

I'll Love You For Always

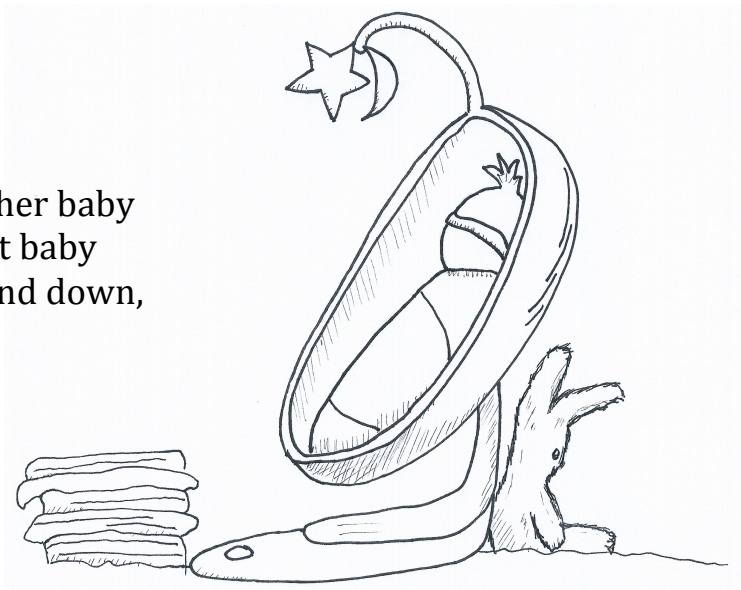


I'll Love You For Always



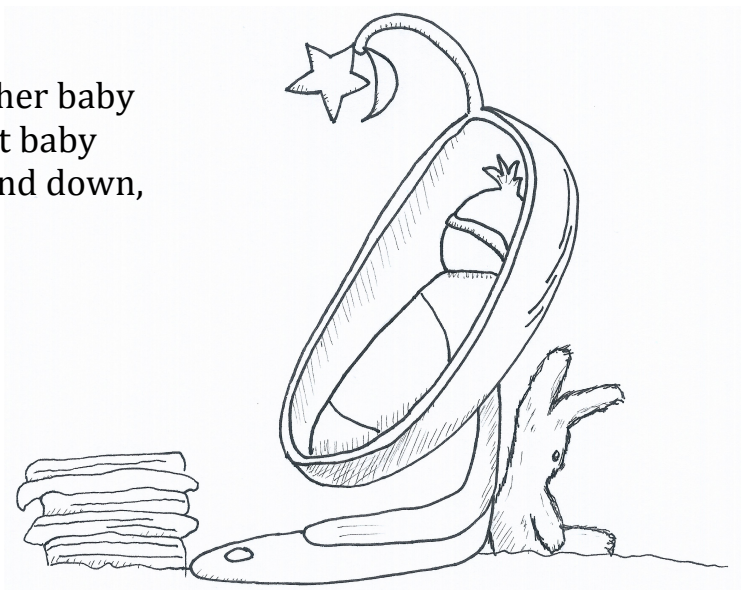
A new mother carefully placed her baby in the electric swing, and as that baby swung back and forth, and up and down, and all around, she whispered:

You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
I'll love you for always.

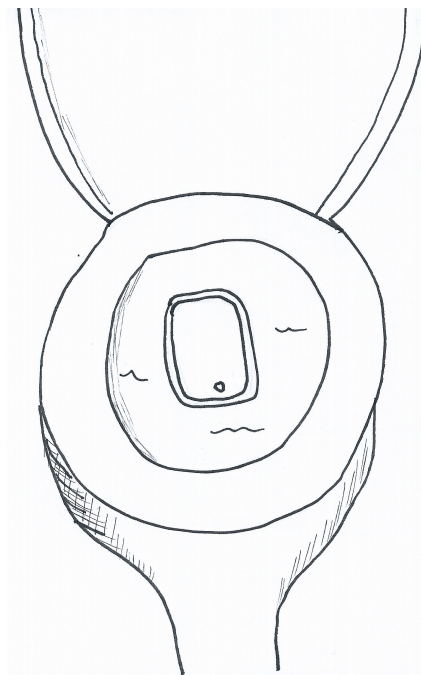


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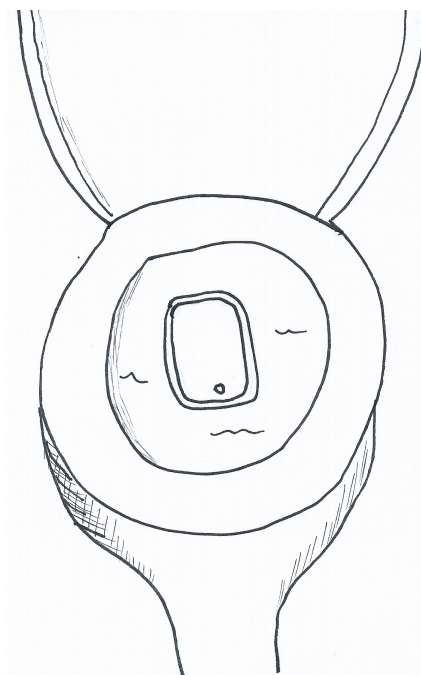
You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
I'll love you for always.



That baby grew fast, really, really, fast. She grew into a 2 year old girl who dropped her mother's smart phone into the toilet. So that mother opened up her lap top, logged into a mommy forum and asked if that was normal behavior. 18 said normal, 10 said a cry for attention and 1 recommended a strict organic diet and immediate intervention.

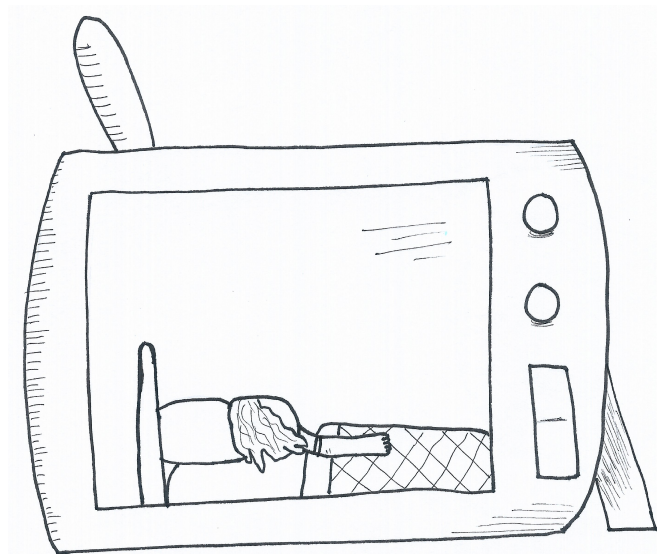


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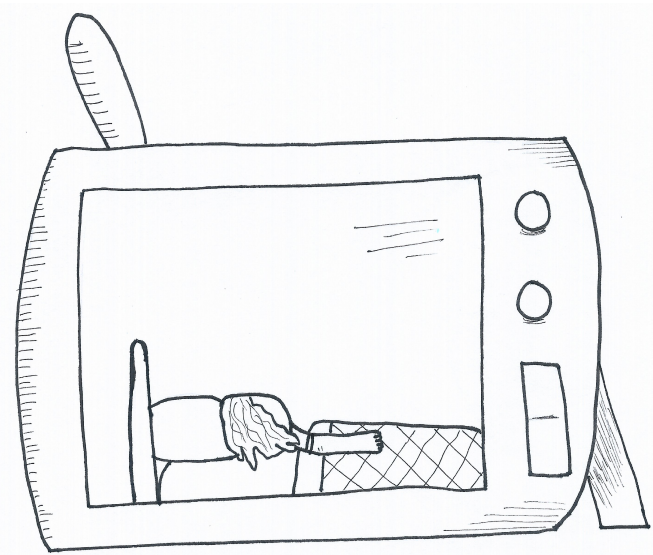
As that toddler drifted off to sleep she turned on her two-way video monitor, looked lovingly at the screen and whispered:

You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
I'll love you for always.

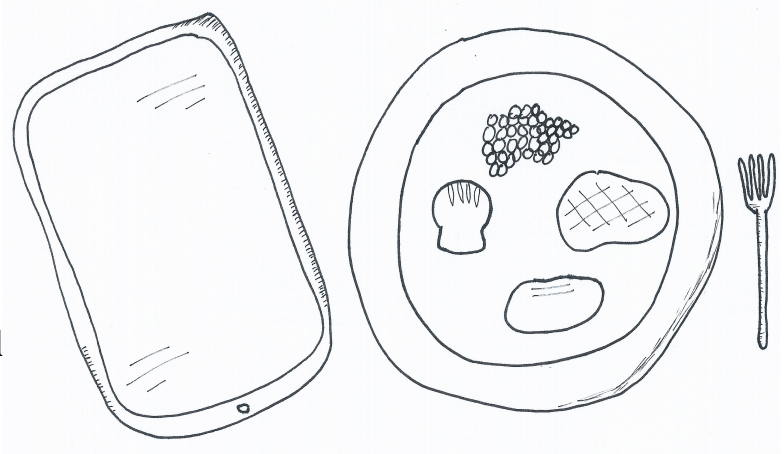


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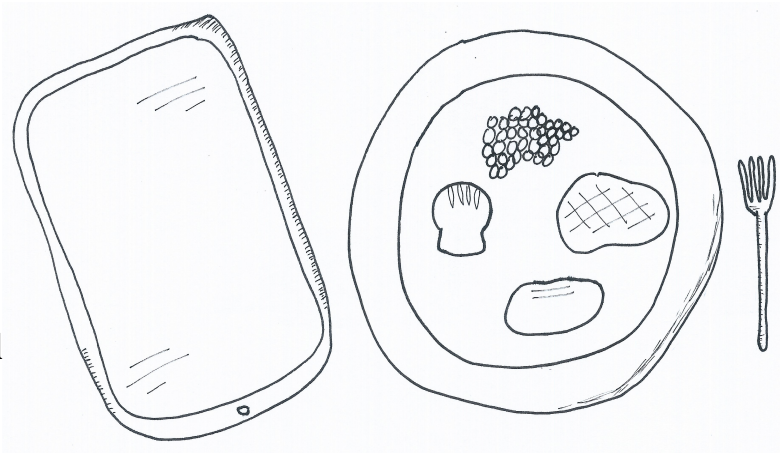
You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
I'll love you for always.



That small girl grew fast, really, really fast. She grew into an 8 year old girl. She liked to play online with her real life friends, games of tag, dressing dolls, and caring for their digital zoo. She barely looked up from it, even when it was time for supper until her mother demanded she put it down.

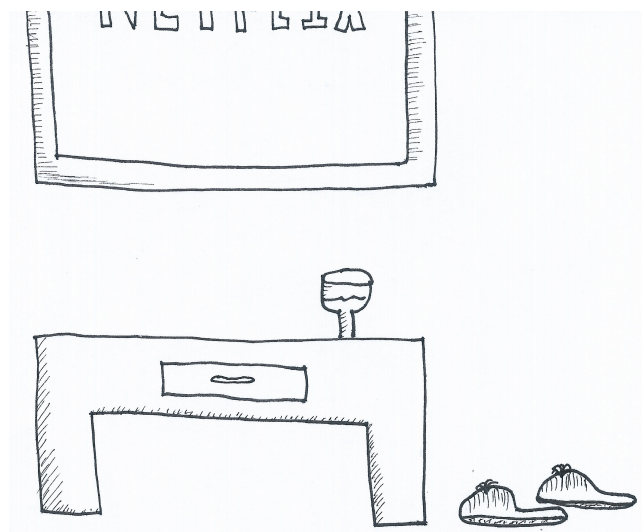


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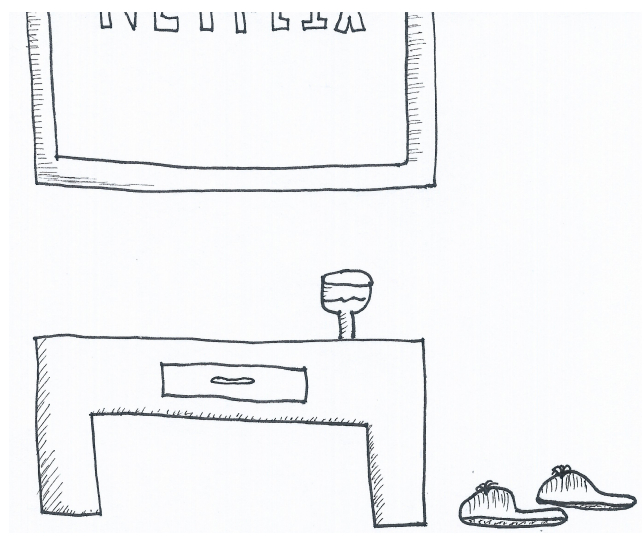
After bedtime her mother poured herself a glass of wine, put her feet up on the coffee table, turned on Netflix and smiled as she flipped through pictures of their trip to the park on her phone. She snuck into her daughter's room, pried her tablet from her daughter's sleepy arms and plugged it in to charge as she whispered:

You drive me crazy,
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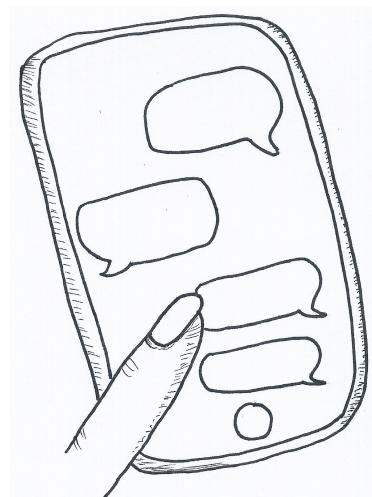


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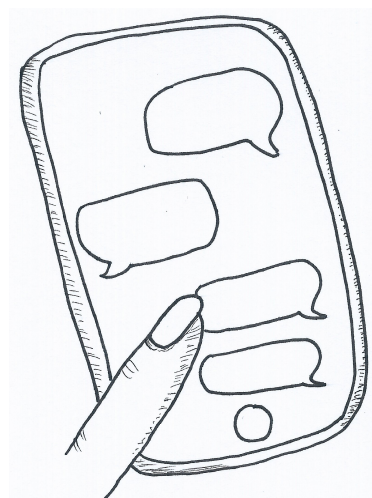
You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
I'll love you for always.



That girl grew fast, really, really fast. She grew into a teenager. She begged her mother for a smart phone of her very own and texted all of her friends all day long.

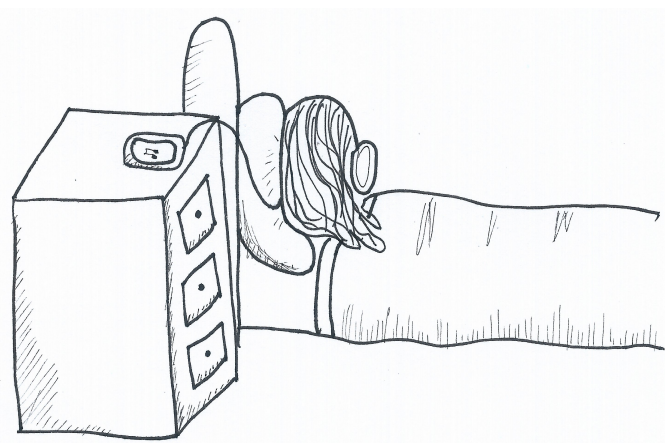


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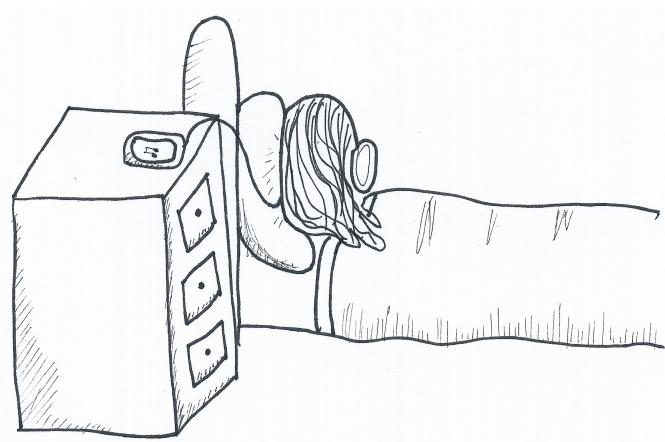
When it was bedtime and that teenage girl put on her noise cancelling head phones and began to drift off to sleep, that mother reviewed her daughter's Facebook messages to ensure that her daughter was using social media responsibly. She sent her daughter a message that said:

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But you're my baby.
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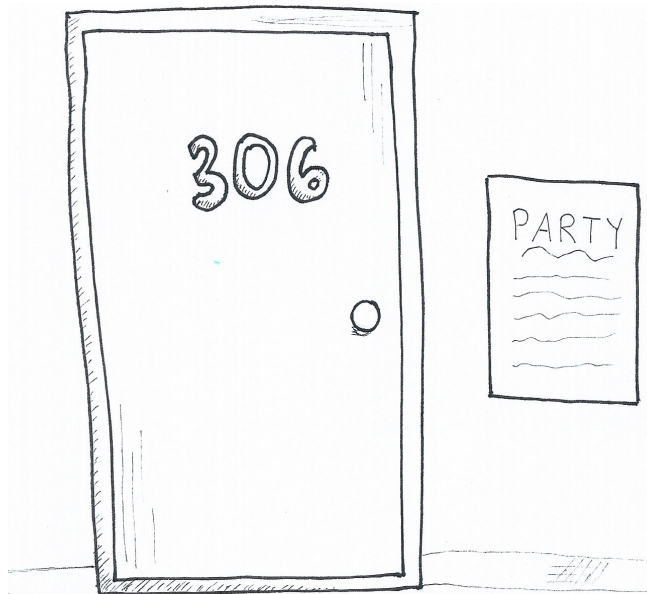


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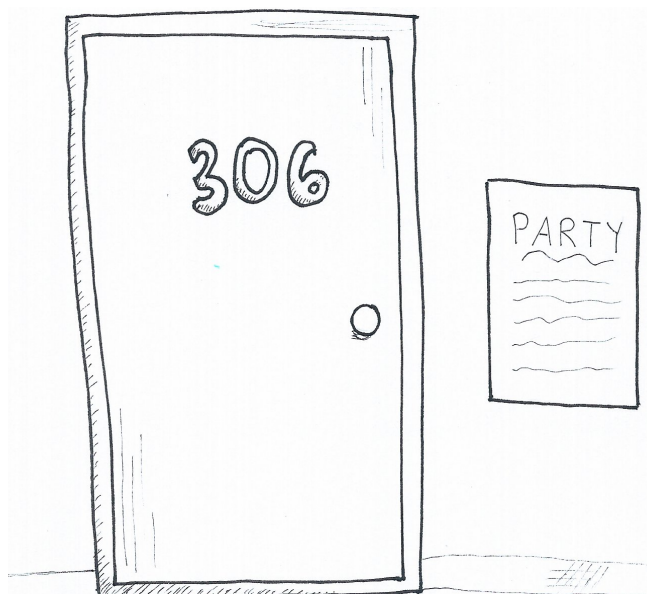
You drive me crazy,
But you're my baby.
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That teenager grew fast, really, really fast. She grew into a nearly grown up, when her mother dropped her off at university. She wrote a check for tuition, set her daughter up in her dorm room and drove 3 hours back home.



That teenager grew fast, really, really fast. She grew into a nearly grown up, when her mother dropped her off at university. She wrote a check for tuition, set her daughter up in her dorm room and drove 3 hours back home.



And when it was bedtime, before that mother drifted off to sleep, she called her daughter on face time just to make sure everything was alright. It was. After she hung up she whispered:

You drive me crazy,
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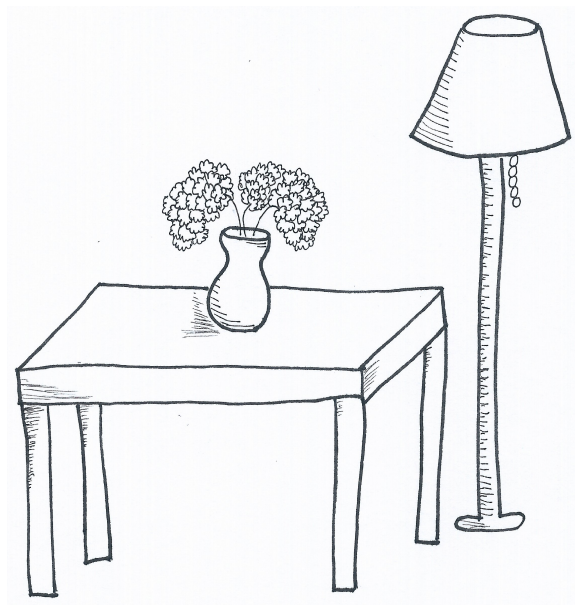


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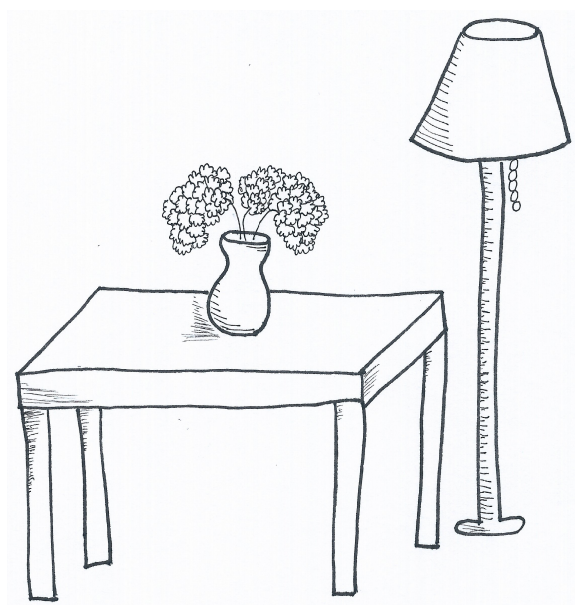
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That nearly grown up girl grew fast, really, really fast. She grew into a grown up woman. She had completed university, gotten a low paying job as an intern and needed a place to live. So that mother cleaned up her basement and set her daughter up in there.

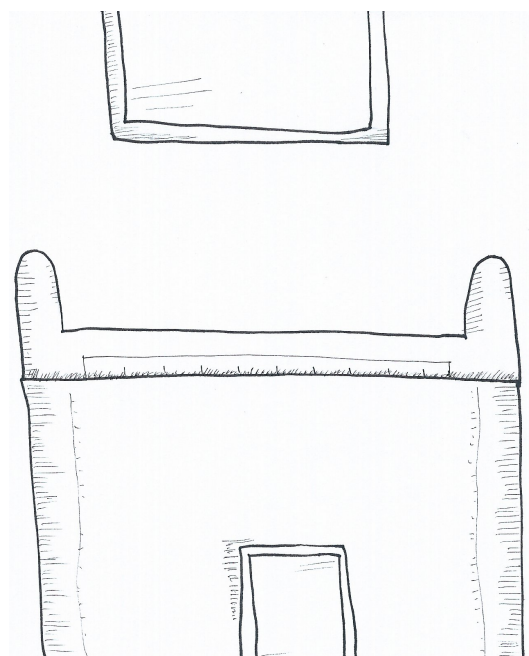


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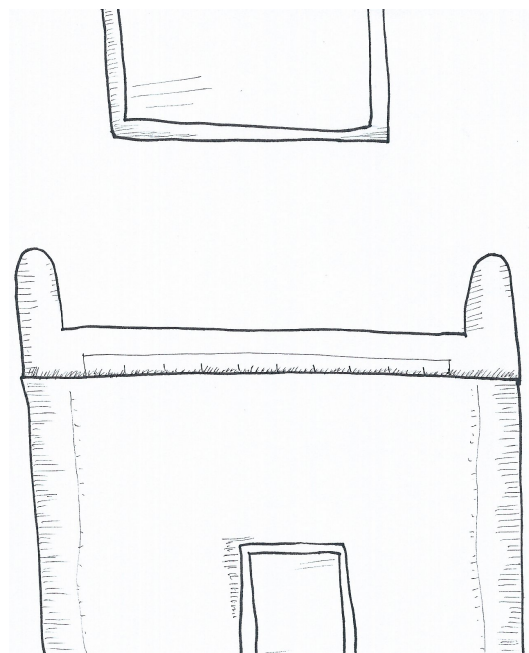
And when it was bedtime, that mother
crawled into bed to watch the shows
she had PVRed earlier, only to find her
daughter had rearranged the recording
schedule and all her shows were gone.
That mother, picked up her e book,
shook her head back and forth, back
and forth, and whispered:

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Well that mother grew older, a lot, lot older. So that daughter took her to one of those lovely retirement centers where they prepared her meals, took group excursions to the mall and played 15 rounds of BINGO every night. As she shut the door to her mother's room she said:

You drive me crazy,
But you're my momma.
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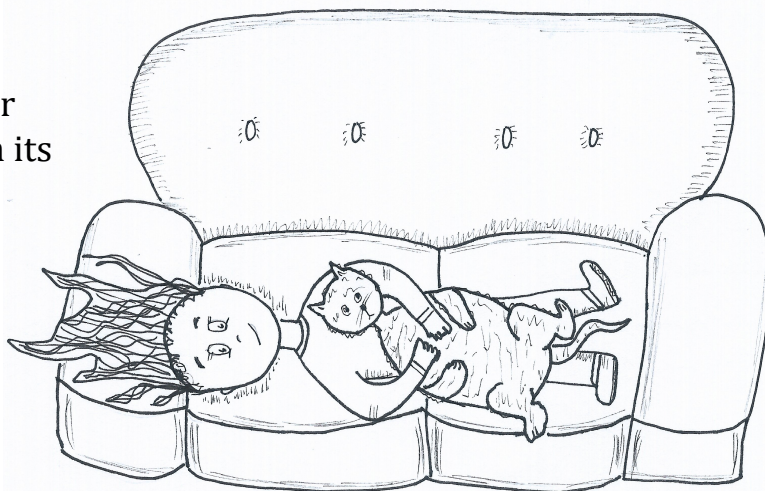
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When that daughter got home
that night she laid down on her
couch, her cat climbed up on her
chest and she rubbed her cat on its
tummy around and around and
as she rubbed her she said:

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