

A poem from my first daughter Ellie, that I've translated into Japanese!

暗い感情は君の一日をブルーにさせる

失った悲しみは、

新しいことを発見することは、

決して出ることのできない籠のよ様なもの

永遠に目覚めることのないワナにはまったよう

それは君の心を喰らい、魂をも殺す

夢を狩り取り、君から喜びを奪い取る

君がもっとも愛することを破壊する

いつもひとりぼっち

決して目覚めることはない —

The feeling of darkness
it makes your day blue
The pain of loss,
to find a new.
it's like a cage you can never break.
Trapped forever to never wake.
it eats your soul and kills your spirit.
it haunts your dreams and takes your joy.
it's what you love most that it destroys.
Never to wake

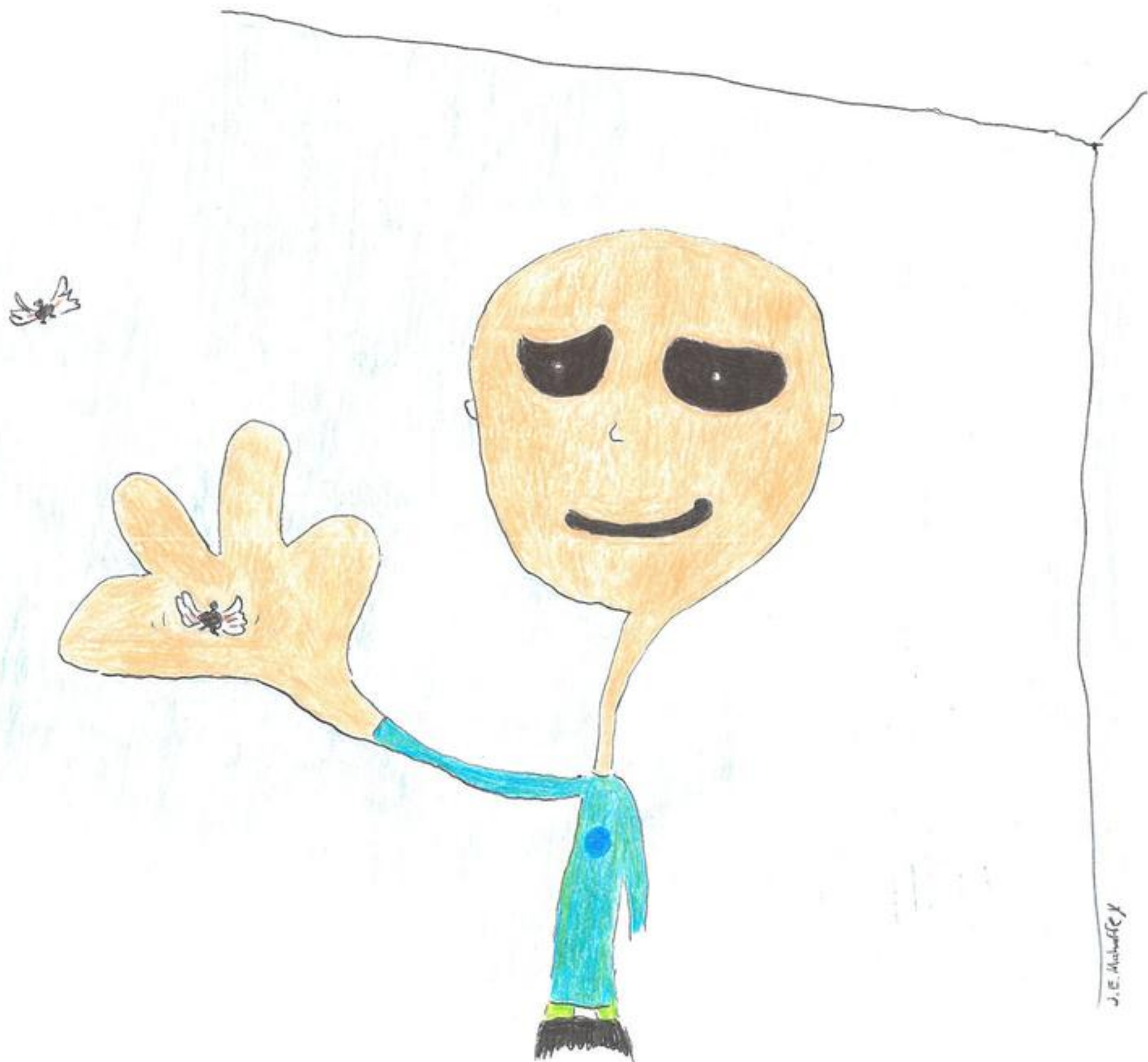
—E.A. Mahaffey



Sad? Yes. But still, I was impressed by this untitled poem; and it's my hope that Ellie does something with her talents. It's my hope that all my kids do.

The translation adds another level of beauty to the poem, I think--and it opens itself to a whole new nation of readers! Soon I'll be releasing my collection of poems, "No Air," and it will be in English, French, and Japanese. I just think that limiting ourselves to one language only keeps us in a somewhat narrowed corner of our own little world: which is why I've taken up Japanese and French, they, to me, are very beautiful languages that lend a certain elegance to the art of expression. In poetry especially! The idea of a multi-cultural reading is a very great feeling; who knows what someone in Osaka or Tokyo might think of my daughter's poem....

I love you Ellie, and I hope you like seeing your work this way and knowing so many can read it. You can print it out, and show it to your friends.



J. E. Muffey