

# I Am a Rock

The Indian Reading Series

***THE INDIAN READING SERIES: Stories and Legends of the Northwest*** is a collection of authentic material cooperatively developed by Indian people from twelve reservations. Development activities are guided by a Policy Board which represents the Indian community of the Pacific Northwest. The Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program Policy Board members are:

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THE INDIAN READING SERIES:  
Stories and Legends of the Northwest

## I Am a Rock

Level III Book 16

A Crow Story

Written and illustrated by Henry Real Bird

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Pacific Northwest Indian Program  
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

Developed by the Pacific Northwest Indian Reading and Language Development Program  
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 710 Southwest Second Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204

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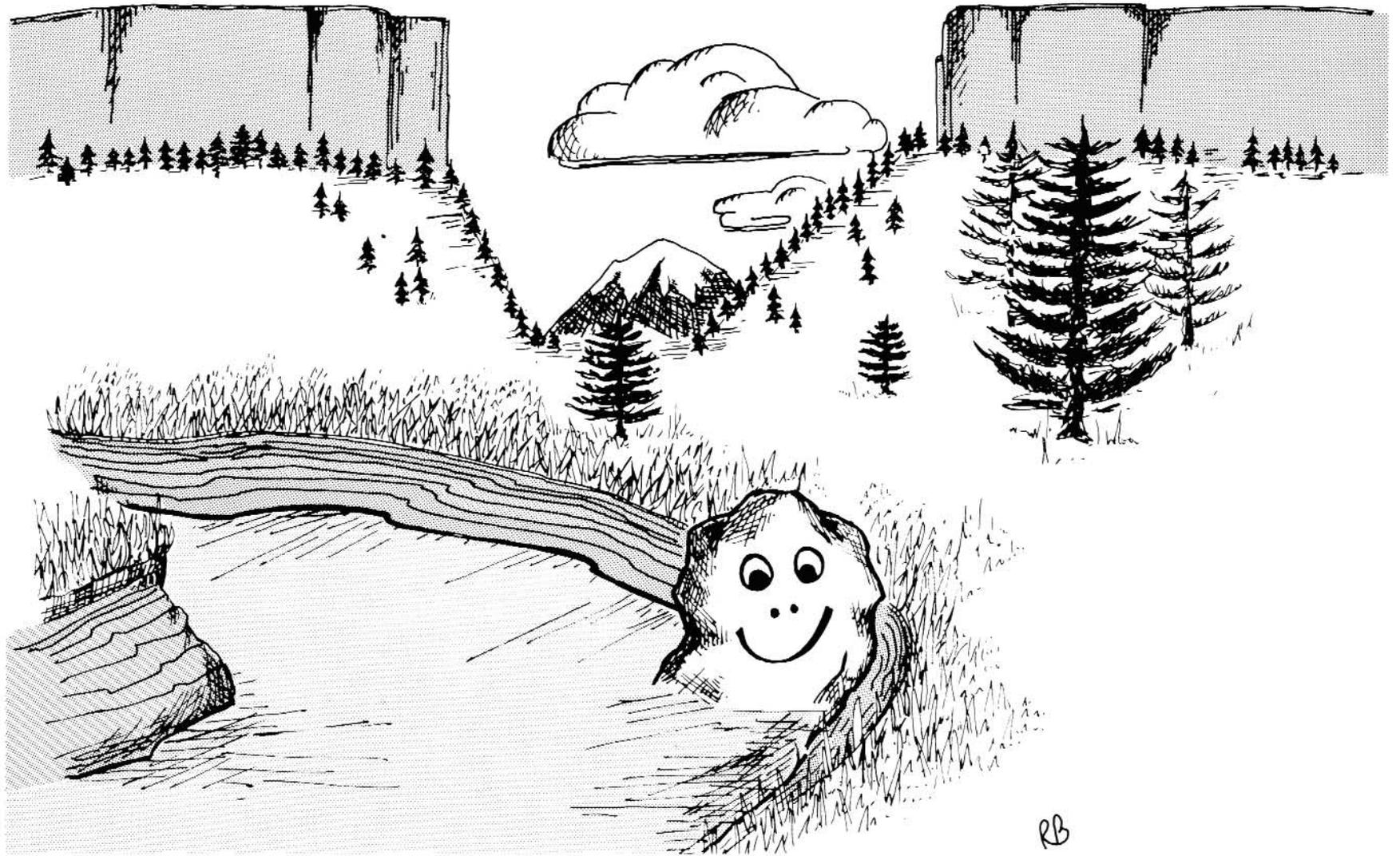
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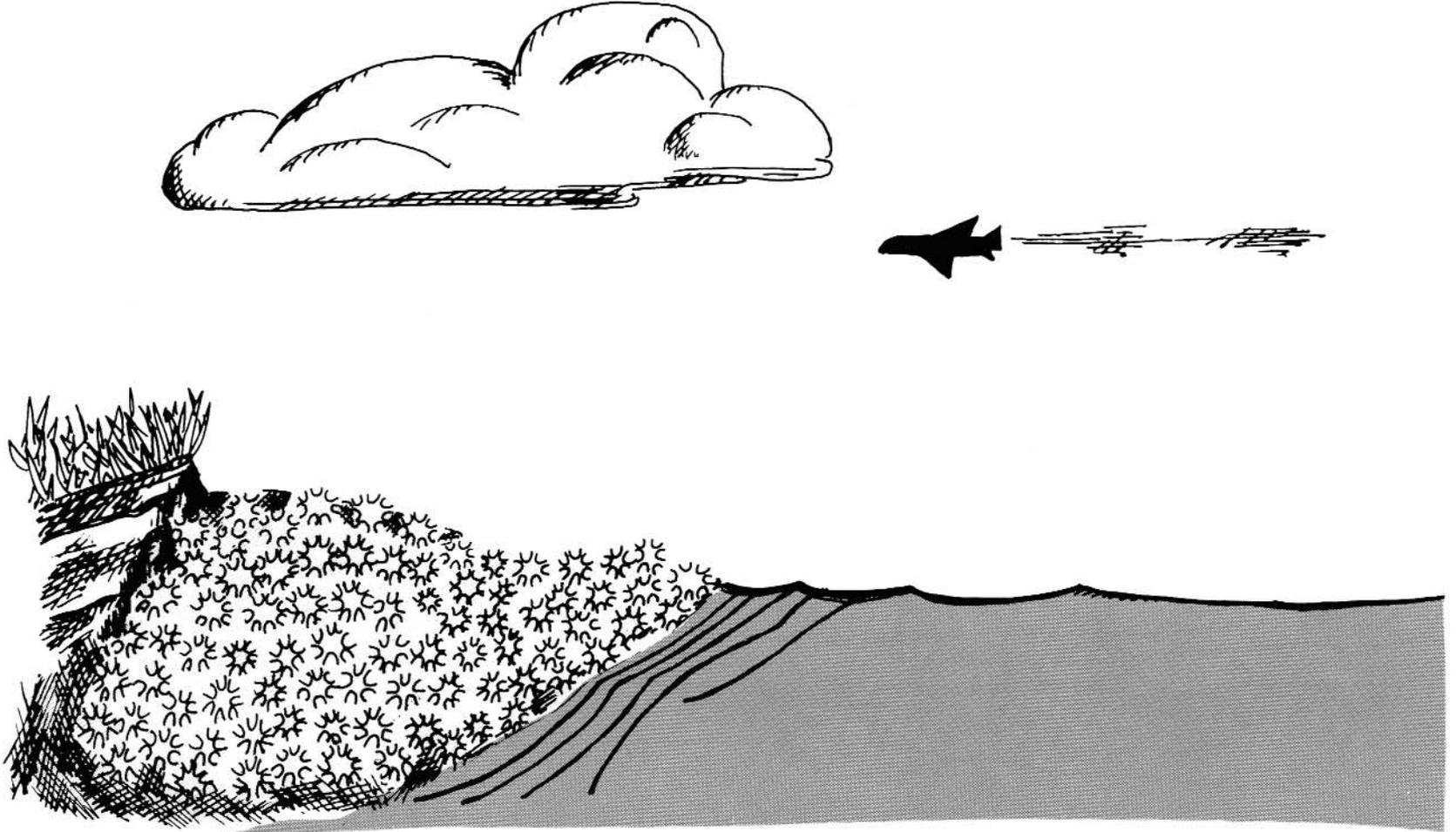
**The story tells how a rock becomes glass.**



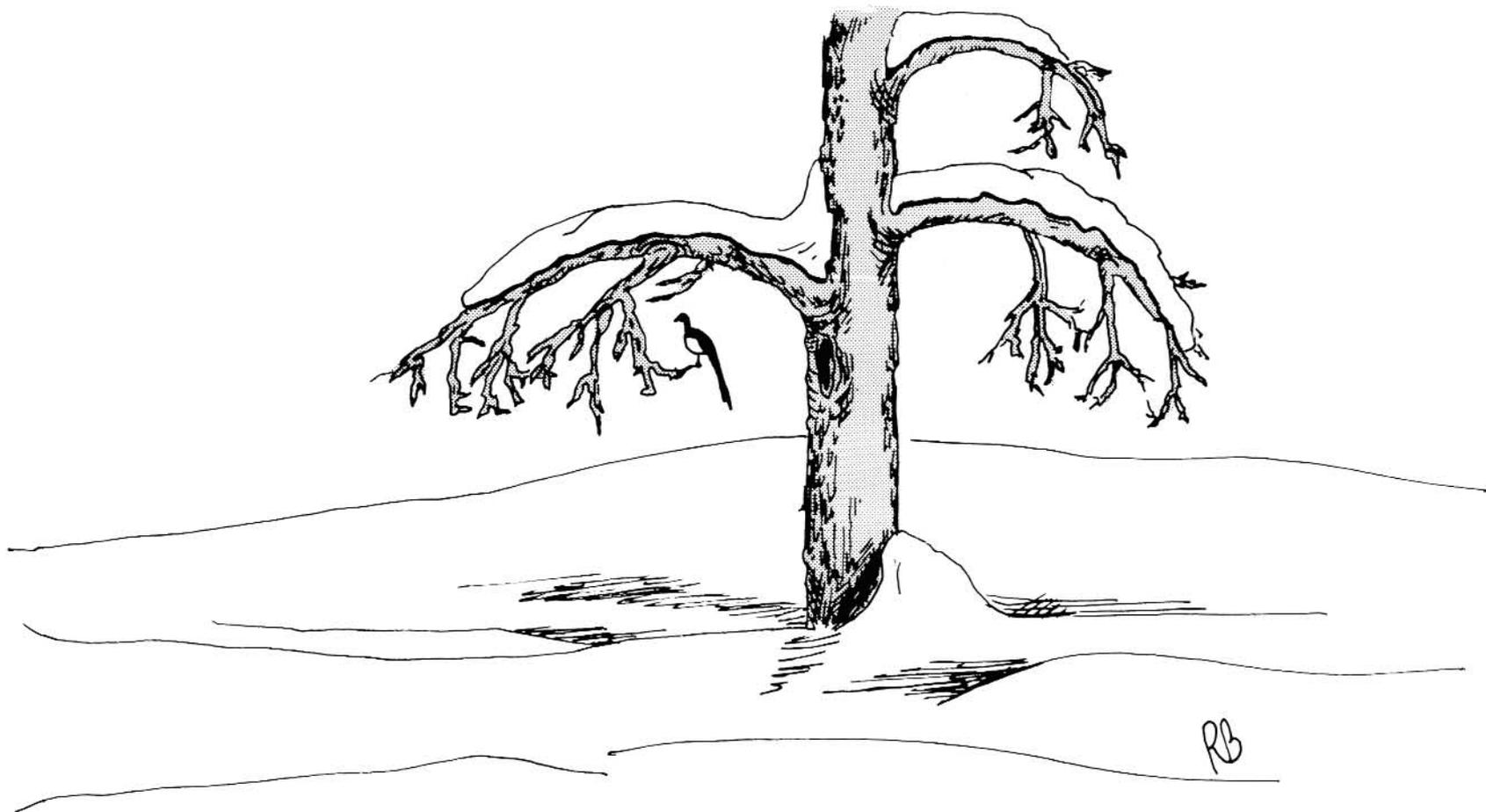
Long ago, I was a rock in the mountains.  
One day I rolled into the river.  
Then I was far from the mountains.



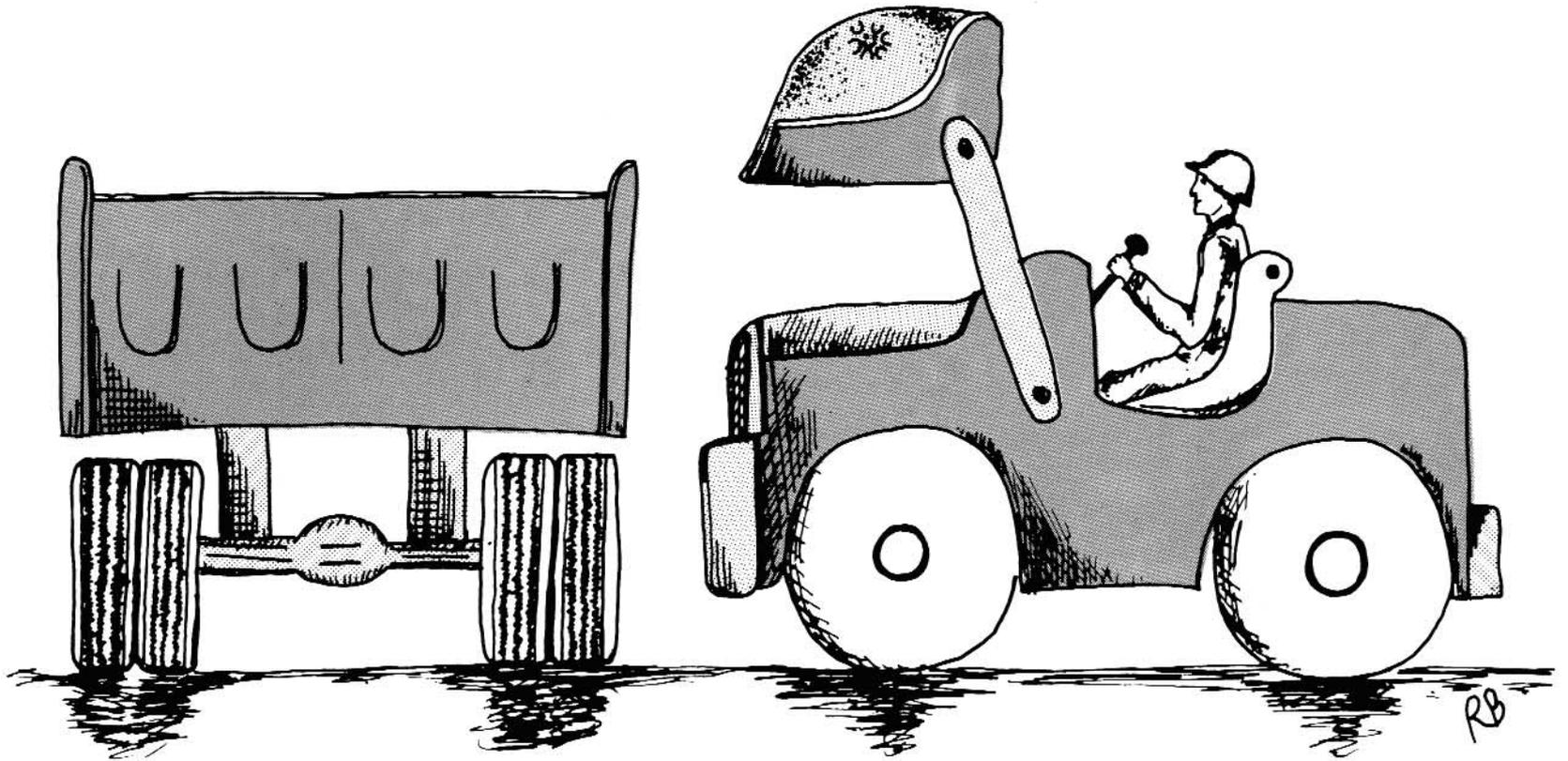
The river was strong.  
It pushed me over and over.  
Parts of me were chipped away.  
Then I was sand.



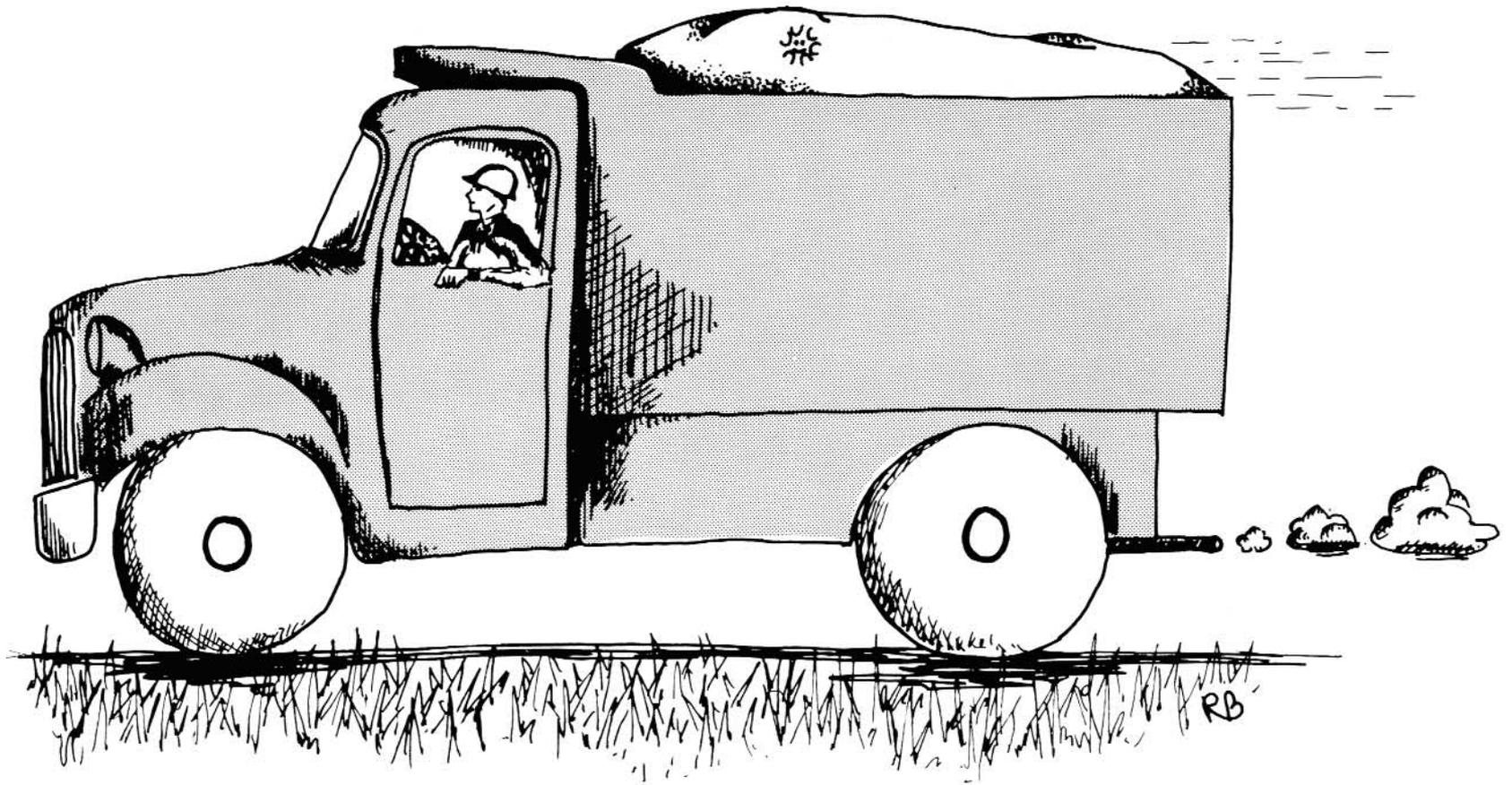
There were many of us there.  
We looked alike.  
We were part of sand.



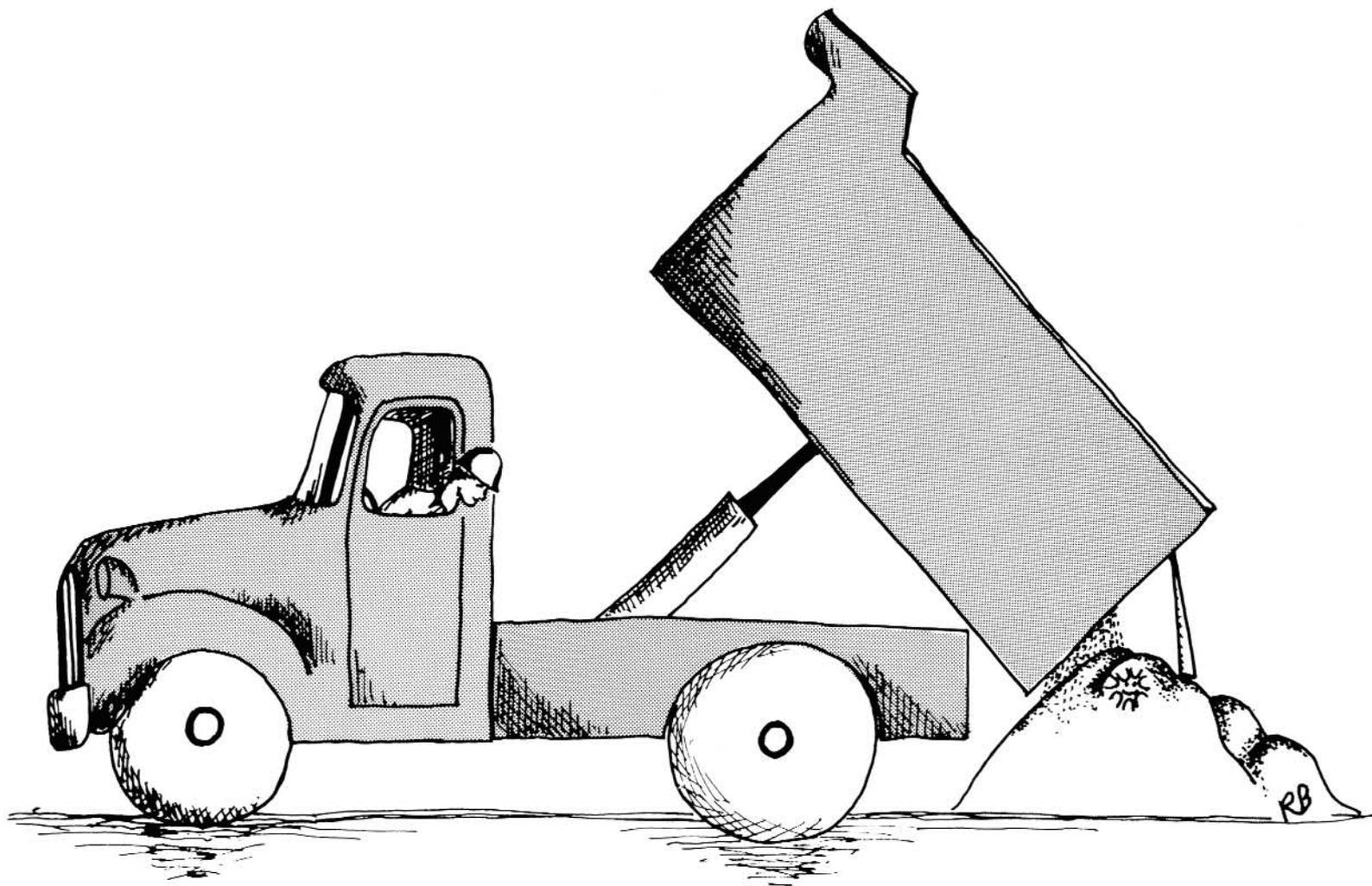
Sometimes snow covered us.  
Then we were cold.  
When the snow melted, we saw the sun.



One day we heard a loud noise.  
It was a truck and a tractor.  
The tractor had a big shovel.

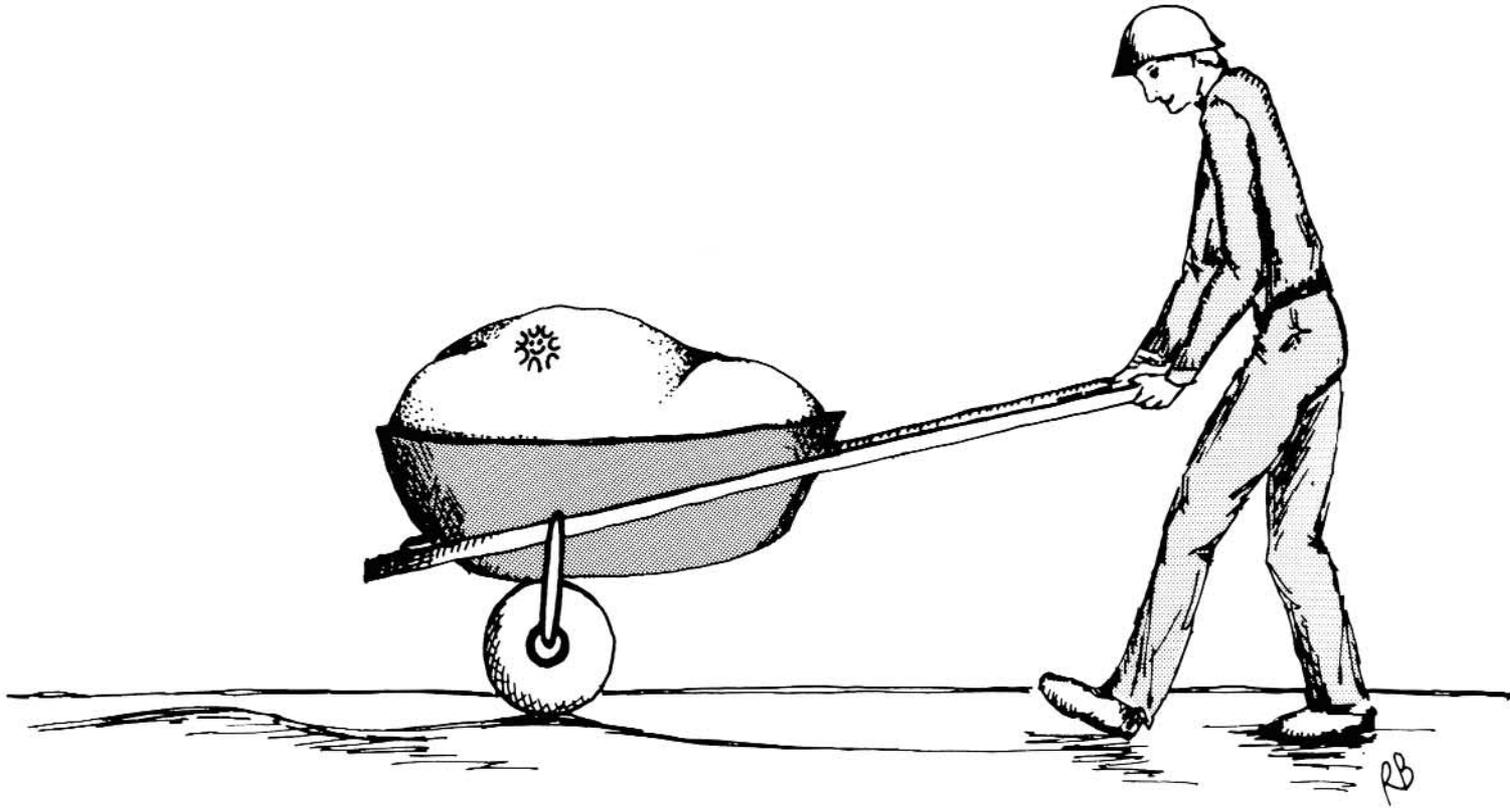


Then we were in the truck.  
The truck went fast.  
Some of my friends were blown away.

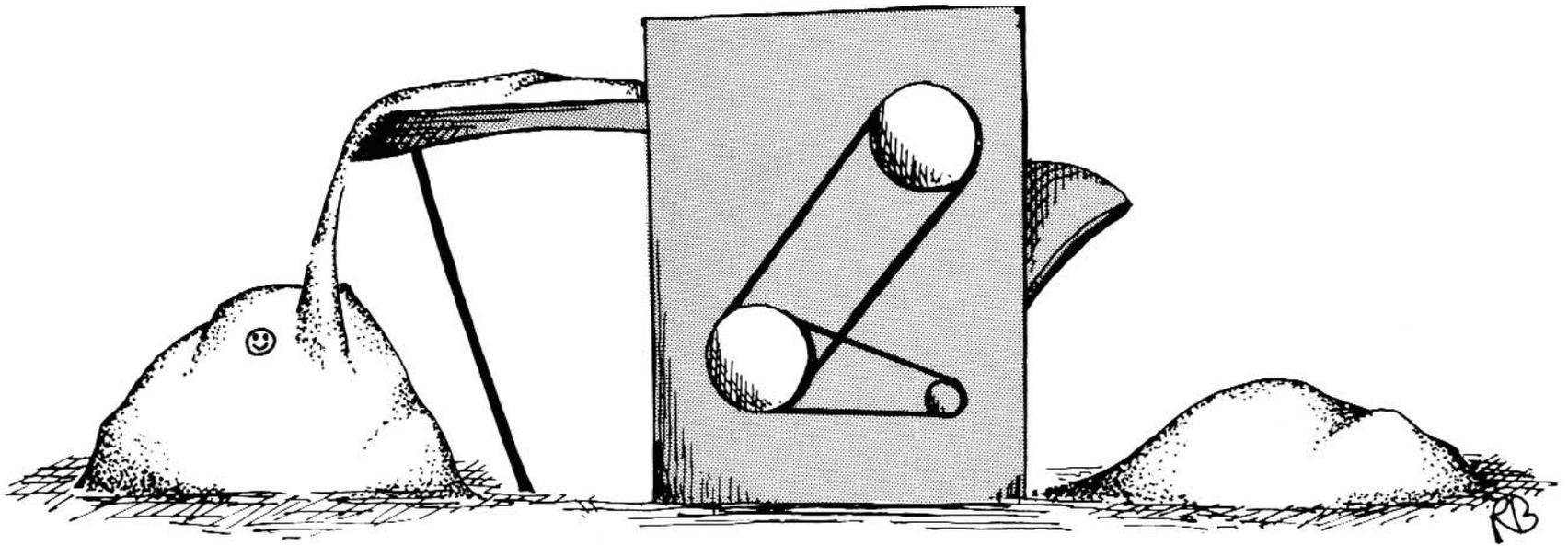


The truck stopped.

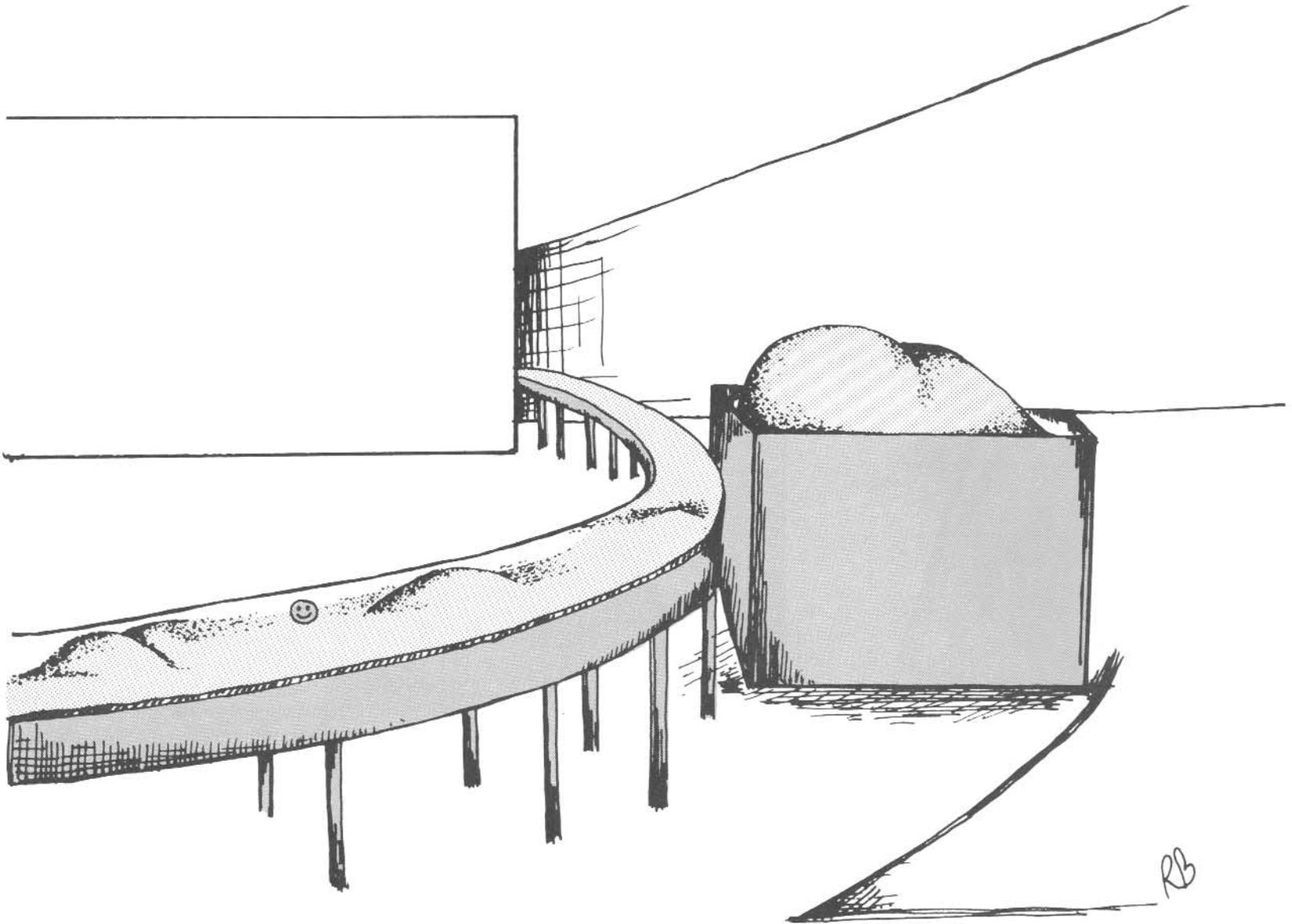
The truck dumped us out into a big pile of sand.



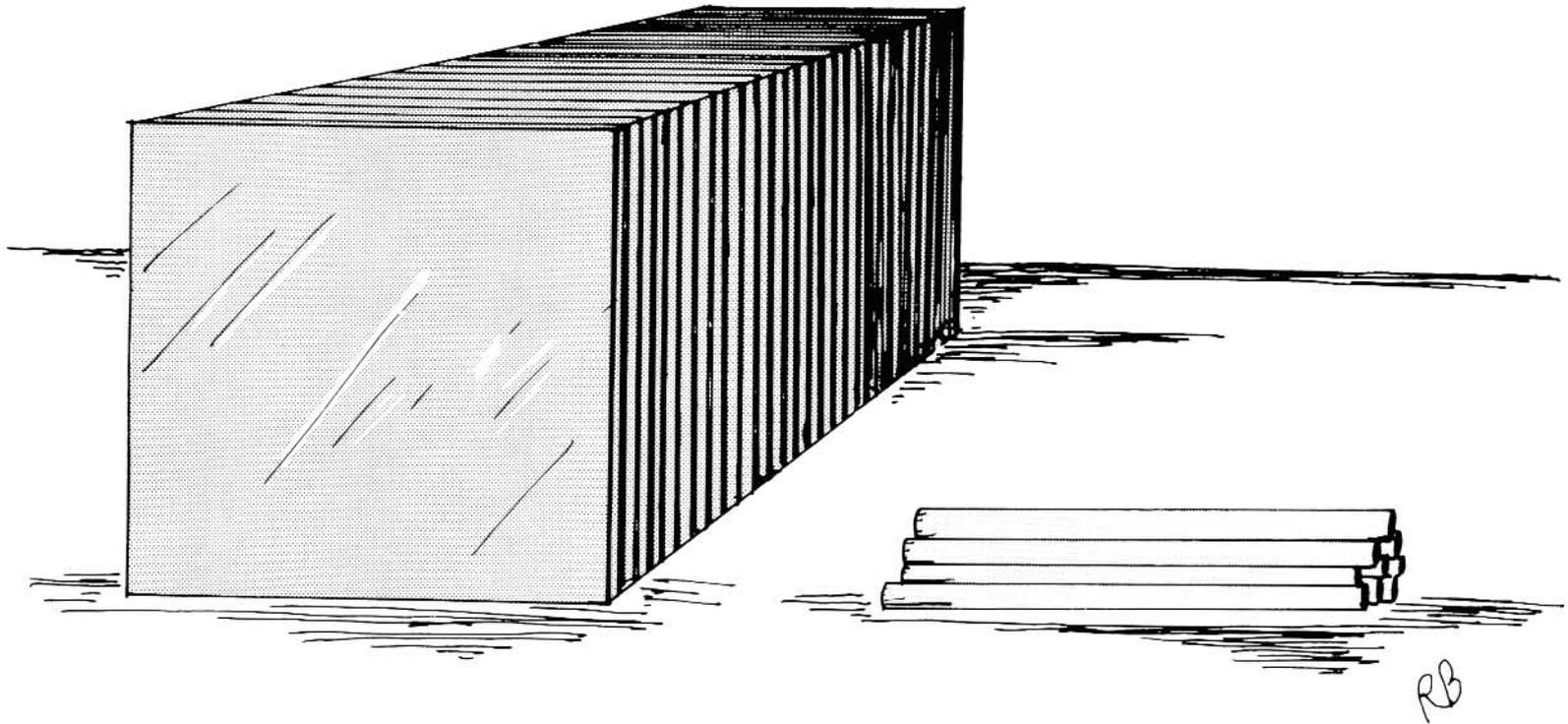
A man came with a wheelbarrow and a shovel.  
He put some sand into his wheelbarrow.



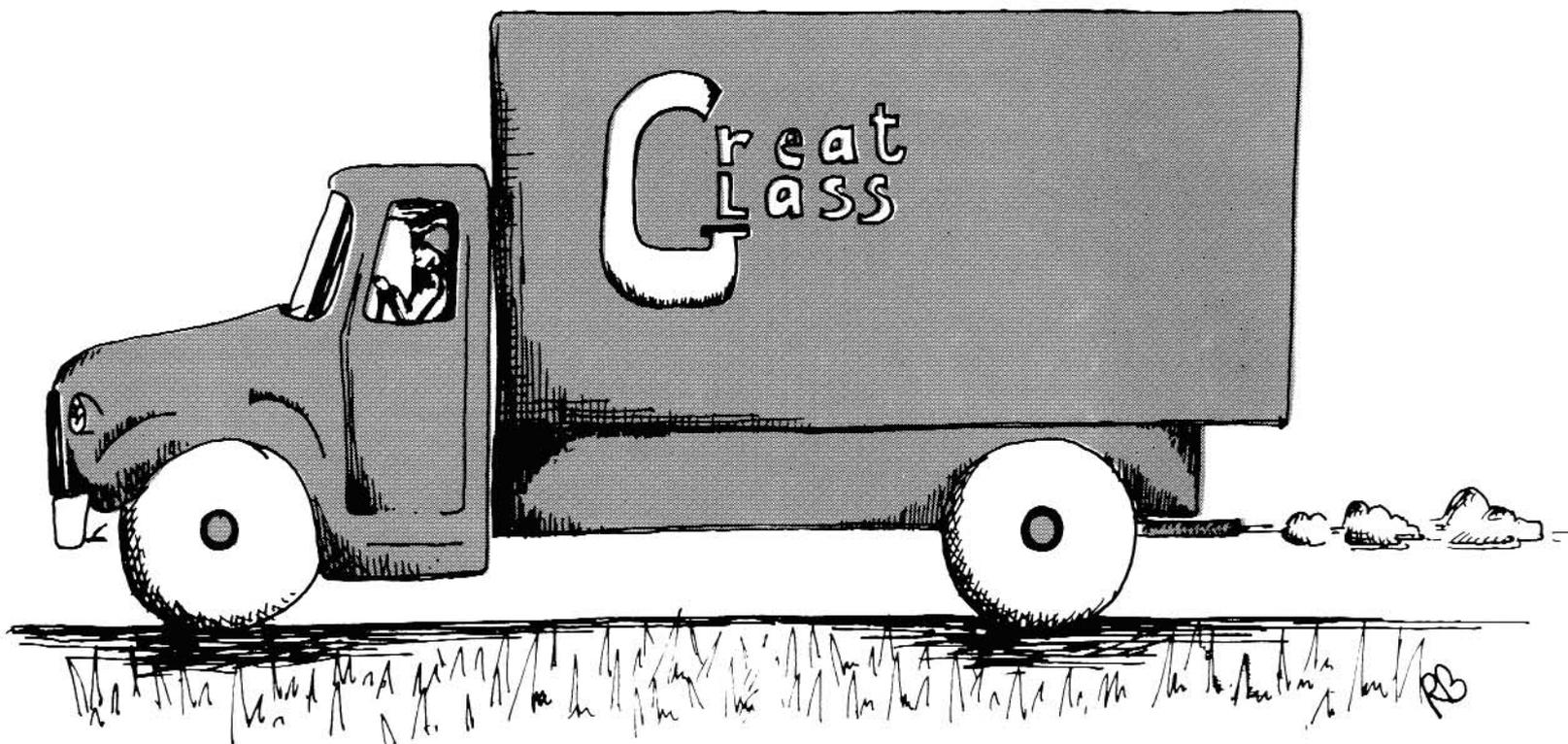
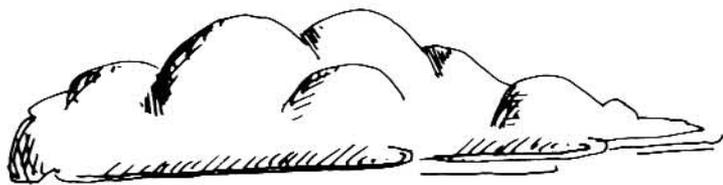
The sand was crushed in a machine.  
That made our edges smooth.



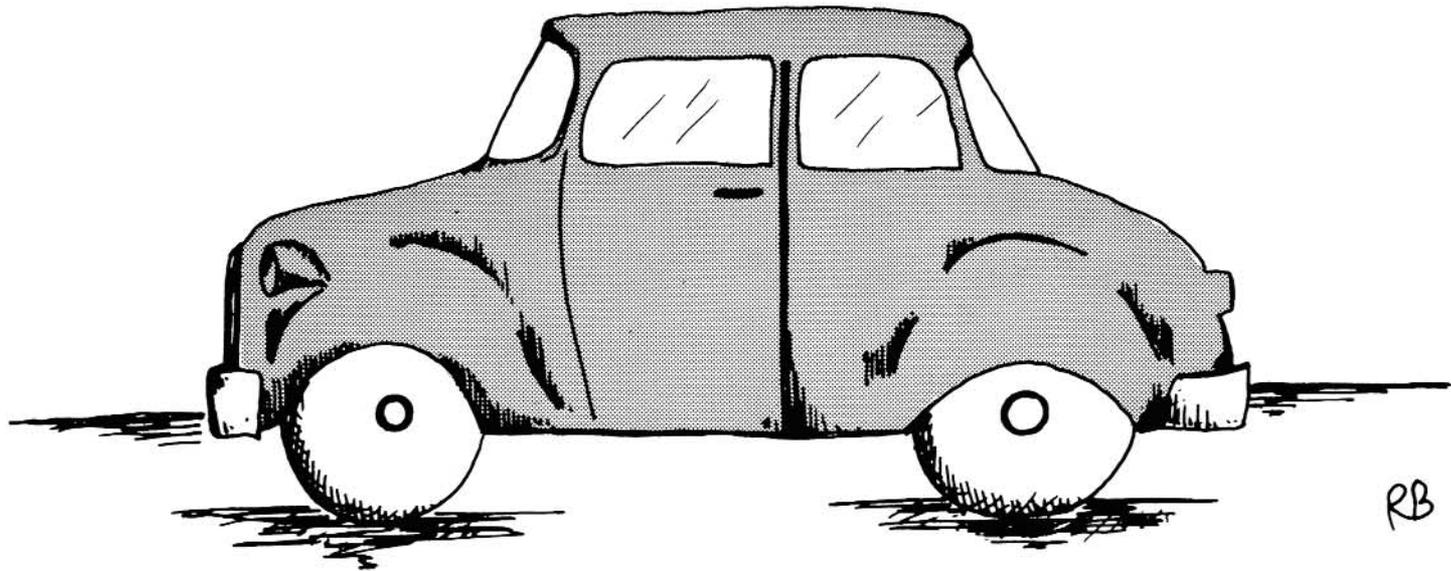
Then we were put into a fire.



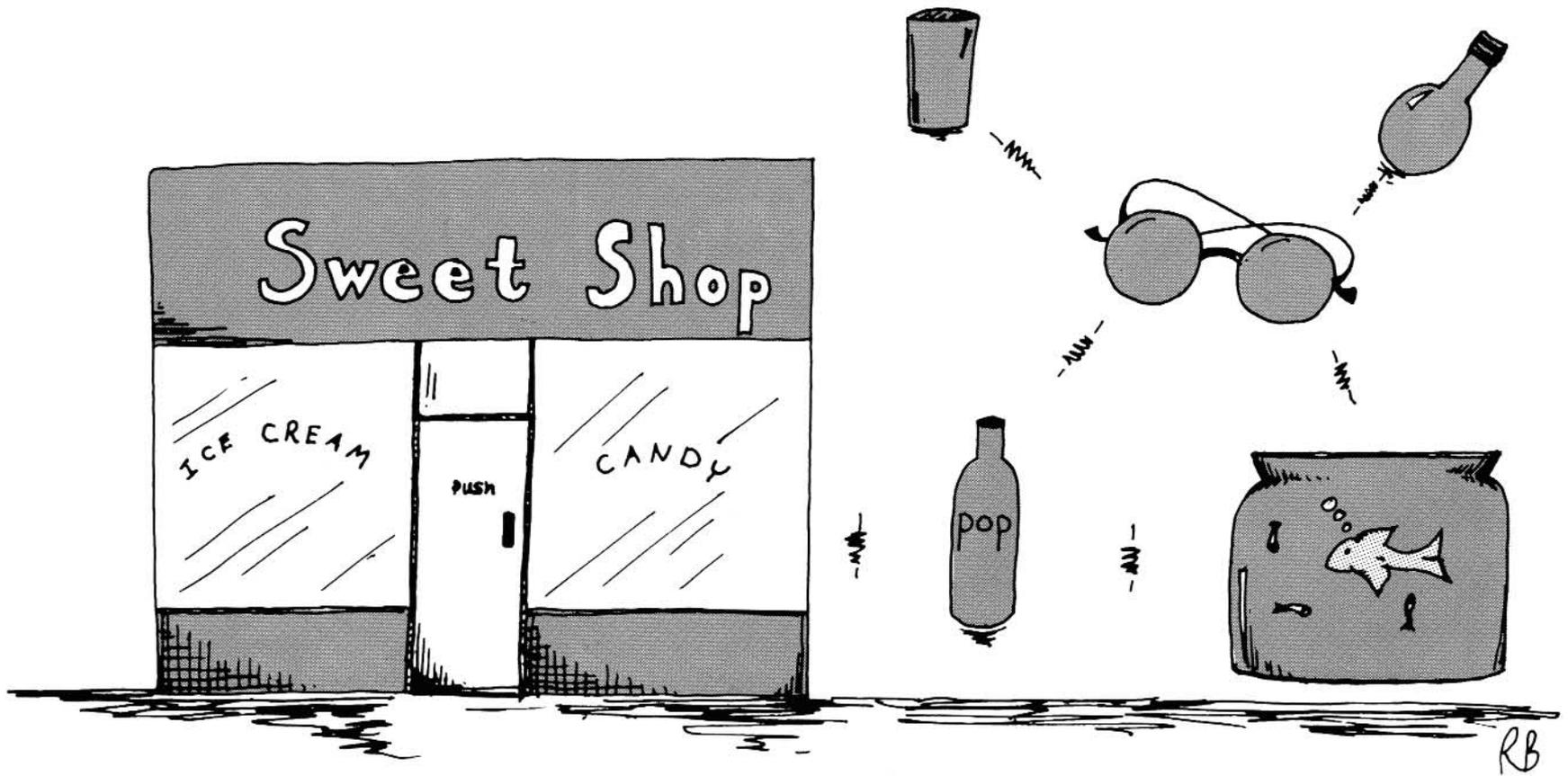
The fire was so hot we melted together into one piece.  
Some of us were sheets.  
Some of us were sticks.



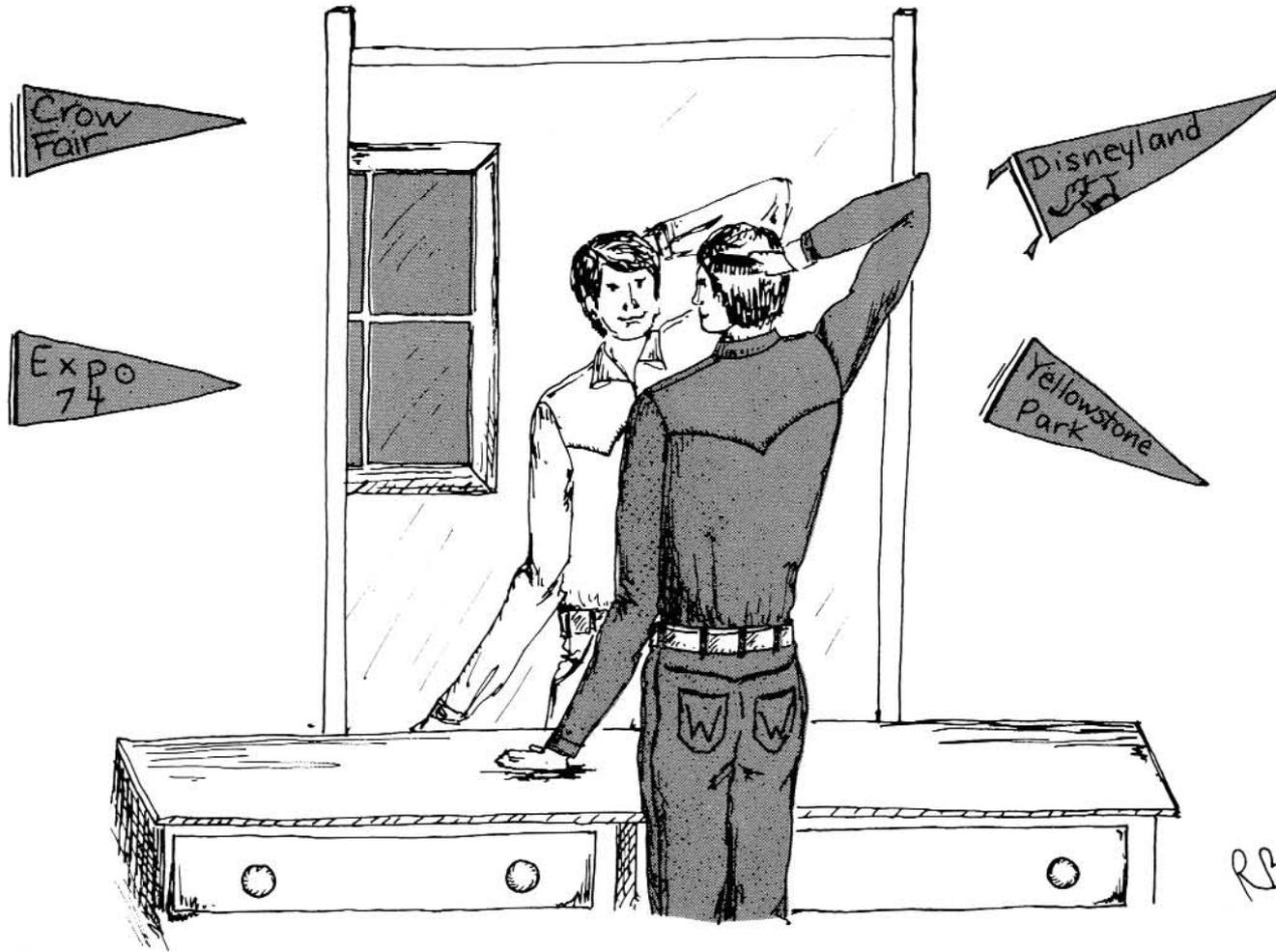
The people put blankets between the sheets.  
This was to keep the sheets from breaking.  
Then they loaded some of us into trucks.  
It was my turn to go.



Some of us went to where they make windshields for cars.  
The people heated the sheets again  
to make safety glass for cars.



I am part of glass now.  
But you can hardly see me.  
Glass makes all of these things.  
Can you think of more?



This is what I am.  
I see you, but you cannot see me.  
Sometimes you look at me and see yourself.  
I am a mirror.



## HENRY REAL BIRD

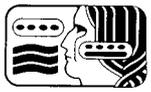
Henry Real Bird is a Crow Indian who was raised in the traditional Crow way on the Crow Indian reservation in Montana. He entered first grade speaking only the Crow Indian language and has an intimate knowledge of problems Indian children encounter in the public school system. He received his B.S. in Elementary Education from Montana State University and has taught reading in all the elementary grades. He served as Curriculum Coordinator for Project Head Start, Language Arts Supervisor at St. Xavier Indian Mission and Summer Program Planner for 4-H and Youth Programs on the Crow Indian reservation. As the Teacher Orientation Specialist for the Pacific Northwest Indian Program, he was responsible for developing a teacher's manual and accompanying teaching inservice program in addition to writing and illustrating books designed for Indian children. He has served on the Montana Advisory Committee on Children and Youth and the Crow Central Education Commission, and was a delegate to the 1971 White House Conference on Youth. He also is a saddle bronc rider and member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

Booklets available in the Level III sequence are listed below. Numbers refer to the planned sequence of use in the *Teacher's Manual*. Materials developed by these tribes and others in the Northwest are included in the Levels I and II sequences.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <i>Story of the Seasons</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  | 11 <i>How the Milky Way Got into the Sky</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  |
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| 4 <i>How Marten Got His Spots</i><br>Kootenai Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation | 14 <i>The Good Hunter and Fisherman</i><br>Jamestown-Clallam Tribe  |
| 5 <i>Lost in the Fog</i><br>Jamestown-Clallam Tribe  | 15 <i>The Wild Buffalo Ride</i><br>Blackfeet Tribe  |
| 6 <i>How to Be a Friend</i><br>The Confederated Tribes of the<br>Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  | 16 <i>I Am a Rock</i><br>Crow Tribal Historical and Cultural<br>Commission  |
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| 10 <i>Coyote and Trout</i><br>Kootenai Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation        | 20 <i>Coyote and the Mean Mountain Sheep</i><br>Salish Cultural Committee of<br>The Confederated Salish and<br>Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead<br>Reservation |

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