


BE A HERO FOR A BETTER WORLD

MAKE A DIFFERENCE




MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"We have the ability to achieve, if we make the necessary goal, a common goal, which is to achieve a better world for all." — Helen Keller

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"We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race." — Martin Luther King Jr.

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"We live now in a global village and we are in one single family. It's our responsibility to bring families and love from all different places around the world and bring them together in peace." — Mother Teresa

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"Personal peace is an essential first step to achieving peace in the world. How do you cultivate it? It's very simple. In the first place by realizing clearly that all mankind is one, that human beings in every country are members of one and the same family." — Nelson Mandela

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"I know there is strength in the differences between us. I know there is conflict where we overlap." — Mahatma Gandhi

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What's Your BetterWorld Issue:

DIVERSITY

...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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"Ultimately, America's answer to the intolerant man is diversity, the very diversity which our feelings of religious freedom has inspired." — Barack Obama

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"Our natural strength has always been derived from our diversity of understanding and experience." — Pope Francis

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"We have a stake in one another — what binds us together is greater than what divides us apart... If enough people believe in the truth of their principles and are willing to create a larger memory of self, we are an American and we are the flowering principle of equality." — Dalai Lama

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"Your respecting others diversity is this century's love when we will be successful. Offers us an invitation to create a larger memory of self, we are an American and we are the flowering principle of equality." — Pope John Paul II

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"We have to sit down, have a meal together, pray together and then actually talk together. Then you realize that, yes, although we have some differences they are not insuperable differences." — Pope Benedict XVI

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"The war we have to wage today has only one goal and that is to make the world safe for diversity." — Pope Francis

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"My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together." — Pope John Paul II

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"I think we have to own the fears that we have of each other, and then, in some practical way, come daily way, figure out how to see people differently than the way we were brought up to." — Pope Francis

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"We can find common ground only by reaching to higher ground." — Pope John Paul II

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE

"We can find common ground only by reaching to higher ground." — Pope Francis

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WHAT'S YOUR BETTERWORLD ISSUE?

CULTURAL DIVERSITY



"I know there is strength
in the differences between us.
I know there is comfort where we overlap."
-- Ani DiFranco

The tragedy of September 11, 2001 clearly illustrated that serious conflicts can arise over "cultural differences." Shortly after this tragic event, 185 nations unanimously adopted the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity to proclaim that our cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of us. It rejected the claims that a clash of cultures and civilizations is unavoidable, and stressed that intercultural dialogue is the best guarantee of a more peaceful, just and sustainable world.

What is culture? A culture is a community's language, arts and literature. It is also its values system, traditions, beliefs and way of living. Respecting and protecting culture is a matter of Human Rights. Everyone should be able to participate in the cultural life of their choice. The Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions was adopted in October 2005 to outline legal rights and obligations regarding international cooperation to help protect cultural diversity throughout the world.

Diversity Day, officially known as World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, is an opportunity to help our communities to understand the value of cultural diversity and learn how to live together in harmony.

Be A Hero For A Better World!

1. Learn about another culture
2. Hold an event celebrating the rich cultural diversity in your community
3. Contribute to organizations working to promote and protect cultural diversity

Organizations for Cultural Diversity

- Coalition for Cultural Diversity (cdc-ccd.org)
- Cultural Commons (culturalcommons.org)
- EdChange (edchange.org)
- International Network for Cultural Diversity (incd.net)
- UNESCO Culture Sector (unesco.org/culture)

For more about Cultural Diversity - www.BetterWorld.net/diversity.htm

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"We have the ability to achieve, if we master the necessary goodwill, a common global society blessed with a shared culture of peace that is nourished by the ethnic, national and local diversities that enrich our lives."

-- Mahnaz Afkhami

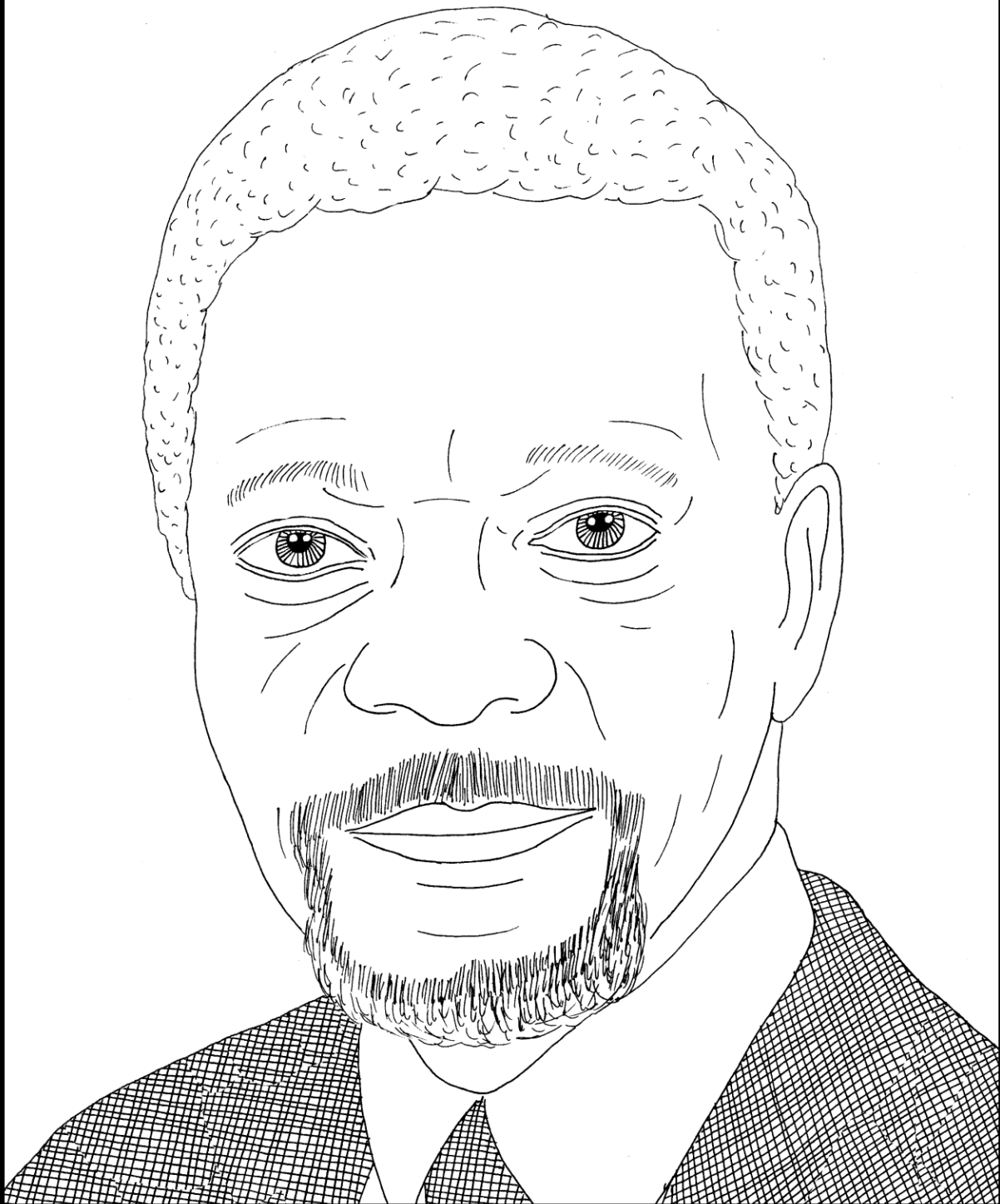
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**"We may have different religions, different languages,
different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race."**

-- Kofi Annan

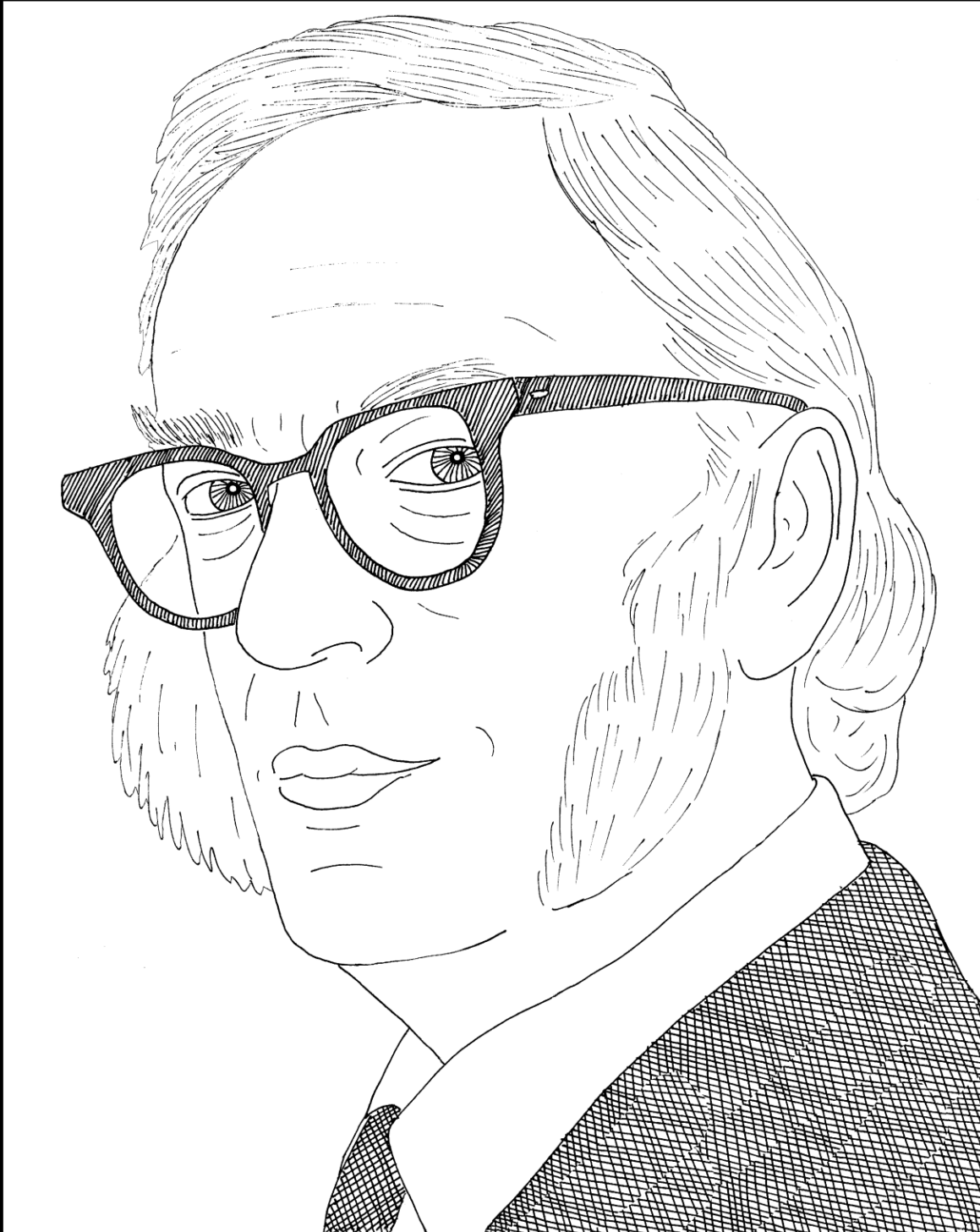
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**"There are no nations! There is only humanity.
And if we don't come to understand that right soon,
there will be no nations, because there will be no humanity."
-- Isaac Asimov**

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"In world history, those who have helped to build the same culture are not necessarily of one race, and those of the same race have not all participated in one culture."

-- Ruth Fulton Benedict

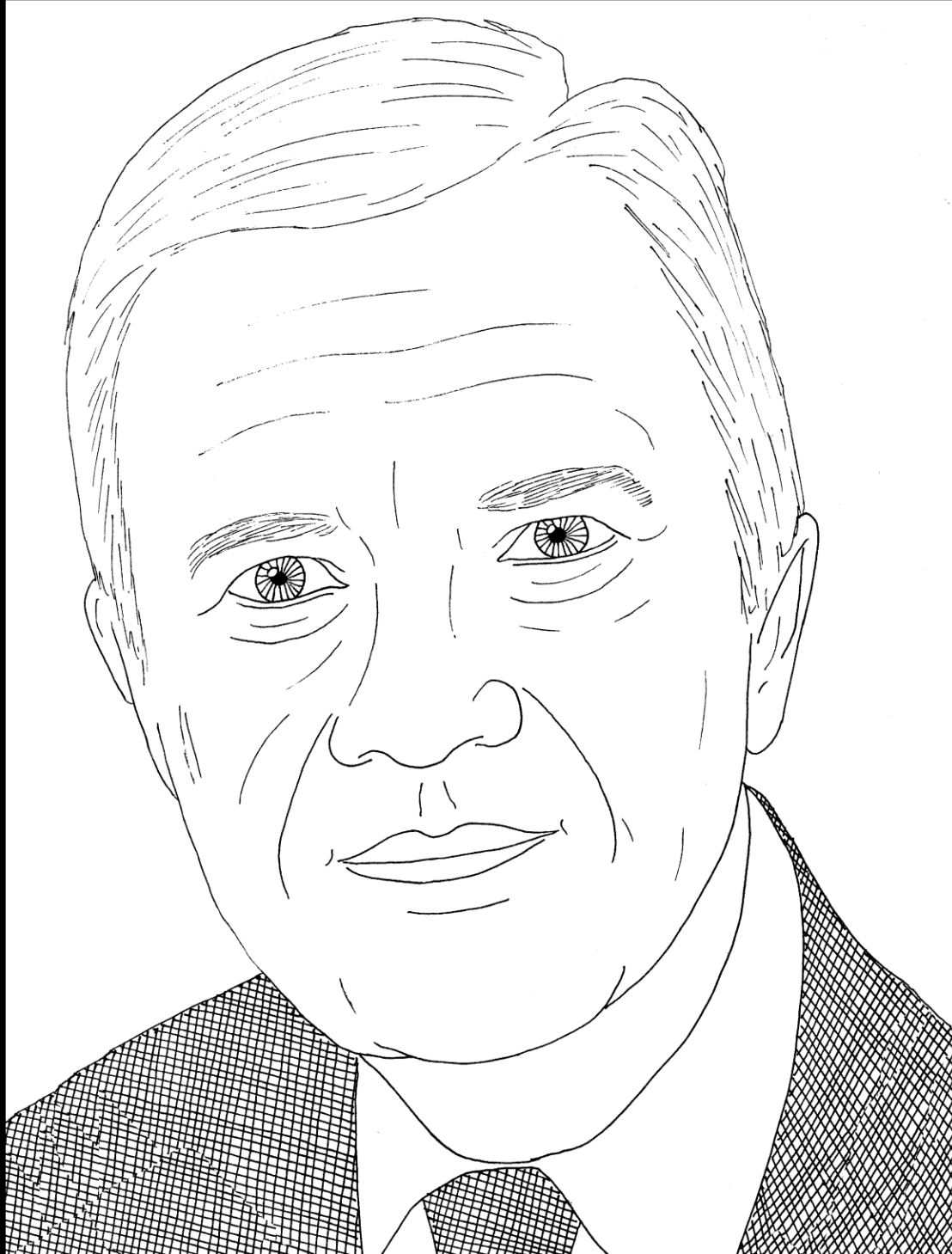
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"We are of course a nation of differences. Those differences don't make us weak. They're the source of our strength."

-- Jimmy Carter

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"We ought to think that we are one of the leaves of a tree, and the tree is all humanity. We cannot live without the others, without the tree."

-- Pablo Casals

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"We live now in a global village and we are in one single family.
It's our responsibility to bring friendship and love from all
different places around the world and to live together in peace."
-- Jackie Chan

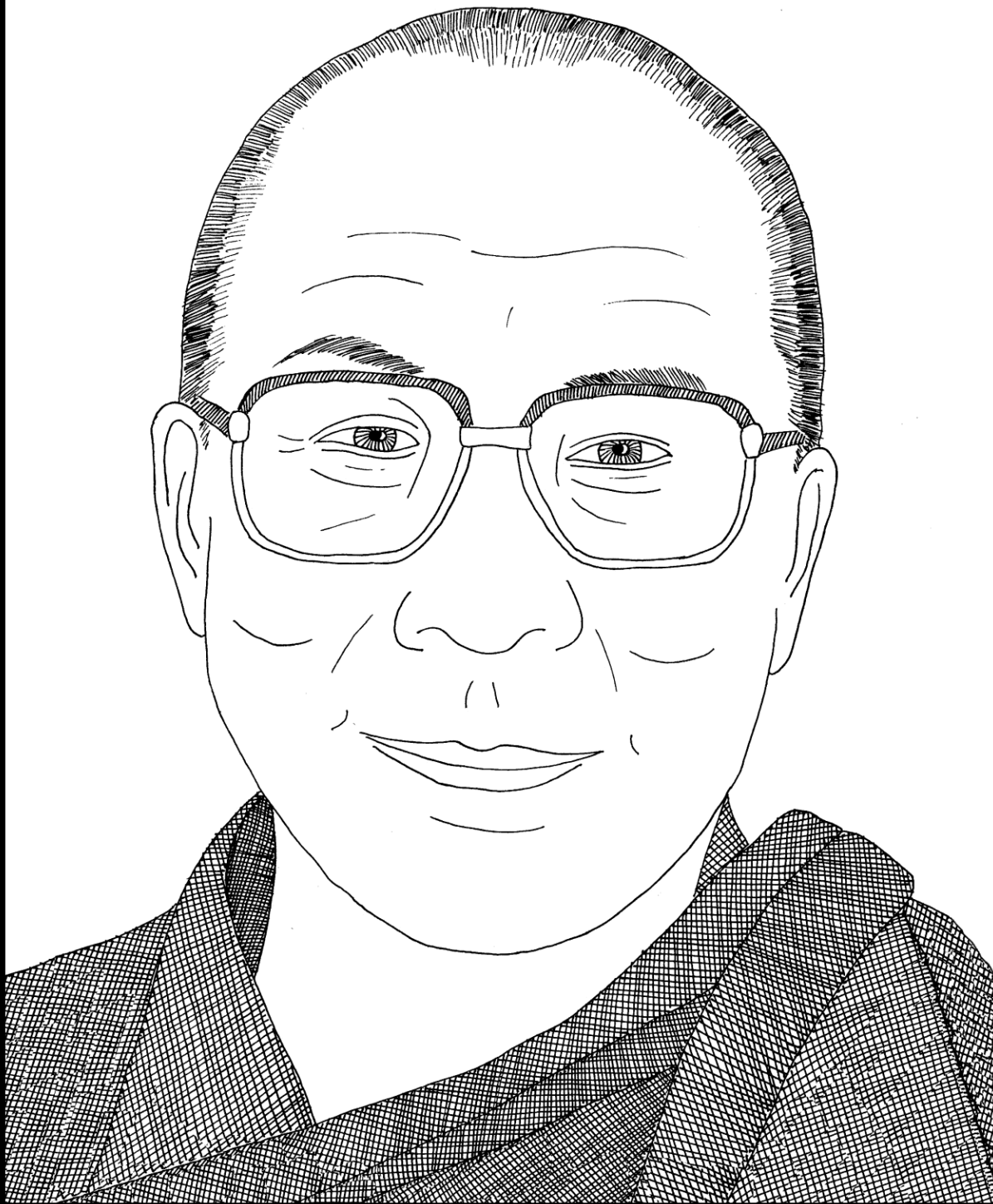
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"Internal peace is an essential first step to achieving peace in the world. How do you cultivate it? It's very simple. In the first place by realizing clearly that all mankind is one, that human beings in every country are members of one and the same family."

-- The 14th Dalai Lama

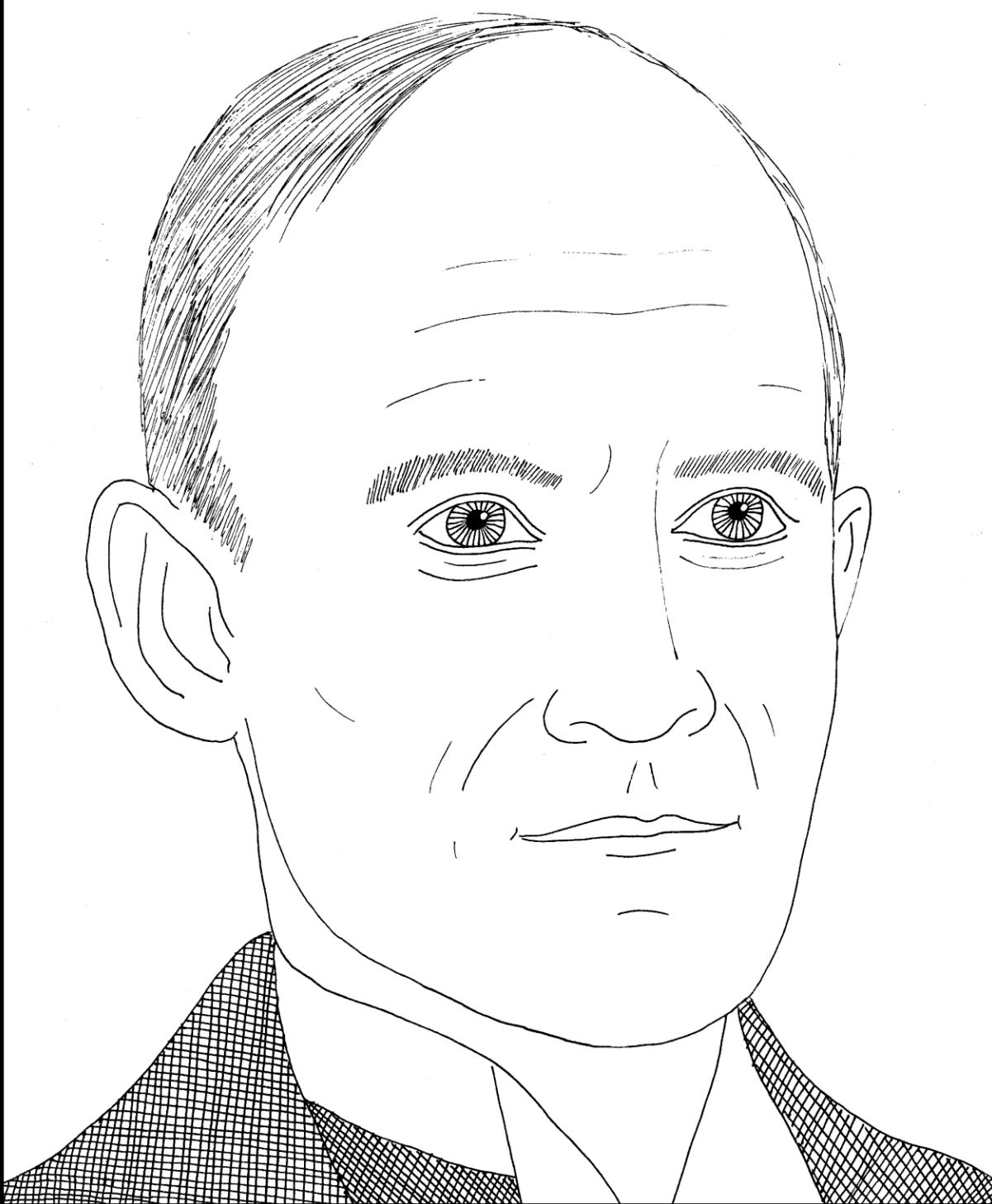
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"Years ago I recognized my kinship with all living things..."
-- Eugene V. Debs

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"We need to dissolve the lie that some people have a right to think of other people as their property. And we need at last to form a circle that includes us all, in which all of us are seen as equal."
-- Barbara Deming

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"I know there is strength in the differences between us.
I know there is comfort where we overlap."
-- Ani DiFranco

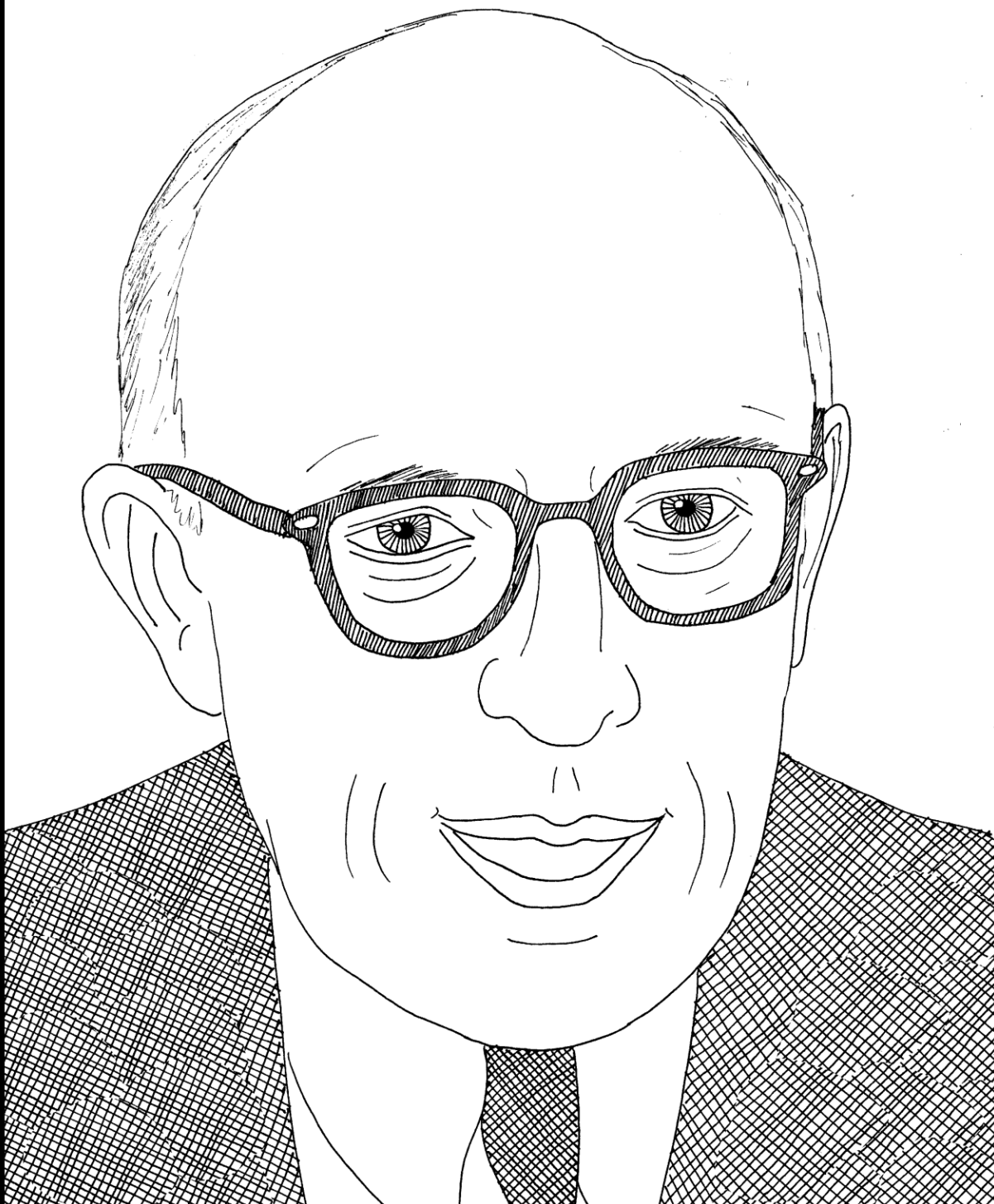
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**"Human diversity makes tolerance more than a virtue;
it makes it a requirement for survival."**

-- René Dubos

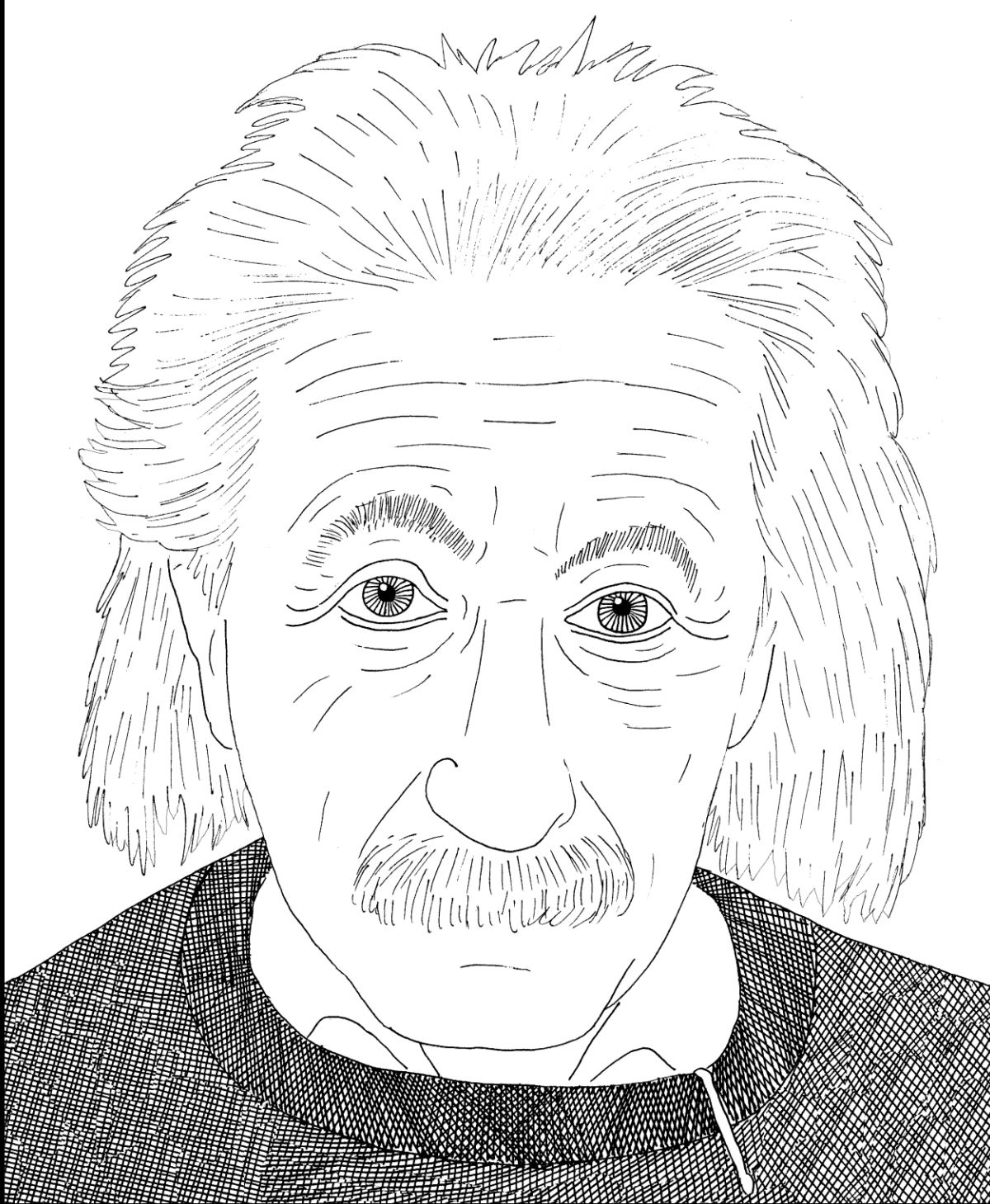
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"A human being is a part of the whole that we call the universe... He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings, as something separated from the rest -- a kind of optical illusion of his consciousness. This illusion is a prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for only the few people nearest us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living beings and all of nature."

-- Albert Einstein

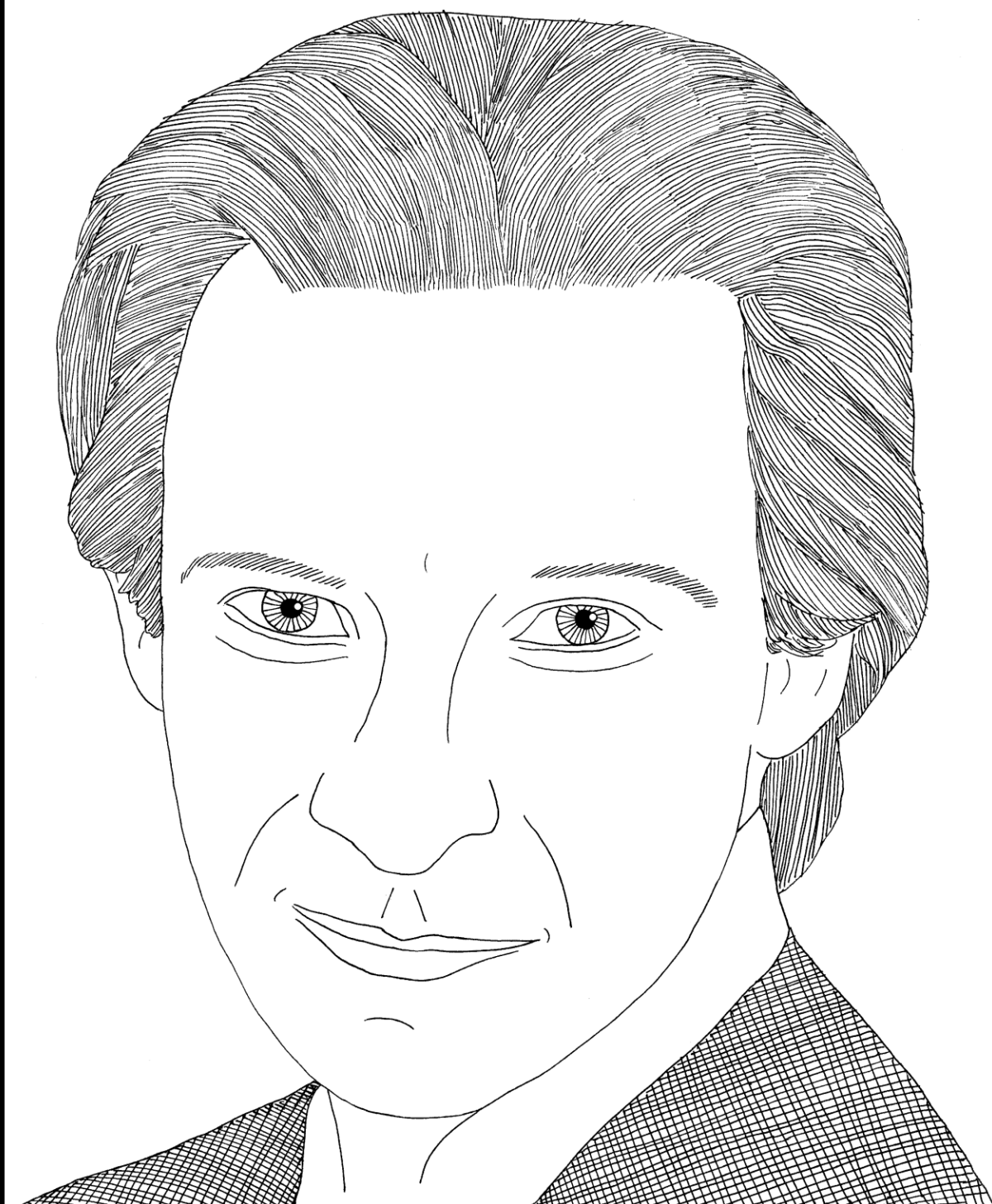
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“...the world is a giant community now. This excuse of distance, time, doesn't work...We're all so connected. We can't spend every second of our lives worrying about another family miles away but we somehow have to factor it in where we can.”

-- Ralph Fiennes

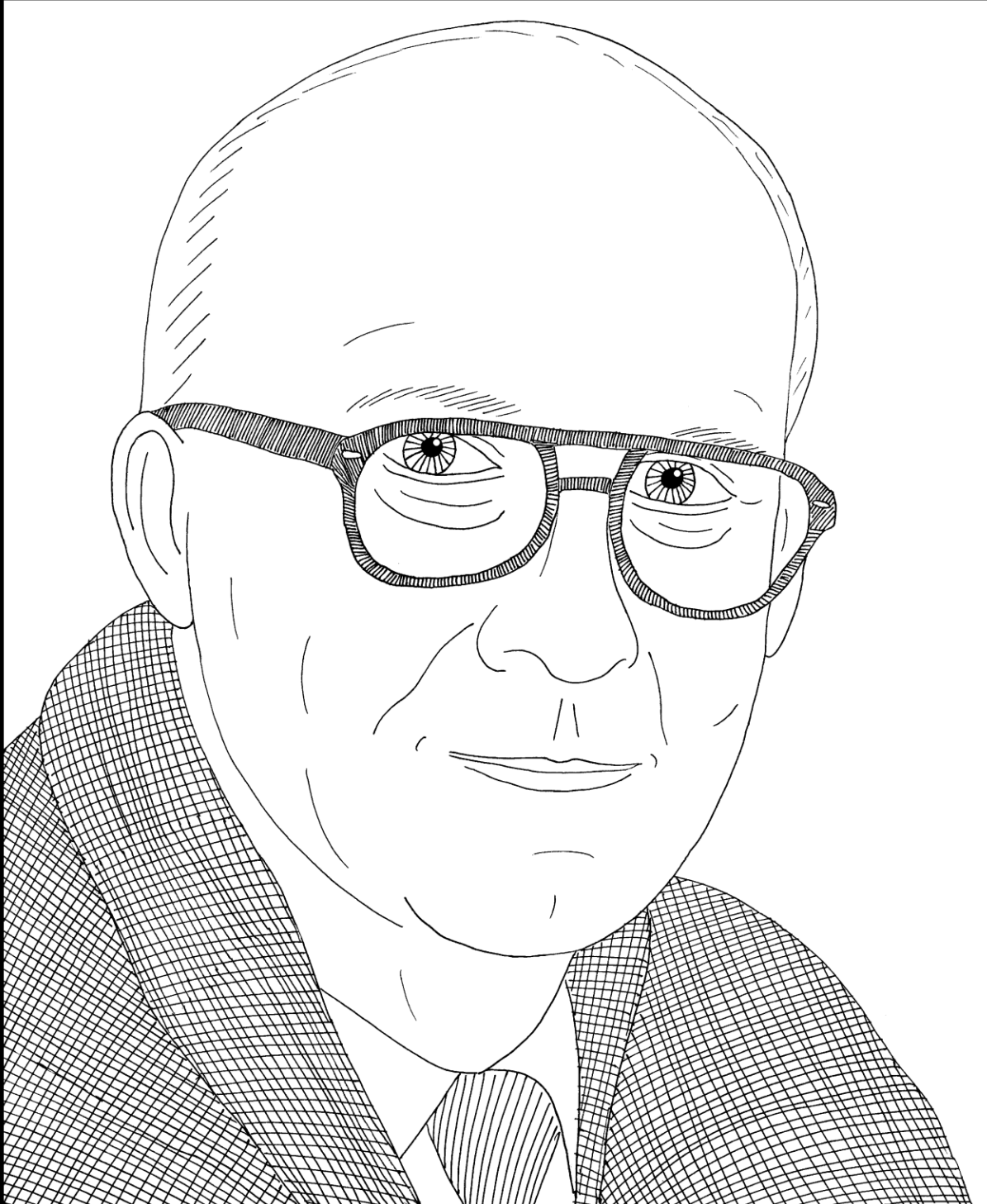
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**"We are not going to be able to operate our Spaceship Earth successfully nor for much longer unless we see it as a whole spaceship and our fate as common. It has to be everybody or nobody."
-- R. Buckminster Fuller**

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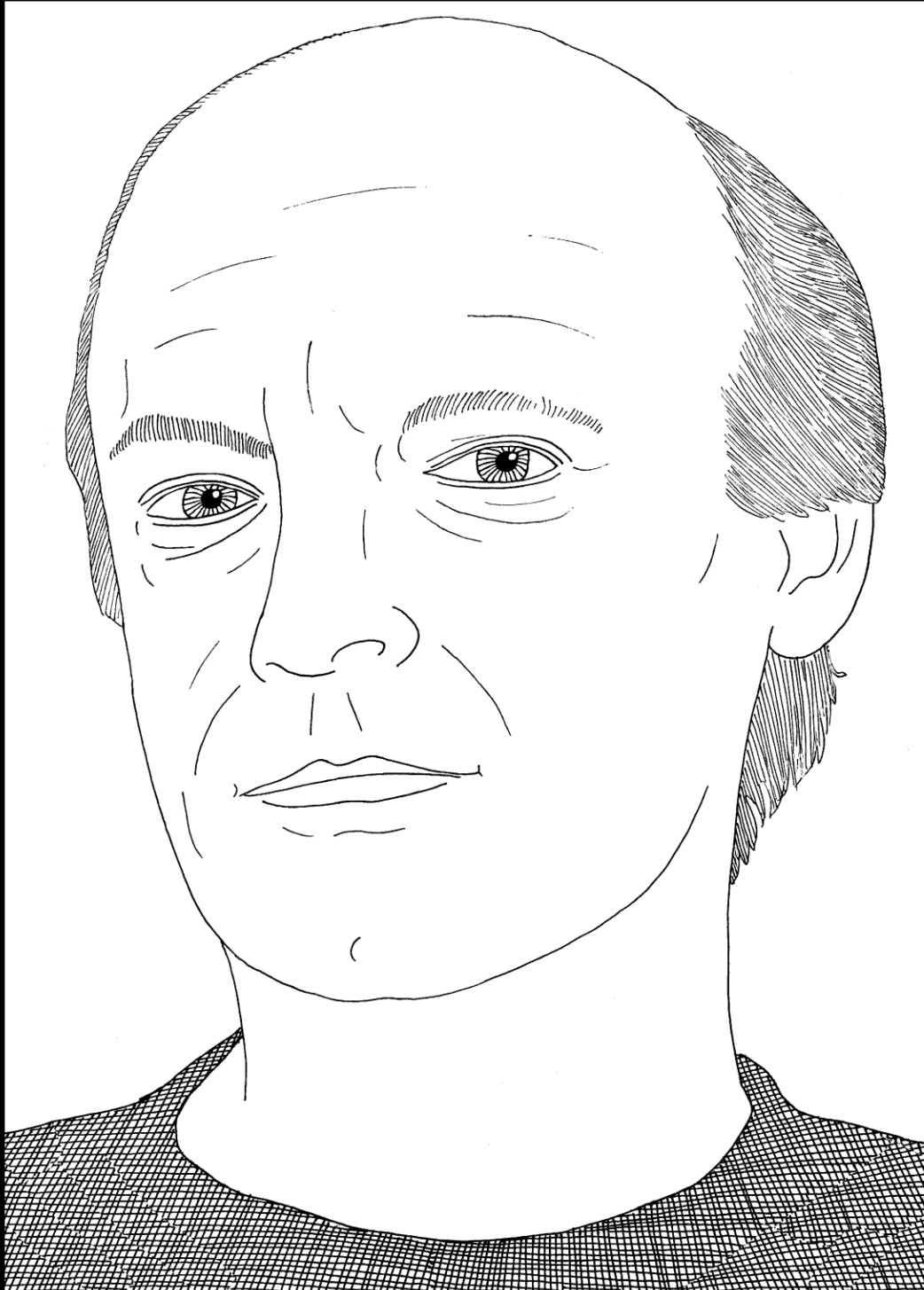
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"I don't believe in charity. I believe in solidarity. Charity is vertical, so it's humiliating. It goes from the top to the bottom. Solidarity is horizontal. It respects the other and learns from the other. I have a lot to learn from other people."

-- Eduardo Galeano

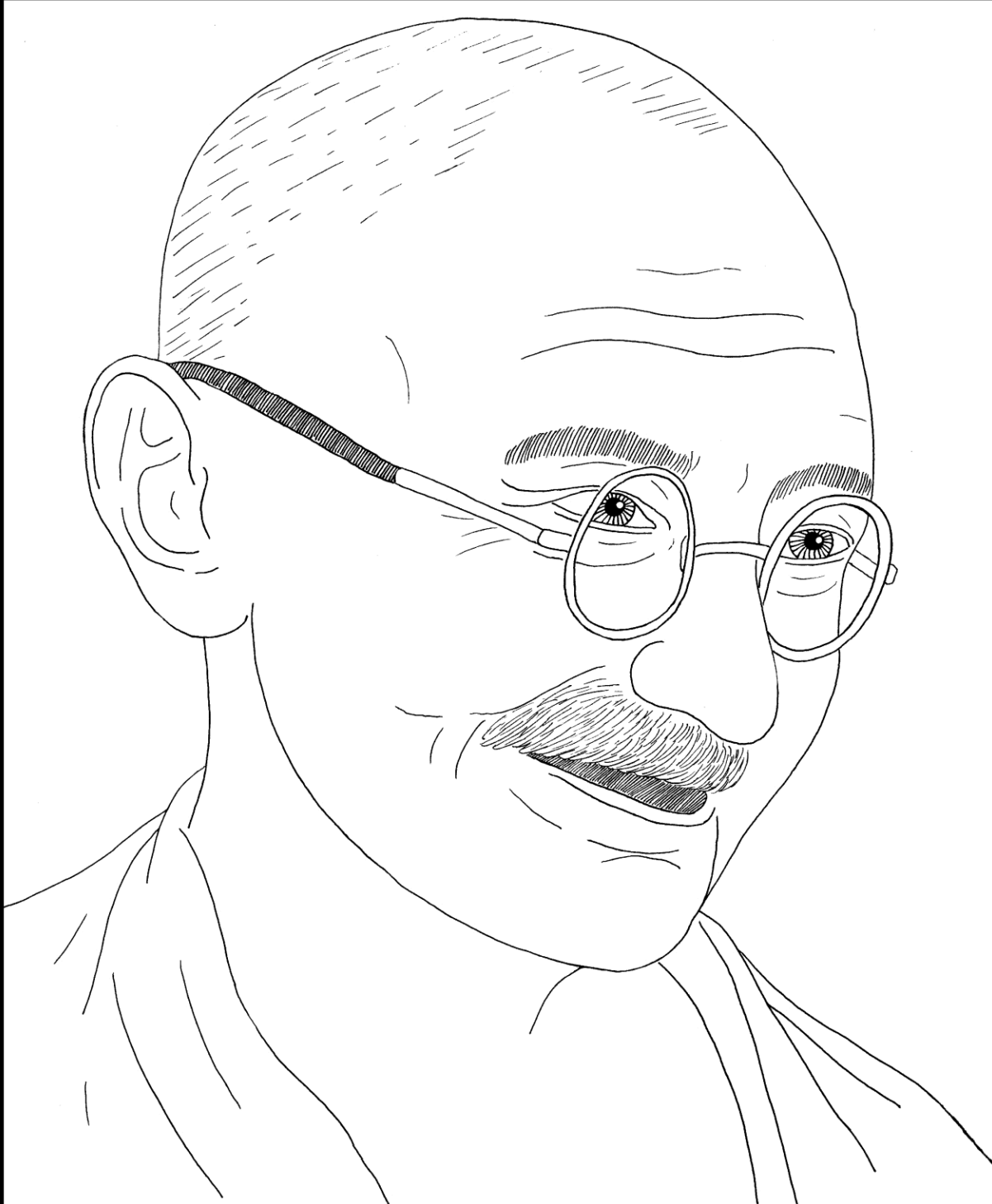
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"All humanity is one undivided and indivisible family..."
-- Mohandas Gandhi

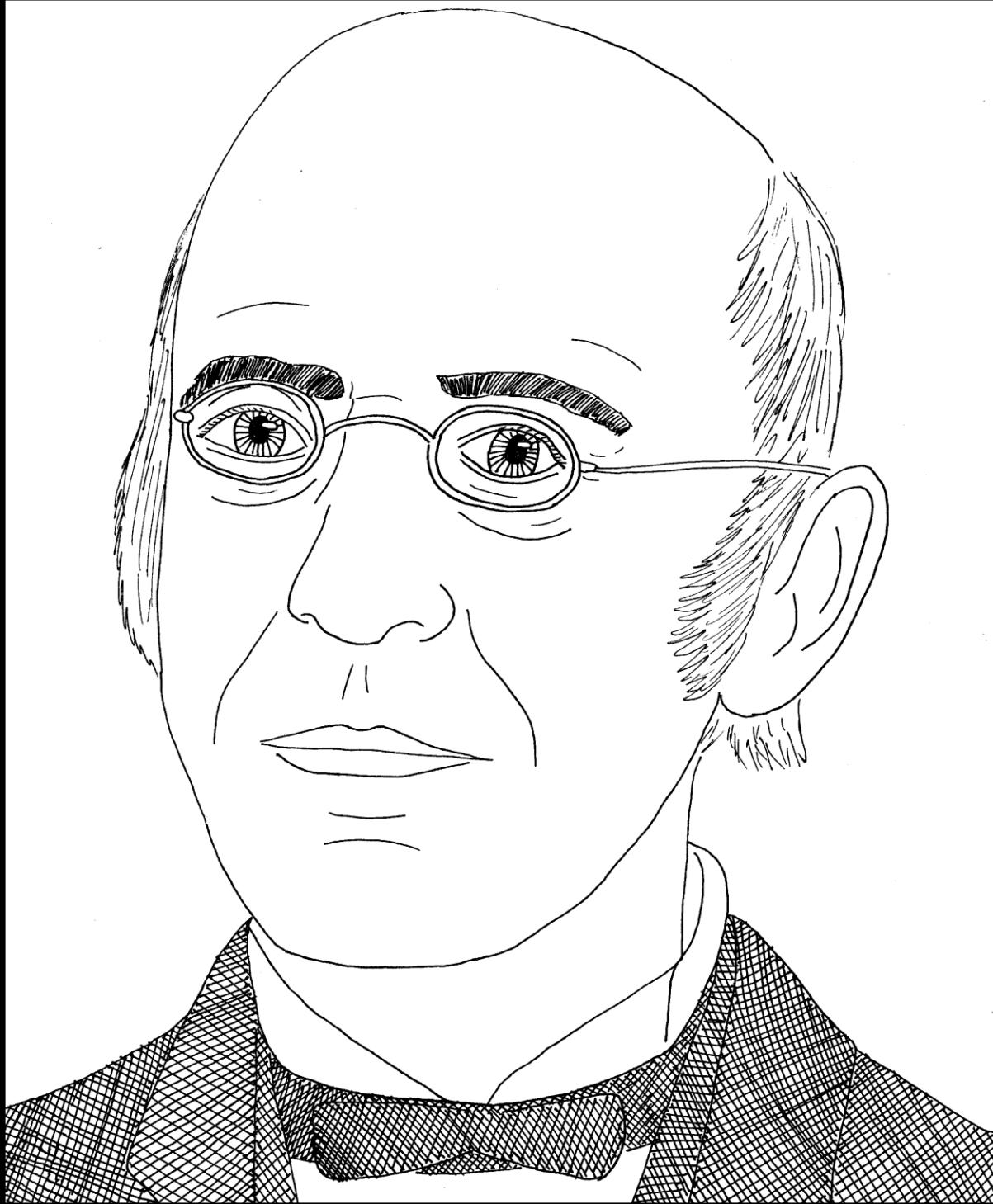
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"My country is the world; my countrymen are mankind."
-- William Lloyd Garrison

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**"Peace is not unity in similarity but unity in diversity,
in the comparison and conciliation of differences."**

-- Mikhail Gorbachev

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"We are eternally linked not just
to each other but our environment."
-- Herbie Hancock

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"We cannot afford to be separate. . . .
We have to see that all of us are in the same boat."
-- Dorothy Height

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"Let America be America, where equality is in the air we breathe."
-- Langston Hughes

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"Difference is of the essence of humanity. Difference is an accident of birth and it should therefore never be the source of hatred or conflict. The answer to difference is to respect it. Therein lies a most fundamental principle of peace: respect for diversity."

-- John Hume

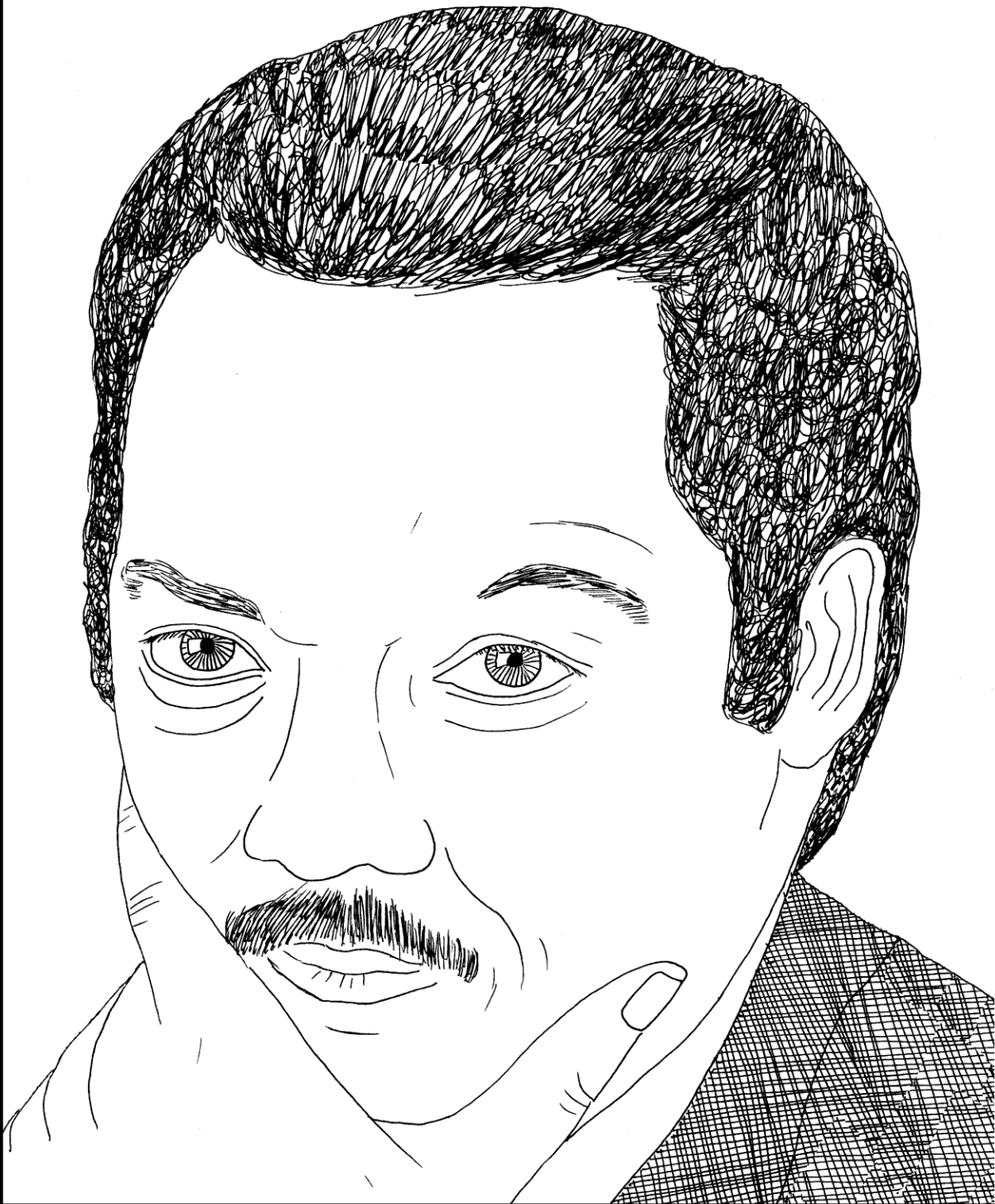
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"Our flag is red, white and blue, but our nation is a rainbow - red, yellow, brown, black and white - and we're all precious in God's sight."

-- Jesse Jackson

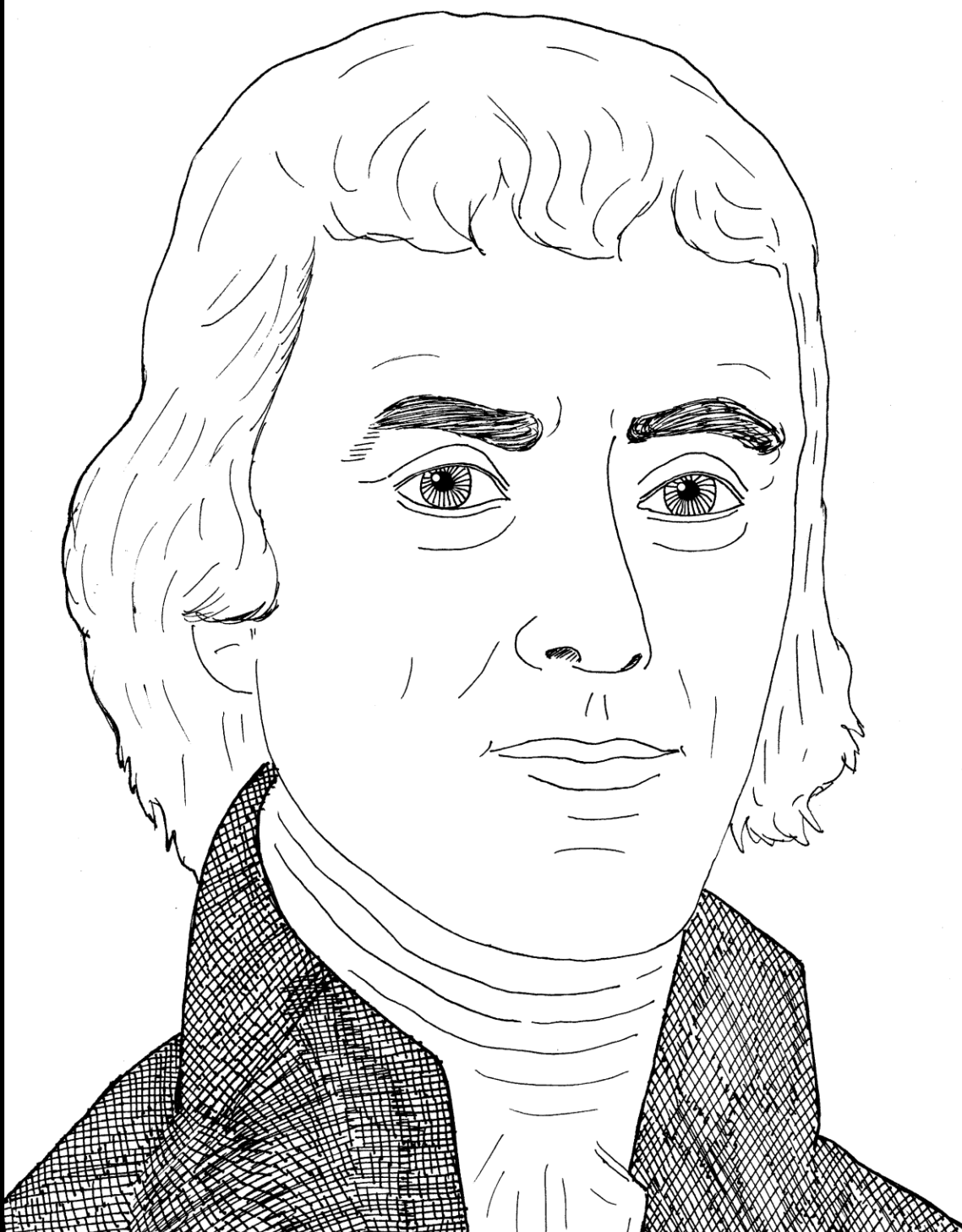
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"Peace and friendship with all mankind is our wisest policy,
and I wish we may be permitted to pursue it."

-- Thomas Jefferson

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**"Our most basic common link is that we all inhabit this planet.
We all breathe the same air. We all cherish our children's future.
And we are all mortal."**

-- John F. Kennedy

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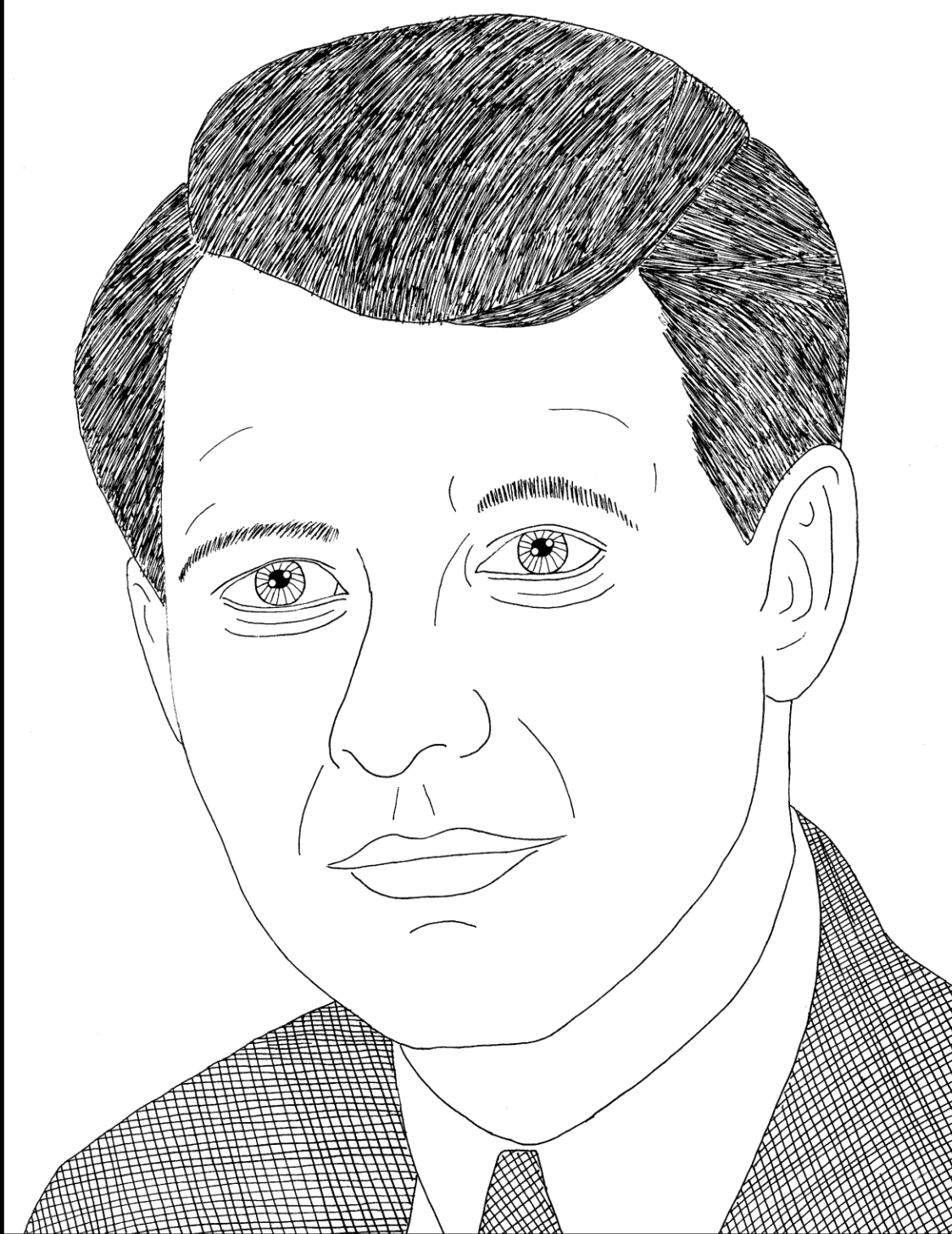
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"Ultimately, America's answer to the intolerant man is diversity, the very diversity which our heritage of religious freedom has inspired."

-- Robert F. Kennedy

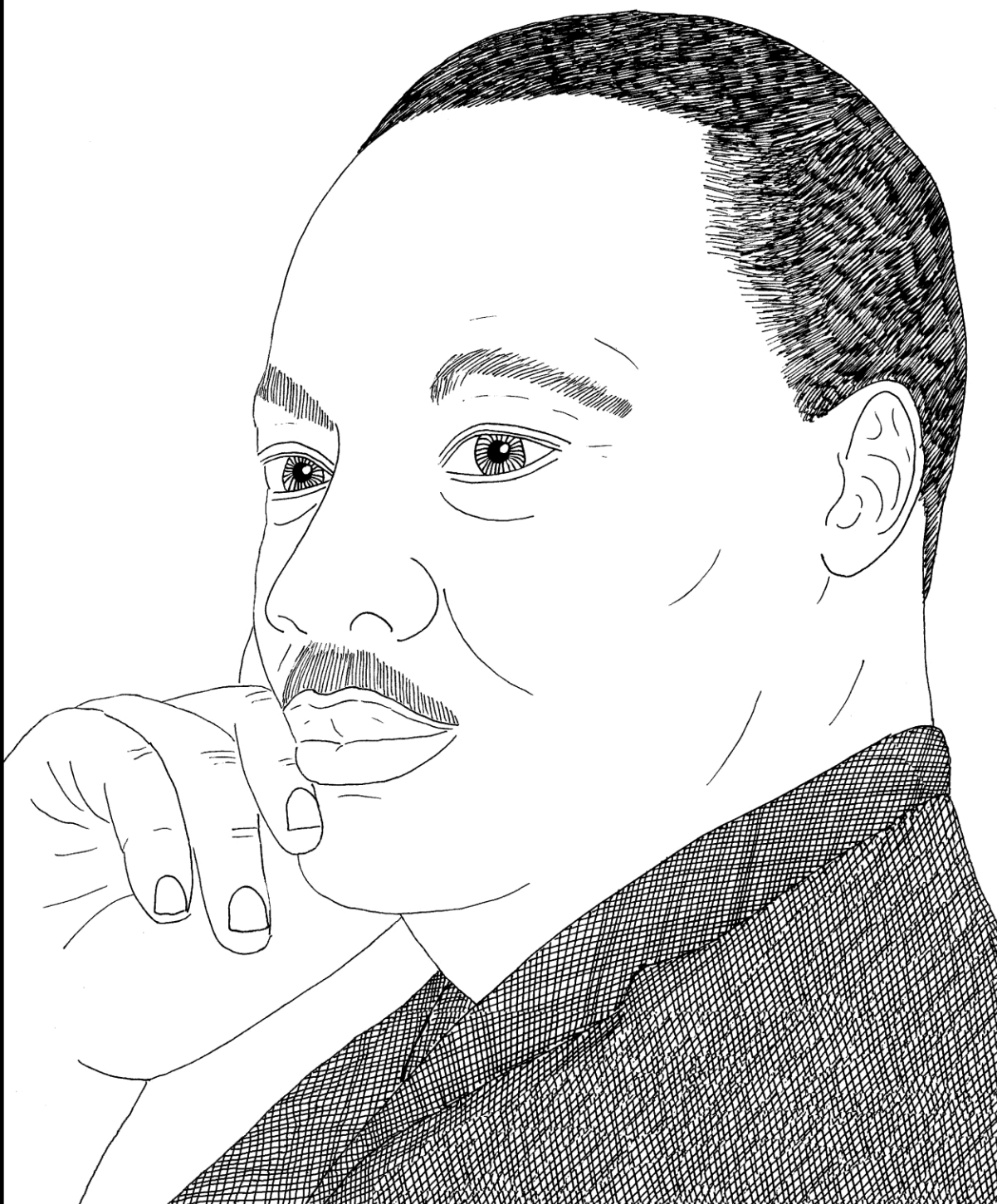
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**"We may have all come on different ships,
but we're in the same boat now."
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.**

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"What we need to do is learn to respect and embrace our differences until our differences don't make a difference in how we are treated."

-- Yolanda King

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**"Don't become too narrow. Live fully. Meet all
kinds of people. You'll learn something from everyone..."**
-- Yuri Kochiyama

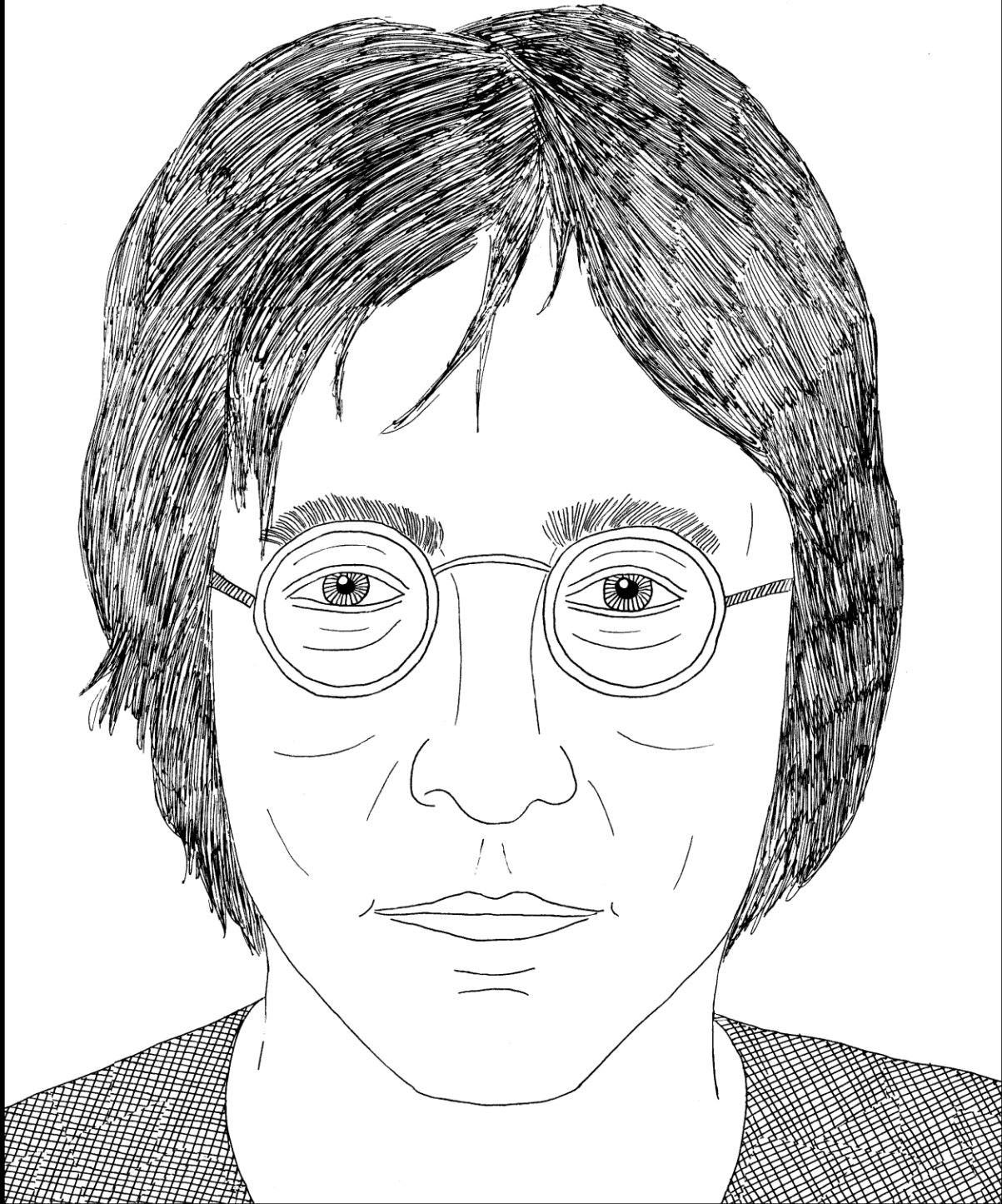
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"Imagine no possessions. I wonder if you can.
No need for greed or hunger. A brotherhood of man.
Imagine all the people sharing all the world..."
-- John Lennon

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**"Our cause is the cause of equality between nations and peoples.
Only thus can the brotherhood of man be firmly established."**

-- Chief Albert John Lutuli

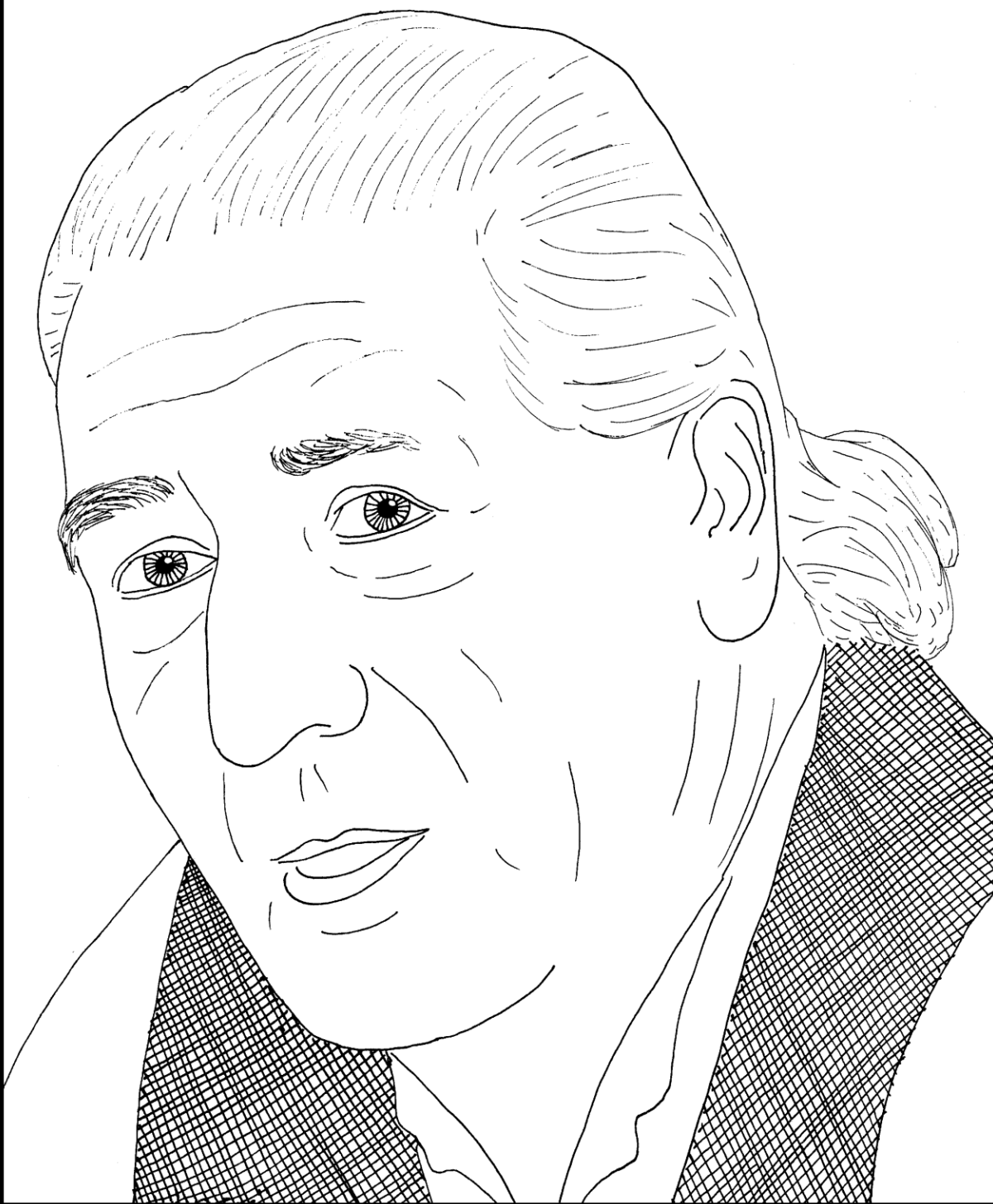
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"Although we are in different boats you in your boat
and we in our canoe we share the same river of life."

-- Chief Oren Lyons

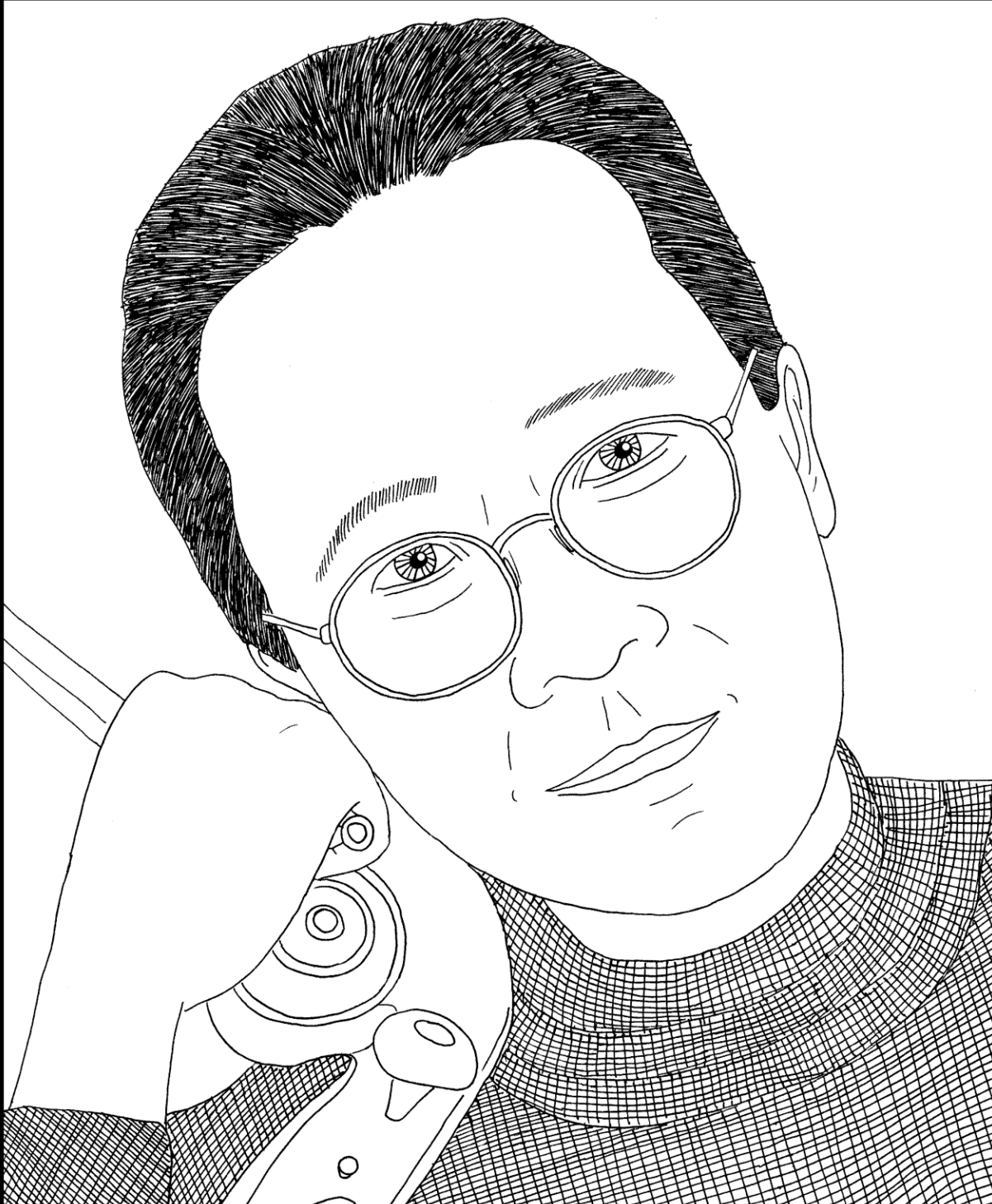
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"Our cultural strength has always been derived
from our diversity of understanding and experience."

-- Yo-Yo Ma

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"It's like everybody's sitting there and they have some kind of veil over their face, and they look at each other through this veil that makes them see each other through some stereotypical kind of viewpoint. If we're ever gonna collectively begin to grapple with the problems that we have collectively, we're gonna have to move back the veil and deal with each other on a more human level."

-- Chief Wilma Mankiller

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"If we are to achieve a richer culture, rich in contrasting values, we must recognize the whole gamut of human potentialities, and so weave a less arbitrary social fabric, one in which each diverse gift will find a fitting place."

-- Margaret Mead

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"I resolutely believe that respect for diversity is a fundamental pillar in the eradication of racism, xenophobia and intolerance."

-- Rigoberta Menchú

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"The whole idea of compassion is based on a keen awareness of the interdependence of all these living beings, which are all part of one another, and all involved in one another."

-- Thomas Merton

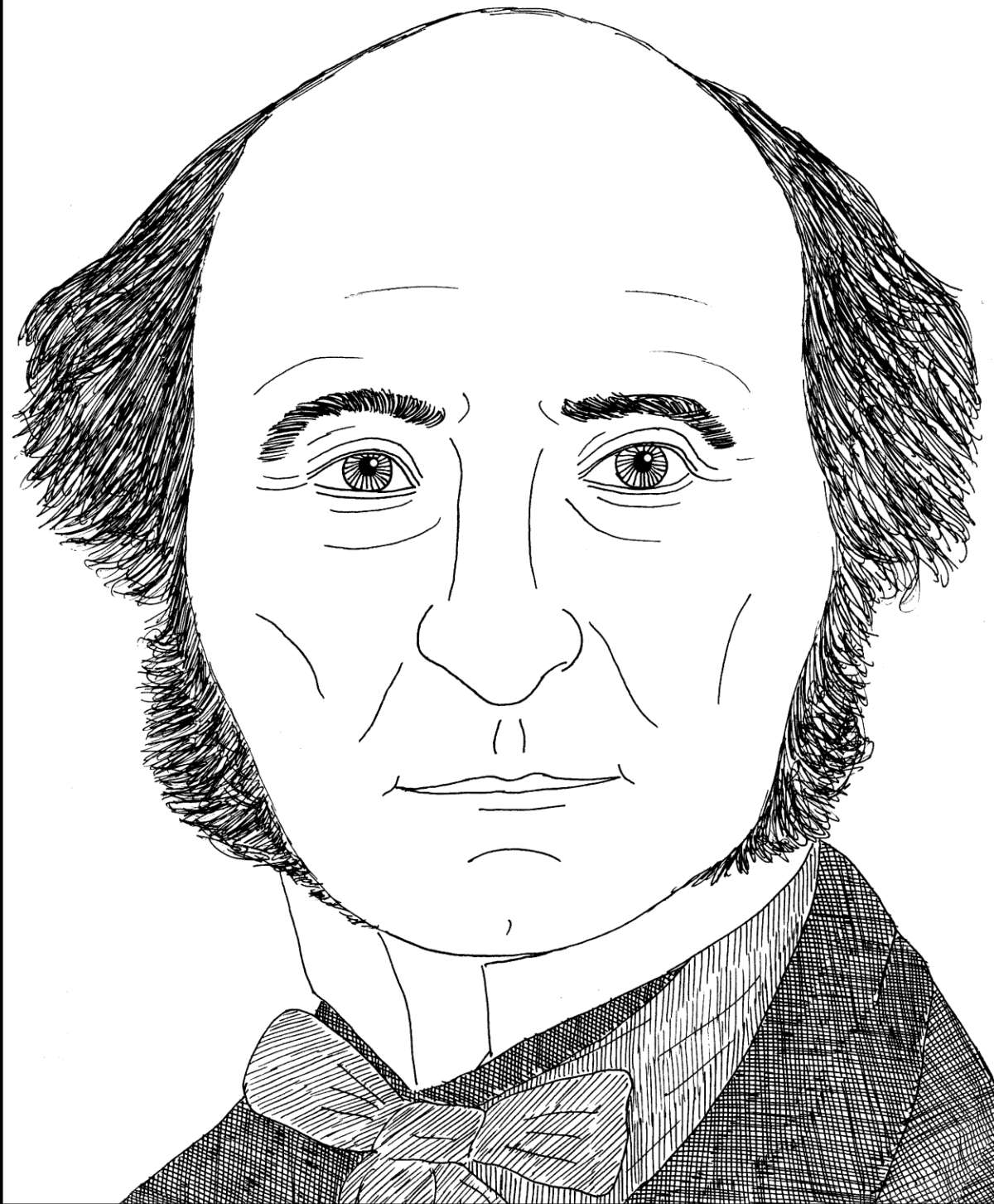
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"It is hardly possible to overrate the value, for the improvement of human beings, of things which bring them into contact with persons dissimilar to themselves and with modes of thought and action unlike those with which they are familiar..."

-- John Stuart Mill

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**"When strangers start acting like neighbors...
communities are reinvigorated."**

-- Ralph Nader

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"We are a gentle angry people. We are a land of many colors.
We are gay and straight together. We are a peaceful loving people.
And we are singing, singing for our lives."
-- Holly Near

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"All the nations and peoples are too closely knit together today for any one of them to imagine that it can live apart. Peace has been said to be indivisible, so is freedom, so is prosperity now, and so also is disaster in this one world that can no longer be split into isolated fragments."

-- Jawaharlal Nehru

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"We have a stake in one another ... what binds us together is greater than what drives us apart, and ... if enough people believe in the truth of that proposition and act on it, then we might not solve every problem, but we can get something meaningful done for the people with whom we share this Earth."

-- Barack Obama

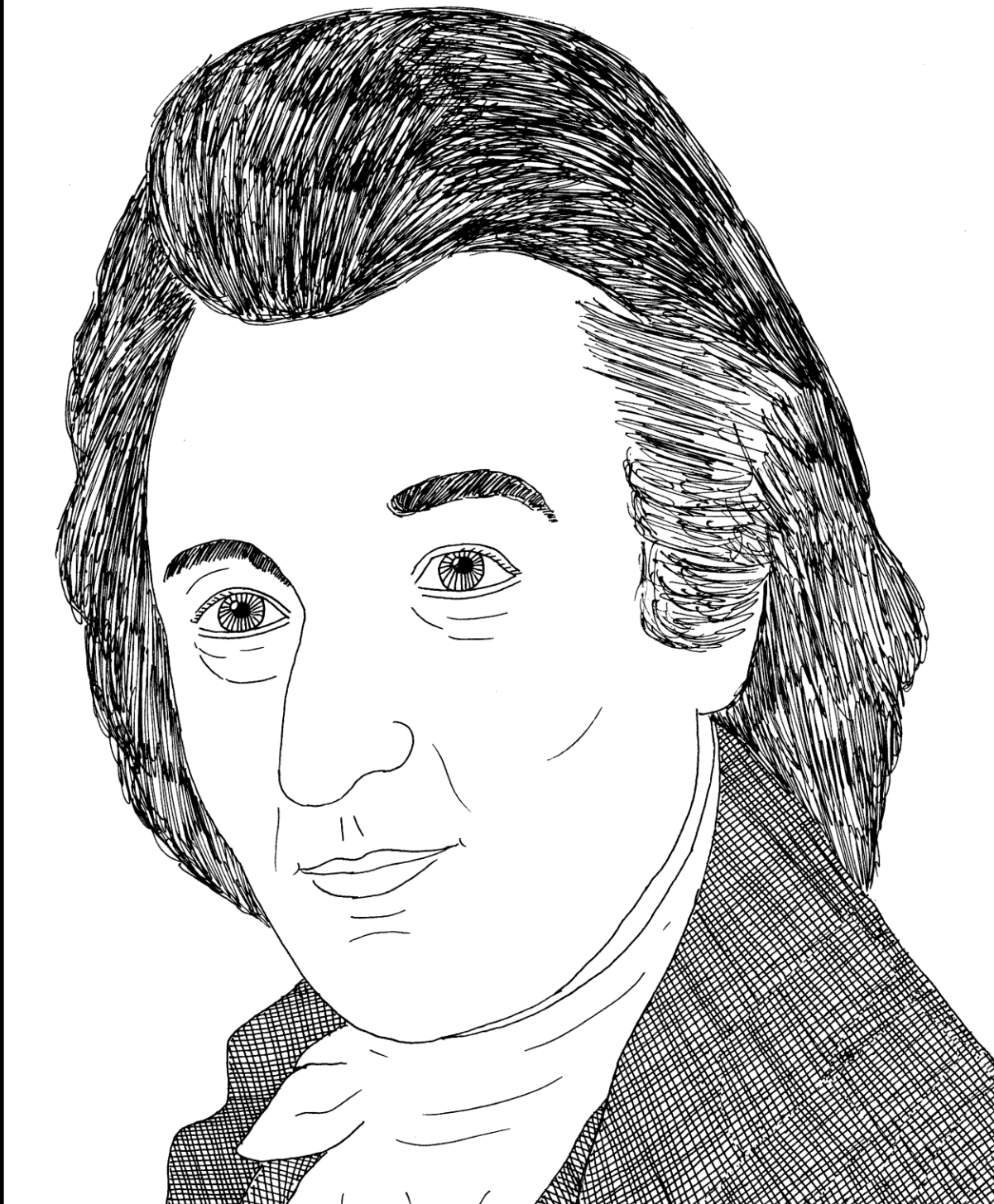
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**"The World is my country, all mankind are my brethren,
and to do good is my religion."
-- Thomas Paine**

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**"Share our similarities, celebrate our differences."
-- M. Scott Peck**

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"Technology is driving us together. In many ways we are becoming like one family. With the global threats resulting from science and technology, the whole of humankind now needs protection. We have to extend our loyalty to the whole of the human race."

-- Joseph Rotblat

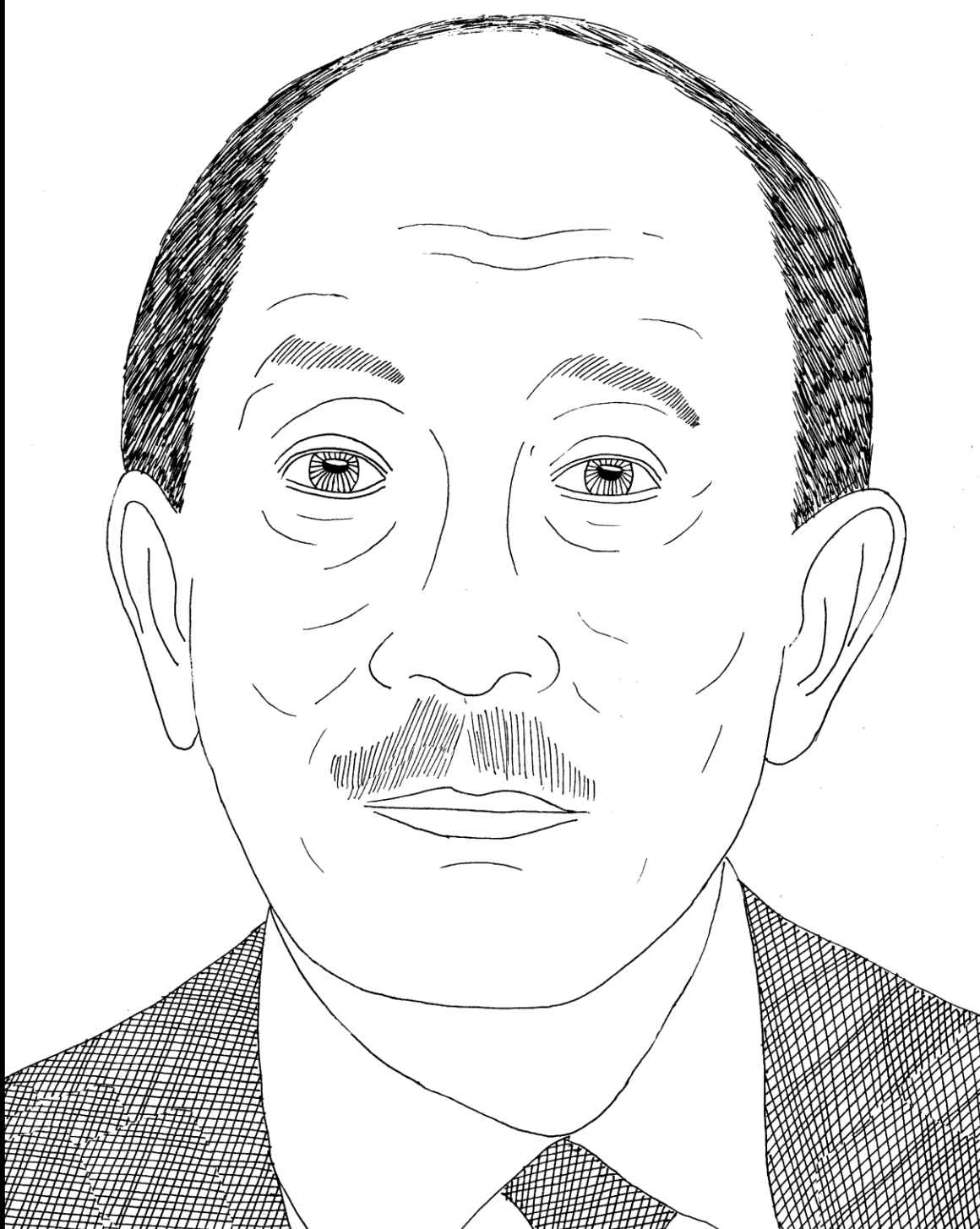
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**"There can be hope only for a society which acts
as one big family, not as many separate ones."
-- Anwar Sadat**

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"If you can just see all the children of the world as your own,
all the mothers of the world as you are,
we can make a huge difference."

-- Susan Sarandon

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"The best hope for peace in the world lies in the simple but far-reaching recognition that we all have many different associations and affiliations, and we need not see ourselves as being rigidly divided by a single categorization of hardened groups, which confront each other."

-- Amartya Sen

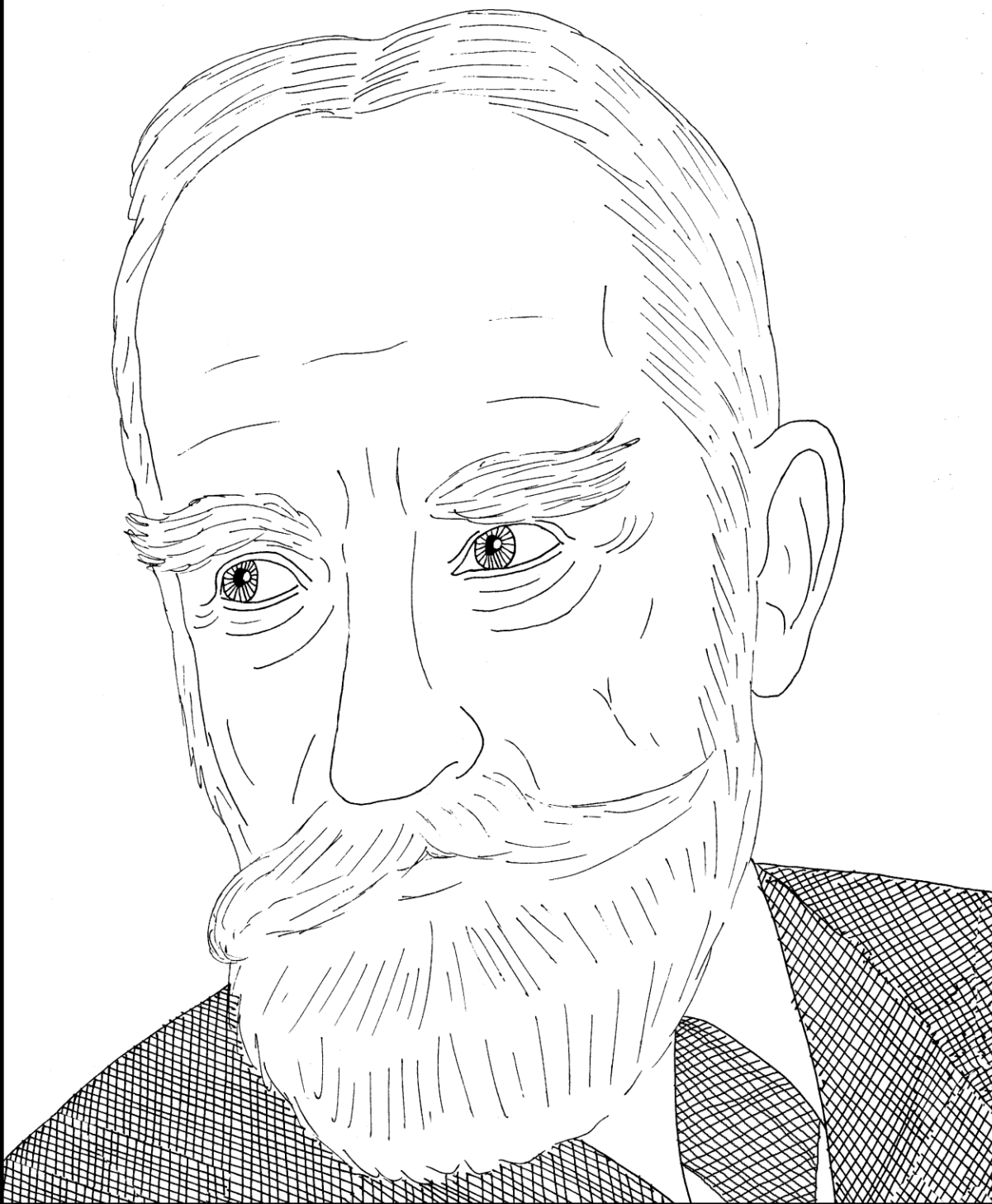
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**"We are members one of another; so that you cannot injure
or help your neighbor without injuring or helping yourself."**

-- George Bernard Shaw

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**"Uniformity is not nature's way; diversity is nature's way."
-- Vandana Shiva**

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"Just imagine how boring life would be if we were all the same.

My idea of a perfect world is one in which we really appreciated each other's differences: Short, tall; Democrat, Republican; black, white; gay, straight--a world in which all of us are equal, but definitely not the same."

-- Barbra Streisand

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"Our expanding ethnic diversity of this century, a time when we will all be minorities, offers us an invitation to create a larger memory of who we are as Americans and to re-affirm our founding principle of equality."

-- Ronald Takaki

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"We have to sit down, have a meal together, pray together and then actually talk together. Then we realize that, yes, although we have some differences they are not impassable differences."

— Pauline Tangiora

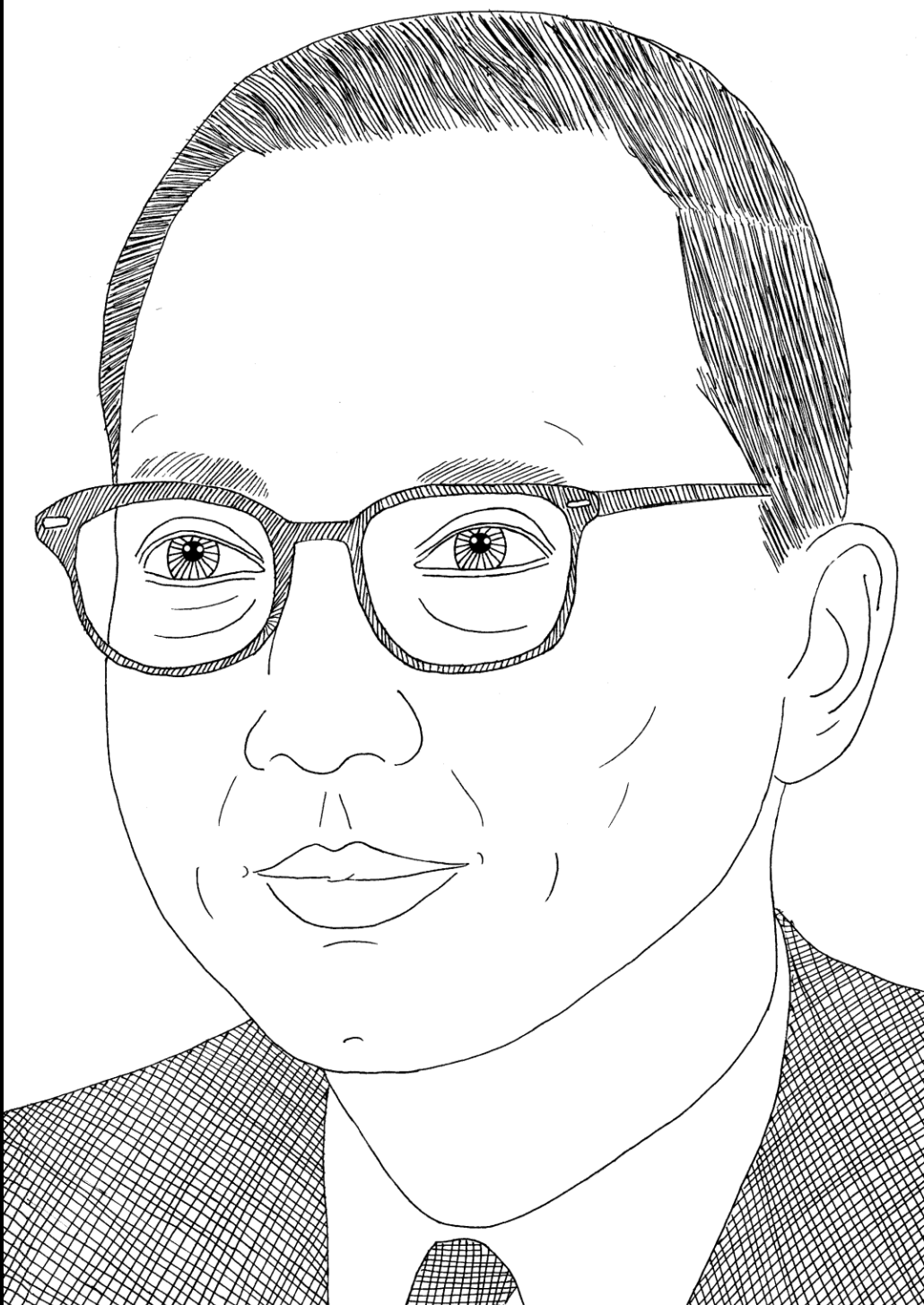
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**"The war we have to wage today has only one goal
and that is to make the world safe for diversity."**

-- U Thant

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**"My humanity is bound up in yours,
for we can only be human together."
-- Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

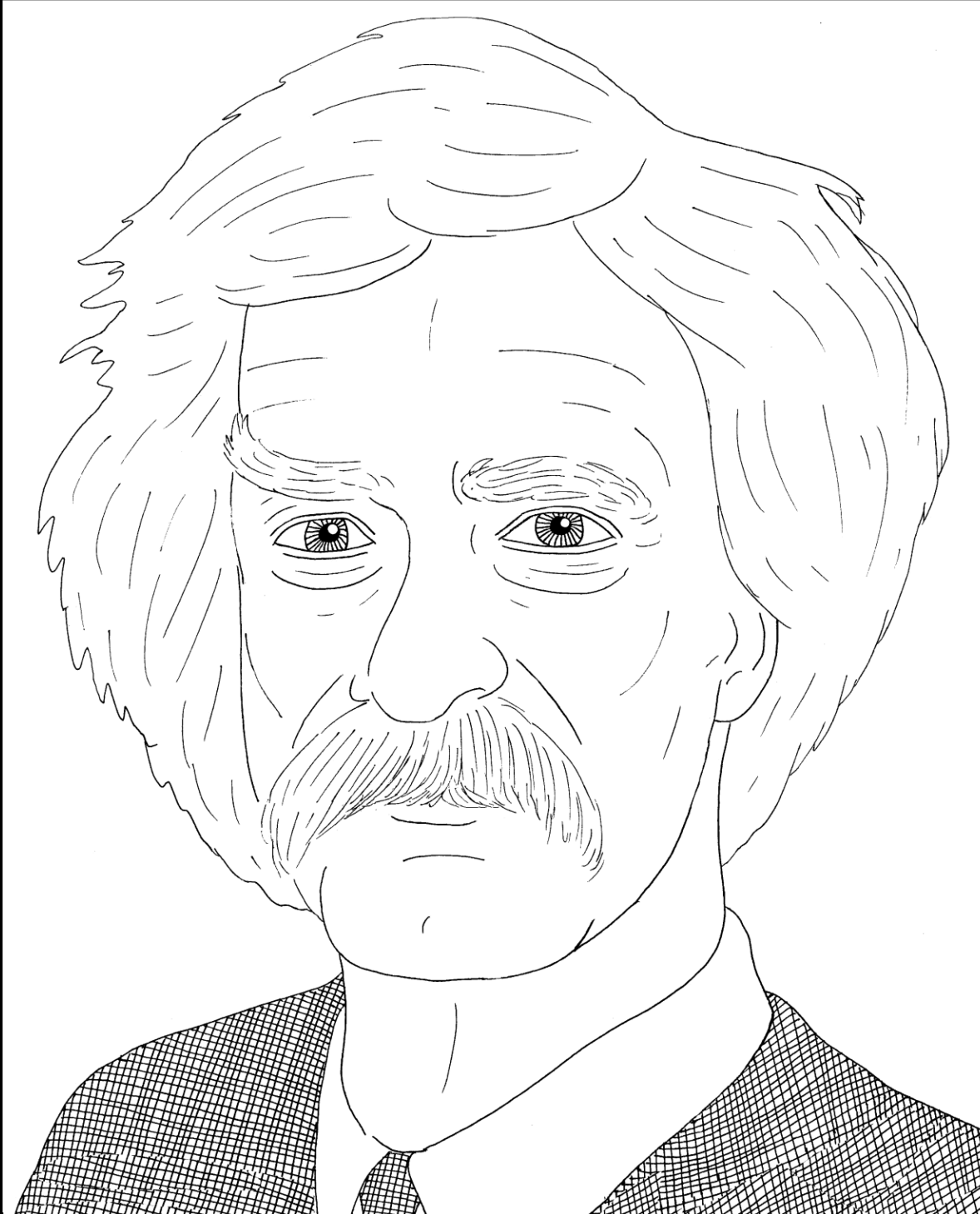
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**"The universal brotherhood of man
is our most precious possession."
-- Mark Twain**

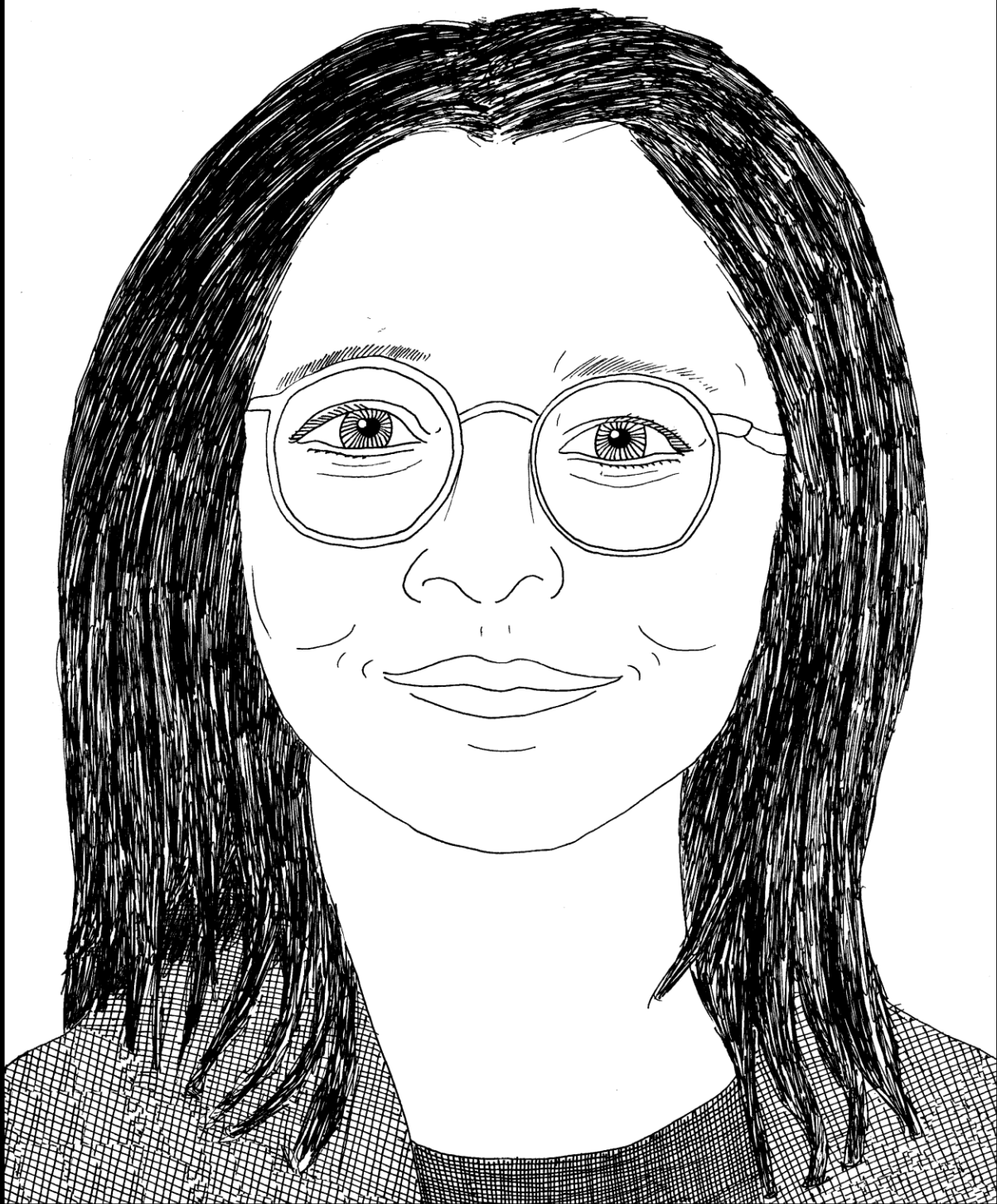
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"I think we have to own the fears that we have of each other,
and then, in some practical way, some daily way, figure out
how to see people differently than the way we were brought up to."
-- Alice Walker

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**"We can find common ground only by moving to higher ground."
-- Jim Wallis**

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"Our true nationality is mankind."
-- H. G. Wells

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"The oneness of human beings is the basic ethical thread that holds us together."

-- Muhammad Yunus

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