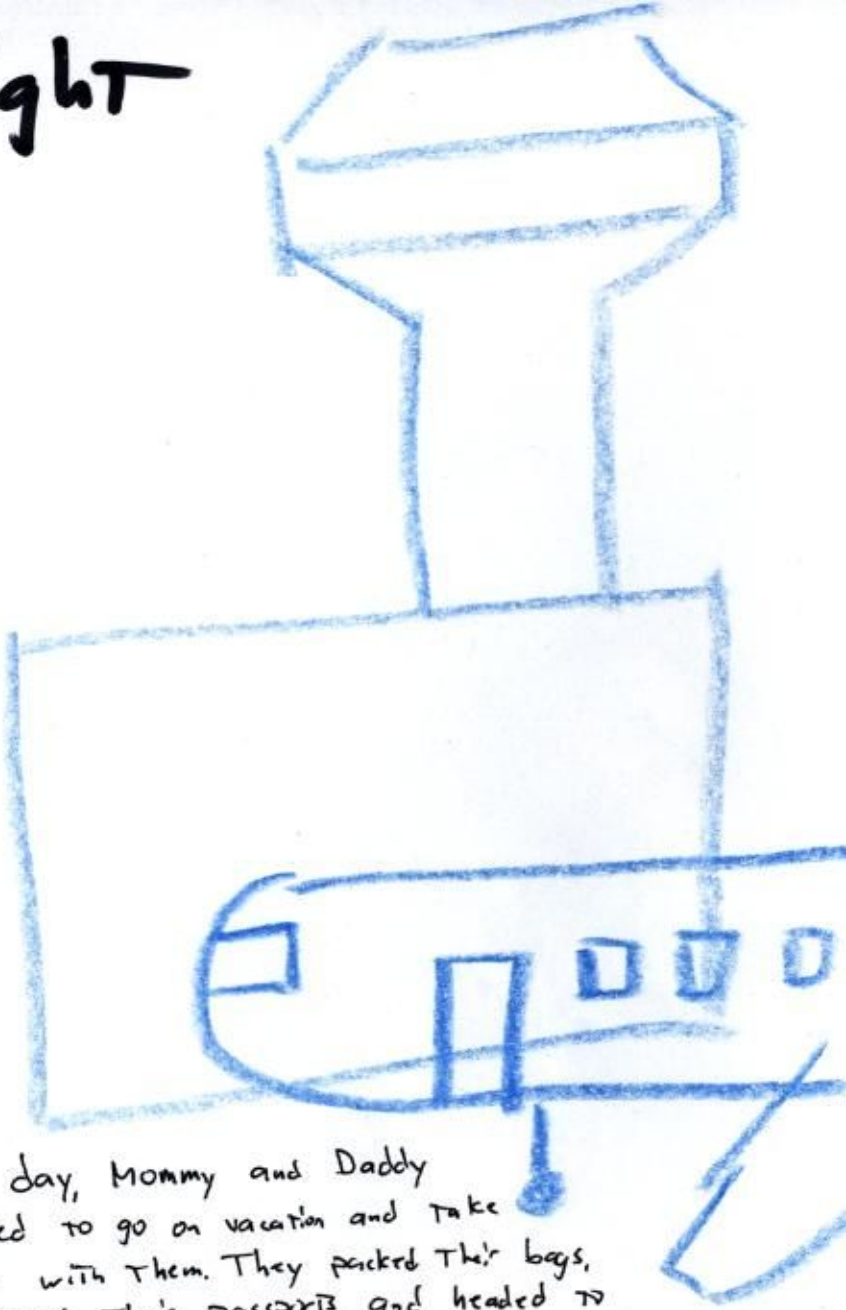
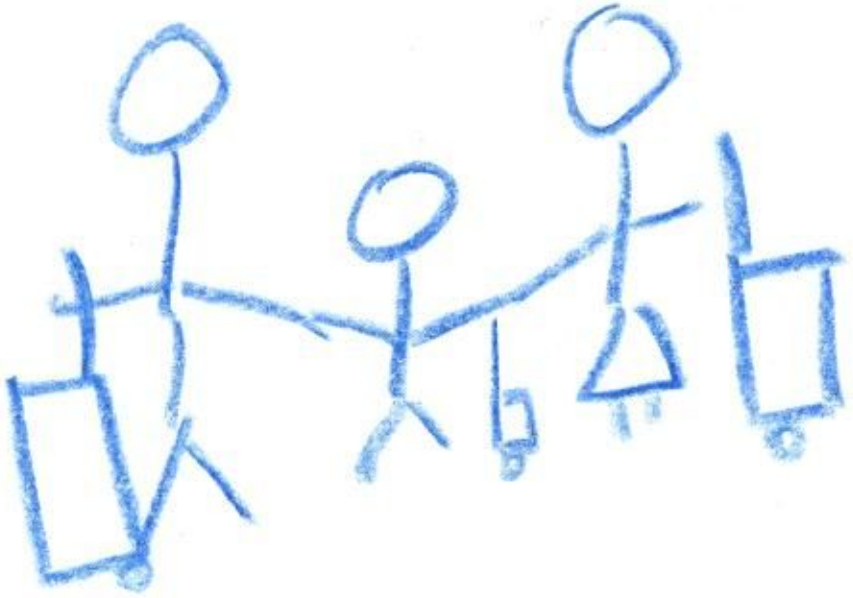
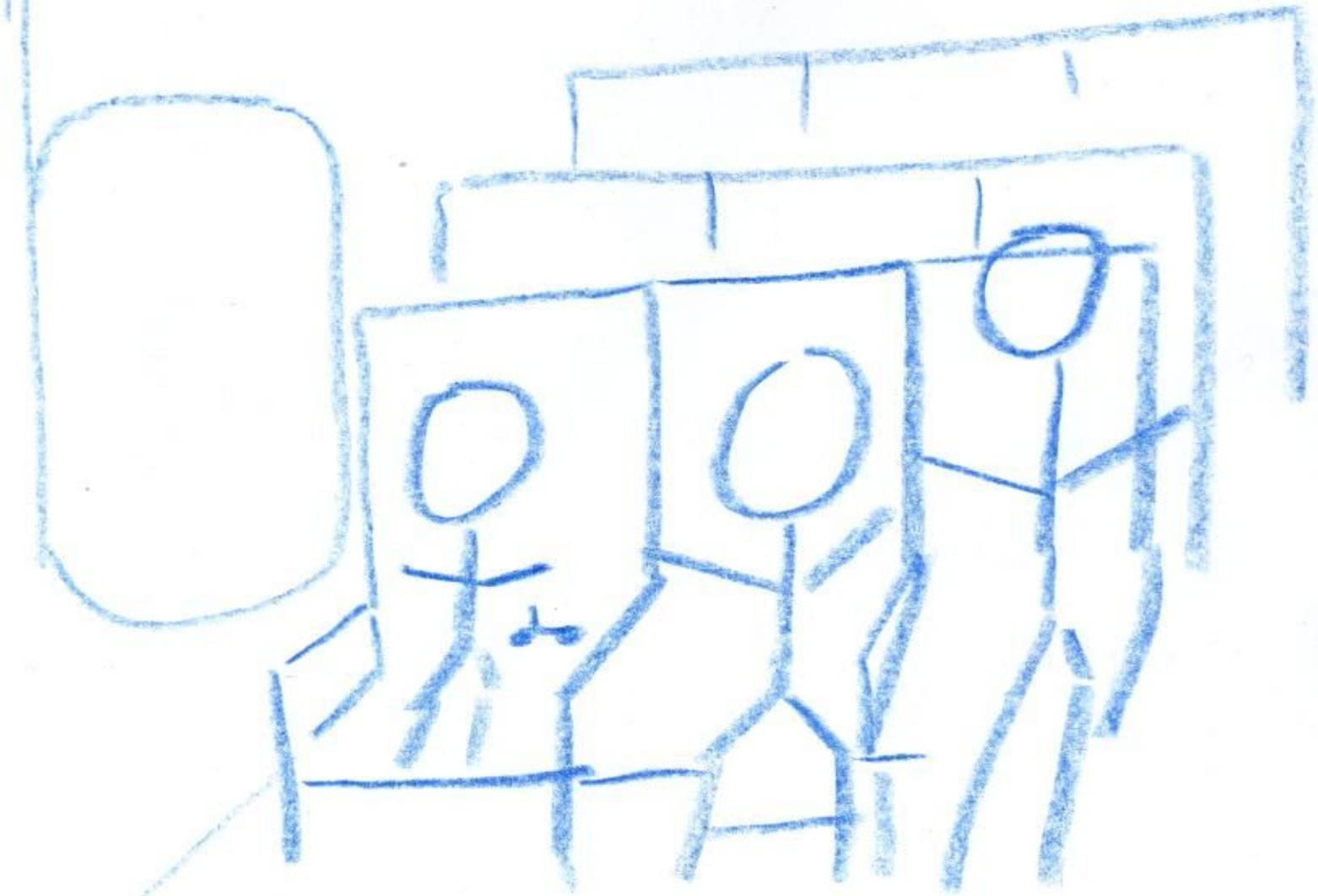
My First Long-Haul Flight

by Daddy



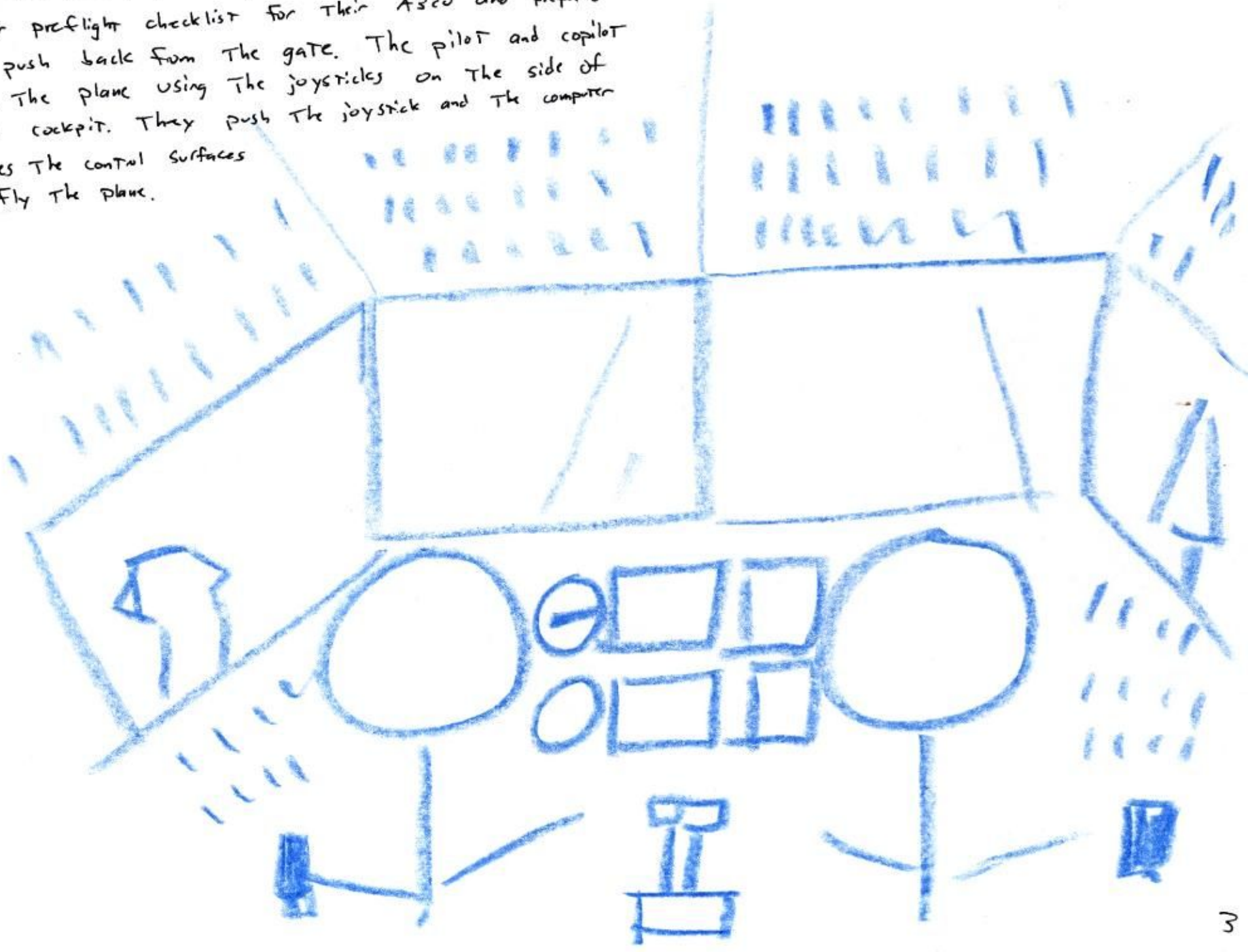


One day, Mommy and Daddy decided to go on vacation and take Calvin with them. They packed their bags, renewed their passports, and headed to the airport to catch a plane.

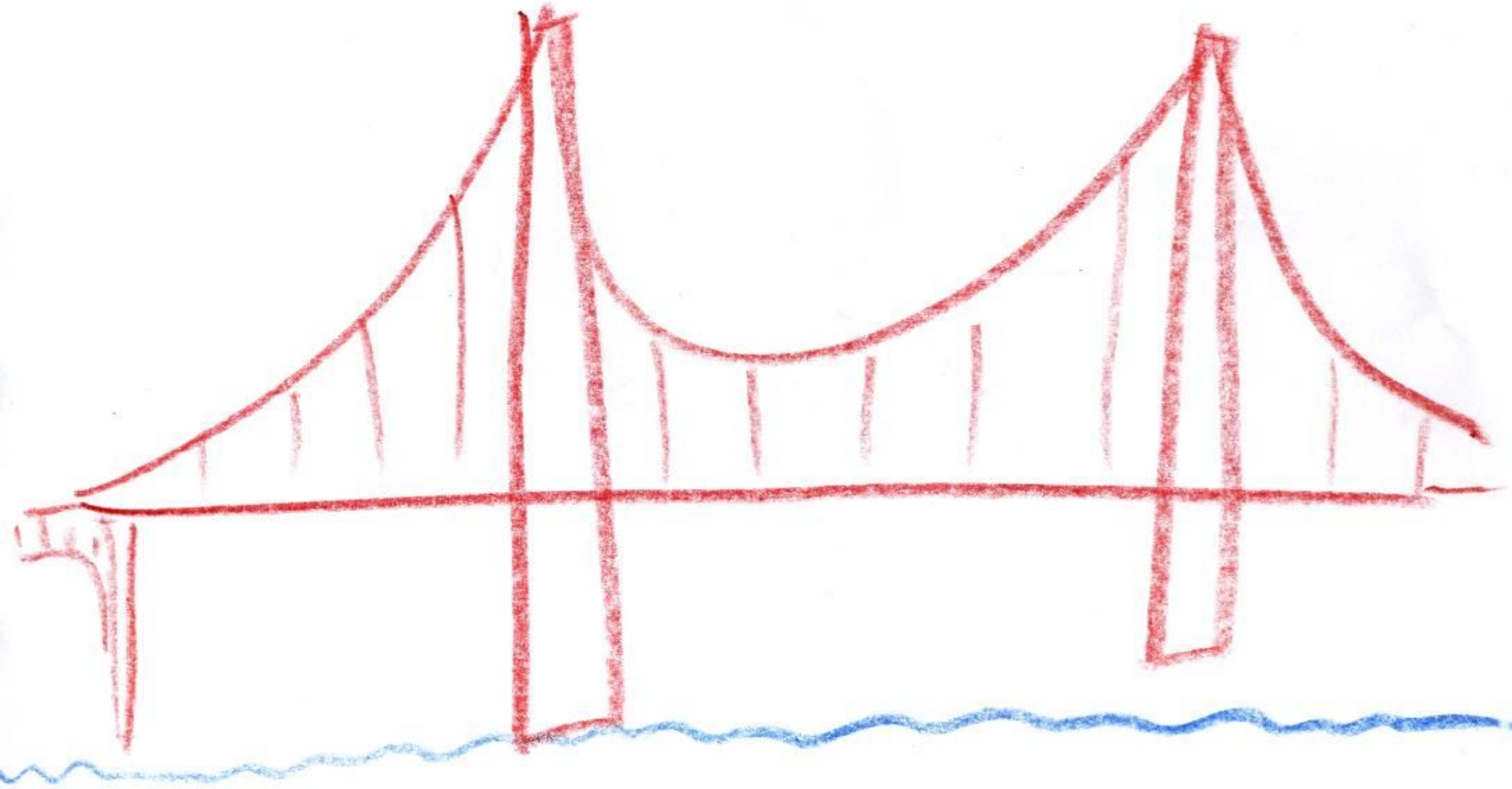


Mommy, Daddy, and Calvin board the plane early to get a good seat. Calvin gets to look at the window, and has a toy Duplo motorcycle to play with. Calvin likes flying, he has been on short flights to visit Grandma and Nana, but this will be his first time flying over the ocean and his first time in a jumbo jet. But first they fly to San Francisco, only two hours away.

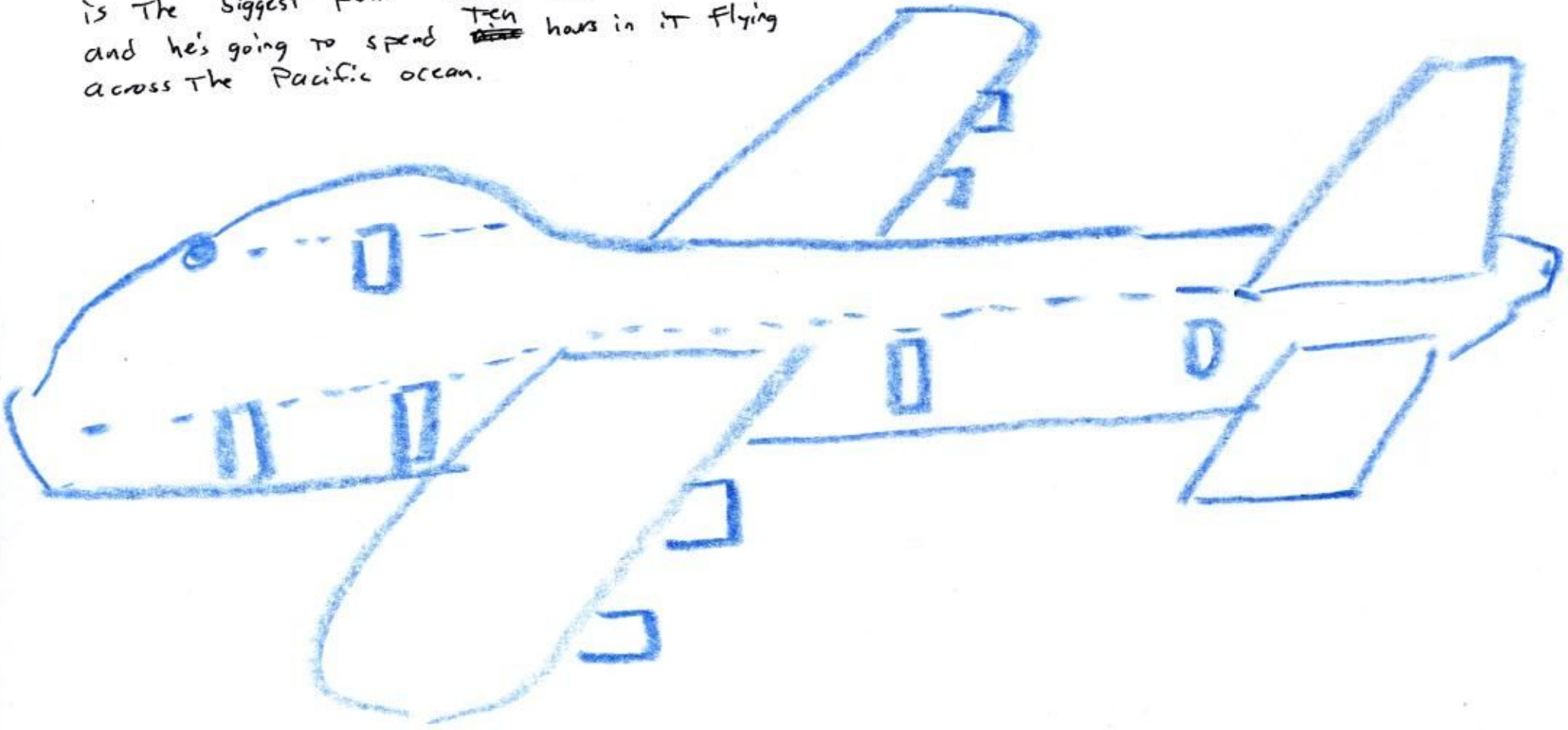
In the cockpit, the pilot and copilot completed their preflight checklist for their A320 and prepared to push back from the gate. The pilot and copilot fly the plane using the joysticks on the side of the cockpit. They push the joystick and the computer moves the control surfaces to fly the plane.



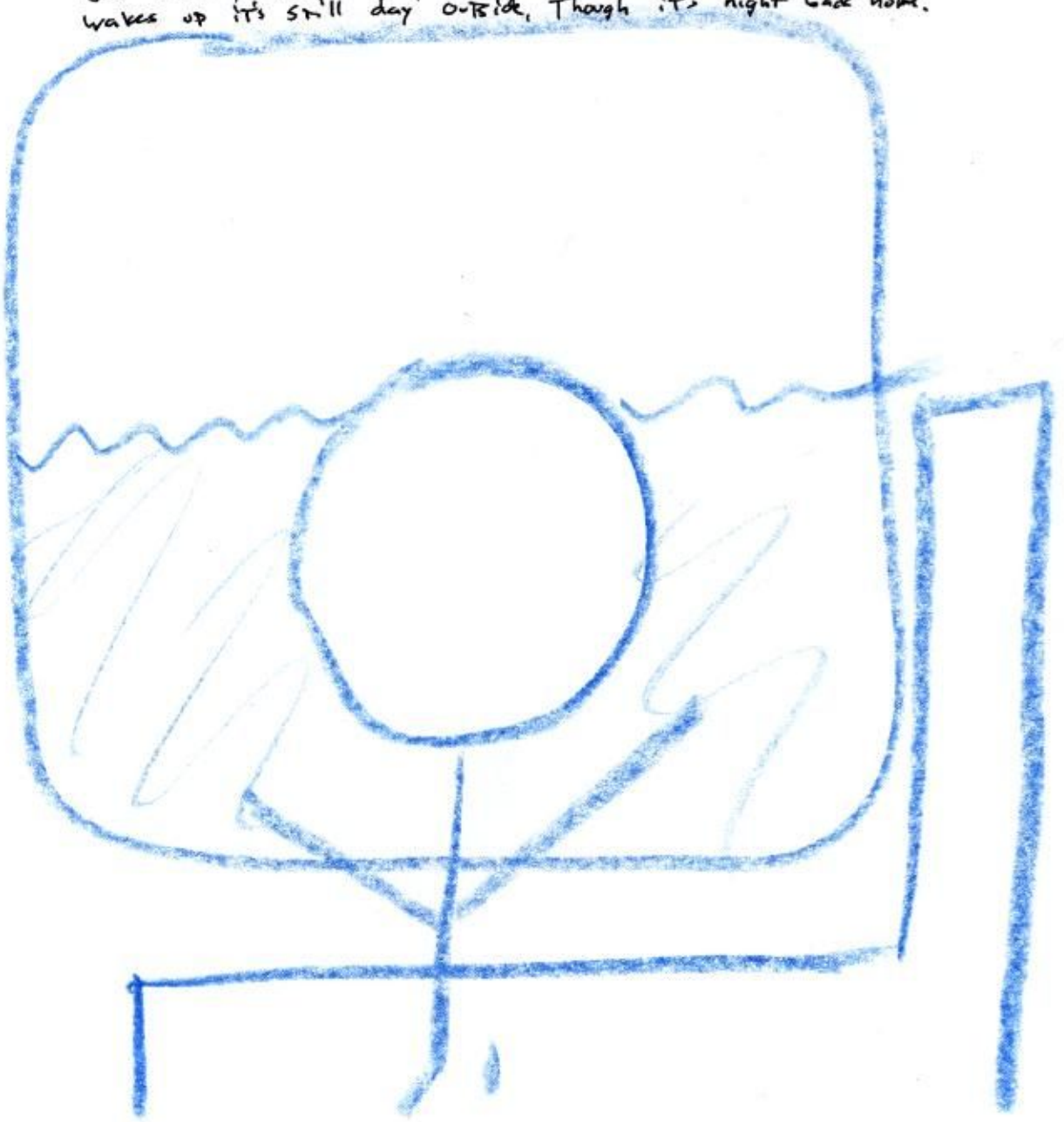
Mommy, Daddy, and Calvin, and everyone else on the plane, fly to San Francisco and see the Golden Gate Bridge. The bridge separates San Francisco Bay from the Pacific Ocean, and the Pacific Ocean separates North America from Asia.

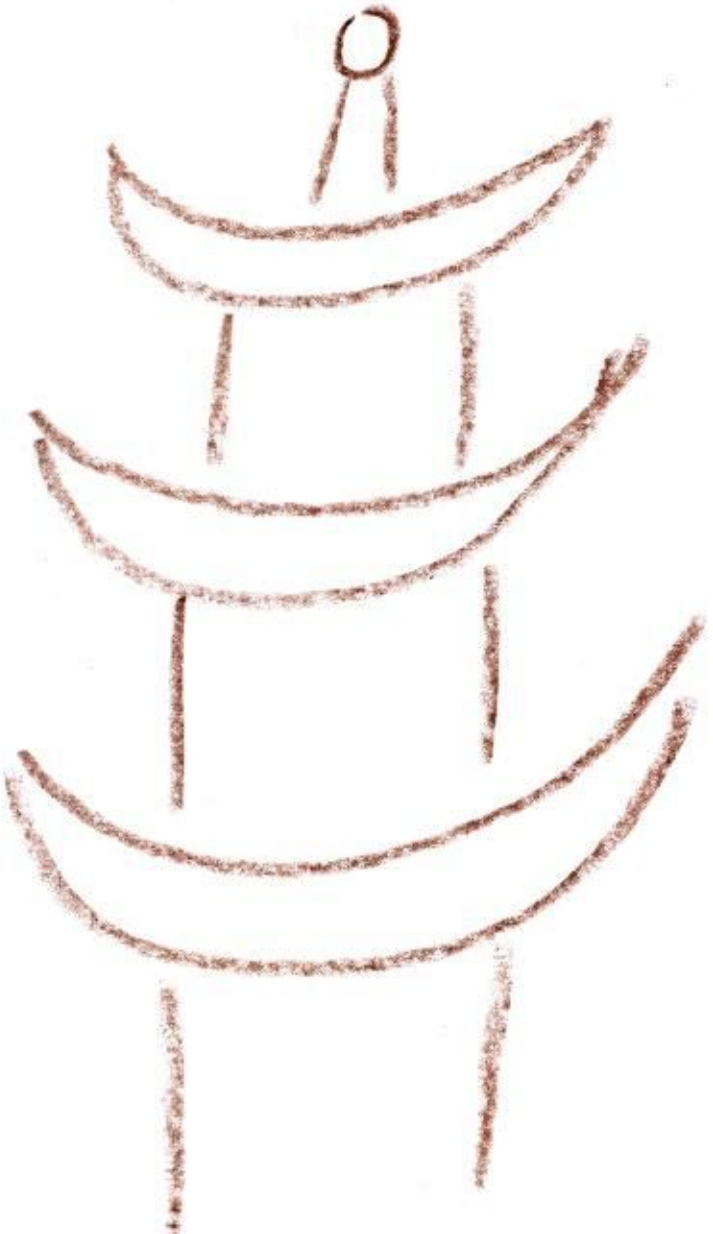


In San Francisco, Mommy, Daddy, and Calvin get off the plane from Denver and find the biggest plane at the airport, a giant 747-400. The plane has two stories with stairs inside, and has four giant engines. This is the biggest plane Calvin has ever seen - and he's going to spend ~~three~~ ten hours in it flying across the Pacific ocean.



Calvin gets the window seat again. But there's not much to see out the window— just ocean and clouds. If the clouds cooperate Calvin can catch a glimpse of Alaska. It is a very long flight. Calvin takes a nap but Mommy and Daddy stay awake. When Calvin wakes up it's still day outside. Though it's night back home.



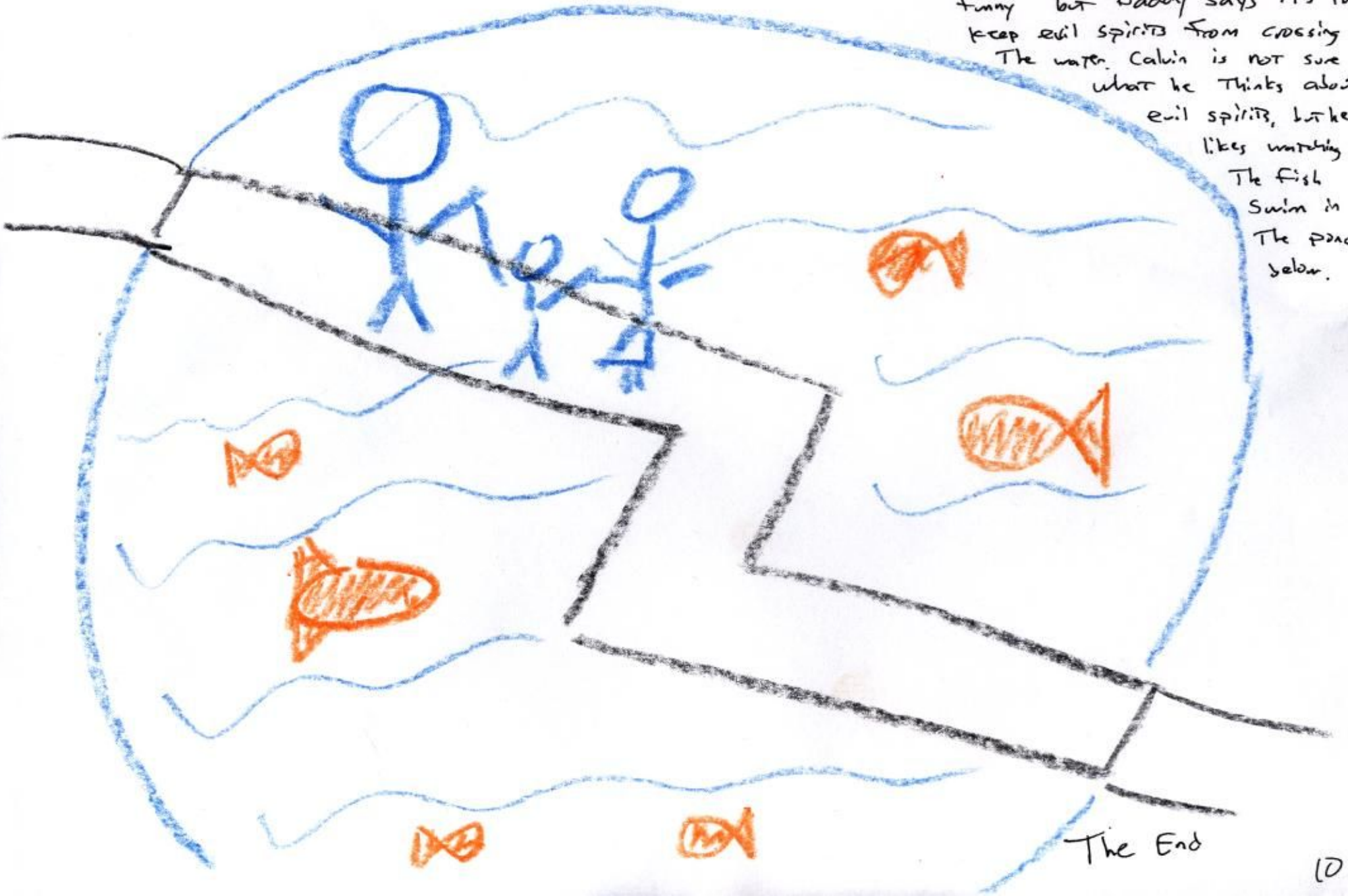


After a very long time cooped up in the very small airplane seat (which is still much larger than the seat seems to Mommy and Daddy), the plane with Calvin and Mommy and Daddy and hundreds of other people finally lands in Tokyo. The buildings out the window look different; Daddy points out a pagoda on a hill. The people all look different and say things Calvin can't understand, but after several long lines, Daddy finds a noodle restaurant at the airport and Calvin gets to use chopsticks to eat. He does better with the chopsticks than Mommy does.

Despite having flown what feels like halfway around the world, Mommy and Daddy take Calvin onto One more flight to another island called Taiwan. Calvin feels very tired but it's still bright and sunny out. Mommy and Daddy are tired too. Daddy points out one of the tallest buildings in the world, Taipei 101, built to look like a very tall pagoda.

The next morning Calvin gets up early, followed by Mommy and Daddy. They go on a walk to a teahouse where they have tea in a traditional chinese garden. Mommy finds tofu for Calvin to eat.

At the garden they see giant goldfish in the koi pond. Calvin thinks the crooked bridge is funny but Daddy says it's to keep evil spirits from crossing the water. Calvin is not sure what he thinks about evil spirits, but he likes watching the fish swim in the pond below.



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