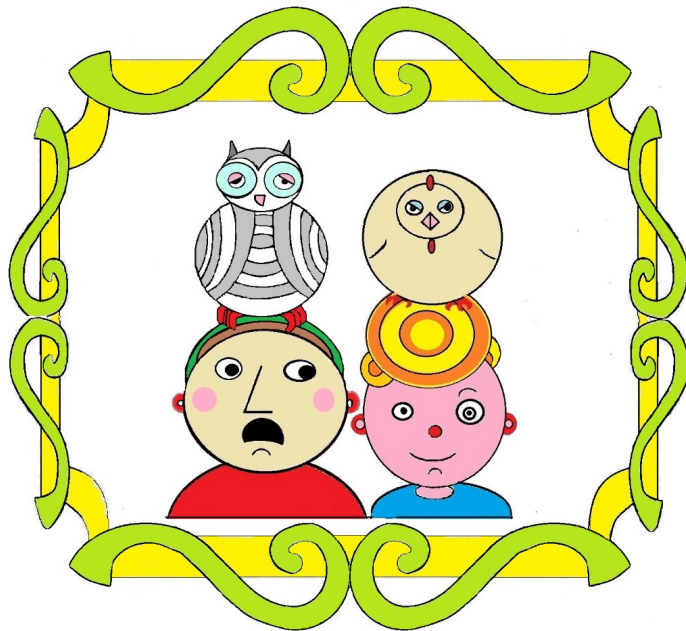




Les Oiseaux



The Birds



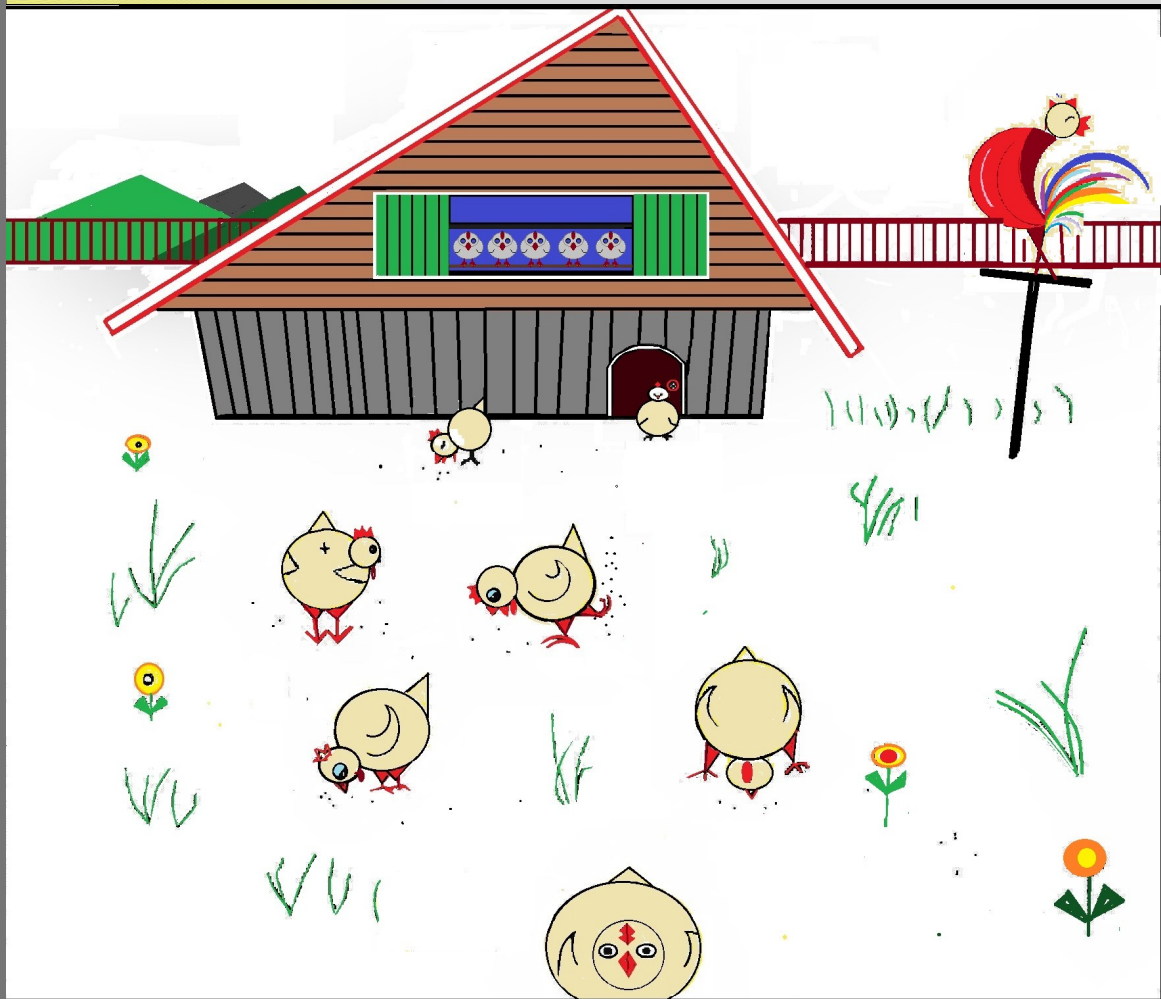
Bonjour,
Je parle
français,
Cocorico !

Hello,
I speak English
Cock a doodle
doo!



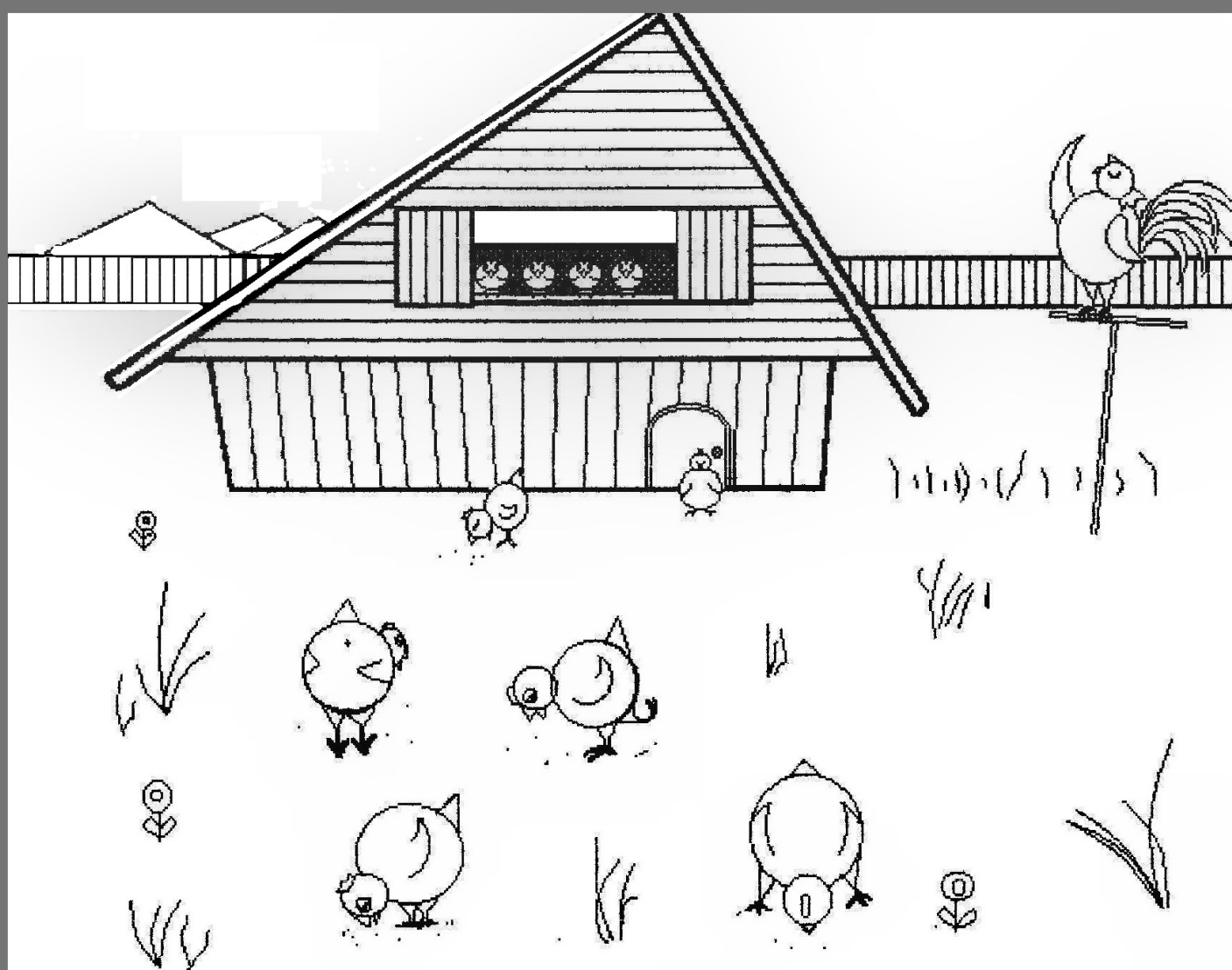
Il était une fois...

*Dans une paisible ferme bien organisée, il y avait
(aussi paisible et bien organisé) un poulailler.
Les poulets avaient tout pour être satisfaits
Le coq, avec le soleil chaque jour se levait.*

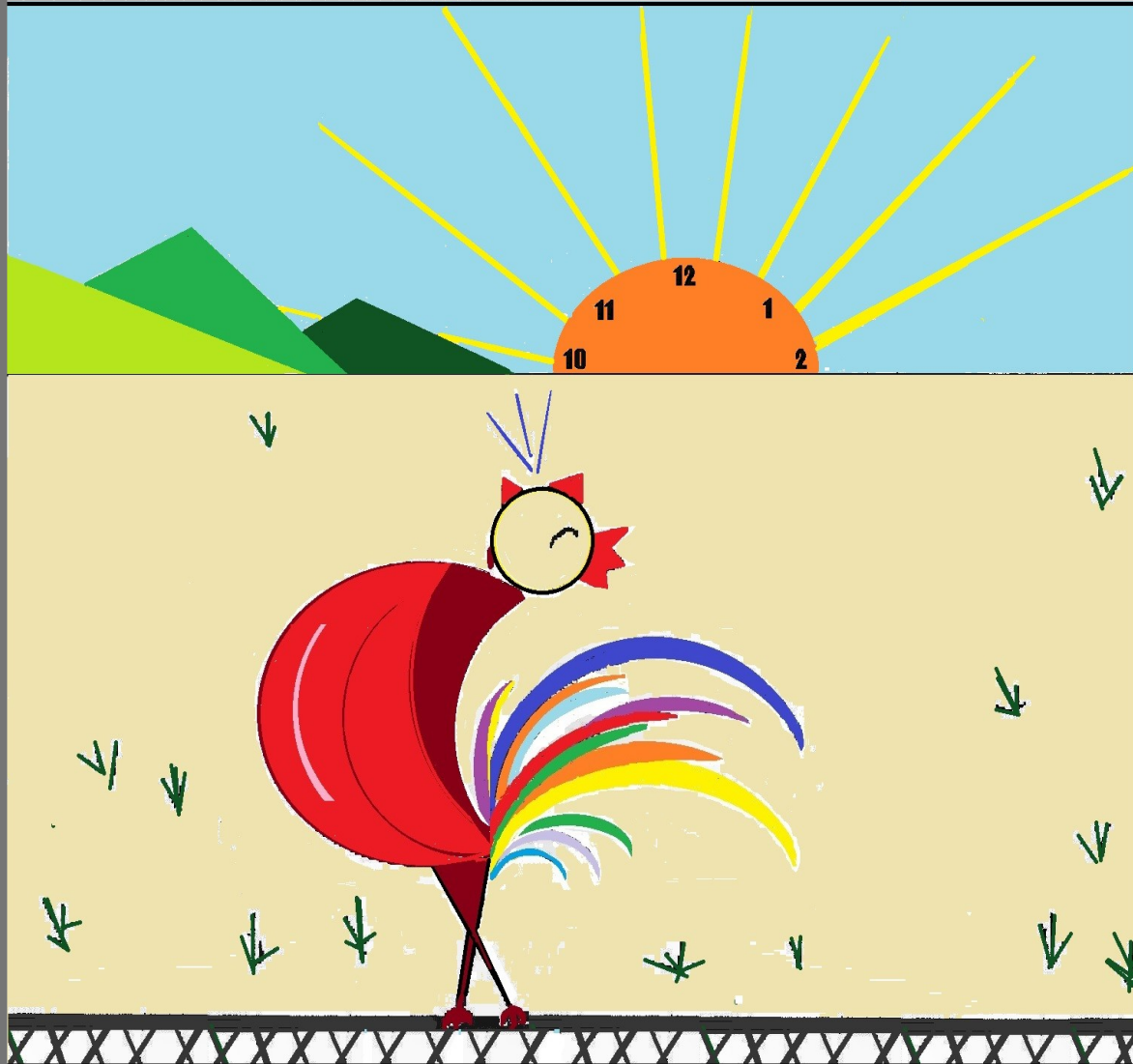


Once upon a time...

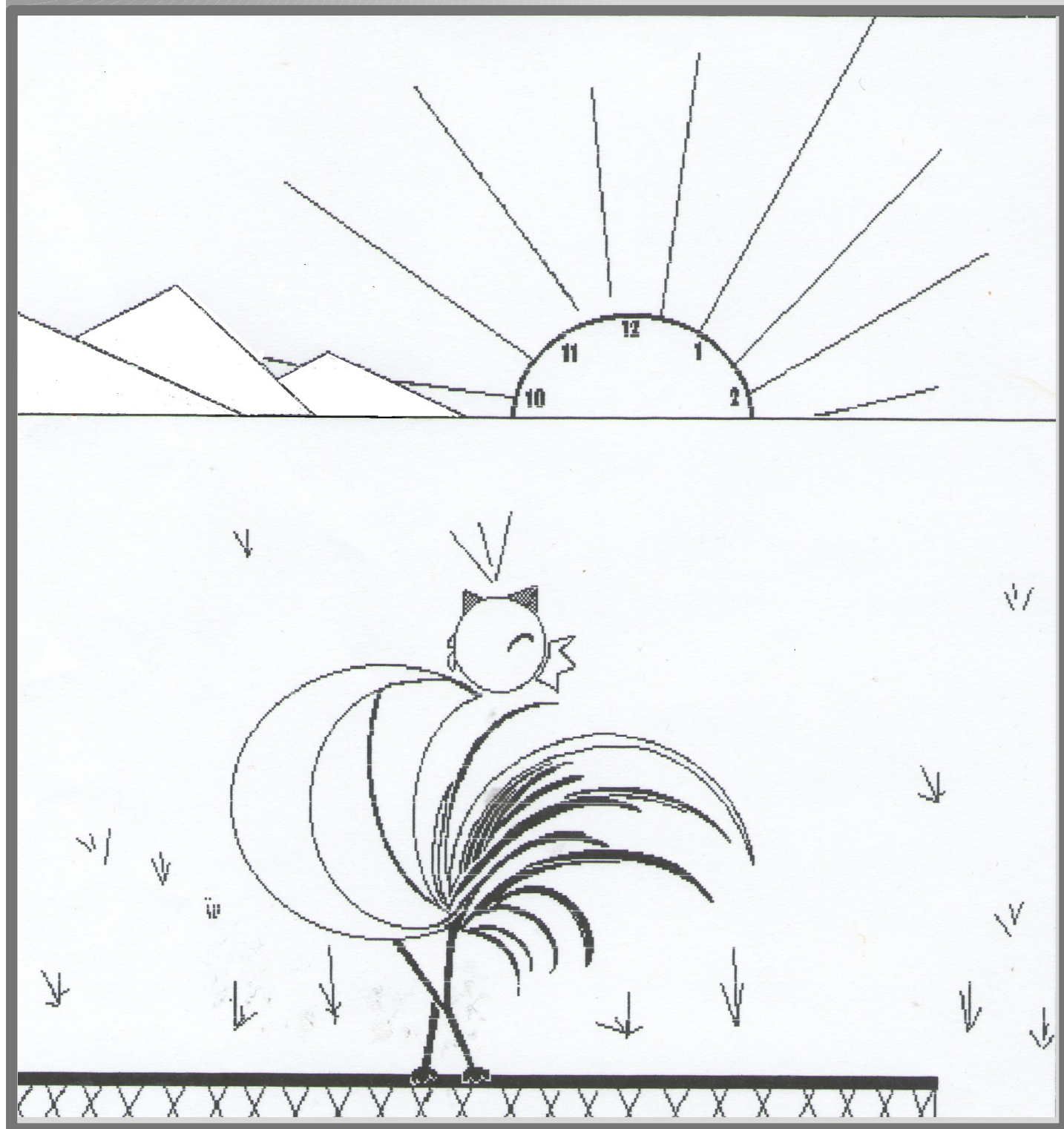
*In a well-organized farm there was
a well-organized hen house;
and there lived chickens, peaceful and pacified.
They really had everything to be satisfied.*



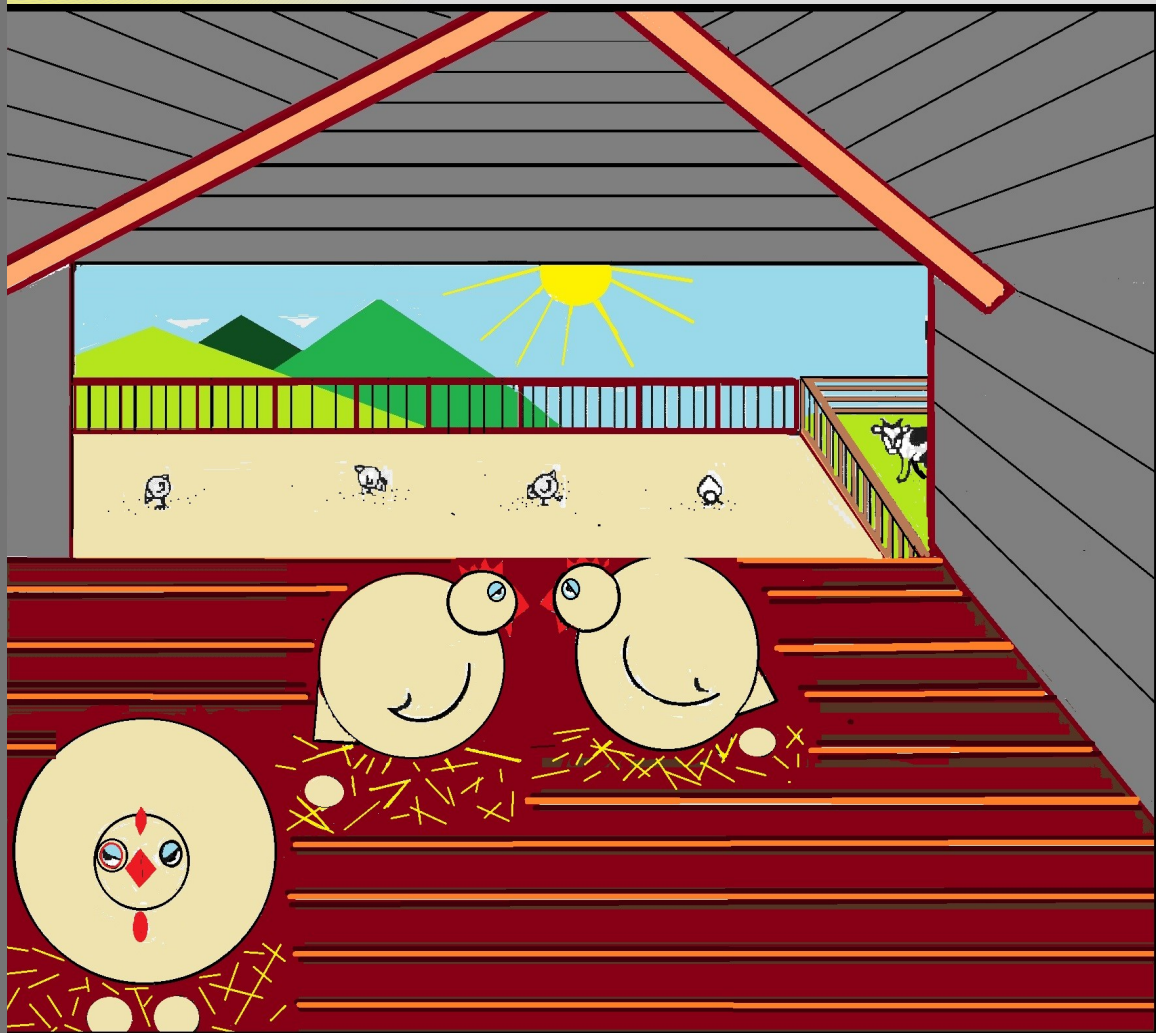
*Il savait comment réveiller la ferme, le coq !
Le lever du jour, personne ne s'en moque !"
Les poules arpentaient la cour,
acquiesçaient tout au long du jour
et leurs "pic, poc, poc"
ressemblaient à des "tic, toc, toc's*



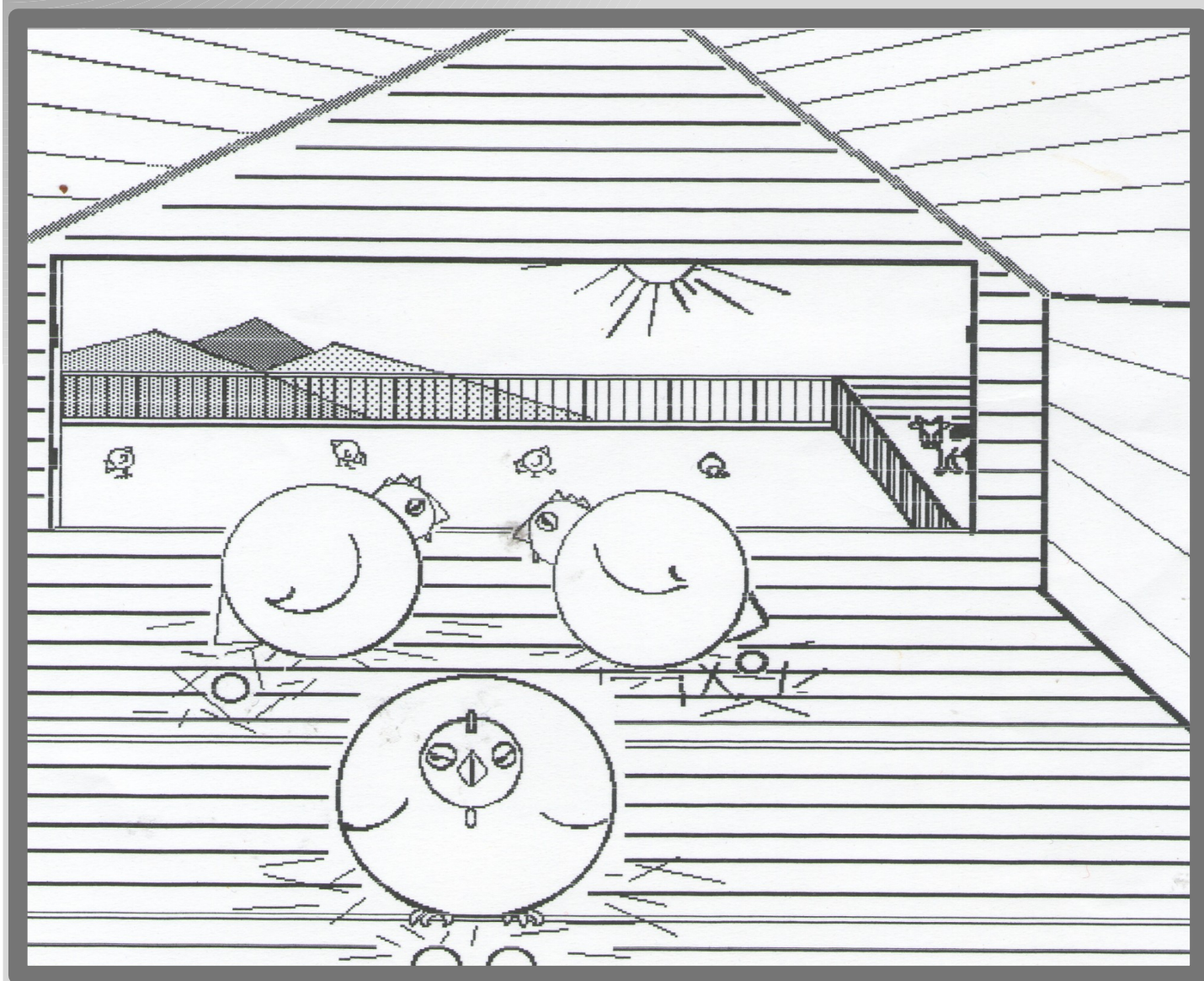
*As sure as in a river water flows,
at sunrise every day, the rooster rose.
He knew how to waken the farm, Mister Cock!
'The sun, he said, is our clock;
we do not mock time's tic-toc'
The hens agreed, bowing all day: 'Cluck, cluck!'*



*Aussi normal qu'à la rivière l'eau coule
Les poules pondaient un œuf chaque jour
Faisait-elle des poussins Madame Poule ?
Pas toujours..
Les poulets savaient comment gratter pour
faire sortir les vers
en rejetant la terre par derrière*



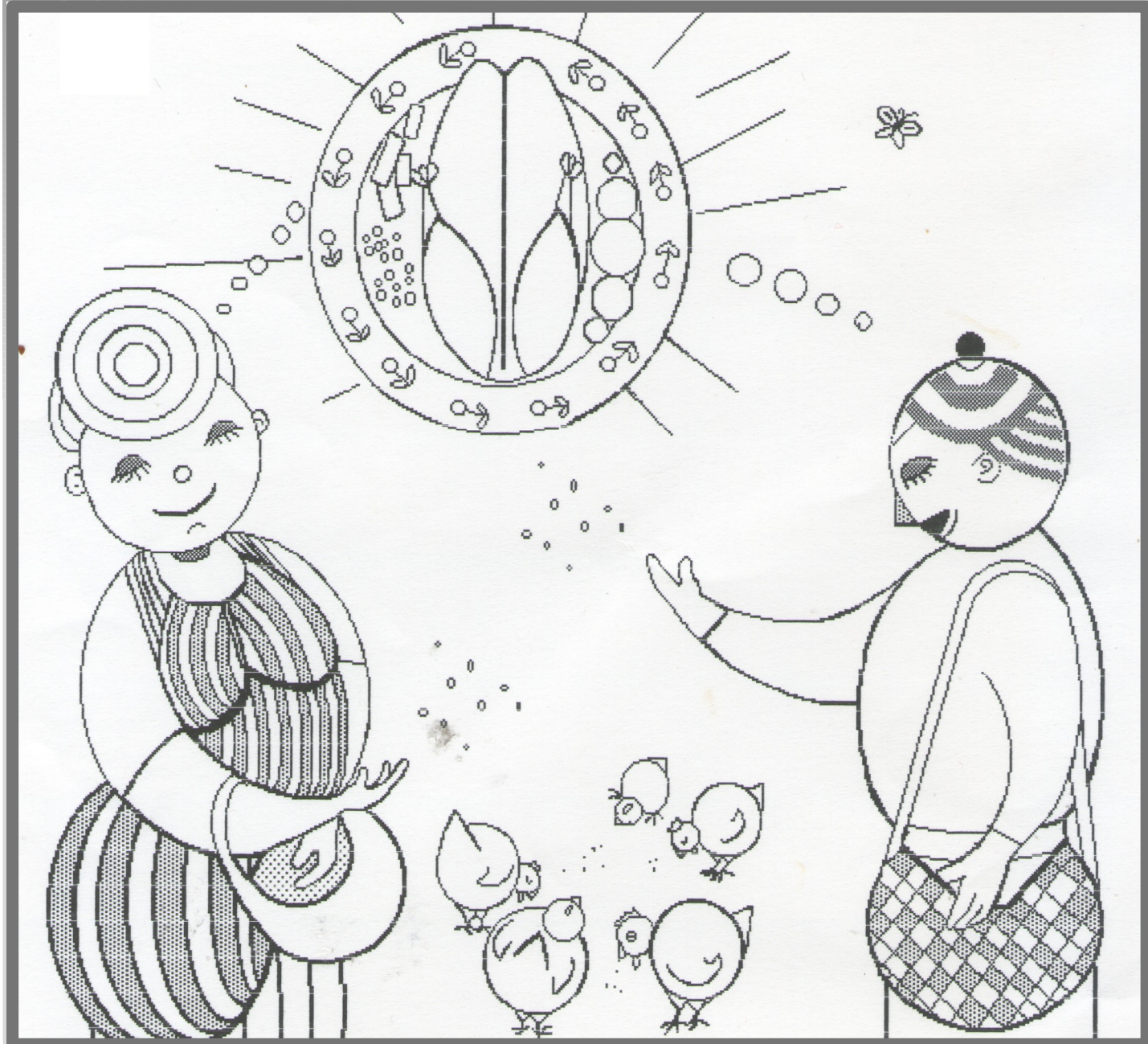
*Hens laid an egg each day.
Yes, come what may
and sometimes she made chicks, Mrs Hen!
Yes, from egg to chick to chicken.*



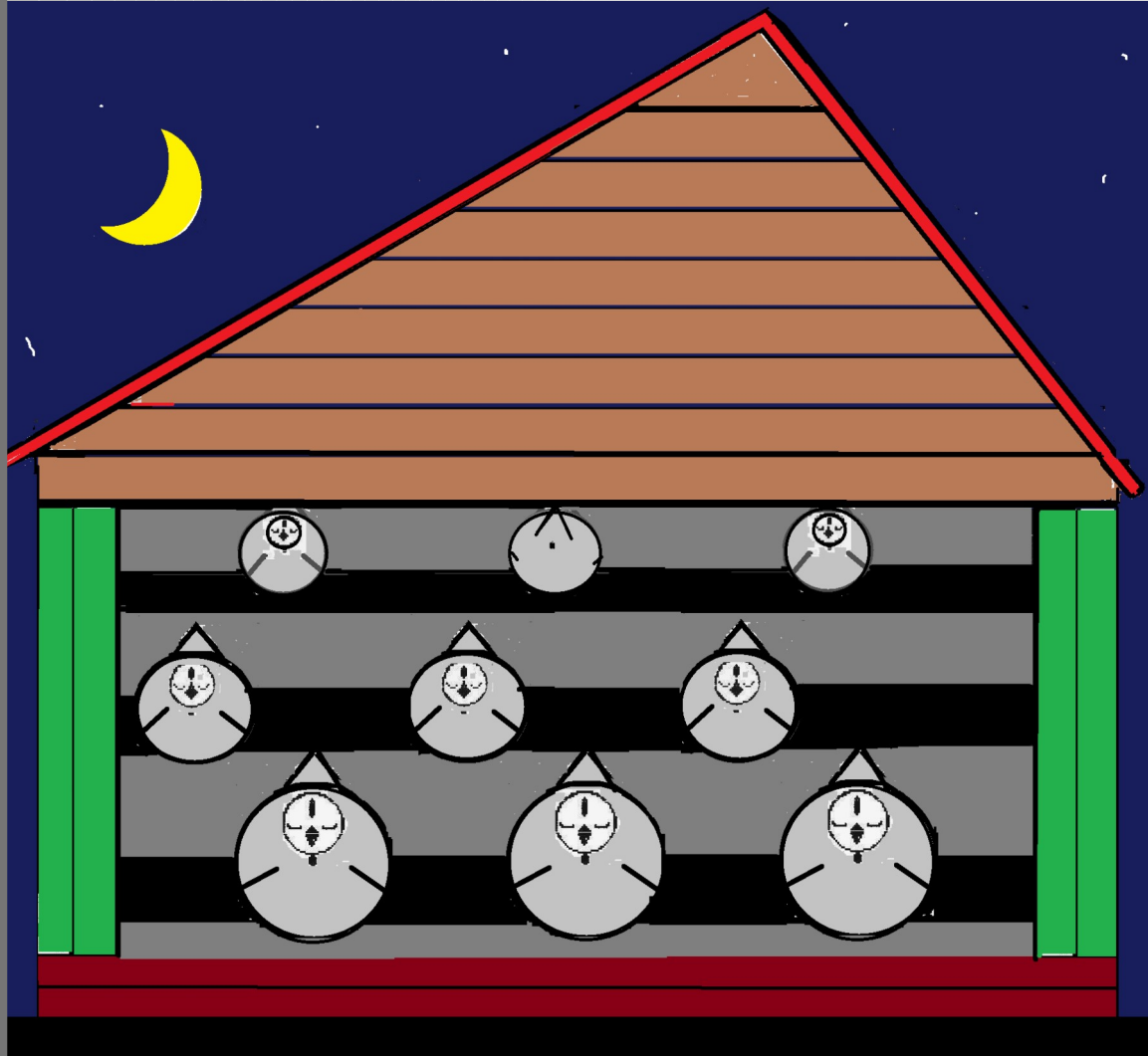
*Tous picoraient le reste du temps
le grain jeté par les fermiers.
Il faut dire qu'heureusement
aucun d'entre eux ne connaissait
le sort qu'on leur réservait.*



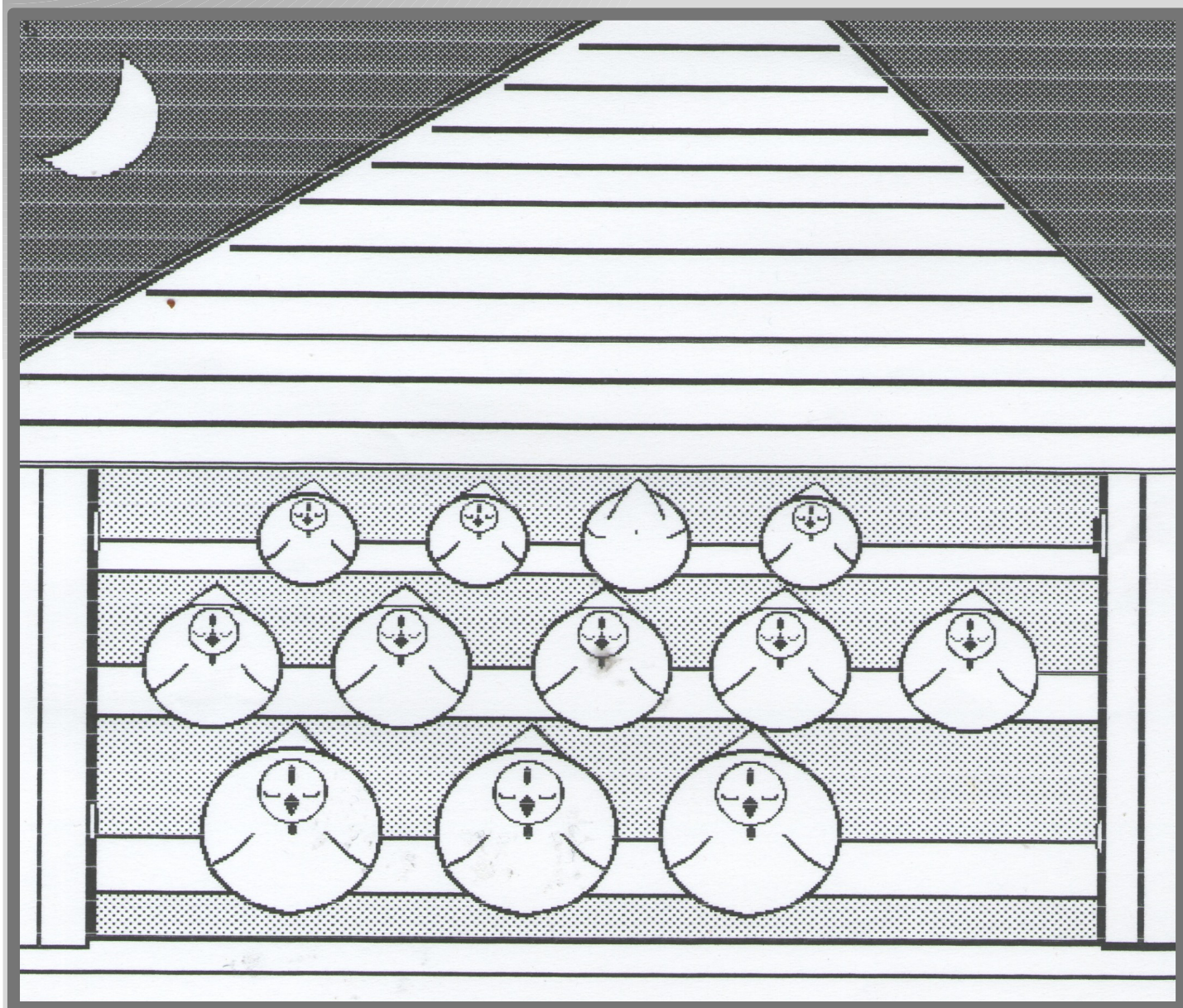
*The chickens pecked the grain thrown about,
and they knew how to get worms out!
They felt that Mother Nature
only had one aim: their nurture.
Everybody scratched all day.
Fortunately, you may say,
nobody guessed their fate,
roasted on a plate.*



*Tout ce petit monde se couchait avec le soleil.
Rien de plus naturel pour des poules me direz-vous.
Le temps passait, calme, toujours pareil.
Un Dieu avait, semble-t-il, pensé à tout.*



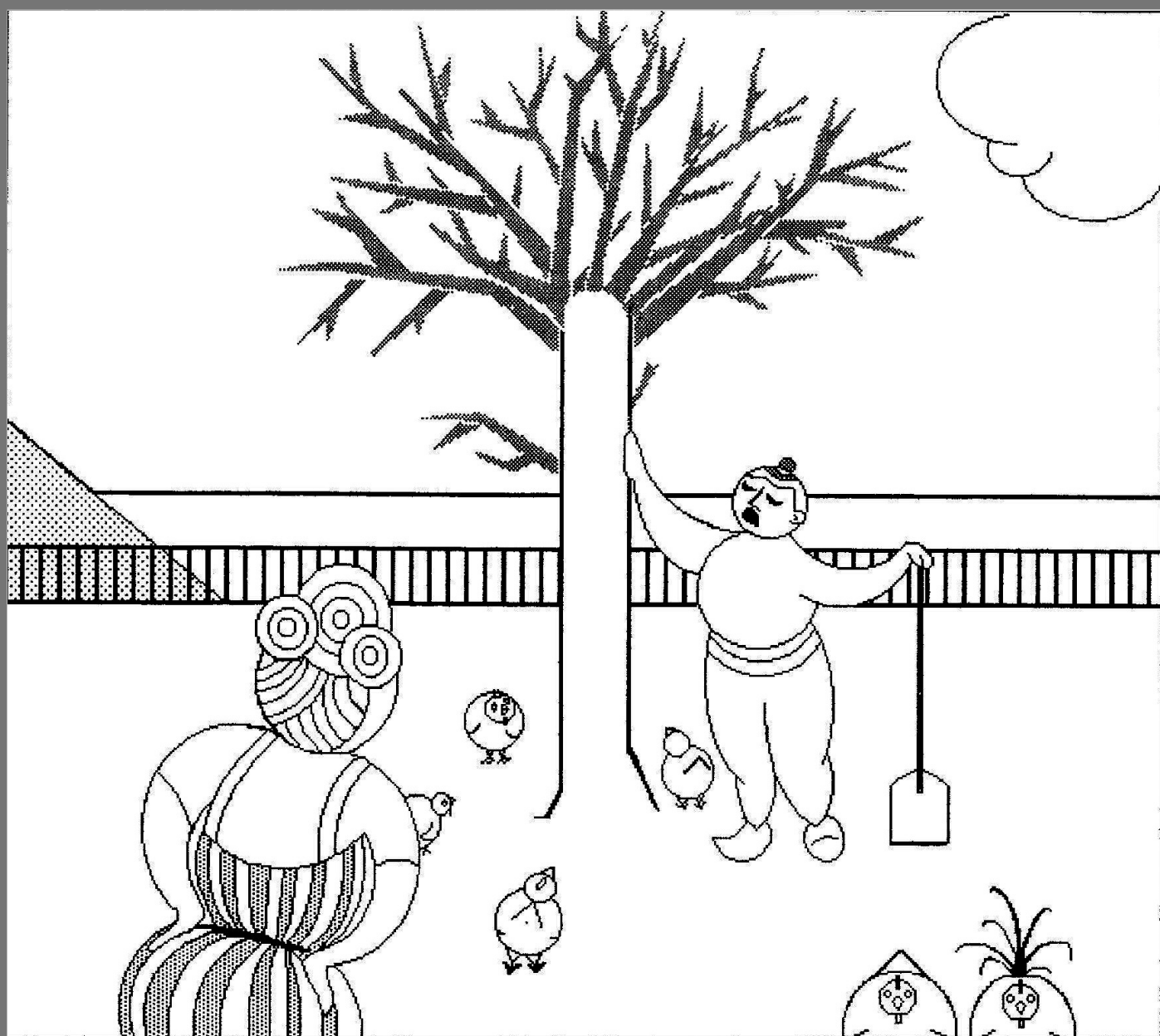
*But ignorance is blessed
and everybody went to sleep at sunset.
After all, it is very natural for them.
So time passed evenly, always the same.*



*Un jour paisible comme les autres, une matinée,
un arbre fut planté dans le poulailler.
"Pourquoi ? Peut-on se demander.
Dieu seul le sait.*



*Then one day the farmer planted a tree there.
Was it for shade, for fun, for something new?
'Why this change?' they asked each other.
As nobody could think, nobody could answer.
So nobody knew.*



*Mais au printemps... un beau dimanche
un hibou vint se percher sur une branche.
Il demanda du silence et se mit à son aise,
car il était l'heure pour lui de dormir.
"Ne vous en déplaise !"
"Quelle audace, les poules et le coq dirent !"*

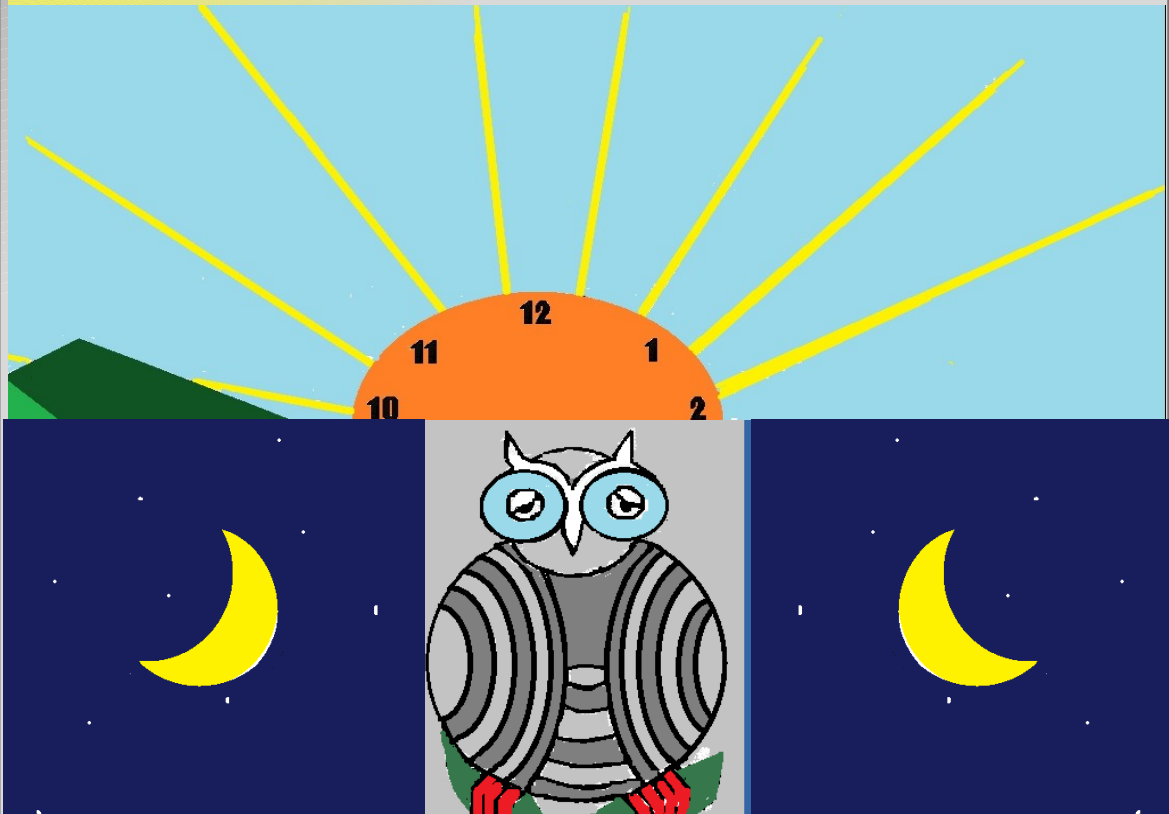


*But in Spring... an owl came too.
He sat on a branch, saying: "Boo, hoo, boo!"
"Then feeling at ease,
he demanded that the chickens below
be quiet: "Stop cackling, please.
I'll have you all know
that daytime is for sleeping!"*



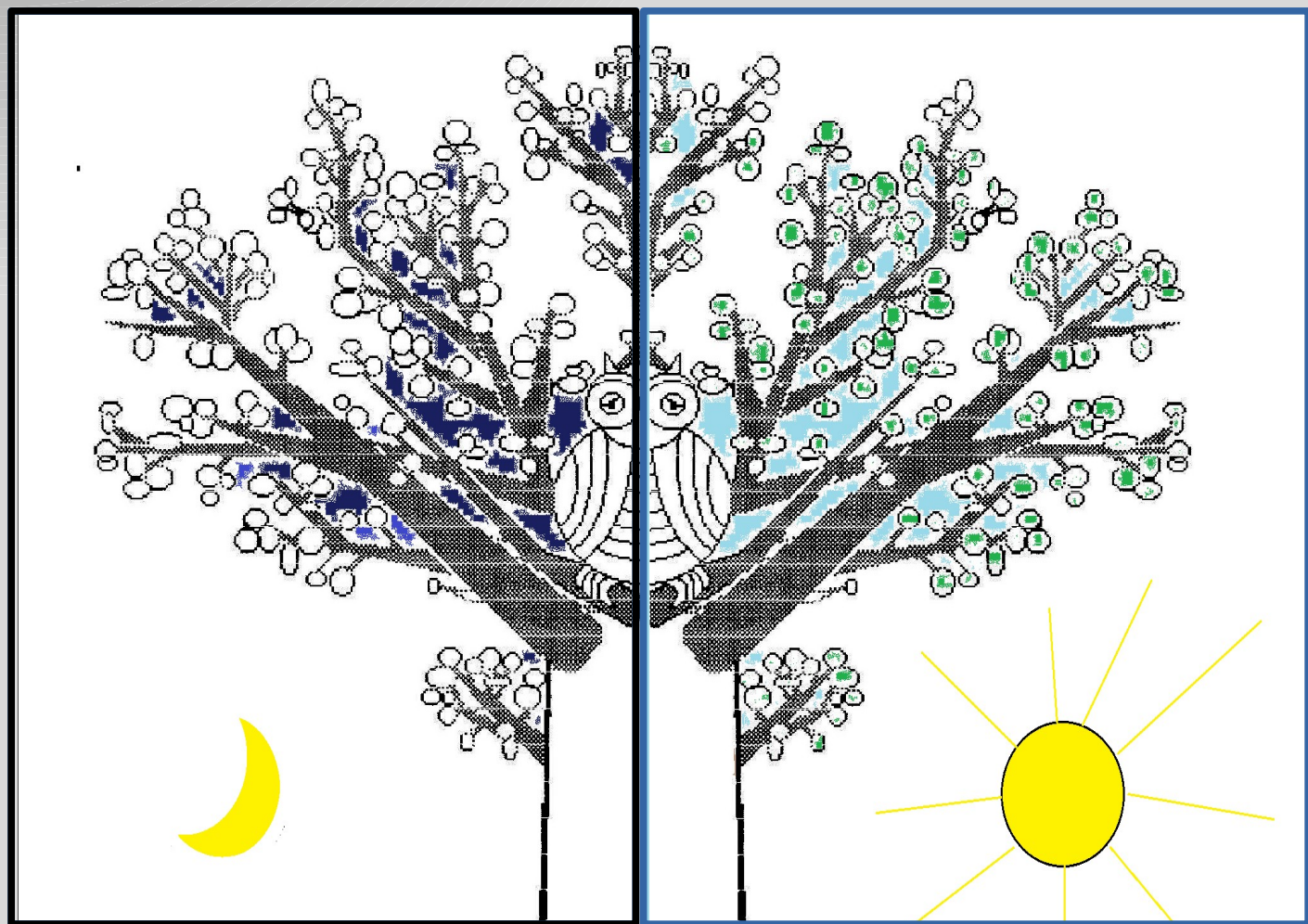
*"Mr Hibou, pour qui vous prenez-vous ?
A faire vos lois dans notre basse-cour ?"*

*- Ceci est un arbre, n'est-ce pas ? répondit le hibou,
où qu'il soit planté, et je dors le jour !"*



*'What? Sleep in the morning?
they cackled. Surely, you must be joking!
Hoo do yoo think yoo are, Mr Owl?
You want to change the laws here, what nerve!'*

*- This is a tree, is it not? The home I deserve.
Up here is my place, not yours', replied the owl.
'I sleep by day and that's all.'*



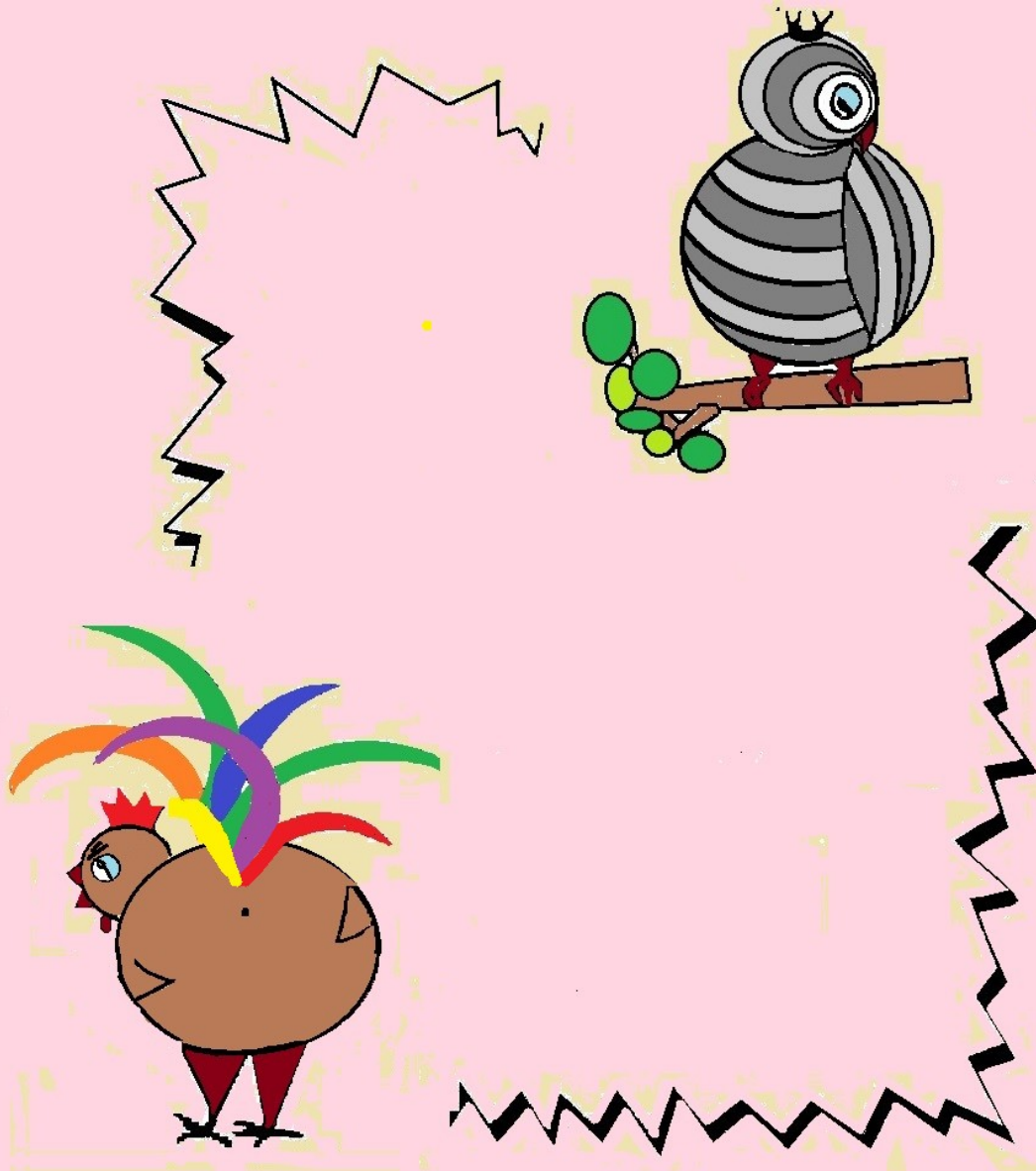
*Ceci dit, le hibou avait un jour fait la chasse
à un écureuil pour prendre sa place...
mais bien sûr cette histoire
était tout au fond de sa mémoire.*



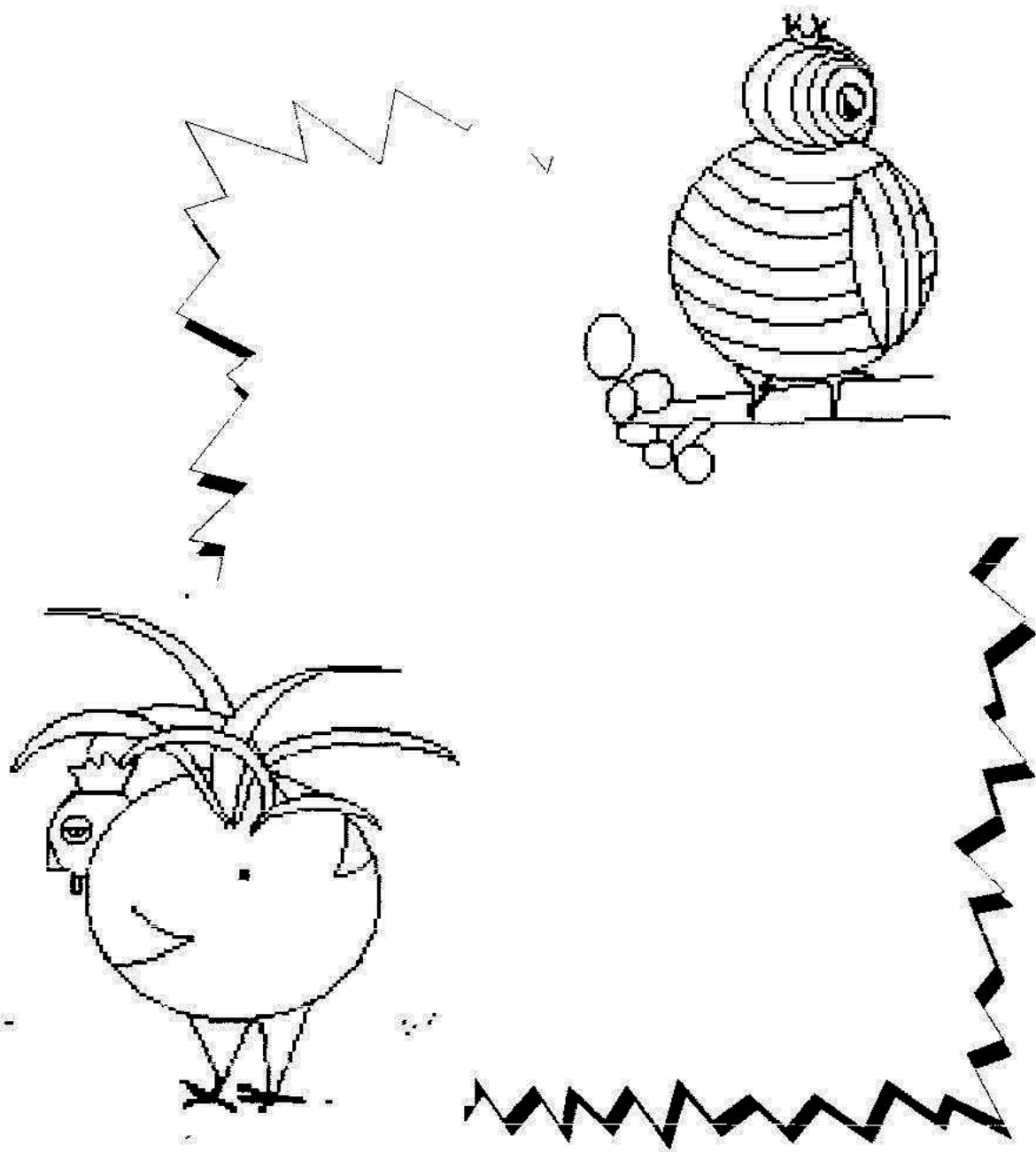
*But once the owl had chased a squirrel out
to take over a tree;
but that story, conveniently,
he had forgotten about.*



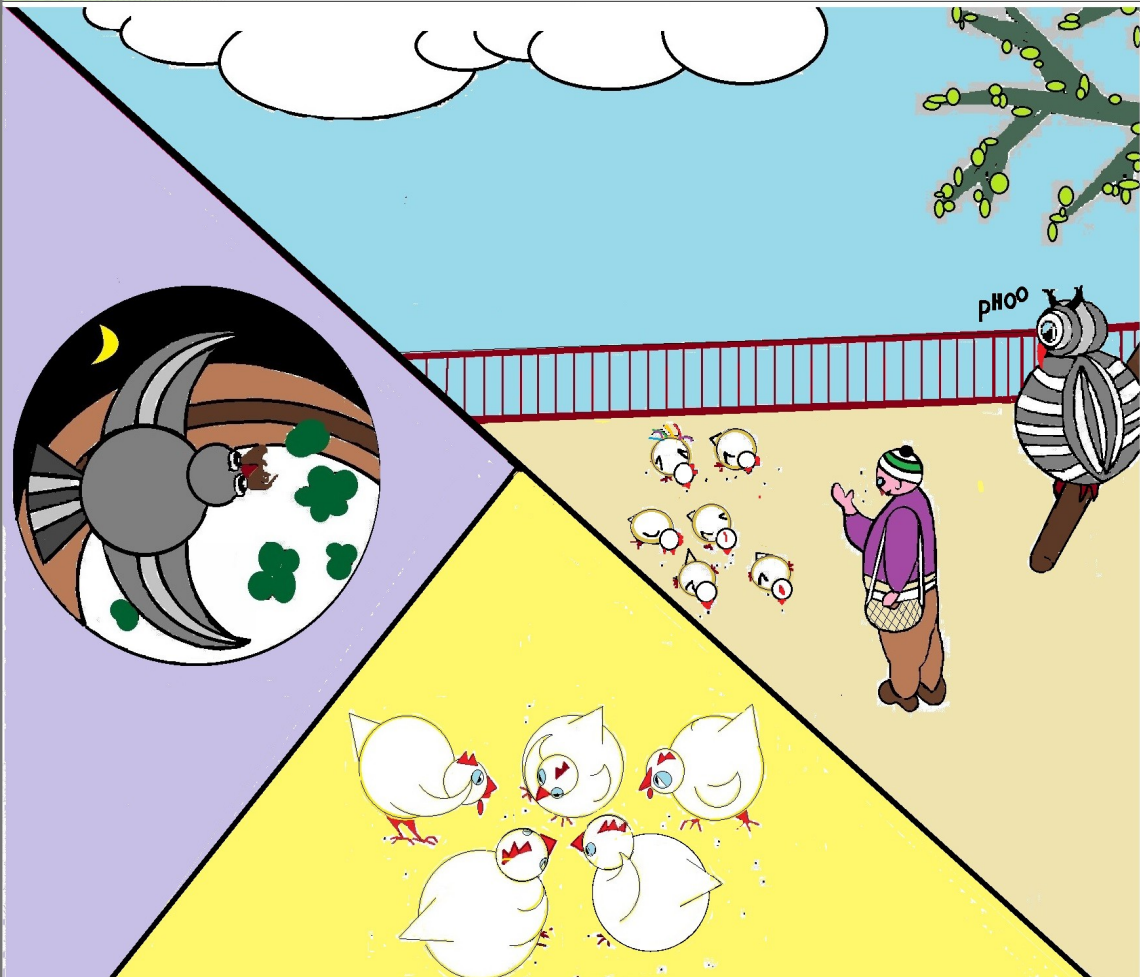
*Mais le temps reprit son cours sur cette petite terre.
Chacun s'occupant de ses petites affaires.
Il s'ignorèrent
Les poules jacassaient moins fort, éventuellement
et le hibou dormait un peu moins longtemps.*



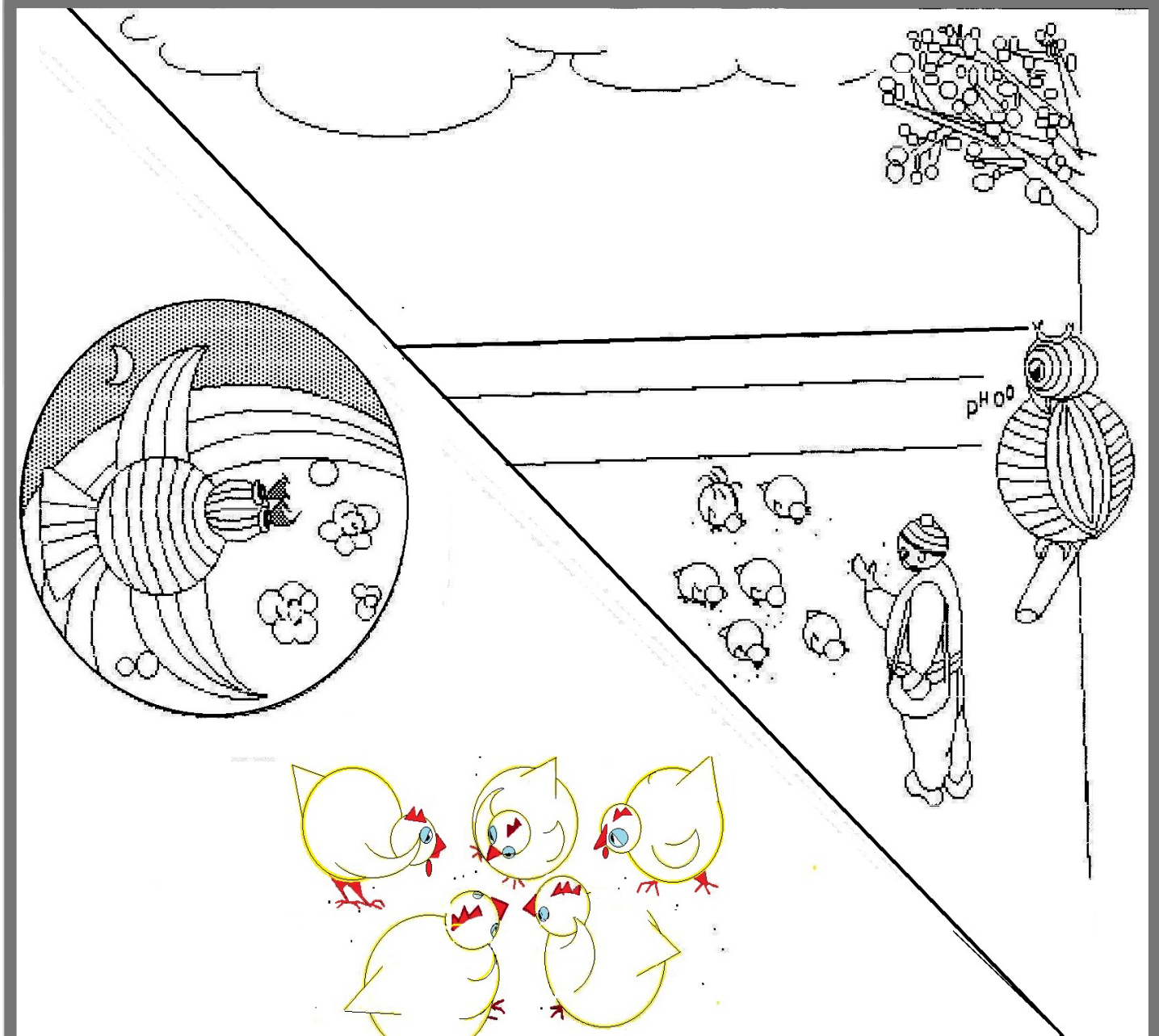
*Eventually, each race
remaining in its place,
everything settled down in the bird world.
Fowl and owl did not exchange another word.
everyone minding its own business.
Perhaps the hens cackled a little less
and the owl slept a little less.*



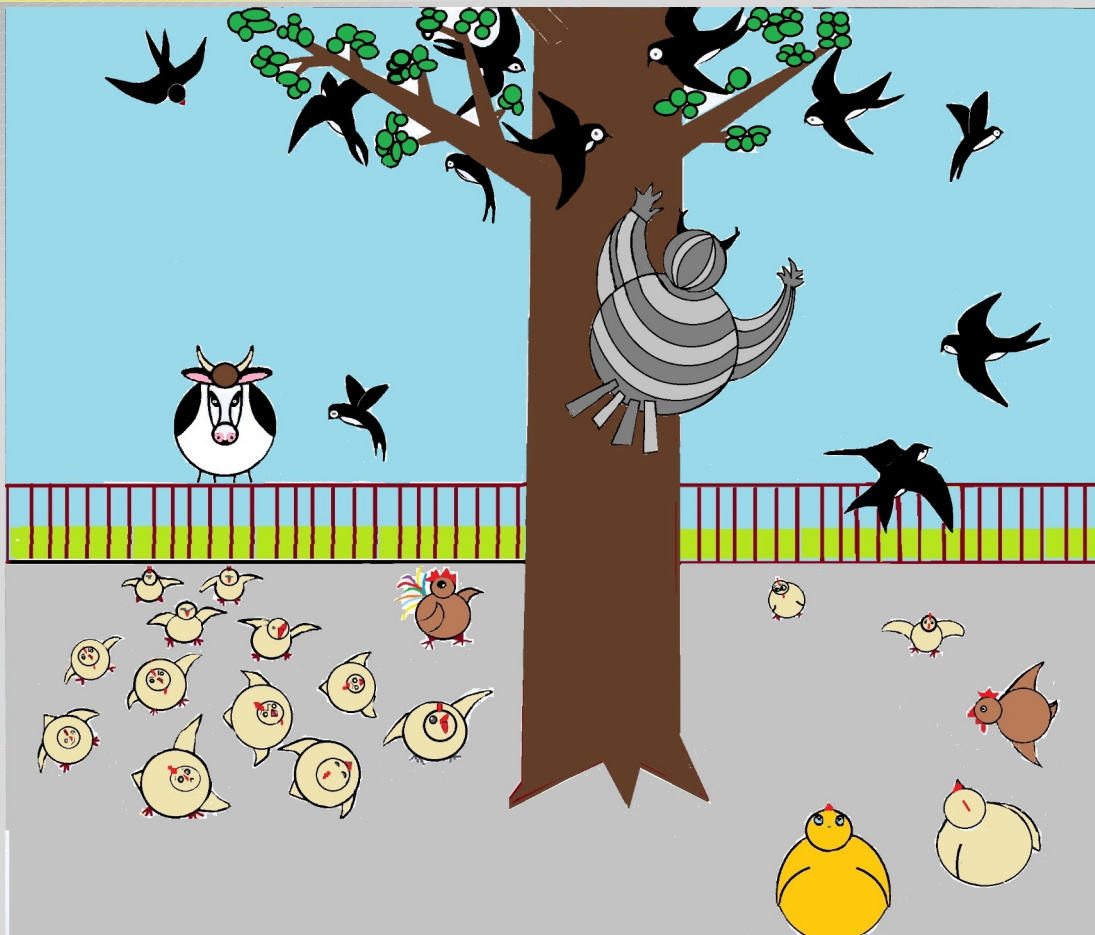
Ouvrant un œil, le hibou méprisait de son perchoir
ces poules aveugles picorer le grain au bon vouloir
des fermiers. Les poulets trouvaient eux
que la journée endormi était pour le moins curieux :
"Aimer d'être seul, quelle misère ;
pauvre solitaire !"
Imaginez, chasser des souris
toutes les nuits !



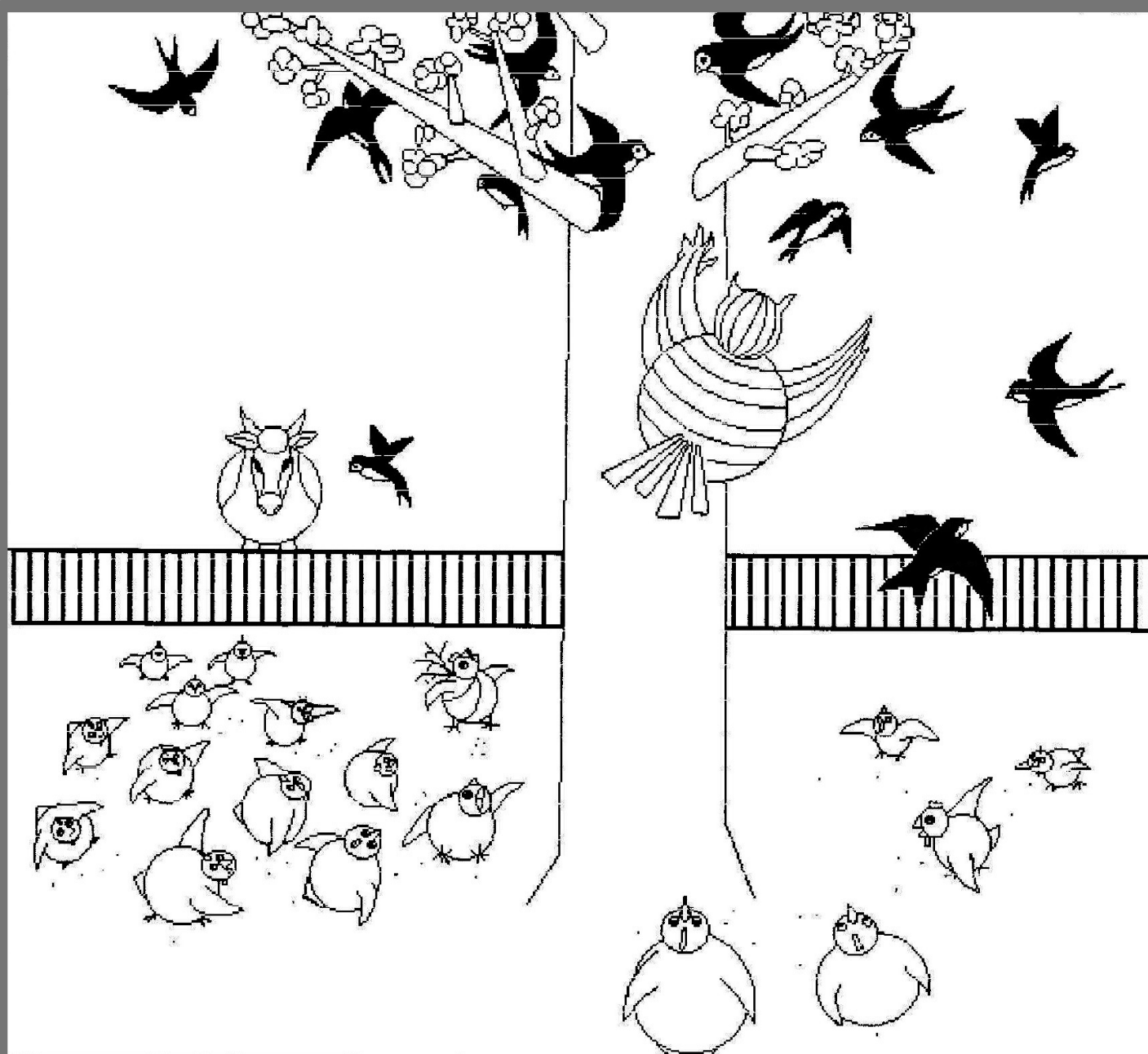
One eye open, from above, sometimes the owl
watched with contempt his neighbour fowl
'Waiting for food to be thrown at them!
No pride in that', he thought, no freedom
hunting is the only way, I say.'
And the chickens thought that sleeping all day
all alone, and eating mice at night
was peculiar for a bird: 'A sorry sight!
they said, what a pitiful loner.'
But most of the time, they ignored each other.



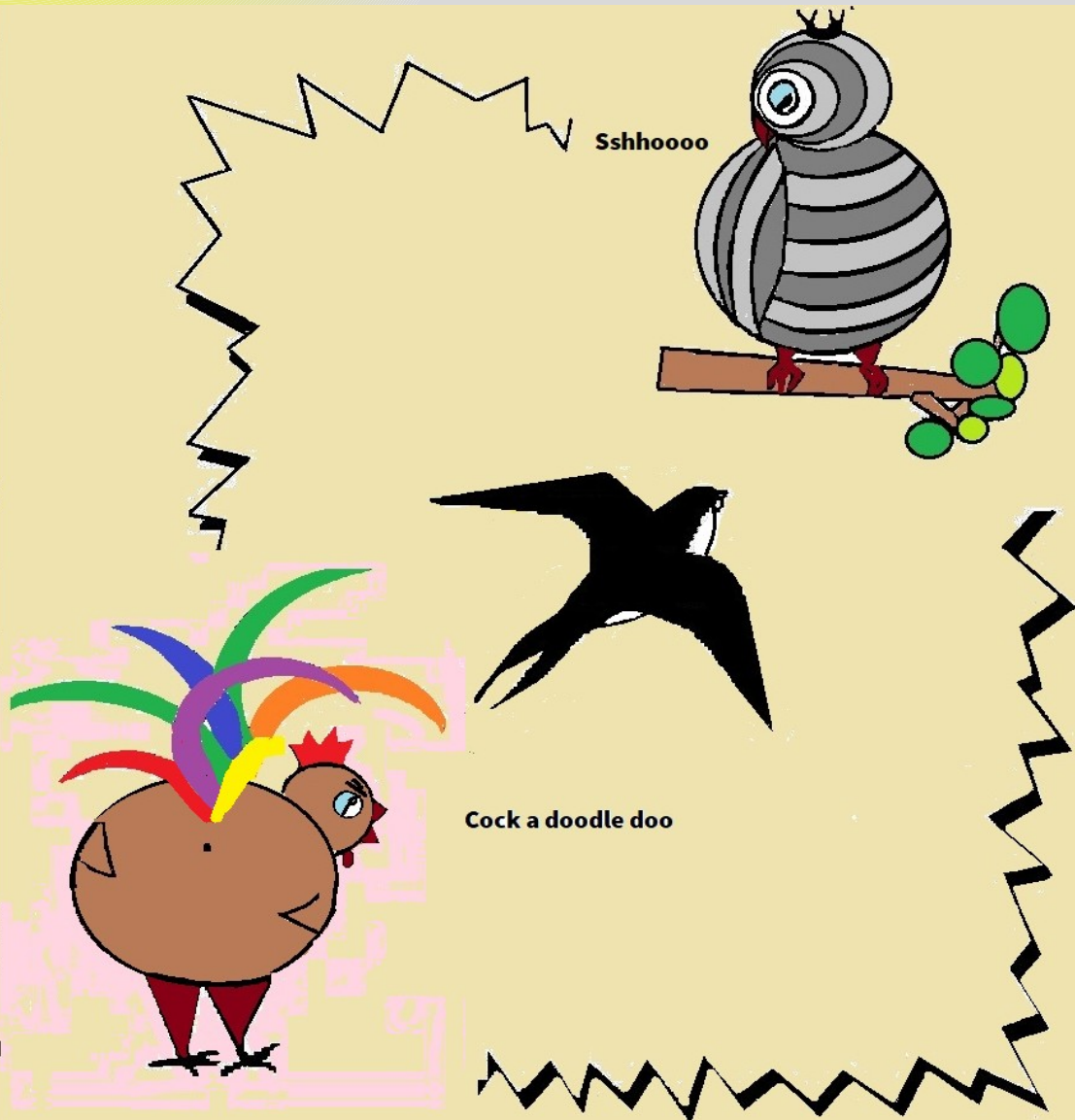
*Un jour de malchance, penserez-vous
une envolée d'hirondelles vint s'installer
en haut de l'arbre, "propriété" du hibou.
Il s'éveilla, les plume ébouriffées.
Craignant pour leur grain, connaissant ces compères,
Les poules et le coq arrivèrent en colère.*



*But one day, when all seemed so well again,
after the chickens had their morning grain,
they heard and saw swallows settling on the tree:
dozens of them, on Mr Owl's 'private property'
He woke up, cleared up his voice,
ruffled up his feathers, angry.
This tree cannot contain such activity
and certainly not so much noise'
said the bird we call wise.*



*Allez ailleurs, repartez d'où vous venez !"
Les hirondelles s'étonnèrent de tant d'hostilité
"Nous sommes tous des oiseaux enfin quoi ?"
"Nous nous reposons c'est tout."
"Pas de place pour l'oiseau de passage, sans lois",
repondirent volaille et hibou.*



*The swallows were at first amazed
by such hostility and lack of hospitality
'We are all birds, aren't we?'
The question was raised;
'No room here for lawless ones, thieving
and we don't like your travelling.
You don't deserve this tree or this grain,
go away, we won't tell you again!*

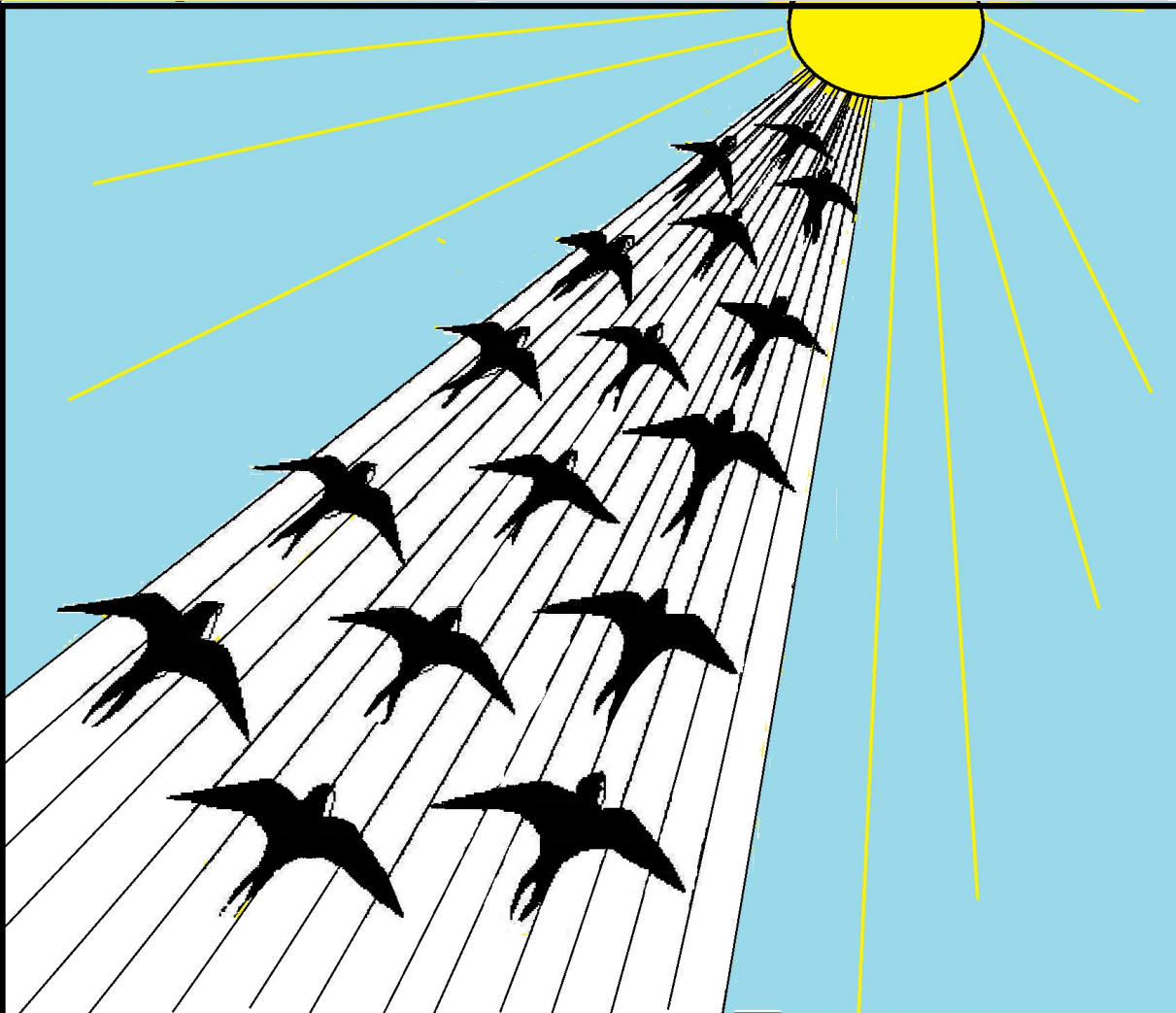
dessine ce que tu veux



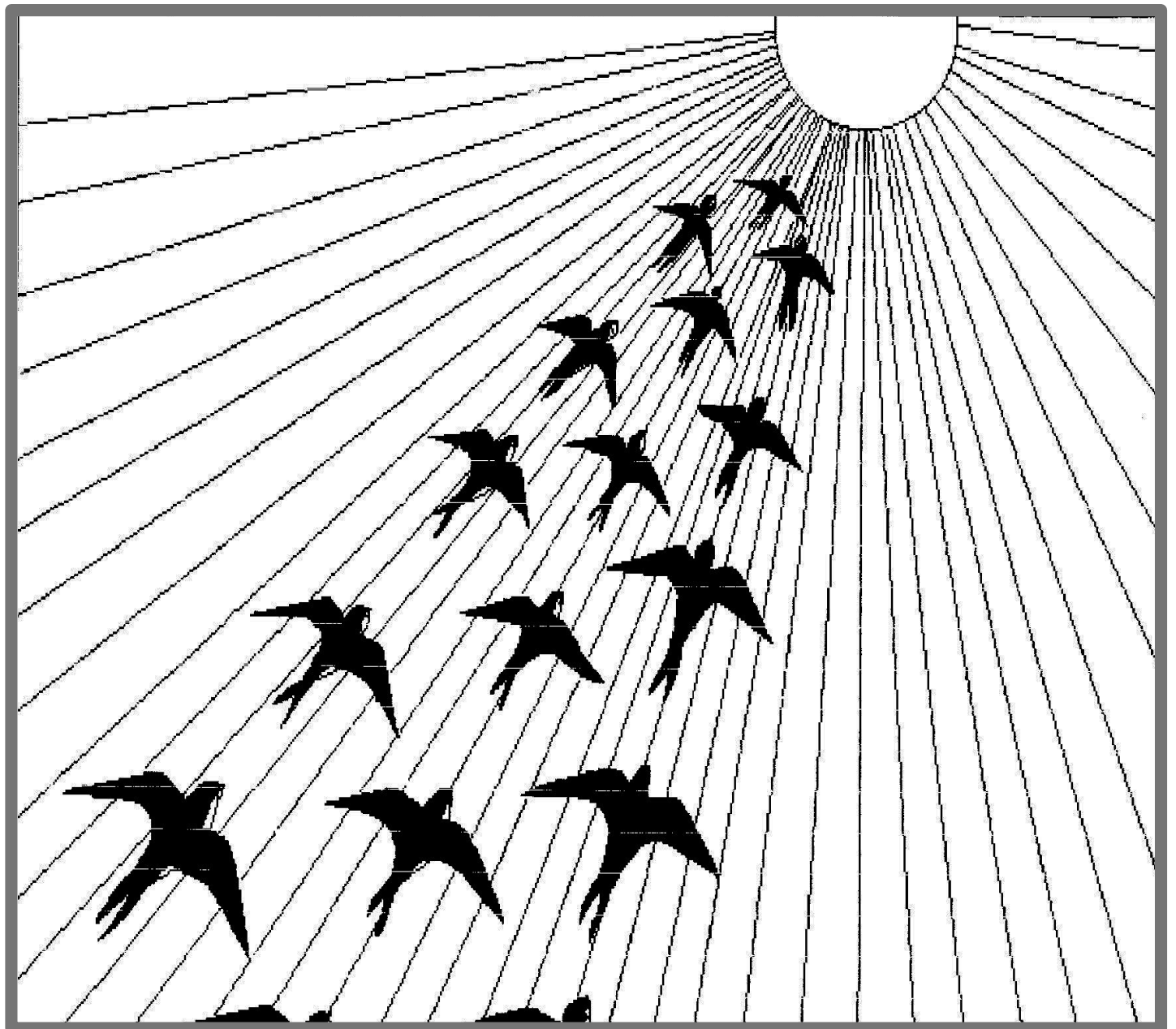
draw what you want

"Vous n'êtes ni dignes de cet arbre ni de ce grain"

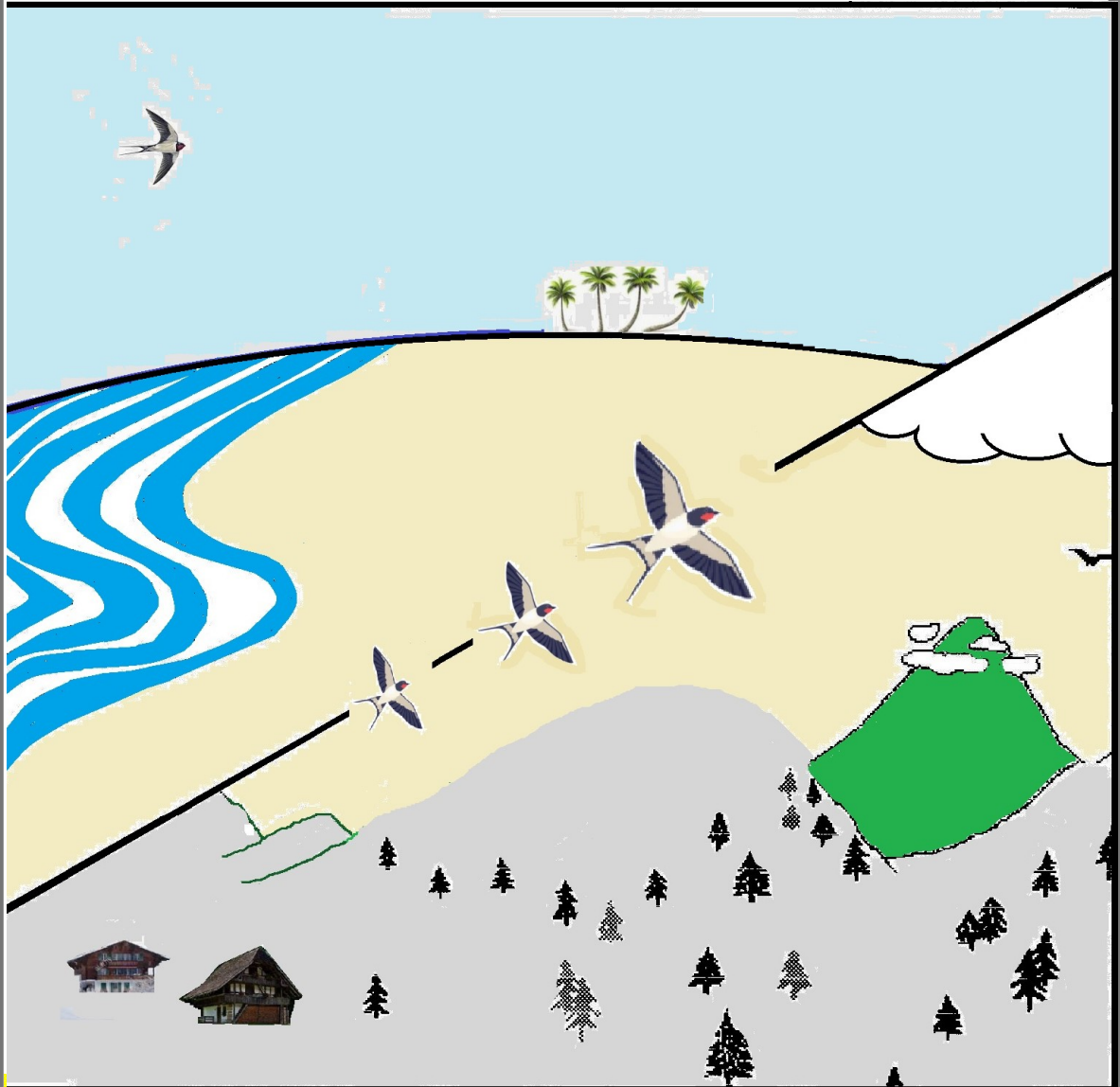
*"Les hirondelles s'envolèrent vers le ciel
Le vent les transporta plus loin.
Le soleil semblait briller plus près d'elles*



*The swallows did not like arguing,
wasting a precious time explaining:
they flew away and started to rise
towards the clear blue skies
The sun shone on them too, even closer
and they knew of no winter.*



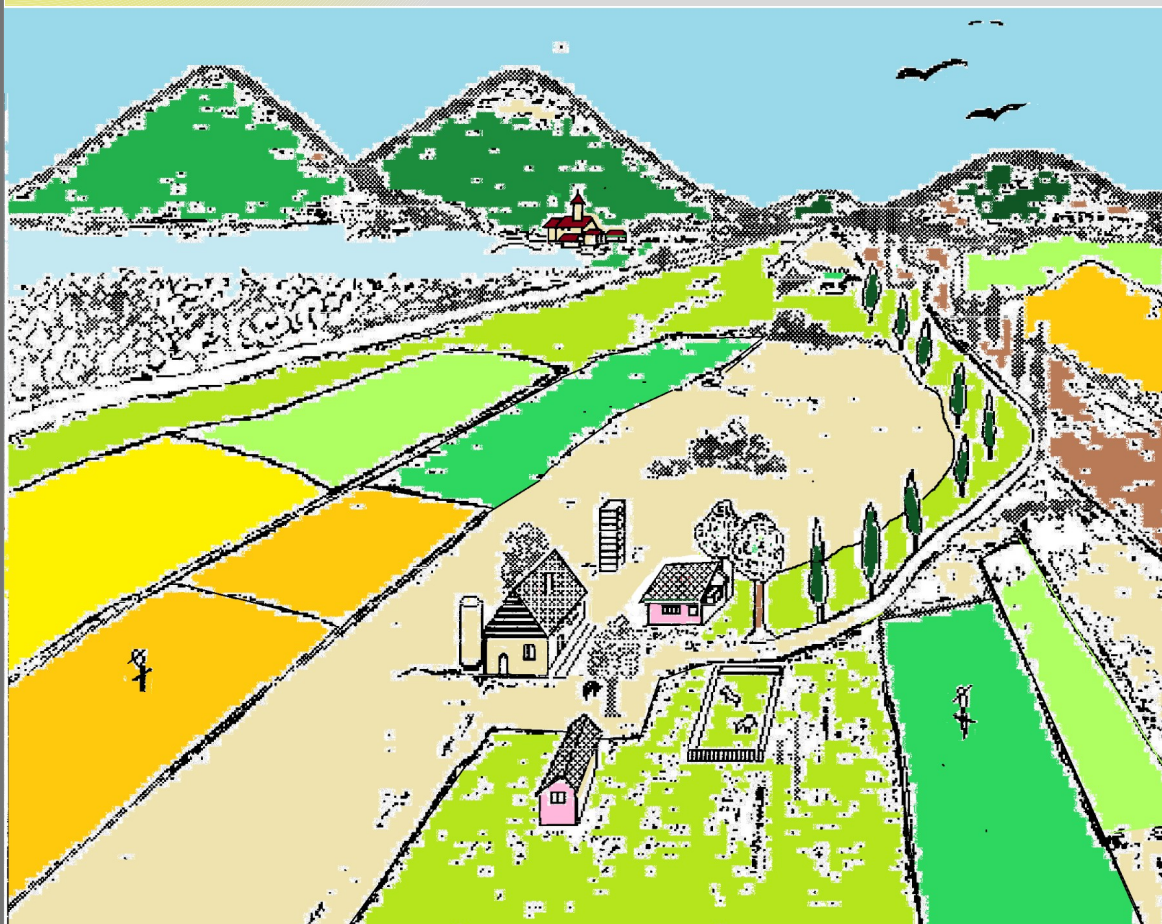
*Elles savaient chanter, elles oublièrent aussitôt
ces oiseaux ignorants aux ailes mortes.
Elles ne connaissaient pas l'hiver
elles avaient vu tant de pays et de mers.
Le souffle de l'été les emporte.*



*They had seen many lands.
mountains, oceans and sands.
They soon forgave and forgot the others
who treated them like robbers.
They also know chicken wings cannot fly
and surely soon they will fry.*



*Il y a des champs de blé à l'infini
et des arbres qui poussent partout.
La terre entière est leur paradis.
Et vous, qu'en pensez-vous ?
La morale de l'histoire
est-elle difficile à percevoir ?*



*The wind carried them further.
There were wheat fields forever
and trees growing everywhere.*

*They knew how to sing, Mr and Mrs Swallow
and who is afraid of a scarecrow?*

