

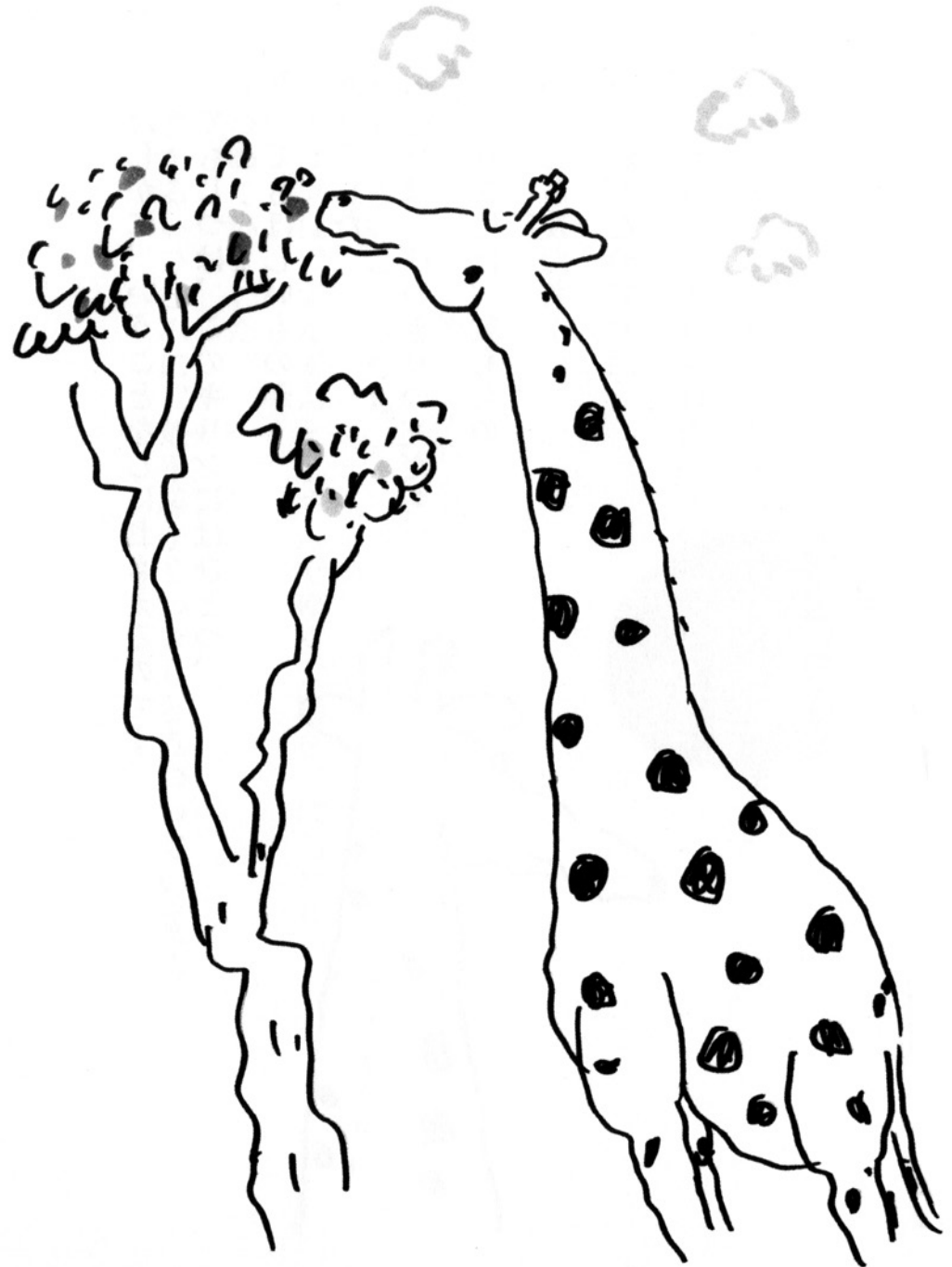


## A Bored Giraffe Writes His First Letter

This is the African savanna, home to one bored giraffe.

On this day, like every other day, the sky was clear and blue. Cream puff clouds drifted slowly by, a gentle breeze crossed the plain, and there was an endless supply of acacia leaves, which Giraffe loved to eat.

Sounds perfect, you say? You're quite right.



Giraffe had everything he needed.

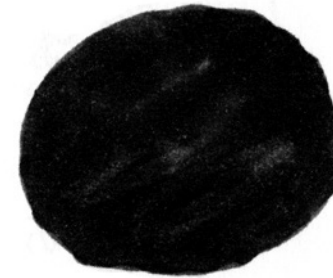
But, in fact, there was one thing he was missing—an extra special friend. He had no one to share his feelings with. And so, alas, he was a very bored giraffe.

And one more boring day was coming to an end.



*Today was just the same as ever. Nothing happened, as usual. And I am just the same as ever. Bored, as usual.*

Giraffe watched the sun slip slowly out of sight. The horizon was mirrored in his big round eyes.



Suddenly he blinked.

*I wonder what's on the other side, he thought.  
And what sort of animals live there?*

He stretched his long neck as far as it would go. But he couldn't see beyond the savanna.

*Wait! I know. I'll write a letter!*

Where did he get that idea? Well, when he was munching on leaves that afternoon, he had happened to see this sign hanging from a tree.



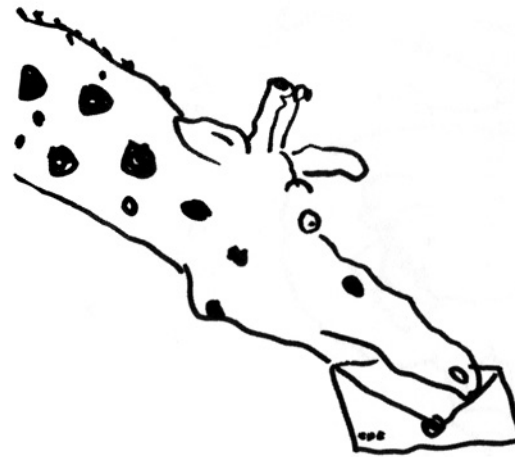
*A bored pelican—that sounds just like me, thought Giraffe. Maybe if I write a letter, I'll feel less bored. And if I use the new delivery service, Pelican will feel less bored, too... Yes, that's what I'll do: I'll write a letter.*

That night, Giraffe fell asleep feeling much happier than usual as he thought about all the things he wanted to say.

The next day, he wrote his very first letter and took it straight to Pelican.

Pelican was a little nervous. After all, this was his first customer. “Welcome to the Pelican Delivery Service. Where shall I take your letter?”

Giraffe was a little nervous, too. “Give it to the first animal you meet on the other side of the horizon,” he said.



“The horizon? Er... You mean that place over there?” Pelican pointed to the border between the bright blue sky and the green savanna.

“That’s right.” Giraffe was beginning to feel excited. “And please bring back a reply.”

“Of course! The horizon doesn’t look very far. I should be able to make it there and back before the sun goes down.”



Pelican flapped his wings and flew up in the air, higher and higher, as if he were being sucked into the sky.

“Be sure to get a reply!” Giraffe shouted.

“Okaaaaay!”

In no time, Pelican had shrunk to a tiny little speck and disappeared.