

The Bookends

Play in the Rain

Lauren Teague

Introduction

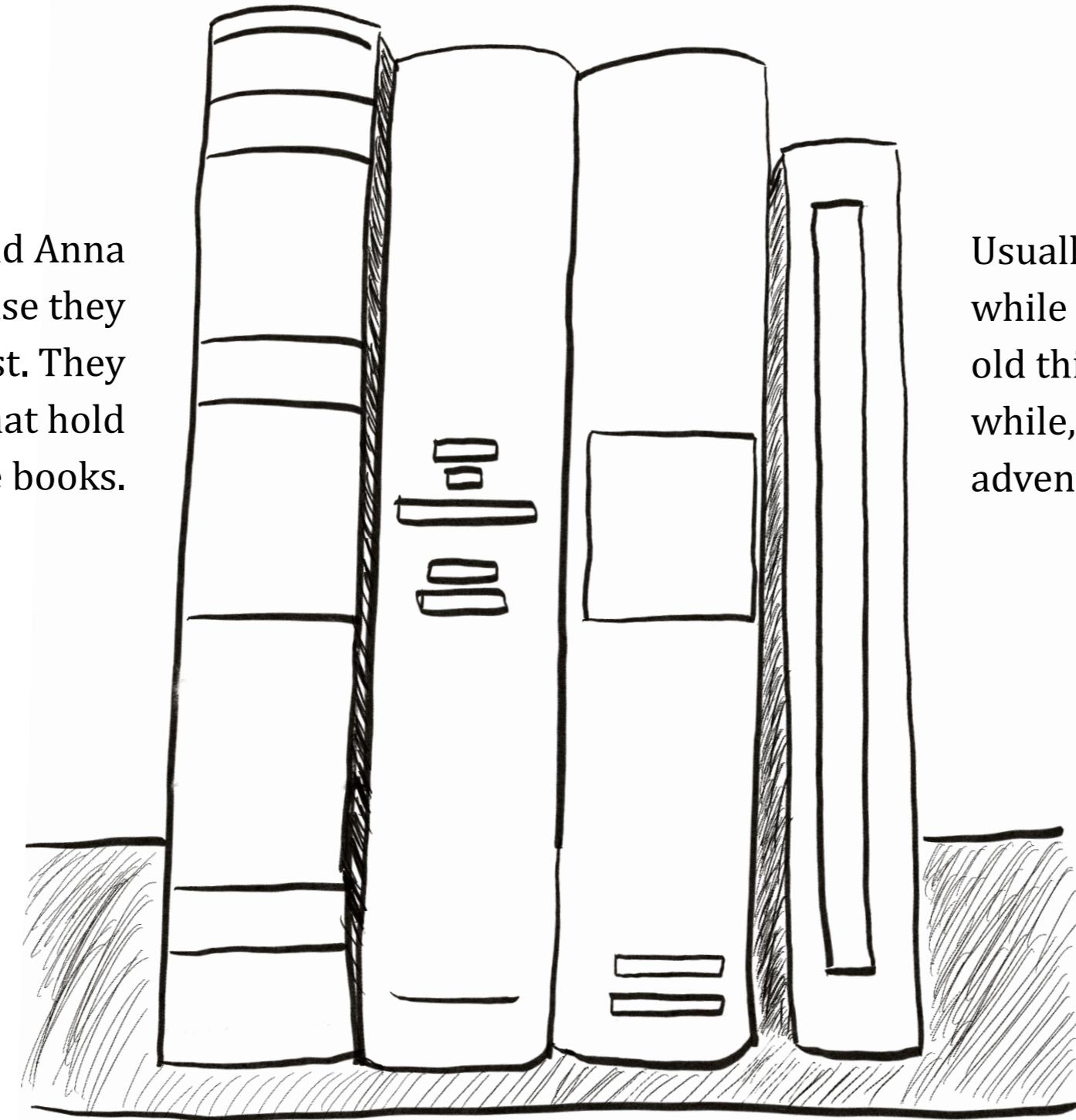
Nora is the oldest sister
in her family.



and Anna is the
youngest.

Quinn and Ellie are in the middle,

That makes Nora and Anna the Bookends, because they are the first and the last. They look like bookends that hold up the middle books.



Usually Nora does big girl things while Anna is doing three year old things. But every once in a while, they have their own adventure together...

The sky was filled with big dark clouds and the wind made the leaves dance and flutter.
Nora and Anna were sure it was going to start raining any minute.



They waited in the middle of the backyard and looked straight up.

They heard the rain before they felt it. First it fell onto the tallest trees.
Then it fell onto their faces.

Nora and Anna opened
their mouths to catch
some of the raindrops.



Anna thought the
rain tasted just
like water.

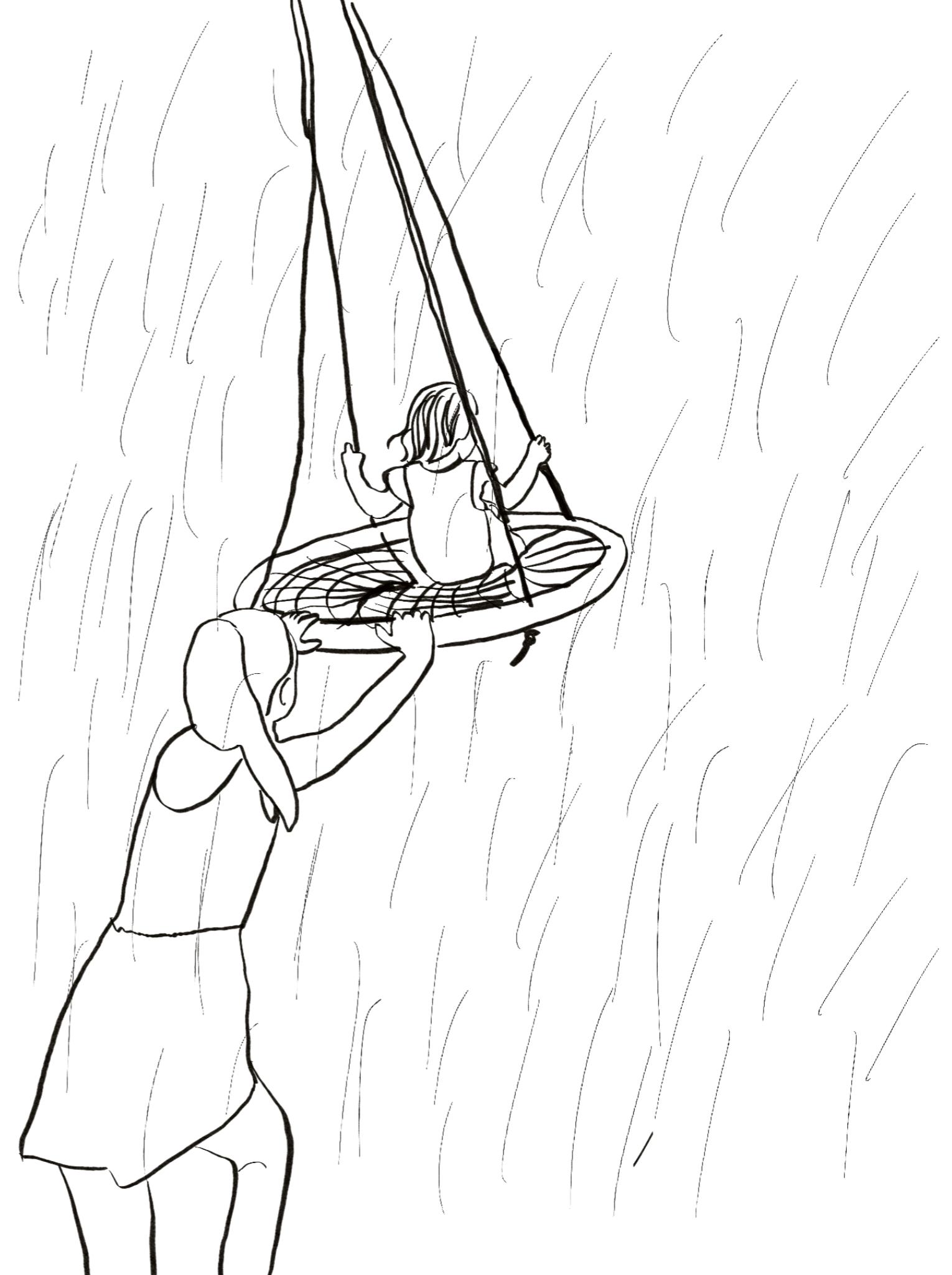
Nora had an idea. "Anna, want me to push you on the swing?"

"Push me super high?" she asked.

"Ok! Super high," Nora smiled.

"Higher than the rain?" Anna hoped.

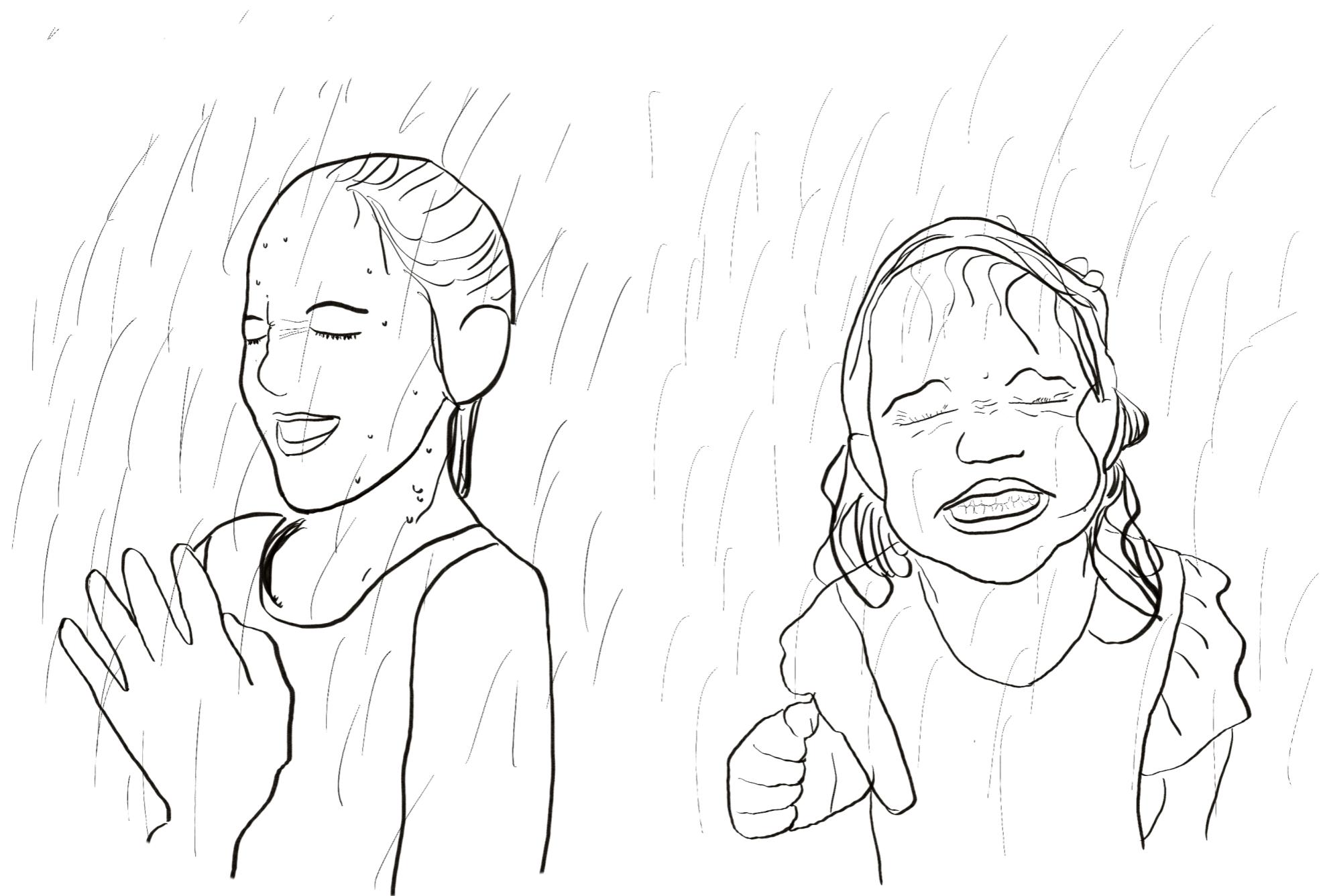
"Um, we can try..." Nora said.





The swing didn't make it quite as high
as the rain clouds.

But Anna did go high enough for a nice
long "Wheeeeeeee!"



After a few more big sister pushes, the Bookends were wet. Their hair stuck to their foreheads and the rain dripped into their eyes. It was tricky to keep their eyes open.

Nora and Anna decided to take
a break on the porch.



Anna wiped her face and looked at Nora with big, excited eyes and very wet eyelashes.

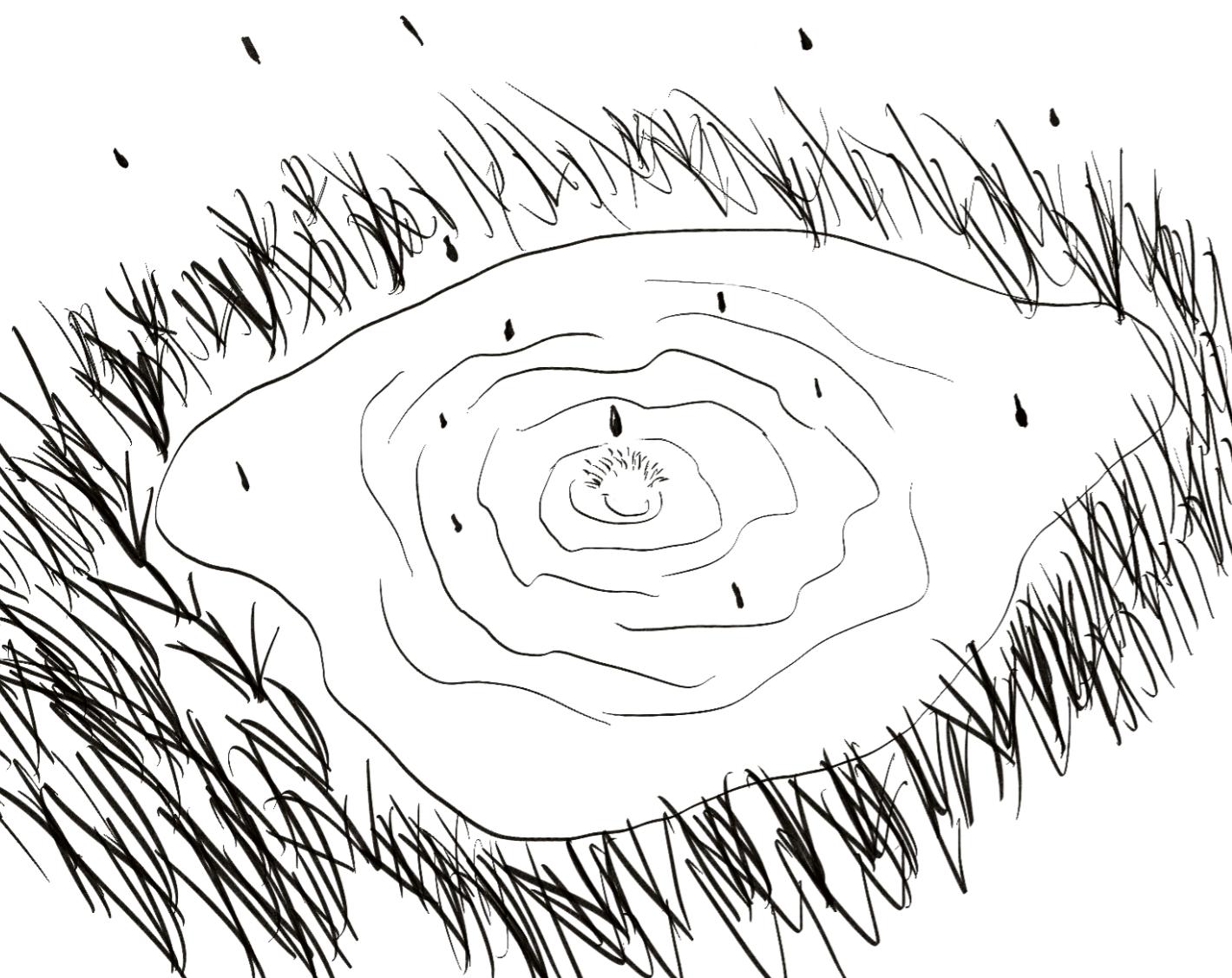
"Your hair is soaking wet! And my hair is soaking wet, too!" she cheered.





She was so happy, it made
Nora laugh.

She leaned over to give her
soaked little sister a
surprise hug.



They stood together on the porch for a little while. They
watched the leaves and grass bounce in the raindrops.



They listened as the puddles went Plip! Plip!

The puddle Plips! made Anna remember something.

"Nora! Let's go jump in the puddle in the front yard!"

"Oooh, ok!" Nora said as she ran ahead to open the gate.



There was always a big puddle at the end of the driveway when it rained.

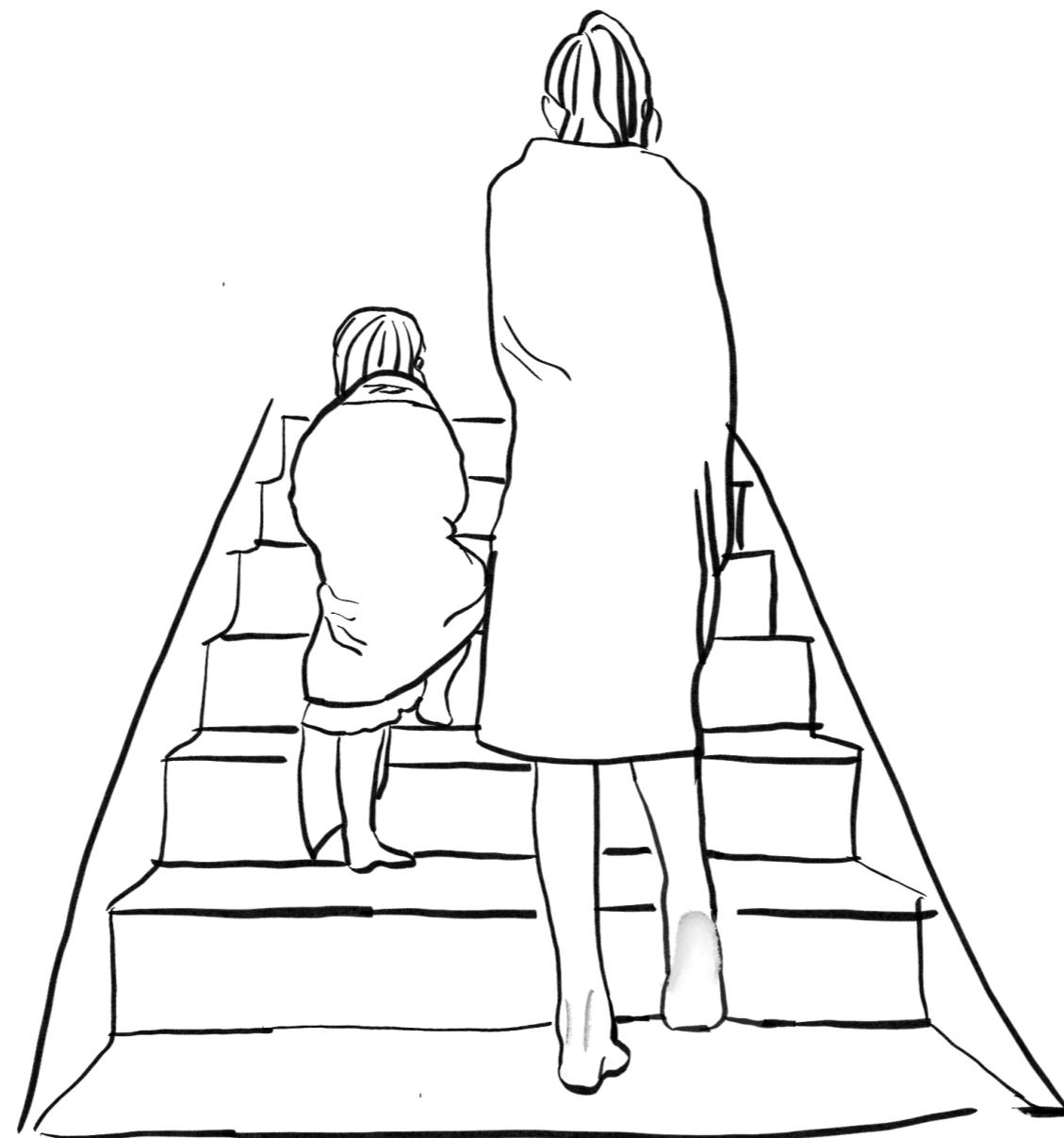


They giggled and jumped
and stomped and splashed
in the big driveway puddle
until they couldn't get any
wetter.

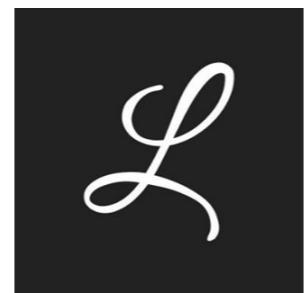
Time to get dry. They stood like little rain clouds as they drip dropped on the doorstep and waited for their mom to bring towels.



After the Bookends were wrapped up nice and cozy, they waddled upstairs to get dressed in dry clothes.



It had been a fun adventure in the rain.



An original story by Lauren Teague

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