BY JANET KAMIEN
ILLUSTRATED BY SIGNE HANSON



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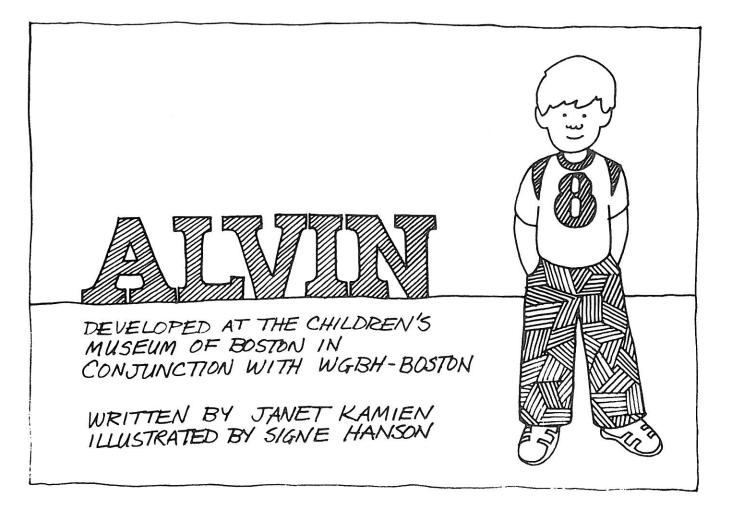
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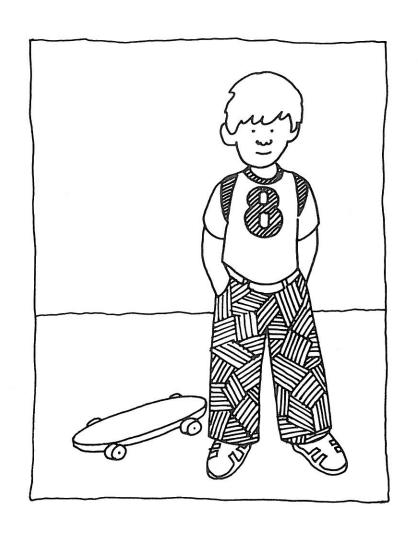
Under this contract, made possible through the Public Awareness Program for the Handicapped, WGBH Boston produced ten film portraits and ten books, each based on one of the film portraits, about and by children who have handicaps. The films are in two national children's television series, ZOOM and REBOP, produced at WGBH.

Published by:

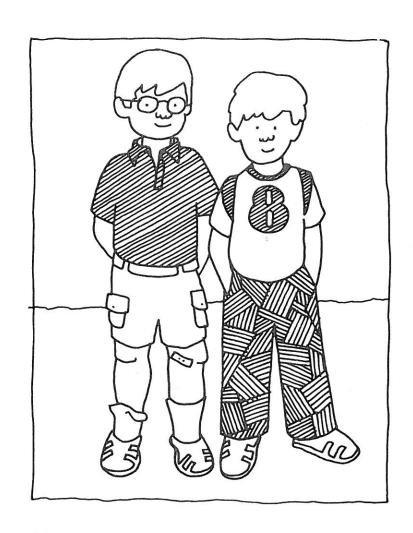


Selective Educational Equipment, Inc., 3 Bridge Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02195.

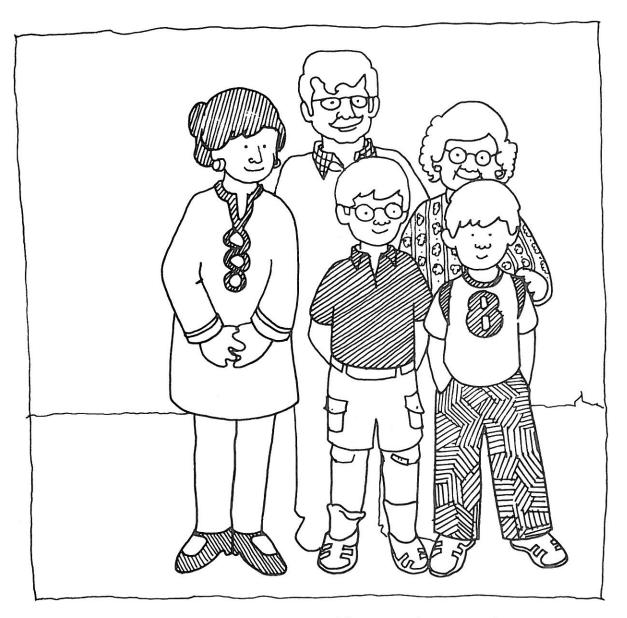




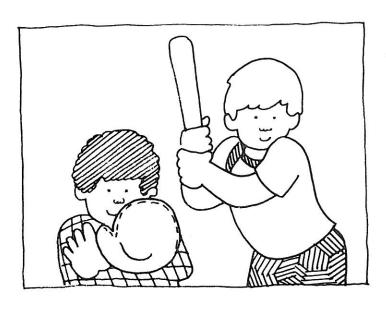
ALVIN WAS A NICE KID.



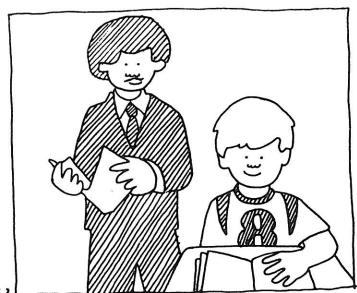
HE HAD AN OLDER BROTHER, GEORGE,



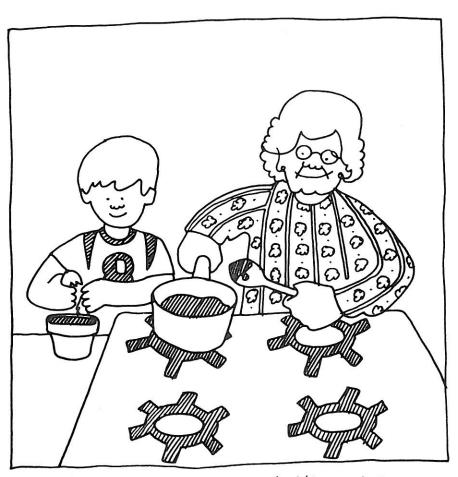
... AND A VERY NICE FAMILY.



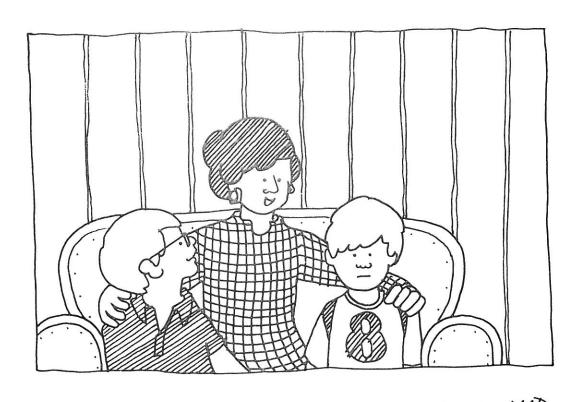
ALVIN PLAYED,



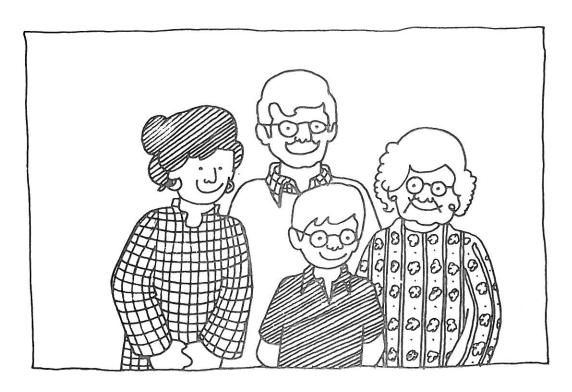
HE WENT TO SCHOOL,



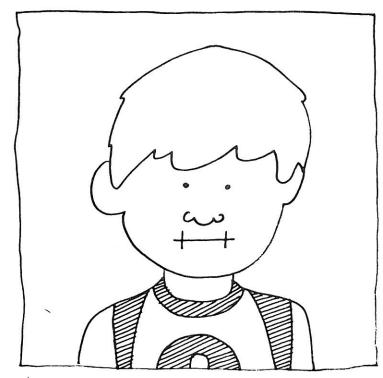
HE SPENT TIME WITH HIS GRAMMA — AND THAT WAS BEST OF ALL.



ONE DAY, ALVIN'S MOM TOLD ALVIN AND GEORGE THAT SHE WAS GOING TO HAVE A BABY!



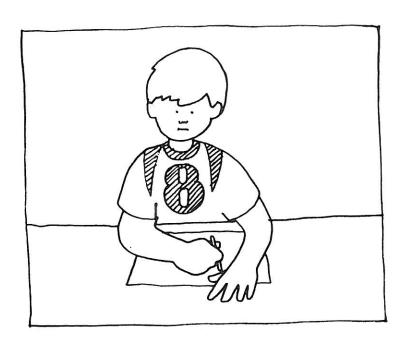
EVERYBODY IN ALVIN'S FAMILY WAS VERY HAPPY!



BUT ALVIN WASN'T SURE IF HE WERE HAPPY OR NOT.

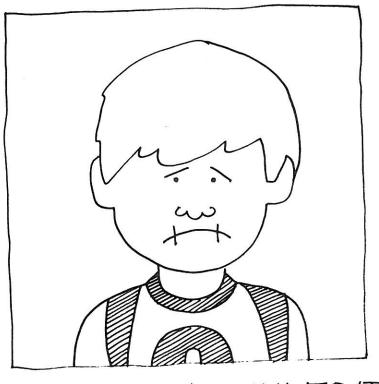
ALVIN MADE A LIST WHY HE WANTED A BABY SISTER OR BROTHER, AND THEN HE MADE A LIST WHY HE DIDN'T WANT A BABY BROTHER OR SISTER

WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS ON THOSE LISTS?





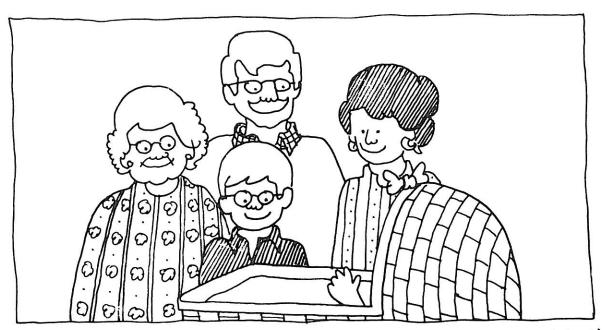
THE CLOSER THE TIME CAME FOR THE BABY
TO COME



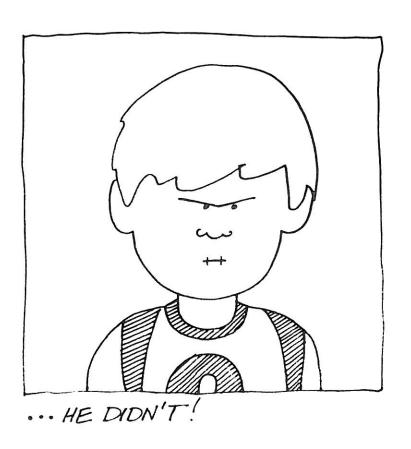
... THE LESS ALVIN WANTED IT.

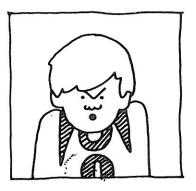


PRETTY SOON ALVIN WASN'T SURE



AND BY THE TIME THE BABY WAS BORN, ALVIN WAS SURE ...





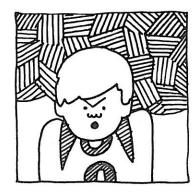
ALVIN TOLD GEORGE THAT HE DIDN'T LIKE THE BABY.

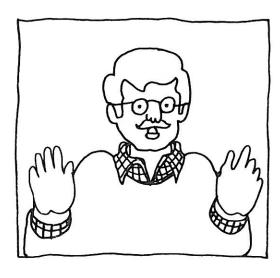


GEORGE SAID THAT
HE LIKED HAVING ALVIN
AROUND, SO WHY
SHOULDN'T ALVIN
LIKE HAVING THE
BABY AROUND?

SHE WAS FUN!

ALVIN TOLD HIS DAD.

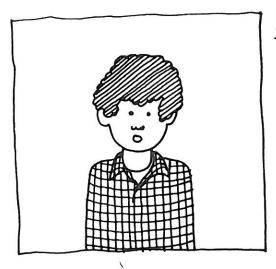




HIS DAD DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

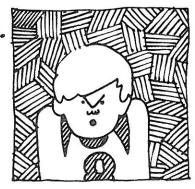


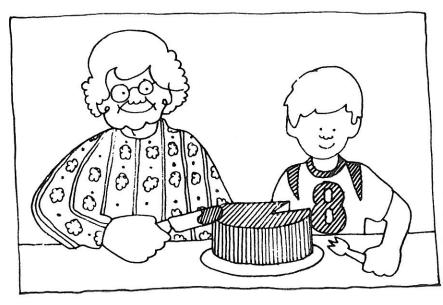
ALVIN TOLD HIS FRIEND.



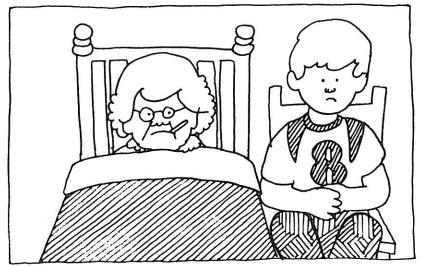
HIS FRIEND SAID THERE WASN'T ANYTHING A KID COULD DO ABOUT IT.

ALVIN TOLD HIS GRAMMA.

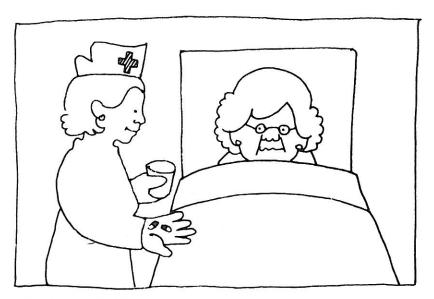




HIS GRAMMA SMILED AND MADE A CAKE... AND ALVIN FELT A LITTLE BETTER.

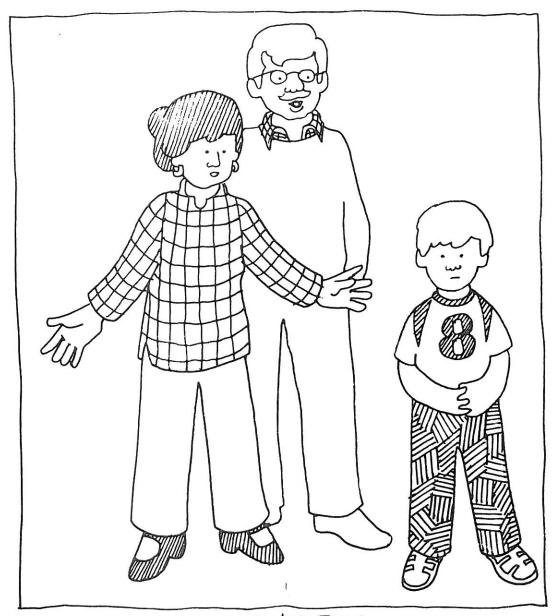


BUT GRAMMA GOT SICK ...

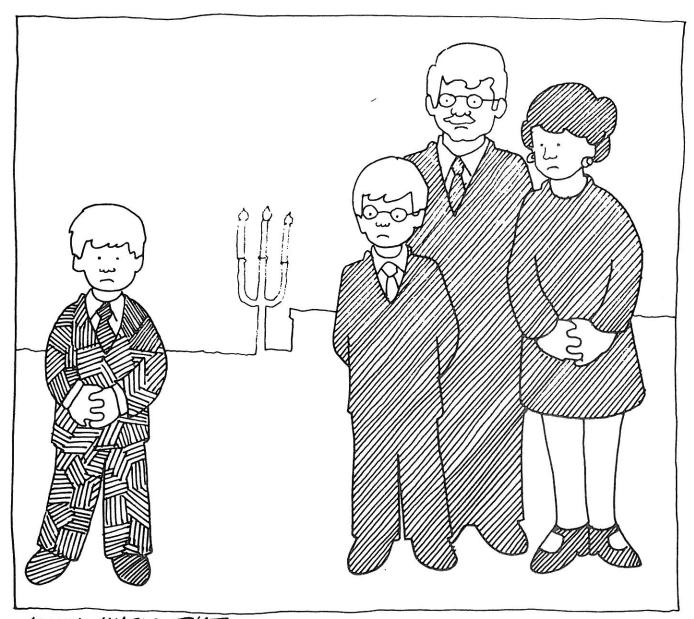


AND THEN SICKER ...

AND THEN SHE DIED.



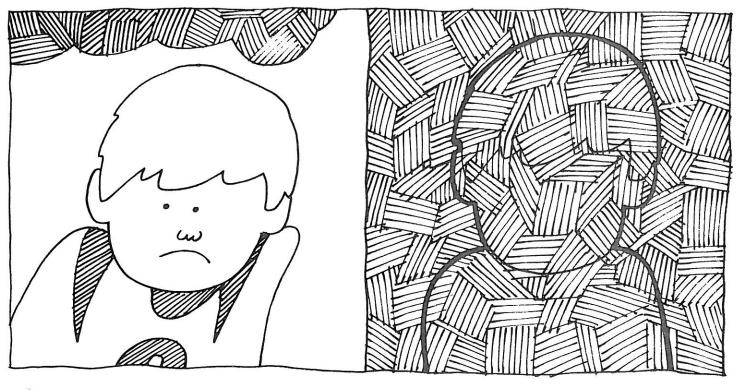
ALVIN THOUGHT IT WASN'T FAIR.
HIS MOM AND DAD SAID THAT GRAMMA'S DEATH
WAS VERY SAD AND MADE ENERYBODY FEEL SAD,
BUT THAT GRAMMA HAD BEEN VERY, VERY OLD.



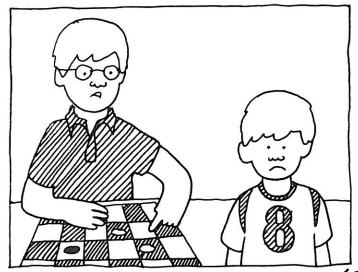
ALVIN KNEW THAT. BUT HE DIDN'T THINK THAT ANYBODY FELT AS BAD AS HE DID, NO MATTER WHAT THEY SAID.

ALVIN WAS:





SCARED. ALVIN FELT JUST TERRIBLE.

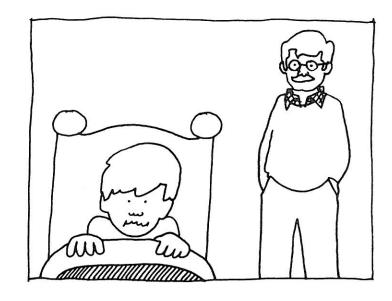


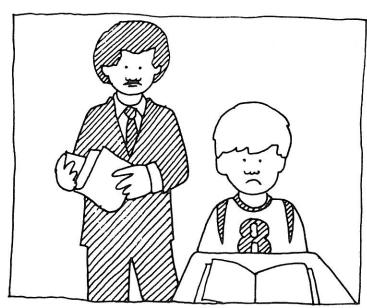
ALVIN STOPPED PLAYING WITH GEORGE.



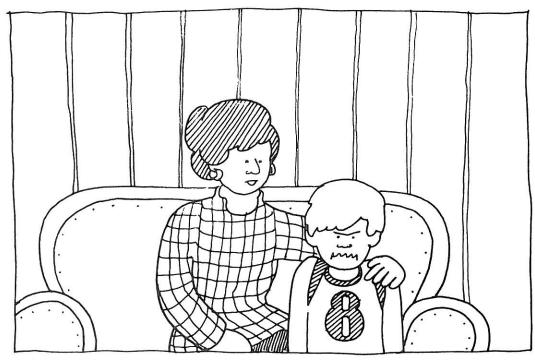
ALVIN STOPPED EATING.

ALVIN ALWAYS FELT SICK AND DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL.

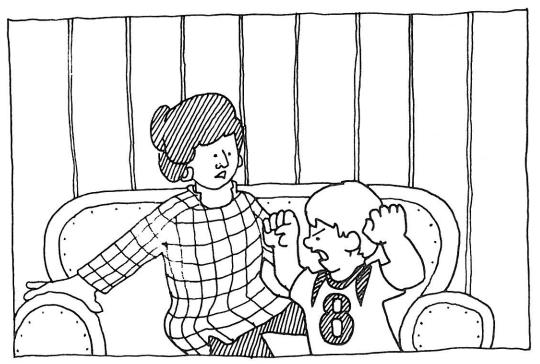




ALVIN STOPPED LEARNING.



ALVIN'S MOM WAS WORRIED ABOUT HIM. SHE TRIED TO TACK TO HIM, TOUT ALVIN DIDN'T THINK SHE UNDERSTOOD ANYTHING.

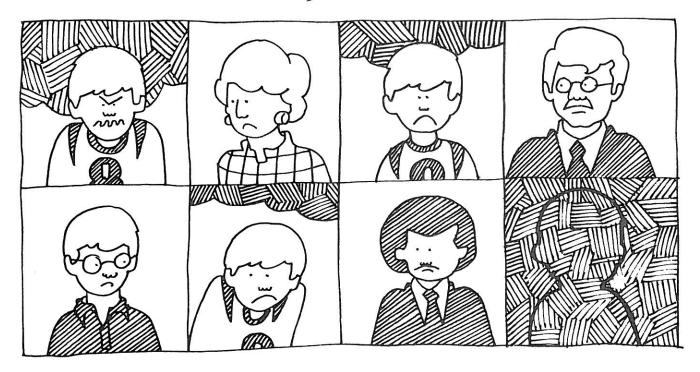


AND ALVIN SAID "ALL YOU CARE ABOUT IS THAT SMELLY OLD BABY!"



HE DIDN'T REALLY MEAN THAT, BUT WHEN HIS
FATHER SAID "ALVIN, YOU SHOULDN'T SAY
THINGS LIKE THAT," HE SAID IT AGAIN,
JUST FOR SPITE.

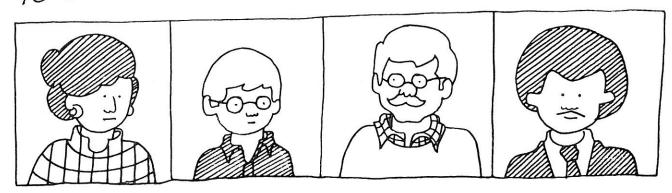
BUT ALVIN WAS ANGRY, LONELY AND SCARED ...



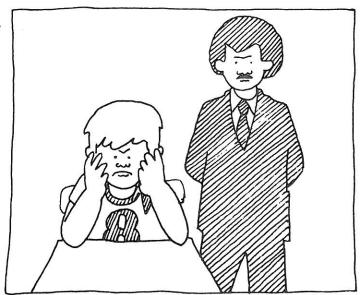
AND THINGS GOT WORSE AND WORSE.

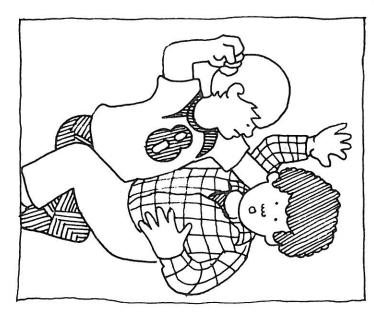
ALVIN'S FAMILY AND TEACHER TRIED TO HELP HIM.

WHAT DO YOU THINK EACH OF THEM TRIED TO DO TO HELP ALVIN?

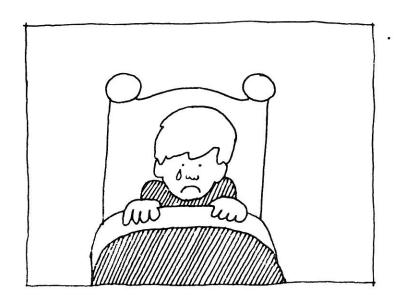


ALVIN SULKED ...

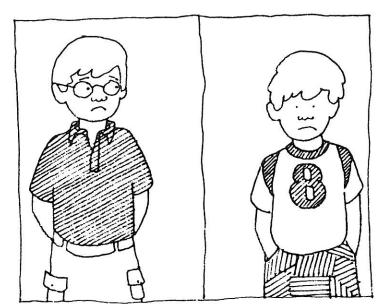




... AND FOUGHT ...

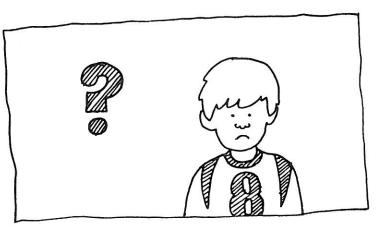


...AND SOMETIMES HE JUST CRIED BECAUSE HE FELT SO BAD AND LONELY.



HE EVEN FELT LONELY WITH GEORGE. ALVIN'S FAMILY AND TEACHER JUST DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO TO HELP HIM.

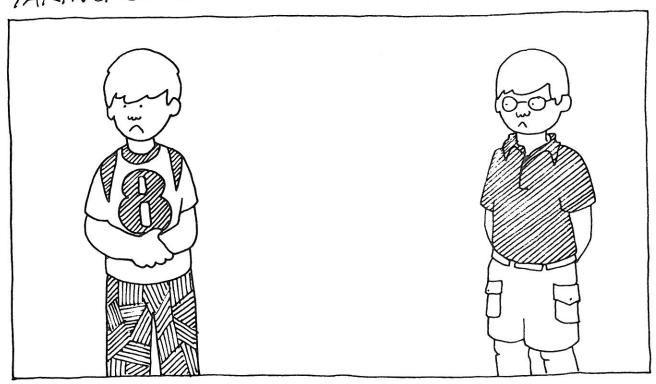
THEY WEREN'T SURE WHY ALVIN WAS ACTING THE WAY HE WAS ACTING, AND ALVIN COULDN'T TELL THEM BECAUSE HE WASN'T SURE EITHER.



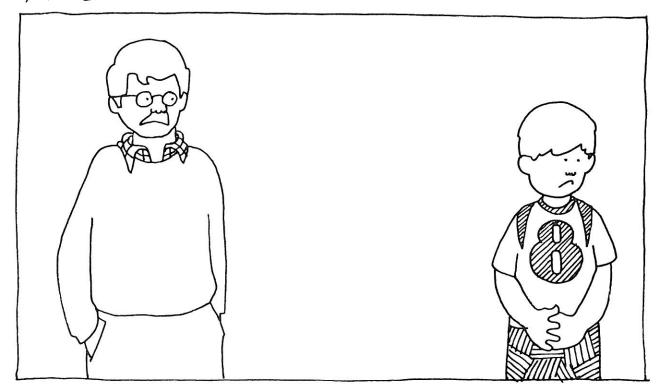
ALVIN'S MOM THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE HE WAS JEALOUS OF THE BABY. SHE FELT BAD ABOUT IT. SHE DIDN'T THINK GEORGE EVER FELT THAT WAY ABOUT ALVIN.



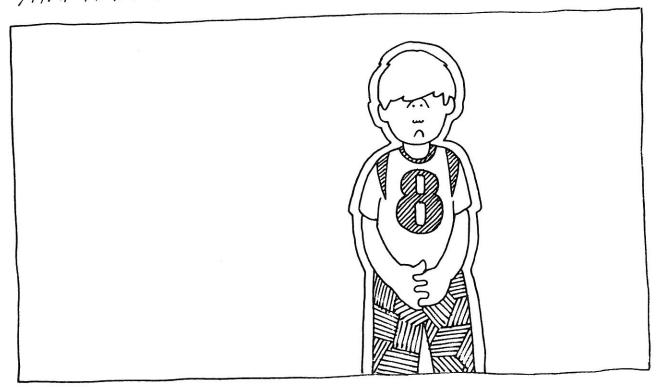
GEORGE THOUGHT HE REMEMBERED FEELING THE SAME WAY WHEN ALVIN WAS BORN. HE JUST DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY ALVIN WAS TAKING SO LONG TO GET USED TO THINGS.



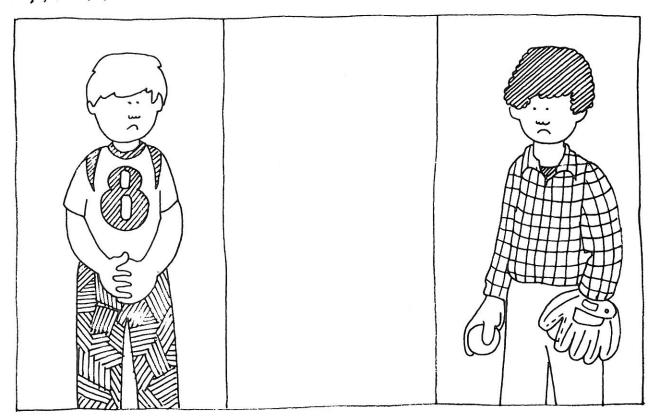
ALVIN'S DAD THOUGHT IT WAS BECAUSE ALVIN STILL FELT BAD ABOUT HIS GRAMMA DYING, BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO GET ALVIN TO FEEL BETTER.



ALVIN THOUGHT MAYBE HE WAS JUST A BAD KID. HE THOUGHT MAYBE HE COULD BE GOOD AGAIN IF EVERYBODY UNDERSTOOD HIM BETTER, BUT HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN. HE WANTED TO BE GOOD.

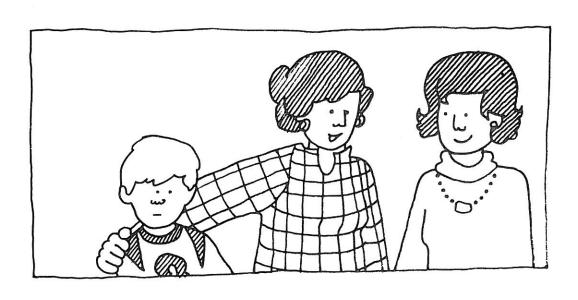


ALVIN'S FRIENDS JUST DIDN'T WANT TO PLAY WITH HIM ANYMORE 'TIL HE STOPPED HITTING PEOPLE!



ALVIN'S PARENTS AND HIS TEACHER ASKED SOMEONE TO HELP THEM.

ALVIN DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THE WOMAN HIS PARENTS AND TEACHER WANTED HIM TO SEE, BUT THEY MADE HIM GO.



SHE WAS O.K.

SHE TALKED A LOT.

SHE LISTENED A LOT.

SHE HELPED HIM CATCH UP ON HIS

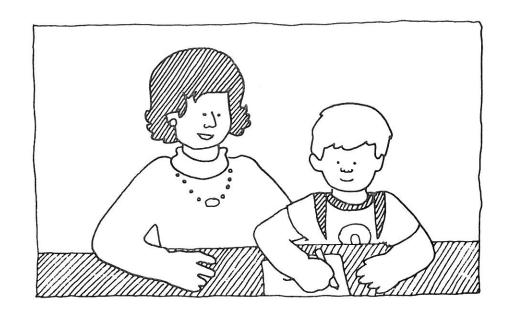
MISSED SCHOOLWORK.

SHE HELPED HIM TRY TO THINK ABOUT

WHY HE WAS FEELING SO BAD AND

WHY HE DID AND SAID THINGS HE

REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO DO AND SAY.

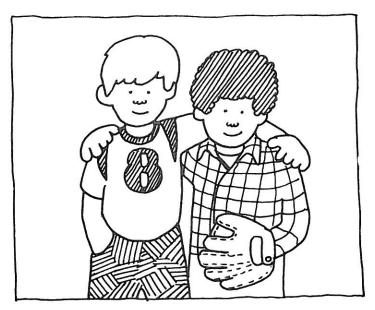


ALVIN'S PARENTS ALSO TALKED TO THE WOMAN ABOUT HOW TO HELP ALVIN.

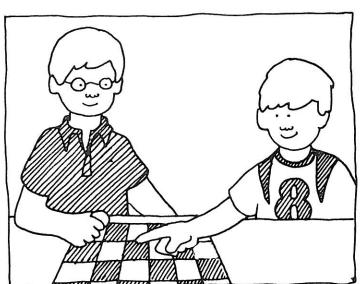
ALVIN ALMOST GOT TO LIKE HER.

SHE DIDN'T LET HIM GET AWAY
WITH ANYTHING, AND NOTHING HE
SAID SEEMED TO MAKE HER ANGRY.





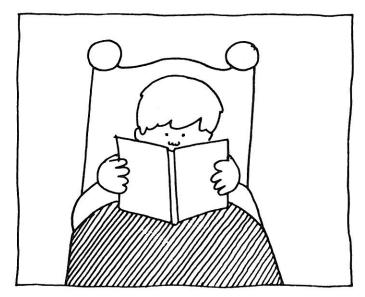
AFTER AWHILE, ALVIN FOUGHT LESS ...



... SULKED LESS

... ATE MORE

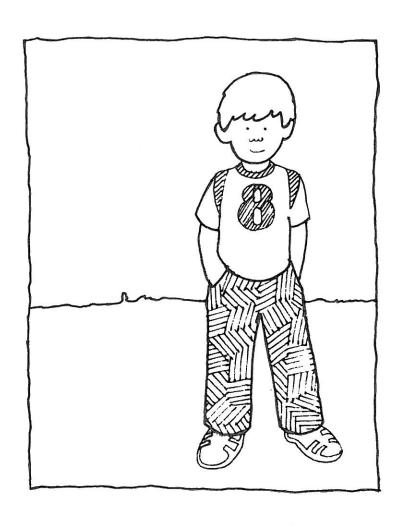




CRIED LESS ...



AND, ALVIN'S MOM, DAD, BROTHER, TEACHER, SISTER AND THE WOMAN WHO HELPS HIM ALL HOPE THAT PRETTY SOON ALVIN WILL FEEL EVEN BETTER.



AND SO DOES ALVIN.