

# My Mom is a Soldier



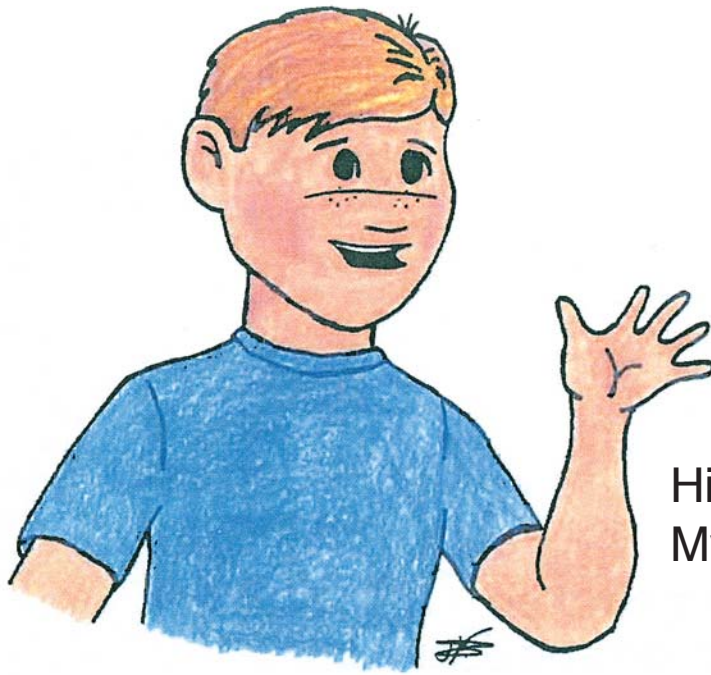
Written by Shawn Belisle  
Illustrations by Donald V. Belisle

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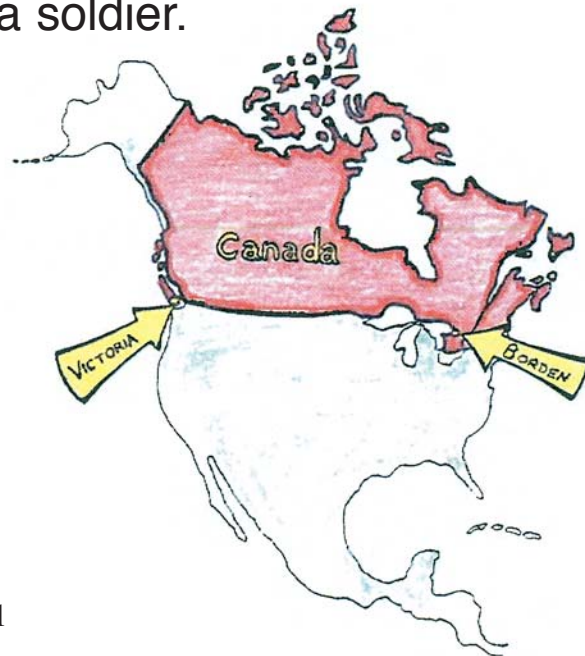
For our children,  
Robert, Stephen and Jennifer  
You are our world.



Hi!  
My name is Robby.

I live at Canadian Forces Base Borden. I live here with my brother Stephen, my sister Jennifer, my Dad, and my Mom. My Mom is a soldier.

We didn't always live here.  
We used to live in Victoria,  
British Columbia.





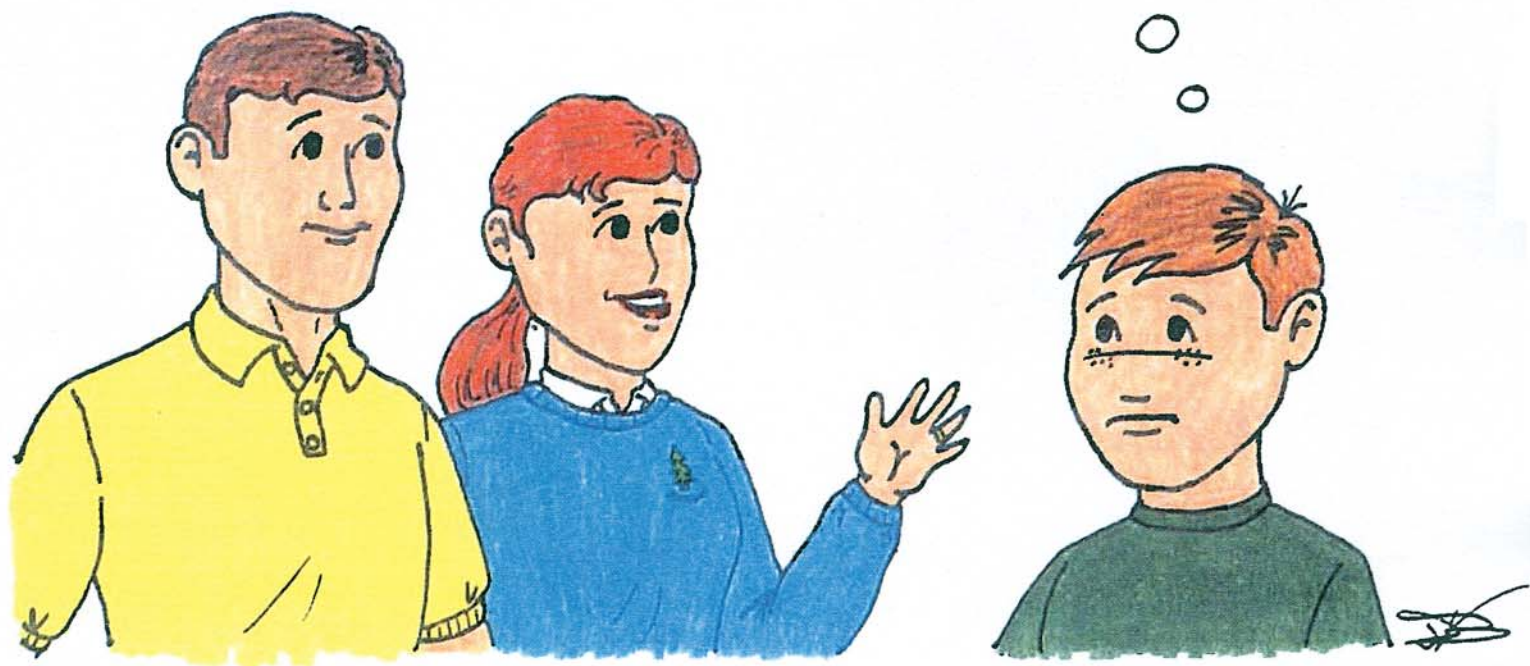
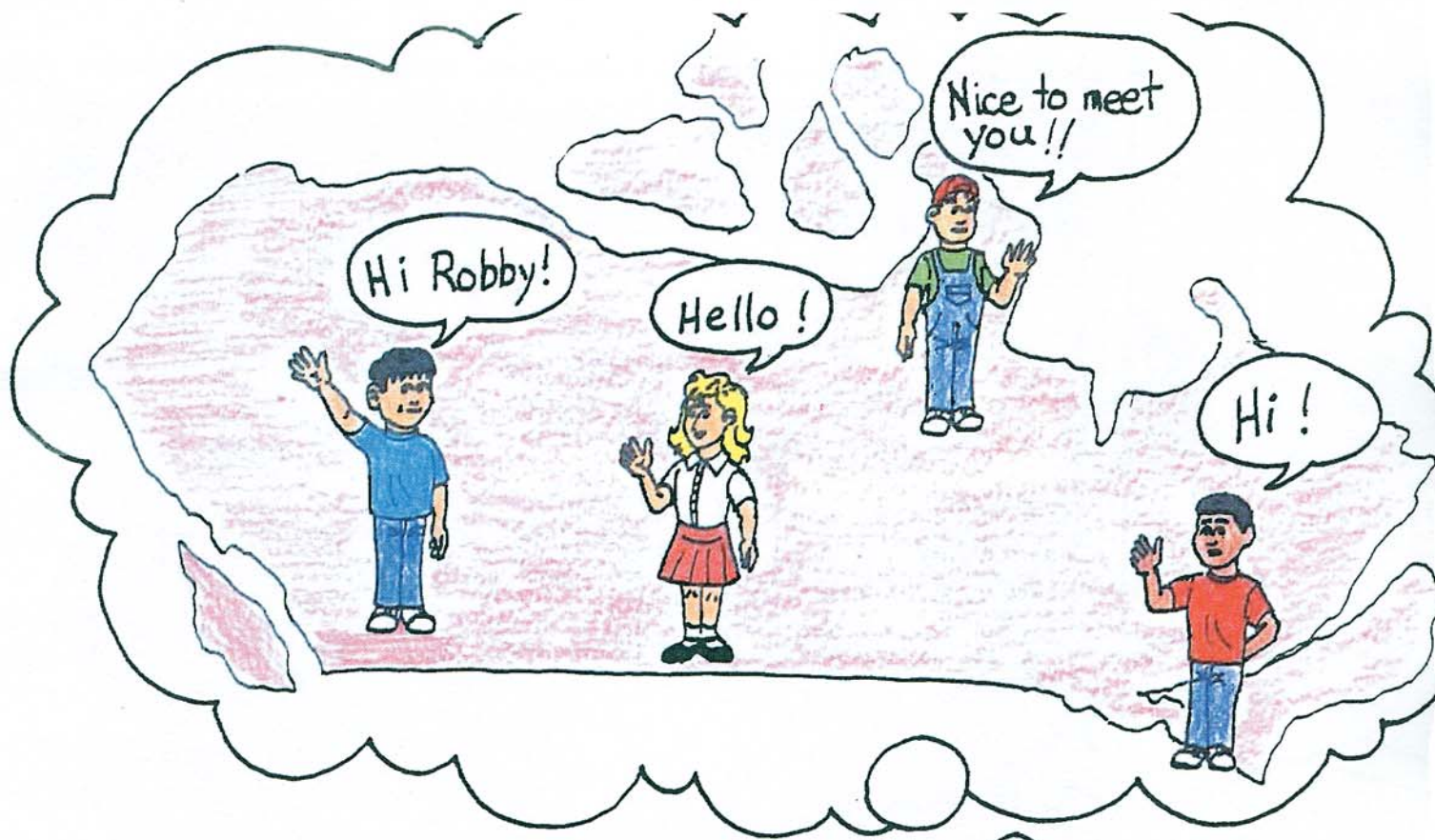


One day my Mom and Dad told me that we were going to move to a new house far away. I was a little bit scared. I didn't want to leave my house or my friends or my Grandma and Grandpa.

My Mom told me that I should be excited because I was very lucky. Since she is in the Military, we were going to move to different cities all over Canada.

It would be a big adventure! We would see different places and meet all kinds of people. Maybe some of them would be my new friends.





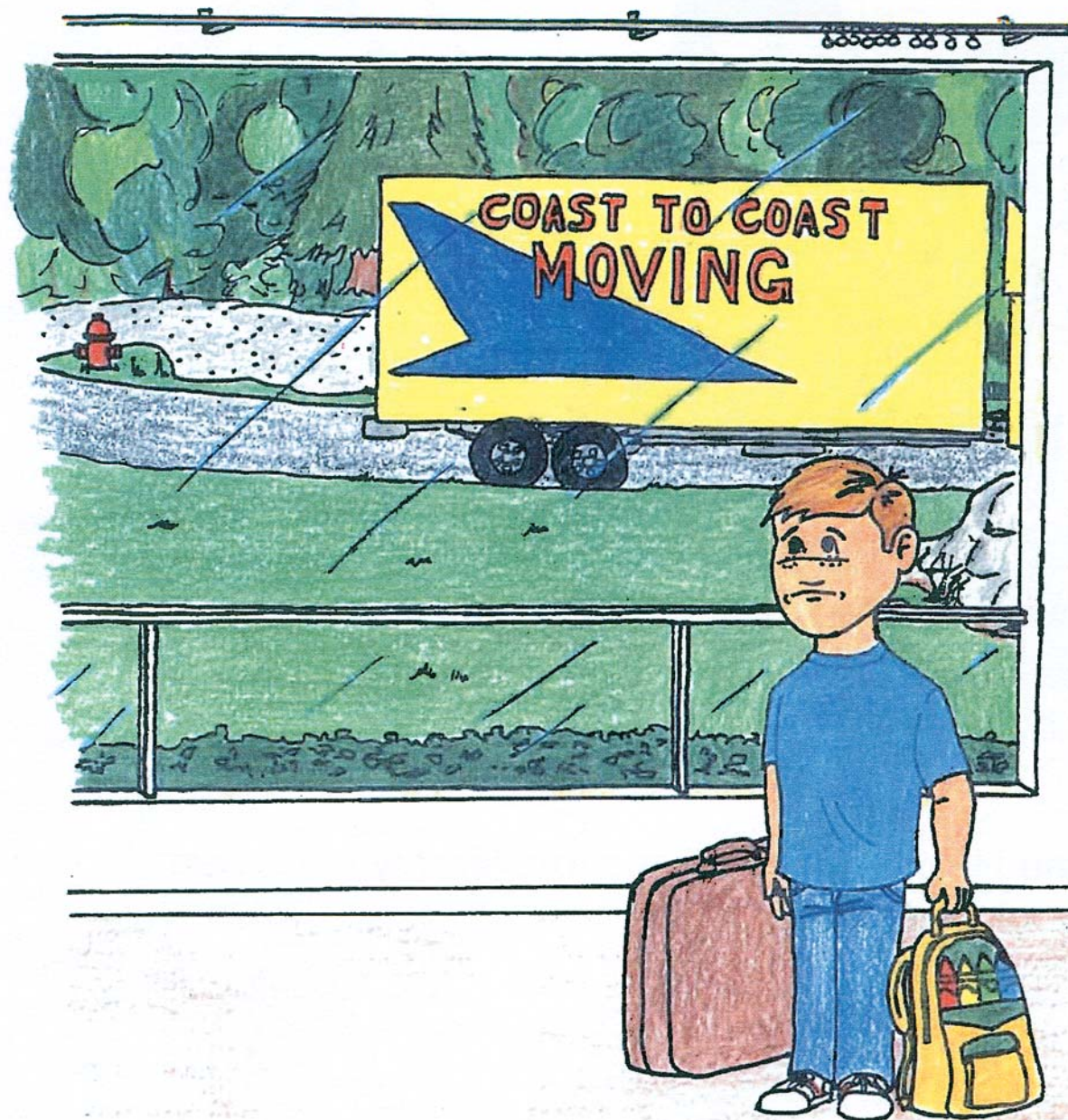


A few weeks later some men came and packed up all my toys and things and put them on a big truck. Our whole house was empty!



I had to say goodbye to my best friend Stirling. I cried, and wanted him to come with me. My Mom said that we would come back and visit him.

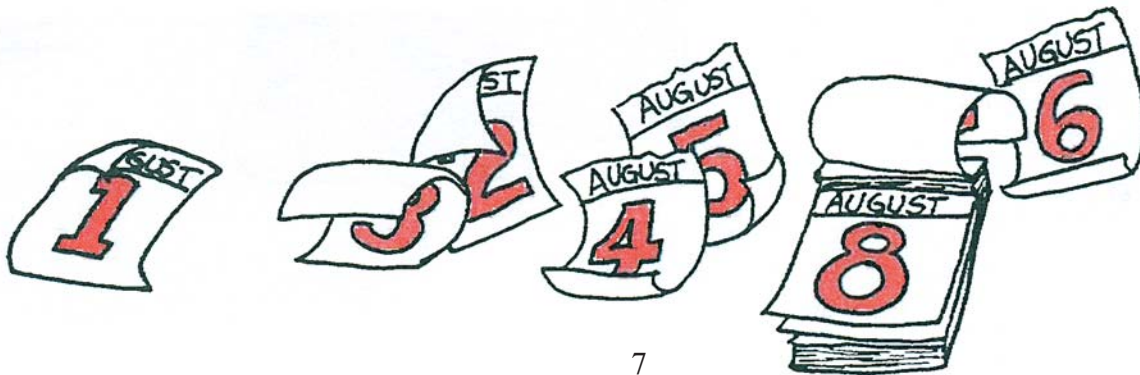




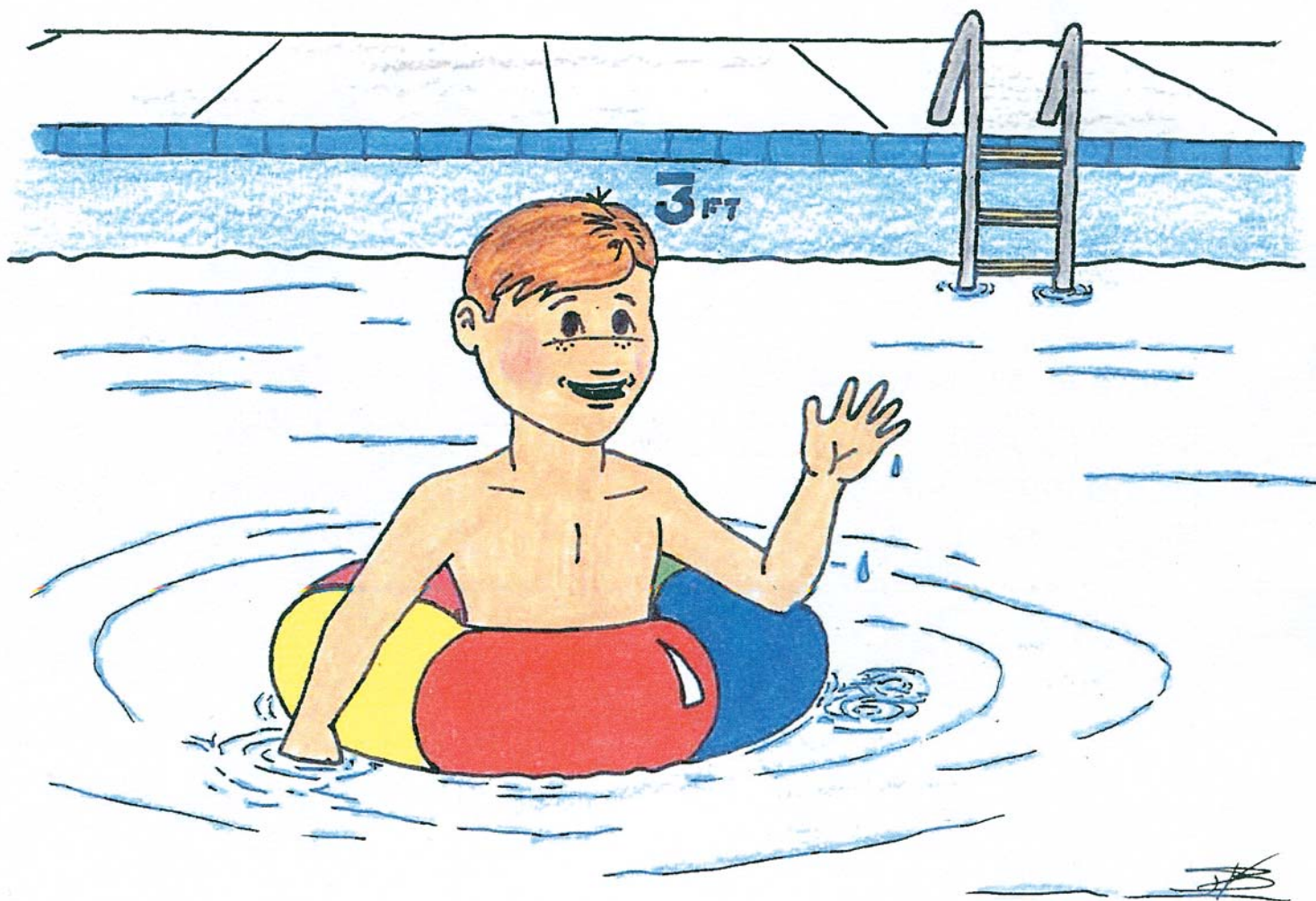
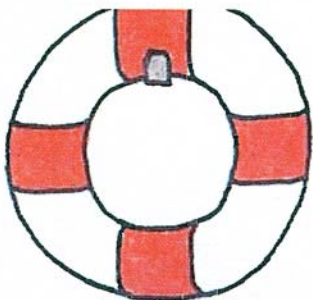


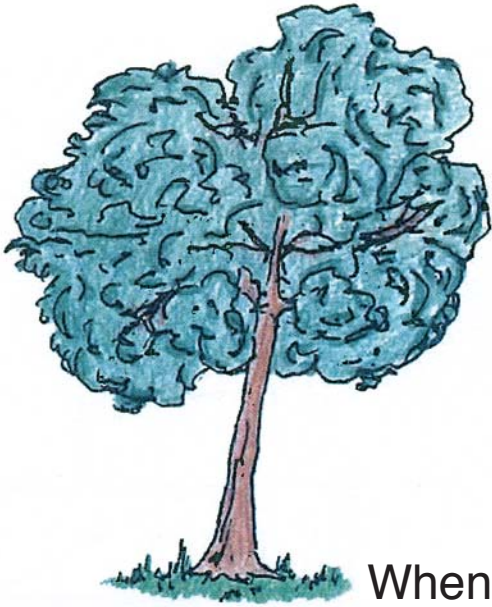
It took a long time to get to our new house. We stopped and visited my Grandma and Grandpa on their farm. We stayed in hotels that had pools so we could go swimming.

It seemed like we were driving forever! My Mom said that it took eight days.









When I saw our new house I was excited. It was bigger than our old house and we had a big tree in the front yard.

There is a boy the same age as me that lives behind us. His name is Kyle and he is my new best friend. Sometimes I still miss my other house and my other friends.





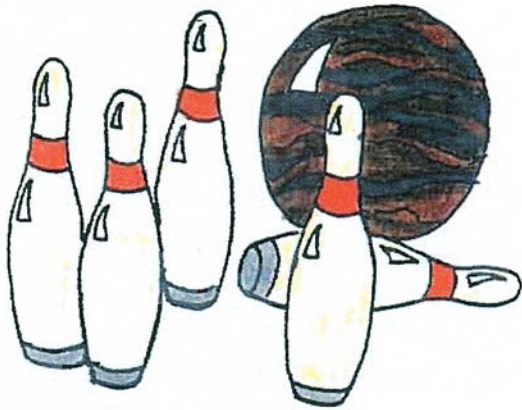
My Mom says the best thing about having friends far away, is that you get to go visit them.

The last time we visited my friend Stirling and my Grandma and Grandpa, I got to travel on a bus and then on an airplane.









I am glad my Mom is in the Forces and we live on a Military Base. There is a bowling alley, a movie theatre and even McDonalds!

Every year there is a Christmas party for us kids at the Family Resource Centre. Santa flies down in a helicopter to talk to us and give us treats. It is really cool!









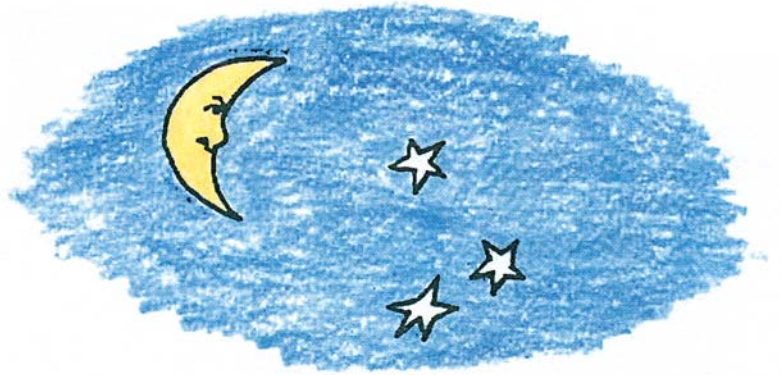
My Mom works a lot. She goes to work almost everyday. She makes me my breakfast in the morning before she goes and gives me a hug and kiss goodbye.

When my Mom is gone, my Dad takes care of me and my brother and sister. We play games, do crafts, or watch movies. Sometimes my Mom calls me on the phone to see how I am doing.



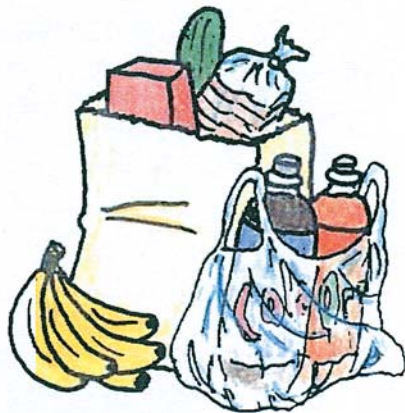






When my Mom comes home at night I am glad.  
Sometimes I wish my Mom didn't have to go to work  
because I miss her.

When she's home we do lots of fun stuff. We go  
sledding, grocery shopping or take walks to the park.  
Sometimes I even help my Mom make cookies.





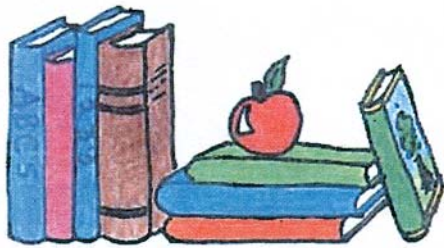


One time my Mom left for two weeks. She said she wouldn't be home to read my bedtime story or tuck me in at night because she was going to Quebec. It was very cold there and some people didn't have food or electricity.

I was worried something bad would happen to her. She told me that she was going there to help, because that's what soldiers do, they help people.



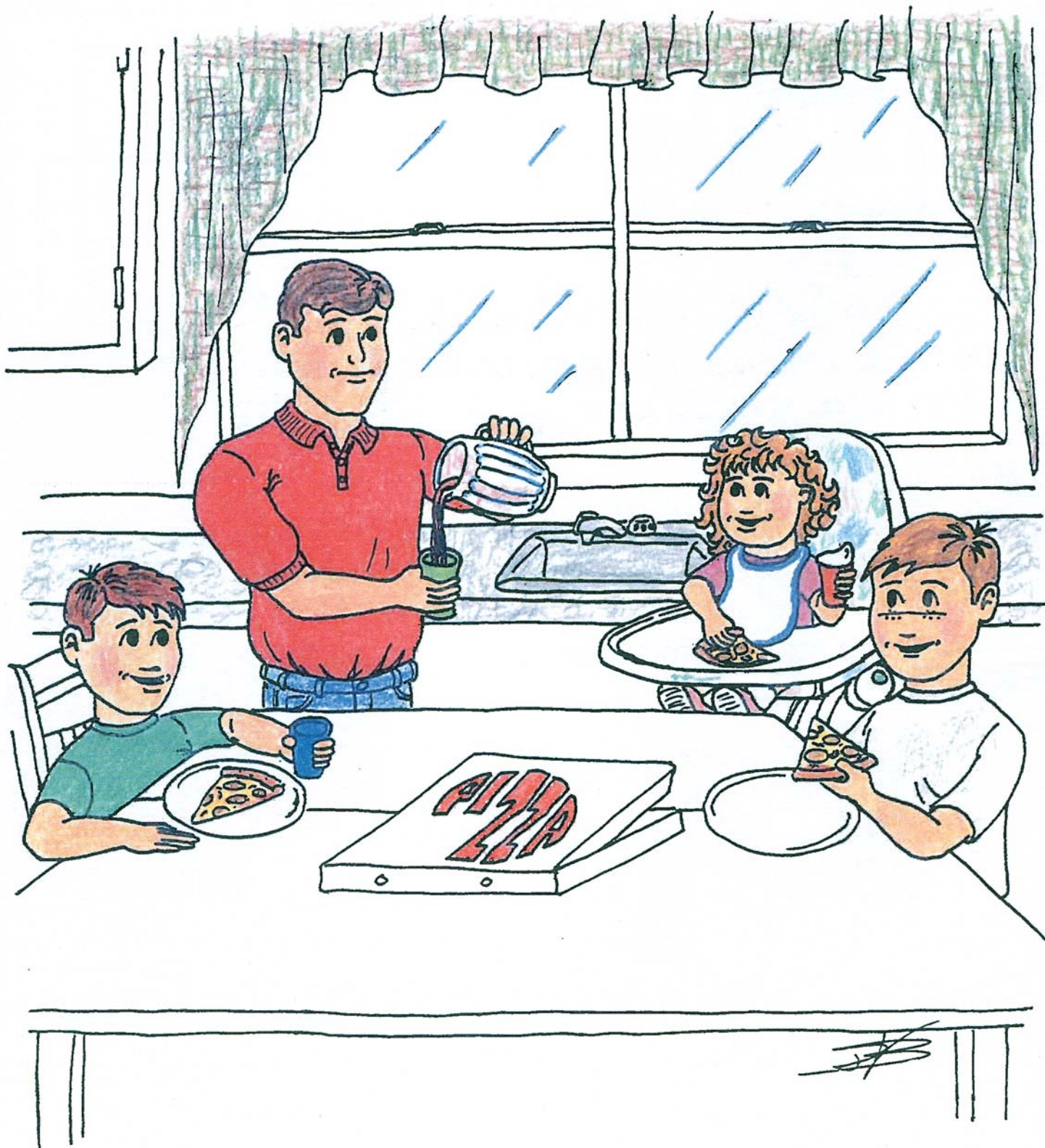




While my Mom was gone, I did a lot of neat things with my Dad. He took me to playschool and the library. We visited with my friends and played outside.

My Dad made supper everyday. We ate a lot of pizza!





I was happy when my Mom came home. She said she missed me and my brother and sister very much while she was gone.

She said that maybe some day she'll have to go away again but I know she'll be helping people, maybe even little kids like me. I know my Mom will be alright, but I will still miss her.









When I grow up I want to help people too. The police help people, and firefighters too, and so does my Mom, because my Mom is a soldier.



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