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Picture Book Final Project: Whack the black sheep

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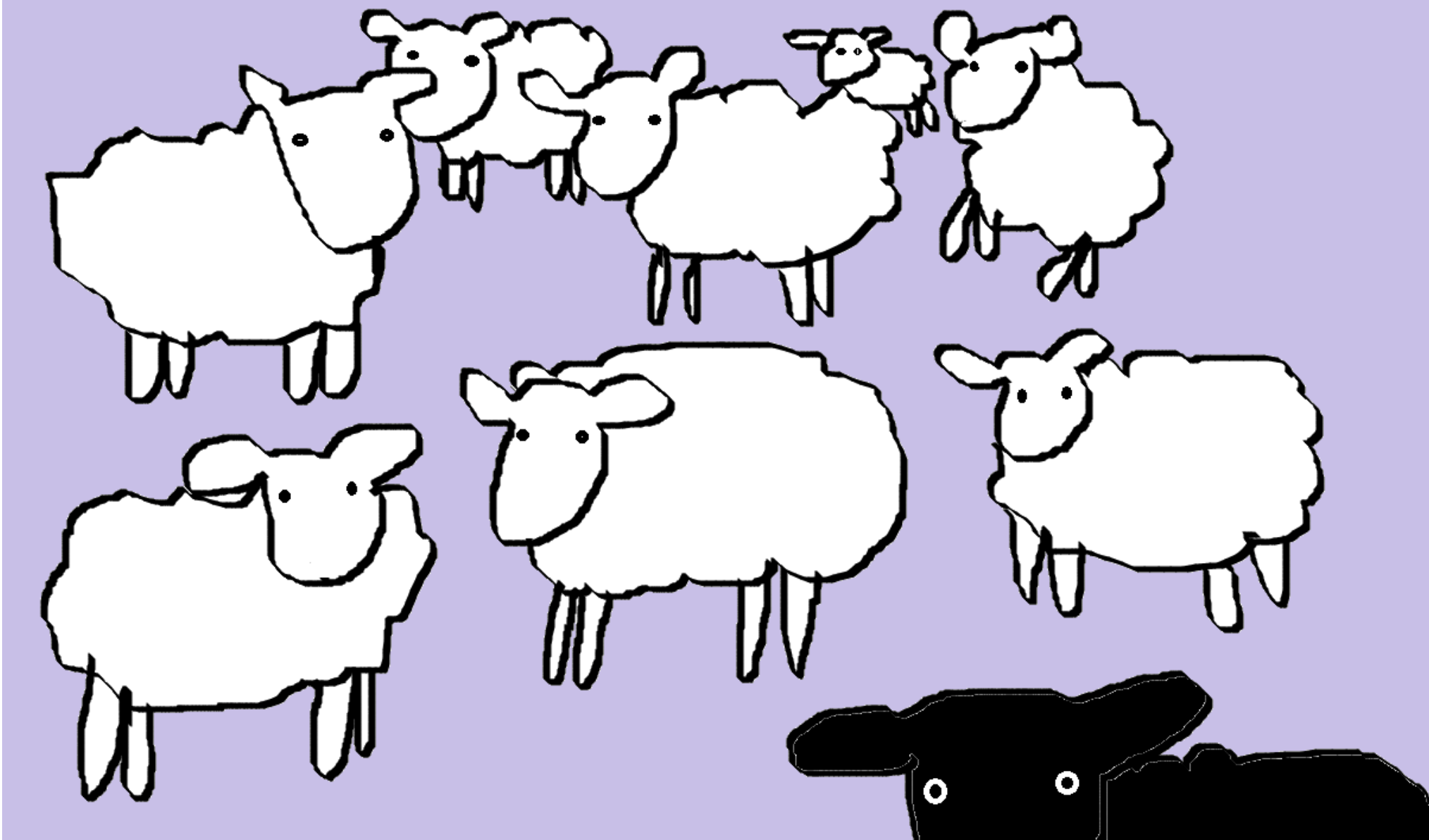
Whack the Black Sheep

Written and illustrated
by Jenny Zhuang



Whack was different from the other sheep.

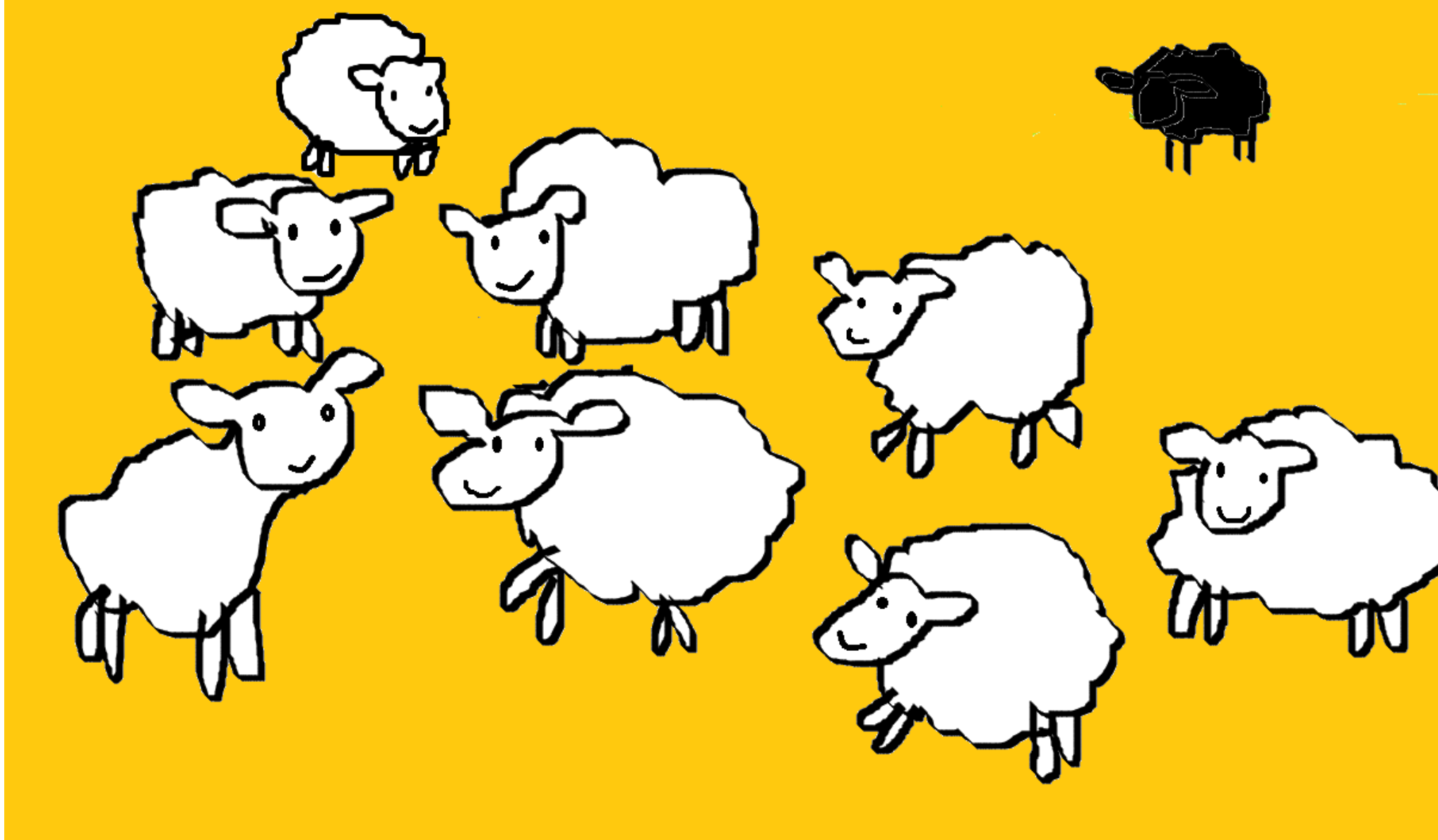
While the other sheep were born with white fleece, Whack wasn't.



Because of the blackness, Whack didn't fit in the flock.
Everyone thought Whack was ugly, so they stayed away from him.
Although Whack wanted to join the white sheep, they didn't welcome him.



So whenever the white sheep gathered to have supper, Whack was left out to eat alone.



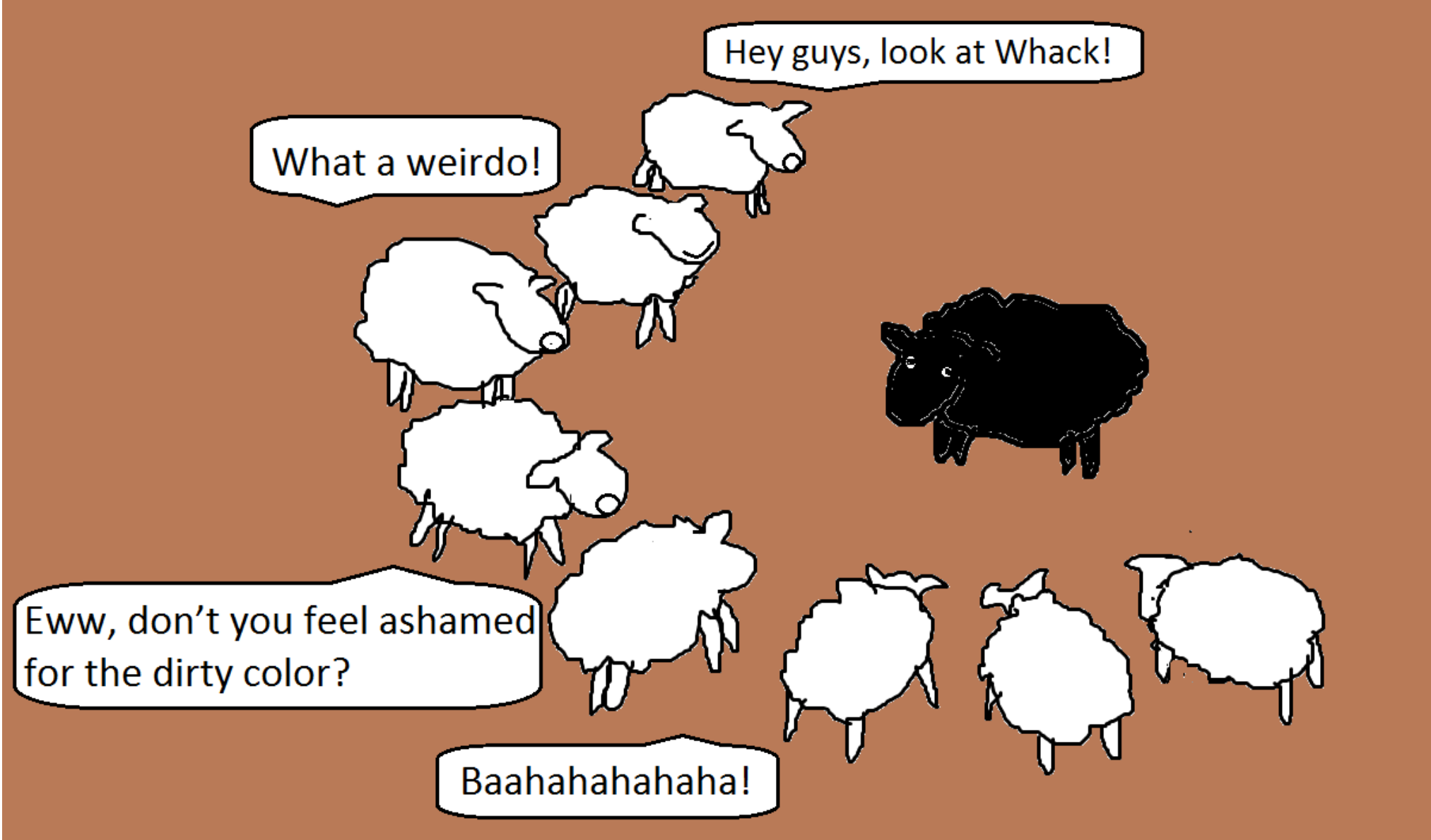
Whenever the white sheep chatted and laughed happily,
Whack could only look at them from far away.



And whenever the white sheep rested together to stay warm at night,
Whack was left alone to tremble from head to toe.



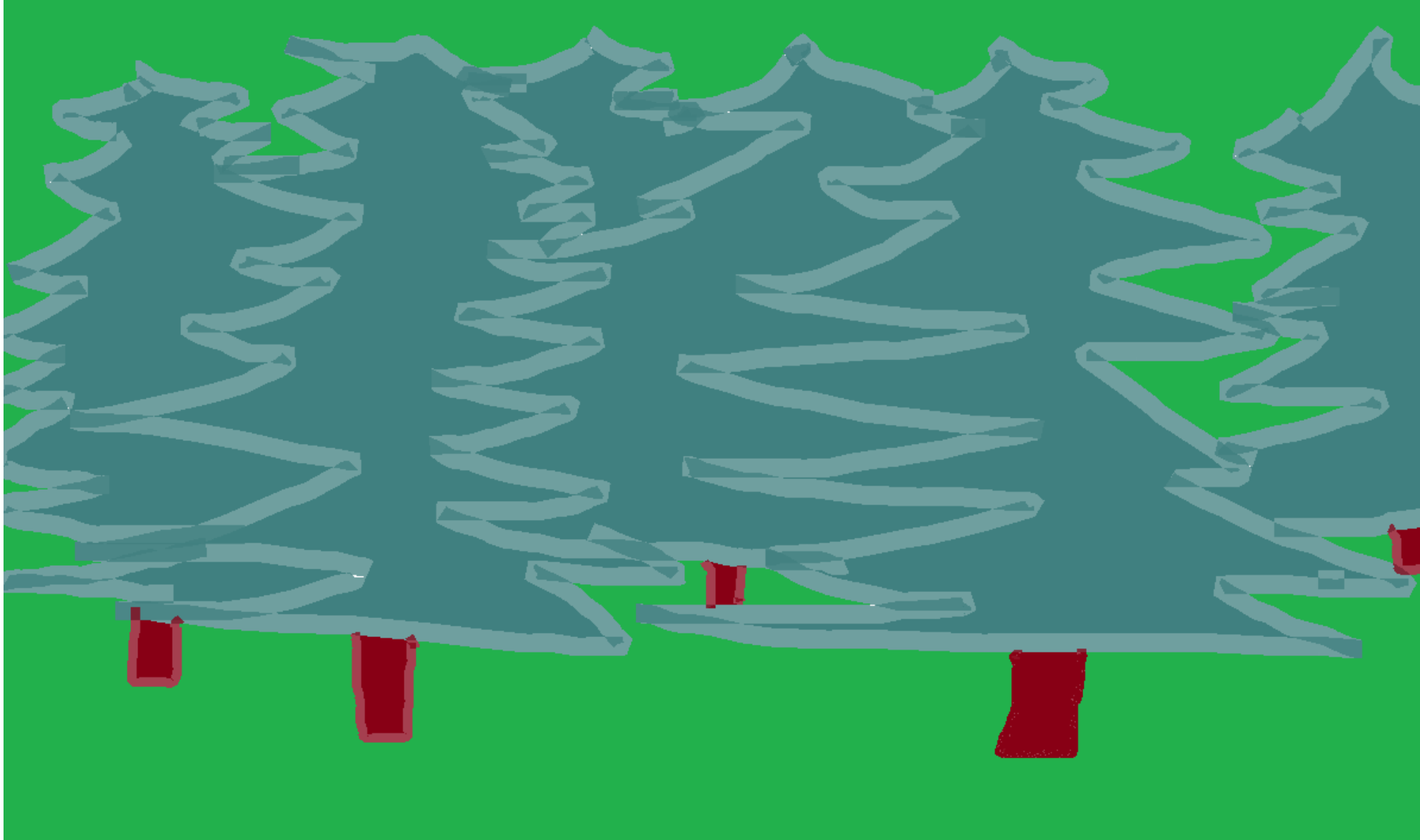
If Whack got too close to the white sheep, they would get angry and chase him away.



From time to time the white sheep would even make fun of Whack's blackness.



Being a black sheep in the family, Whack felt lonely and sad. He thought, "If only I could wipe away the dirtiness."



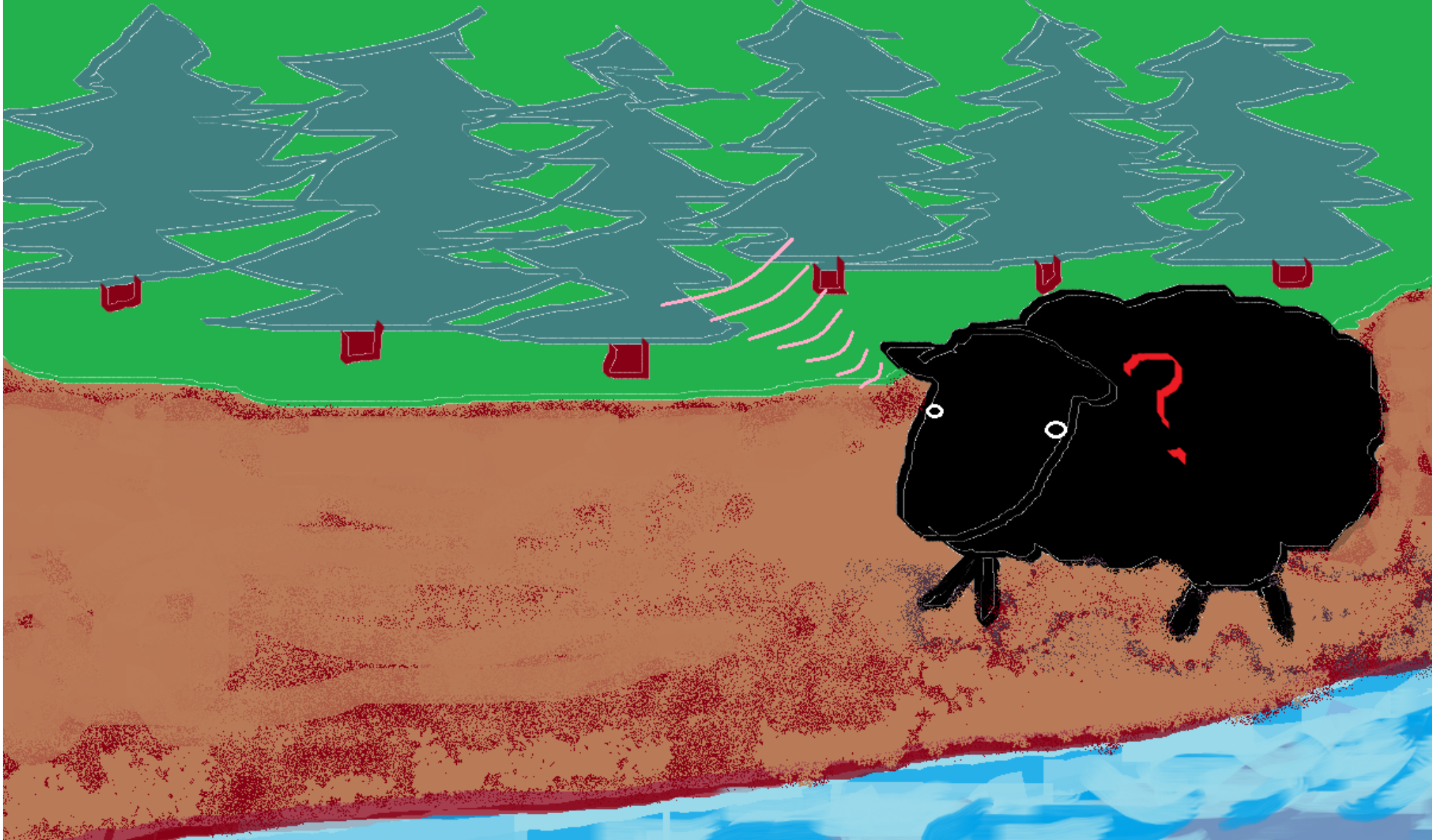
So one day, Whack sneaked out of the flock and headed to the wilderness.



Whack found a river.
And he jumped into the water.




Whack tried hard to wash away the blackness.
Yet, he was still as black as the coal.
Sadly, he decided to head back to the flock.



But on the way back, Whack heard something harsh coming from the forest. Out of curiosity, he moved closer to the sound.



Whack realized it was the sound of wolves, and he was so scared!
He held his breath and stayed still.



Chief, I find there are quite a few sheep over the river.

Are they white and fat?

Yeah!

They are white as snow
and fat as cows.

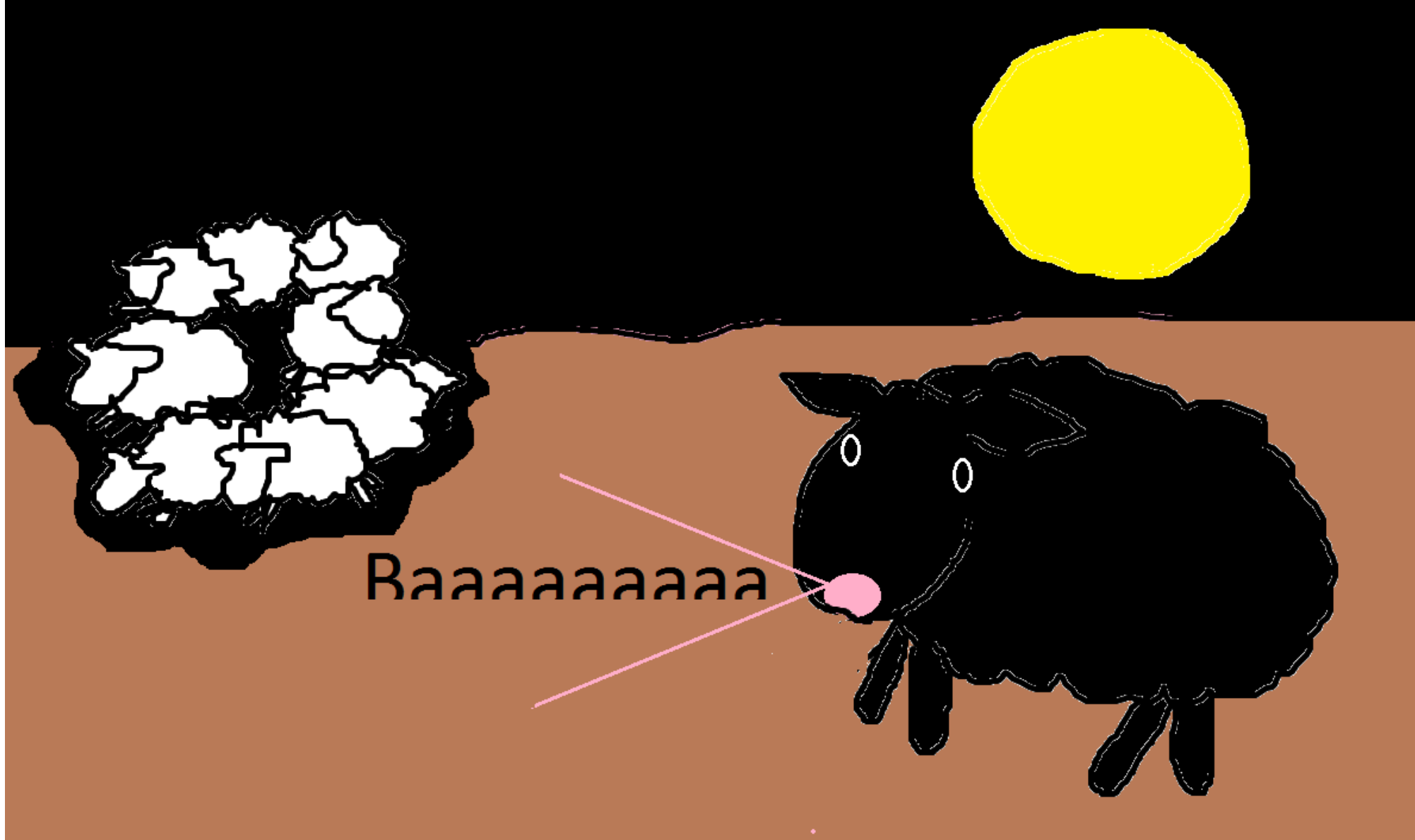
Bravo! I bet they will
make a hearty breakfast for
tomorrow morning.



Whack was shocked by the conversation.

“Baohoh, the wolves are going to attack us! I must warn my family as soon as I can.”

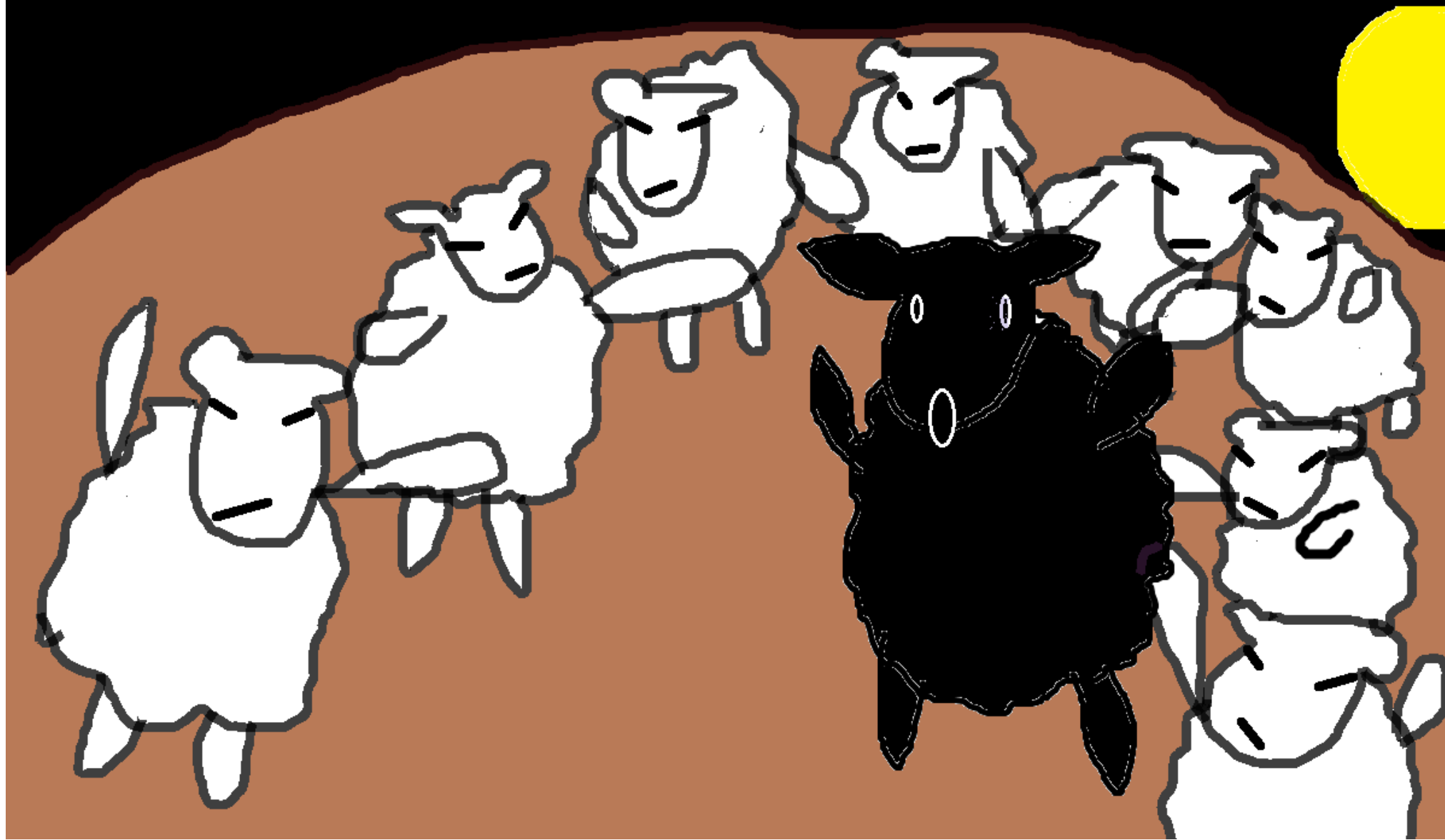
Whack thought and ran away quietly.



It was already midnight when Whack was finally back.

All the sheep were in the sound sleep.

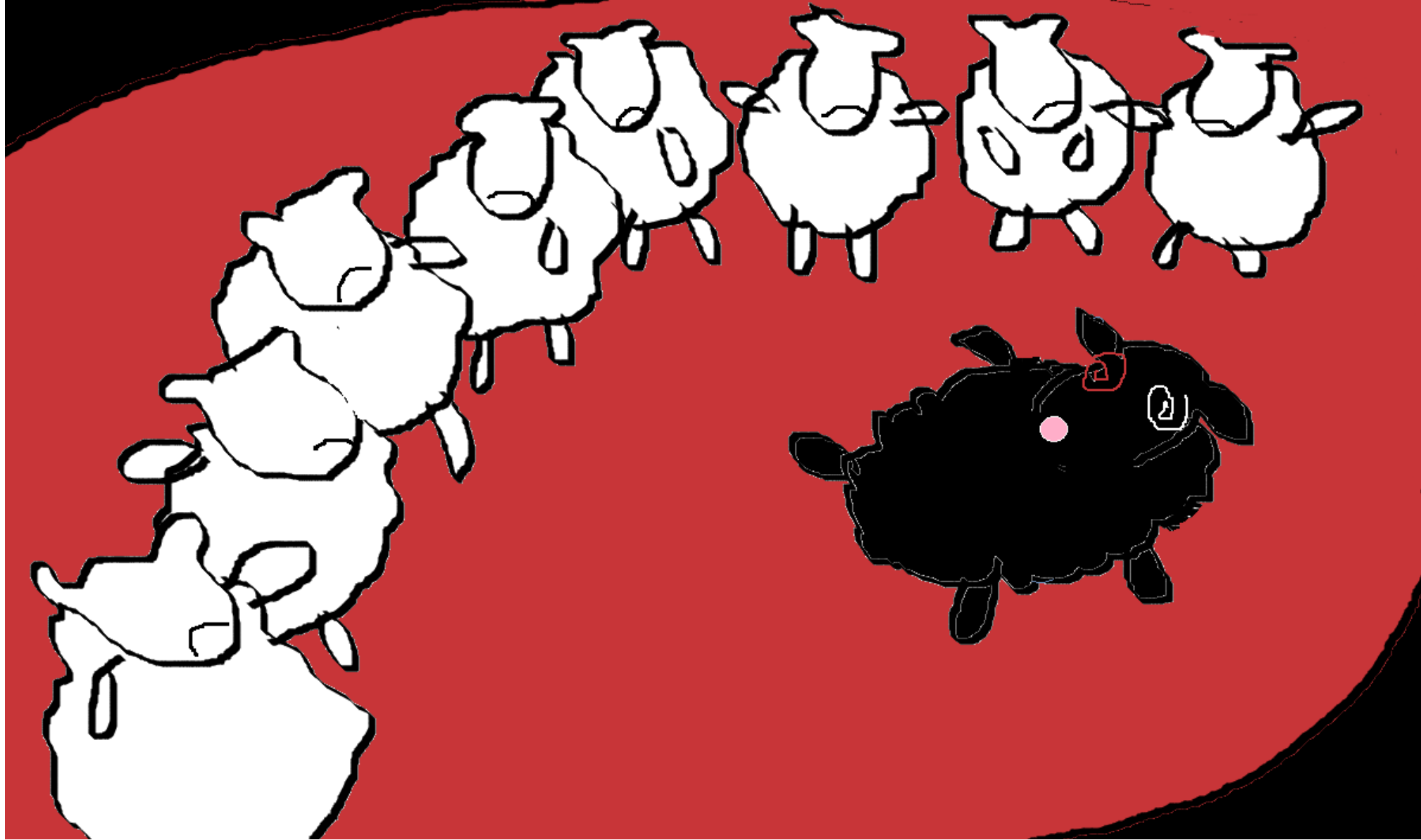
Whack was very tired, but he still made the loudest sound he could to wake up the sheep.



All the white sheep were woken up by Whack's awful noise.
They got really angry at Whack this time.



So they ran to Whack and whack him with their fists furiously.
Whack tried to stop them, but they didn't listen to him.



When they finally stopped hitting him, Whack was hurt badly.



Yet, while Whack felt painful, he still drew all the strength left in him, stood up, and spoke, "The wolves are going to attack us tomorrow morning! We must leave here right now!"



The white sheep couldn't believe what they'd heard.

"Are you sure, Whack?" The head of sheep asked.

"I swear by the Earth Mother I'm telling the truth!" Whack answered.



“But why, why do you tell us this after all that we’ve done to you?” The head of sheep asked.
“Baaa... No matter what has happened, I’m still a part of the family. I want you all to be safe.”
Whack replied.



After hearing Whack's words, all the white sheep looked at him with regrets. They apologized for what they'd done, "Sorry, Whack, we misunderstood you. We thought you were playing tricks on us." "That's alright." Whack forgave them.



“But you know what, now we really need to move away as far as we can. The wolves are coming!” Whack reminded the white sheep.



Yet, the white sheep hesitated and said, "We are afraid of the night. Wandering at night is dangerous for us. We are too bright!"
"Oh, that's true. So we must think of something..." Whack said.



I have it!

You can cover yourselves with mud. Then, you won't be easily spotted in the darkness!

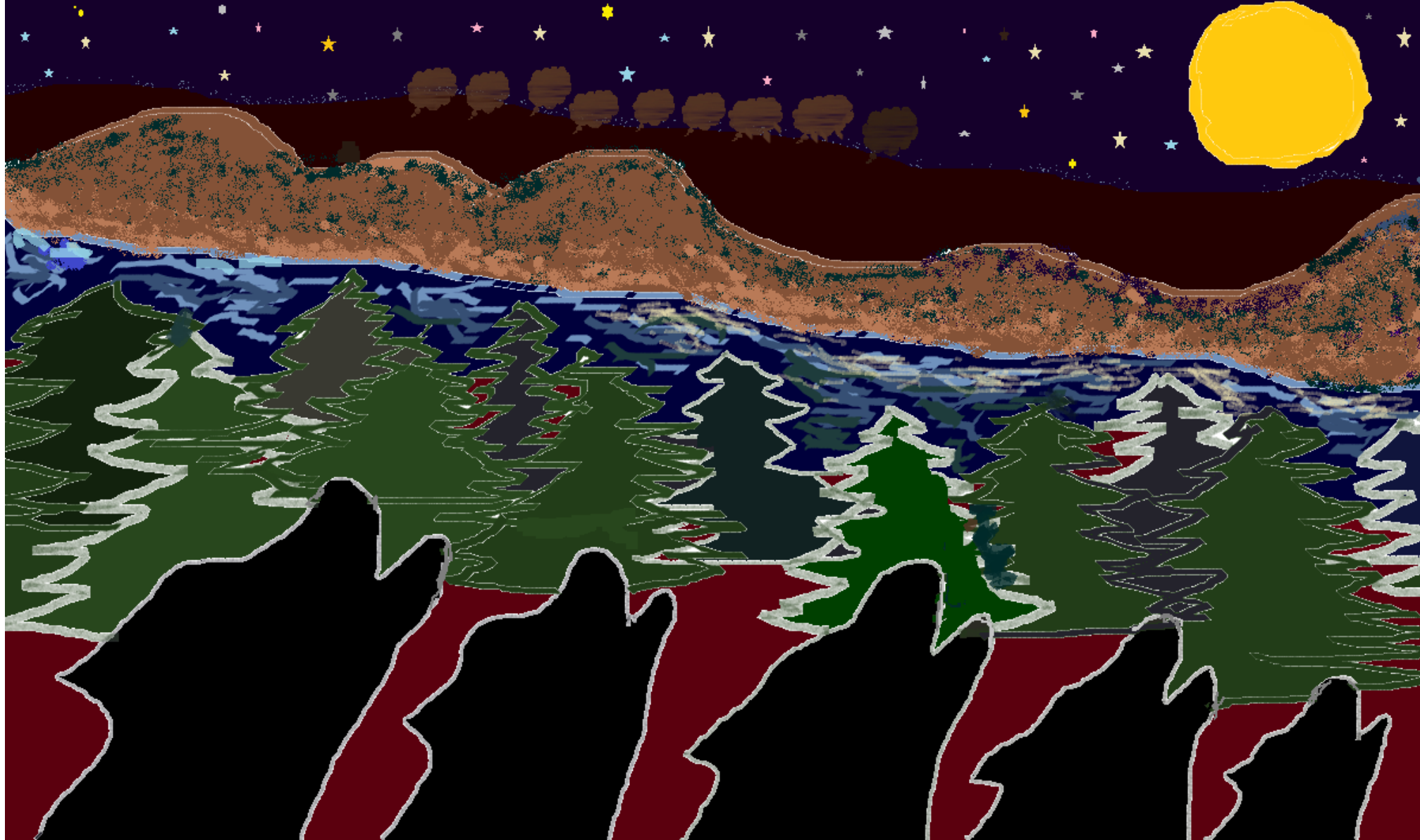
Whack thought and thought, and suddenly he came up with an idea: "I have it! You can cover yourselves with mud. Then, you won't be easily spotted in the darkness!"



So all the white sheep started to roll themselves in the ground until they are all covered with mud.



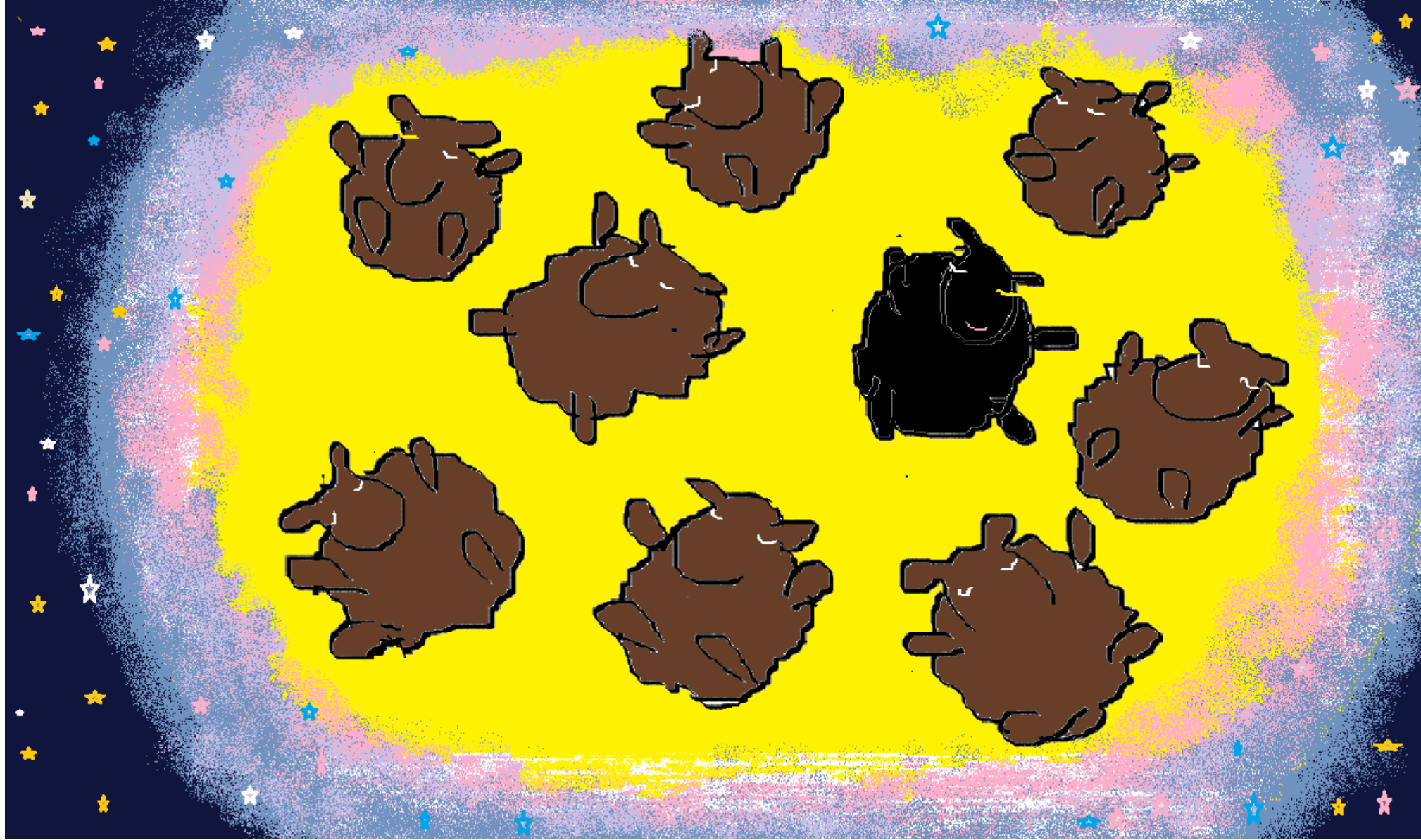
Now the sheep are all as dark as chocolates!
“Nice!” Whack said.



So in the late night, amid the howl of wolves, the sheep passed forests to rivers, rivers to hills, and nobody was aware that there was a herd of sheep walked, walked and walked.



The flock of sheep finally arrived at a land where there was a plenty of fresh grasses. They stopped and rested.



And that night, Whack fell into a warm sleep, dreaming a wonderful dream.

the
end



Inspiration

- White + Black => Whack
- *Swimmy*

Application

- Multi-meanings of a word
- Colors
- Themes:
 - Prejudice/discrimination
 - Bully
 - Love/forgiveness
 - Courage



whack

verb **UK**  /wæk/ **US**  /wæk/



> [T] **to hit someone or something noisily:**

He whacked the tree trunk with his stick.

She whacked him in the mouth.

whack *noun* (NOT RIGHT)

out of whack US INFORMAL

> **not operating correctly or looking right:**

You can use Carol's old bike - the gears are out of whack, but it still goes.