about immigration and what it means to be undocumented, the less we will fear it.

Important vocabulary:

**Undocumented** - Everyone who lives in this country must have documents that say they live here legally. If someone does not have these documents, we say they are undocumented. It can be very, very hard to get these documents so there are many undocumented people in this country.

**ICE** - Stands for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. They are the people who came to Rosita's home and took Mr. Vidal. They are different from the police you see everyday because ICE is only suppose to enforce immigration laws.

**Deportation** - Deportation is when ICE officers force undocumented people to leave the country. Sometimes we know when ICE will deport people, but many times we do not. Many people think deportations are not fair because we should be allowed to live wherever our families need to.

**Checkpoint** - The police or ICE officers sometimes post up on a busy road or enter a busy train/bus and ask people if they are living here legally. They may ask for a driver's license or they may just ask questions like "are you a citizen of the United States?" Officers may arrest some people if they think they are undocumented. Checkpoints can be very surprising and can make people very nervous but *you do not have to answer their questions.*

## What can we do?

Immigration can be a very hard topic to tackle but there are things we can do to stay safe.

**Do not open the door:** If you think police or ICE officers may be at your home, you do not have to open the door. Officers can only come in if they have a piece of paper with the word "warrant". They have to show you this to enter. Many officers try to enter without this paper but they cannot.

**Stay silent and do not sign anything:** If an officer talks to you, you do not have to say anything. They may try to ask a lot of questions including "are you a legal resident" but you should not answer them until a lawyer is with you. You or your family may also be told to sign forms you do not understand. Do not sign those forms and try to talk to a lawyer immediately.

**Take pictures and notes:** If you see someone being taken away by an officer, try to take a picture or video and try to take notes on what the officers looked like, and their names or badge numbers if you can. This can be very hard to do but can also be helpful to fight for a family member or neighbor in court.

**Connect with community:** There are many people working hard to protect undocumented people. Stay connected with those people and keep their contact information handy.