

My name is Chloe and I am a ballerina just like my Grandma was. My Grandma is in the hospital on a ventilator, but she has always been my biggest supporter. She might die and I'm so scared because I don't want to lose her before she sees me win a big competition. I have to win before she dies!

We have one more competition and it is TODAY! My grandma is a really special person to me and I want to dedicate my win to her. As I get ready to leave my house, I am very anxious because I want to make my grandmother proud. Before I leave, I Facetime with her so I can at least see her before I dance.

The dance competition is three hours away and I watch *Dance Moms* to pass the time, but really I was thinking about how frightened I am that I couldn't fulfill my promise to my Grandma. What if I don't do my best? What if I don't win for her? The other dancers are GOOD!!

We arrive at the competition and look for a parking space. I am shocked at how many studios are here. The more dancers that are here, the lower my chances of winning!

The girl who performs before me makes me more uneasy. She smirks and whispers to her friends as she looks at me and exits the stage, but I am too focused to care.

Finally, the announcer calls number 158. That's me! I dance to the song called "Ballet Master", but as I spin, I see that girl again just as she lobs her open water bottle on the stage! I panic and slide across the slippery stage, tumbling to the ground. I do my best to finish the dance, but as soon as I am done I run to the dressing room and cry my eyes out. Now my Grandma will never see me win.

I sit on stage during the awards wringing the cuff of my costume which still drips with water. I make eye contact with 'Water Bottle Girl' as she accepts her award and a single tear drips down my face.

"Wait! She cheated!" One of the dancers stood up and told the judges what had happened with the water. Water Bottle Girl was disqualified and would not be allowed to enter the competition again. Her award is passed on to the next highest score WHICH WAS ME!!

On the way home, I stop to visit grandma and I can't believe it, but the doctor said... he said... SHE DIED!!!

Two months later, I go to visit her grave and find a letter:

*"Dear Chloe,*

*You are a beautiful dancer and I hope that your competition goes well. I will be gone before you get your results, but my favorite thing about your dancing has never been the awards you win. It's the life and the passion that you feel when you dance. I hope you dance not for the trophies, but for the joy and remember to dance even when times are hard. I love you and will be with you through every turn and leap!*

*Love, Grandma"*

**I promise i will win for you okay!**

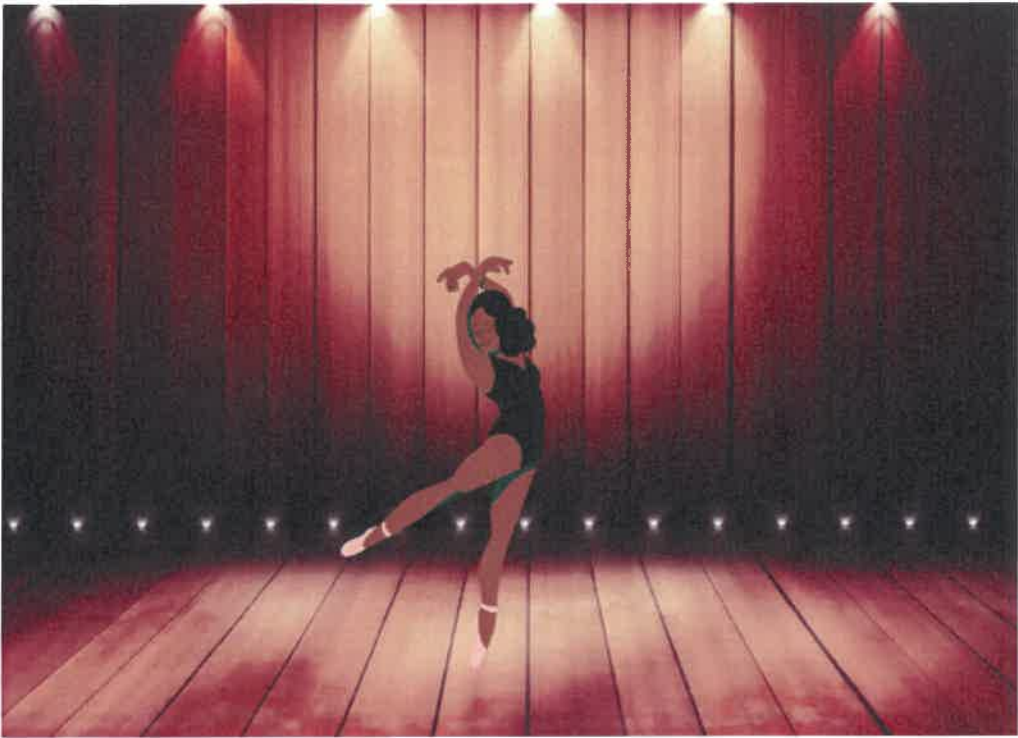


**I need to win for my grandma**

It is dedicated to her



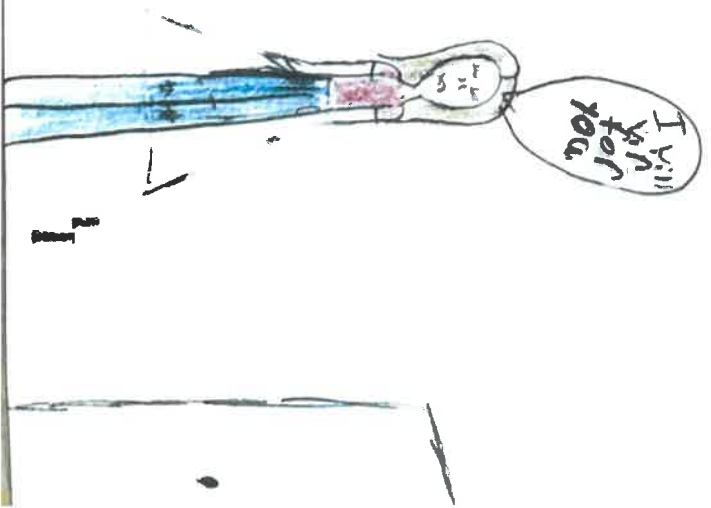
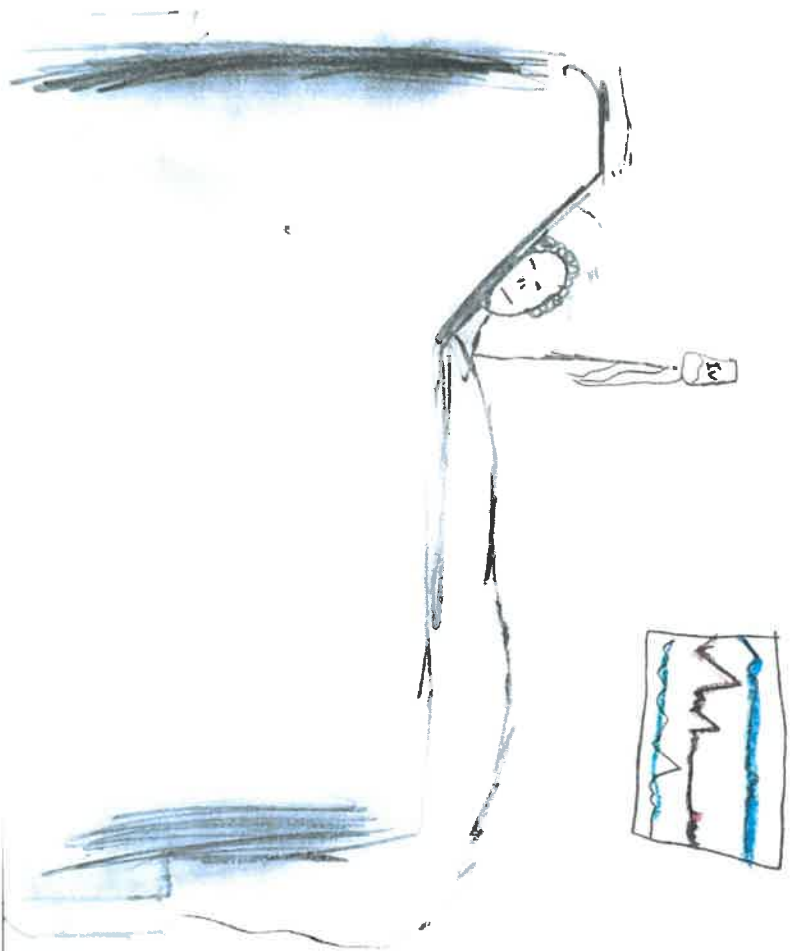


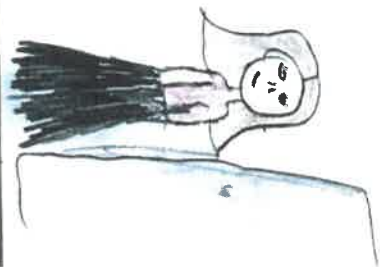
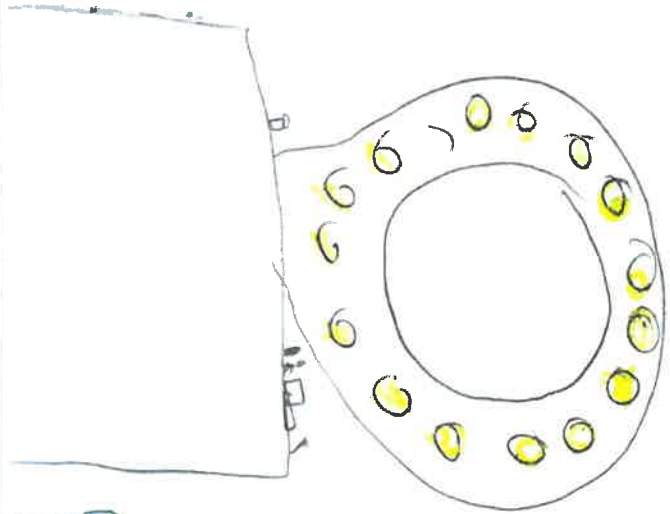
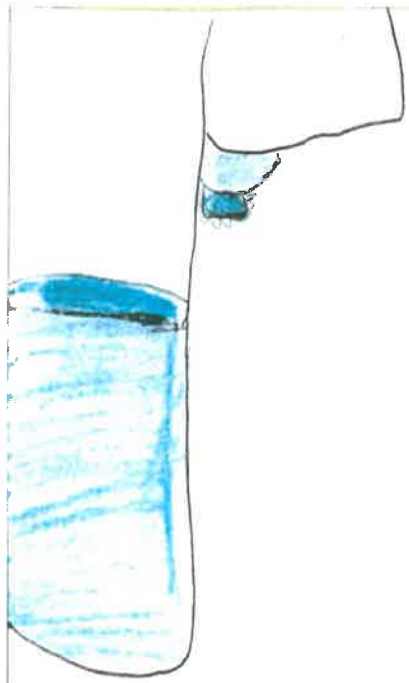


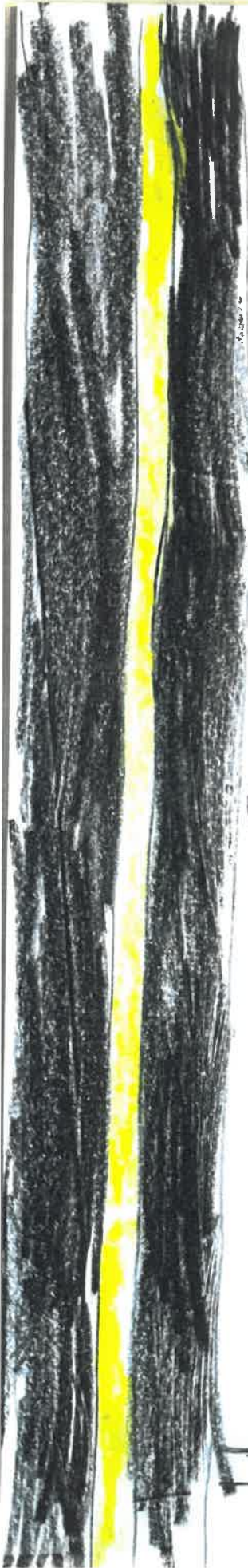
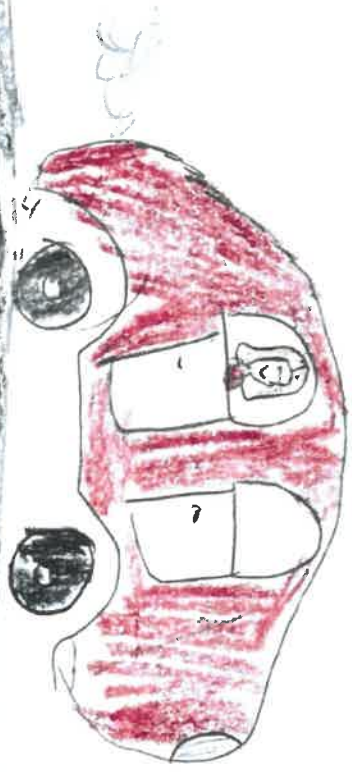


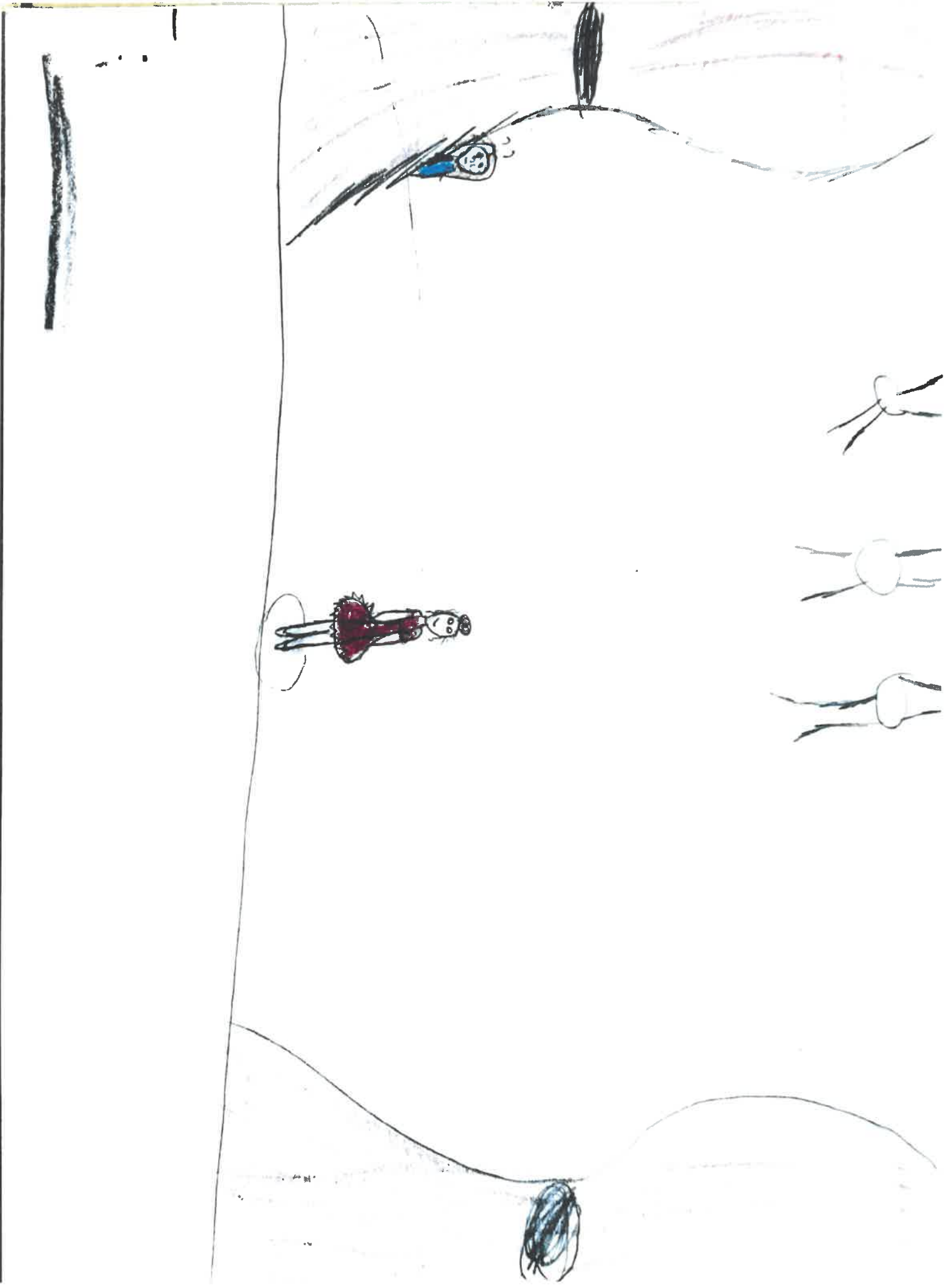


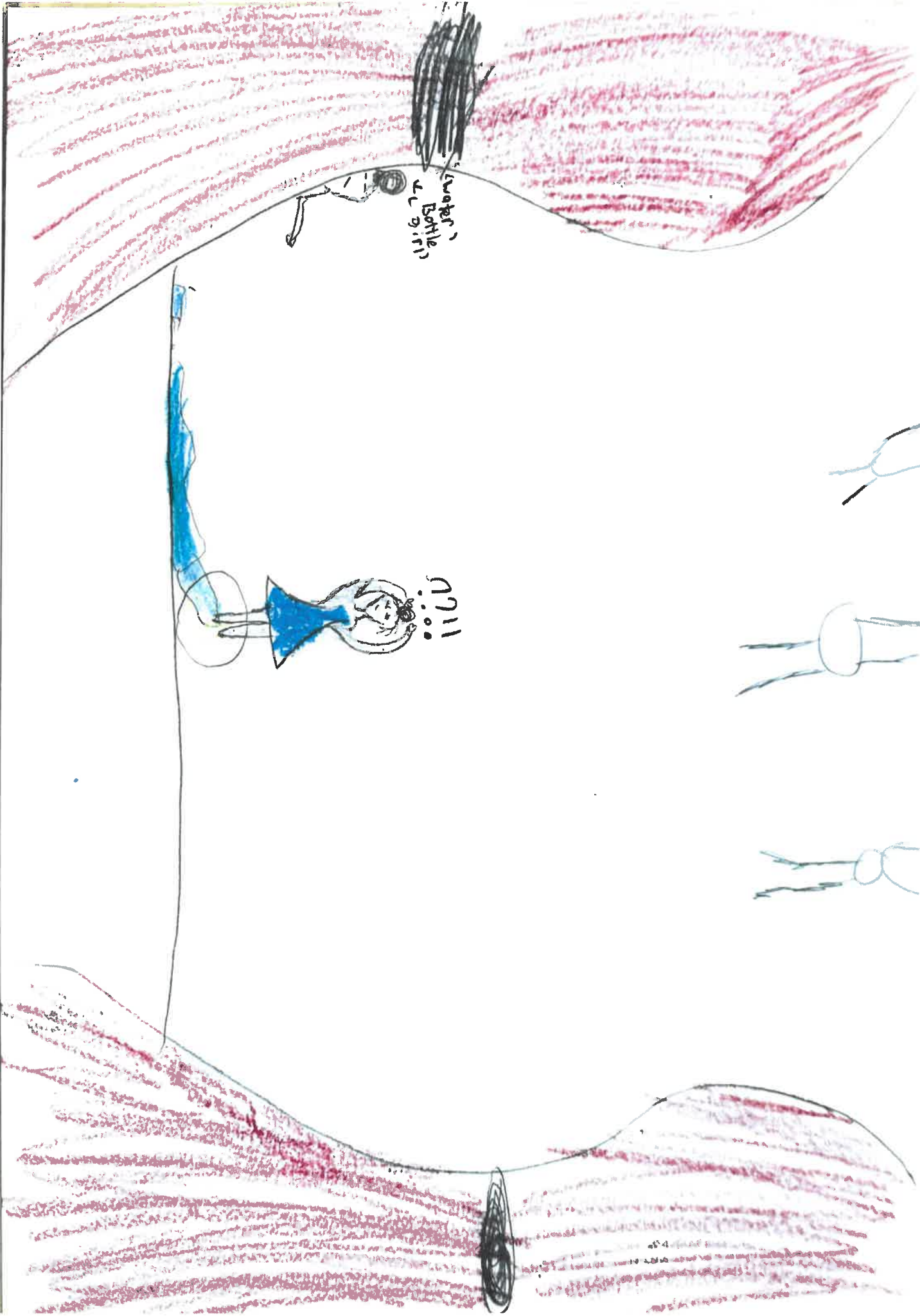






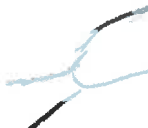






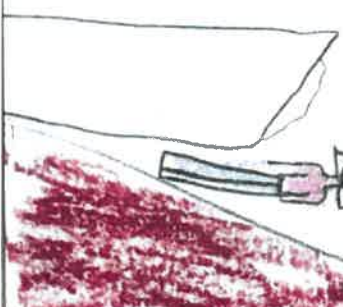
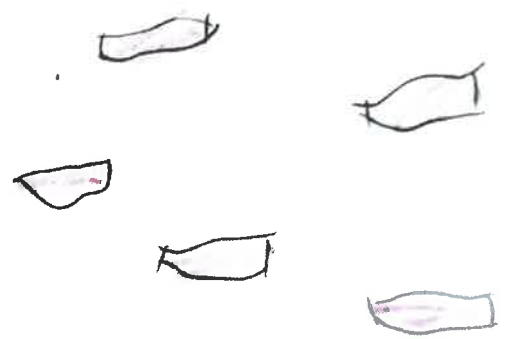
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I won!  
 I guess  
 water  
 Bottle  
 air  
 tea



winnes  
 is  
 Ballet  
 manager  
 Debra  
 Onda

Cheryl

