

BE A HERO FOR A BETTER WORLD



"Compassion has not only led its progress but is essential to it. The force representing human solidarity and community has no choice but to try to quickly to overcome the disease-based process that, in the name of the World Social Forum, is making Africa a permanent 'mother world' is possible." - Dr. Wilbur Butler

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"I'm local, rural, Christian. And I feel that the whole world is a community. We have made progress in asserting our local community rights globally. We shall continue to do so." - Teresia Berhan Egnashar

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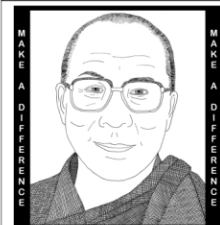
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"The value of the larger social community is to create a being. To be observed from the community is to create a being as well as an action. To change the community is to create a new social being." - Thomas Berry

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"When we have inner peace, we can be at peace with those around us. When our community is in a state of peace, it can share that peace with neighboring communities." - The Dalai Lama

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"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community." - Dorothy Day

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"The challenge of social justice is to make a sense of community that we need to make our nation a better place, just as we make it a safer place." - Martin Wright Edelman

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# What's Your BetterWorld Issue: Community ...make a difference...

Be a hero for a better world. Every act of compassion makes a difference! Start a BetterWorld Club. Join the BetterWorld Movement.

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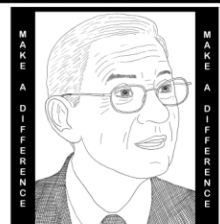
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"The world is a great community. This sense of historic, time, doesn't work. We're all so connected. We can't spend every second of our lives worrying about another. Every time every but we somehow have to look for where we can." - Ralph Flanders

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"For a community to be vibrant and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other." - Richard Luller

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"When people, land, and community are one, all three members prosper; when they relate not as members but as competing interests, all of the three that exist in a community, a nation, Mother Earth and the universe." - Wes Jackson

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"How do we create a harmonious society out of so many kinds of people? The key is tolerance - the one value that is indispensable in creating community." - Barbara Jordan

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"Indigenous Peoples have always believed that peace is central to human security, and all the forms that exist in a community, a nation, Mother Earth and the universe." - Hilda Lee

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"We need adults to help us come together and share our voices and build community around powerful issues concerning our kids in the world and our parents' hearts. Compassion must be practiced and active." - Barbara Meyers

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"I'm not a politician. I only want to help reduce the suffering in communities, and want to help people who have been severely hurt." - Robert Simmons

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"Community means strength that gives our strength to do the work and needs to be done. A circle of faith on which we gather. A circle of healing. A circle of friends. A circle of love. A circle of life." - Elizabeth Witherington

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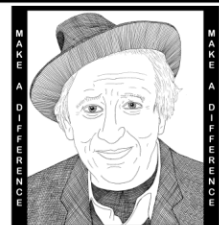
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"A healthy social life is based only when in the mirror of each and the whole community find its reflection, and when the whole community of each one is living." - Rudolf Steiner

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"There are no good causes that stand against a bad one. They are people who are in the community, and it is the responsibility to make it better. Inherently all these communities and people really have an America that is based on the best again. Truly there are no good causes that stand against a bad one." - Paul Robeson

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"As free citizens in a political democracy, we have a responsibility to be universal and involved in the affairs of the human community, be it at the local or the global level." - Paul Robeson

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"In every community there is work to be done. In every nation, there are needs to be met. In every heart there is the power to do it." - Elizabeth Witherington

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# WHAT'S YOUR BETTERWORLD ISSUE?

## COMMUNITY



"In every community there is work to be done.  
In every nation, there are wounds to heal.  
In every heart there is the power to do it."  
-- Marianne Williamson

In our hectic, fast-paced society, it's common to feel overwhelmed and isolated. Many are re-discovering the healing and empowering role that community can bring to our lives. The sense of belonging we feel when we make the time to take an active role in our communities can give us a deeper sense of meaning and purpose. Getting involved in local government, or volunteering for the school board, local emergency services, or a local nonprofit providing services to the underprivileged in your community are all ways to feel a greater sense of connection to your local community.

Community building activists believe that community building is an effective way to improve social justice, reduce crime, and promote individual as well as community well-being. Community building events range from simple cooperation and collaboration activities like potluck meals and book clubs to organizing a community watch group, volunteer drives or festivals around a shared interest. It can also include even larger projects like engaging local participants to create a community garden, or work together to build or refurbish a community center, park, playground or other shared community resource.

Community Day is sometimes observed on the 1st Saturday in November, but some communities hold Community Day celebrations in the spring or summer. Community Day is an opportunity to help bring your neighborhood together and celebrate both your diversity and your common bond of shared community.

As we build local communities, we are working together to help create a more peaceful, just and sustainable global community.

### Be A Hero For A Better World!

1. Find out more about community-building
2. Get involved in your community
3. Plan or get involved in a community- building activity

### Community Links

- Action Without Borders ([idealist.org](http://idealist.org))
- Beloved Communities ([belovedcommunitiesnet.org](http://belovedcommunitiesnet.org))
- Community Building Resource Exchange ([commbuild.org](http://commbuild.org))
- Community Collaboration ([communitycollaboration.net](http://communitycollaboration.net))
- Institute for the Study of Civic Values ([iscv.org](http://iscv.org))

For more information: [www.betterworld.net/community.htm](http://www.betterworld.net/community.htm)

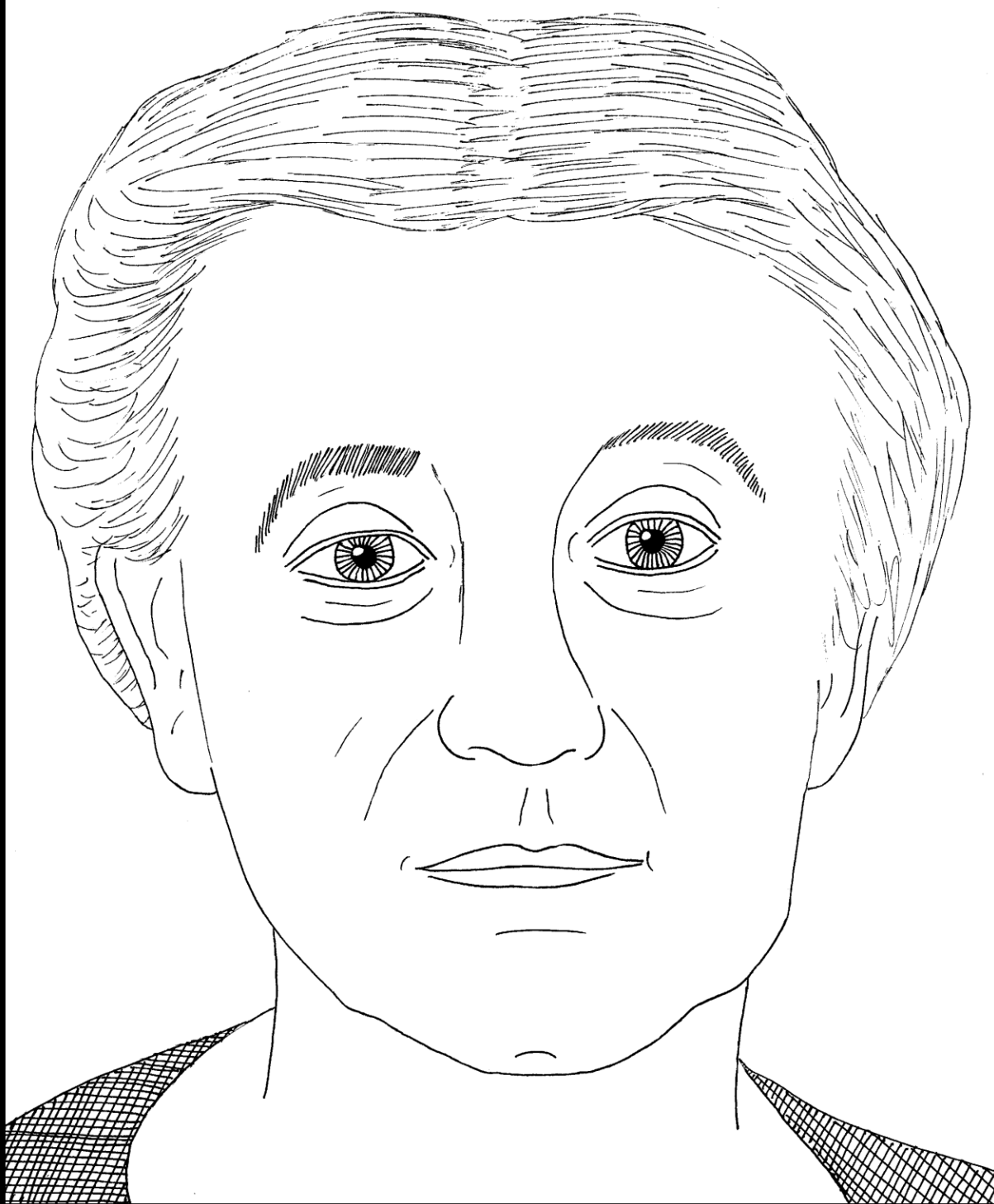
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**"The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life."  
-- Jane Addams**

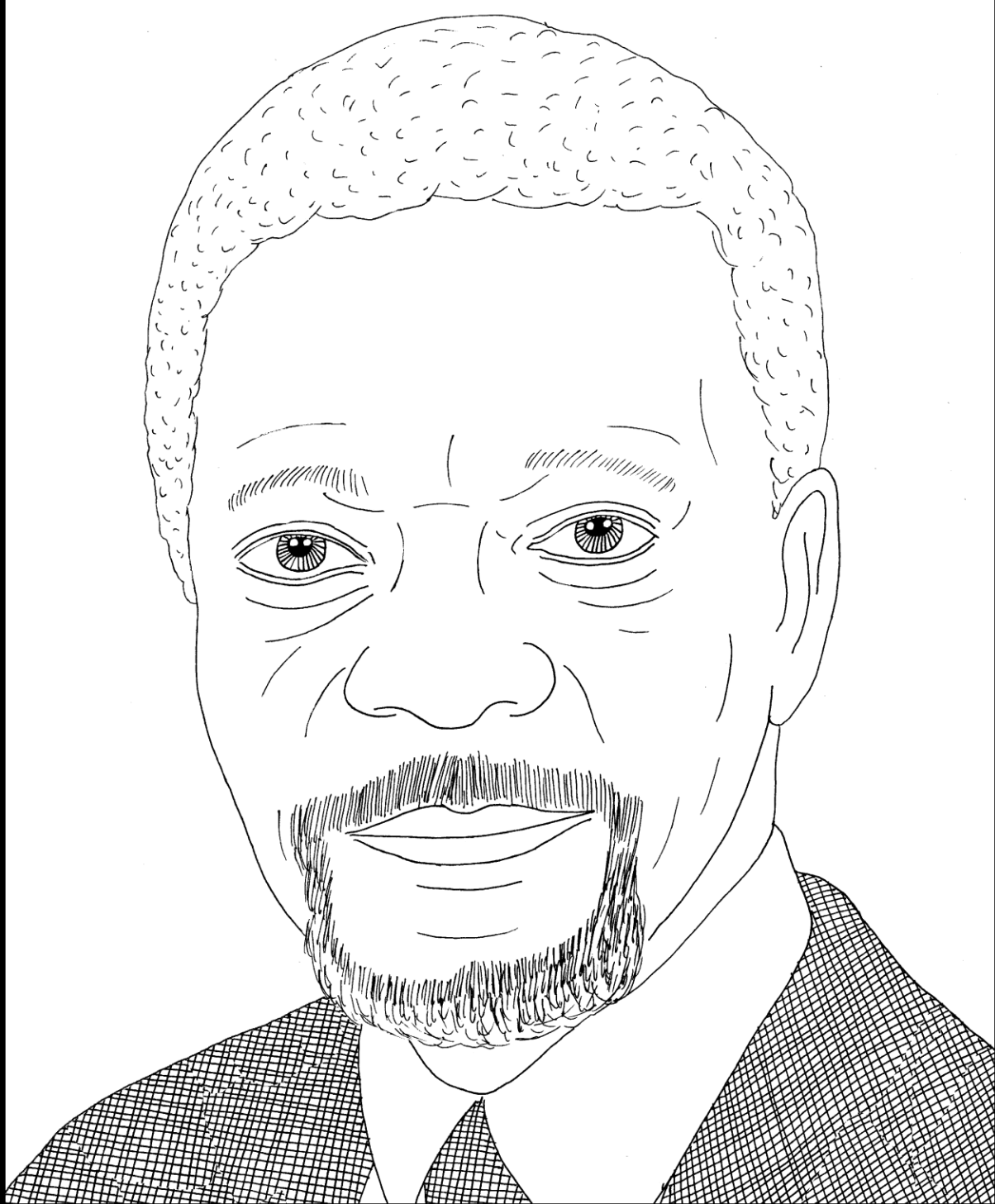
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**"In an age where community involvement and partnerships with civil society are increasingly being recognized as indispensable, there is clearly a growing potential for cooperative development and renewal worldwide."**

**-- Kofi Annan**

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"A man not only needs to know how to fish, he needs to have the freedom to do it and a place to do it. That's where community comes in. We have to help each other, and we feel government has a very important role therein."

-- Bill Ayres

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**"As the world community develops in peace,  
it will open up great untapped reservoirs in human nature."  
-- Emily Greene Balch**

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**"Globalization has not only lost its promise but is embittering many. The forces representing human solidarity and community have no choice but to step in quickly to convince the disenchanted masses that, as the banner of the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre proclaims, 'Another world is possible!'" -- Dr. Walden Bello**

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**"I am local, rural, communal. And I find that the whole world is a community. We have made progress in asserting our local community rights globally. We shall continue to do so."**

**-- Tewolde Berhan Egziabher**

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"The natural world is the larger sacred community to which we belong. To be alienated from this community is to become destitute in all that makes us human. To damage this community is to diminish our own existence."

-- Thomas Berry

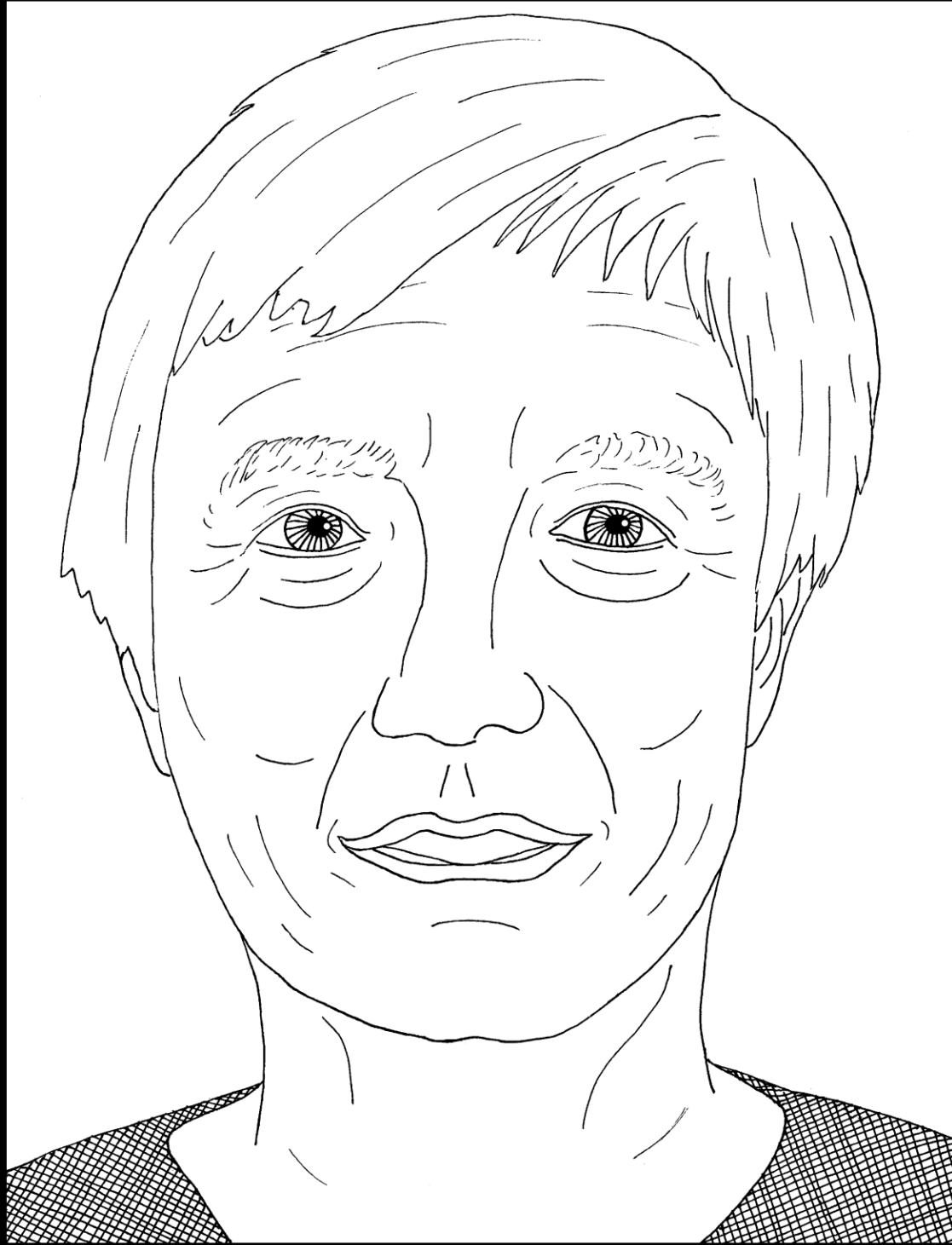
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"We can begin by doing small things at the local level, like planting community gardens or looking out for our neighbors. That is how change takes place in living systems, not from above but from within, from many local actions occurring simultaneously."

-- Grace Lee Boggs

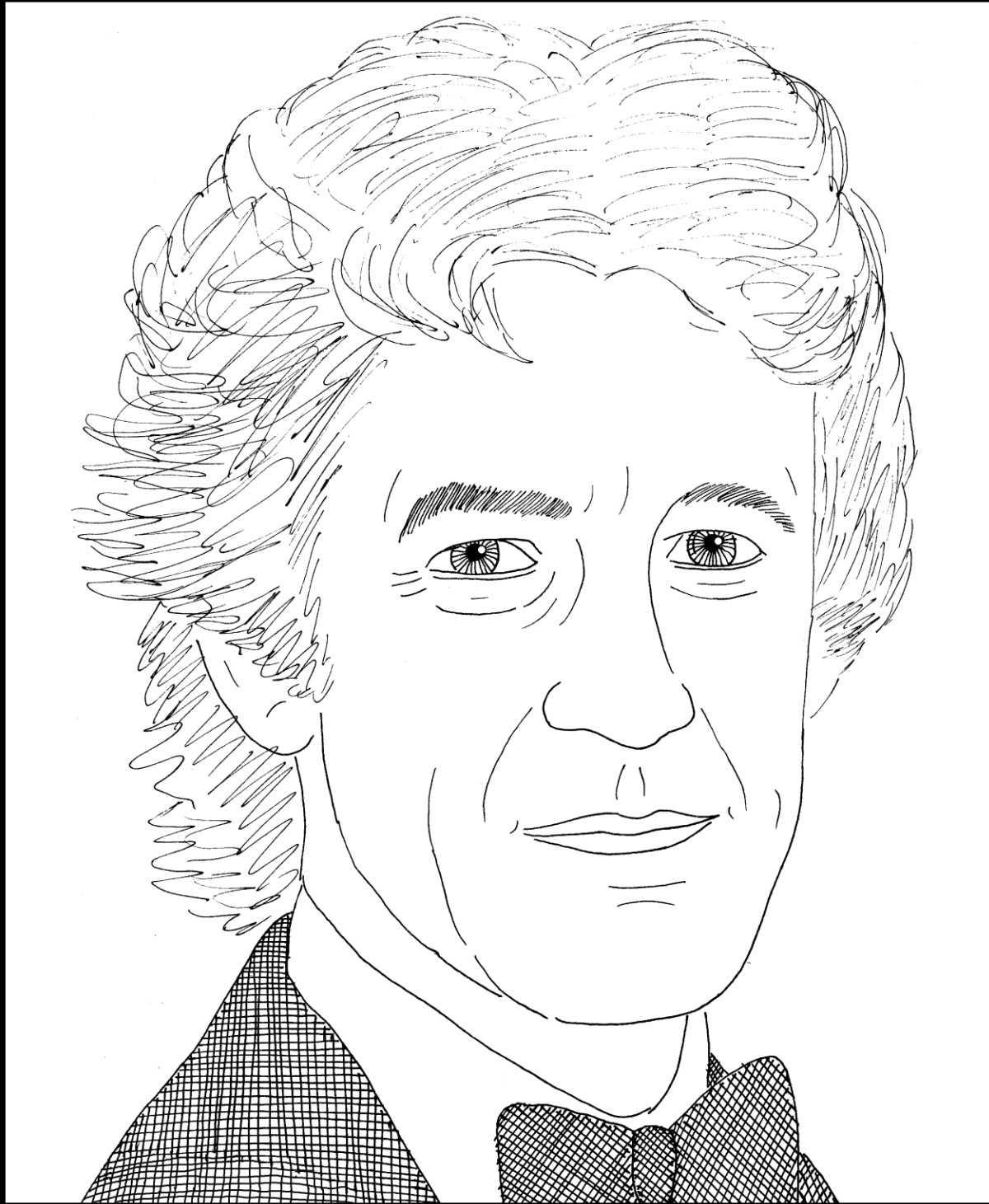
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**"We can build an economy that does not destroy its natural support systems, a global community where the basic needs of all the Earth's people are satisfied, and a world that will allow us to think of ourselves as civilized. This is entirely doable."**

**-- Lester Brown**

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**"Let's create an integrated global community  
where we have shared benefits and responsibilities,  
and we don't fight because of our differences."**

**-- Bill Clinton**

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**"The old emphasis upon superficial differences that separate peoples must give way to education for citizenship in the human community."**

**-- Norman Cousins**

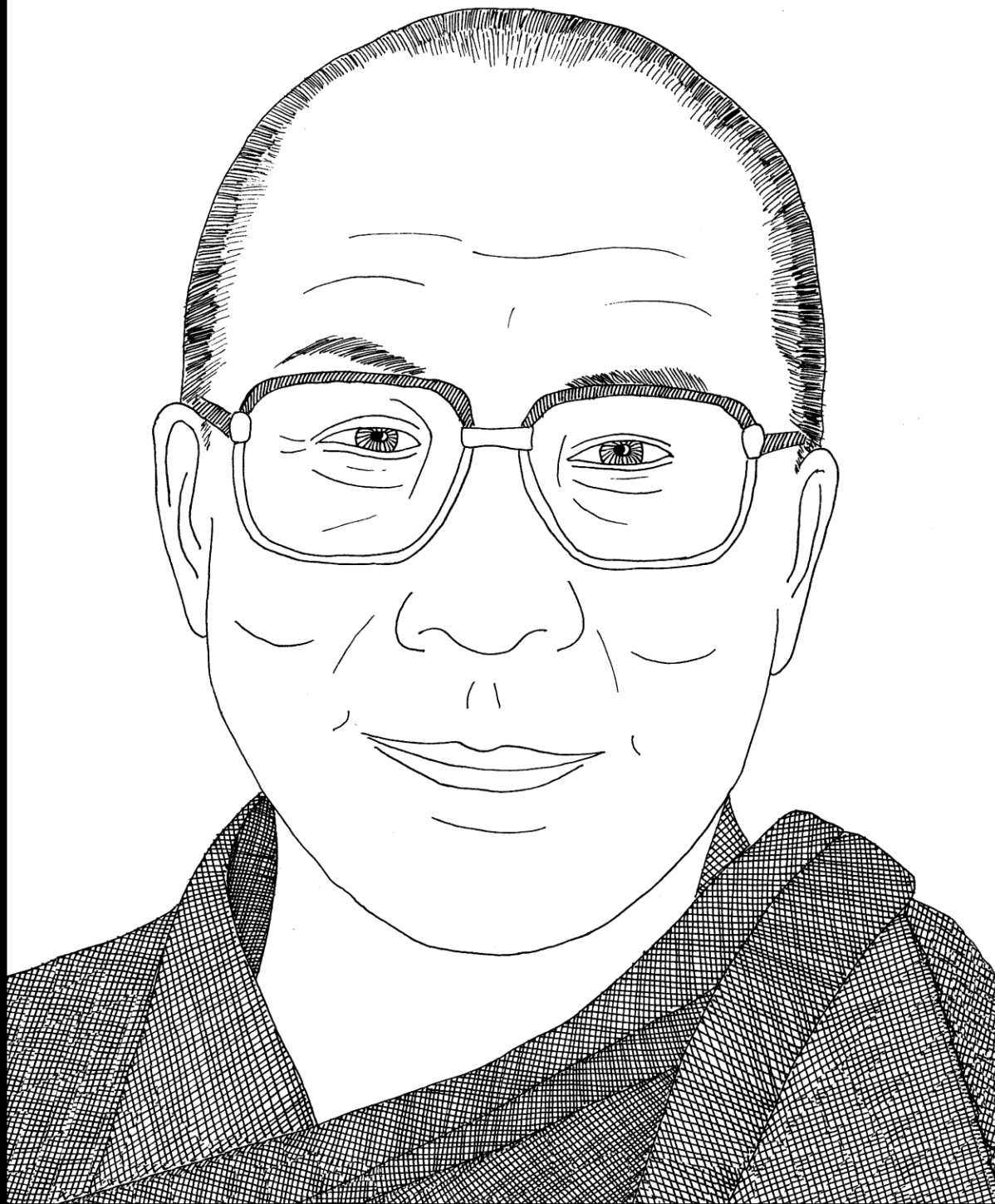
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**"When we have inner peace, we can be at peace with those around us. When our community is in a state of peace, it can share that peace with neighboring communities."**

**-- The Dalai Lama**

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**"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community."**

**-- Dorothy Day**

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**"The challenge of social justice is to evoke a sense of community that we need to make our nation a better place, just as we make it a safer place."**

**-- Marian Wright Edelman**

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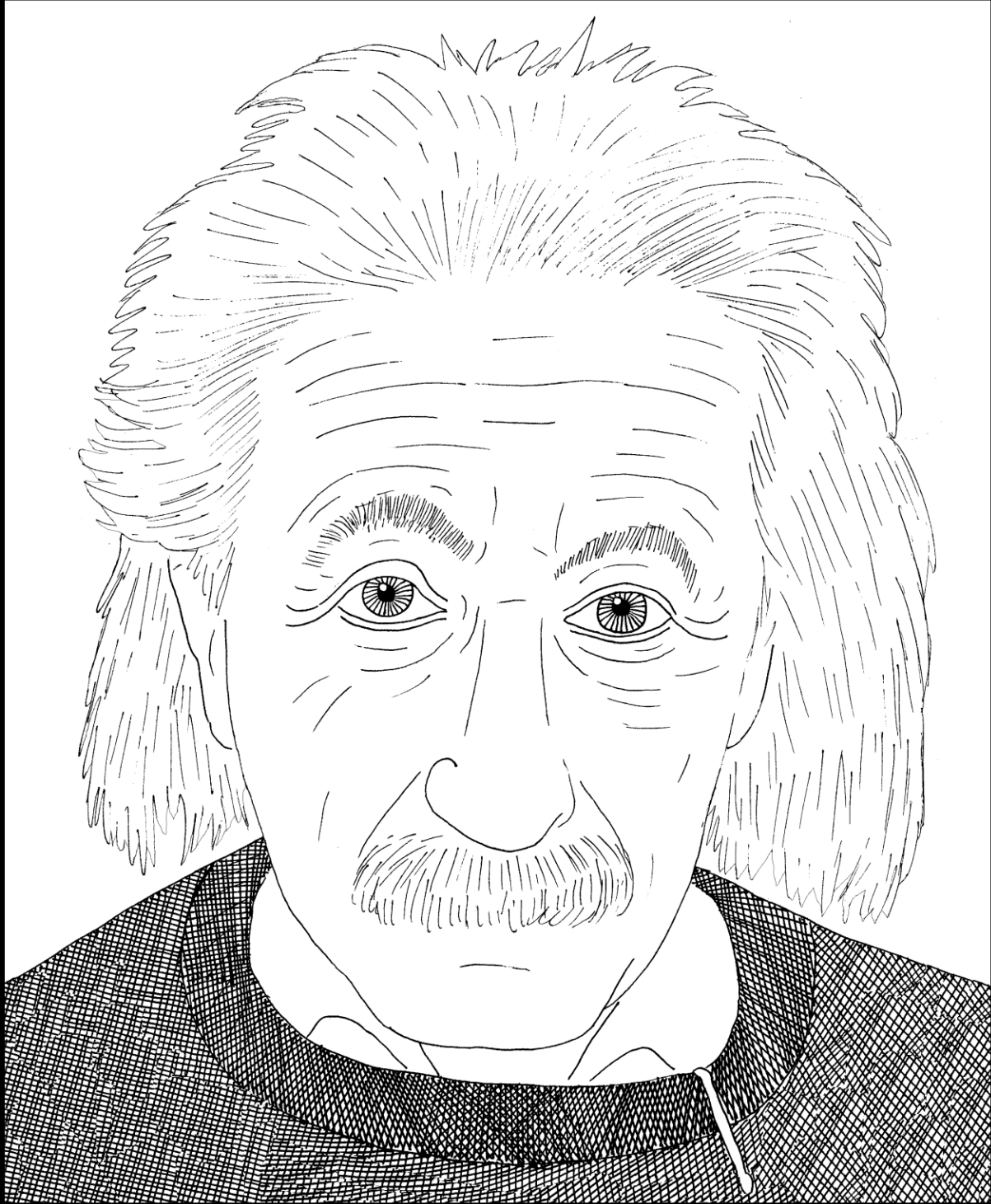
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"With all my heart I believe that the world's present system of sovereign nations can only lead to barbarism, war and inhumanity, and that only world law can assure progress towards a civilized peaceful community."

-- Albert Einstein

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**"This world of ours... must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect."**

**-- Dwight D. Eisenhower**

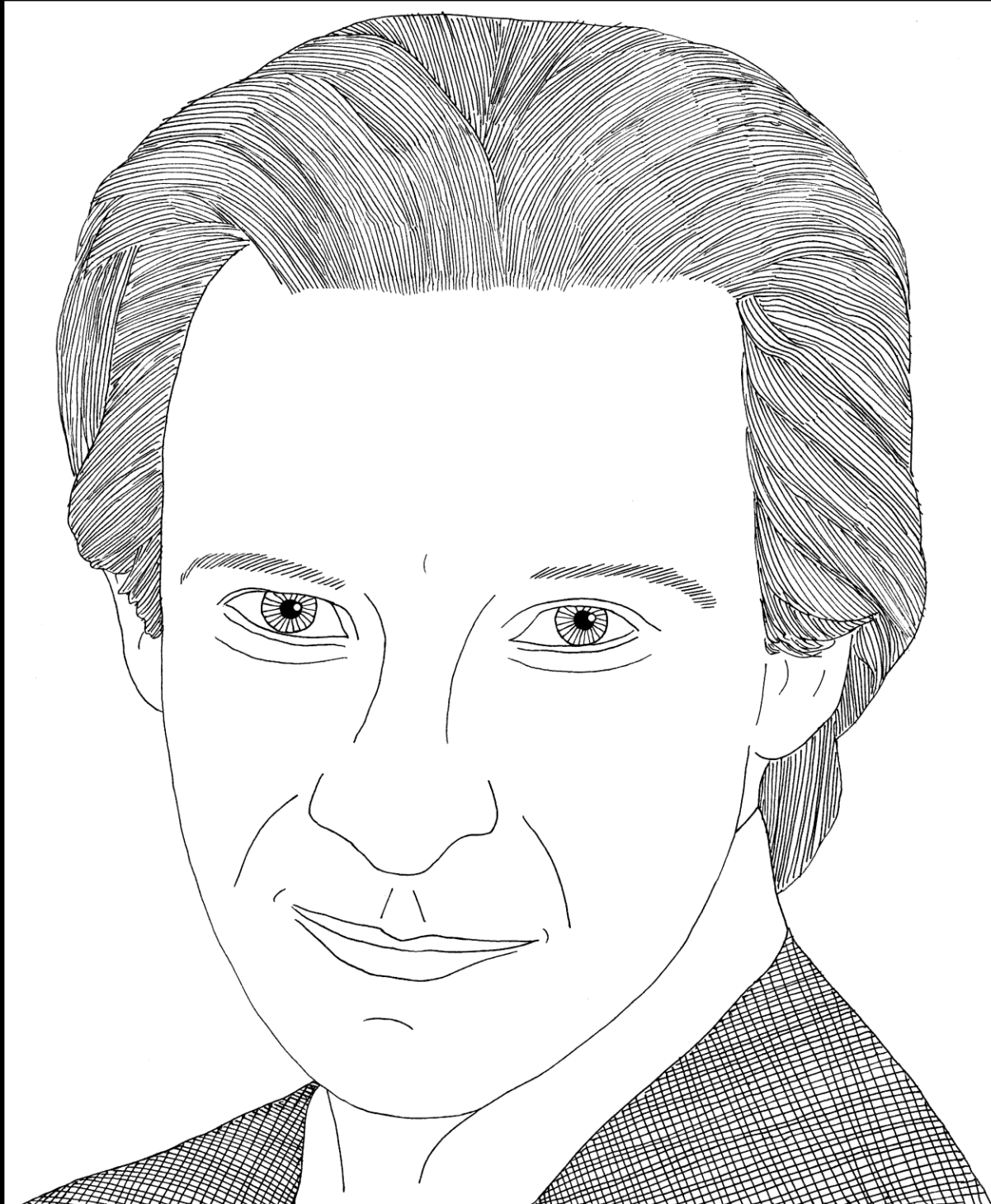
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“...the world is a giant community now. This excuse of distance, time, doesn't work...We're all so connected. We can't spend every second of our lives worrying about another family miles away but we somehow have to factor it in where we can.”

-- Ralph Fiennes

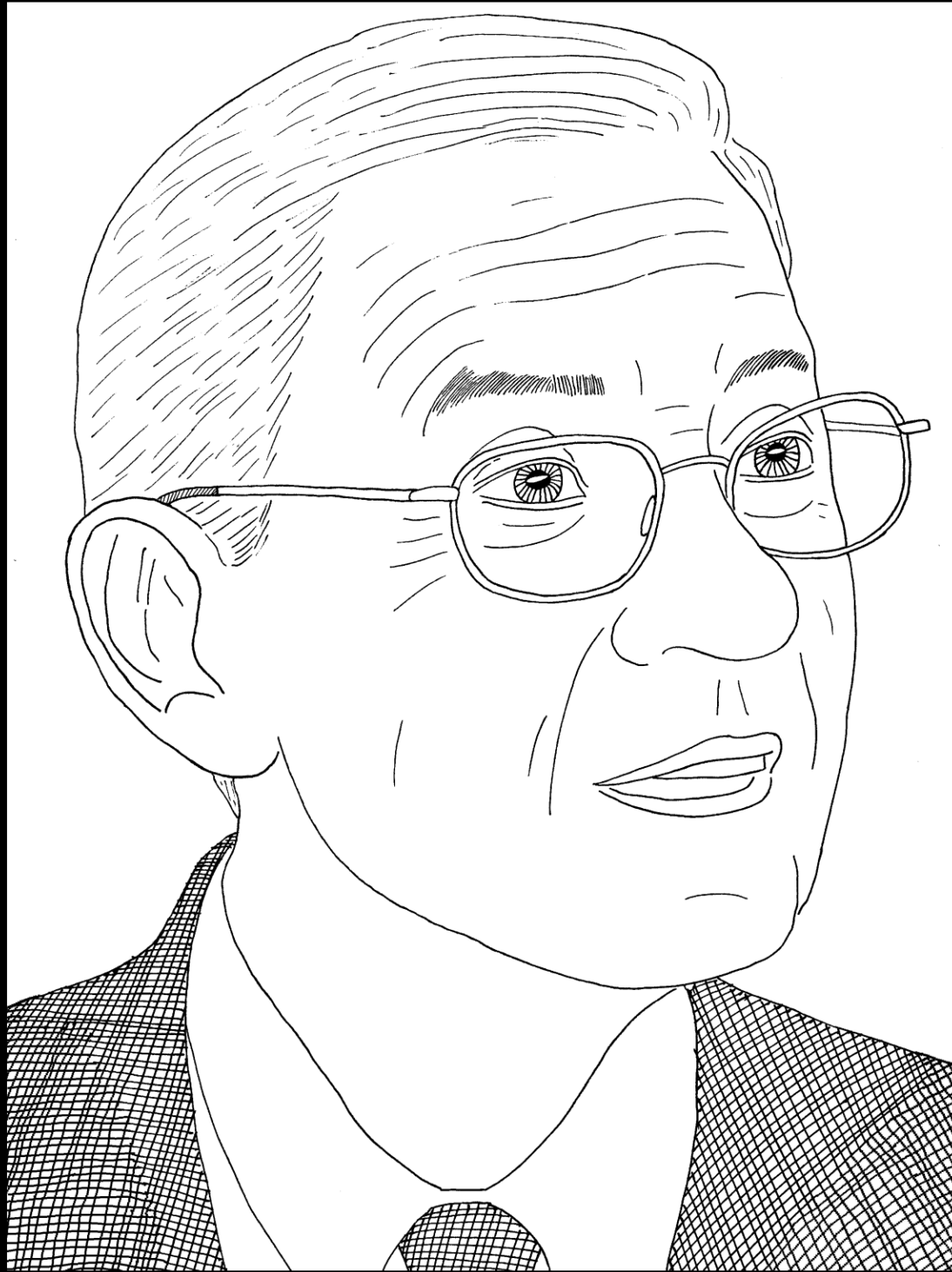
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**"For a community to be whole and healthy,  
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-- Millard Fuller**

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**"We have an obligation to ensure that donors do not become isolated from the needs of the public and the community."**

**-- Tracy Gary**

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**"Average people and the average community can change the world. You can do it just based on common sense, determination, persistence and patience."**

**-- Lois Gibbs**

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**“Whatever community organization, whether it's a women's organization, or fighting for racial justice ... you will get satisfaction out of doing something to give back to the community that you never get in any other way.”**

**-- Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

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"Genuine politics -- even politics worthy of the name -- the only politics I am willing to devote myself to -- is simply a matter of serving those around us: serving the community and serving those who will come after us. Its deepest roots are moral because it is a responsibility expressed through action, to and for the whole."

-- Vaclav Havel

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**"We can dream together a dream of a better world,  
an ever-renewing, organic-based earth-community.  
I believe we can achieve a large part of it in our lifetime."  
-- Randy Hayes**

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**"Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop."**

**-- Dorothy Height**

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"A world community can only exist with world communication, which means something more than extensive software facilities scattered about the globe. It means common understanding, a common tradition, common idea's and common ideals."

-- Robert Maynard Hutchins

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MAKE  
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**"How do we create a harmonious society out of so many kinds of people? The key is tolerance -- the one value that is indispensable in creating community."  
-- Barbara Jordan**

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"World peace, like community peace, does not require that each man love his neighbor -- it requires only that they live together with mutual tolerance, submitting their disputes to a just and peaceful settlement."

-- John F. Kennedy

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# BE A HERO FOR A BETTER WORLD

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"Peace is not just the absence of war, it is the active presence of a capacity for love and compassion, and reciprocity. It is an awareness that our lives are not to be lived simply for ourselves through expressing our individuality, but we confirm the purpose of our lives through the work of expressing our shared sense of community in a purposeful and practical way; to sustain our own lives we sustain the lives of others - in family, in a community of neighborhoods called a city, and in a community of nations called the world." -- Dennis Kucinich

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**"I also believe that it's almost impossible for people to change alone. We need to join with others who will push us in our thinking and challenge us to do things we didn't believe ourselves capable of."**

**-- Frances Moore Lappé**

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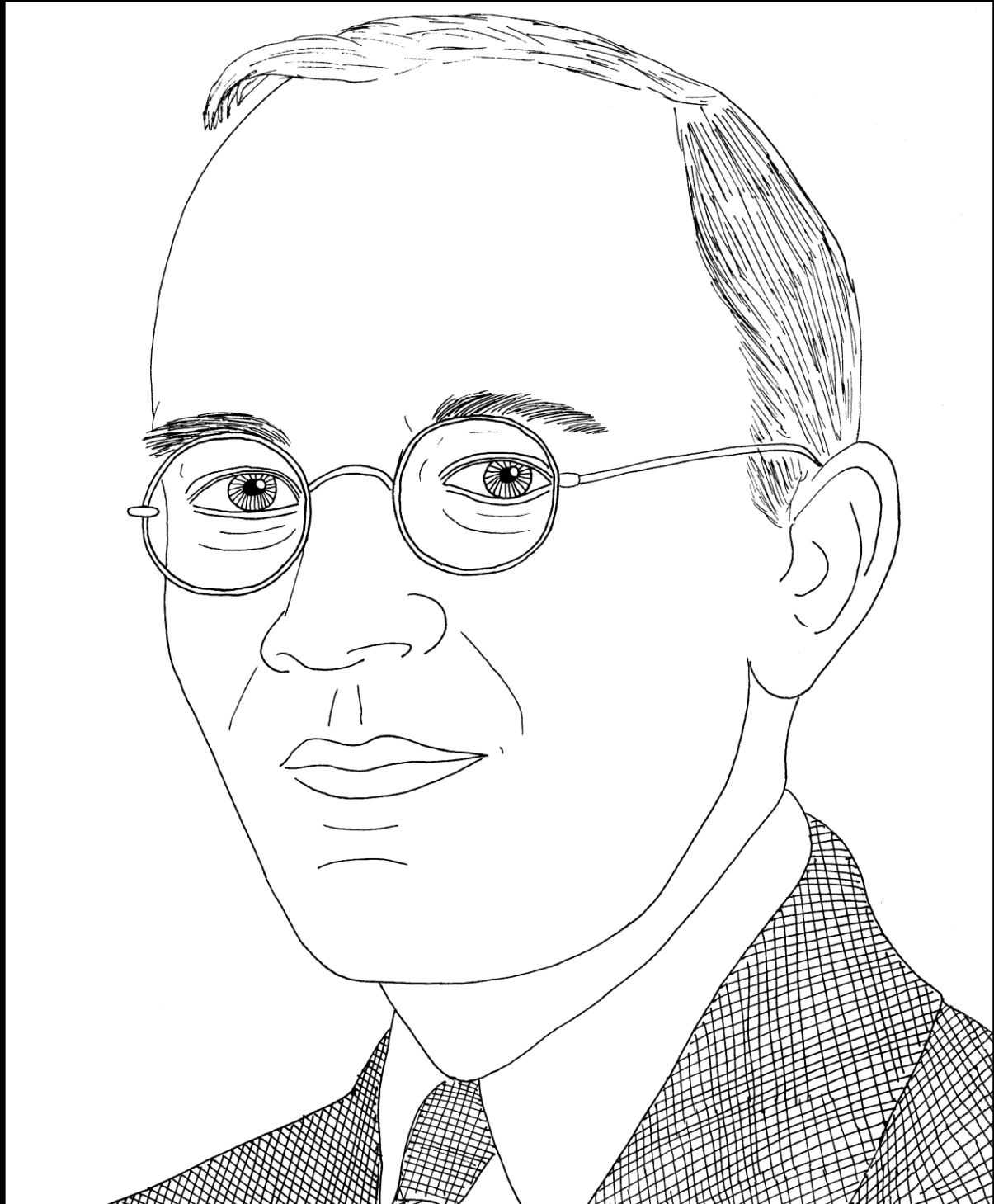
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**"We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us.  
When we see land as a community to which we belong,  
we may begin to use it with love and respect."**

**-- Aldo Leopold**

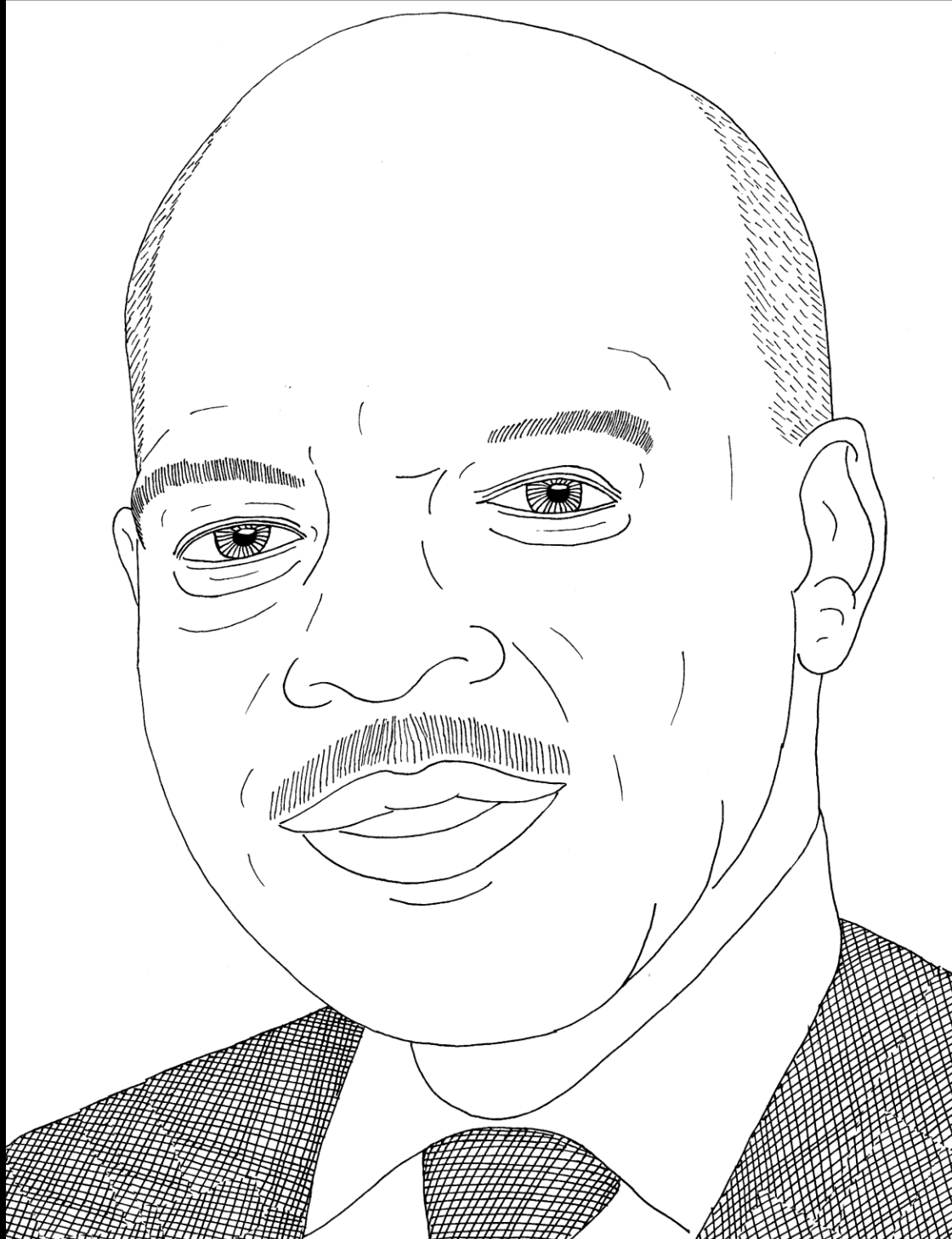
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"We've come a long way, but we still have a distance to go before all of our citizens embrace the idea of a truly interracial democracy, what I like to call the Beloved Community, a nation at peace with itself."  
-- John R. Lewis

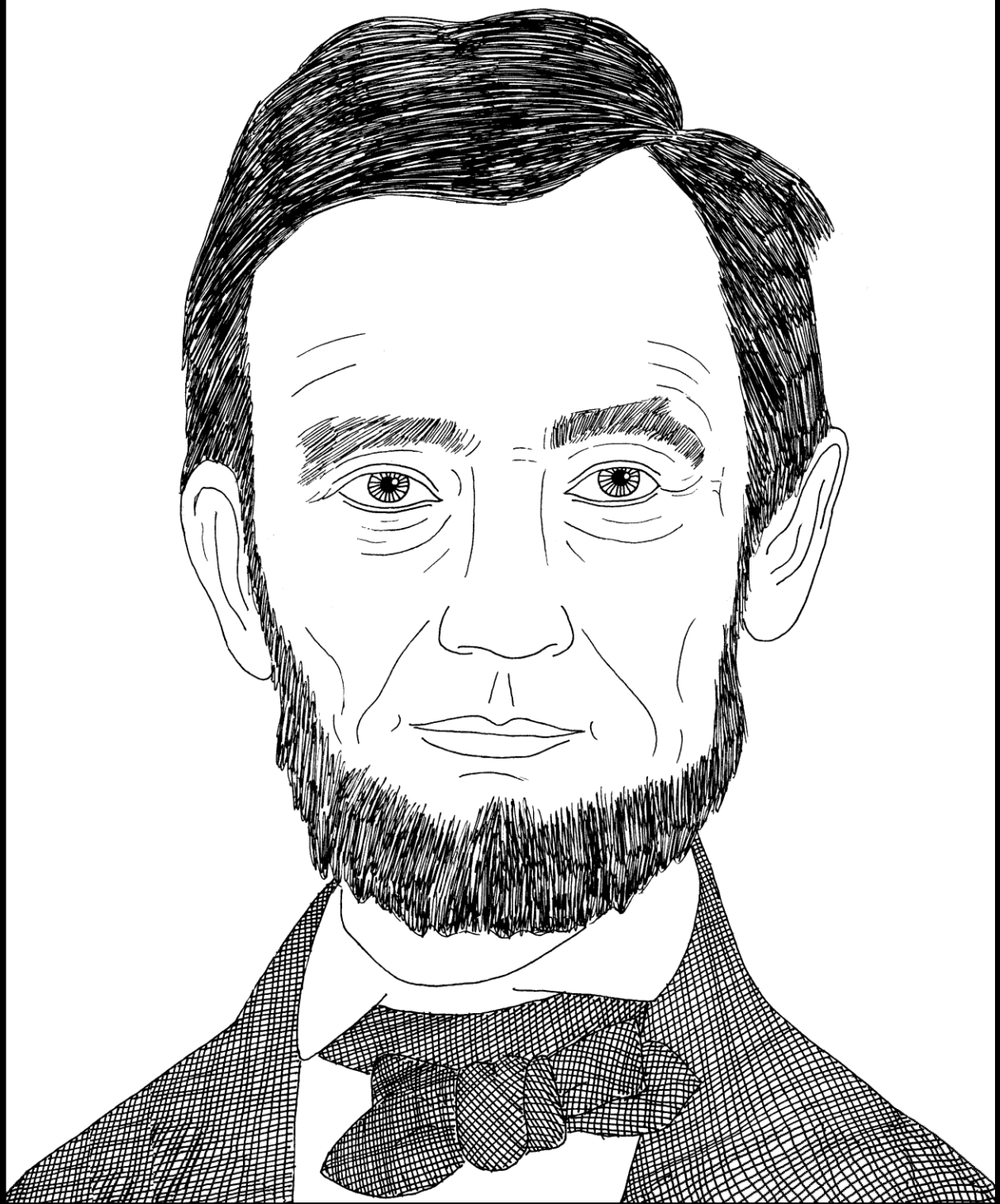
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**"The strongest bond of human sympathy outside the family relation should be one uniting working people of all nations and tongues and kindreds."**

**-- Abraham Lincoln**

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"Indigenous Peoples have always believed that peace is central to human security and all life forms that exist in a community, a nation, Mother Earth and the universe..."

-- Hilda Lini

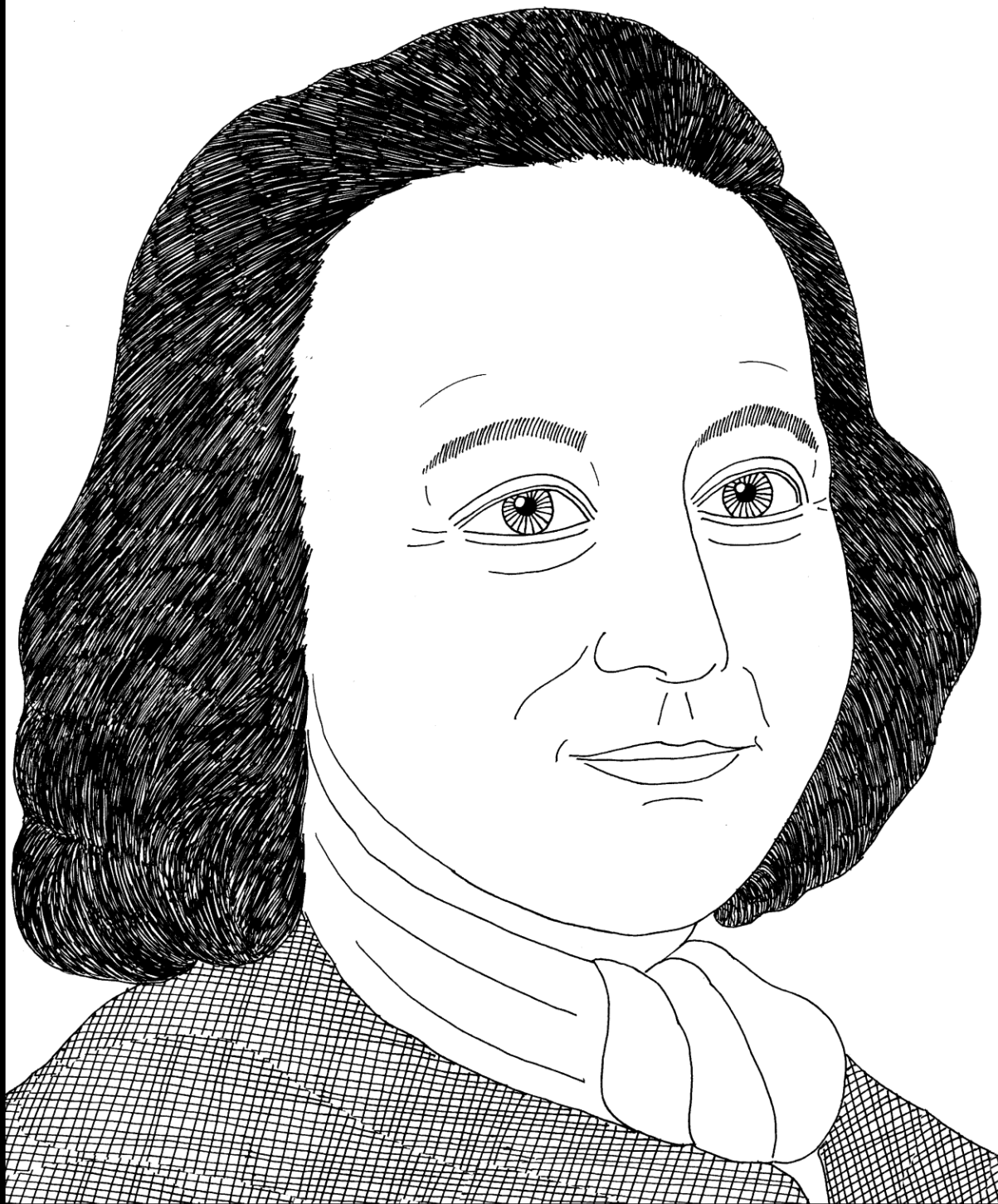
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**"Every society, all government, and every kind of civil compact therefore, is or ought to be, calculated for the general good and safety of the community."**

**-- George Mason**

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**"We need artists to help us come together and share our voices and build community around powerful issues concerning our roles in the world and our planet's survival. Compassion must be translated into action."**

**-- Natasha Mayers**

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**"Community is as endangered by surplus as it is by deficit.  
If there is too much money floating around it enables  
people to have no need of each other."**

**-- Bill McKibben**

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**"Never doubt that a small, group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."**

**-- Margaret Mead**

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**"If poverty is a disease that infects the entire community in the form of unemployment and violence, failing schools and broken homes, then we can't just treat those symptoms in isolation. We have to heal that entire community."**

**-- Barack Obama**

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**"There can be no vulnerability without risk;  
there can be no community without vulnerability;  
there can be no peace, and ultimately no life, without community."  
-- M. Scott Peck**

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**"A community is democratic only when the humblest and weakest person can enjoy the highest civil, economic, and social rights that the biggest and most powerful possess."**

**-- A. Philip Randolph**

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"I want to work for a company that contributes to and is part of the community.  
I want something not just to invest in. I want something to believe in."

-- Anita Roddick

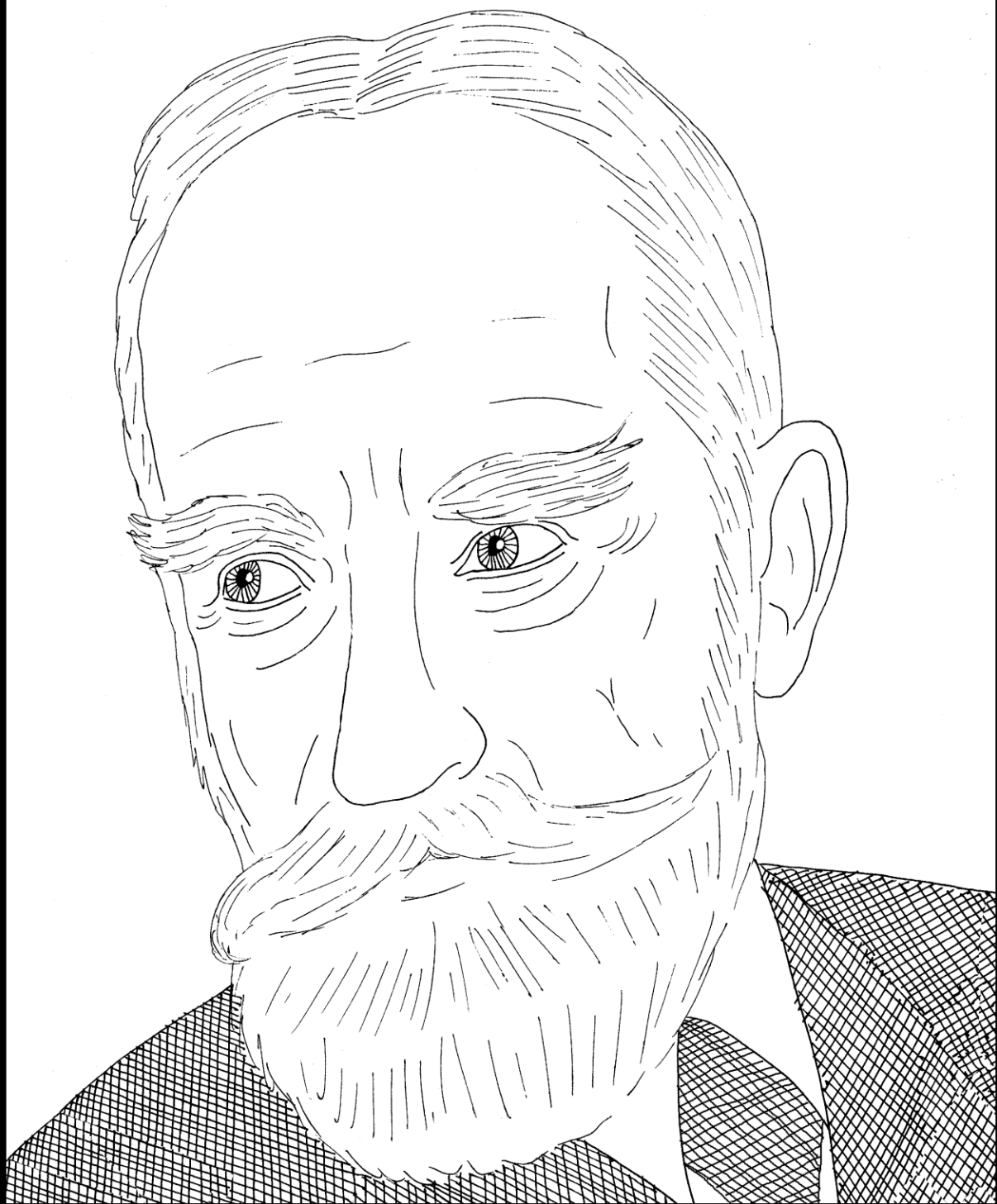
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**"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community...  
and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can."  
-- George Bernard Shaw**

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"I'm not a politician. I only want to help relieve the suffering in communities, and I want to help people see their community in each other."

-- Russell Simmons

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**"Decent work is at the heart of the search for dignity for the individual,  
stability for the family and peace in the community."**

**-- Juan Somavia**

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"Community means strength that joins our strength to do the work that needs to be done. Arms to hold us when we falter. A circle of healing. A circle of friends. Somewhere where we can be free."

-- Starhawk

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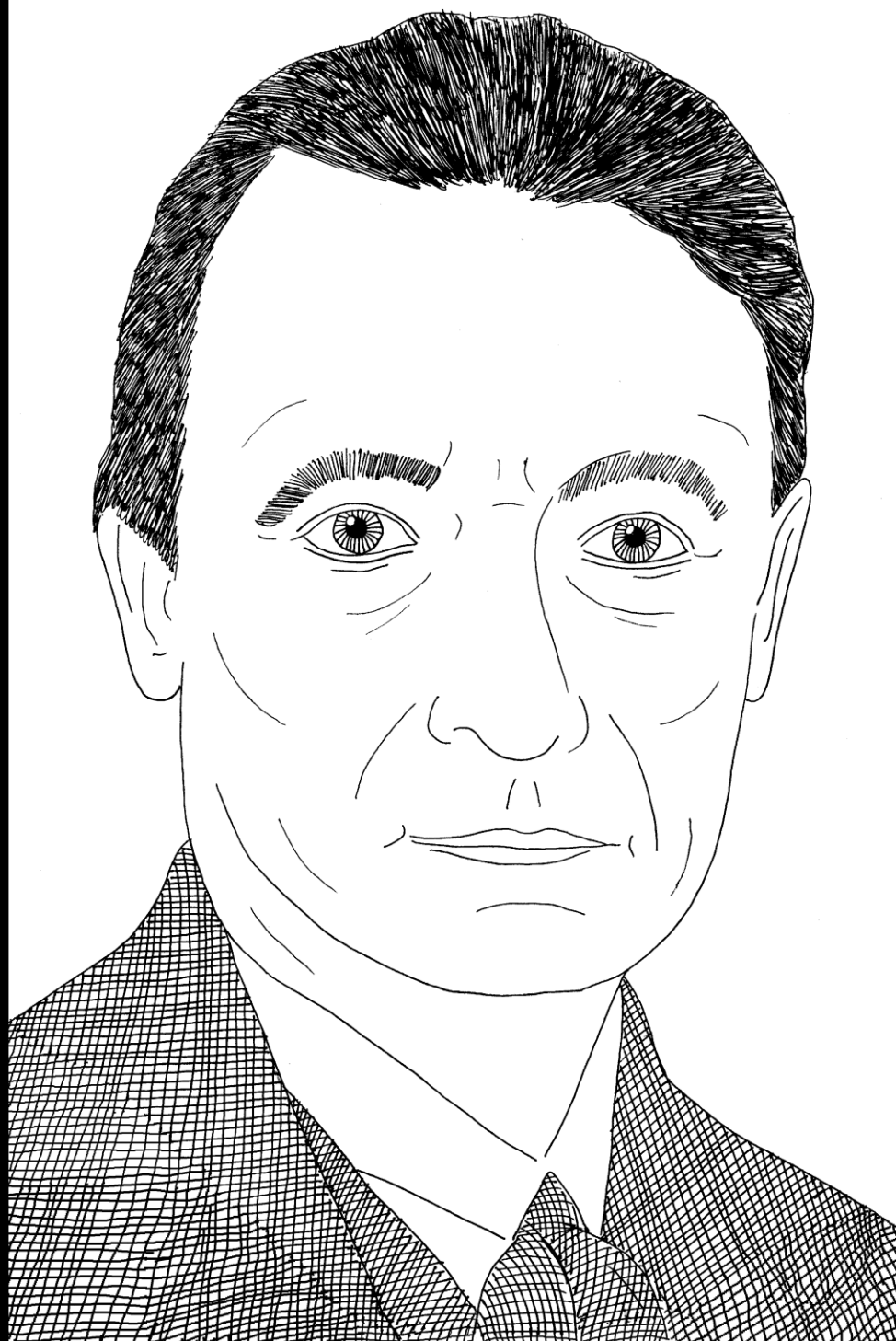
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**“A healthy social life is found only, when in the mirror of each soul the whole community finds its reflection, and when in the whole community the virtue of each one is living.”**

**-- Rudolf Steiner**

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**"On this shrunken globe, men can no longer live as strangers."  
-- Adlai Stevenson**

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"Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say: This is my community, and it is my responsibility to make it better. Interweave all these communities and you really have an America that is back on its feet again. I really think we are gonna have to reassess what constitutes a 'hero'."

-- Studs Terkel

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**"Teaching kids how to feed themselves and how to live in a community responsibly is the center of an education."**

**-- Alice Waters**

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**"The love of our neighbor in all its fullness simply means being able to say, "What are you going through?"  
-- Simone Weil**

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**"As free citizens in a political democracy, we have a responsibility to be interested and involved in the affairs of the human community, be it at the local or the global level."**

**-- Paul Wellstone**

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**"There is no power for change greater than a community  
discovering what it cares about."**

**-- Margaret Wheatley**

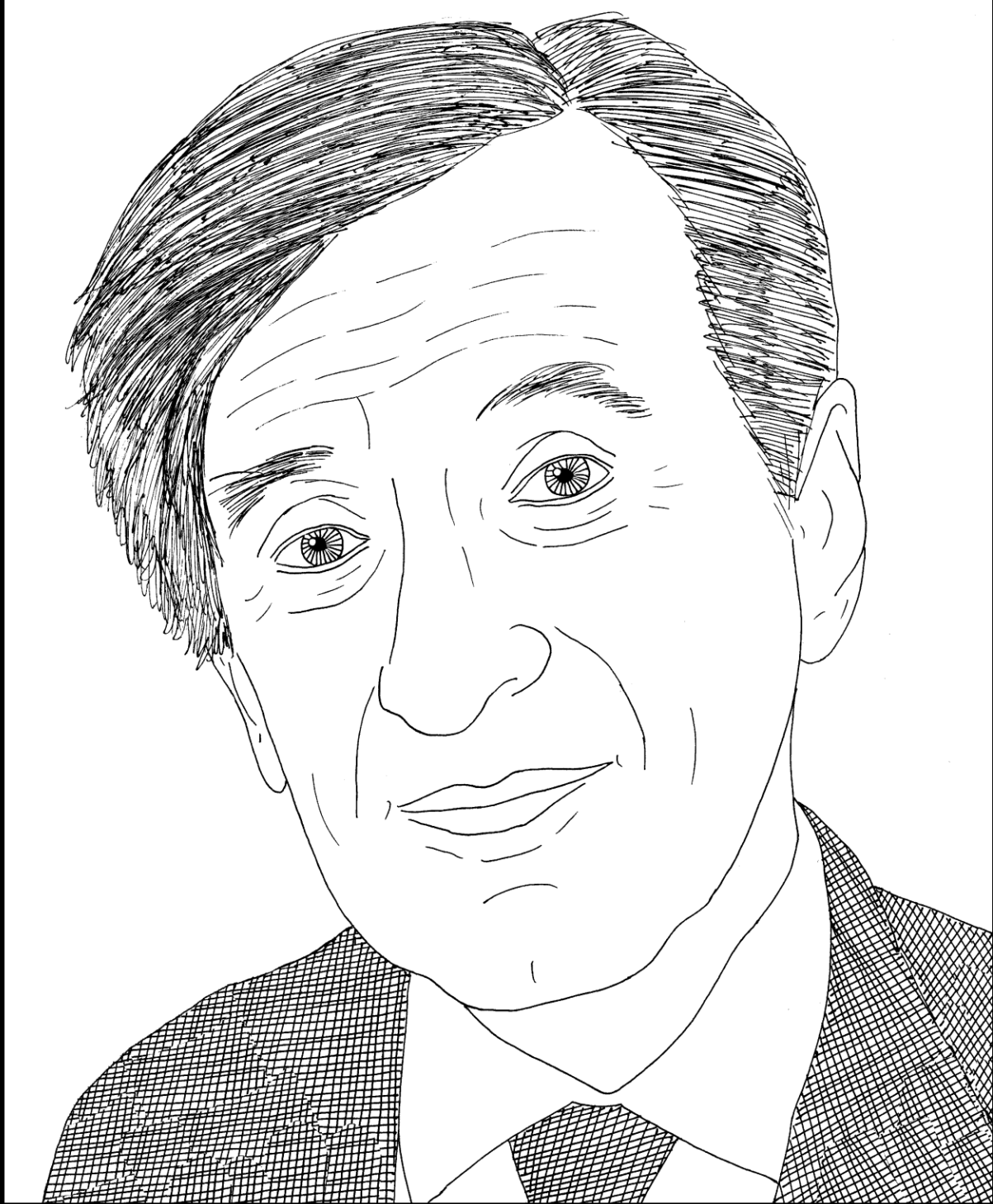
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**"This is the duty of our generation as we enter the twenty-first century -- solidarity with the weak, the persecuted, the lonely, the sick, and those in despair. It is expressed by the desire to give a noble and humanizing meaning to a community in which all members will define themselves not by their own identity but by that of others." -- Elie Wiesel**

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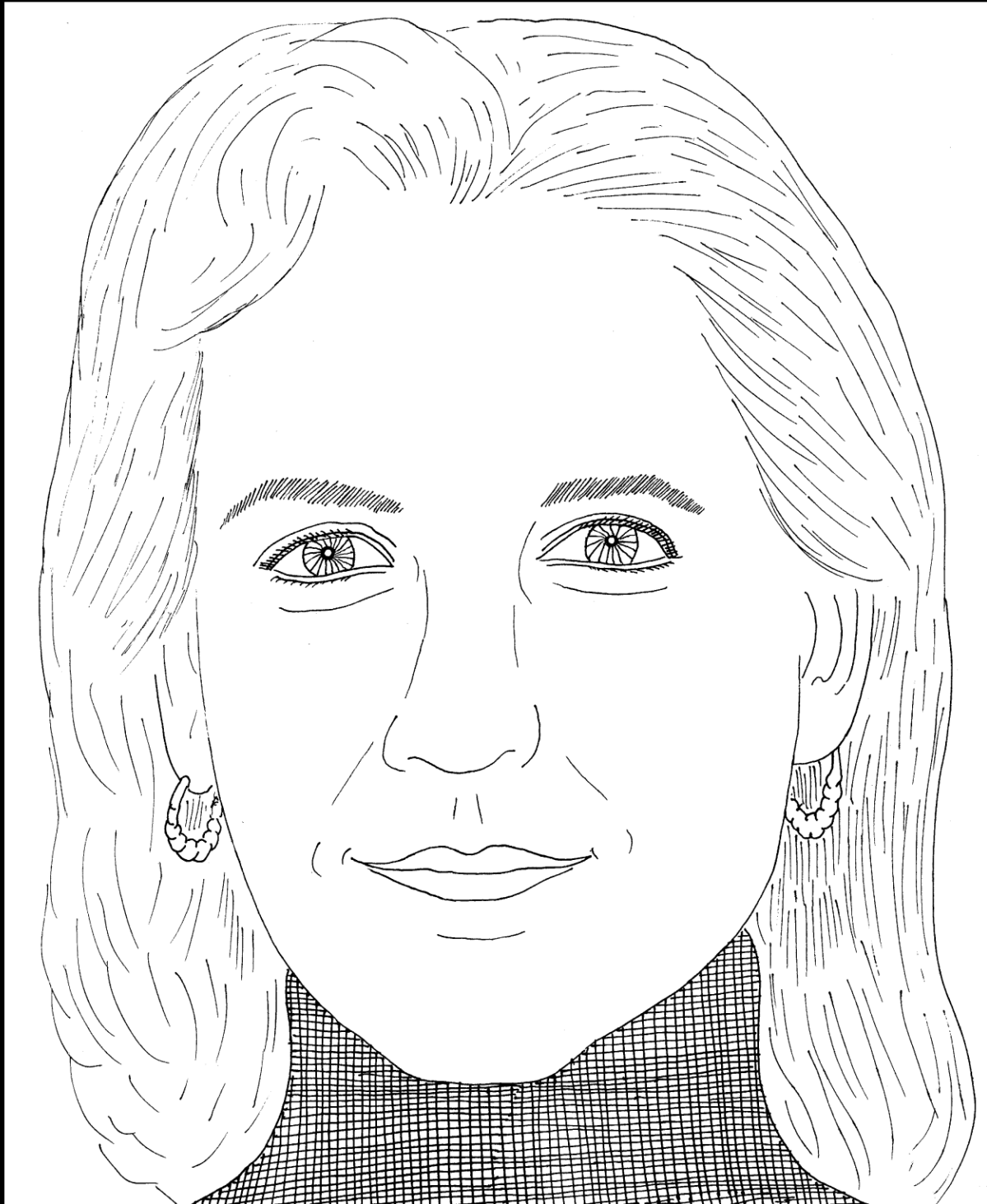
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**"Despair shows us the limit of our imagination.  
Imaginations shared create collaboration, collaboration  
creates community, and community inspires social change."  
-- Terry Tempest Williams**

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"In every community there is work to be done.  
In every nation, there are wounds to heal.  
In every heart there is the power to do it."

-- Marianne Williamson

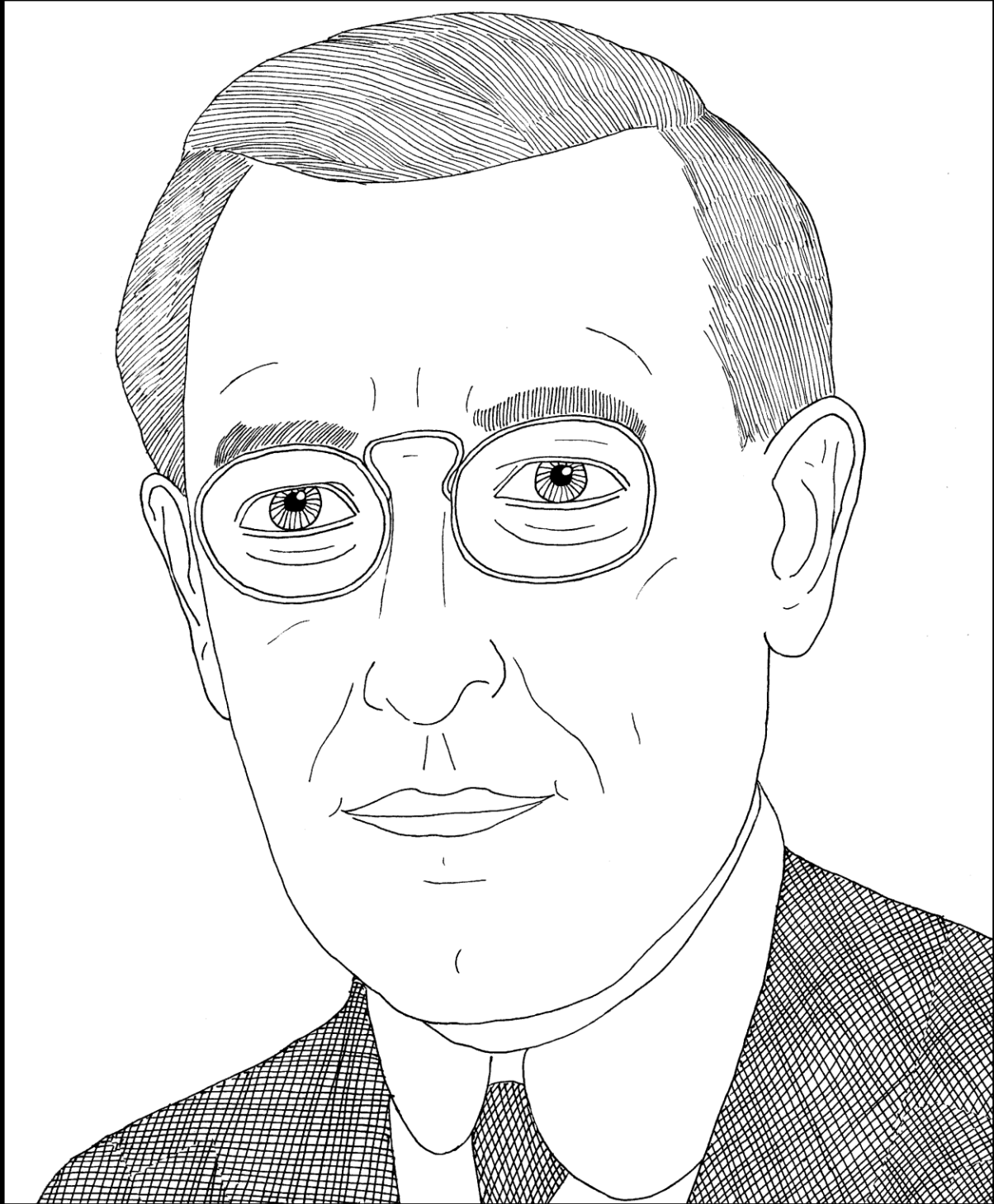
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**"There must be, not a balance of power, but a community of power;  
not organized rivalries, but an organized peace."**

**-- Woodrow Wilson**

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