

the covid diaries
by claire preston

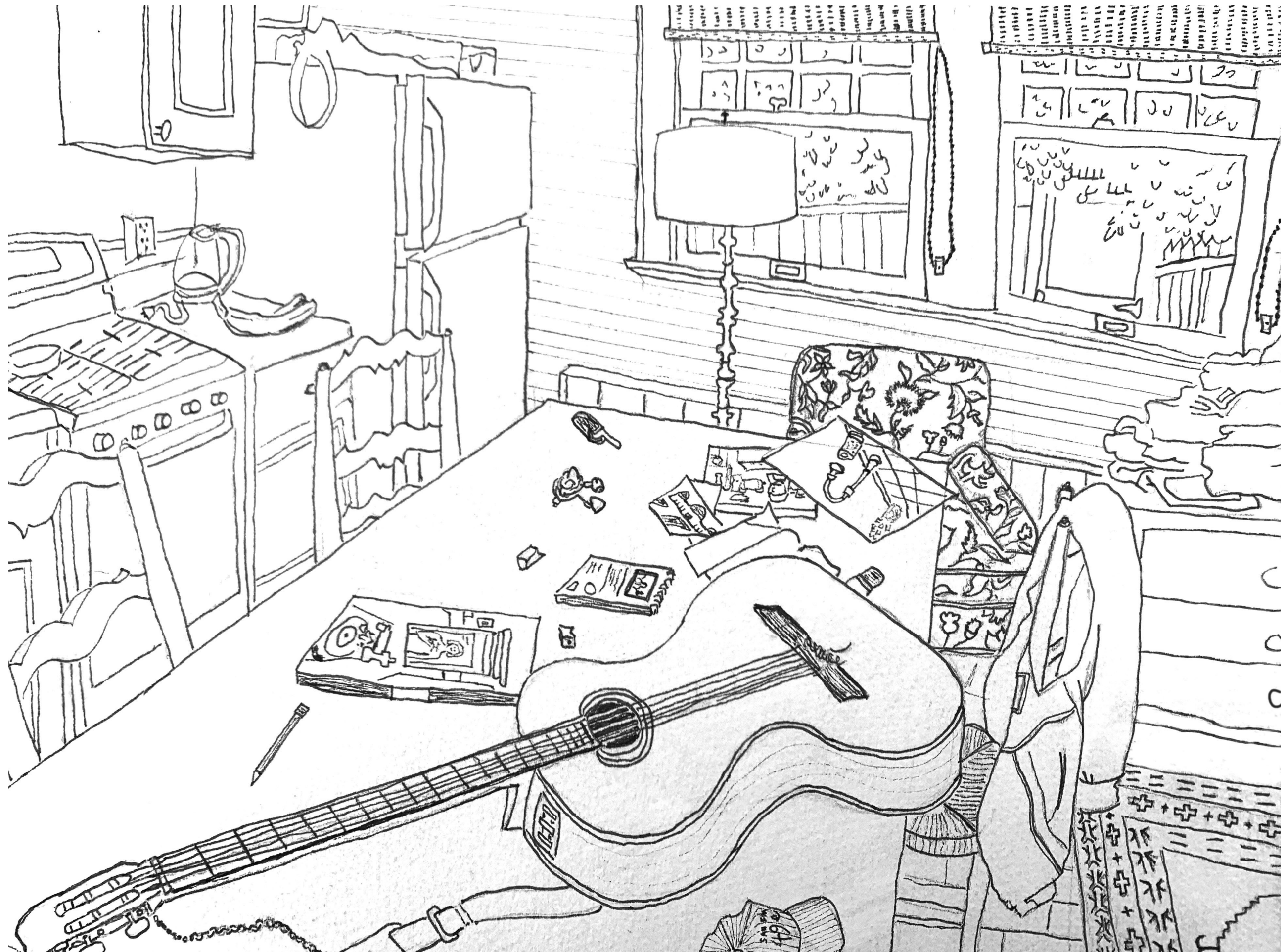
Entry 1. 'the bedroom.' (inspired by van gogh). March 22, 2020.



Entry 2. enjoying toast, but miss the toasty warmth of a coffee shop. March 24, 2020.



Entry 3. learned how to play 'it's complicated' by avril lavigne. And 'I can see clearly now' by Johnny Nash. March 26, 2020.



Entry 4. enjoying two plus hot showers a day. March 27, 2020.



Entry 5. soaking in vital sun rays while in queue to buy groceries - 6ft - *important to support elders/wisest & local business/* March 29, 2020.

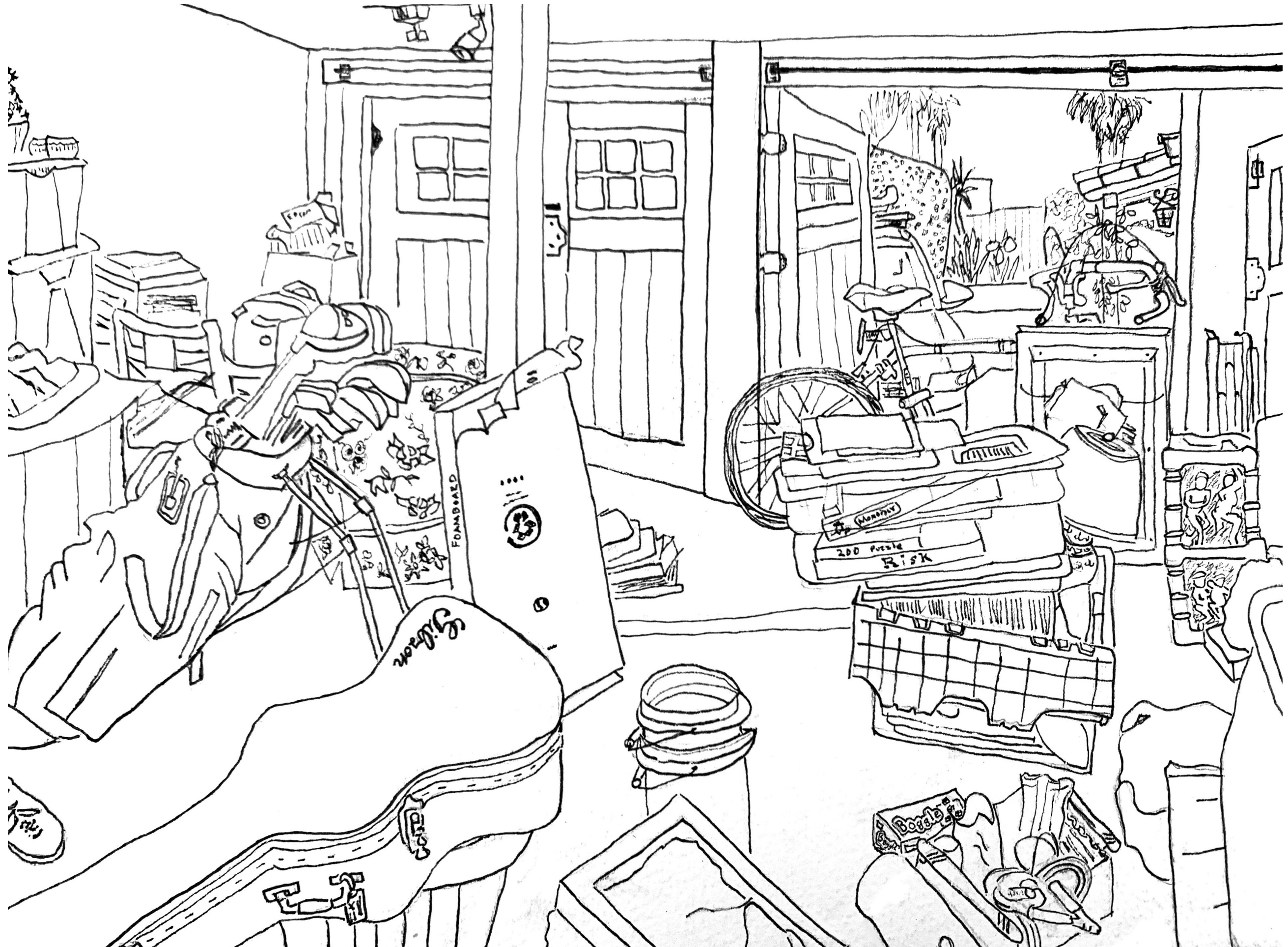


ps the masked dog is fictional. Though I would not be surprised to see this as people are weird with their pets.

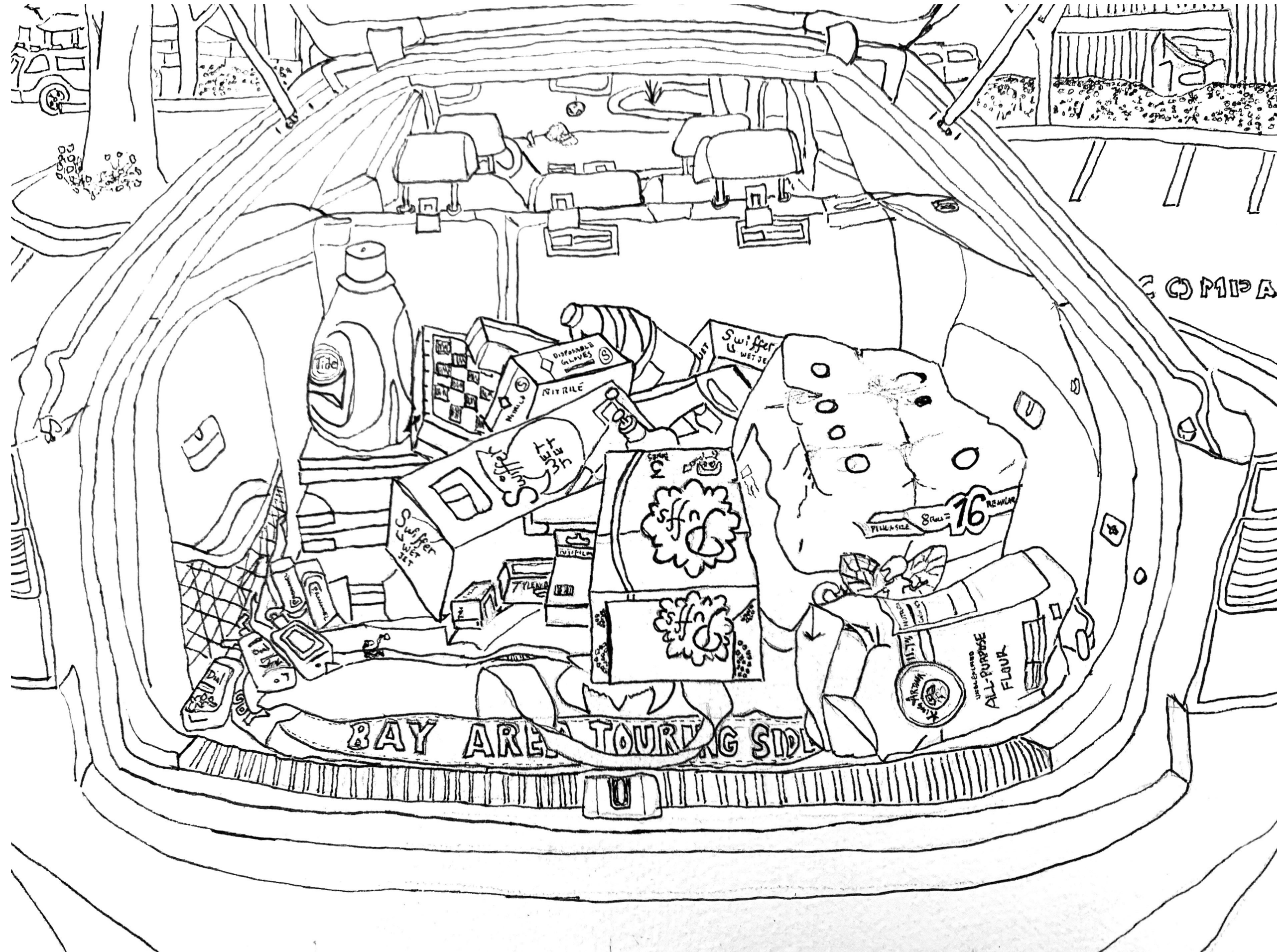
Entry 6. watched tiger king; and thinking about effects of captivity in all its forms. March 30, 2020.



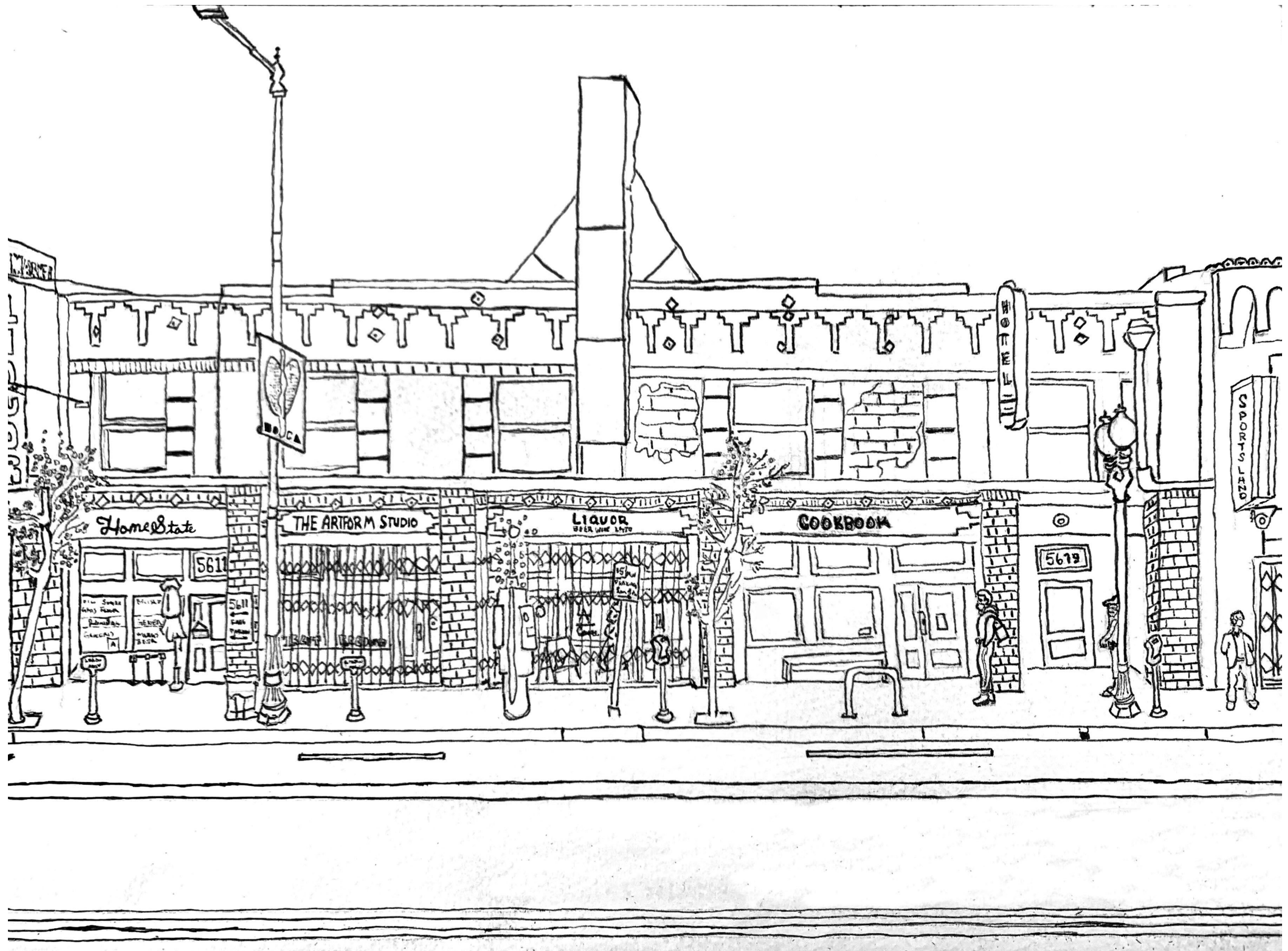
Entry 7. launched operation garage clean this weekend. March 31, 2020.



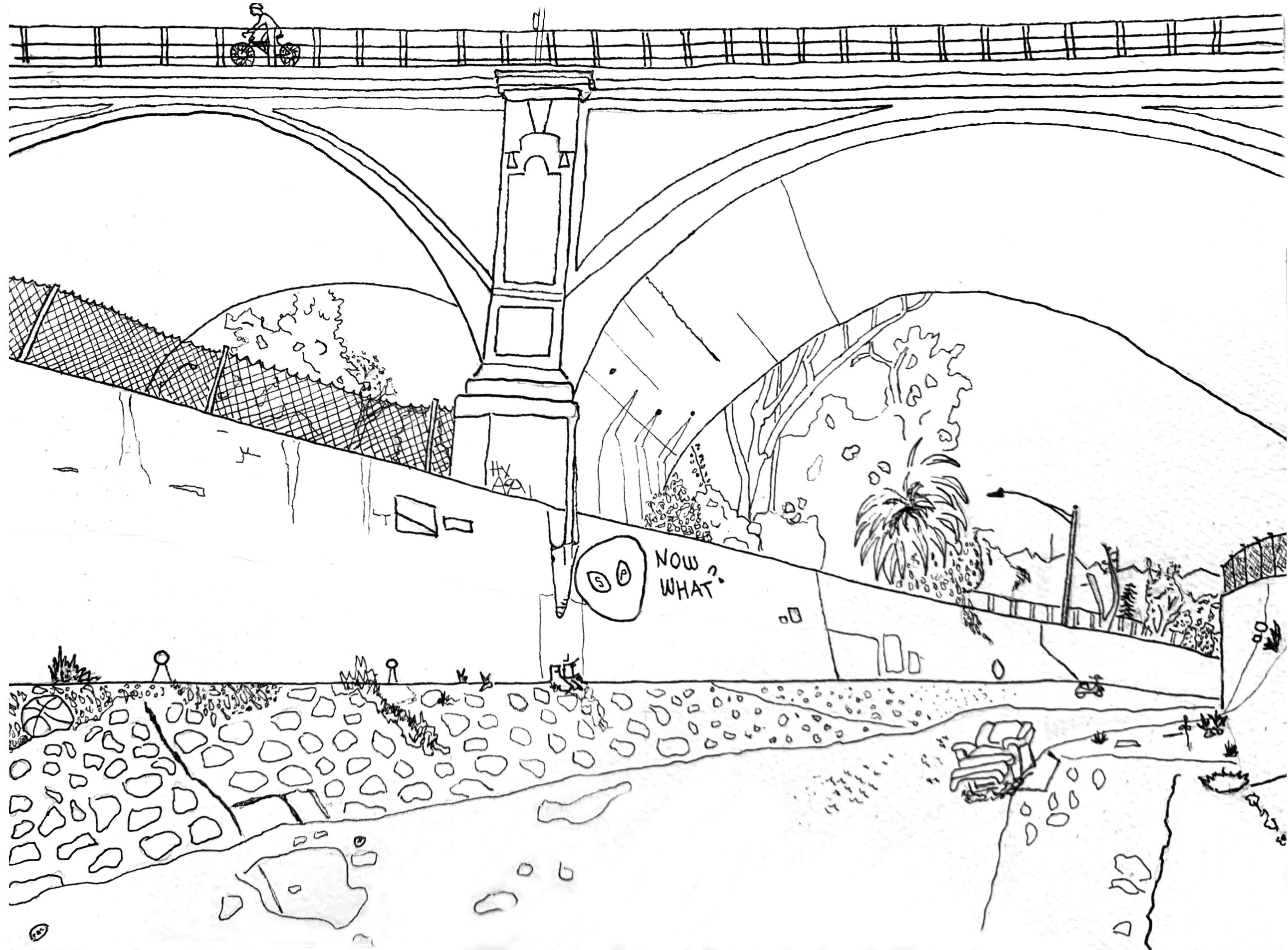
Entry 8. playing an endless game of scavenger hunt for coveted supplies. April 2, 2020.



HOT requests: chlorox, rising yeast, potted herbs, paper goods, swiffer mops, reusable gloves, sanitizer, any disinfectant (99.9%), flour, tylenol.

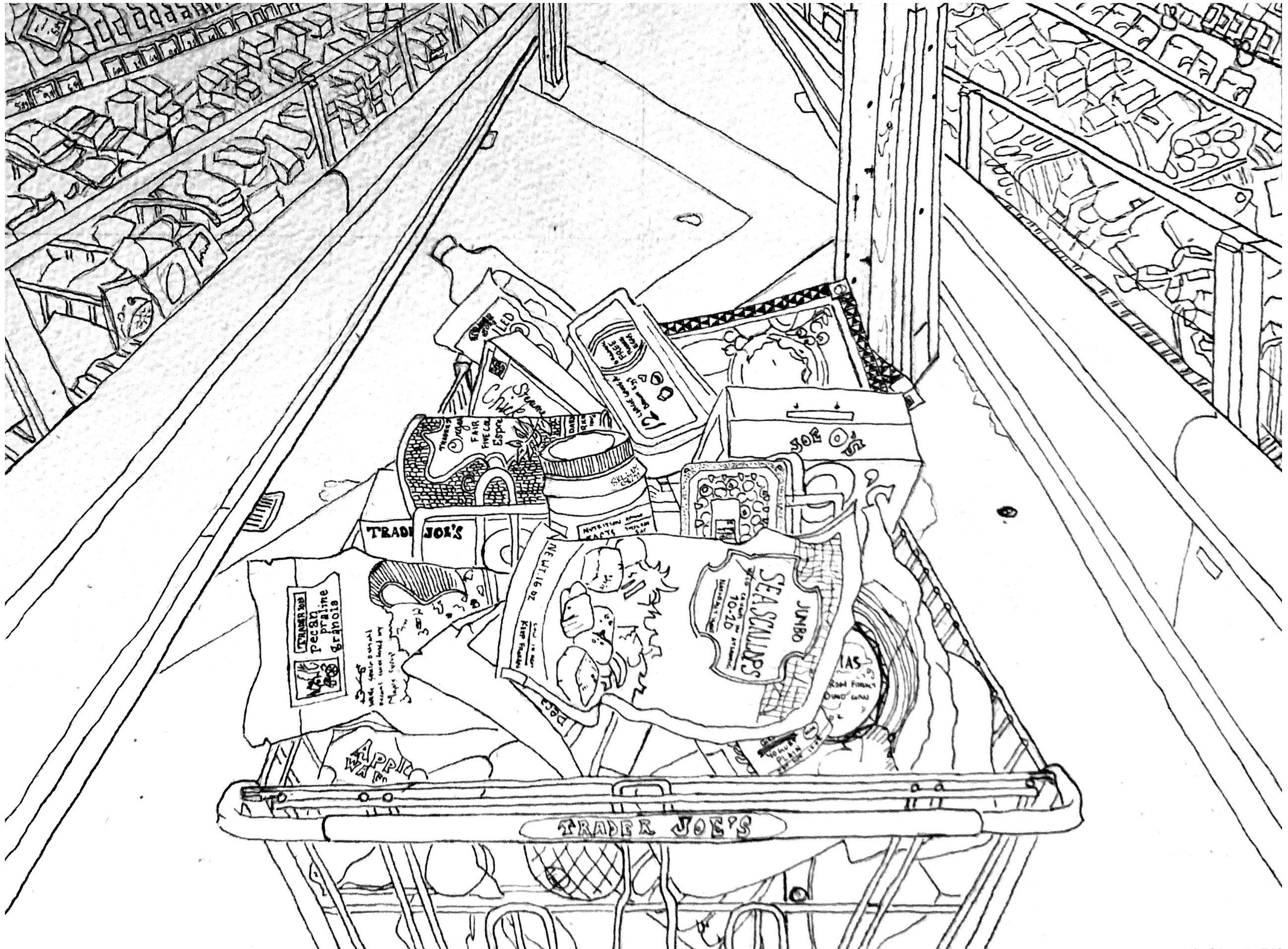


Entry 10. morning runs along the LA river alleviate my woes. April 6, 2020.



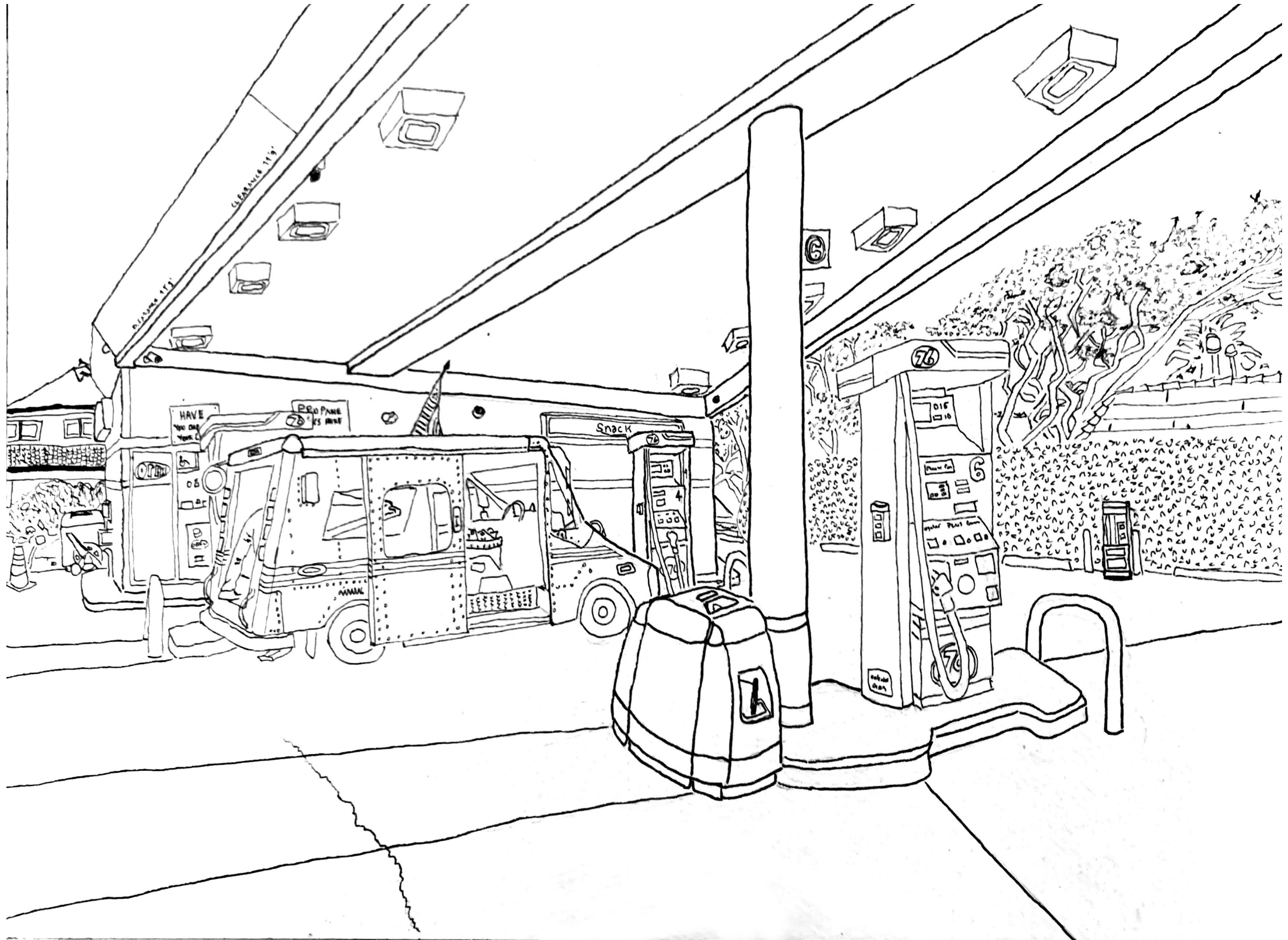
fun finds: leather recliner, golf balls, provocative graffiti, soccer trophy, deflated beach ball, vintage vespa, album disc

Entry 11. enter into the gauntlet that is Trader Joe's, if you dare. (but not during critical week). April 8, 2020.



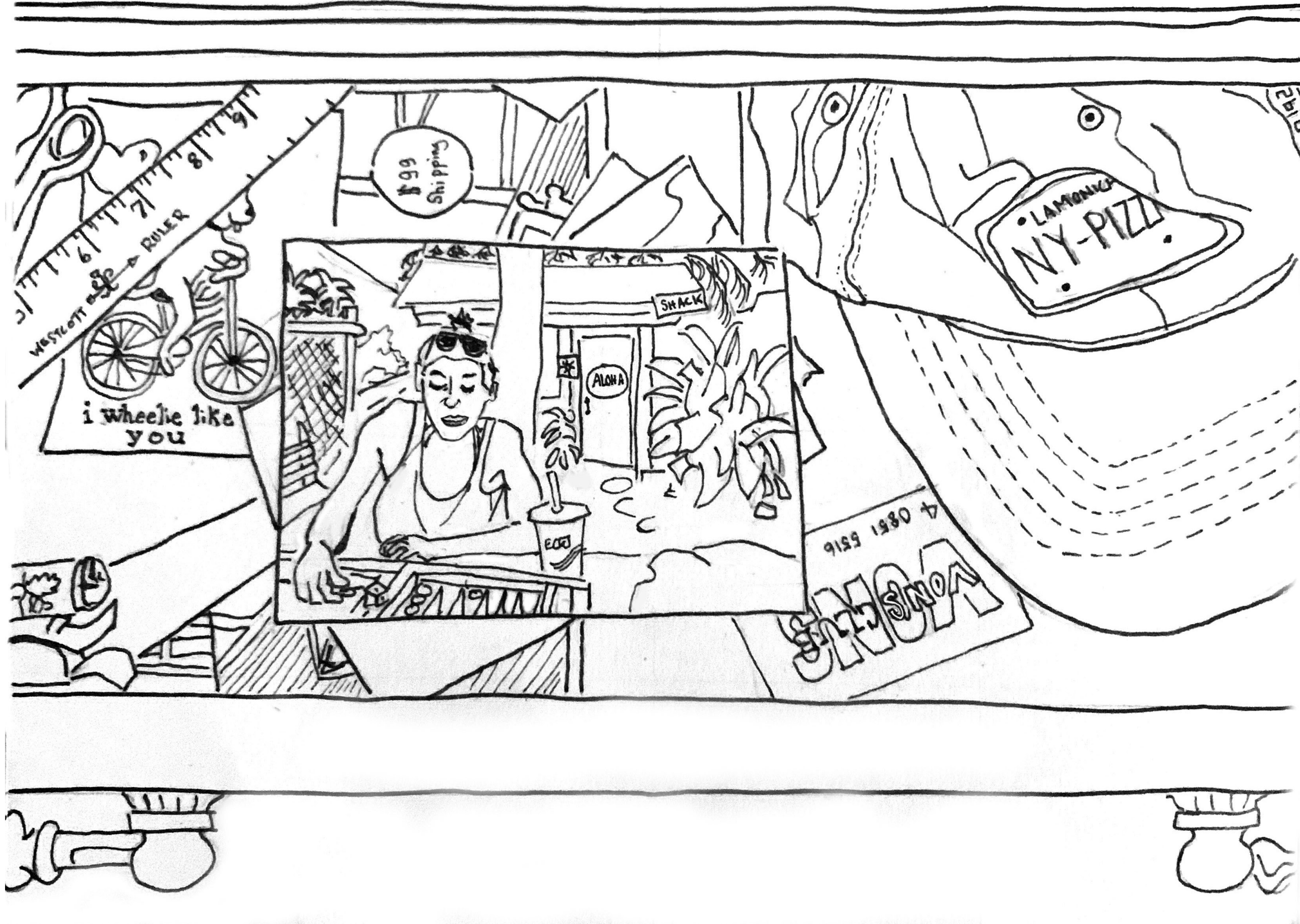
I award a halo to Chris Steele for paying for my groceries when my card declined.
I throw a pitchfork at the tomato sauce jar for smashing to the ground and creating a scene of much distress.

Entry 12. had a 'stars - they're just like us' moment while on a walk the other day. April 11, 2020.

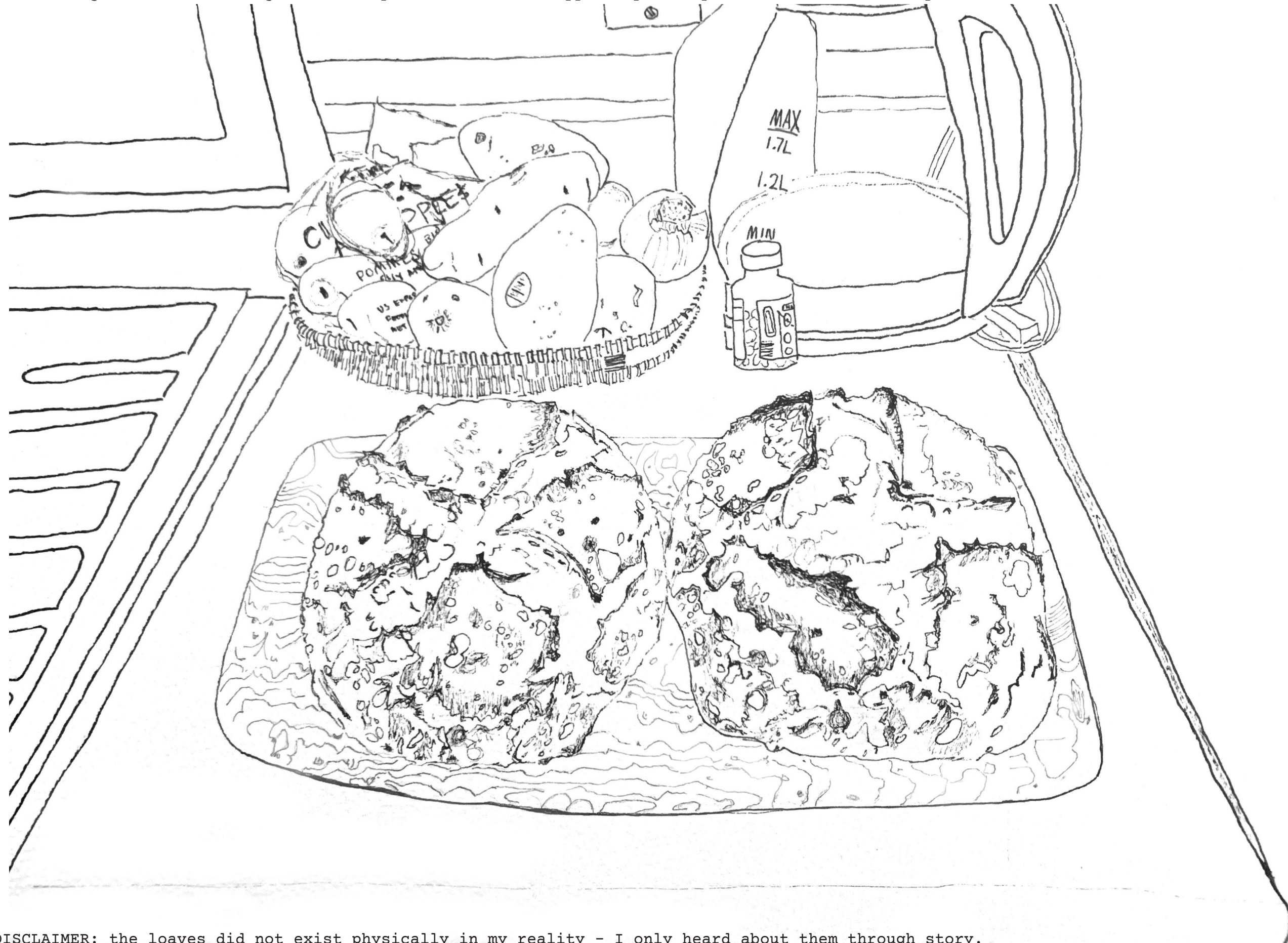


those who know me know i communicate significantly better through letters, so I hold high veneration for the usps system - especially in this time as they continue to gas up and keep us connected through their service. had me thinking about the history of stripes and the variations and effects of pride.

Entry 13. a friend's birthday had me rifling through old photos and i always keep photos i love close by - we were playing backgammon and drinking bullet coffee at the sunrise shack in O'ahu. happy birthday, Dylan. April 13, 2020.

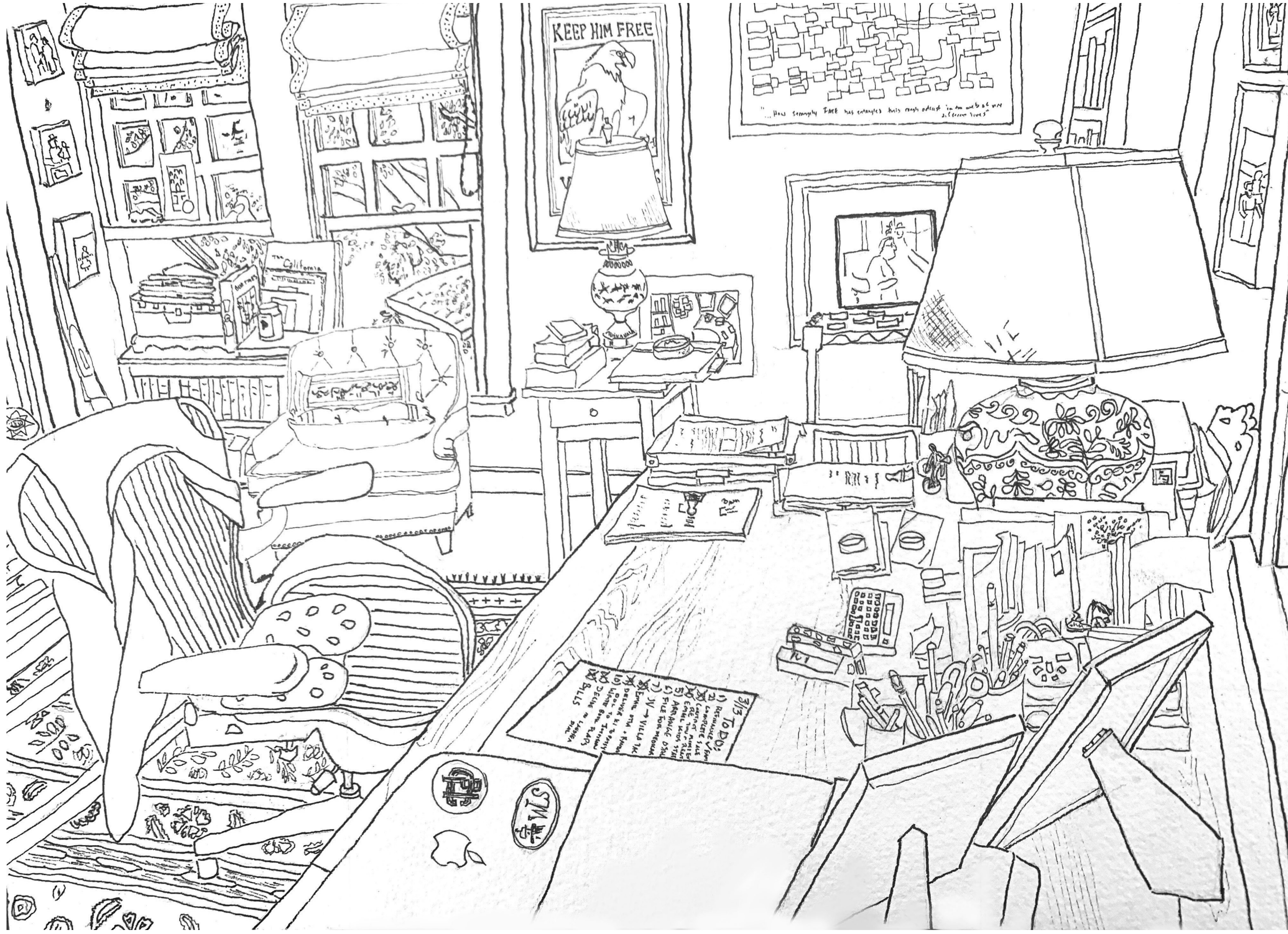


Entry 14. i am greatly warmed by the neighborly exchange of goods that has resulted from this pandemic. my sister bakes two sourdough loaves a day and passes them out to neighbors. And Peter gifted me a produce basket of apples, pears, potatoes, and onions. April 15, 2020.

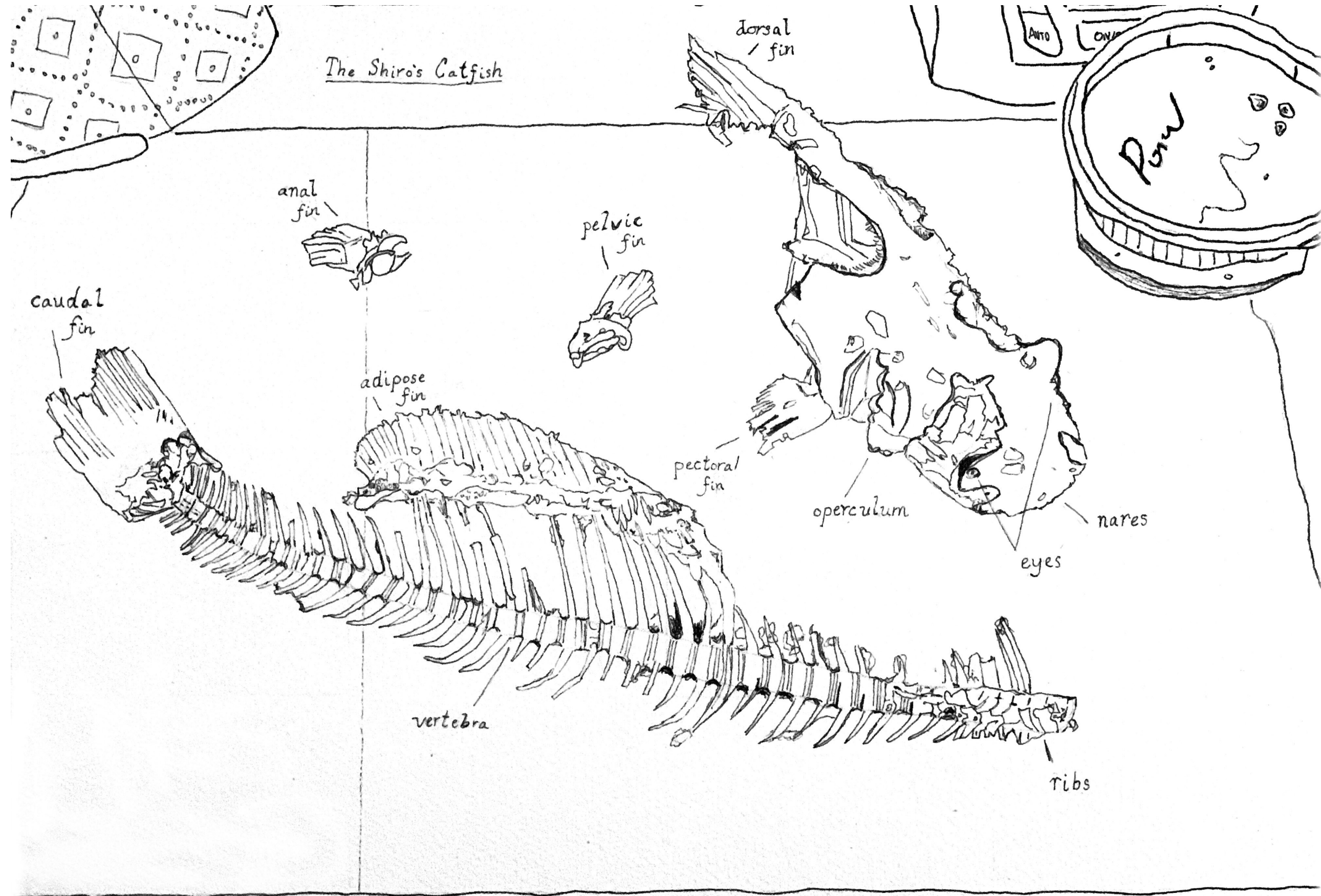


FULL DISCLAIMER: the loaves did not exist physically in my reality - I only heard about them through story.

Entry 15. my first commissioned piece, Peter's study; spending his quarantine time writing book flaps and emailing his kids. April 17, 2020.



Entry 16. i had a transformative experience with the catfish given to me on Easter sunday. (inspired by Aristotle's animal biology.) April 19, 2020.



Catfish are known as survival fish due to their resilience in adverse conditions and long length of life. They have no scales making them extremely sensitive to external elements. Their whiskers or 'barbels' (Latin for little beard) serve as sensory feelers for protection and food detection.