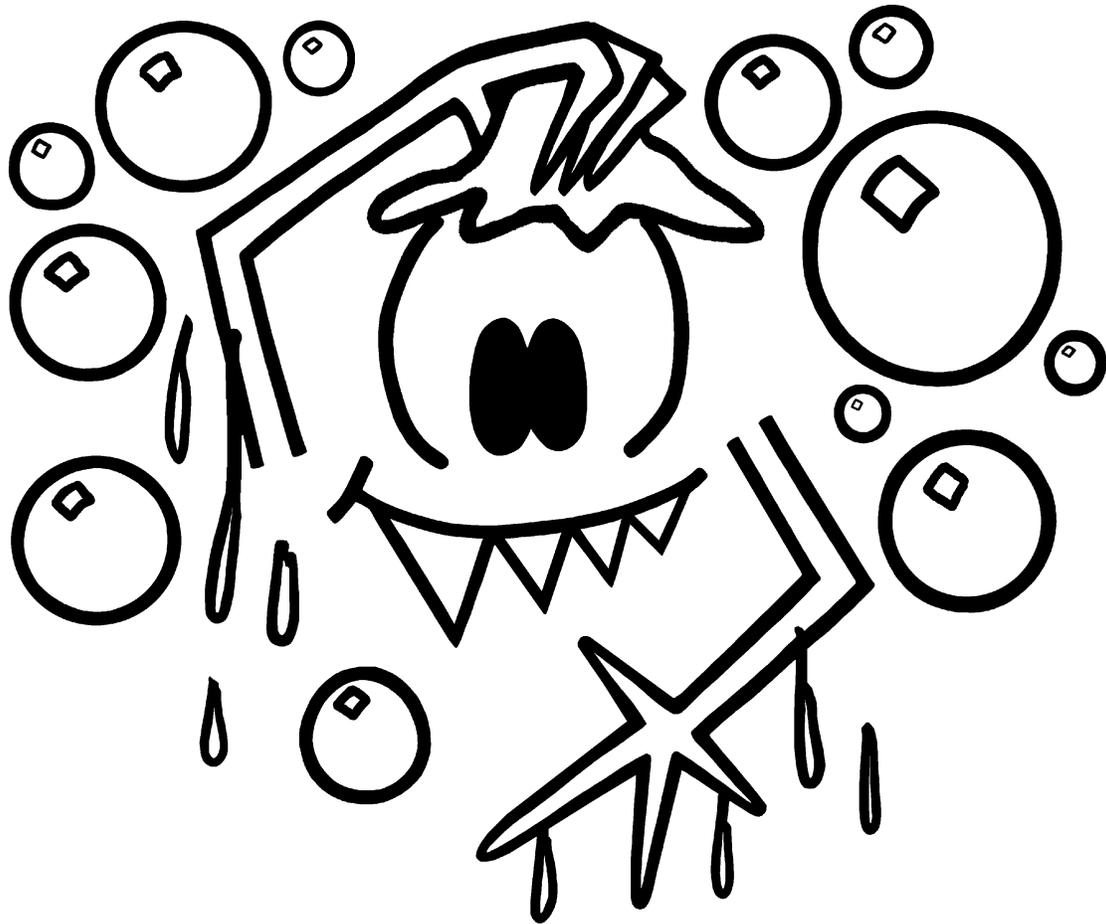


ScribbleMonster[®] Takes a Bath



Story by Paige A. Dague
Illustrations by James Dague

and _____

For Elaina Faith, who always shows her true colors

ScribbleMonster® Takes a Bath

Written by Paige A. Dague
Illustrated by James Dague
with help from

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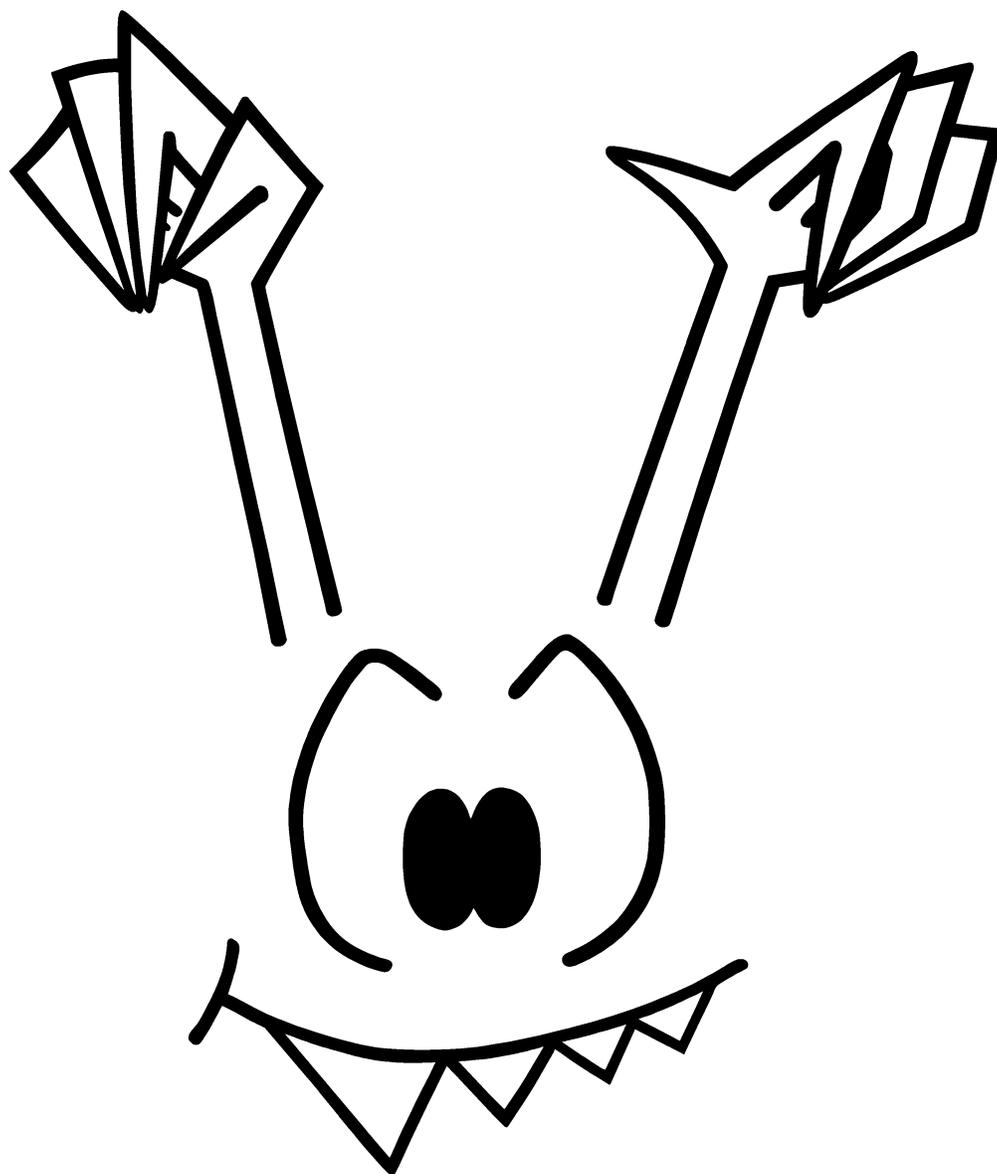
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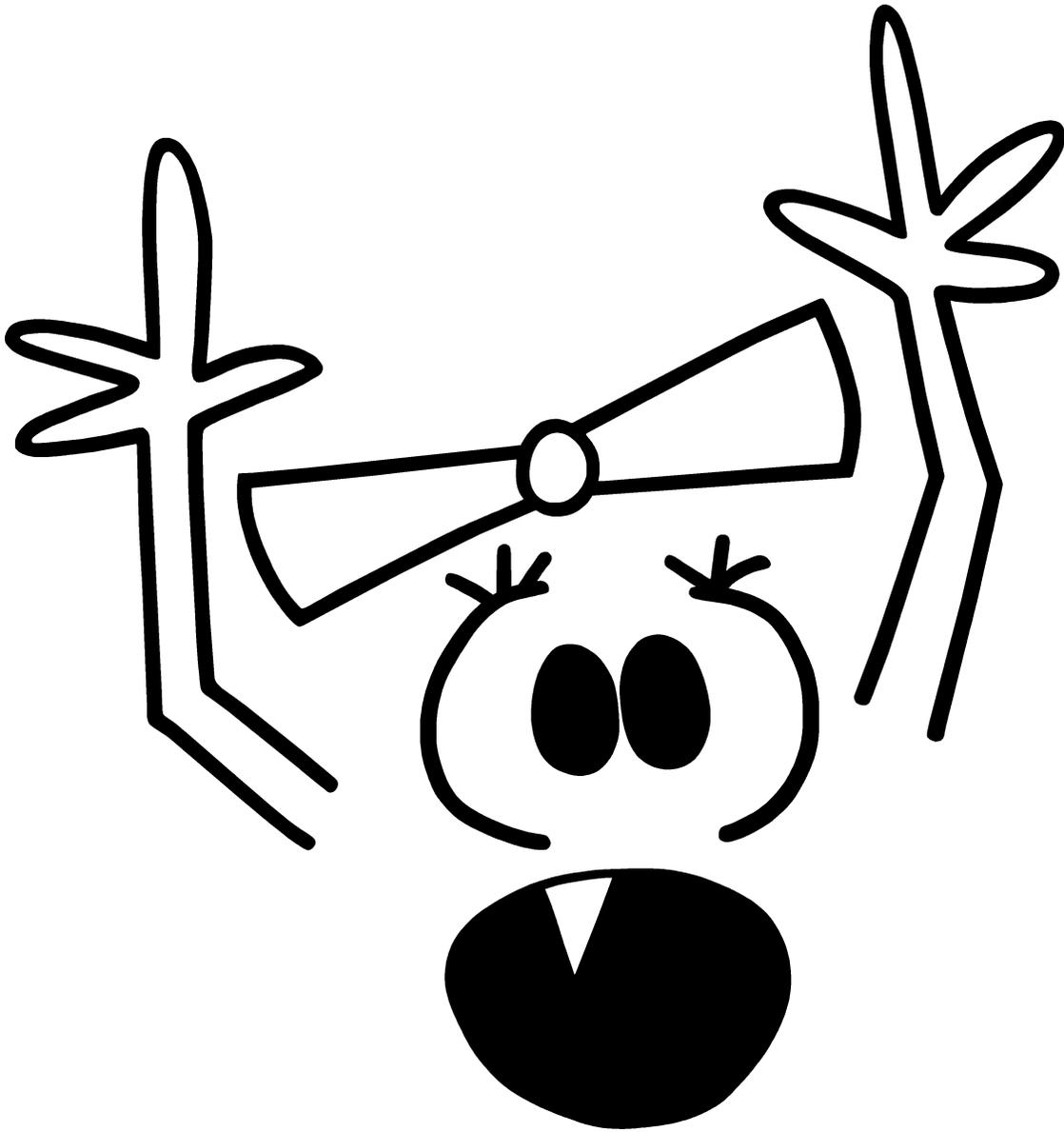
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ScribbleMonster isn't a monster in the bad sense of the word. In fact, he only looks like a monster. He doesn't act like a monster, at least not most of the time.

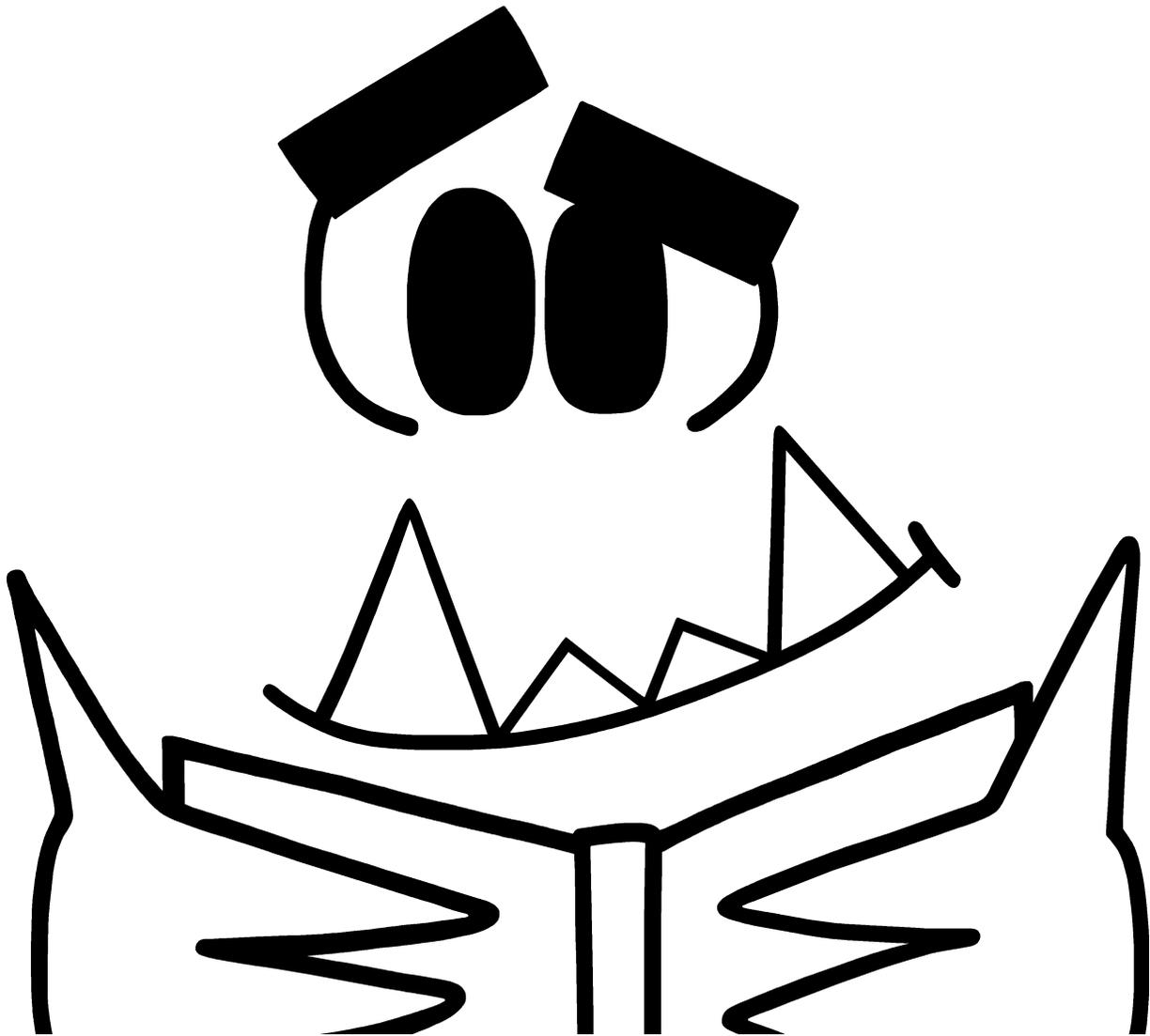
But ScribbleMonster does enjoy scaring people.

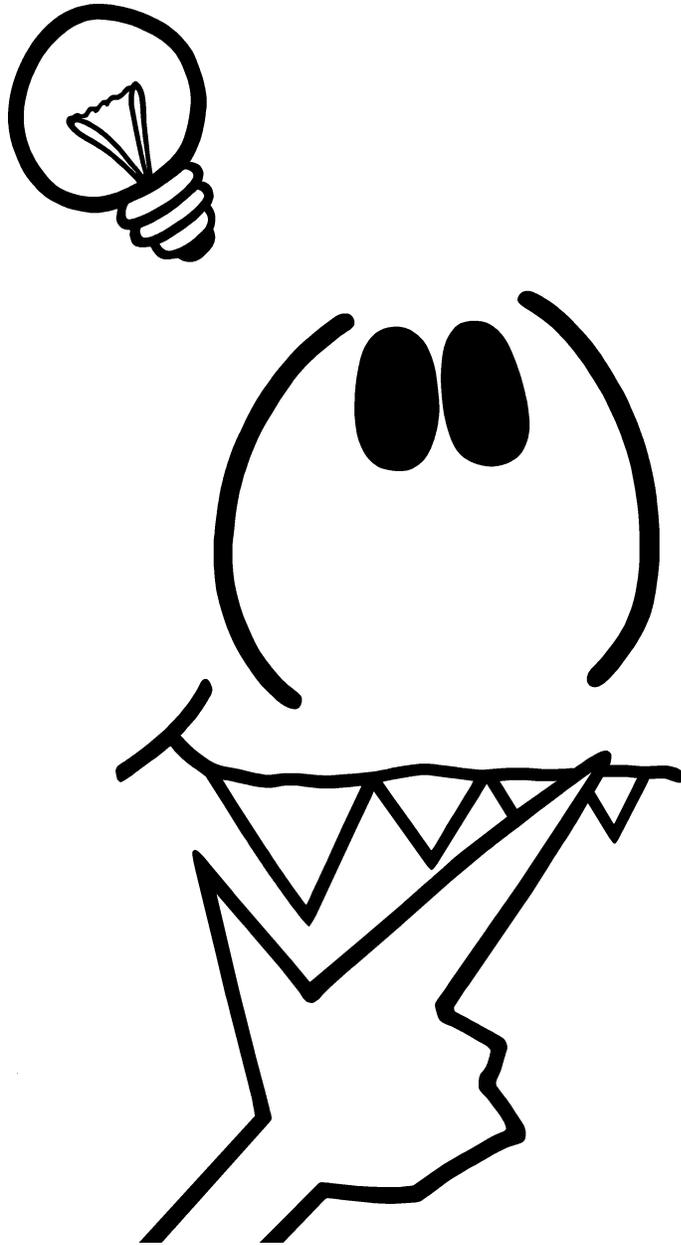




He often tries to frighten his family, which isn't easy because all of them are monsters, too.

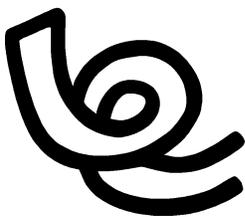
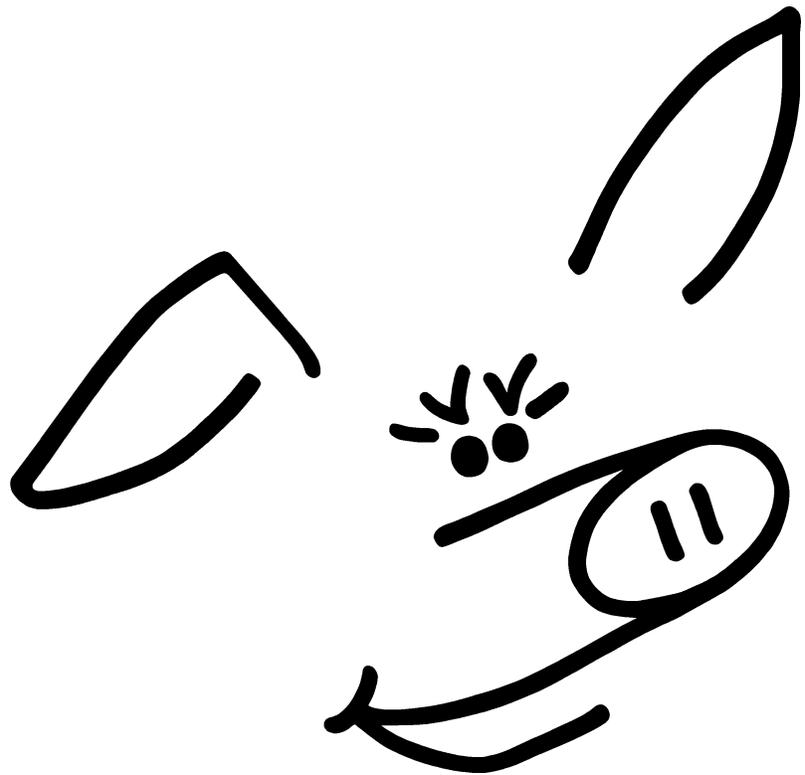
Try as he might, ScribbleMonster's plans
to scare his dad never worked.

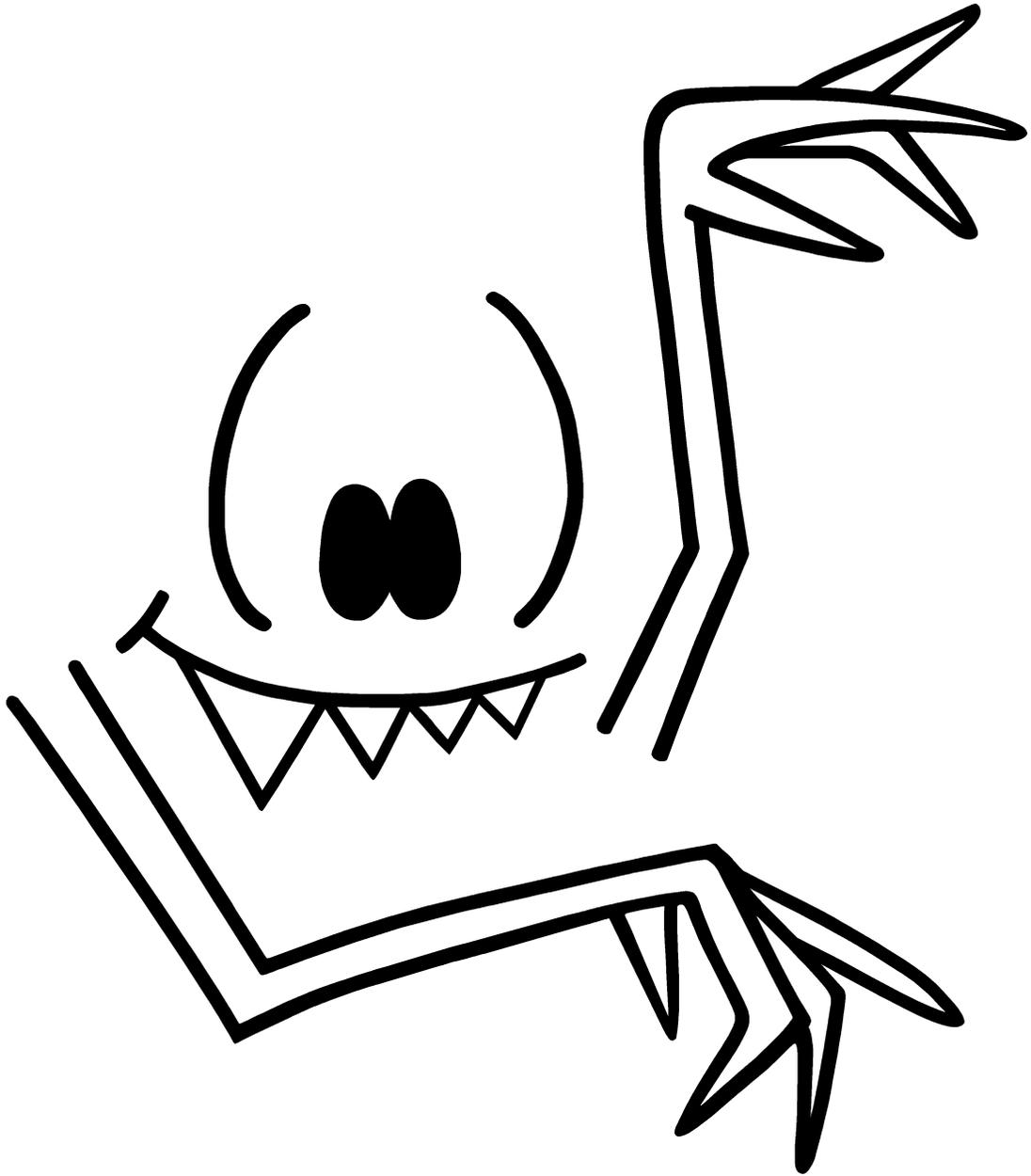




But one day, ScribbleMonster thought of a sure-fire way to scare him.

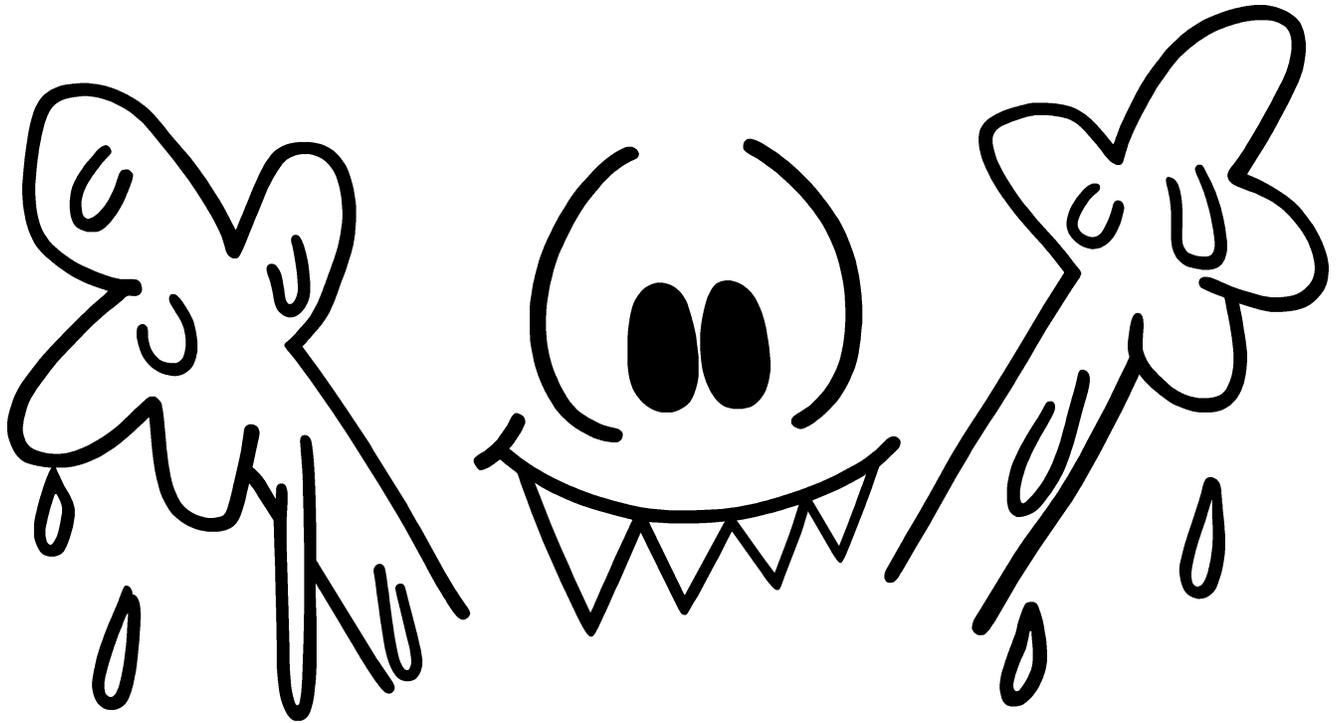
ScribbleMonster went to visit his friend, ScribblePiggy, who lived on a farm. Her pen was always full of mud. It was the perfect place for carrying out ScribbleMonster's plan.





ScribbleMonster and ScribblePiggy paraded into the puddly pen.

They plopped right down in the mud puddles and rolled around and around until they were covered from head to toe.





They pretended they were mud-statues.

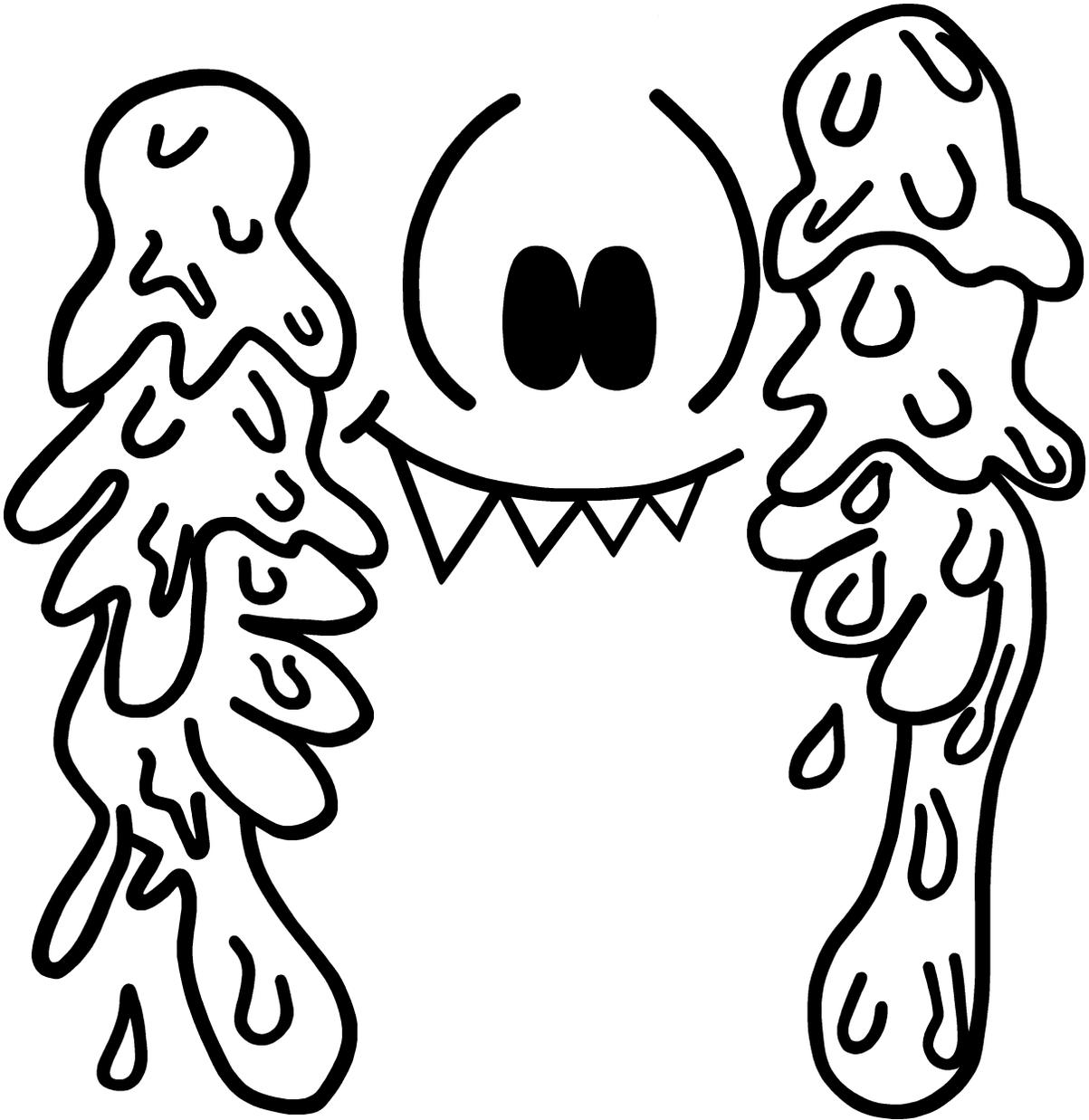
They had mud-ball fights.





They made mud-muscles,

mud-cream cones,

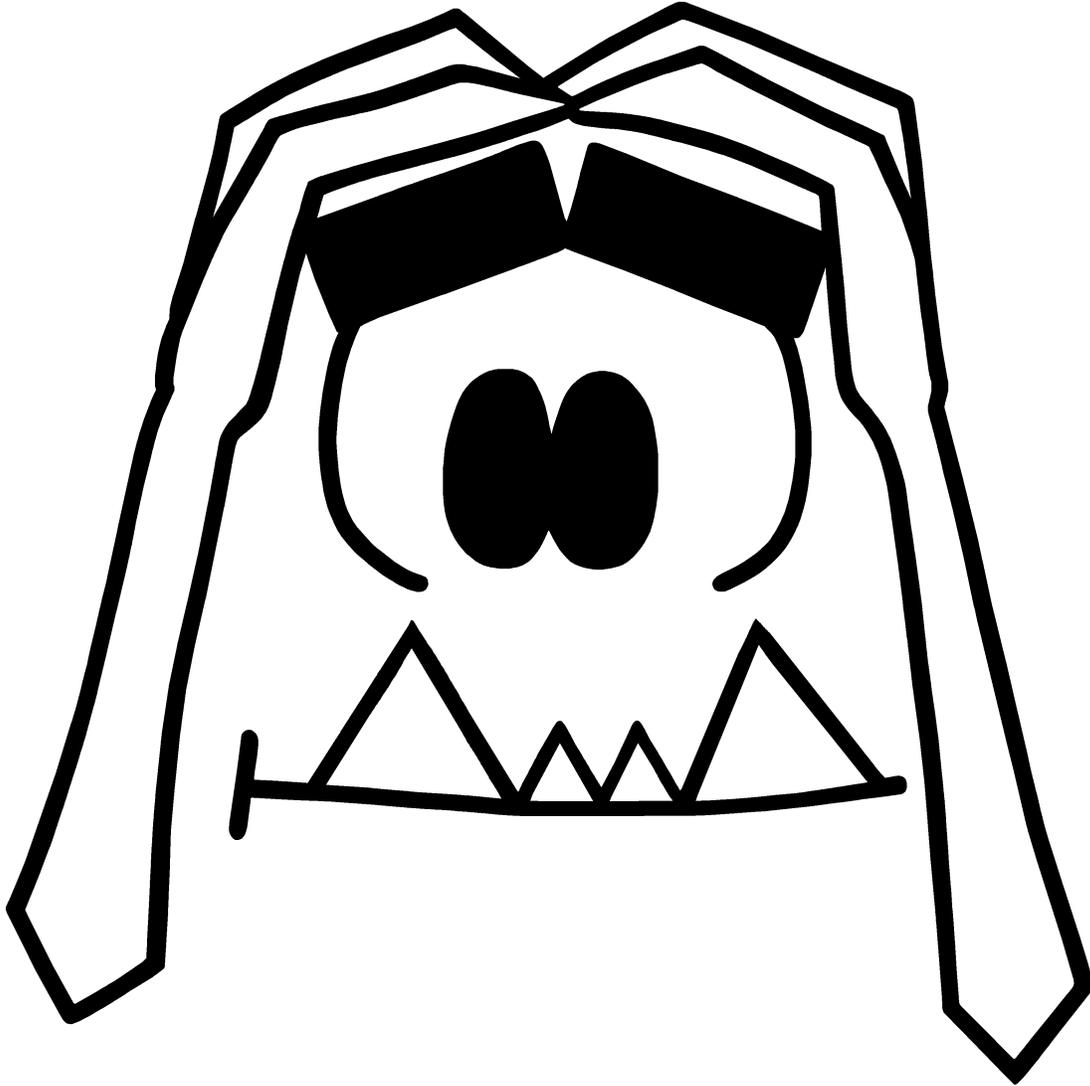




and mud-hats.

At the end of the day, ScribbleMonster headed for home,
dripping with mud.





Mr. ScribbleMonster stared at the muddy blob knocking at the door. "For a minute I was **afraid** it wasn't you under all that mud! I'm **afraid** you might never come clean!"

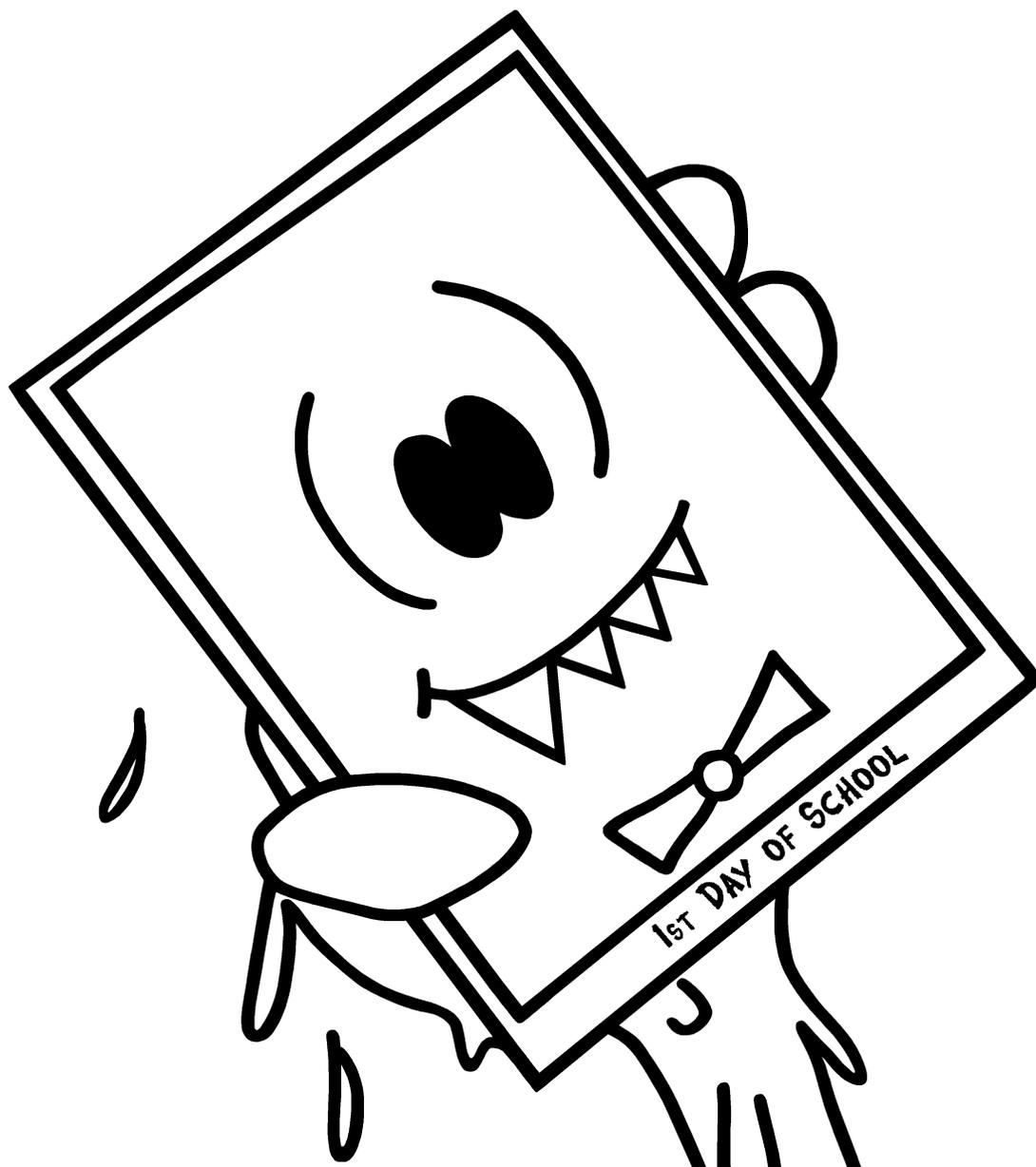
"Hey, is that the mud in my ears or did Dad just say he was afraid?" ScribbleMonster snickered to himself. He was thrilled that one of his plans finally worked!

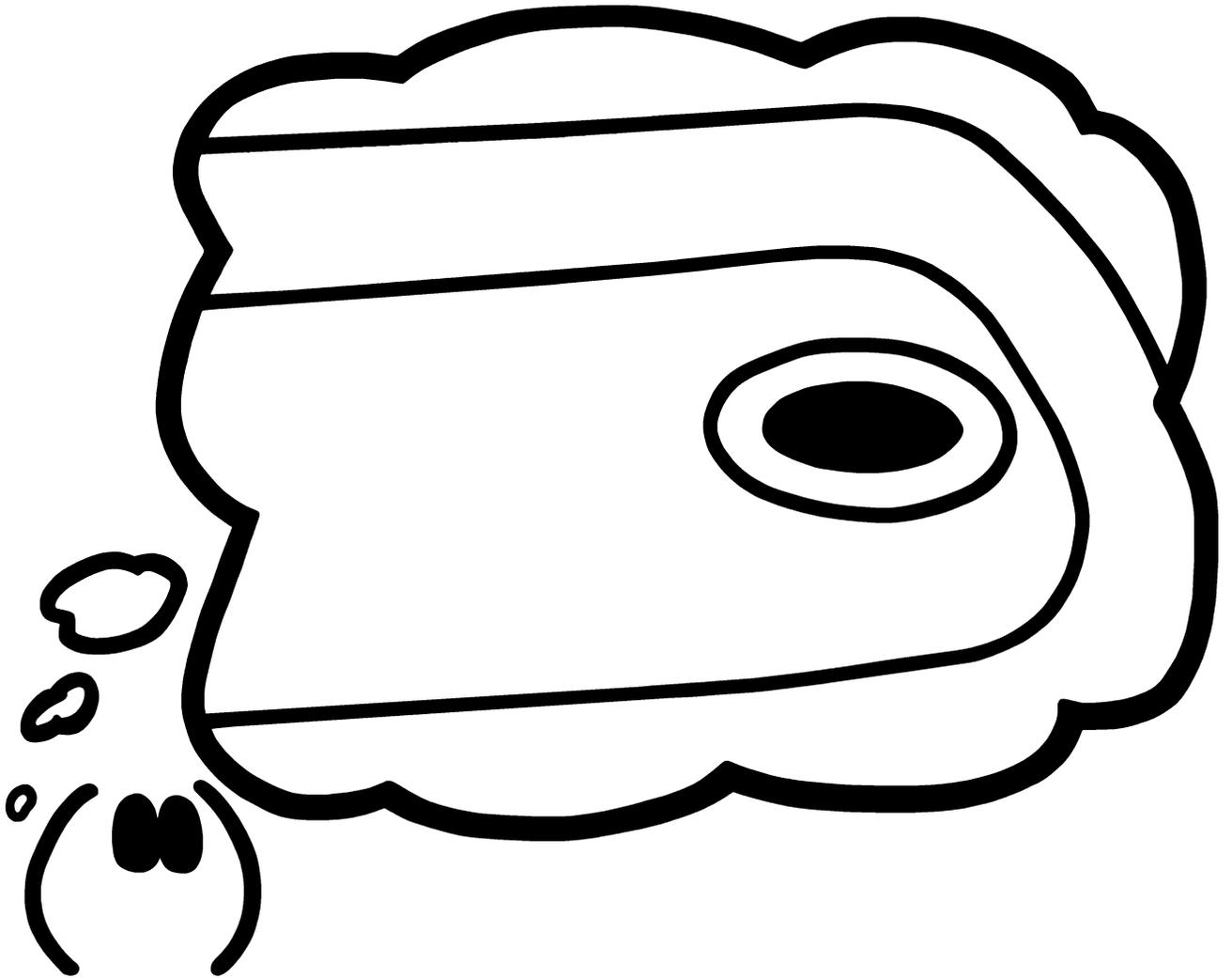




"We've got to get you into the tub and scrub you right down to your bones!" boomed Mr. SchibbleMonster. "Then you'll be clean and your colors nice and bright again."

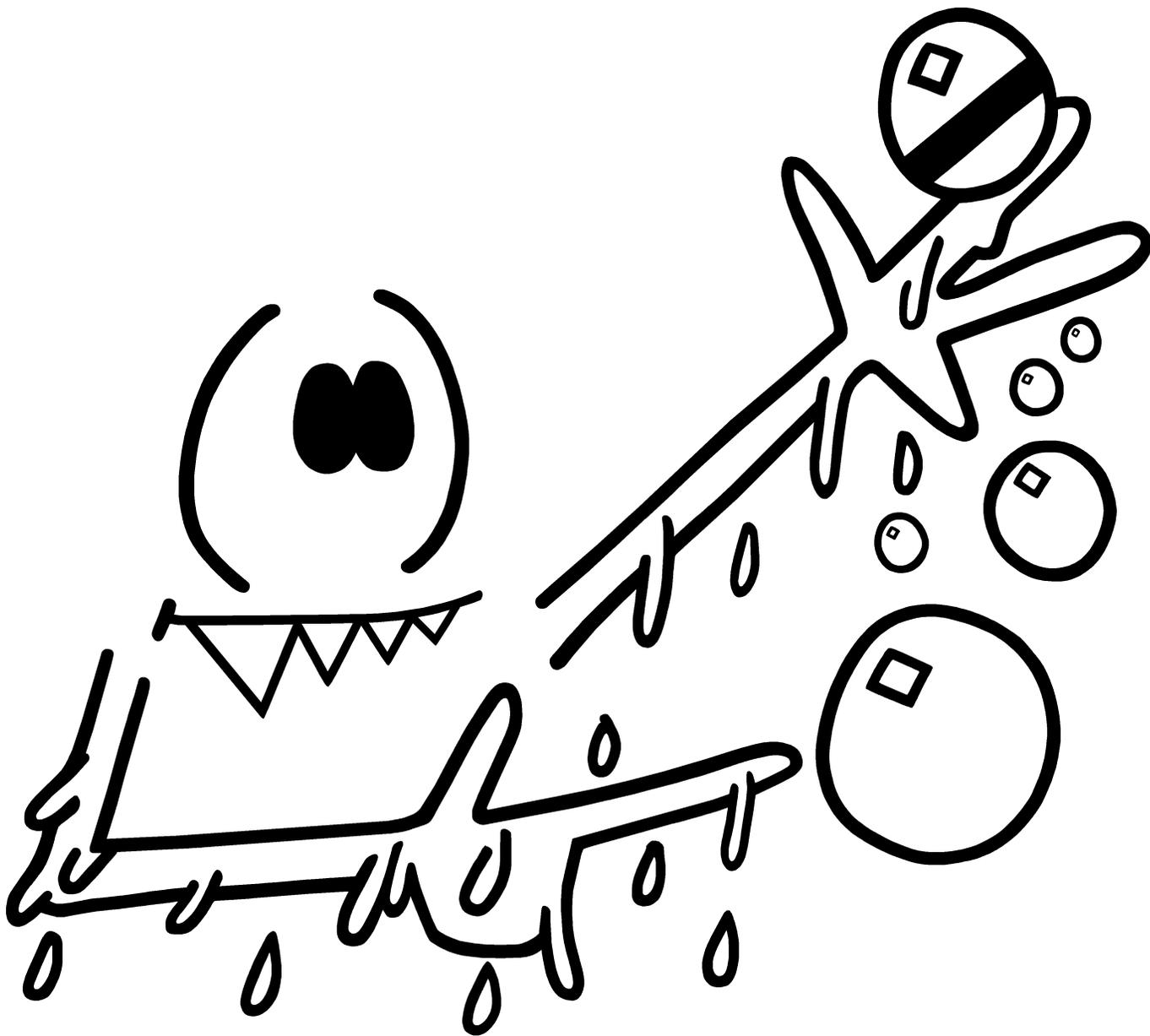
While the bathtub filled, ScribbleMonster fondly recalled all of the colors hidden beneath the mud. He loved his colors because they made him special and different from the other monsters.

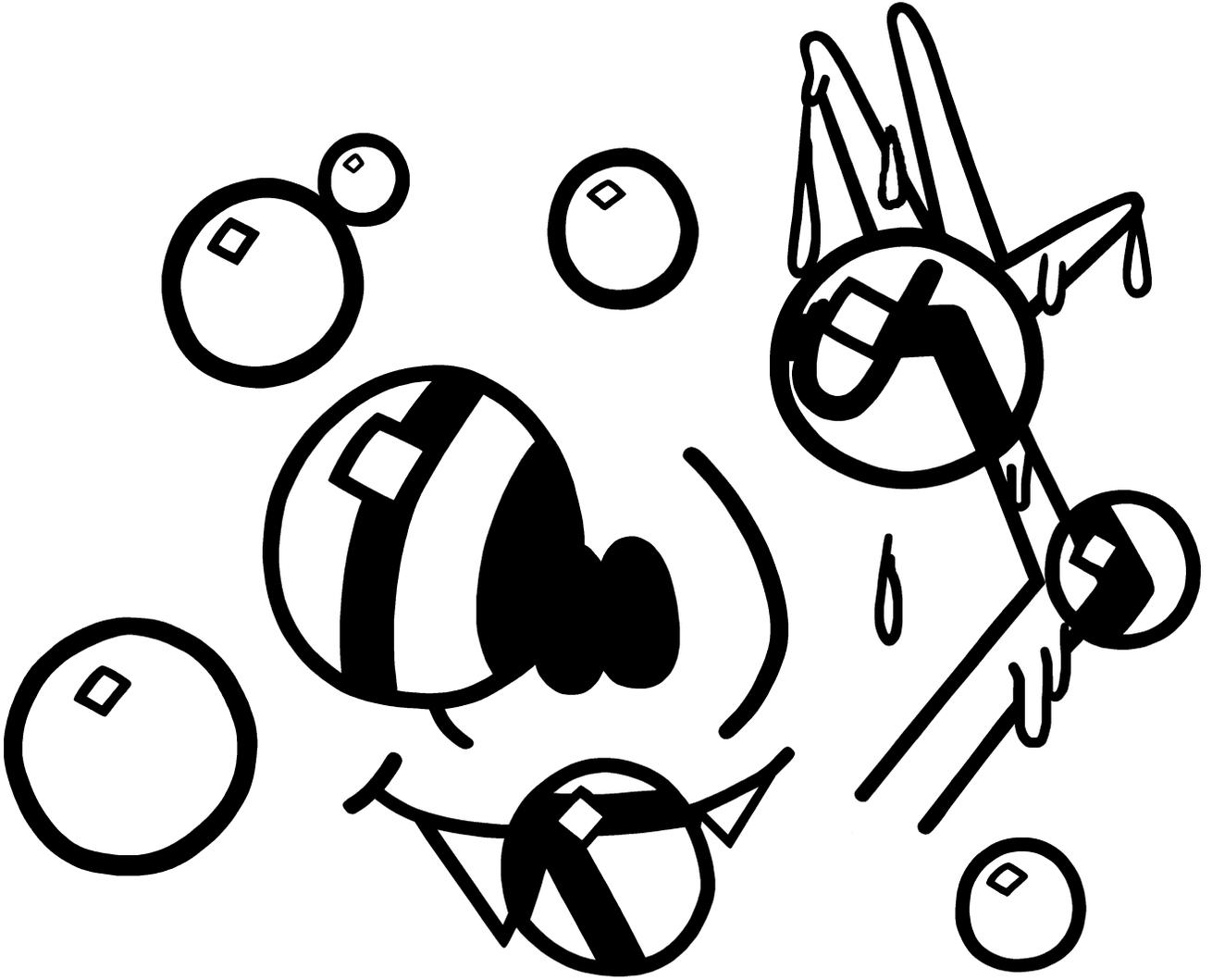




Then ScribbleMonster had a scary thought - scary even for a monster. What if he washed his colors right off and they went swirling down the drain?

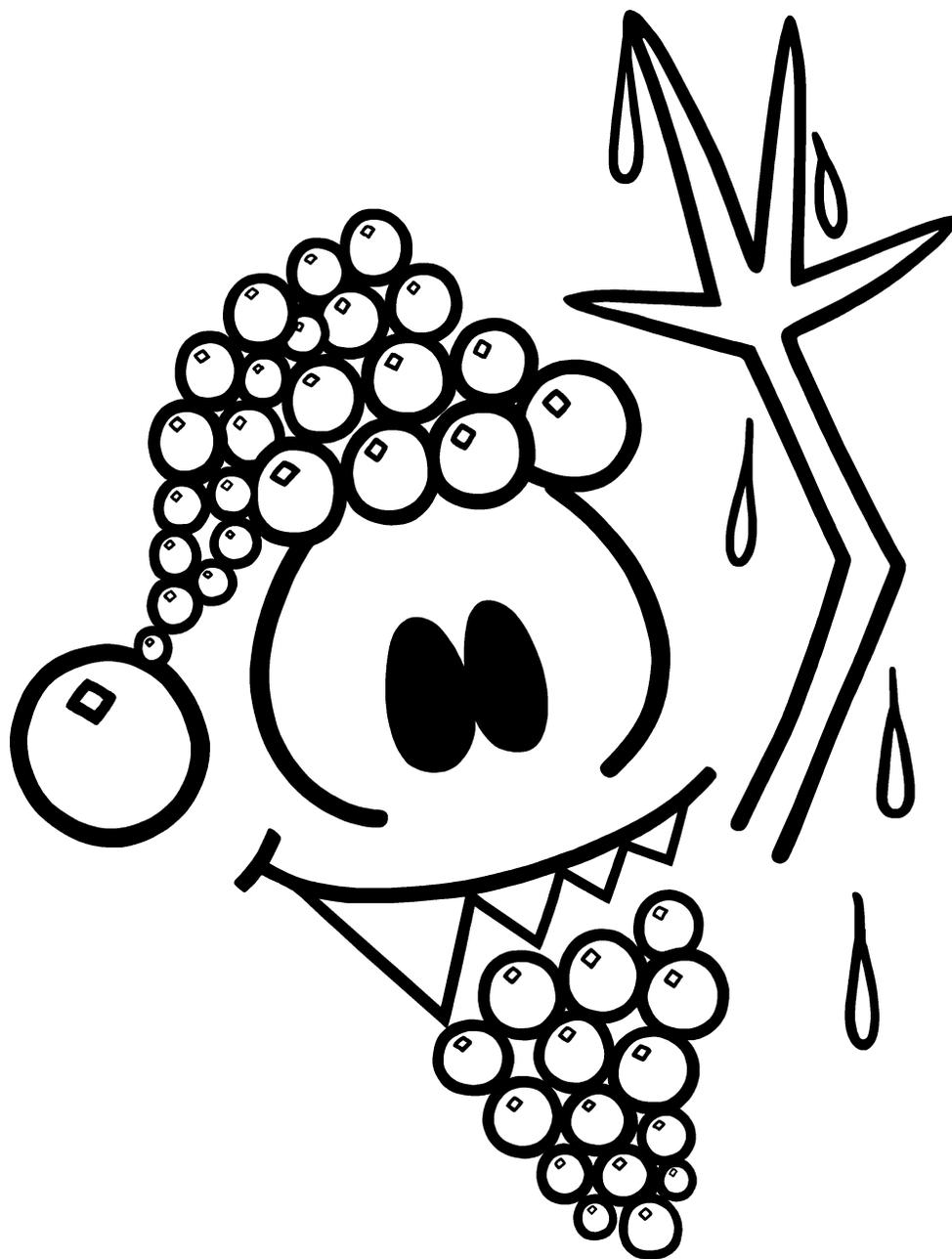
Timidly, ScribbleMonster tip-toed into the tub.





But surrounded by bubbles, his thoughts turned to fun.

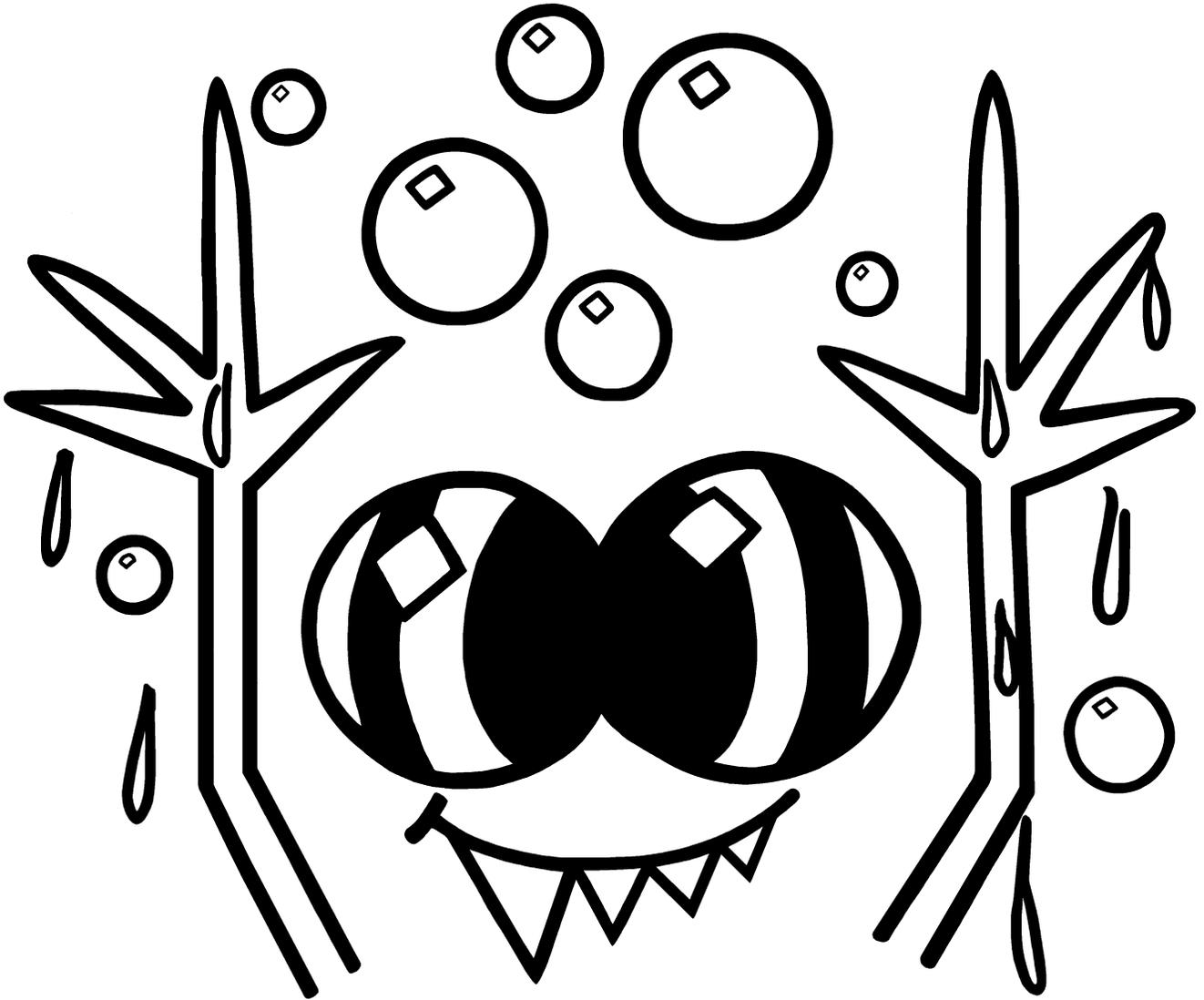
He pretended he was ScribbleSanta with a long white beard.

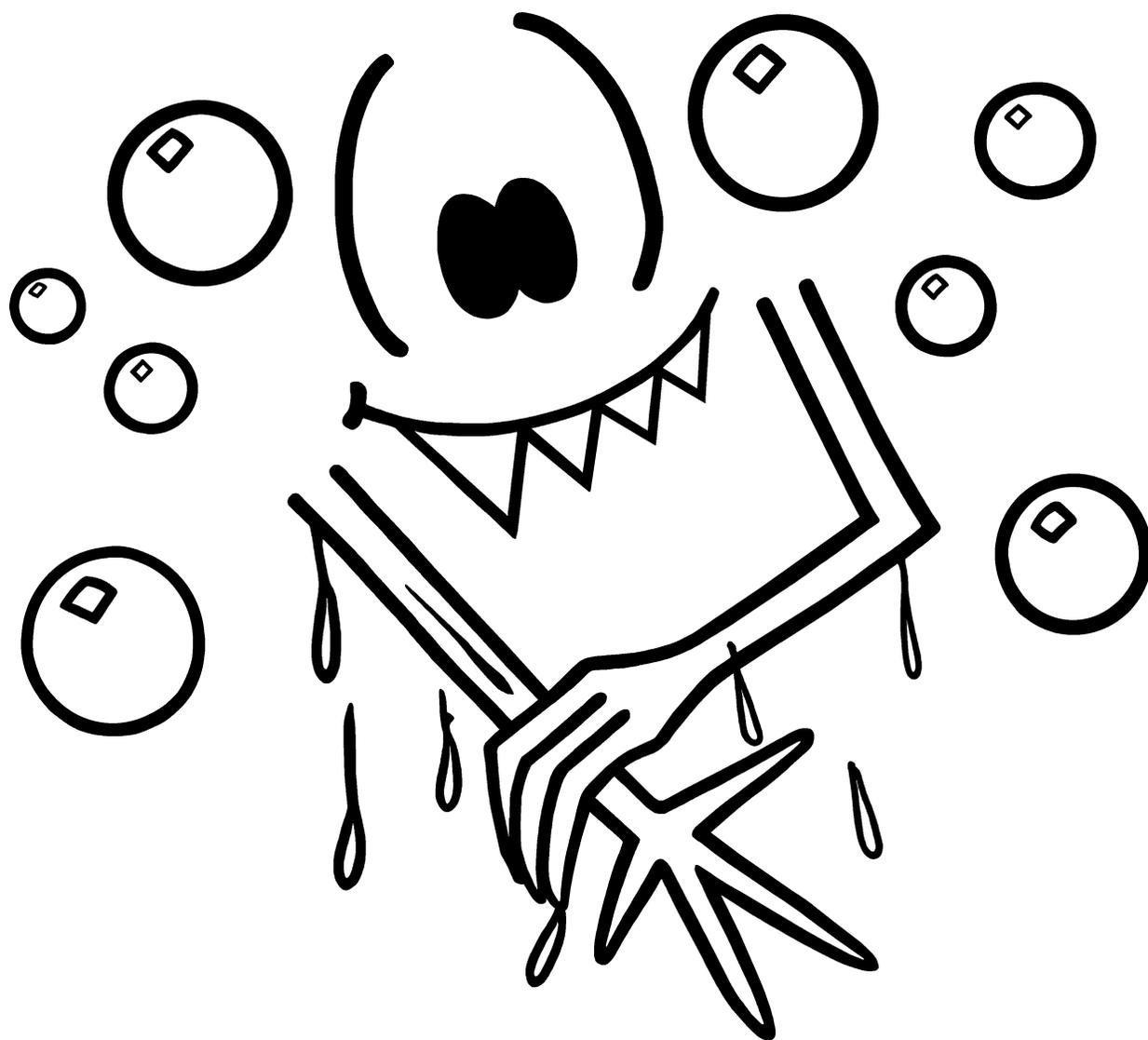




He swam.

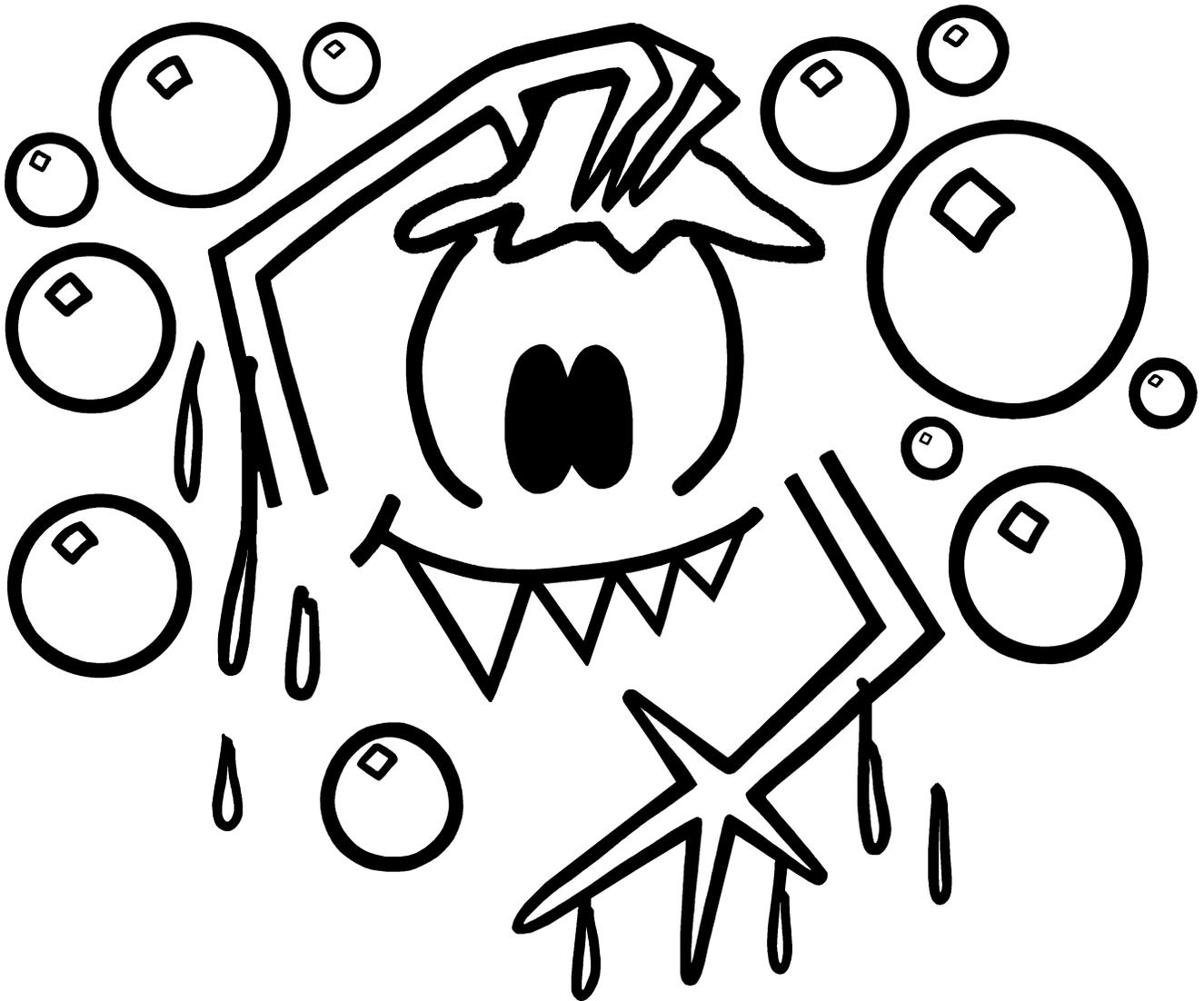
He even played scuba diver.

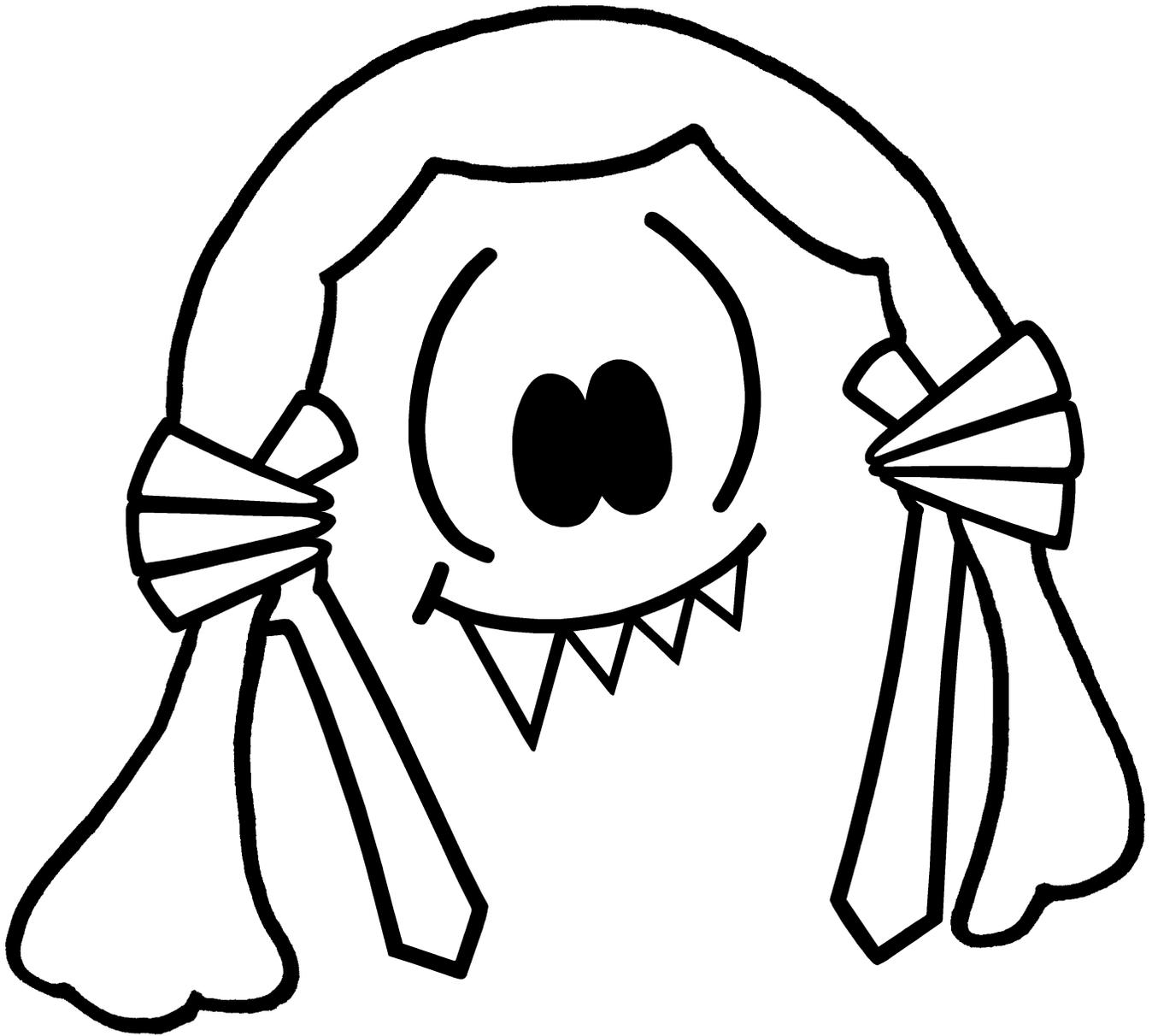




Soon ScribbleMonster noticed the dirt was coming off. He could see his colors underneath. They were still there!

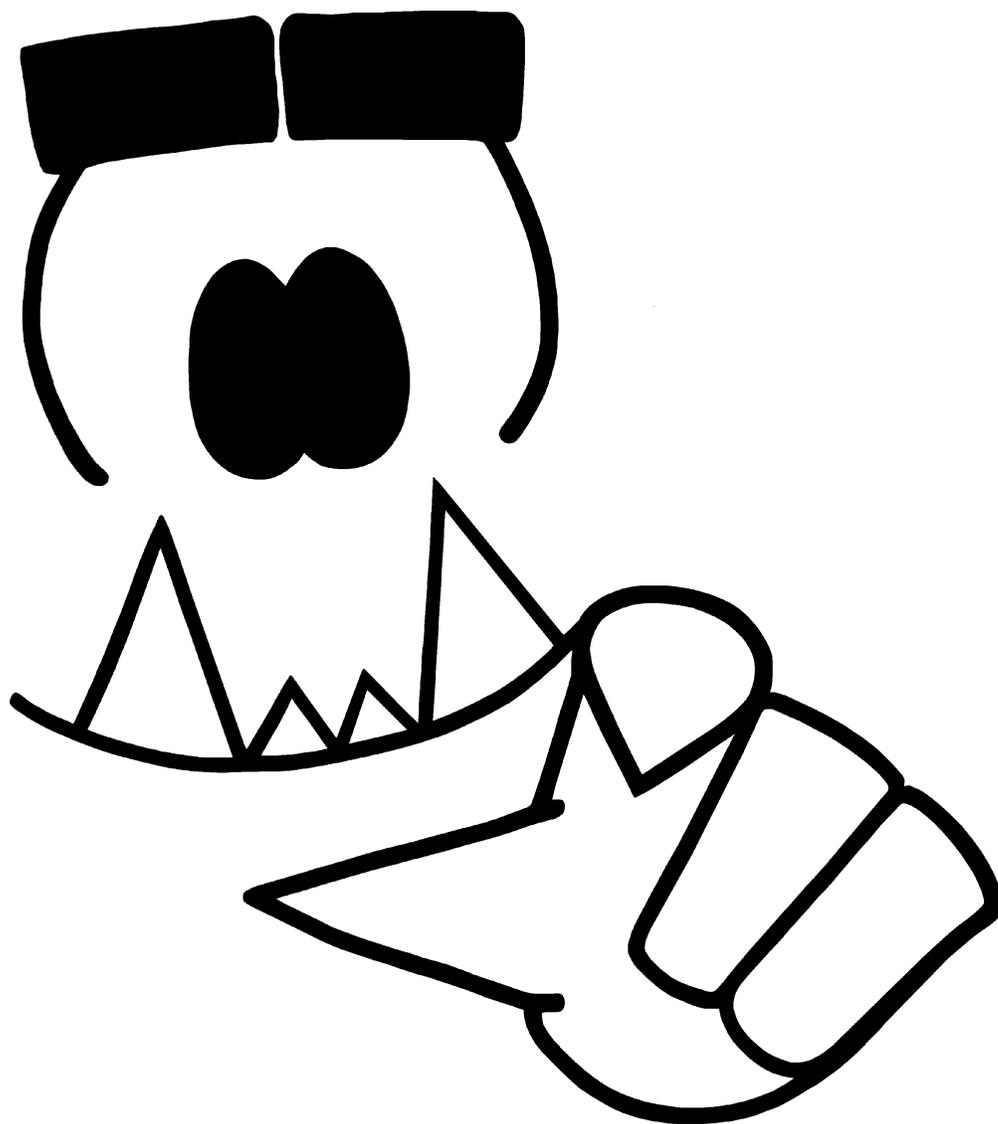
Eagerly, he began to scrub. He kept scrub, scrub, scrubbing until all the dirt was gone.

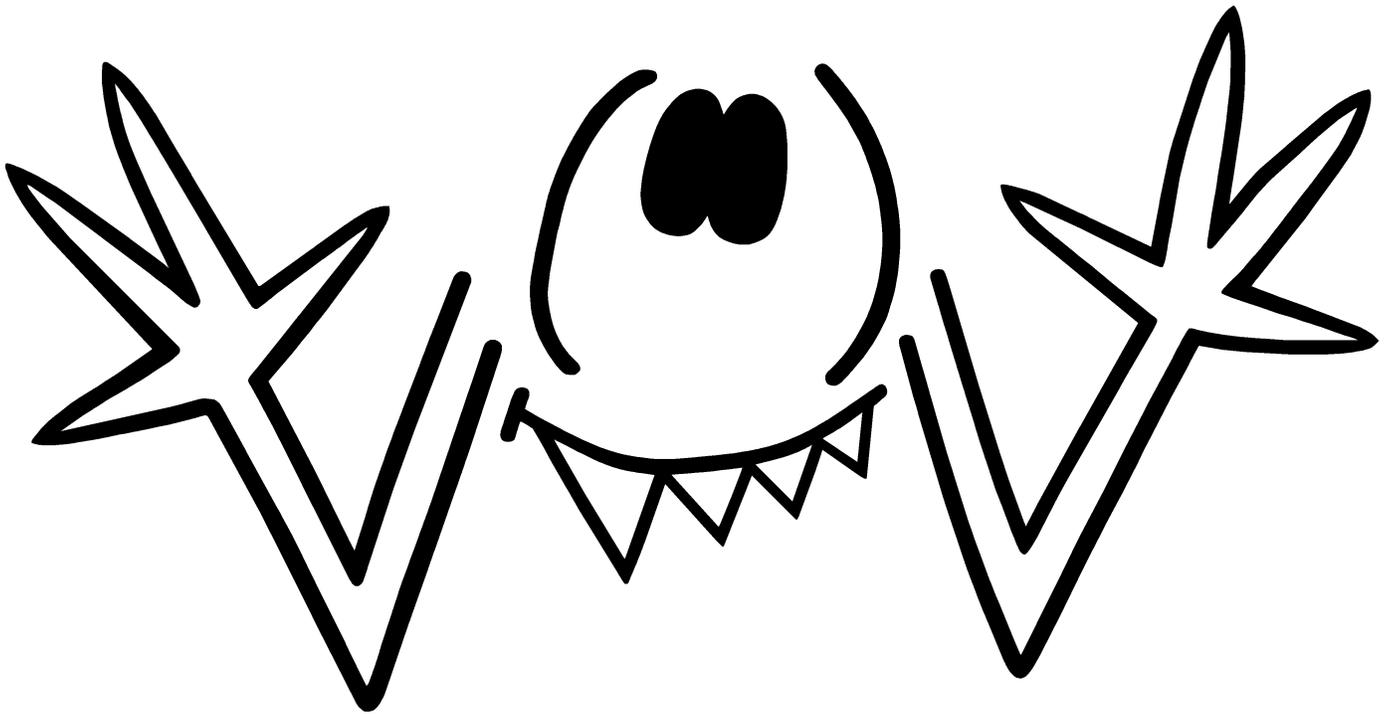




When SchibbleMonster finally stepped out of the bath and dried off, he was squeaky clean and as colorful as ever!

"Now there's my bright colorful boy!" Mr. ScribbleMonster said proudly. "Don't ever **scare** me like that again!"





But being a monster, ScribbleMonster knew
he would have to try.

Questions to Generate Discussion with Your Child

No one knows your child like you do. Please choose the questions you feel are age-appropriate for him or her and, of course, feel free to come up with your own.

1. ScribbleMonster's favorite color is rainbow! What is your favorite color? What other colors do you like?
2. Do you like to get dirty? What things do you do that make you dirty?
3. Do you like to get clean? What kinds of things help you get clean? What do you like to play in the tub?
4. What things can you name that are bright colors? Dark colors? Light colors?
5. What color makes you happy? Sad? Sleepy? Scared? Hungry?
6. Can you think of anything that has no color?
7. Everybody has different coloring. What color is your hair? Your eyes? Your skin? Your tongue? Your nails?
8. Is your hair color the same as the people in your family? Your eye color? Your skin color? Tongue? Nails? If they're the same, are they *exactly* the same, or do you have your own special coloring?

An Activity to Try: Bubbles in a Bottle!

Ask a grown-up to remove the label from an empty plastic soda bottle or water bottle (a clear one works best). Pour about an inch of water into the bottle. Add 2 squirts of dish soap, cap it up tightly and SHAKE until it's full of bubbles! *Parents: Supervise your child the entire time he or she is playing with the bottle in order to avoid spills and/or ingestion (read the label on your dish soap). We strongly recommend securing the cap with hot glue or duct tape.*

A Game to Play: How Many Animals Do You Know?

ScribblePiggy lives on a farm. Name another animal that lives on a farm. Can you move like that animal? What sound does that animal make? What do you think it smells like? If you touched it, how would it feel? Answer these questions about other animals you know.

A Note to Kids:

Visit ScribbleMonster on the Web at: www.scribblemonster.com

E-mail him at: mail@scribblemonster.com