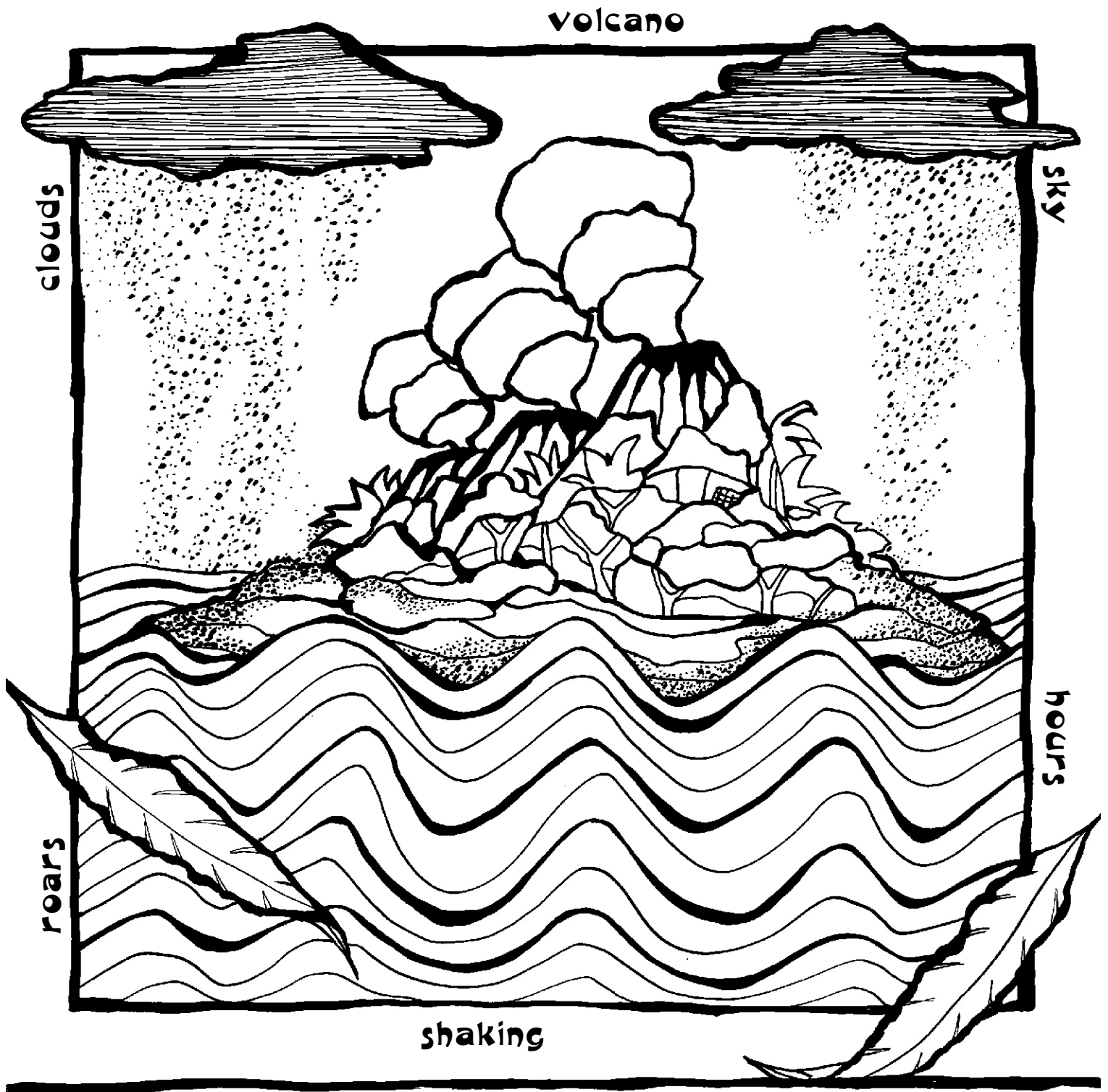
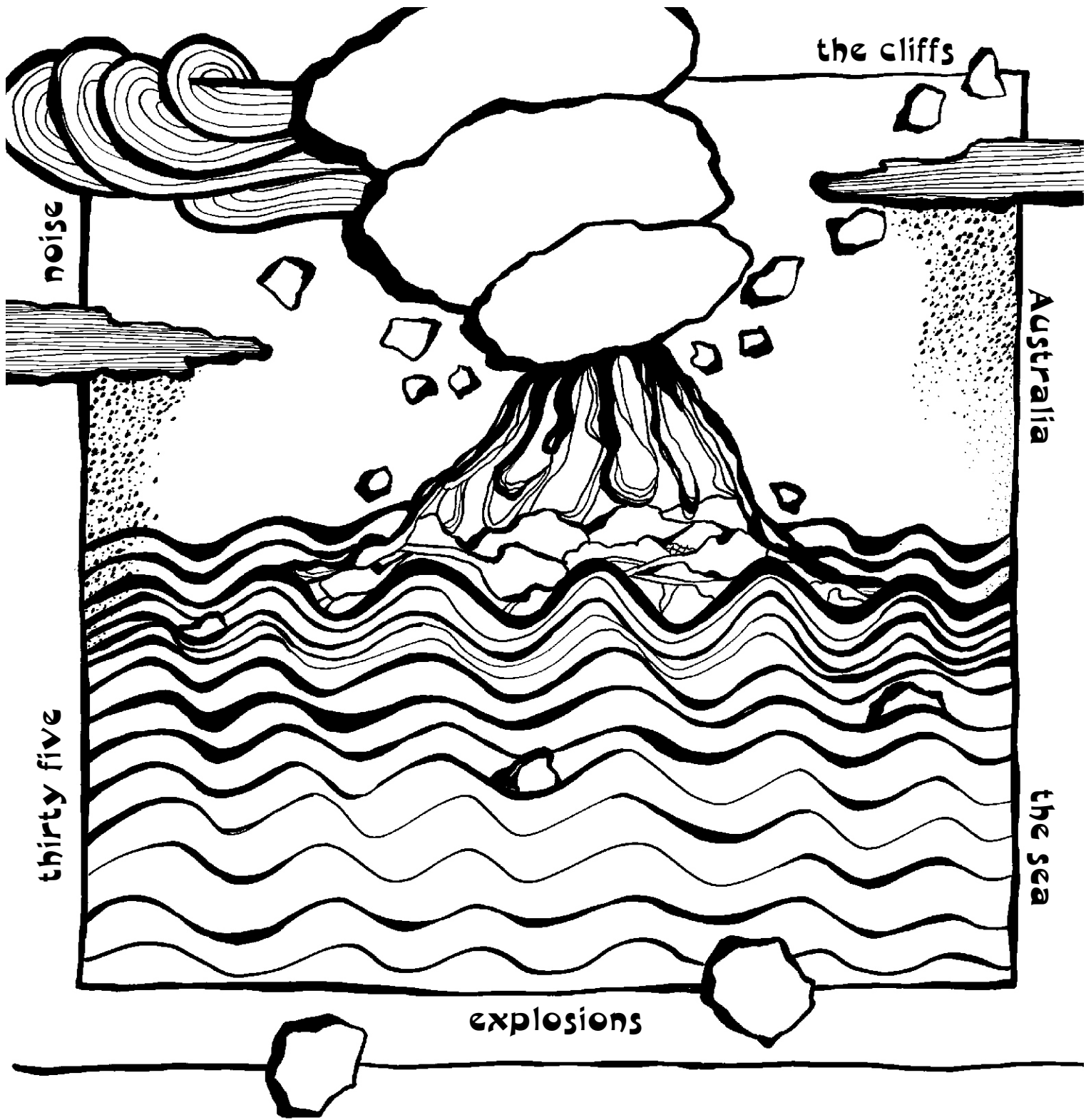


The Indonesian island of \_\_\_\_\_ rose from the depths of the sea between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_ ago. The island was the result of volcanic activity.

The slopes of the island were covered with a tropical \_\_\_\_\_ and populated by a wide variety of \_\_\_\_\_ right up to the very mouth of the volcano.

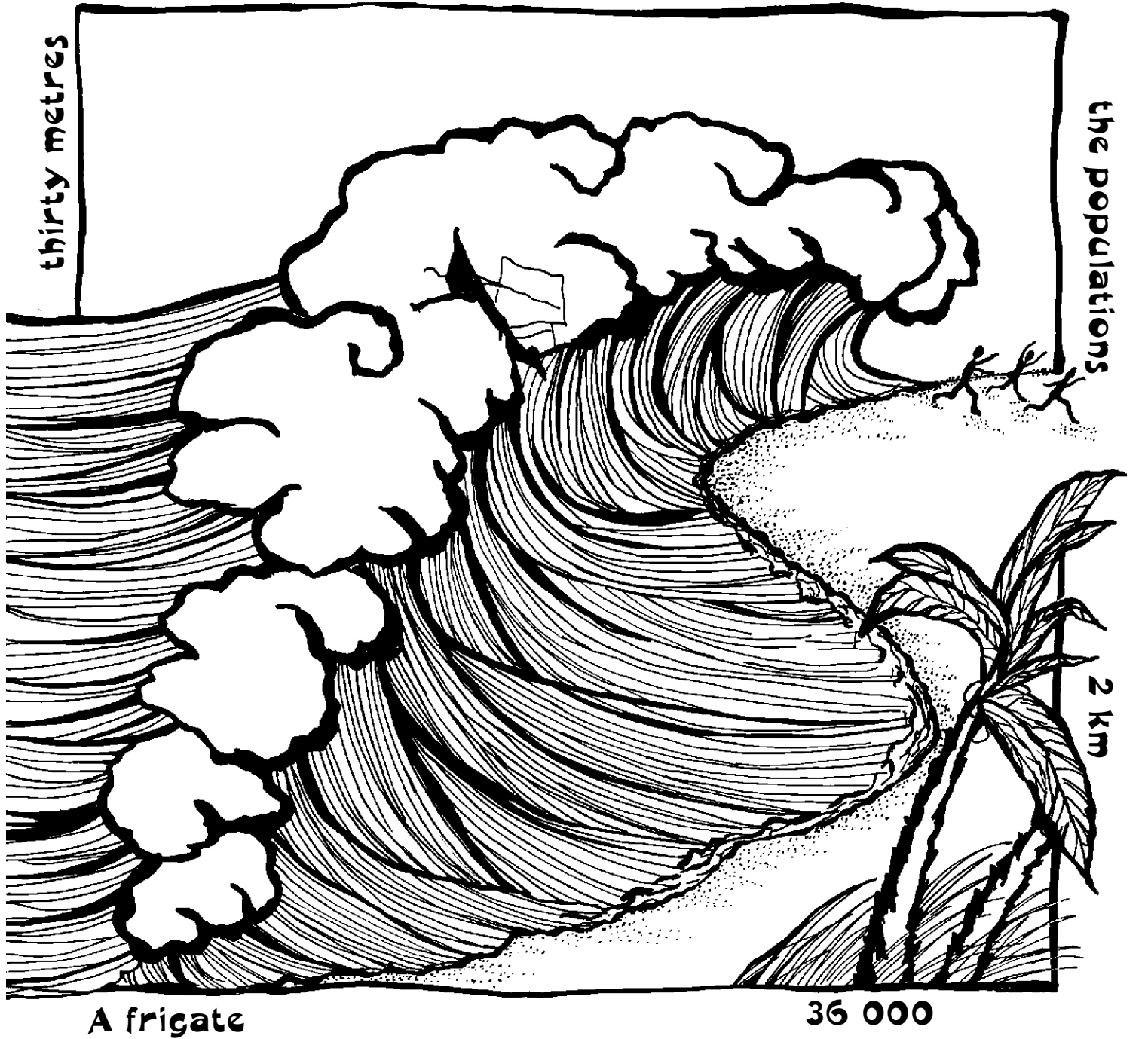


When the \_\_\_\_\_ began to erupt in 1883, locals feared the worst. Residents of the neighbouring islands were terrified by the thunderous \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ walls of houses. The rumbling lasted several \_\_\_\_\_, and then the sky was covered by dark \_\_\_\_\_; ash began to fall from the \_\_\_\_\_.



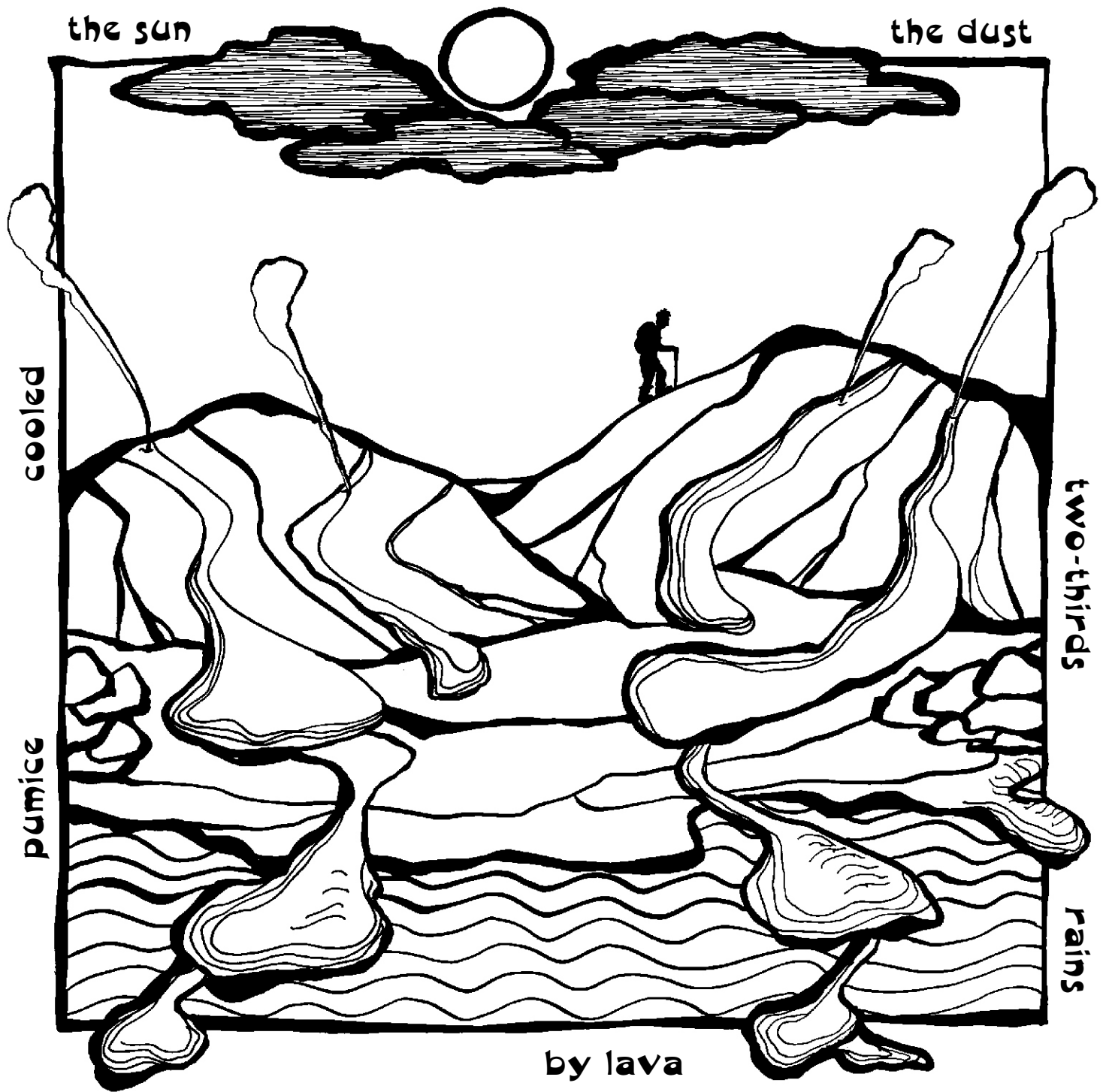
Four massive \_\_\_\_\_ were heard on 26 August 1883. The island literally jumped, scattering \_\_\_\_\_ into the air; two-thirds of the island disappeared beneath the surface of \_\_\_\_\_. The explosions cast stones a distance of up to \_\_\_\_\_ kilometres. The \_\_\_\_\_ was so loud that it was heard in distant \_\_\_\_\_.

## a tsunami

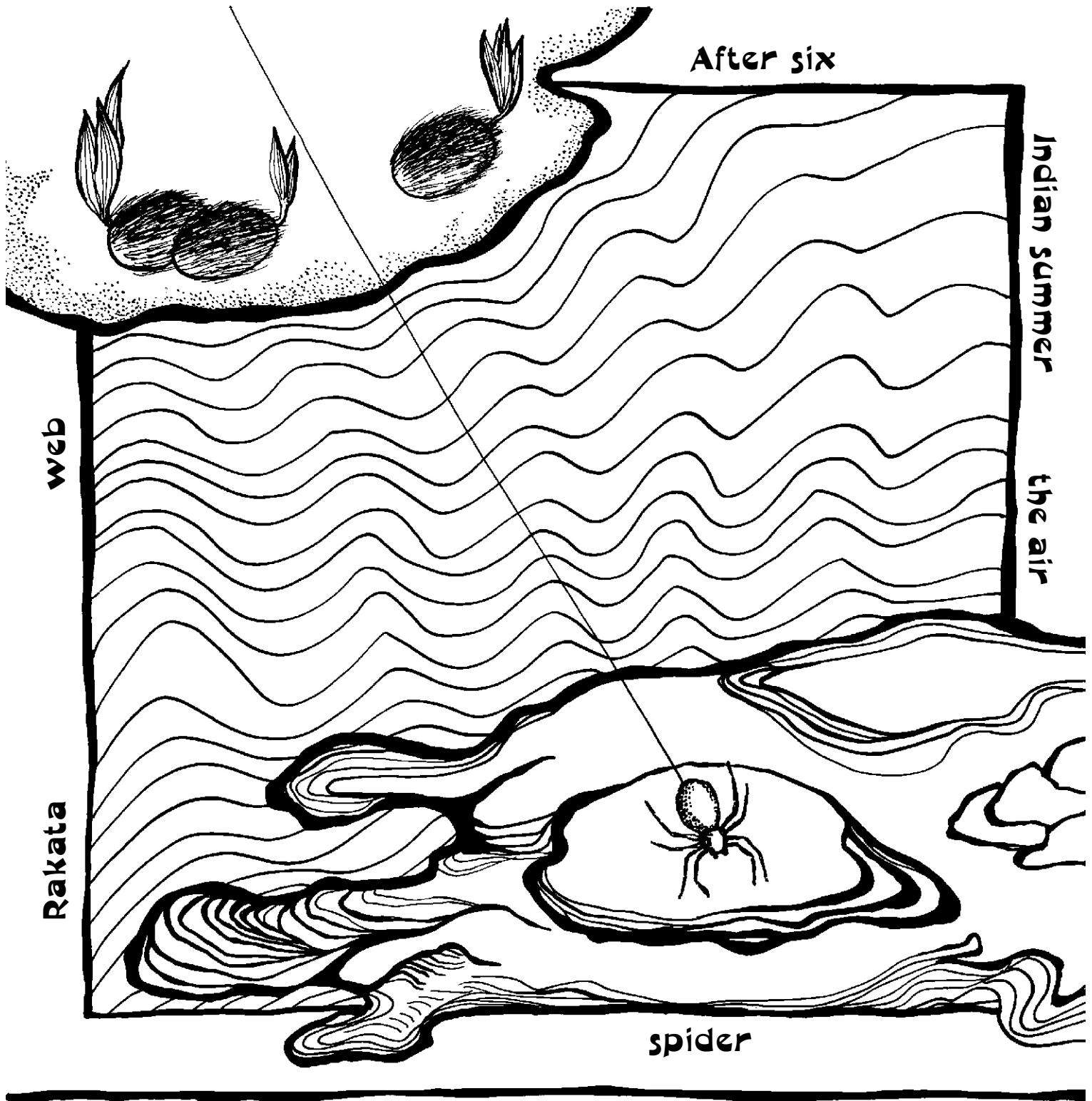


Another natural disaster - \_\_\_\_\_ - soon followed. The wave of up to \_\_\_\_\_ in height washed away \_\_\_\_\_ of the neighbouring islands. A total of \_\_\_\_\_ people perished. \_\_\_\_\_ anchored in port was later found \_\_\_\_\_ away in a jungle in Sumatra.



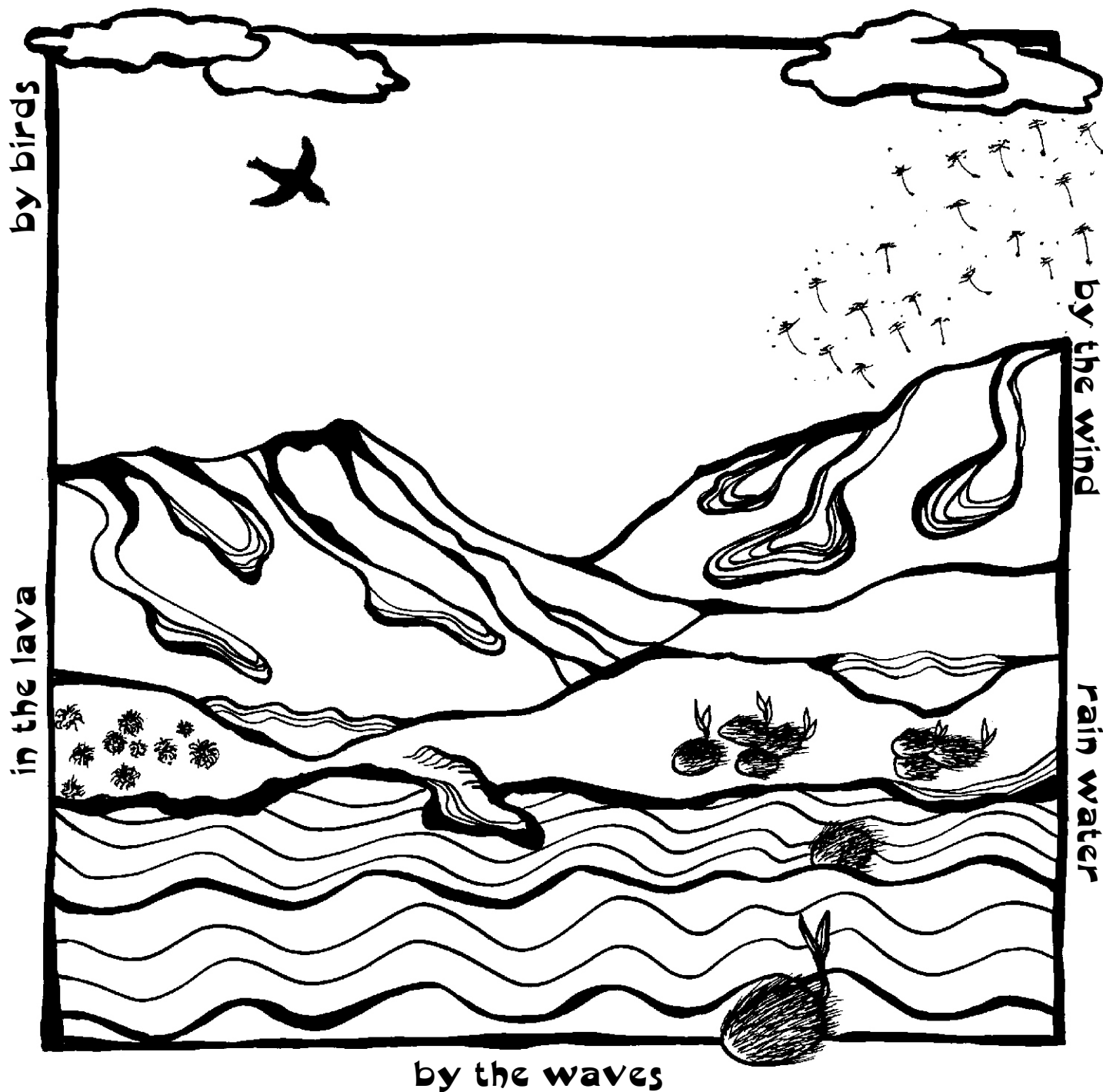


Nearly the entire planet \_\_\_\_\_ after the eruption - \_\_\_\_\_ blocked the rays of \_\_\_\_\_ from reaching the Earth. The island was burned and broken apart; \_\_\_\_\_ of the land had disappeared beneath the sea, and the remaining land was covered \_\_\_\_\_ and ash. No traces of animal or plant life remained; all that was visible were brownish-red streams of lava, \_\_\_\_\_ and piles of ash and stones. The lava had barely cooled before the wind began to erode the cliffs and powerful \_\_\_\_\_ etched streamlets into the slopes.

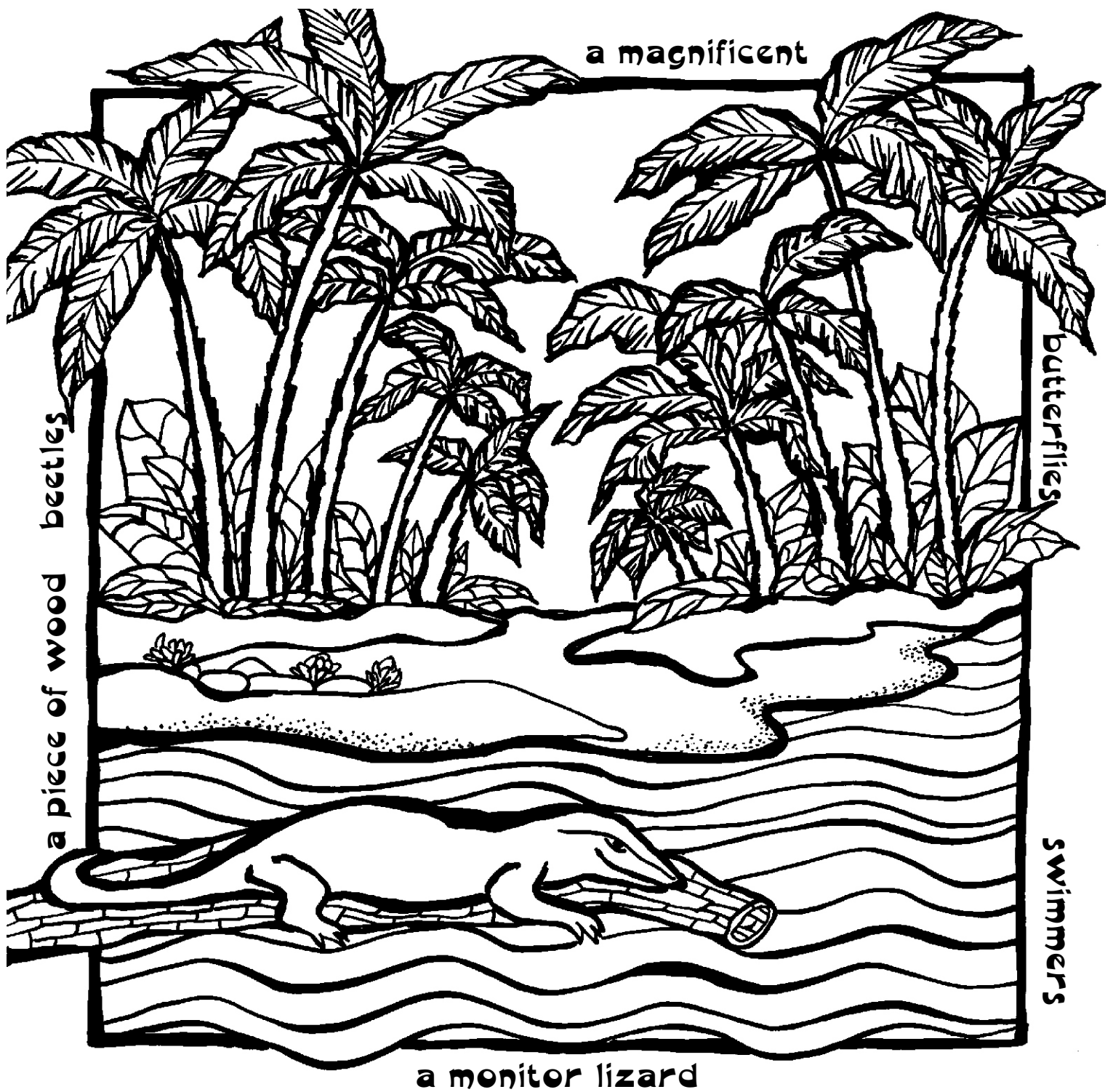


\_\_\_\_\_ months the first signs of life were discovered on the new island, which had been given the name \_\_\_\_\_. And what was the first creature brave enough to return to this scorched land?

It wasn't bacteria capable of enduring high temperatures, but a common spider - a small inconspicuous \_\_\_\_\_ that we can see flying on thin threads during \_\_\_\_\_ here in our country. It was these threads that carried the spider through \_\_\_\_\_ to the island, where it immediately began to spin a new \_\_\_\_\_ and wait in vain for flies.



Researchers arriving the next year were intrigued by the bluish streaks in the \_\_\_\_\_ that filled the depressions \_\_\_\_\_. This was blue-green algae, an ancient and primitive plant that prepared the soil for more demanding species. Where did it come from if everything had been burned after the eruption? The microscopic spores were brought to the island \_\_\_\_\_. The blue-green algae and seaweed proliferated, decomposed and prepared the soil for more advanced plants that came soon afterwards. Some light seeds arrived on the wind like the spider; others were delivered to the island \_\_\_\_\_, still others \_\_\_\_\_.



In just six years the island was again \_\_\_\_\_ and bustling location. The first animals arrived; flies and \_\_\_\_\_ flitted above flowers, aphids and \_\_\_\_\_ crawled over leaves, and spiders waited for bugs to get caught in their webs. Among all of this buzzing and humming of small creatures appeared \_\_\_\_\_, a true giant, who probably arrived on \_\_\_\_\_ from Java. It's even possible that the lizard made its way to the island on its own; they are good \_\_\_\_\_, after all.

the volcano

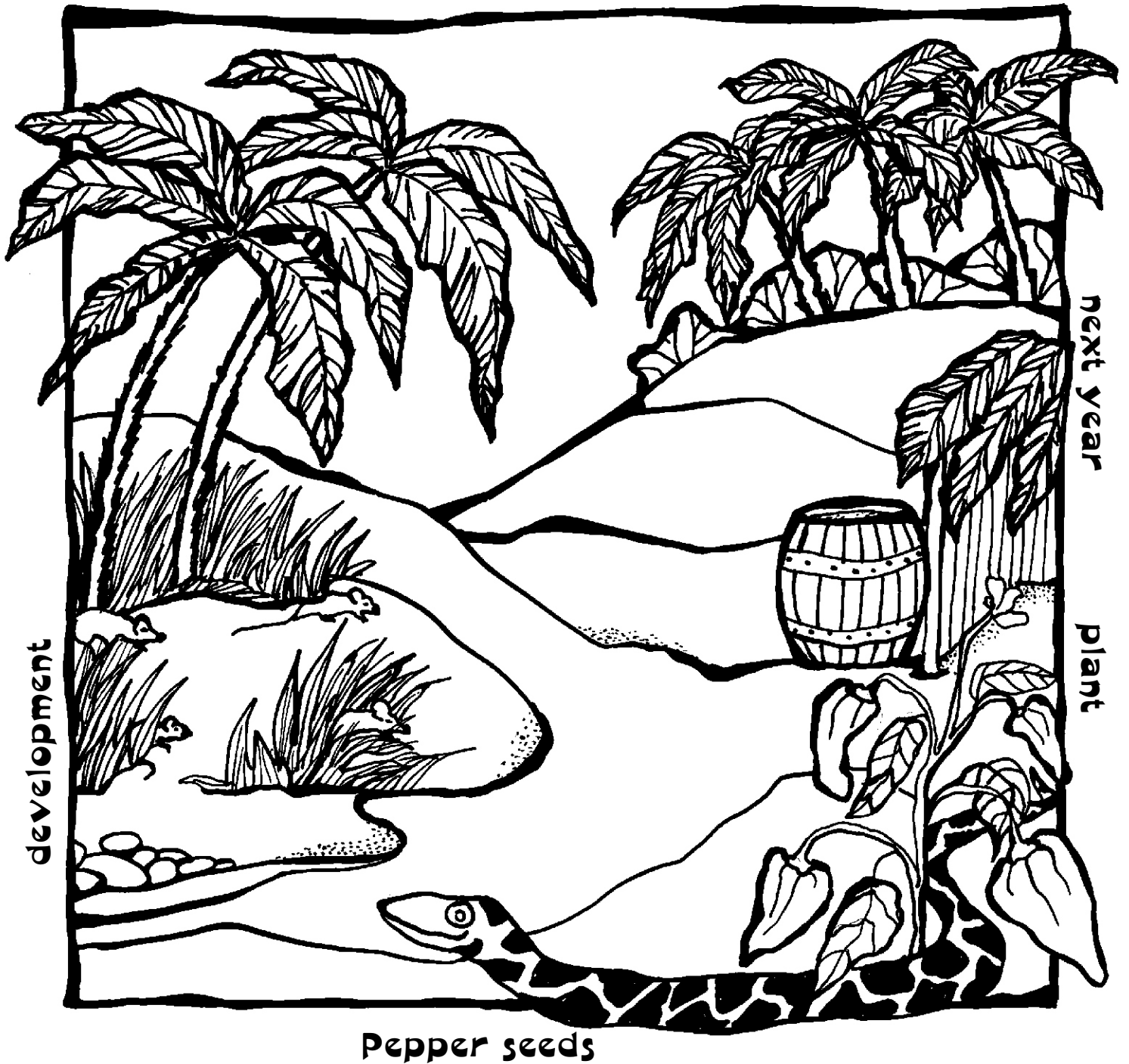


Incredible as it may seem, within \_\_\_\_\_ years the island was covered  
\_\_\_\_\_ from the shore up to the peak of \_\_\_\_\_ .  
In 1933 around one thousand species of animals were \_\_\_\_\_ on the  
island, mainly birds, arthropods and reptiles, as well as \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ plant species.



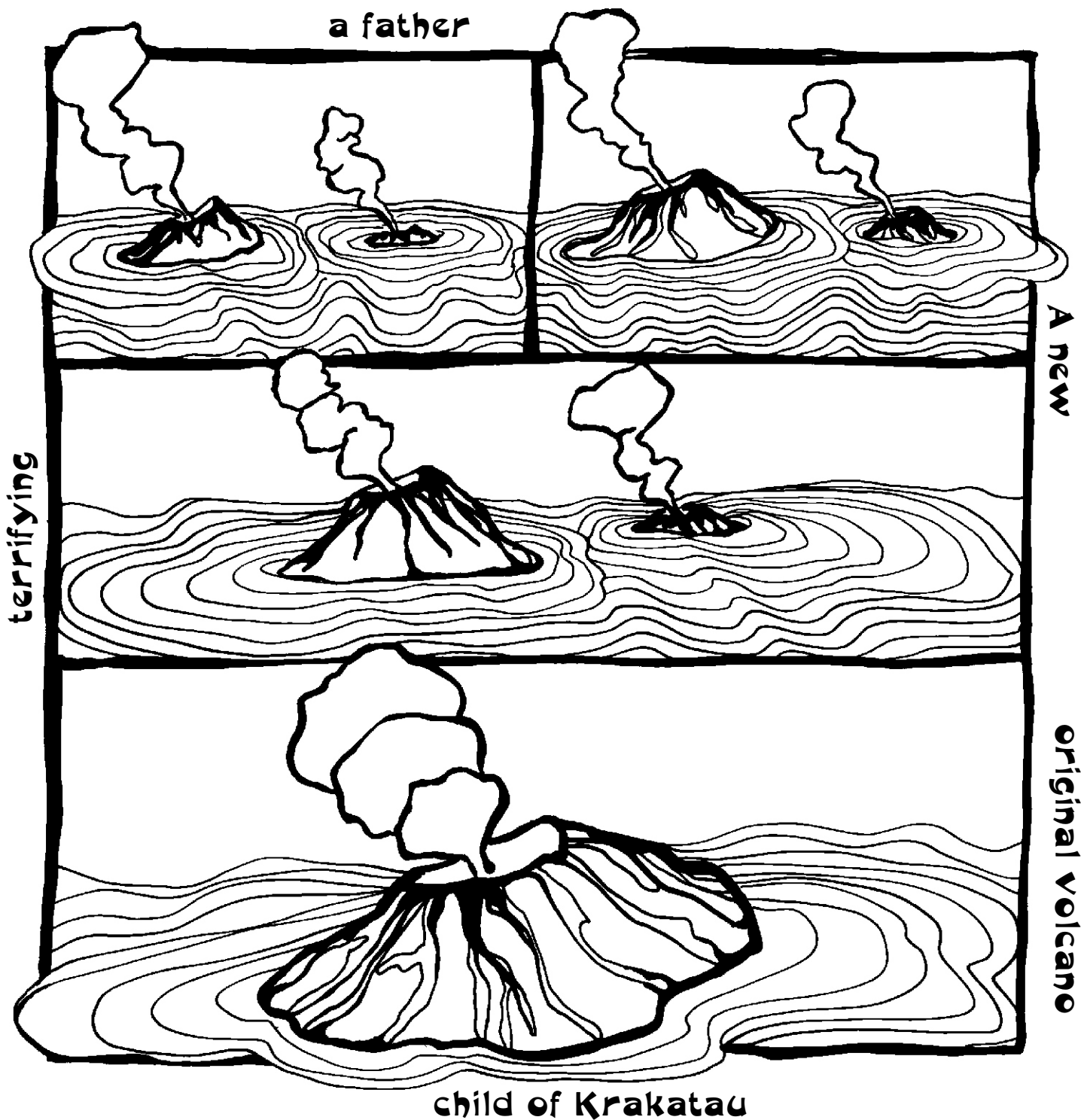
The enchanting little island attracted numerous natural \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
 travellers and \_\_\_\_\_. They took their \_\_\_\_\_ and paintings with  
 them, and when the wind blew away all of their \_\_\_\_\_ in the sand,  
 it was as if they had never been to the island at all. But that wasn't  
 entirely true. They left behind \_\_\_\_\_ of fresh water, which was  
 soon used \_\_\_\_\_ ; these became the next permanent residents of  
 the island.

## the visitors



But the \_\_\_\_\_ a strange \_\_\_\_\_ with white blossoms that no one had ever seen before appeared at the site of their camp. \_\_\_\_\_ from food \_\_\_\_\_ had left behind started to grow very well in the island's conditions.

In this way people unintentionally began to influence the natural \_\_\_\_\_ of the island.

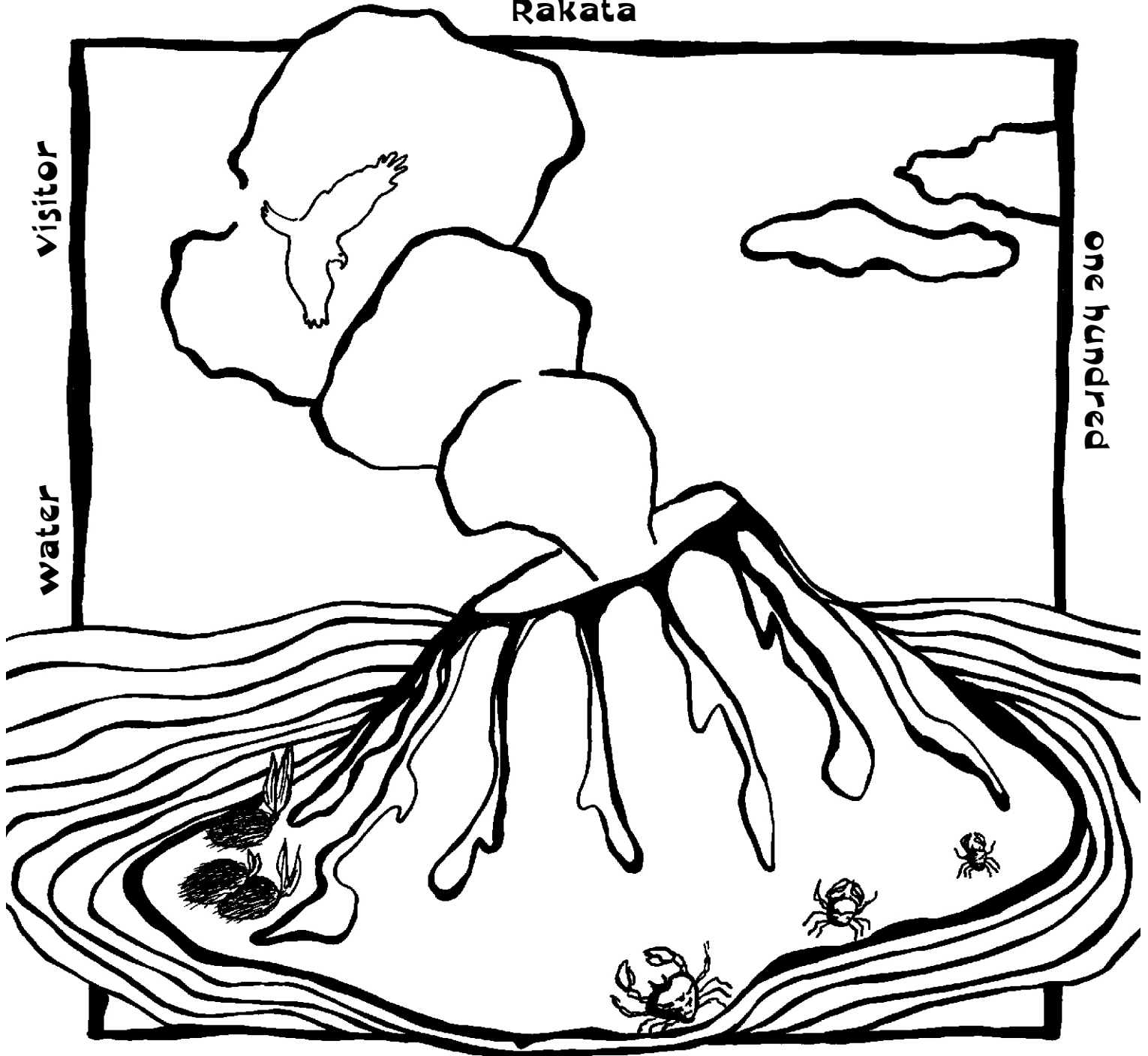


Krakatau became \_\_\_\_\_ in 1927 when a son was born from the sea.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ volcano began to form in the sea; today it is nearly as big as the  
 \_\_\_\_\_. This volcano is named Anak Krakatau, or  
 \_\_\_\_\_.

The young island is now wild and \_\_\_\_\_, but life will still  
 overpower it some day.



# Rakata



the future

Today no \_\_\_\_\_ to the island of \_\_\_\_\_ would recognize what had happened here \_\_\_\_\_ years ago. Only charred tree trunks are uncovered by \_\_\_\_\_ erosion as an occasional reminder of the distant tragedy. What does \_\_\_\_\_ hold for the island?