



*Daily Rations with a Smile*

[www.renewnetwork.net](http://www.renewnetwork.net)

*presents...*

*A story about kindness...*



# *Daily Rations with a Smile*

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*presents...*

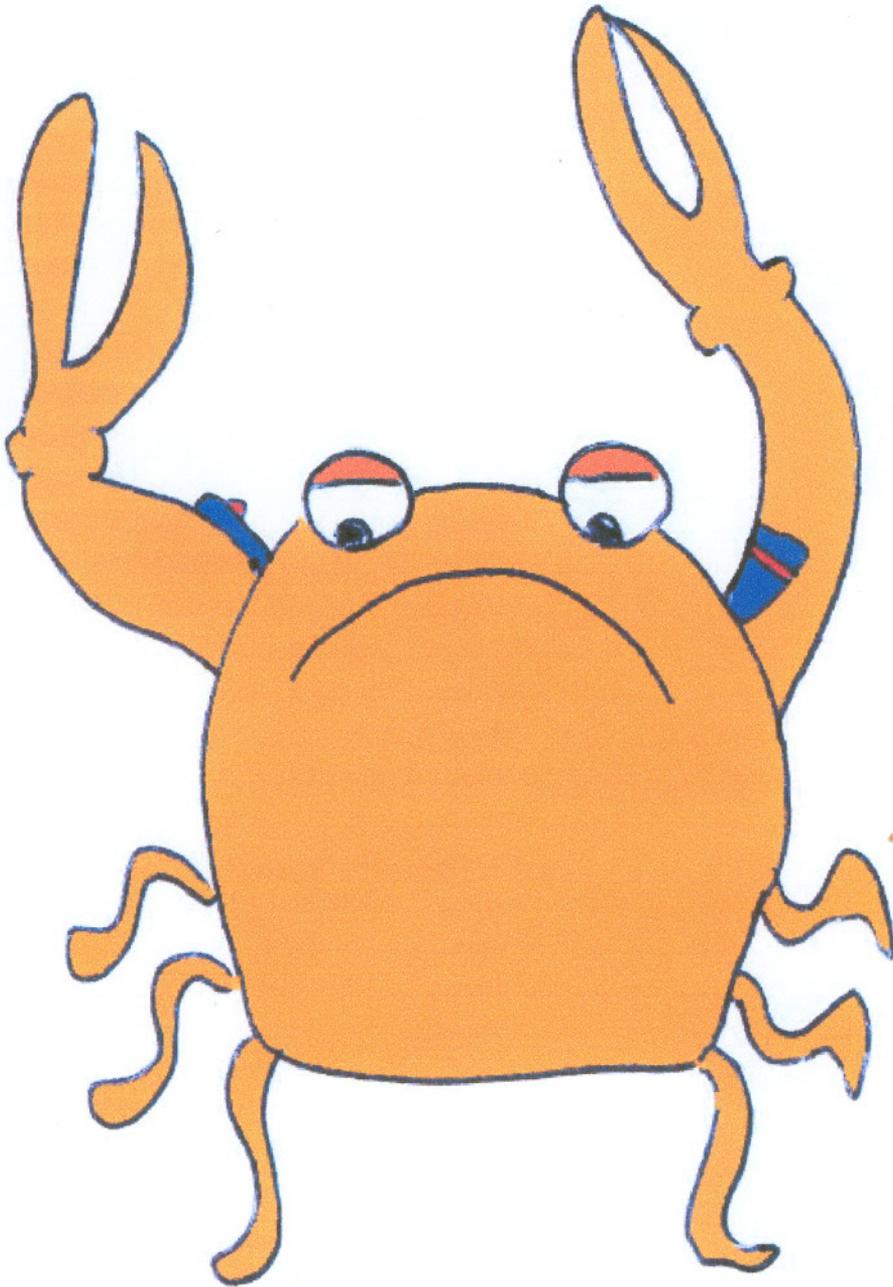
This book was written all in fun,  
so please remember when it is done

- though the characters' names may to you seem  
like someone you know, nearly the same -

that this story is really, truly pretend  
all the way through to the very end.

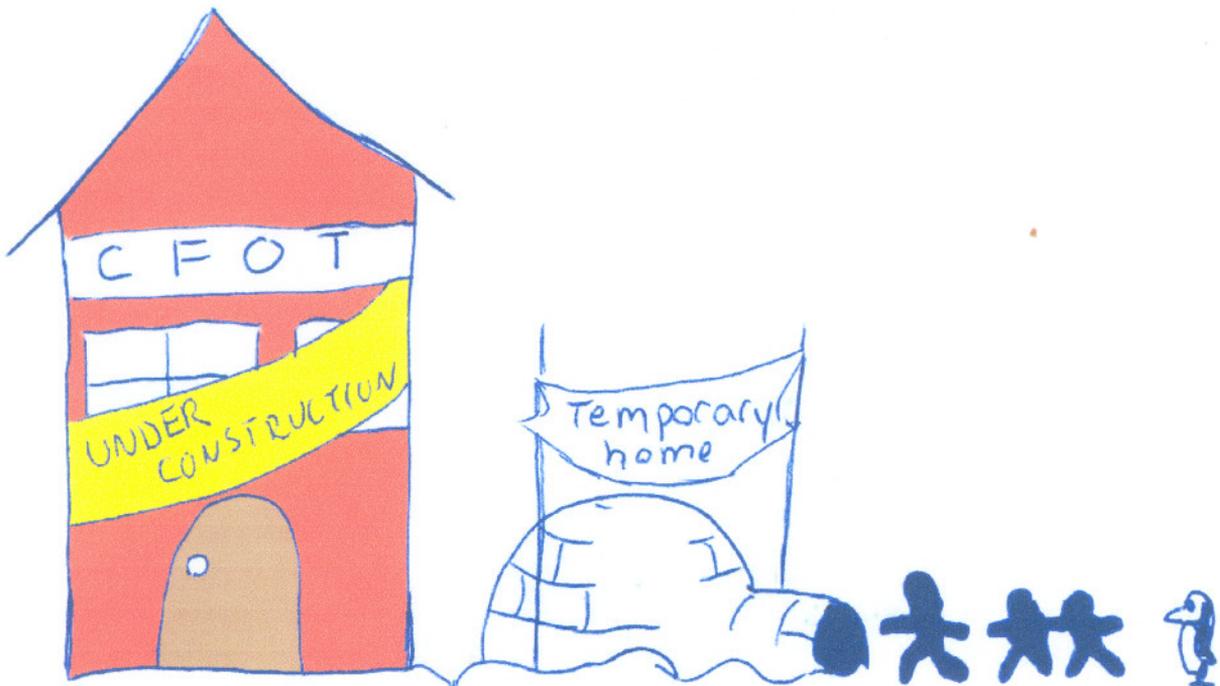
Written and illustrated by Cadet Michael Ramsay

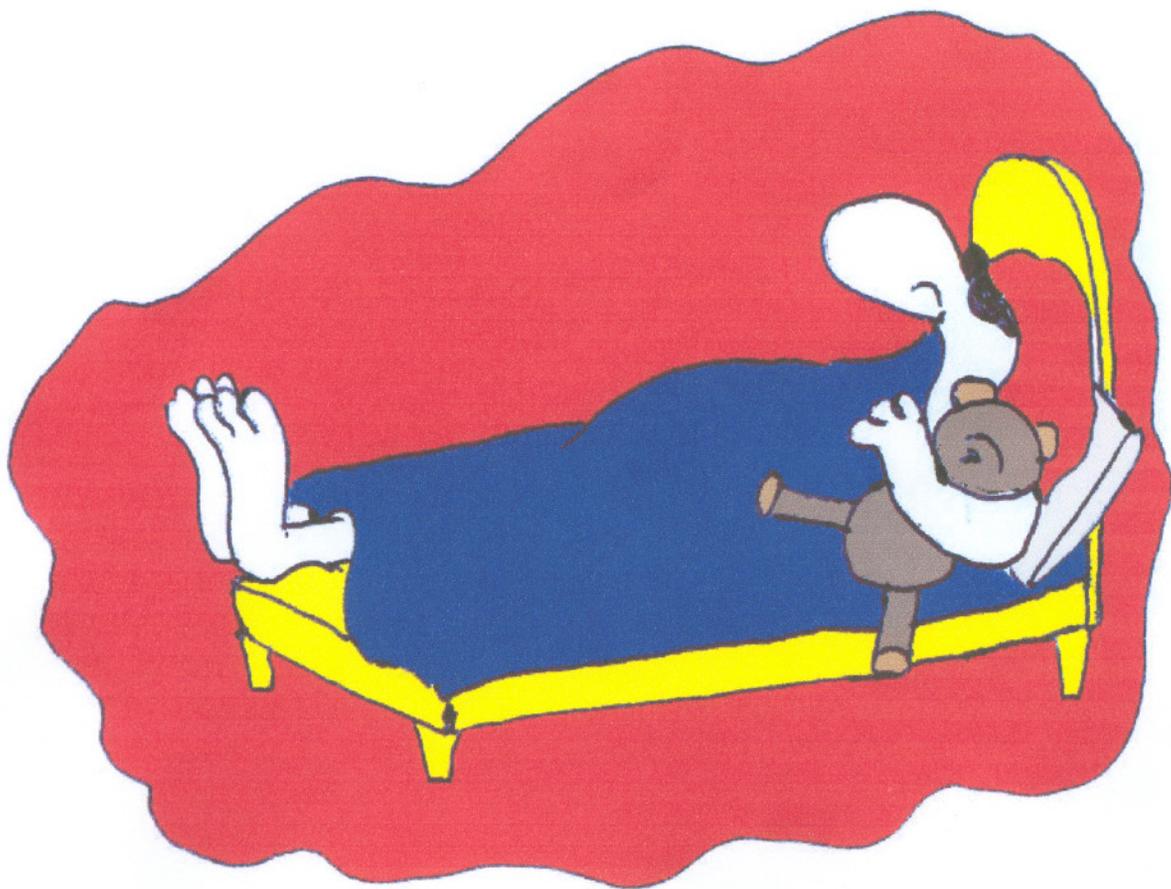
Cadet Crab was Sad



It was the first day of school for all the cadets.  
Everyone returned not ready to begin just quite yet.

One cadet, to the others, said, "I had lots of fun,"  
and another, "I wish we weren't done."

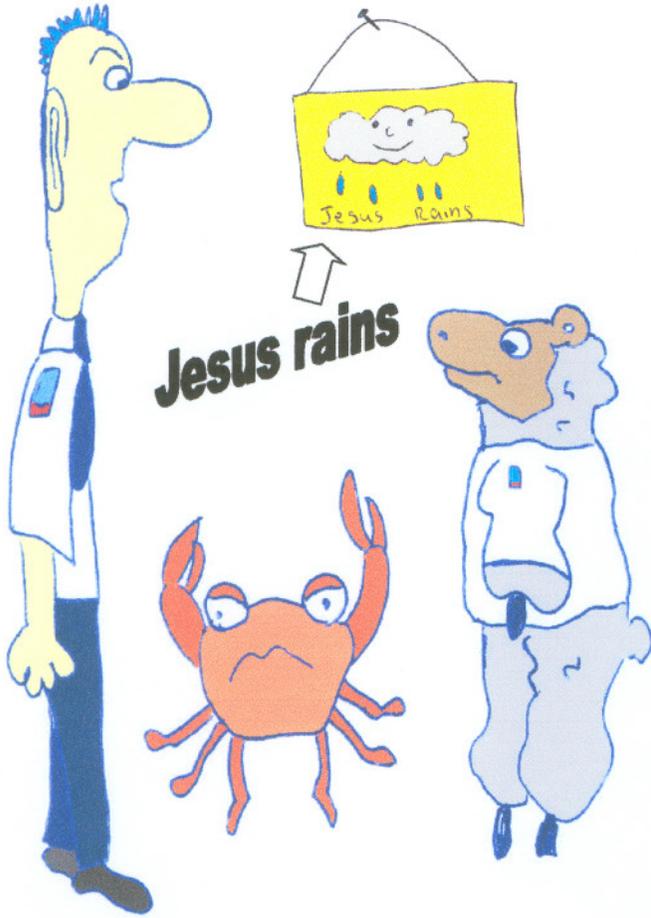




"I don't want to be here," someone else said,  
"I would much rather be in bed, instead"

*(That is when the trouble began  
we cannot ever let sin get an in)*

"Last week I had all my old friends;  
today, it looks like I'll just have work without end"



Cadet Crab was sad.  
"Stop, stop, stop it!" he said  
This talk, I very much mind  
It isn't what it should be,  
it isn't very kind!

"Never mind it,"  
Cadet anonymous said

"Cadet Crab, you just  
don't understand it."

Before they were done,  
another did state:

"Hurry-up, hurry up or  
we'll all be late"

and then another:  
... "this should be  
great.

... I think I'd rather  
be back in Kuwait"



First class was with Major Goose.  
He was all prepared to tell us the truth.  
Said the Goose without hat,  
to the class of cadets:

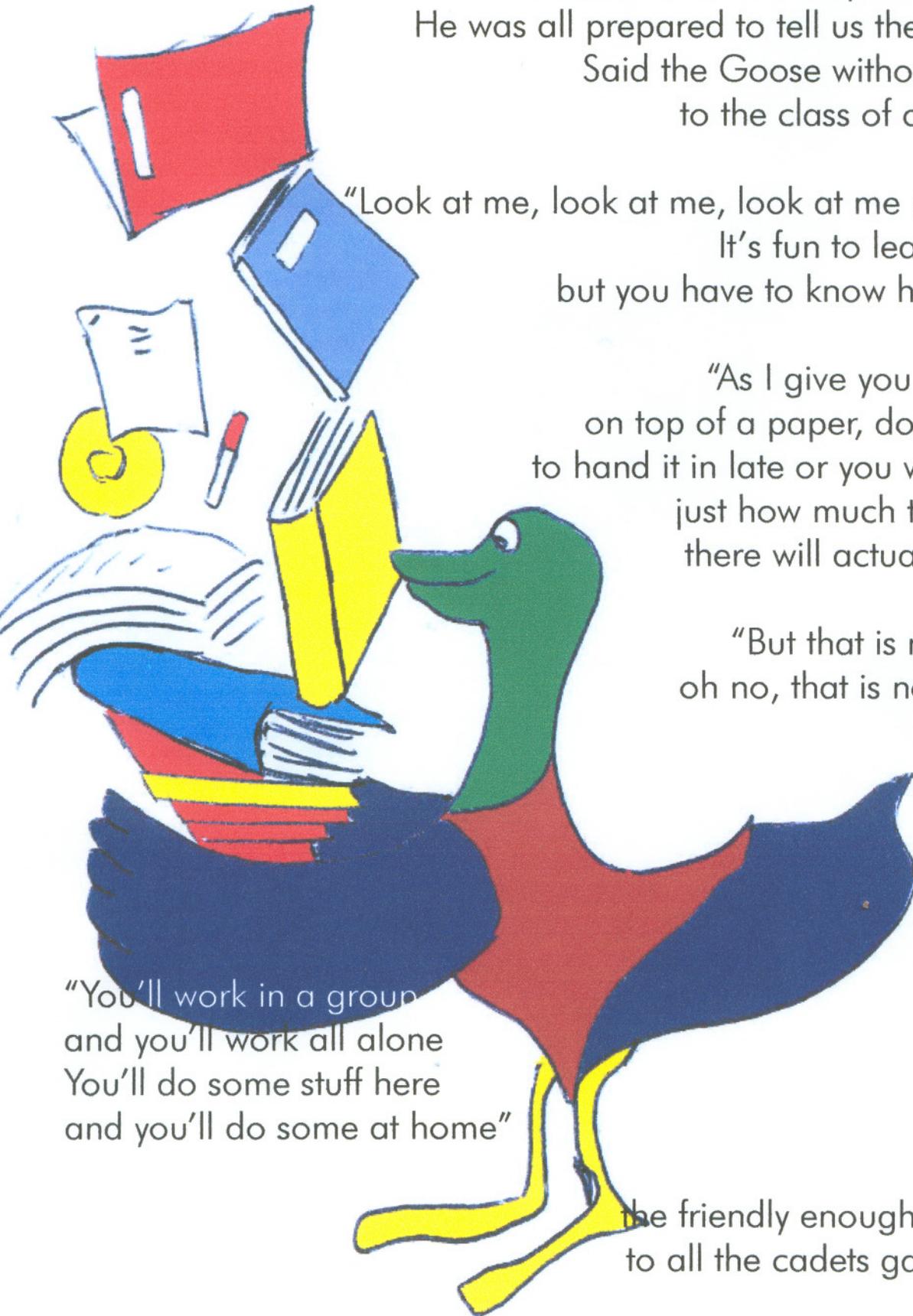
"Look at me, look at me, look at me now...  
It's fun to learn lots  
but you have to know how..."

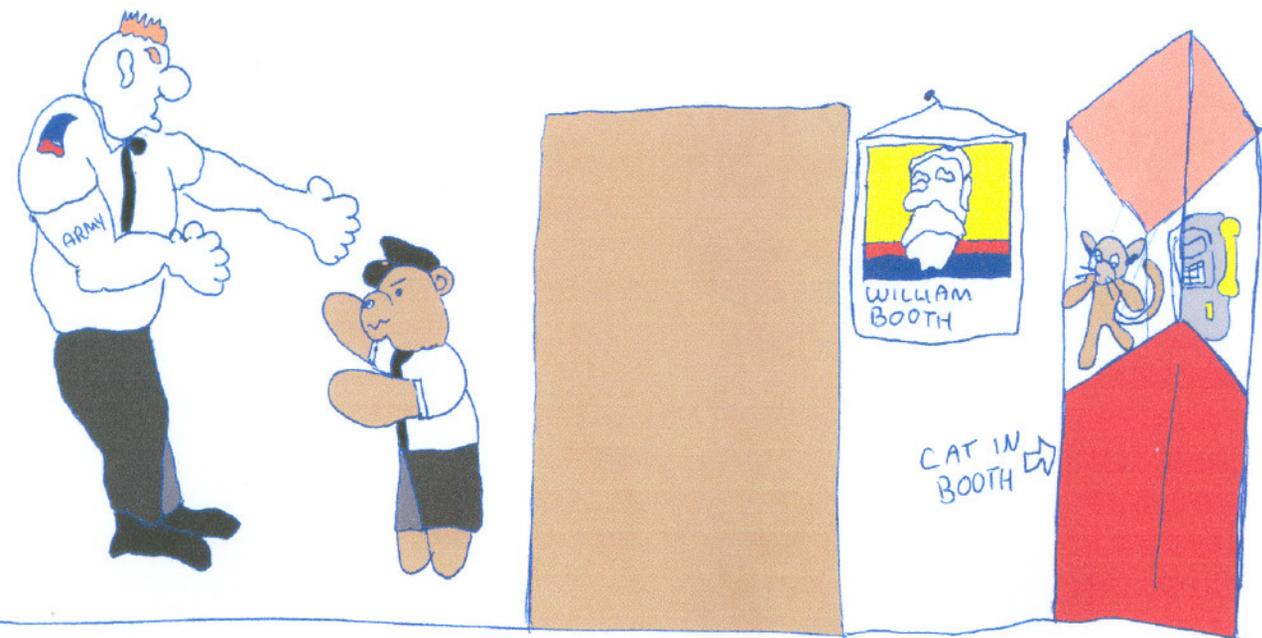
"As I give you a task  
on top of a paper, don't ask  
to hand it in late or you will see  
just how much trouble  
there will actually be"

"But that is not all.  
oh no, that is not all."

"You'll work in a group  
and you'll work all alone  
You'll do some stuff here  
and you'll do some at home"

Said  
the friendly enough major  
to all the cadets gathered

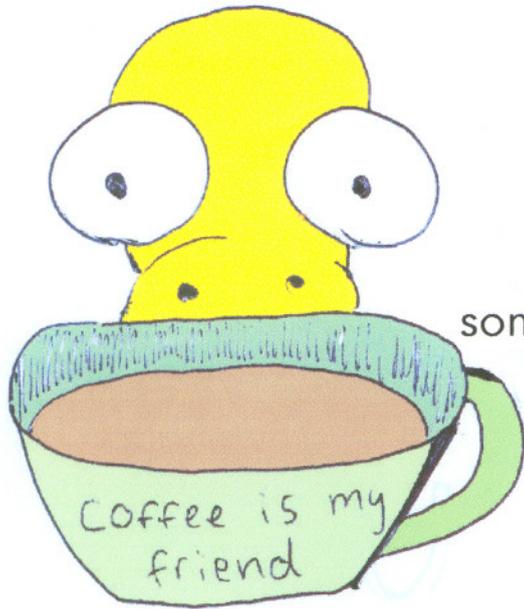




In the hall, one cadet spoke  
"this is too much for all of us folk"

"There is no apparent respite  
for our overwhelming plight,"  
and then without too much delight,  
some exhausted cadet incited a fight.

"The teachers and you guys are all so bad  
this work and you guys make me so mad"



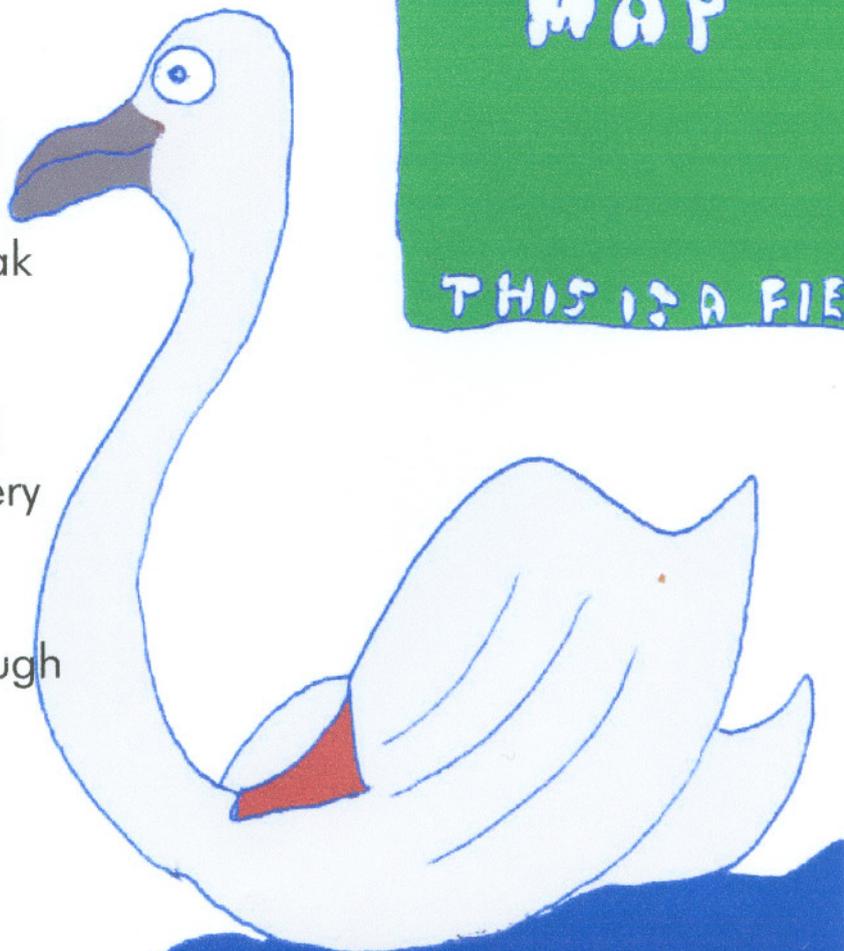
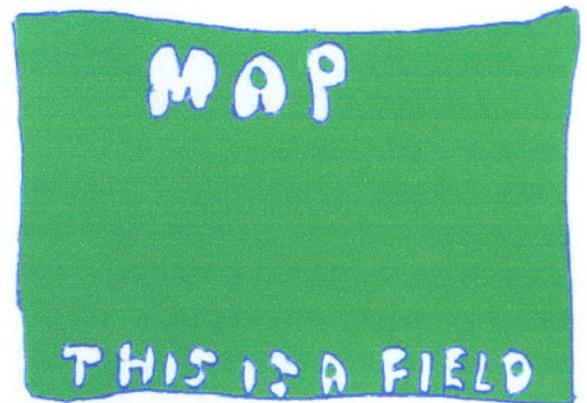
The next class came very fast  
Somehow these coffee breaks  
just don't seem to last

Guessing who was teaching,  
some were right, some were wrong  
It was another bird,  
this time a swan

Good morning and  
welcome to all,  
I hope on your break  
you all had a ball

This term you'll find  
you'll need to be very  
hard workers -

there won't be enough  
time to have any  
shirkers,



Said the major without hat,  
to the class full of cadets:

"Look at me, look at me, look at me now...  
It's fun to learn lots but you have to know how..."

"As I give you a task  
on top of a paper, don't ask  
to hand it in late or you will see  
just how much trouble there will actually be"

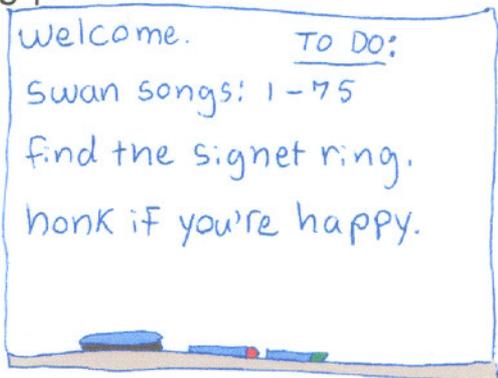
"You'll work in a group  
and you'll work all alone  
You'll do some stuff here  
and you'll do some at home"

"But that is not all.  
oh no, that is not all."

"at the class' end you'll have a little quiz  
but don't worry too much, it will be a whiz"

and for your own interest  
because we wish you the best  
when from your papers you need a sabbatical,  
you'll have the opportunity to do something practical"

Said the well meaning major  
to all the cadets here gathered.



"Wah, wah, wah," cried one,  
"I was hoping for fun"

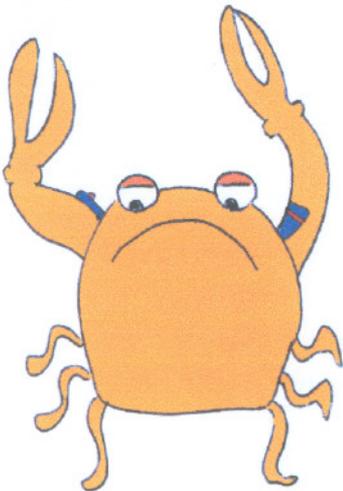
and still someone else, "I am very upset"  
"maybe, I'm not supposed to be here at all just yet"

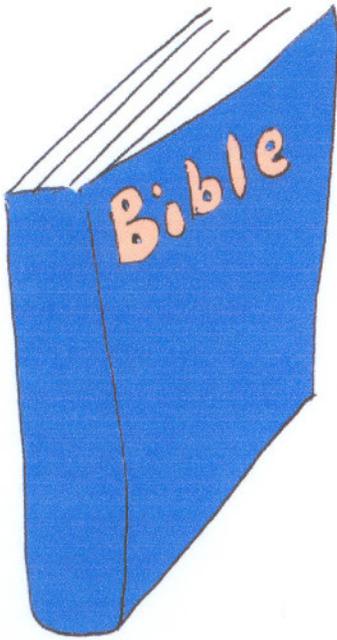
I am not at this stuff very good  
I cannot do this just as I should

Maybe I should just go home  
Sometimes its best to be all alone

Cadet Crab was sad.  
"Stop, stop, stop it!" he said  
This talk, I very much mind  
It isn't what it should be, it isn't very kind!

You must to yourself and to others be nice.  
Hey look – here now comes major Rice!





Cadets please all gather around  
and don't think that we've missed all  
your sound

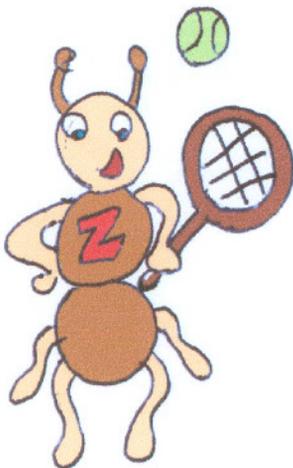
To try to allay some of your worry,  
I've come with – from the Bible- a  
very good story.

This is from 2 Samuel 9  
It is a paraphrase, I trust you won't  
mind:

David asked, "Is there anyone left of the house of Saul  
to whom I can show any kindness at all

Now there was a servant named Ziba of Saul's  
to appear before David, they gave him the call

and asked him in front of all them  
Are you Ziba? Yes, and your servant I am



← **Serve Ant**

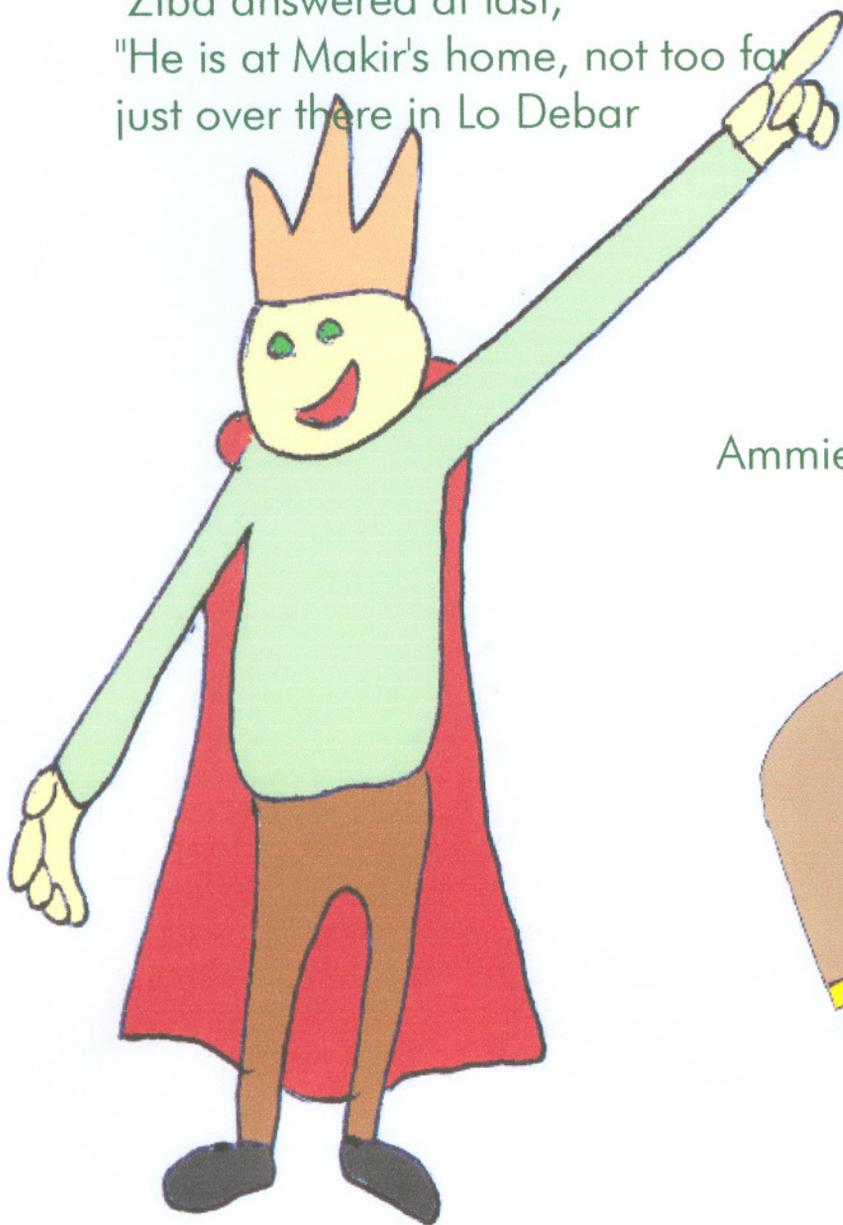
"Is there none of Saul's family left" asked his royal highness  
"to whom I can show any God's loving kindness?"



Ziba answered the king. He was very meek,  
"There is a son of Jonathan who has crippled feet."

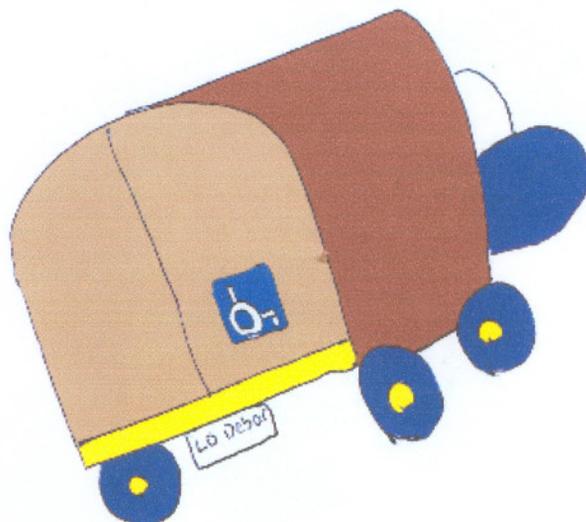
"Where is he?" the king asked.

Ziba answered at last,  
"He is at Makir's home, not too far  
just over there in Lo Debar"



So King David had him  
brought from Lo Debar,

from the house of  
Ammiel's son, you know, Makir



When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan came,  
he bowed down to pay him honour- David was of great fame.

David said, "Mephibosheth!"

"Your servant," he replied, "please don't put me to death"

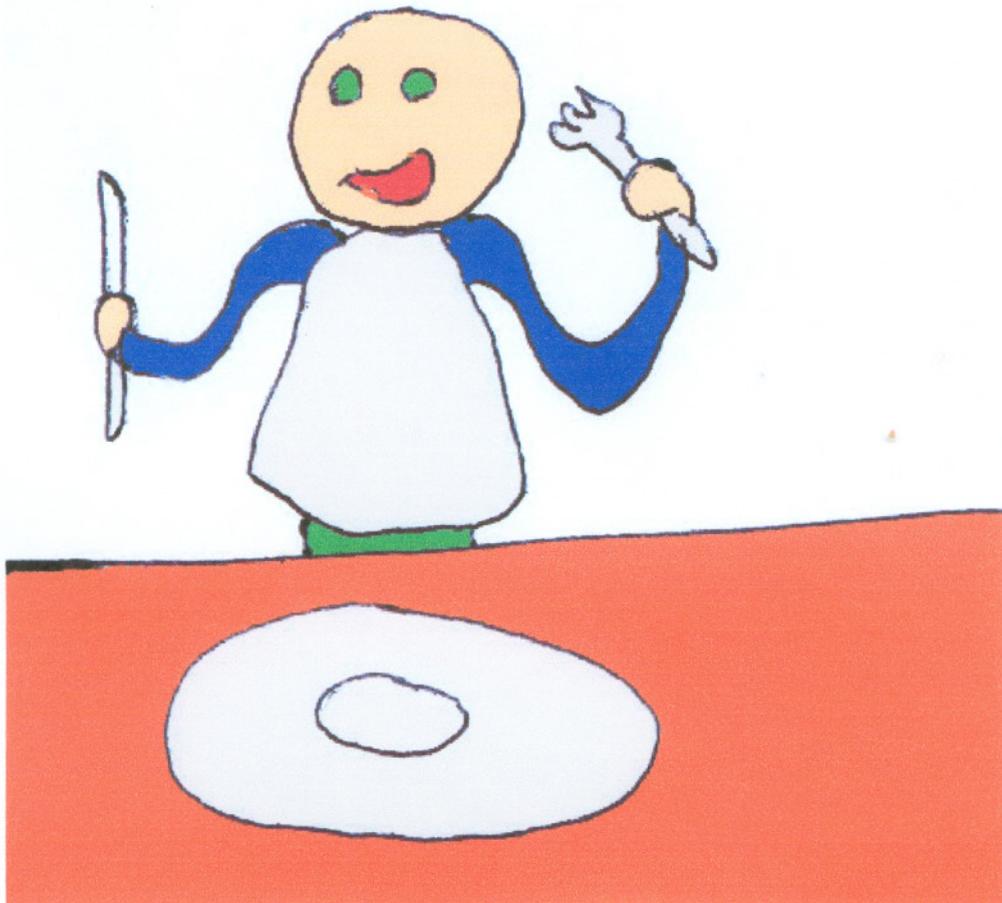
"Don't be afraid," David said to him,

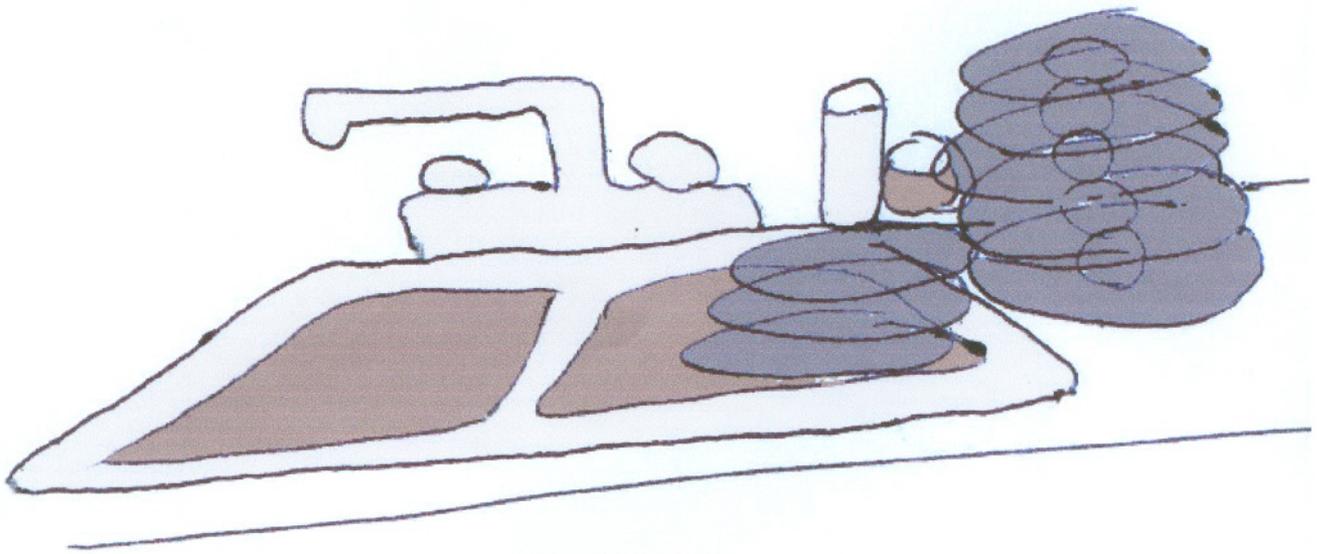
"I will show you kindness for the sake of Jonathan.

I will restore to you all the land that was Saul's,  
and you will forever eat with us all."

Mephibosheth bowed down and spoke with glee,

"Who am I, that you should be so kind to me?"





Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's servant, and said "I have given your master's grandson everything that he had which belonged to Saul and his family" he said as he sat "You don't, do you, have any problem with that?"

"So now you and all of your family must serve him forever and you should be happy for there won't be many dishes you see because he will always have dinner at my table, with me"

Then Ziba said to the king, "I will do whatever you happen to say and Mephibosheth ate at the king's table from that very day"

It was really quite neat that the king was so kind to the one with two crippled feet.

When the major had finished retelling the story something twigged – and to God be the glory

The cadets who were listening intently, realized as they dried their off their very teary eyes that they were not at all very kind to each other, themselves, and the staff all this time



they said to Cadet Crab and everyone else, we're sorry you were right to express yourself

you were right to mind it we were not very kind, it was not truly fair to always complain over here and over there.

And they all lived happily ever after

