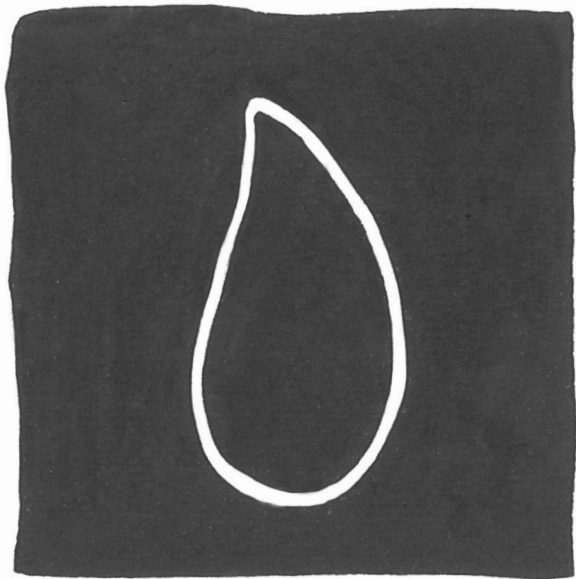
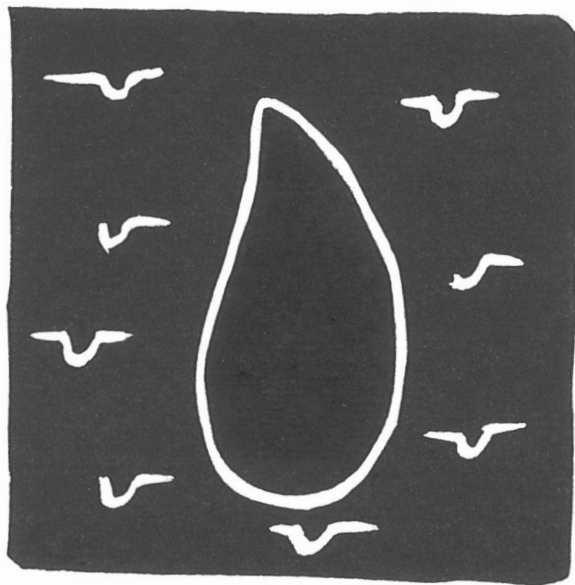


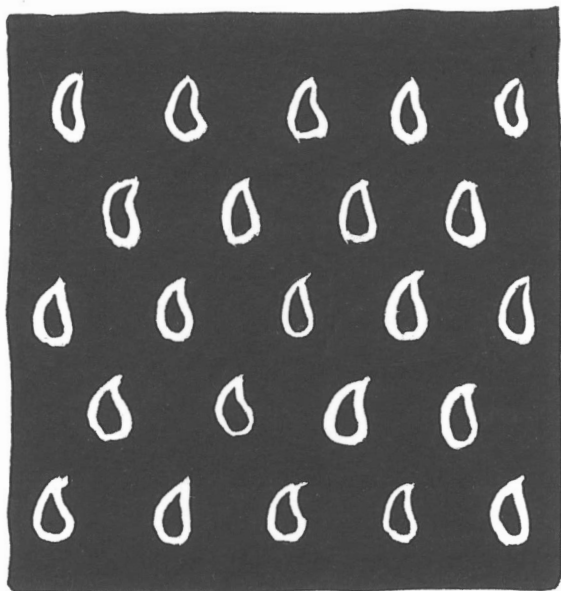
Once there was a
seed.



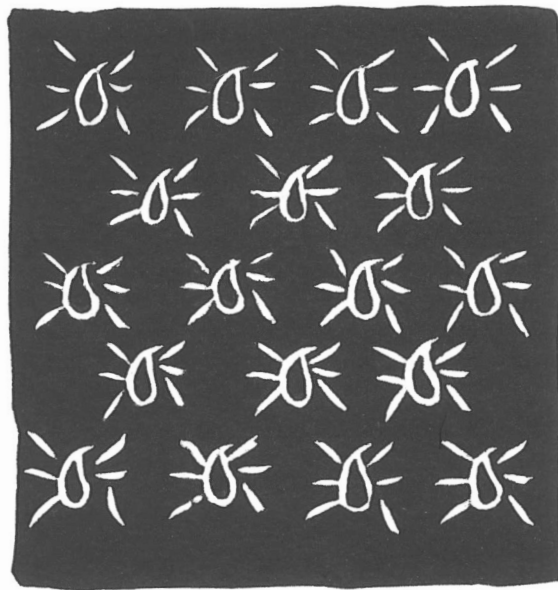
The seed lived in
soil where it was
warm and dark and
damp.



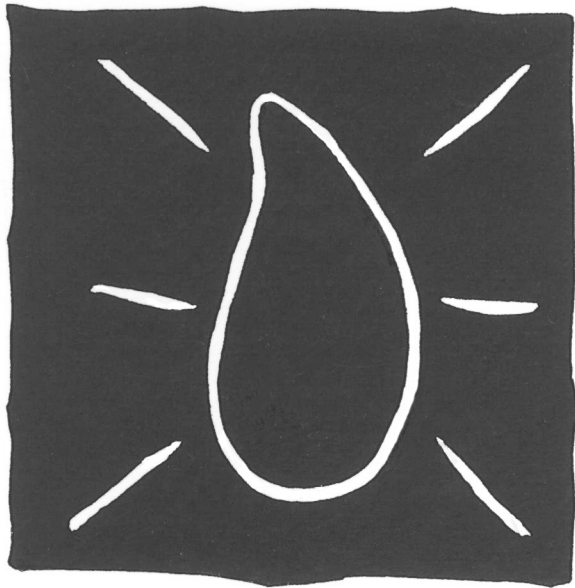
The seed lived with
other seeds.



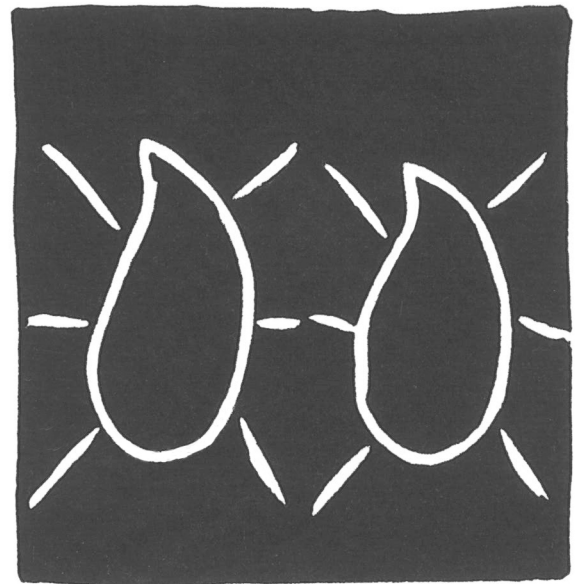
Each day the seeds
shuffled the soil
from side to side.



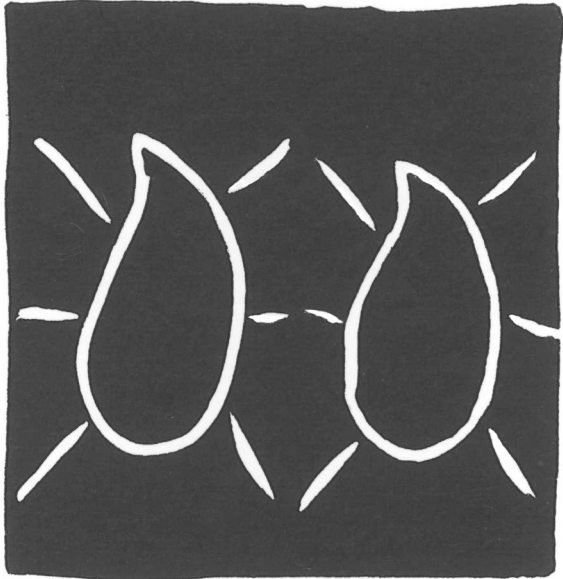
The seed had heard
that there was more
to life than
shuffling the soil.



He asked his
neighbour if he had
heard the same.

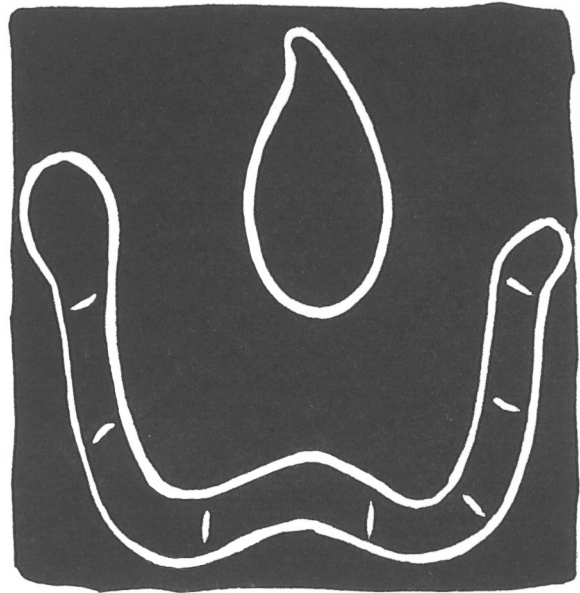


The neighbour said
he had, but that such
talk was folly.

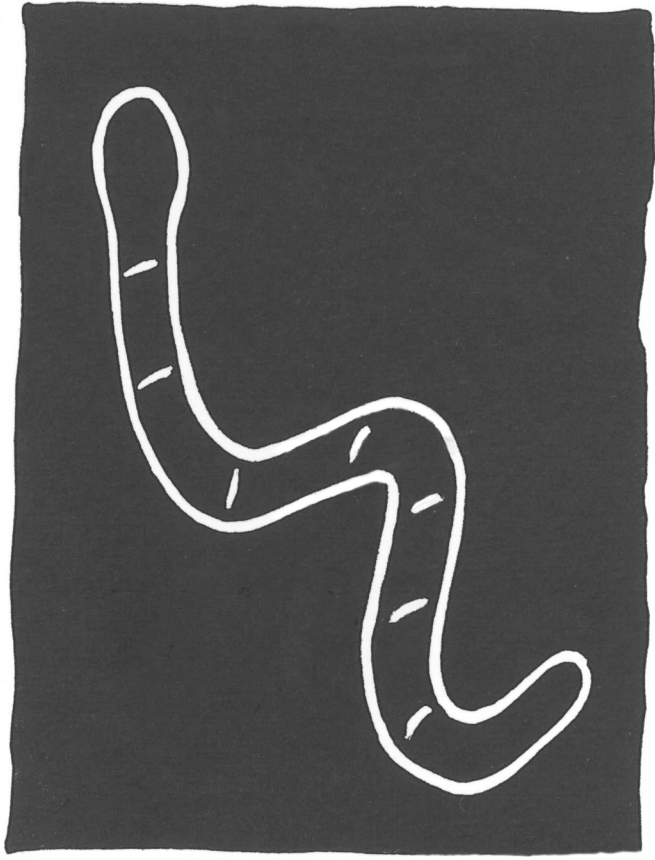


After all, were they not
warm and safe?

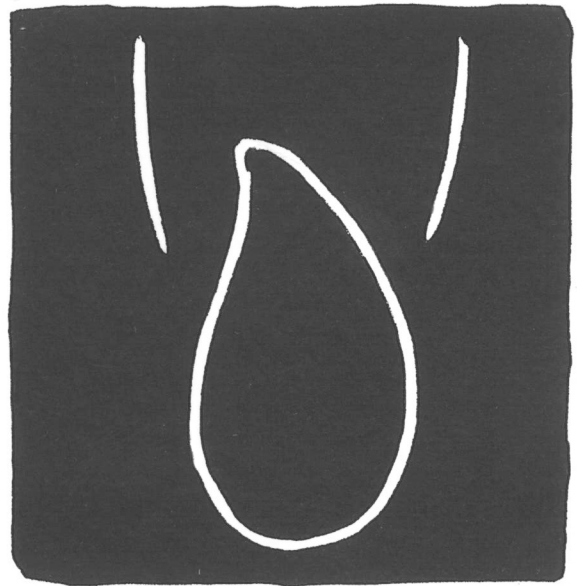
The seed put such
thoughts from his
mind, until one day a
wise worm appeared.



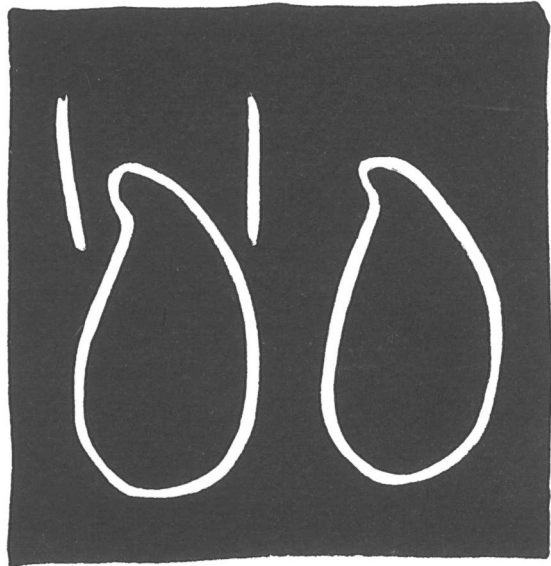
The worm said,
"Follow your intuition."



The seed searched
deep inside. He sensed
that his strongest
intuition was to reach
up.

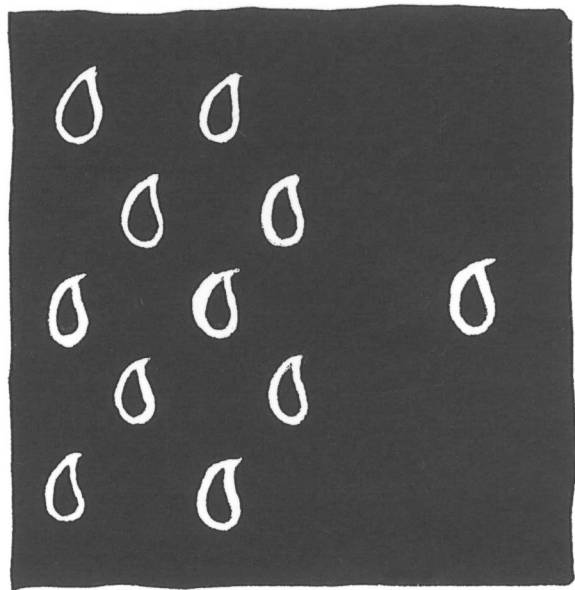


The seed turned to his neighbour and said, "It is my dream to reach up."

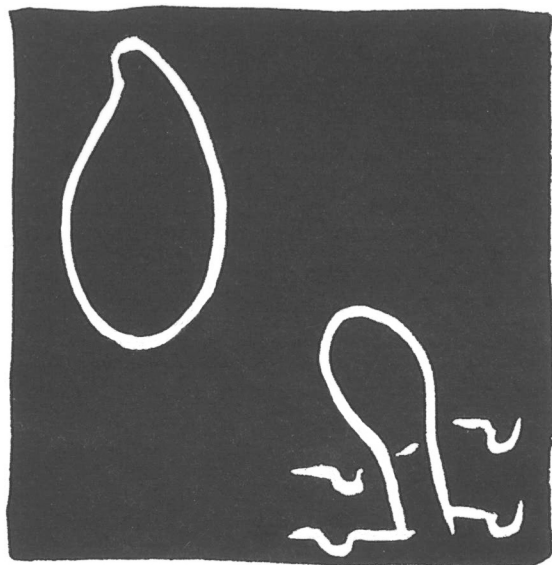


The neighbour chastised the seed saying, "This is a selfish dream. It is your duty to serve all the seeds by shuffling the soil from side to side each day."

The neighbour told the others and they shunned the seed.



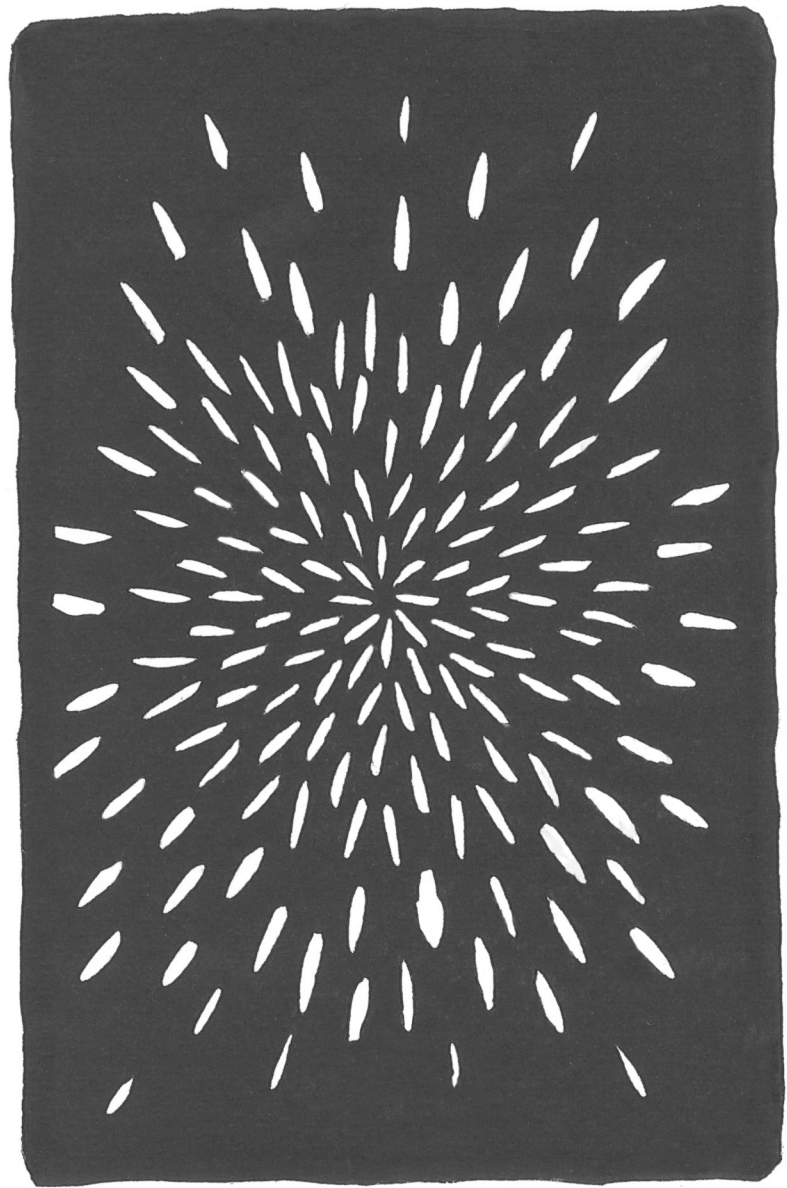
All alone, the seed began to weep.



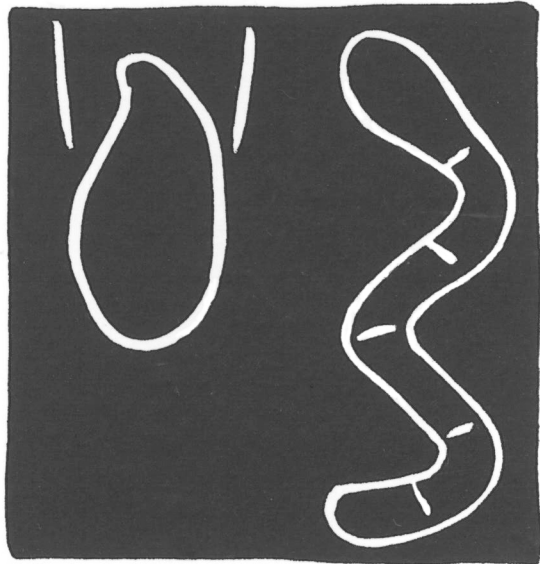
The wise worm appeared and said, "Take courage."

" If you follow your intuition, you will come to know the light.

" The light is more wonderful than anything you can imagine."

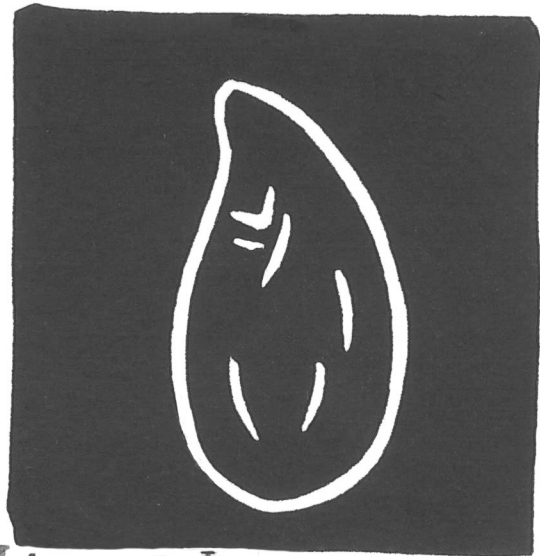


The seed said, "It is my
dream to reach up.
How should I do this?"



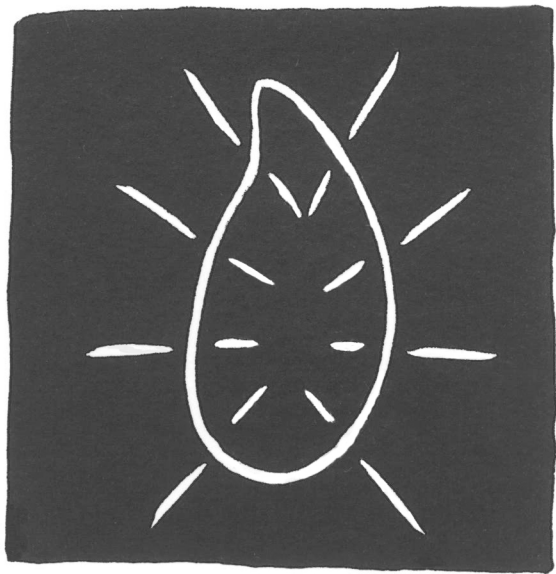
The wise worm replied,
"You must break your
shell."

When the worm had
left, the seed looked
down upon his shell.

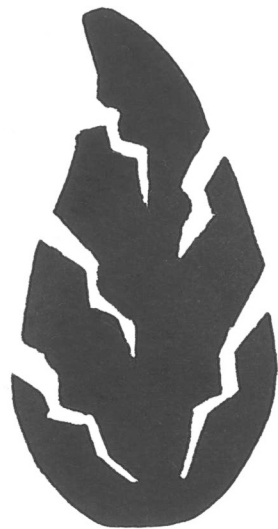


It was brown and
shiny and hard. It
was all he had.

Summoning his strength
he pushed outwards
and upwards with all
his might.



Suddenly he heard a
sharp crack and a
searing pain ran through
him.



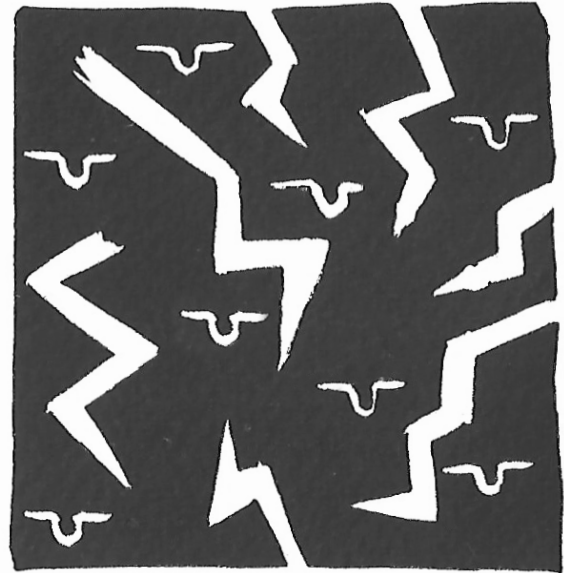
The seed had shattered
his shell.

Overcome with exhaustion, the seed fell into a deep sleep.

When he awoke, he perceived that his surroundings had remained the same.

After all, was the soil not warm and dark and damp?

The seed cried out in anger and disappointment.



He railed against the worm.

Hearing the
commotion, the
neighbour appeared.
"Oh my!" he exclaimed.
"You have grown."

Whilst the seed had
been asleep, something
remarkable had
happened. He had
grown a shoot.

