

A Case of Talpa

The Language of the Source

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Case of O. A.

A ten year old boy.

REASONS OF CONSULTATION:

- polydipsia (7-10 liters per day), polyuria (7-10liters per day), hypocromic urine
- Vomiting crisis with dehydration inducing electrolyte and acid - base imbalance

PATHOLOGICAL PERSONAL HISTORY:

Alex began to feel sick during his first months of life, frequently vomiting, he was rejecting food and he was not gaining weight. After several months of investigation, at the age of 1 year he was diagnosed with:

1. Nephrogenic diabetes insipidus
2. Nutrition disorder
3. General hypotrophy
4. Gastro – esophageal reflux disorder
5. Dehydration syndrome induced by water deprivation (hypernatremia)

The recommended treatment in these situations is partial and symptomatic, consisting of diuretics - hydrochlorothiazide, amiloride- indicated for preventing potassium depletion and anti-inflammatory drugs- indometacin.

By the age of 10, Alex went through numerous hospital admissions for assessment and recurrent examination or emergency admissions for frequent episodes of vomiting with dehydration and consecutive electrolyte and acid-base imbalance. These episodes of vomiting frequently occurred after ingesting foods that were not tolerated or during acute respiratory infections.

During this period of time he was treated with Nefrix, Indomethacin and Omeprazole.

Under this treatment, daily fluid intake dropped to 2.5 l / day, but when he was 1.5 years old (August 2007) he had an episode of hepatic cytolysis and had to cease Indomethacin.

In November 2007 the hepatic cytolysis disappeared and the daily water intake and urine output increased to approx. 4l. It was decided to restart Indomethacin treatment that created chronic gastritis, as a complication of chronic administration, and as a consequence Alex's diet became very restricted.

From this moment on, he had taken Indomethacin continuously, but his digestive condition gradually worsened, so at the age of seven it was decided to stop this treatment. As a result, Alex gradually reached up to approximately 7l of water intake during winter time and approximately 10 l during summer.

At the last annual assessment, ureteral reflux due to incomplete bladder evacuation was diagnosed (due to the expansion of the bladder and the consecutive reduction of bladder muscle contractility). Surgery was suggested in order to reinsert the ureters in a higher position, but the parents refused. Alex's immunity is poor, since childhood suffering from pharyngeal tonsillitis and recurrent ear infections, always accompanied by vomiting and electrolytic and acid-base imbalance. Each time he was treated with antibiotics. Regarding otitis, draining the ear by puncturing the eardrum was conducted a few times. At the age of seven, polypectomy was performed.

In the recent years, during the winter, Alex was frequently catching colds, at least once a month, and because of the vomiting that always accompanied the colds, he was frequently hospitalized.

FAMILY HISTORY:

- Mother had a pregnancy that stopped in evolution before being pregnant with Alex, which brings the suspicion of X-linked nephrogenic diabetes.
- Maternal grandfather suffered from kidney stones and kidney failure.

ACCUPUNCTURE TREATMENT:

Acupuncture treatment was initiated in our clinic at the request of his parents.

In spite of the fact that it was scheduled rather infrequent, as Alex lives in another city, acupuncture treatment has greatly improved Alex's digestion, immediately after the first session vomiting frequency reduced, consequently the number of hospitalizations decreased, and the range of tolerated foods significantly increased during the first month of acupuncture treatment.

We could not establish an immediate homeopathic consultation because of the program mismatch.

Taking into consideration the good response to acupuncture treatment regarding Alex's digestion, we decided together with his parents to postpone the homeopathic consultation until the summer vacation of 2016.

But Alex continued to have difficulties in focusing in learning; frequent colds and fatigue persisted, sometimes accompanied by vomiting, for which his mother was seeking homeopathic treatment.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

I would like to mention that, since the beginning, I liked this sweet, dear, communicative, intelligent child that has a positive energy, even when talking about less pleasant things that make him angry. Alex took great pleasure in talking about himself with a special sweetness, managing to give us accurate data about his character and evolution, often being more careful and more precise in details than an adult. Personally, I have really enjoyed talking to him ... a child who attracts you and makes you like him immediately.

HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT:

Initially we started treating Alex's acute states, because of the lack of data needed to prescribe a constitutional remedy. Meanwhile, we started collecting the information needed by successive discussions during his acupuncture sessions.

Alex responded favorably in acute to some remedies (often to Phosphorus), he stopped vomiting and never got dehydrated, but he continued to catch colds quite often, approx. every 3 weeks.

In January, after taking Calc-phos, Alex's immunity started to improve, also the physical and mental energy partially improved.

But in the meantime, fairly strong pain appeared in both his heels when walking, aggravated by physical effort (climbing stairs, running). After 20 minutes of physical effort, he could barely crawl home.

Rx did not show any bone modification.

This pain did not respond to acupuncture and neither to Calc-posph, nor to other homeopathic remedies, it persisted and became annoying.

In time, at a certain point of talking to Alex and his mother, the option of Arsenicum trait came up, as I got the image of a very fastidious and anxious child.

Nevertheless, the reaction to Arsenicum was not as good as to Phos.

As Alex started to provide more data about himself and his experiences, I began to wonder if I could think of a "mole", as the most likely constitutional remedy, but I did not know if there is any remedy or whether it was proved. I was absolutely surprised when I found the proving of the remedy conducted by Misha Norland, but even more surprised when I read and found many common themes. Therefore, in the presentation, I will try, where possible, to group the information gathered from Alex into themes, and to present the proving theme right after.

So, in June I decided to give him Talpa europea.

THE ANSWER TO THE REMEDY TALPA EUROPEA AND EVOLUTION:

Alex's response to this remedy had been sudden, the pain in his heels disappeared in a few days, his physical and mental energy were constantly improving, and water consumption began to decrease. Generally he would drink 8 liters/day during the winter and 10 liters/day in the summer, but after administering the remedy, the water intake in summer time dropped to about 7-8 liters instead of 10. At one point I asked Alex to think of his remedy and he gave me a swift response: "I think this is a very good remedy".

I tried different potencies and ways of administering the remedy and the best initially response was to 200 CH 20 drops 3 x/day.

Starting from June 2016, shortly after starting administering the remedy, due to favorable response, it was possible to interrupt acupuncture treatment.

Starting with July 2016, due to Alex's health improvement, Talpa 200 CH dose was decreased from 20 drops x3/ day to 20 drops / day;

FOLLOW-UP MARCH 2017:

During this period, from June 2016 to March 2017, Alex's immunity has significantly improved; acute episodes have greatly reduced, even if Alex came in contact with colleagues that had a flu.

From June 2016 until March 2017, Alex has caught a cold only 3 times, two of the episodes were treated only by more frequently administering the remedy. Only one of the episodes was not communicated to our clinic and it was treated with antibiotics by an otolaryngologist.

Digestive condition was good during this period of time although he received no acupuncture treatment. Nausea was sometimes present upon waking in the morning during the spring, without being accompanied by vomiting.

Up to this date (March 2017) heel pain has never reappeared.

Mentally, Alex describes himself as more tolerant, more open, more sociable, and thus making more friends.

Regarding water intake, parents said that it is difficult to assess daily intake, but it seemed it decreased, because there are days when Alex returned home without consuming some of the water bottles, which did not happen before. Also, his father said there might have remained largely just a mental addiction to water consumption, not a real need, because in his spare time, when involved in playing, Alex doesn't feel the need to drink water, and that had not happened before.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

- normal birth
- first tooth at 6 months
- it started walking at 12 months
- usual vaccinations - seemingly without post-vaccination reactions
- sweat: copious amounts when making effort; when he was a suckling, he had profuse sweating on the head
- difficulty waking up in the morning, usually around 10-11 o'clock
- very sensitive to bad smells: tobacco, cigarettes, toilets
- Desires, aversions and food intolerances:
 - Alex has an increased appetite, craves for different foods and feels frustrated by the fact that, because of his gastritis, he can't eat what he wants
 - desires: lemons, sour fruits, cheese, rolls, salami, pizza, stuffed peppers, lasagna
 - aversion to: fatty meat, sparkling water
 - aggravated by : mushrooms, though he liked them
 - wants hot food but the drinks more cold or at room temperature
 - does not eat ice cream, and does not drink cold because of dental pain caused by the contact with cold drinks and food
 - he does not want to taste pepper or bitter food
- Reaction to climatic elements:
 - he is a warm blooded child
 - his reaction to hot weather is: weakness, fatigue
 - his reaction to cold weather are: numbness or moving with difficulty

Physical symptoms of Alex correlated with proving:

1. Extremities-pain

Alex:

Heel pain when stepping, walking, that worsens when making effort

Symptoms from proving:

I notice that my legs feel really tired and ache as if I've been for a long run. P9 24/24:07:00 RS

2. Appetite

Alex:

- Without appetite during decompensation periods.
- Craving for food, likes to eat any food, frustrated when he could not eat because of gastritis.

Symptoms from proving:

No appetite.

It is lunchtime and I have forgotten to eat any breakfast or lunch. P1 3/3:13:30 NS

I eat no breakfast. Physically it seems like there's very little going on except my lack of appetite. P1

Excessive appetite

I eat and eat and eat for the rest of the day. I eat anything and everything until I am uncomfortably full up. I eat several bars of chocolate today. P1 15/15:16:30 IRS

Ravenous hunger all day which is unusual. Satisfied by eating a good meal. This is probably just due to the fact that I got up extremely early this morning. P2 4

I have been very hungry all day eating like a horse, no particular cravings. P3 13/19:10:00

3. Cold symptoms

Alex:

He frequently catches colds with pharyngo-laryngitis.

Symptoms from proving:

Many of the provers had symptoms like catching a cold or eliminating mucus:

Itchy throat this evening which has just started. It runs down into the topmost layer of the chest. I am coughing lightly to clear my throat. Sore throats are often the prelude to a cold. Nothing has happened today which might bring on a cold. P2 8/08.20.30 OS

Notice that I have an almost imperceptible cold - not even enough to warrant a handkerchief, just a tendency to sniff slightly to stop my nose running. P2 10/10.09.00 OS

Noticed mucus clearing from the back of my throat and felt that this was the very end of my 'imperceptible' cold clearing out of my system. P2 11/11.09.00 OS

Am now certain that I have a very mild cold which I can feel as a slight prickling in my nose: My nose is very slightly runny. It is as though I am well and the cold is struggling to make itself felt. Nonetheless it saps my energy a little. P2 24/24.15.00

4. **Smell, acute sense**

Alex:

He is sensitive to bad smells, can't stand the smell of tobacco and public toilets. He has strong nausea, he would vomit if he doesn't leave immediately that place.

Symptoms from proving:

Misha Norland: Taste and smell symptoms weren't dominant like in some of the other provers but for me they were still noticeable.

My sense of smell amplified, to such an extent that I wanted to have the bathroom flooring replaced due to the urine smell. No-one else could smell the urine.

Again a theme was seen in both provers and a couple of supervisors – a number of provers experienced a heightened sense of smell of urine. I also had a heightened smell towards fish. A couple of supervisors lost their sense of smell completely (one could only smell pheromone) and one also lost their sense of taste.

All week I have been very conscious of smells - not nice smells. The main things that have bothered me have been a smell of fish and urine. These smells are real when I smell them but they just bother me and my reaction is to quickly shut a door or to find the smell and throw it away or clean. My usual reaction would be quite calm and not to mention or complain about it but I seem to just focus on it and moan and want to get rid of it - it's disgusting. P9 35/35:19:00 NS

5. **Energy - fluctuating**

Alex:

Energy fluctuations, sometimes related to the type of activity, but not limited to:

- Low energy - low physical and mental energy at certain times
- Still he has good energy to play, he plays for a long time and does not seem to get tired so easily.

Symptoms from proving:

- Fluctuating energy: Misha Norland:

The other noticeable feature was that I experienced a steady energy which enabled me to keep going long into the evening: determined energy with clear-headedness. The energy was expended on dealing with small matters, many of them household chores, which I had been ignoring for a long time. By complete contrast, I sometimes experienced a great sense of fatigue,

- The other provers experienced high or low energy

6. Abdomen

Alex:

nausea, vomiting, cramps.

Symptoms from proving:

Misha Norland: There are issues around the abdomen (itching, cramps).

CHARACTER OF ALEX

This part concerning Alex's character is mostly structured in themes in order to better correlate with the proving and the language of the source.

Alex mother's description:

- curious and intelligent (inquisitive mind / inquiring mind);
- he likes to talk, he is affable, sociable;
- he is impressed by the suffering of animals and children, he felt bad when a little girl shouted: "mammy" in an orphanage;
- he does not like to be watched, when someone looks at him, he gets intimidated.
- he has ritualistic behavior that he strictly follows. For instance, at bedtime he must be covered only by his mother, not by his father or anyone else.

School activity

Alex says:

"When I grow up, I want to become an anesthesiologist in intensive care. I am fond of medicine. When I was 5, I had this lightning idea to become an emergency doctor. I like sophisticated equipment, to always be in action, active. That's why I would like to have a profession with fervent activity, with sophisticated equipment, using cars as a means of transport."

Mother says:

"He does not like to be constrained, he likes to do things in his own way. He did not appreciate kindergarten, because he had to do things he did not like."

At school he is a quick learner and he does not have enough patience to wait for the other children. He gets bored soon, he does not like to do the same thing over and over. He wants to be as good as the other pupils. If wrong when doing homework, he does not tear the pages, he just crosses out and continues. When he gets nervous about homework, he gets the urge to tear the books and throw them against walls, but he suppresses that and he cries instead."

Themes of Alex related to the 4th row:

Themes of Alex: "Rules, norms, fairness, cautious, safety, security, order, strictness, correctness, rigor, control":

Theme of Alex: "Rules, respects the rules":

He likes the rules to be observed.

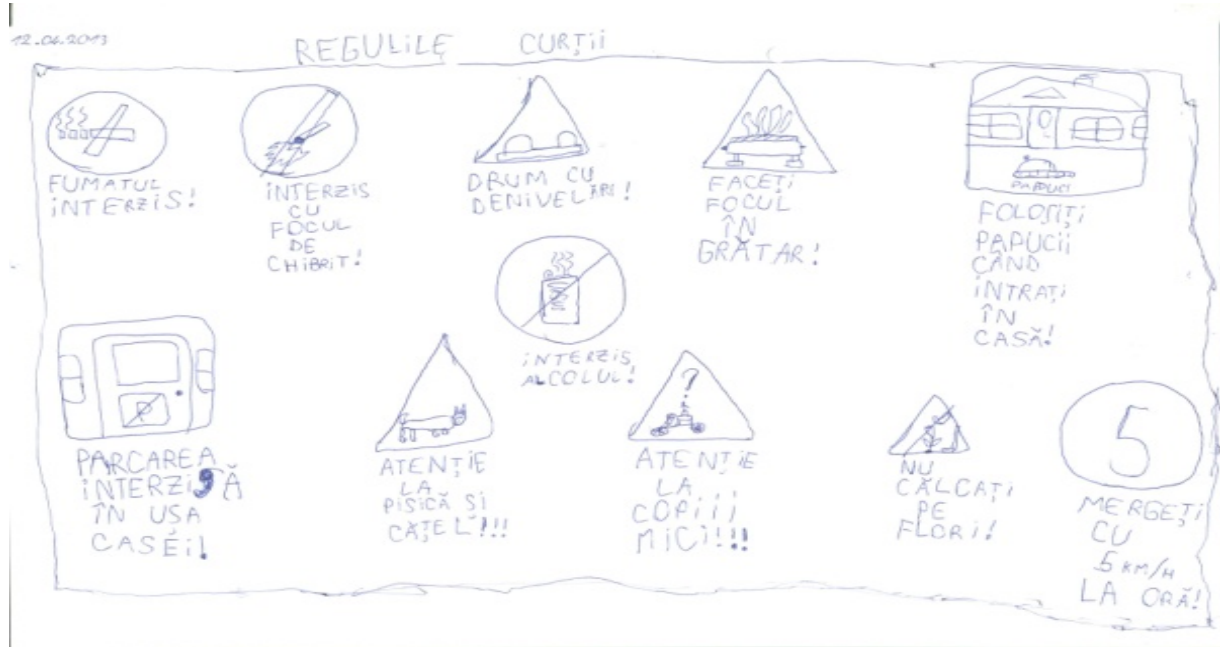
When I asked him why, he answered: "without rules, all would be a disaster, with accidents."

He does not like chaos, he wants to know what to expect, to be informed about what follows, otherwise he panics.

These themes come also from his drawings:

DRAWINGS WITH RULES, TRAFFIC RULES





Theme of Alex: "Norms":

Alex wants to get dressed in accordance with the rules, with tie, buttoned up to the neck:

His mother says:

"He wears only what he chooses. At school his shirt is always buttoned up to the neck, he never unbuttons, always wants to have his tie tight up to neck, nobody taught him these things"

Theme of Alex: "Safety, security, control, cautious in his actions":

Regarding speed, he says that in the city he is cautious and wants that traffic rules are followed, he panics if his mother doesn't push the brake in time.

On the highway he likes to be at higher speed, but not exceedingly; he only likes to travel fast when in his favorite vehicles, the subway and the airplane.

Alex says:

"I always need to feel safe, to know everything in order to feel at ease, to have everything under control."

Theme of Alex: "Aversion to dirt":

Interview:

"Mother: Since he was little and we went to the seaside, he was only two years then, he used to cry when he got dirty with sand. He did not want to sit on the sand and neither to play with sand like other children do. If he got even one finger dirty with sand, he started crying.

Alex: Also when we went to the mountains, I did not like getting covered with mud; I would stop after 2 meters and clean myself if I got splashed with mud. When I was a child I kept my socks on.

Dr.: But when you are at home, do you never go barefoot in the grass?

Mother: It is out of question to go barefoot. He walked barefoot only once when his father forced him to go bare foot as a form of therapy.

Dr: But why don't you like to get dirty?

Alex: I don't like to get green from the grass."

Proving (from "Nature vs manmade"): "Dirty"

He hands me a carrot which is very dirty, especially in the deep creases that encircle it. He suggests I use a knife to run around these deep creases, to clear the mud. The feeling is how can I clean it and how can I make it orderly. The dirt is really tenacious.

Theme of Alex: "Respect, shame":

He does not accept to lose, he does not participate in competitions because he fears he might lose. He says that it is about respect, he wants to prove to the others that is able to succeed.

He does not want to be ridiculed. The most frightening thing for him is to be ridiculed, he gets really ashamed.

Theme of Alex : "Guilt":

Alex says:

"I feel guilty if I mistake. If I do something wrong, like laughing during classes, or when the teacher or the other colleagues scold him, he feels guilty and ashamed, especially if he is scolded by the other classmates."

Theme from proving: "Guilt"

I have feelings of guilt, like a have done something wrong, I feel uncomfortable, like something is just not sitting right. I can't shake it; I can't put my finger on it. It is making me look at everything in a different way. Every situation that comes up makes me question if I have done it right, or if I have wronged the person.

Themes of Alex: "Strictness, rightness, order":

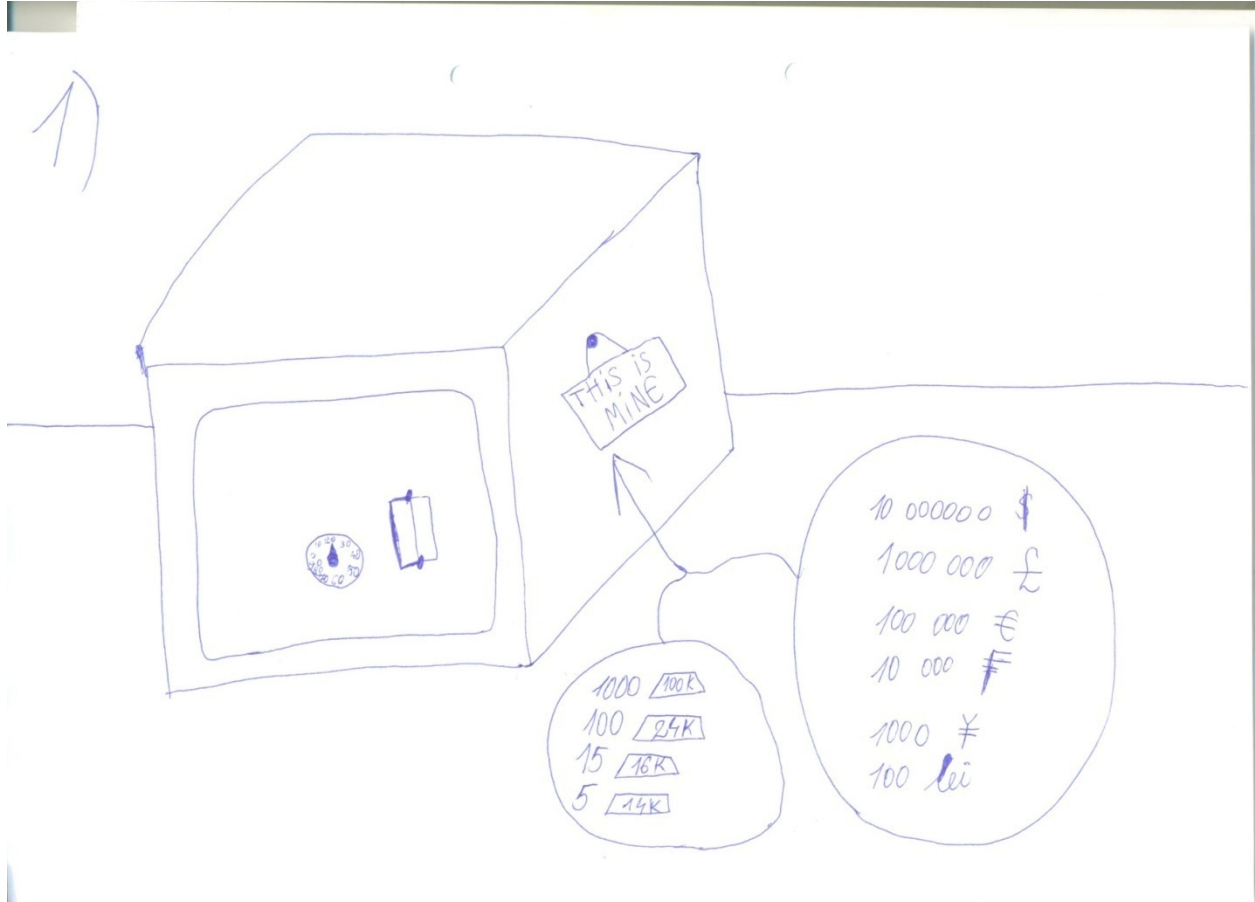
Interview:

Dr.: What do you mean by strictness, in relation to order? Do you always put your toys back in their place?

Alex(talking about his toys): Whenever anyone comes to me, they should pick up toys after we stop playing. I want everything to be in order, if they did a mess, they must collect the toys and put them back in order; if I do the mess, I must gather them; if we did the mess together, we must collect them together; I want fairness. If children do not put things where they belong, I take other measures, I go and talk to their parents.

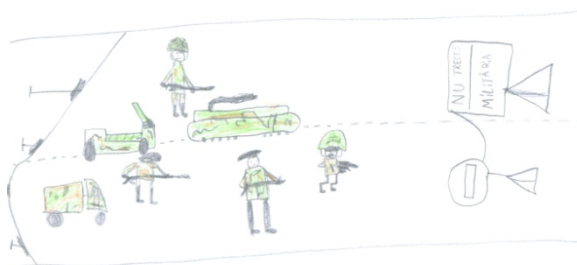
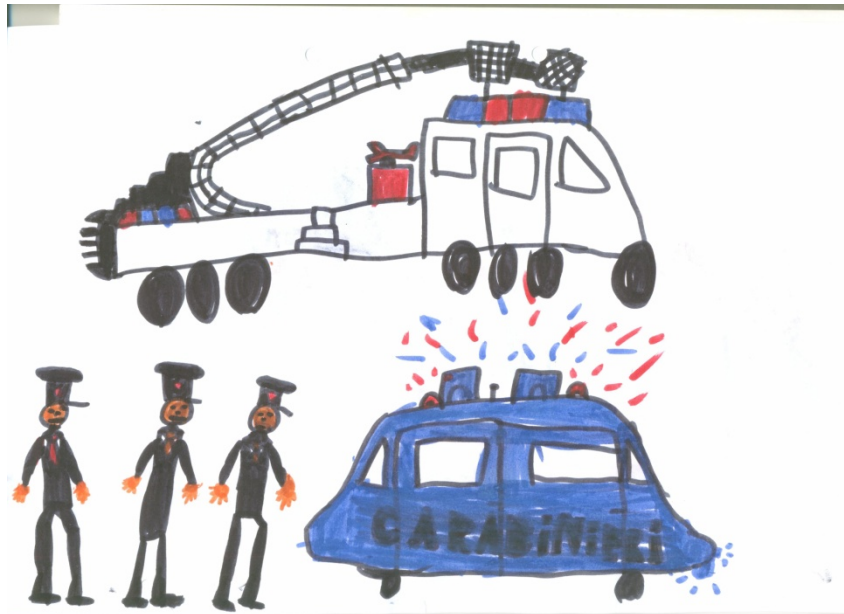
Themes of Alex: Money, safety, security"

DRAWINGS OF BANK, MONEY, MONEY IN SAFE DEPOSIT BOX



Themes of Alex: "Police, ambulance, defense, fireman":

DRAWINGS WITH POLICE, AMBULANCE, MILITARY FORCES



His last drawing represents a roadblock with police cars.

Interview:

Mother: He draws a lot police cars, ambulances.

A: Now I discovered ambulances, now I draw them in space.

Alex likes very much to play with cars, ambulances:

Interview:

"Mother: He always used to play with car toys, he aligned them, he played on the carpet. We have a large carpet, as large as the room, that has streets drawn all over it and he used to play all the time with the cars on it, he put cars on the entire carpet and he played with them for hours and hours.

Alex: I liked to go with a car from one end of the carpet to the other, make accidents with it, then I got back alone to the other side to take an ambulance. I did that until recently, up to when I was nine years old;

Dr.: (talking to his mother) So he had the same theme for playing, streets, cars, ambulances, as he has in his drawings.

Alex: When I was a young child, I had an obsession, when I got the cars in line, I wanted them to stay close one to another (stuck together), even though my mother used to correct me and tell me that in reality they don't stay so close to each other. Now I have grown and I understand how things are."

Theme of Alex: "Defense":

Alex says (talking about digital games that he likes to play):

"I like to travel by subway in the game. The only thing that I don't like is the fact that I can't stop the train as they can stop it in a movie I saw, in which the mayor paid an amount of money to the one that saved the hostages."

This theme resembles Niccolum's proving of R. Sankaran, in which R. Sankaran has a dream where he goes to the police in order to save others. R.Sankaran says that "to save others, attack and defense, police", themes that appeared in Nicollum's proving, are actually themes of all elements of Row 4.

Alex's fears:

Mother describes him being:

- Fearful, easy to panic, emotive;
- Feels like vomiting when getting emotional;
- Fear of rain, thunder, lightning - but most of all fear of the storm effects, if the current is interrupted and he is left in darkness, then he panics;

- Fear of dark;
- Fear of insects;
- Claustrophobia

Theme of Alex: "Claustrophobia":

Alex:

At school, other kids used to shut him up in the toilet, in order to make fun of him - he used to get afraid of the dark, felt like suffocating and got thirsty.

Proving's theme: Claustrophobia

Everything feels a bit too close. I feel like things are pressing closer. I want to push everything away.

Theme of Alex: "Fear of thunderstorm":

Interview:

"Alex: I like the sun; I hate the rain with thunder and lightning, I'm afraid of the rain; of storms."

Mother: "For a period of time, he was very afraid of storm, he was afraid even when it rained, even if there were only a few drops of rain, he panicked. We had to stay with him; he was afraid that the power would be cut off because of the wind. There was a strong storm and he got frightened. Now he got used to the rain, he gets scared only of big storms."

Theme of Alex: "Fear of dark; threat in the dark"

Interview with Alex:

"Dr: Tell me about your fear of the dark.

Alex: I watched movies, especially with guns and shootings, I played games, and because of my rich imagination and my sub consciousness, I feel like there's a being that gets out from under my bed in the dark.

Dr: And what does that being do to you?

Alex: It grabs my feet, eventually pulls me under the bed. Whenever I come back from the bathroom and get in the bedroom, I run to the bed, not to get pulled under the bed. When I pass through a dark room, I run. I feel like there's a presence behind me. If I don't run, I feel it there behind me.

Dr: Are you afraid also when there is light or only when it's dark?

Alex: I'm afraid only when it's dark."

Proving's theme: "dark"

I am quite fearful as it is very dark and I am heading somewhere even darker

Proving's theme: "threat"

This is the strongest pointer to the animal kingdom. I feel mostly like prey with a sense of some larger force out there. The cat is out there and I am on the menu!

[10] Dream – something wants to break into the school and get me. I return inside the school whenever danger approaches. Feeling of being singled out.

[14] I feel like something's got me by the throat.

[22] I dream of a deadly threat from a man with great power over us.

Animal themes in the case of Alex:

Theme of Alex: "Territorial"

Alex says during interview:

"Alex: I do not let anyone enter my bedroom if they don't belong to my security, permissive area. They must be like me, to think like me; they must have a certain age and behavior to let them play with my toys;

Dr.: But how should they behave, what would bother you, to ruin your toys?

Alex: Yes, it bothers me if they take them, if they chew them, if they scratch my console, if they croak like zombies, or if they get their hands on the controller; or leave toys scattered. This is the was new topic with my psychologist, the fact that I am very strict regarding the perfect order of my toys."

Moles in nature (Misha Norland):

"Moles are extremely territorial creatures and have been known to fight to the death."

Theme of Alex: "Superior-inferior"

Alex says:

" At school, the fuss that others make bothers me, those who think they are smarter, the fact that they think they are superior to us. Although they are children just like all of us, they talk like adults, they think they are smarter than us; these guys with a brain like a small nut, they think they are smarter than all of us. I do not like it at all, I get angry when they show off."

Theme of Alex: "Aggressivity", "Victim- aggressor" ("you versus me")

Interview:

"Dr.: Alex, if you do not want to talk about your cousin, you don't have to do it (his mother tells me this is a very delicate subject, that bothers him greatly, mainly because in a few days his cousin will come again from Italy, and he is already stressed; you can tell how upset he is by the way he talks; knowing this, I did not insist on this during the interview. I also noticed that he took very personal the actions of his little cousin, like a "he versus me "reaction).

Alex: In a few words, I don't like him because he always plays the victim and I always get scolded and punished for all the bad things he does, and I always get to be seen as the sucker.

Mother: But Luca also gets scolded.

Alex: No, that's not true. He always wants everything I play with; this is very annoying. He really wanted to get me pissed!

Mother: This is how children are.

A: Let me speak. If I stop playing with a toy, he no longer wants it either. I had to play on my tablet after he went to sleep."

Theme of Alex: "Aggressiveness", "Victim- aggressor", " Bullied at school "

In such cases of being bullied, his reaction is to respond to aggression (hit back), to revenge, but only when he does not put himself in danger.

Also, when he sees two children in conflict, he gets in between only if he is sure he doesn't get hurt. His expression was: "I don't want to get home bruised".

Alex says:

"I get really upset by insults, those who insult me really upset me, especially those who curse my mother; I also get very upset with those who make bad jokes on me, trapping me in the bathroom. My reaction is the same in these situations: if they are older than me, I can't say or do anything, but I show them the one cheek, the sign which tells them they have no honor. If they are younger than me, "I pay them with the same coin"; I pinch them, I kick them, I grab their collar, I slam their heads against the walls. They escape easily, others punish them much worse. I have this pleasure, satisfaction to avenge."

Proving theme: "Bullied"

I realized today that one of the feelings in this proving is of being bullied, I feel bullied into decisions or into having to do things I would rather not have to. It is like emotional bullying. P8 23/23:08:15

I feel I have had a number of incidents happen to me over this proving where people have been disproportionately aggressive towards me. Where the level of aggression has not been warranted. I feel things

are blown out of proportion or misunderstood and like I am the bad guy and have to over explain myself. I do not run from my duty, I take the time to fully explain the situation from my side and why I feel there is a misunderstanding. P8 34/34:02:45 NS

Alex's relationship with the animals:

Animals he likes:

He says he loves animals, his greatest joy is to play with his dog and his cat; he likes mostly his dog because he feels protected by it; he also likes to write about his animals, this is his favorite theme of essays.

Animals he resembles:

Alex says he resembles a monkey for it is lively, restless and agitated as he is.

Animals he doesn't like, towards whom he shows fear and disgust (the disgust towards moles could be a confirmation of the remedy):

Interview:

"Dr.: I want to ask you also about the animals that you do not like.

A: I am disgusted by mice, rats, moles, weasels, dead birds; I like birds in general, but not to see them dead; I hate and I'm afraid of spiders and cockroaches in the house.

M: Nevertheless, when he's outdoors he catches them and plays with them.

Dr.: Inside the house you do not like or are you afraid of them?

A: I do not like cockroaches, they are black and come out from where you do not expect; I always need safety in order to feel at ease, to have everything under control.

Dr.: What about outside, are you not afraid?

A: Outside I don't have problems; I once caught a stag beetle, I took it to school alive; colleagues were scared, I would tell them "let me show you a surprise!" and they were frightened and I laughed.

Dr.: So outside you kill off bugs and spiders? What about inside the house?

A: Inside I'm afraid of them, I kill them and run away, I call someone else to take them away.

Theme from proving: "Animal":

I have had more exposure than normal to rats, I am usually scared of them and feel threatened that they might attack but now it is more a sense of 'they are not interested in me'.

I saw a seagull eating a dead rat and I must admit I found it absolutely fascinating whereas I would normally find it disgusting,

I have also seen a large amount of road kill; a badger (black and white one), a fox, an otter some cats, dogs and various others that were unrecognizable. This happens just about every road trip I take and I find myself staring wanting to see more with none of the usual revulsion or pity I have when seeing dead animals. I feel distanced from their suffering. P3

When we are at the tunnel we see a bird on the ground, struggling. I pick it up and it starts to fly but soon glides to the ground. It must be hurt. After some more attempts it dies in my hand, sinking its beak into the knuckle of my thumb. I don't feel any pain but the agony of the bird touches me deeply and I feel my body tensing up. It makes me tearful writing about it. P5 33/33:X NS

Alex's dreams:

- *When he was small: "he found himself on a sailing ship attacked by a dragon. "*
- *Another dreams: "he was alone in the woods with wolves, or was attacked by a dog."*
- *Another dream: "he was on a swing which was very high and fell into a dark hole. "*

After each bad dream he had the sensation of falling into a dark hole; he was not afraid of the dream situation, but the black hole frightened him and woke him up. Initially, I didn't get the meaning of this black hole, but, after finding the remedy, I thought of a possible explanation: it could be an expression of the language of the source, pointing at the tunnels dug by the mole in order to trap the earthworms, being in this case an identification of the aggressor with its victim's feelings.

Dream after starting taking the remedy Talpa:

" He dreamt that he was walking with his dog, he met a young boy having a chocolate and a very cute cat, another boy threatened to kill the cat, to break its neck, if he did not give him his chocolate. Alex takes the side of the child with the chocolate, the other one curses him, then Alex beats him up, but the bad boy returns with other boys and Alex throws them all into a lake. Later, Alex meets the boy who was upset because his cat had been killed. Alex suffers, therefore he goes to the one who had killed the cat, and beats him up."

I asked him what he felt after this dream. He said that he felt aggressive and also that he felt regret because the cute cat was killed, and the satisfaction for revenging the cat.

ALEX'S HOBBIES:

I would like to mention that many of the themes arising from Alex's hobbies, experiences and drawings have a direct relationship with the source language and have also been found in the proving, being decisive in choosing the remedy.

Interview with Alex:

Alex: Now I have three passions: the first is to go outside to play with my pets, my dog and my cat; my second pleasure is to draw; and the third one is to play on the console, not shooting games, but to build, I have all kinds of projects in mind, I made a platform with a building thrusting through the platform, a tower, I like to build; I like to build not only on the console, I built a house for my cat. In the past, up to when I got nine years old, I had a passion to play with small cars and trains.

Theme of Alex: " Happy in his bubble" (he plays alone or he draws for hours, without getting bored)

Interview:

"Dr.: But do toys mean something special for you?

Mother: He used to play all the time with small cars, align them, play with them on the floor. We have a carpet as big as a room, with streets drawings on it and he kept playing on it with his cars, he spread his cars all over the carpet and he played with pleasure for hours. He also had a game with trains, he could combine railways and stations.

Alex: Oh, I loved those toys!!!! I used to play for hours with them."

Theme from proving: "Happy, carefree. gaiety. giggling. in good spirits. smiling and infused with sense that all would be well. quite happy in my own little bubble"

One reflection since coming out of the proving experience I think the best way to describe the general feeling I had was on of disconnection from the rest of the world. The feeling of calmness and just getting on with things was also one of being slightly removed from the situation and not involved or affected by the rest of the world – quite happy in my own little bubble

Three Themes of Alex (coming from the interview, when he spoke about his hobbies):

1. "Railways, roads, junctions, crossroads" (source language)

2. "Nature vs manmade" (the same theme was found in the proving)

3. "Anthill" (source language)

Interview:

Alex: I also have a passion for railways, but especially for the railways that are not in use anymore, almost covered by grass, or that have some kind of obstacles along; or, for example, I like pieces of railways. Next to my grandmother's house there's an old industrial area; along tramlines there was

once an unused junction crossing the tram lines. When I come from school with my grandfather, I walk near by the industrial area and I like how the railway comes out of the soil in a lower portion and how it goes under the gate and continues to the factory;

Dr.: Do you like railways?

Alex: I like pieces of railways, like unused railways or when the rails can't be seen for a portion, like it is hidden by an obstacle, and then the rail ends.

Dr.: What does that obstacle mean, how does it attract you?

Alex: A lot of grass, bushes and weeds sometimes.

Dr: Are you rather attracted by railroad tracks with grass?

Alex: I like the unused ones, I find them interesting, I do not know why I have a passion for something like this. Yesterday I made a drawing with many junctions where five railway split. One of them went away and I drew obstacles and weed and the railway somewhere finished, but it was not clear where; or I like when it goes into a factory. And when the railway is not used anymore and grass had grown, I find it interesting, I don't know how to explain, I just have a passion for that.

Dr: Do you also like grass growing among stones or just the one growing among the railways?

A: Only the one among the railway tracks; I like especially when the railways end not suddenly, but they enter the ground somewhere in a high area or in a heap of rocks or in a factory. I find it interesting when entering a factory because there are no signals for the terminal, there is just the platform and a line that suddenly stops.

Theme from proving: "Nature vs manmade"

*The nature/man-made contrast is quite a frequent background to my dreaming. I randomly picked up an anthology of poetry yesterday. The poems that caught my attention as I flicked through were Sunflower Sutra, by Allen Ginsberg . In the Sunflower Sutra Ginsberg describes a wholly man-made landscape in terms usually employed to describe nature: 'I sat down under the huge shade of a Southern Pacific Locomotive to look at the sunset over the box house hills... we sat surrounded by the gnarled steel roots of trees of machinery'*P1 6/6:09:00 NS

Themes of Alex: "Tunnels, metro, bifurcations, caves" (language of the source):

Theme of Alex: "Tunnels":

Interview:

Dr.:(speaking about abandoned railways): Do you also like when the railway enters into tunnels?

Alex: In tunnels it's a different story, there I like any type of railways; I would like to walk through the subway tunnels.

Dr.: But it's dark in there, aren't you afraid?

Alex: No, there are light bulbs in there.

Dr.: But should it be dark in there, would you be afraid?

Alex: Yes, but I would carry a lantern; I am not afraid in the tunnels even if I am alone, because I know my way.

Dr.: Do you like to travel by train, or rather to walk along the railways?

Alex: I'd rather walk along the railways, I've already been with my grandfather, there were so many rails and a lot of bifurcations; I love bifurcations and especially when I see them crossing in a single line, it seems very interesting.

I also like trolleybuses; when I was smaller, there were some green ones, blue ones and yellow ones; those were my favorites; I absolutely loved to travel with them; they had some chairs like those in the metro, I enjoyed that the chairs were near the door and facing the rear.

I also like very much the old buses; I have some obsessions, I like buses or metros that are either very old or very new; usually I like the articulated means of transportation; this is something unusual.

Recently I started enjoying planes too.

Dr.: What do you like about the planes, you like the plane or you actually like to fly?

A: I like the plane in itself, but I also like to fly, when I am ascending and descending.

Dr.: Do you like speed?

Alex: By subway, I like speed, by bus I like it normal. I like speed in metro and in planes.

Now we came earlier in Bucharest so I could take a ride in the old subway. (N.B.! Alex is living in a different city and he comes to Bucharest only for treatment, so they make late appointments for Alex to take a ride in the subway).

I take pleasure in admiring the old metro lines; in every station I stick my head out of the window and I watch the bifurcations; I like that a lot.

Mother: Two years ago, on his birthday, a train conductor took him in the cabin and he was thrilled.

Alex: Now, as we arrived, I stopped and watched an old subway train parked on a side track."

Theme of Alex: "Metro, bifurcations" (source language):

Interview:

Dr: What do you actually like about trains, the speed?

Alex: I don't necessarily like the speed; I like bifurcations; Last week I was in the mountains and when we came back I stayed in the rear of the train and I looked at bifurcations, I made movies with bifurcations; I liked that starting from two railway lines it ended up in a whole railway station, with so many lines!

I also like bifurcations of the trolley wires; for me it's a mystery how those trolleybus wires divide!

Mother: He observes all these details; he also went to the railway station especially to look at the bifurcations;

A: Now I understand how they make the switch; but the metro is my favorite means of transportation;

Dr.: Because it's underground?

Alex: Not necessarily, I like seals, trains, trams, metros; but I particularly like the subway.

Dr.: Do you also associate the idea of a tunnel?

Alex: Yes, I like to walk through the tunnel to see bifurcations.

Dr.: Would you also like tunnels without tracks?

Alex: It looks like something would be missing without tracks.

Theme of Alex: " Digging tunnels"

Alex says:

"When I was smaller I dug a tunnel in miniature; I am stuffing my hand in the sand and make a tunnel; I like to dig tunnels, to make trenches, pits."

Theme from proving: "Tunnels":

I dream of doors all the doors are connected by tunnels, I rush down the tunnels to get to the doors, I open the doors and meet different people from work. It is a repetitive dream, it is a dream about work. P8 7/ 7:24:XX Dream

My whole family is somewhere at night. My father says he has to check something in this tunnel, my mother and my brother want to carry on. I don't want my father to be in the tunnel on his own so I follow him. I am quite fearful as it is very dark and I am heading somewhere even darker.. P5 33/33:X NS

Alex's drawing : "METRO"

Theme of Alex: "Digging"; Alex likes to dig holes, tunnels (source language - similar to moles digging burrows):

Interview:

Dr.: Do you like to be in closed spaces, tunnels, caves?

Alex: (no relation to the previous question) ah, better digging; I'm crazy about digging;

Dr.: Digging ??

Alex: Yes, digging. I dug a cave last winter, I gathered snow in the yard and made a mountain, and using my hands and a shovel, more by my hands, I dug and made a cave;

Mother: He digs holes in the backyard.

Dr.: What do you dig, pits? Do you use a shovel?

Alex: Not necessarily pits; when I was smaller I dug a miniature tunnel, stuffing my hand in the sand and making the tunnel;

Dr.: By hand? But weren't you concerned about getting dirty anymore?

Alex: No, if I can get dirty on my hands I can wash and I do not mind; getting dirty on my feet if it's something else, especially if I can't wash.

Dr.: So you do not mind digging into the ground by hand. You even enjoy it;

Alex: If it's not like mud, but it's dry, I like it.

Dr: And did you make tunnels in the soil?

Alex: Yes, I like to dig tunnels, to make trenches, pits.

Dr.: Do you put something in the tunnels or do you just dig them and leave them like that?

Mother: He leaves them; now we don't quite allow him to dig.

Dr.: Why?

Mother: Well, he is making holes in the middle of the backyard and spoils the grass (source language).

Theme of proving: "Digging- soiled and digging in the soil"

[4], [2] Things are covered in soil, which is wiped off: a carrot, a dead baby.

[?] Dream – I pick up a lost infant – it soils me.

[3] Digging in the soil in a survival situation.

Wary of competition. Scrabbling in the earth with my hands.

Theme of Alex: "Water":

Interview:

Dr.: So you like water, being in the water?

Alex: Yes, and when I stay in the water I do not drink water at all; for example, if I stay in the water for 5 hours I drink only 200 ml.

Dr.: And if you are out of the water, how much do you drink?

Alex: About 2.5 l; I drink 500 ml / hour

Dr.: And what about the sea, do you like to be in the waves?

Alex: Yes, I love the water but I do not like the sand.

Mother: He likes water, if he gets into the water I cannot make him come out; but he doesn't stand sand, I must always wash his feet; no way he would bear the sand on his feet until we get back to the hotel; he has never played in the sand.

Dr.: Don't you make castles in the sand?

Mother: He does, but only standing upright and then he must wash.

Dr.: Tell me more about water.

Alex: I was in Cyprus and I stayed in the pool for a long time and I hadn't been drinking water for several hours.

Proving: (from the theme "Energy-fluctuating"

When I am in the water I feel like reborn, all the tiredness is gone.

Theme of Alex: "Swimming"

Interview:

Dr.: But if you had a pool in your yard would it be the same?

Alex: I had, but it was small and it was not the same; I like the pool to be deeper so I can swim and not touch down.

Dr.: Do you like to swim? Are you not afraid?

Alex: I love to swim (the way he tells it!)

Theme of proving: "Swimming":

Dream - In my dream I find myself and others swimming on our backs around narrow, square edged (man-made) channels that zig-zag about like a maze

Moles in nature:

they are good swimmers and can escape from flooding

Themes of Alex that come from his drawings:

"Anger, violence, aggression, bombs, war"

Alex's aggressiveness is expressed directly as a reaction against those who insult or mock him, only when he does not put himself in danger.

But sometimes, when he can't show his anger or has no courage to intervene, he expresses frequently his aggression only in his drawings

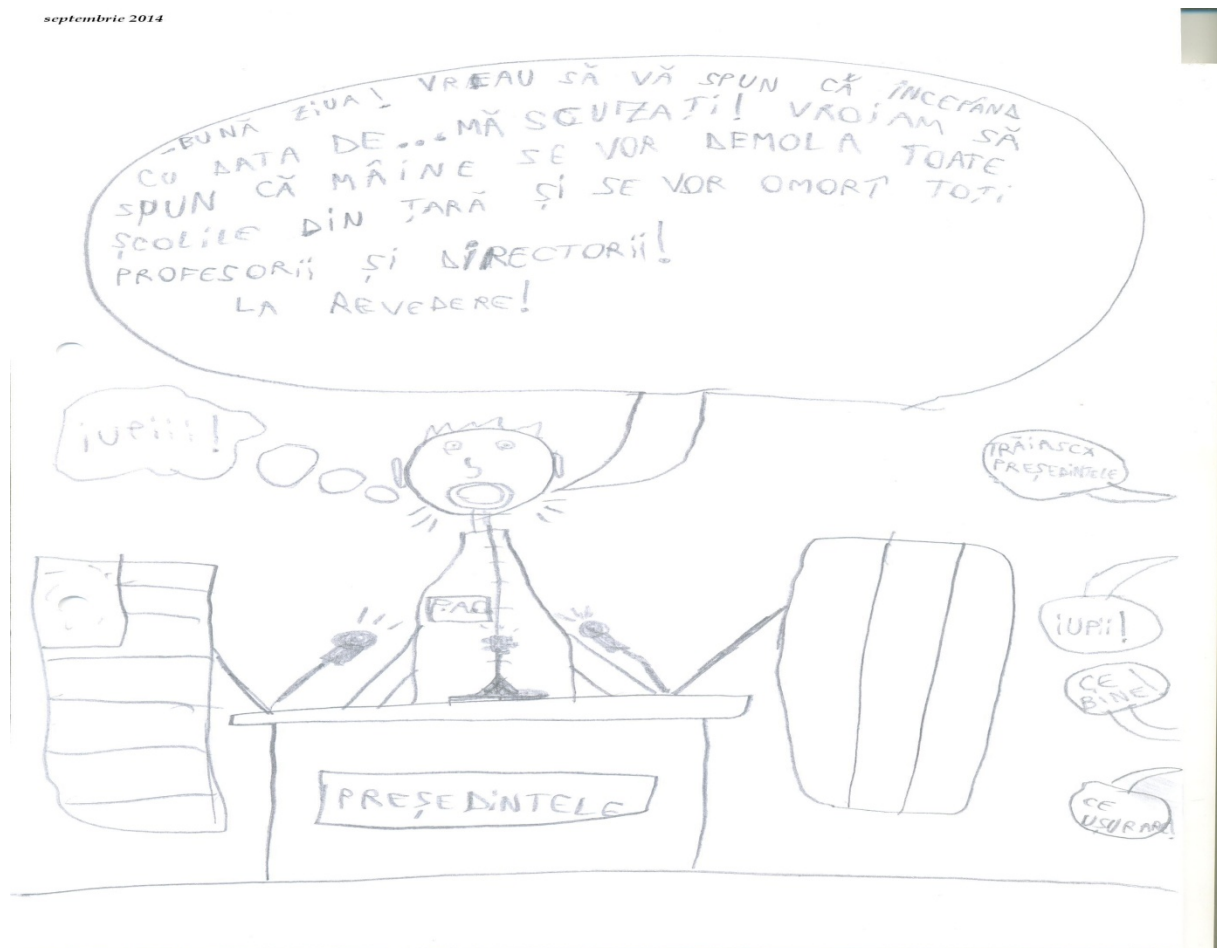
Also, during the conflict with his little cousin, when Alex felt punished unjustly and he didn't get the opportunity to express his feelings, his reaction was to suppress anger and to manifest the aggression and resentment against his cousin in his drawings.

Below I included some of his drawings, whose main theme is war: war against the school, against the police, against his cousin that upsets him (he takes very personally his younger cousin's reactions), explosions, bombs, prisoners, fire etc.

Themes from drawings below: "War with school"

Text from drawing below:

"Hello! I just want to tell you that starting with....excuse me, starting from tomorrow all the schools will be demolished and all the teachers and directors will be killed"



septembrie 2014



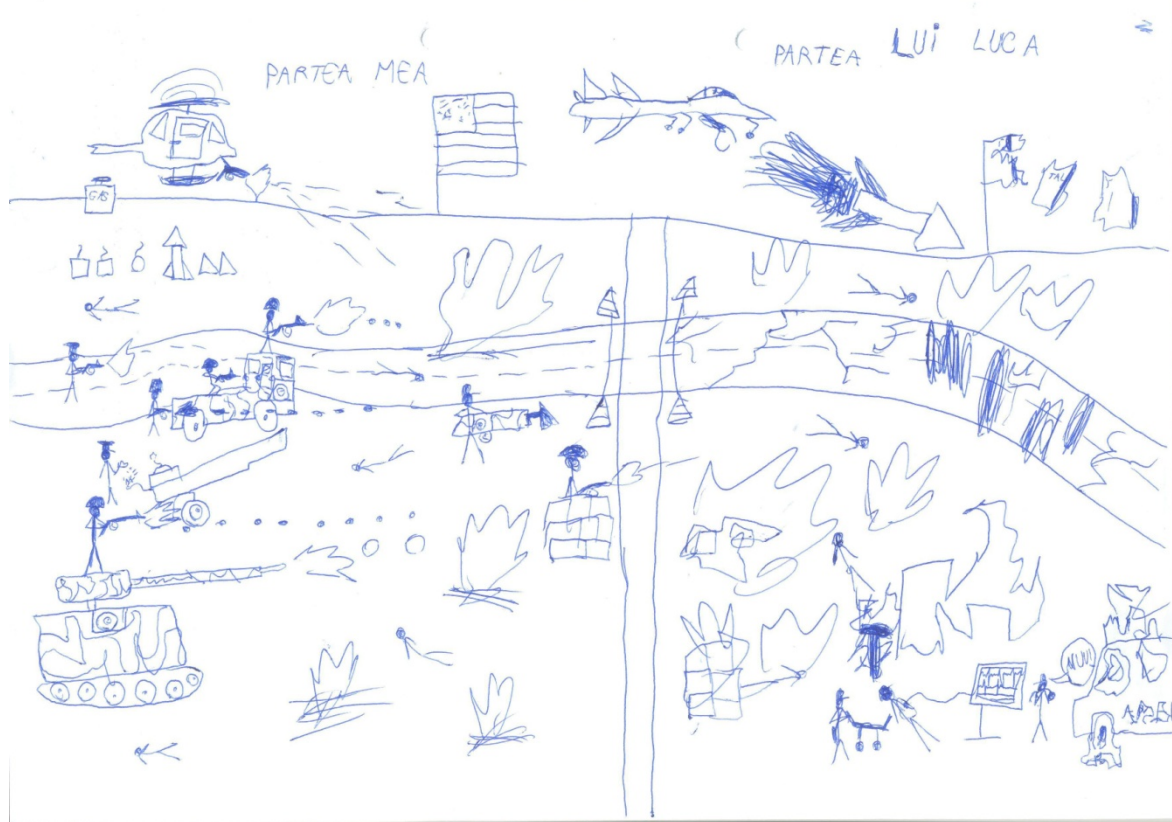
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Theme from drawing below: "War USA – Italy"

septembrie 2014



Themes from drawings below: "POLICE, WAR, ARMY"



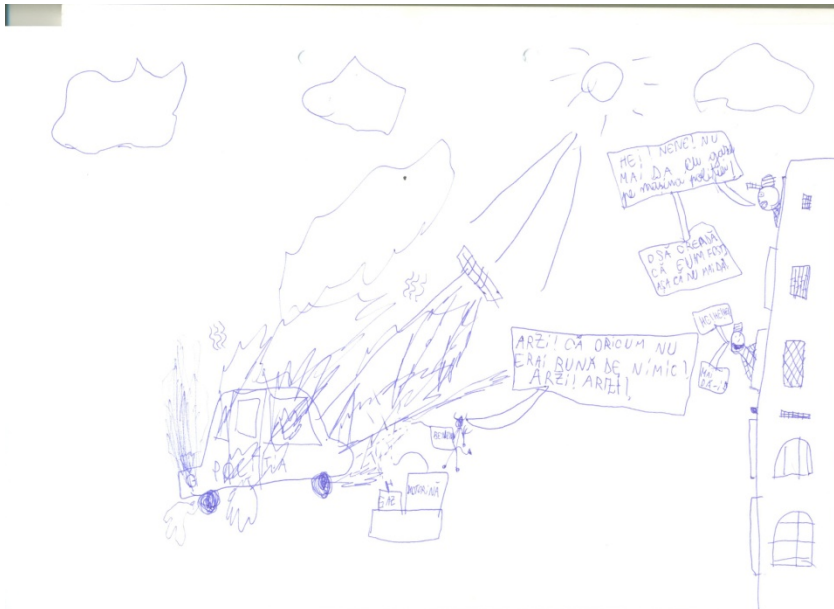
Theme from drawing below: "prisoners being tortured in an underground prison"



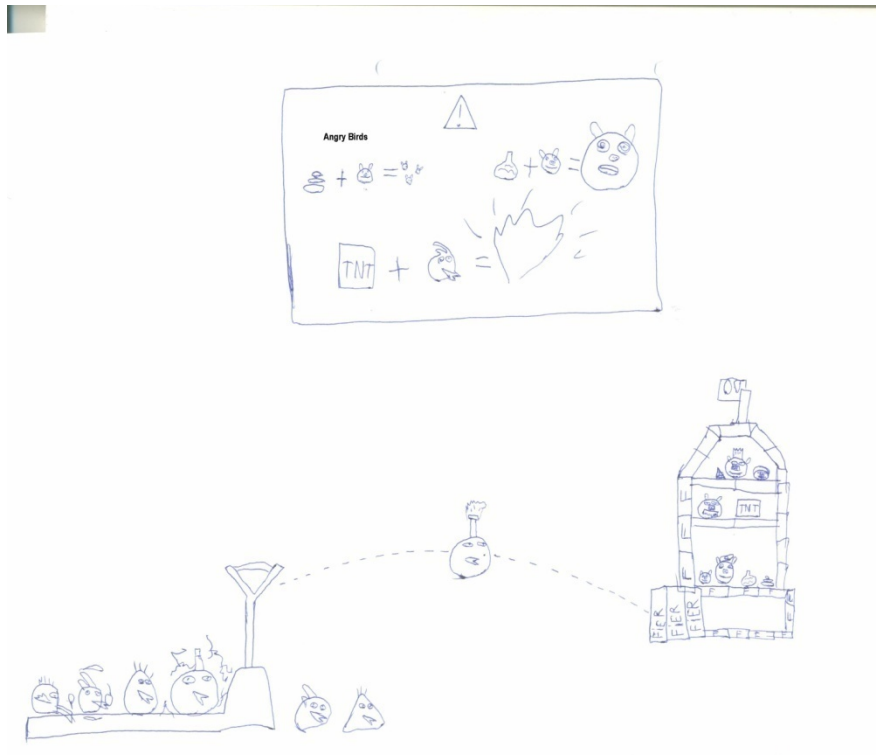
Theme from drawing below: "Bombs: all bombs will explode immediately"



Theme fro drawing below: "Police fire: Burn! You were no good anyway".



Theme from drawing below: "TNT explosion"



Theme of proving: " Anger, violence, war"

I dream I have to ignite an atomic bomb that is placed in a pub.

I don't remember if there was a war or what the mission was all about. I remember that I worry about what clothes I will need when I come back from it. I am not afraid, not aware of consequences for me. The bomb is in a small packet and I have a fire lighter and something like a fuse. I go in the next room after I watched the fire getting closer to the bomb. It doesn't seem to have enough "power" to get the bomb to explode, but I am not sure, so I am careful with my breathing. My throat is sore from breathing in the smoke. I feel what it must be like to be near an exploding atomic bomb, I feel my breath is taken away. But, nothing happens. I feel a bit guilty that I didn't complete my mission but I carry on looking for clothes I will need when I go back home.

Dream P5 5/5:X NS

So fed up with everything that I want to kill people on the street when driving. They are not even in my way, I just want to run them over, feel my hands tighter on the wheel, my muscles in the foot and leg are getting tighter, just one more push and I could do it. Same goes for the dogs, I want to kill them, stab them create a bloodbath, get rid of them and my anger. I know being "red" or even "white" with anger but usually I turn against myself, act in a self-destructive way, but would never harm anyone or even think about it. This is very different. P5 15/15:X NS

Alex's other themes emerging from his drawings that have a direct connection with the source's language.

Theme of Alex: "Productive":

There are many children in Romania playing with animals or with the playstation, but not so many who draw as much as Alex; the way he draws with perseverance for hours without getting bored, always improving what he draws as the next day he starts all over again, all of this made me think it must be something special about those drawings, something about his deeper experiences. After studying these drawings and integrated them with its extremely strange hobbies, I began to realize that all these bizarre things are actually profound expressions of the source's language, actually the mole; in the way he draws or plays, in what he draws, there is the energy and productivity of the moles when they dig tunnels.

Theme of proving: "Productive, industrious"

The other noticeable feature was that I experienced a steady energy which enabled me to keep going long into the evening: determined energy with clear-headedness. The energy was expended on dealing with small matters, many of them household chores, which I had been ignoring for a long time.

The strongest most memorable part of my proving experience was the overall increased level of energy combined with the calmness and feeling of just getting on with things that would normally cause a level of stress.

In comparison a number of the other provers had the opposite of an increased level of energy with complete exhaustion; one comment was "I lost days to the tiredness".

The idea of just getting on with things without thinking about it led one student and me to the conclusion that we are proving "The Power of Now". I have never before been so much in the NOW for such a length of time and I don't want to miss this experience for anything

I have had quite a busy and what would normally be a stressful day at work. I have been home for about an hour and have noticed that I am not tired or unhappy that I've had a long day, I feel like I have got enough energy to continue and do the same again. I feel quite full of energy whilst also feeling grounded and calm

Themes of Alex: "Mazes, streets, crossroads, hills":

Interview with Alex and his parents:

Father: Alex likes to draw; he made numerous drawings; he draws streets, intersections, draws in detail; he is trying to sort traffic, draws intersections where all vehicles are in proper place, very orderly. Before being at school he would draw mazes. We have at home a lot of drawings.

Dr.: Tell me about the drawings you did when you were little.

Mother: He was drawing mazes.

Alex: I loved to draw vehicles also.

Dr.: The vehicles you were seeing and you could take a ride with them. But how did you start drawing mazes?

Alex: I would get ideas from the children's comics and I wanted to improve them, to make them more complicated, not just exact copies.

Dr.: For how long were you drawing?

Alex: 1-2 hours, sometimes more.

Dr.: Didn't you get bored?

A: No, not even now, I don't get bored, I like very much to draw.

Mother: This is due to his imagination; after mazes he began to draw streets, intersections, gradually began to add traffic lights, road signs.

Alex: Yes, I was drawing streets, intersections, more and more complicated.

Dr.: How do you draw a landscape? Do you draw it from above, like the streets?

Alex: I don't draw landscapes from above, but from the side or the front, not from above.

Dr: I remember your father said you were also drawing hills.

Mother: He was drawing hills.

Dr: Did you draw landscapes that you visited, or out of your imagination?

Alex: I always draw the same model of landscapes. (Fixity). I hate someone to impose to me what to draw, when there is something I enjoy doing, I do not like anyone to impose to me how to do it.

Mother: For example, I enrolled him in painting, but when he saw he was required to draw certain things, he didn't want to continue.

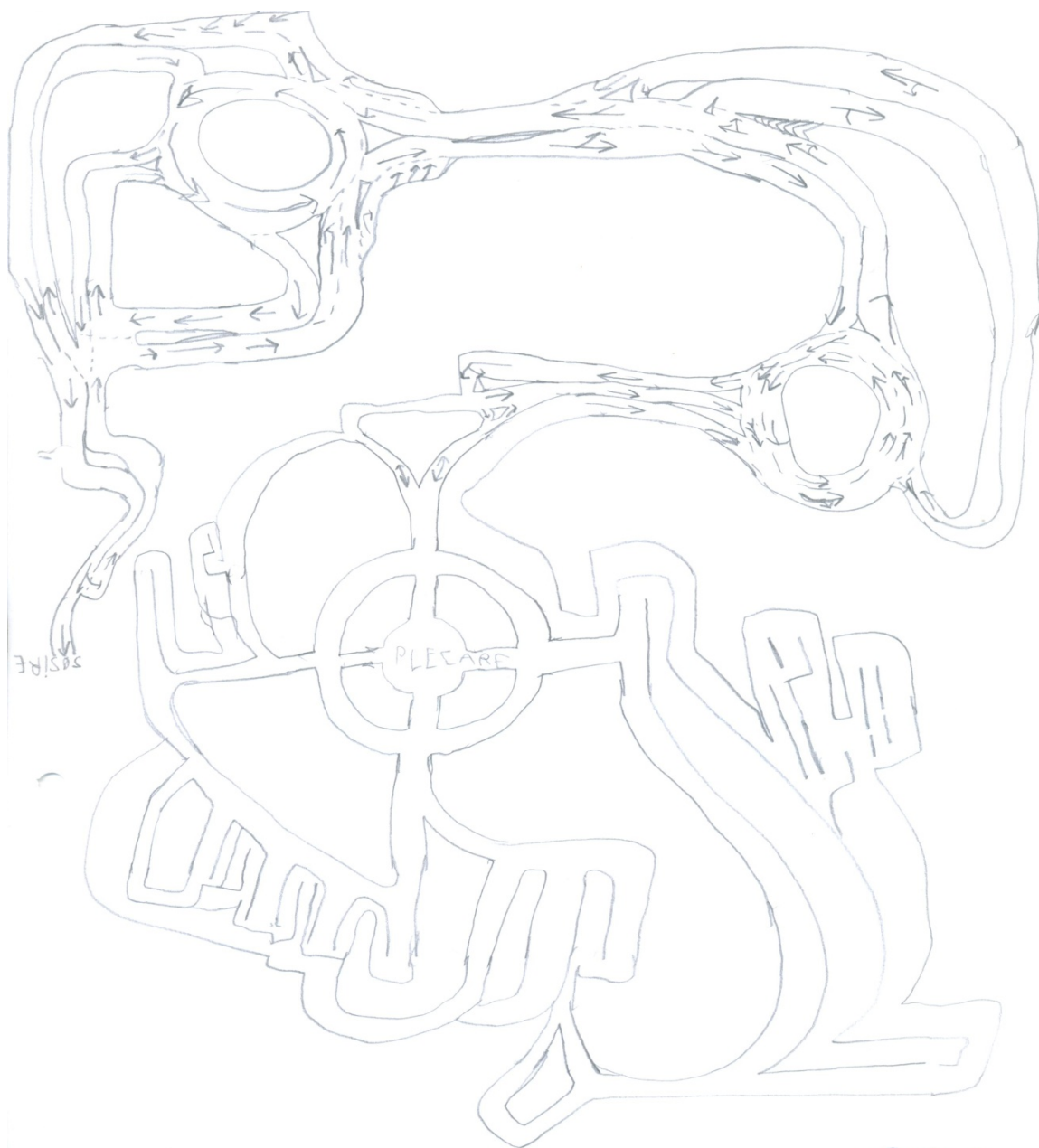
Alex: I want to draw what I want; in school I also like to draw, I have some well-done paintings, but I do not really like that the teacher gives us certain themes that we had to follow, I wanted to draw also what I want, what I like to draw.

Dr.: Now what do you like most to draw?

Alex: Cars, trolleybus, vehicles; and I also draw the roads where they run.

Mother: For a period he drew mazes, then only cars, a period only streets, but now he began drawing cars on the road; now he draws streets and cars with details, he is very meticulous and is drawing on large sheets of paper.


ALEX'S DRAWINGS WITH MAZES:

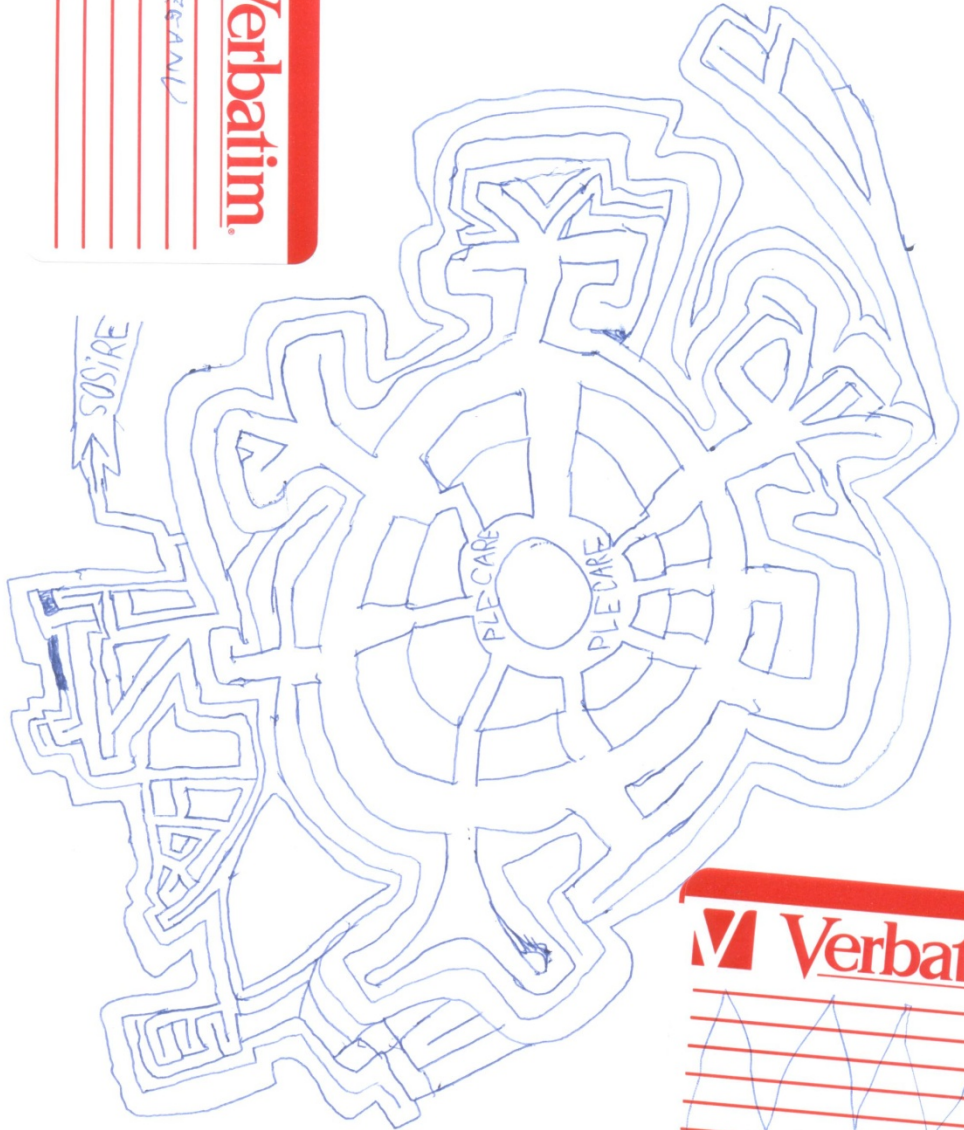


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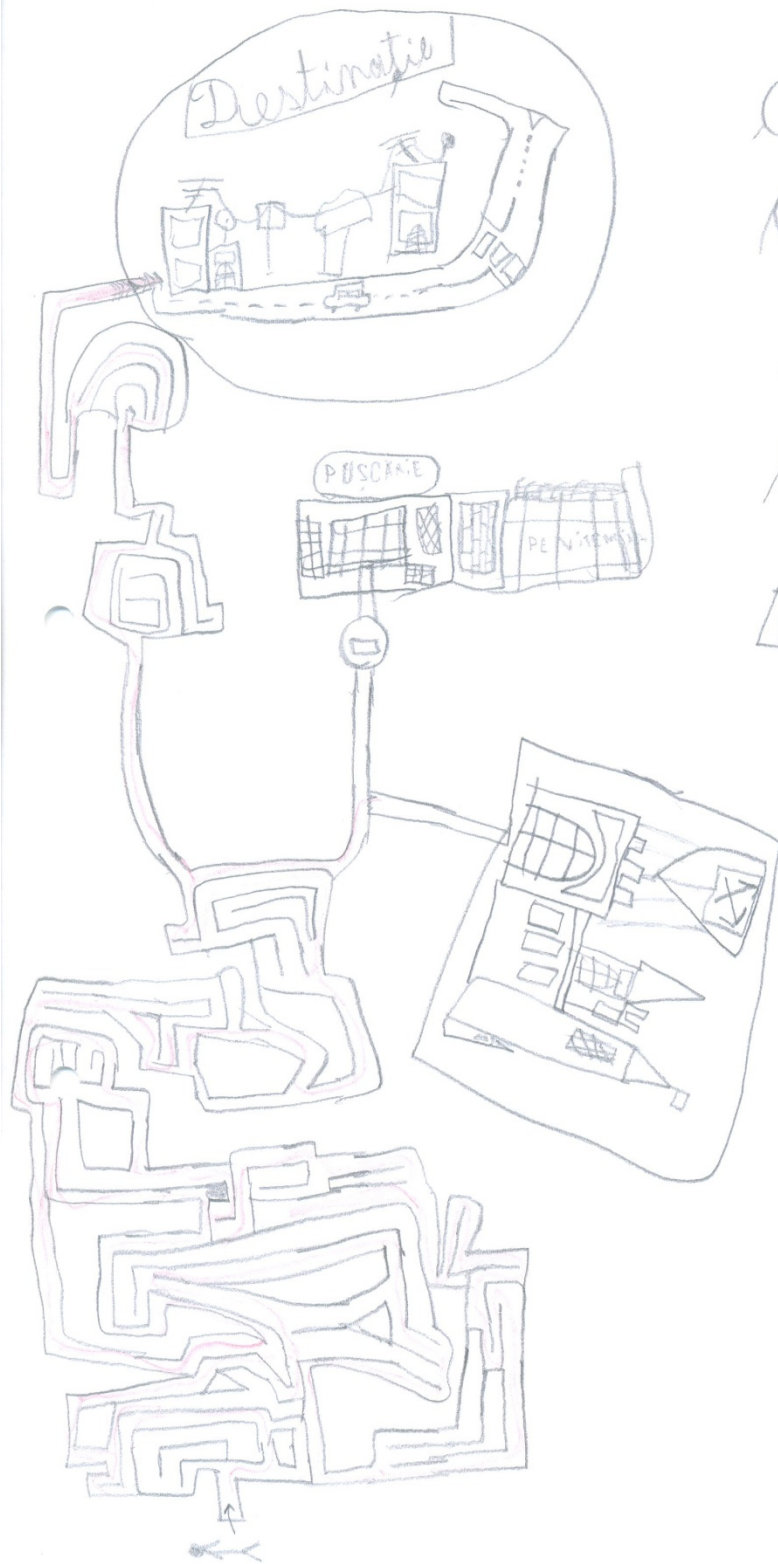
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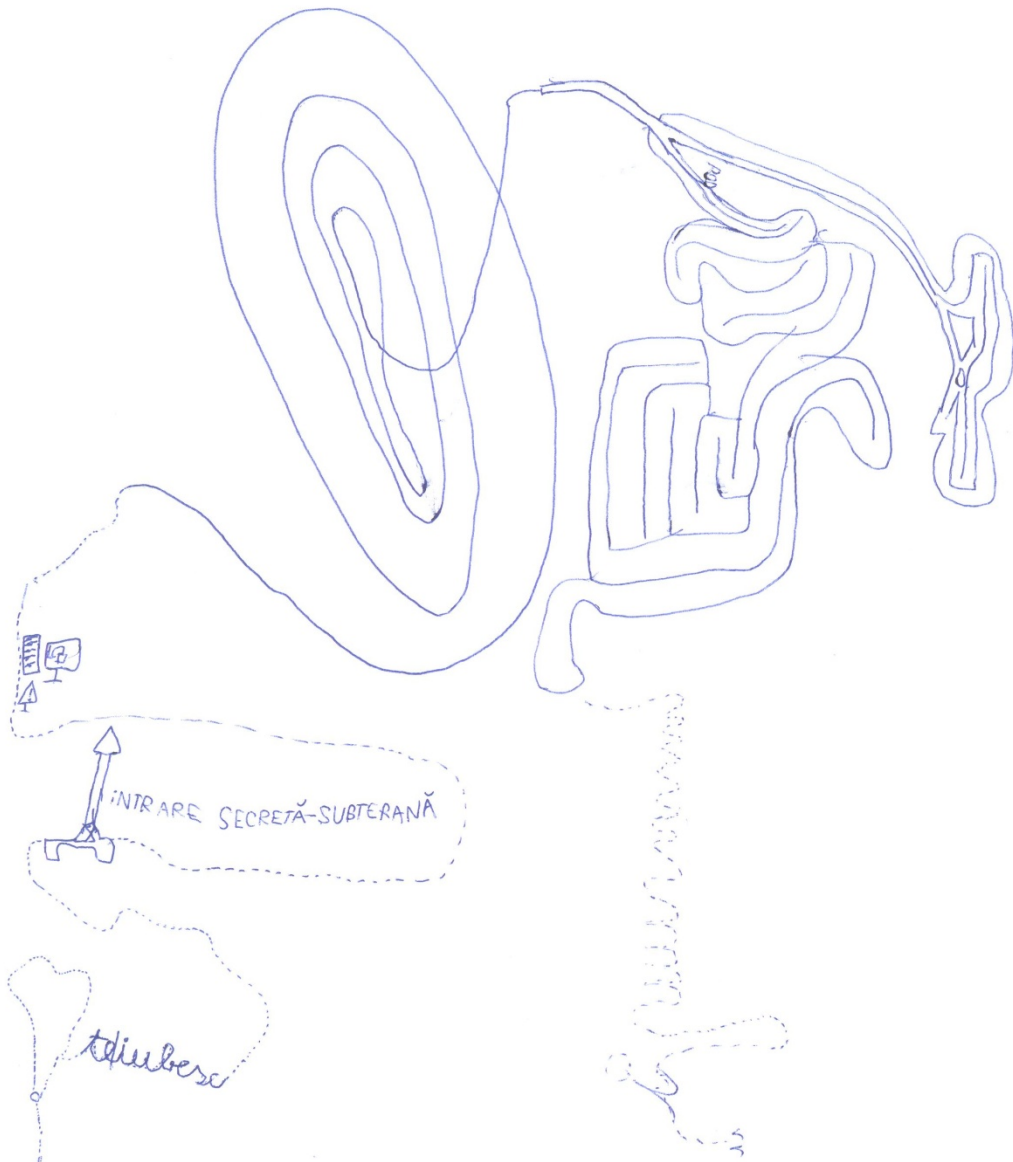


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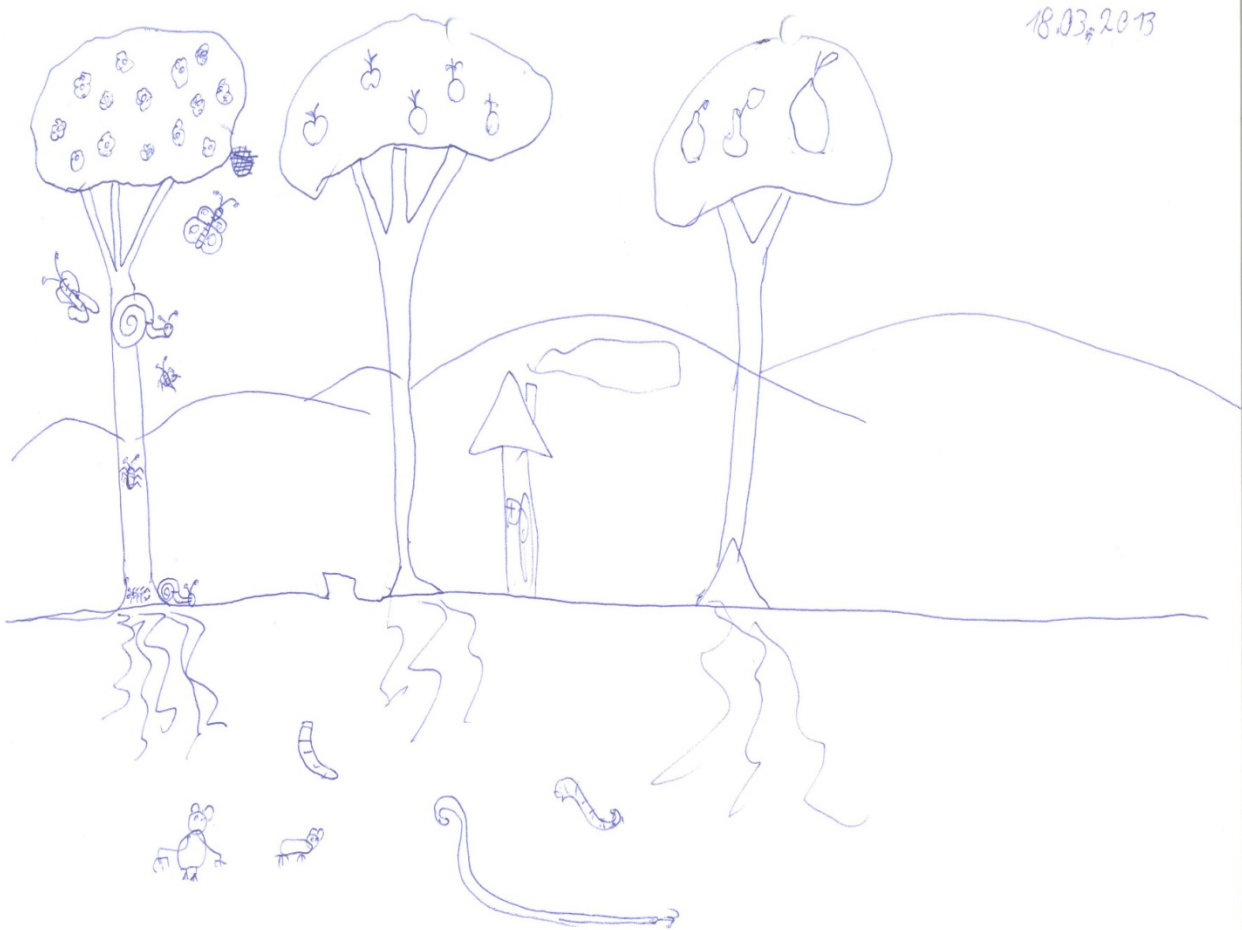
Theme of Alex: "Secret, Underground" (coming from his drawings):

ALEX has numerous drawings representing the underworld; one can observe the amazing similarities with the tunnels dug by moles;

Themes coming from below drawings are:

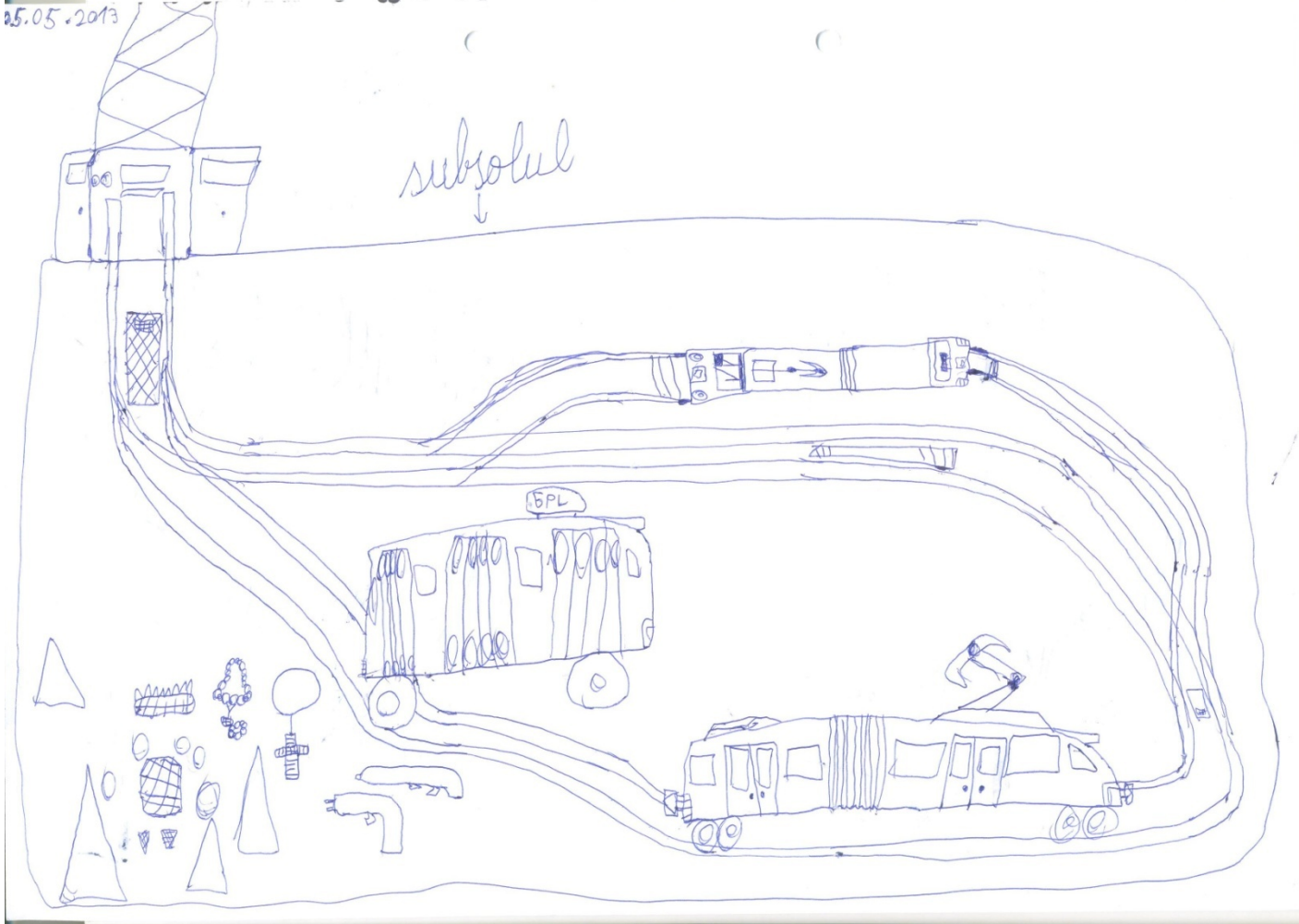
UNDERGROUND ANIMALS, FALLING IN THE UNDERGROUND, METRO, SECRET UNDERGROUND CITY, UNDERGROUND, MOLE HILL, UNDERGROUND PRISON;

THE DRAWING "FALLING UNDERGROUND" shows the prisoners falling in these underground tunnels; it is astounding resemblance to how the moles get their food:

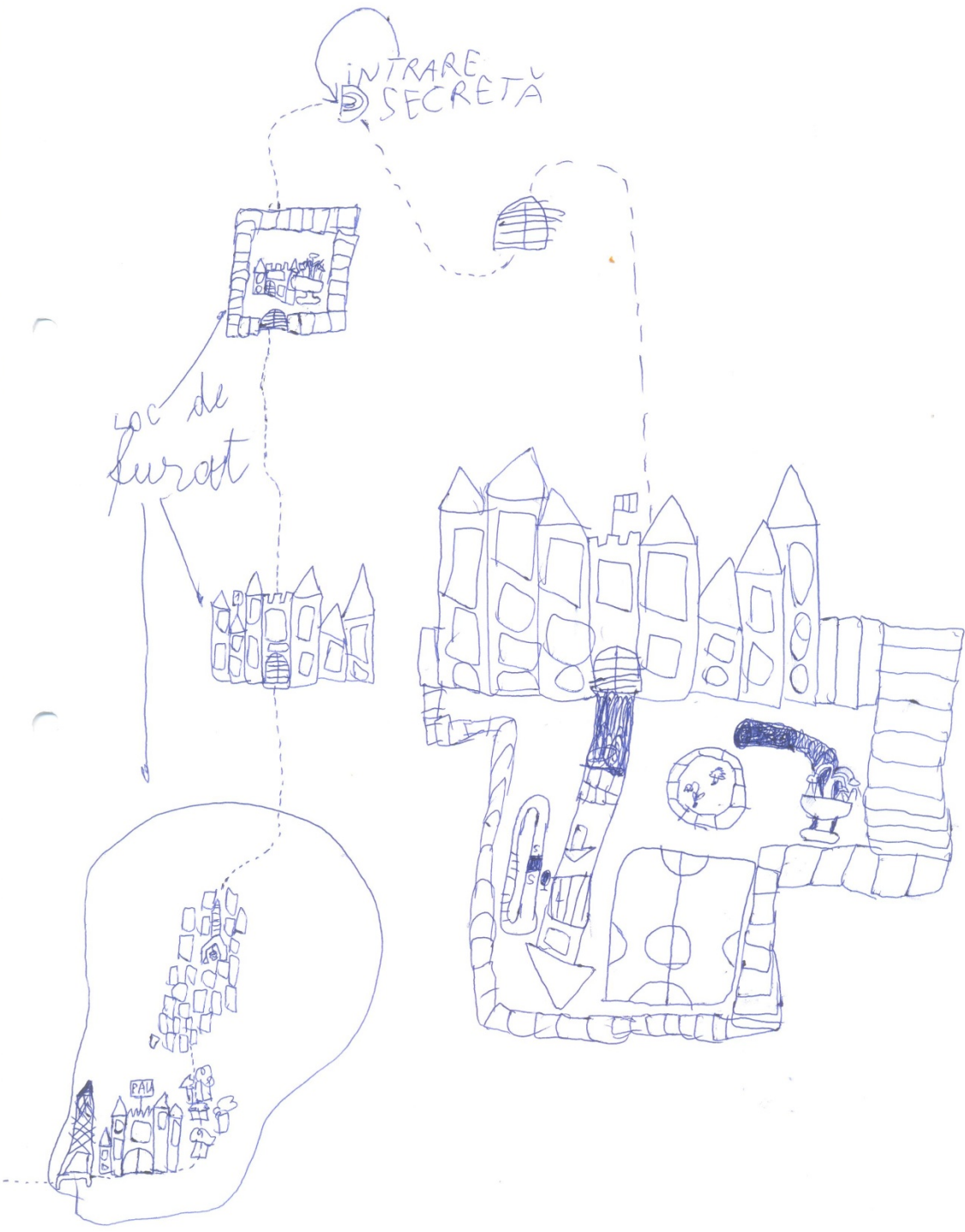


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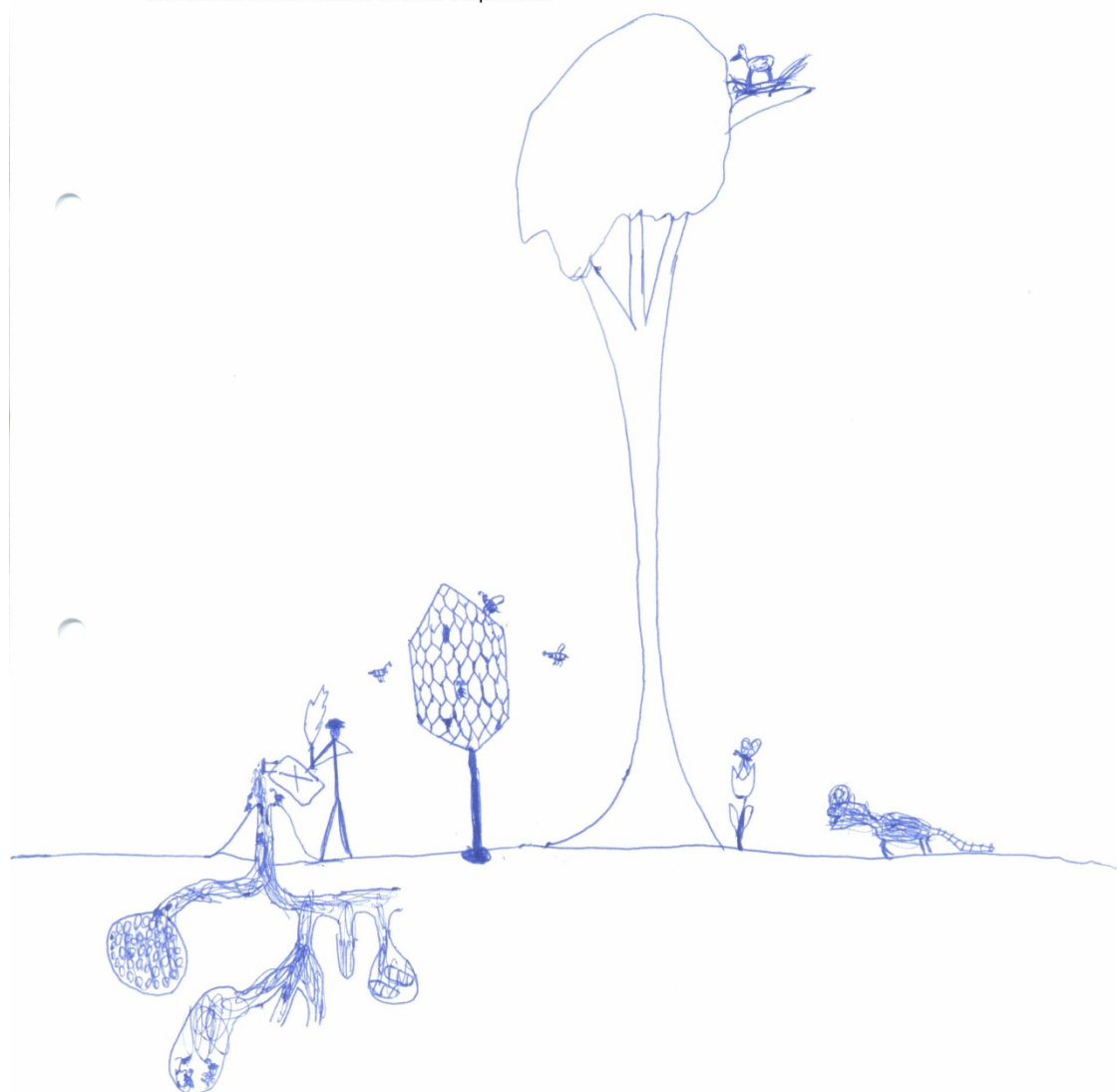
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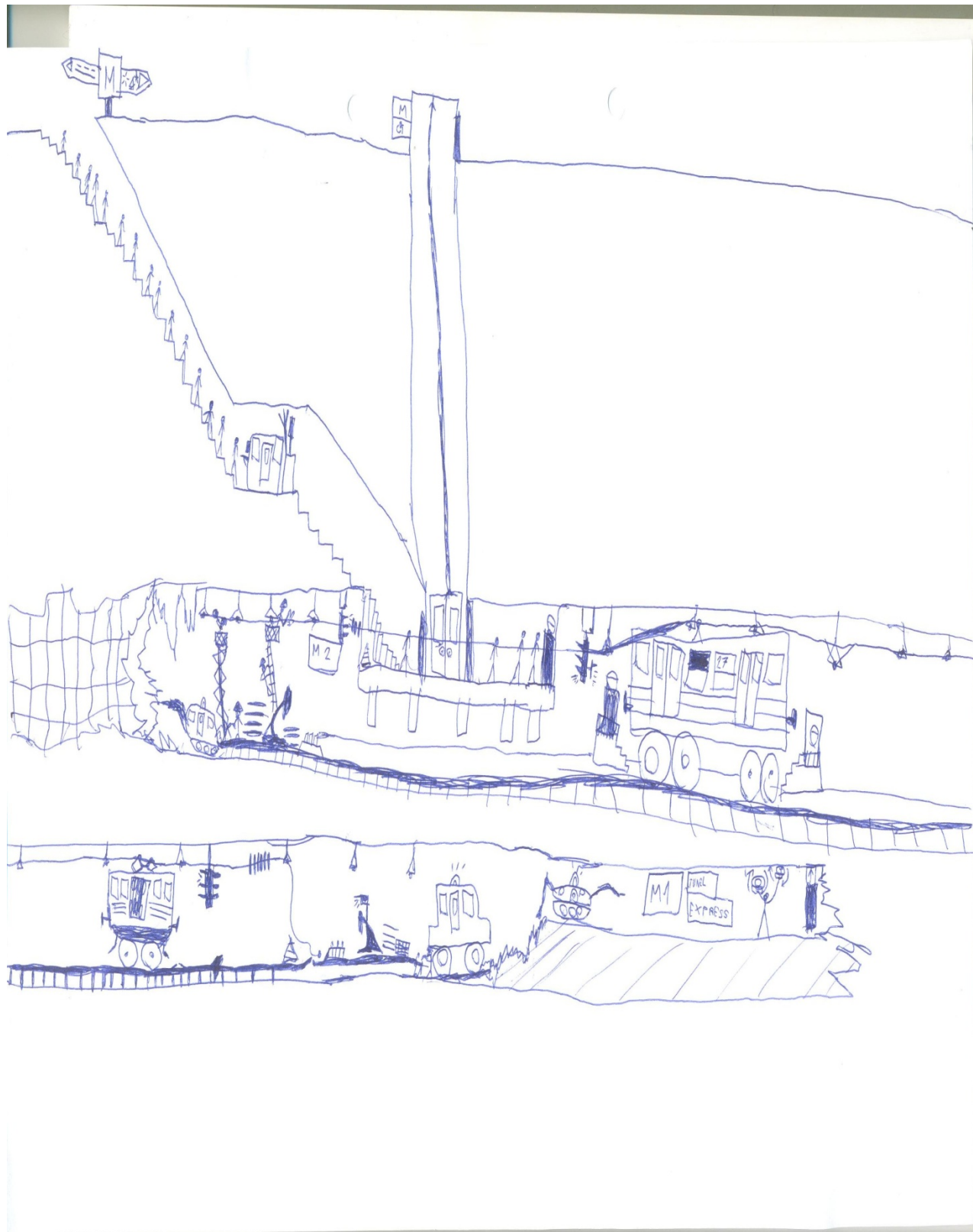


03 2013



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Ura fata de Italia (Luca)



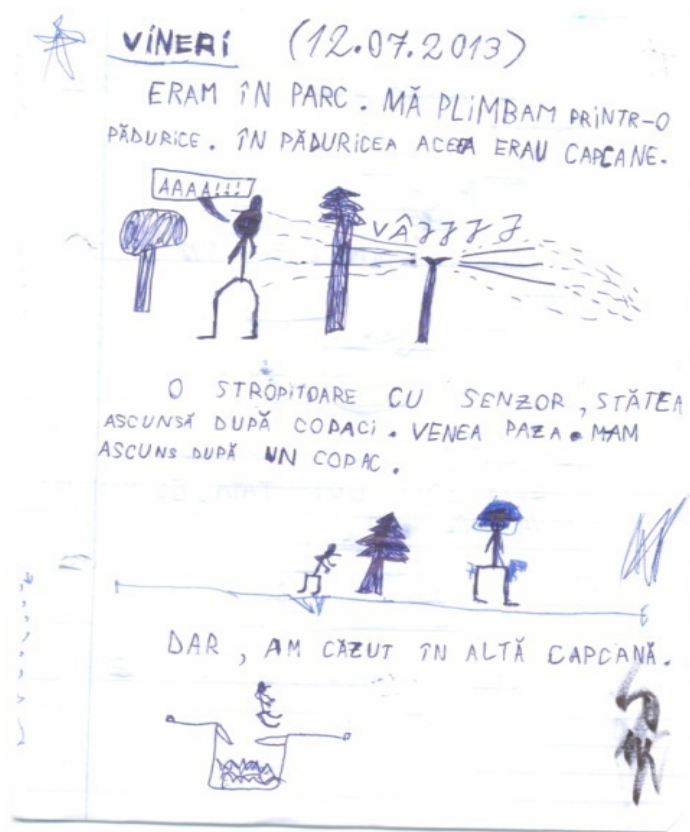
Moles behavior in nature:

most moles dig permanent burrows and subsist largely on prey that fall into these. The mole senses when a worm falls into the tunnel and quickly runs along to kill and eat it.

Theme of Alex: "Traps, torture":

Text from the below drawing with traps:

"I was walking in a forest; there were traps in the woods; a watering can with sensor was hidden behind a tree; the guards were coming; I hid behind a tree; but I fell into the trap "



Theme of proving: "Traps"

Theme of Alex: "Hiding, in the nature":

see the drawing above

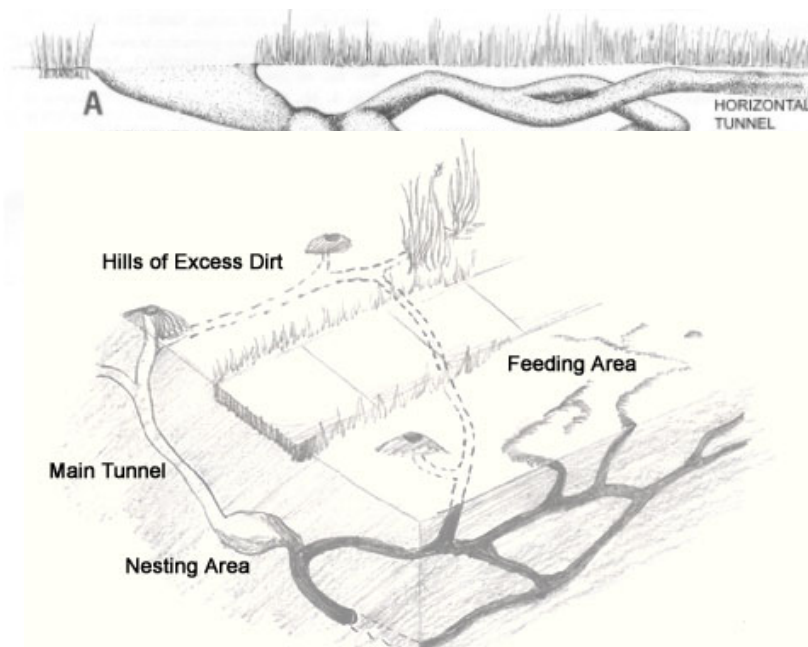
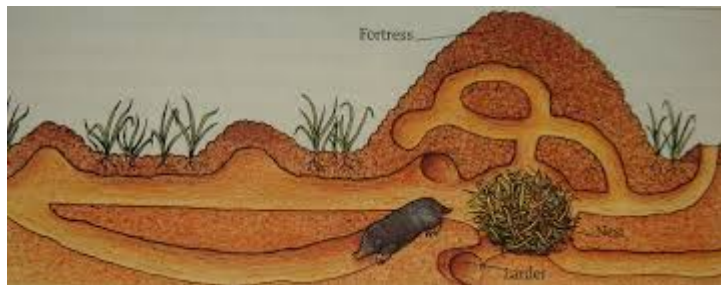
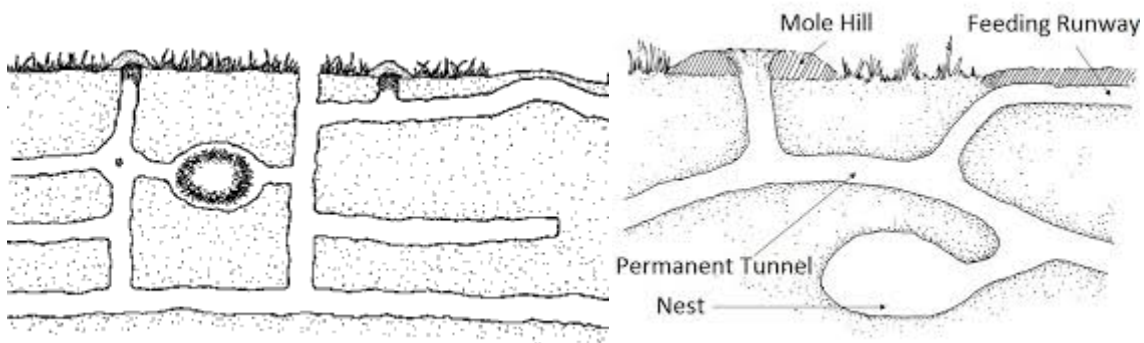
Theme of proving : "Hiding in the nature":

I try to stay hidden, its important for me not to be seen, I watch from a distance. I feel calm but feel the importance of remaining hidden. I was on my own so didn't want to be seen. P6 1/XXXX

Animal characteristics:

Below you may see a few images with mole tunnels taken from Wikipedia.

One may observe the incredible resemblance with Alex's drawings:



ALEX'S DRAWING:

