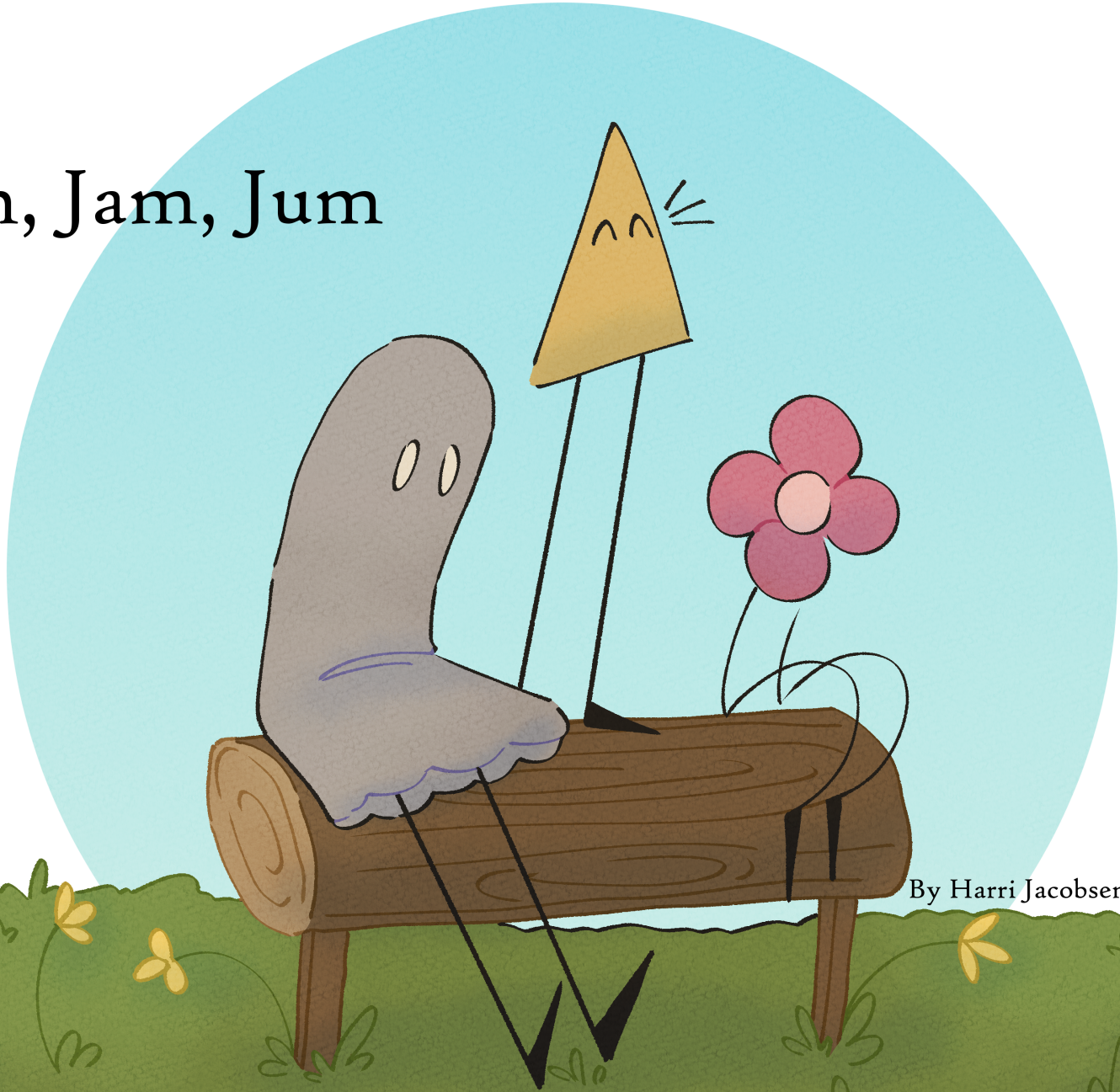
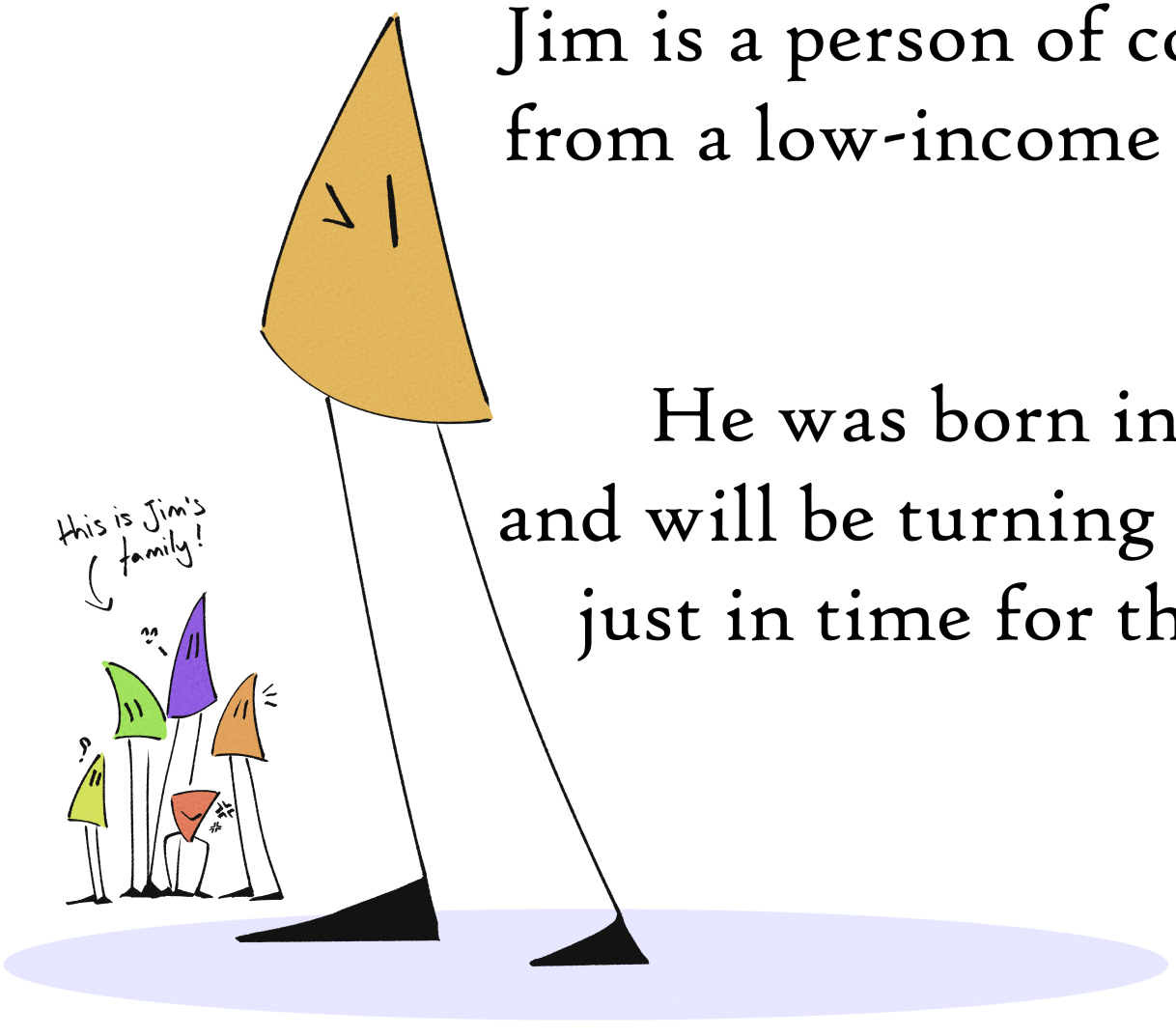
Jim, Jam, Jum



By Harri Jacobsen

And The Vietnam War

This is Jim!



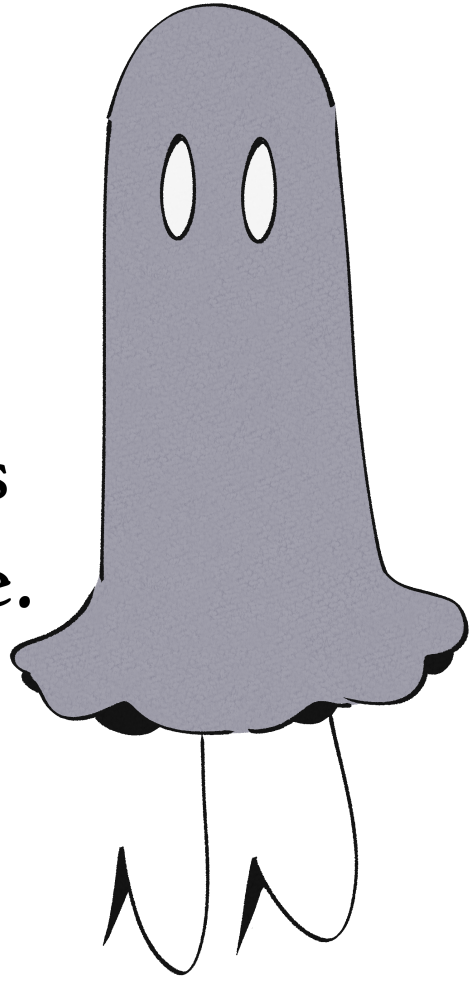
Jim is a person of colour,
from a low-income family.

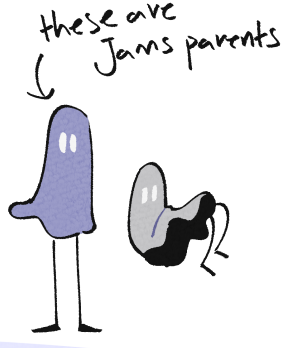
He was born in 1951,
and will be turning 18 in 1969,
just in time for the draft!

This is Jam!

Jam is also 18,

but unlike Jim
he comes from an
upper-middle class
family and is white.



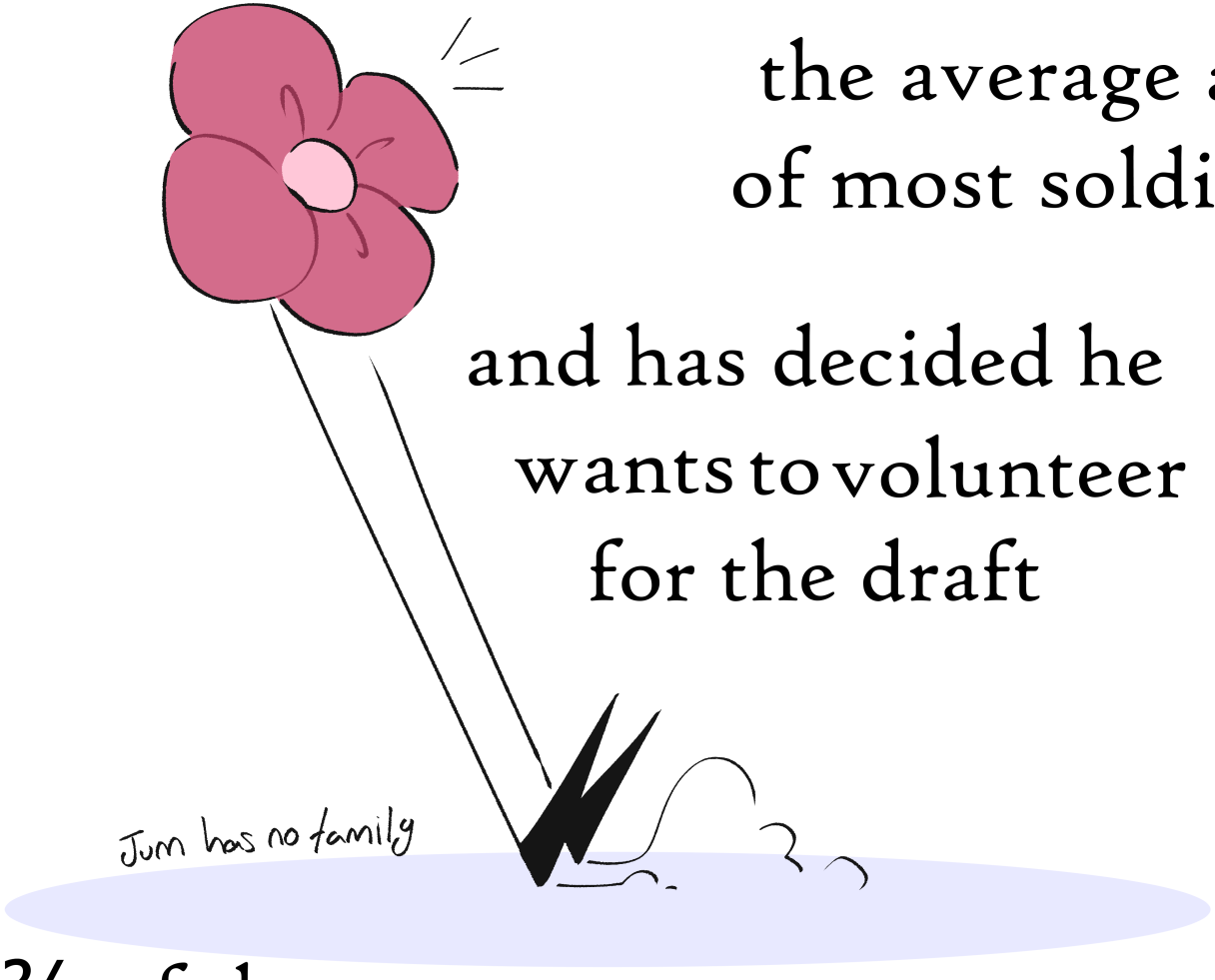


Lastly, this is Jum!

He is the
ripe old age of 25-

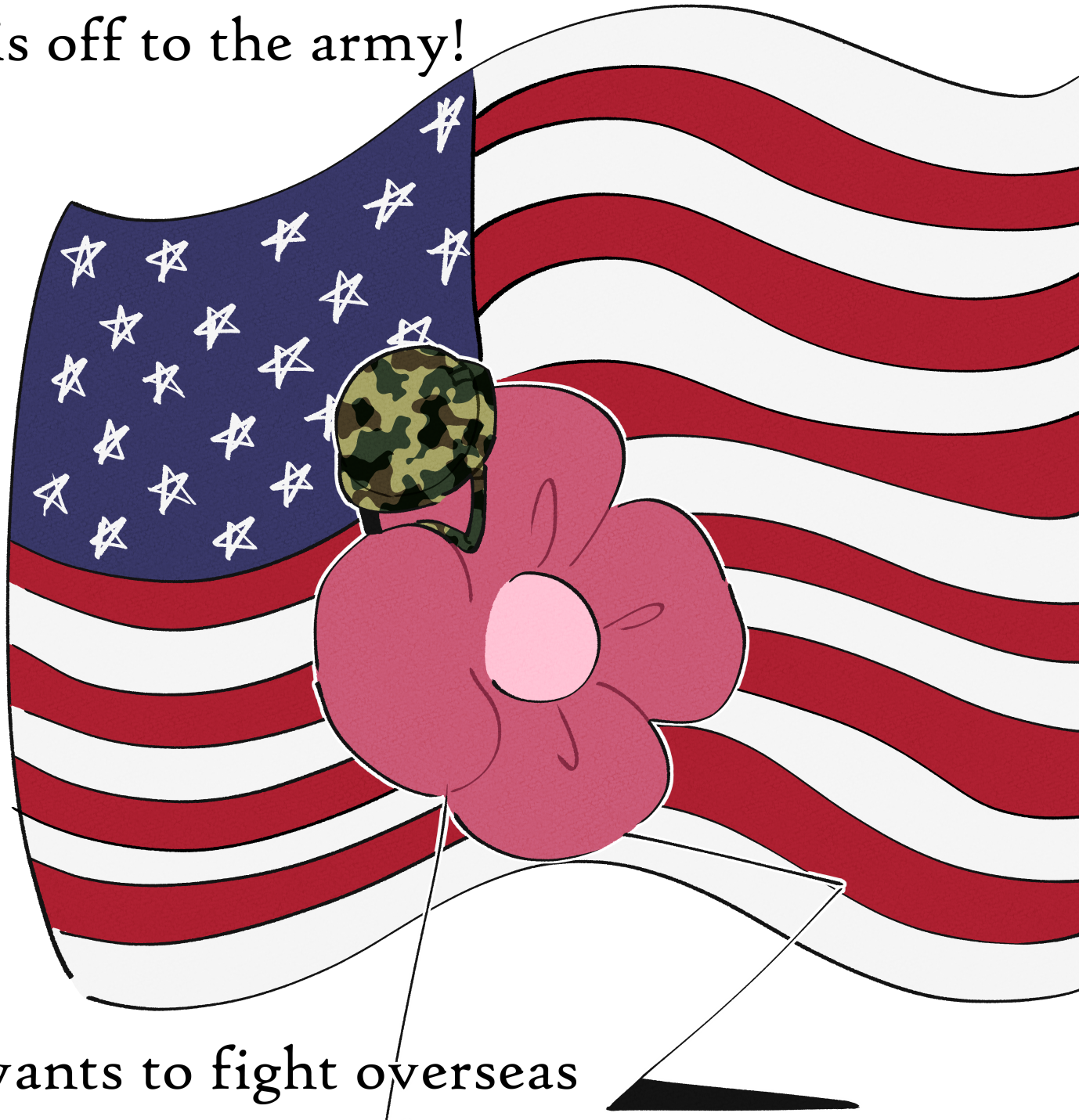
the average age
of most soldiers-

and has decided he
wants to volunteer
for the draft



like ⅔ of the young men sent overseas did

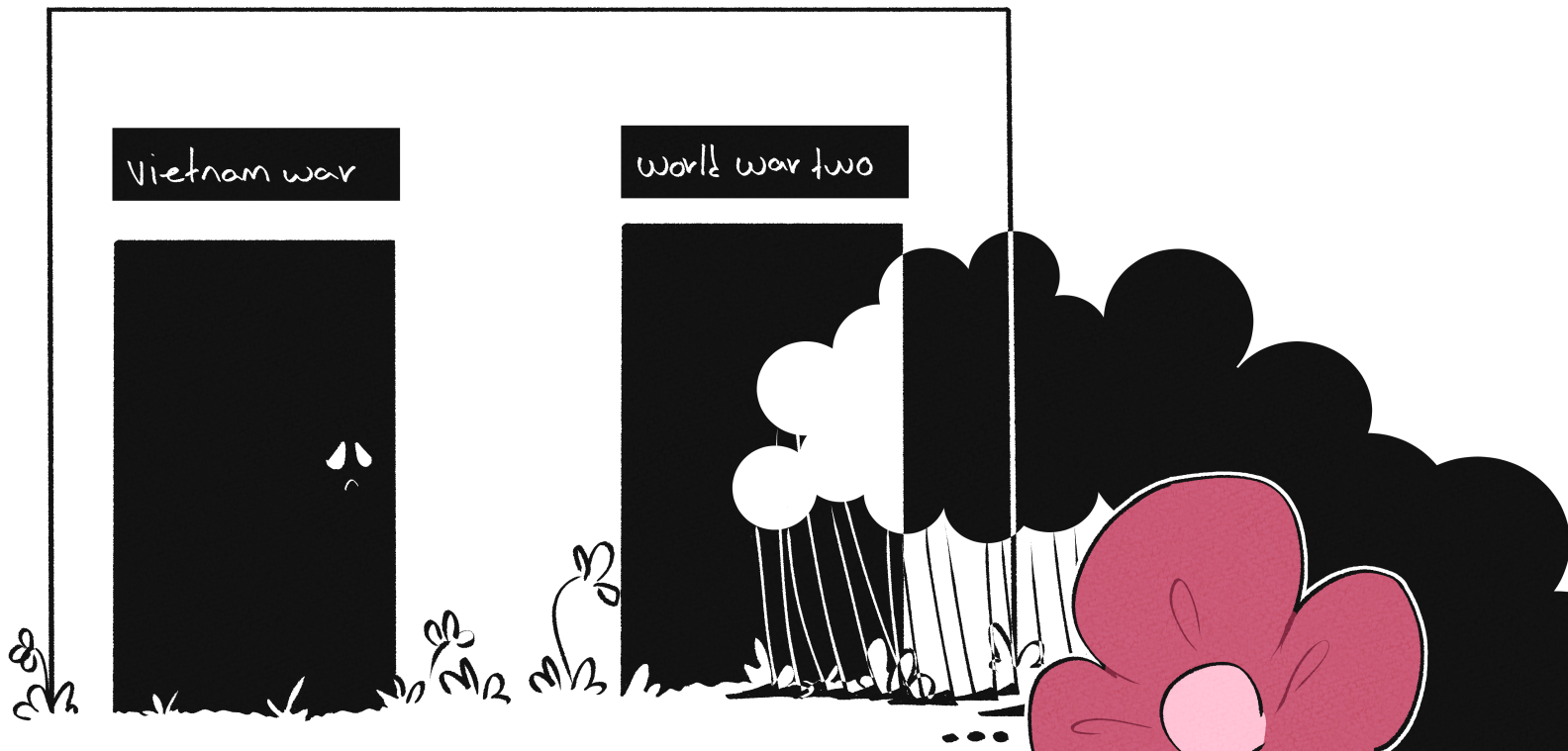
Jum is off to the army!



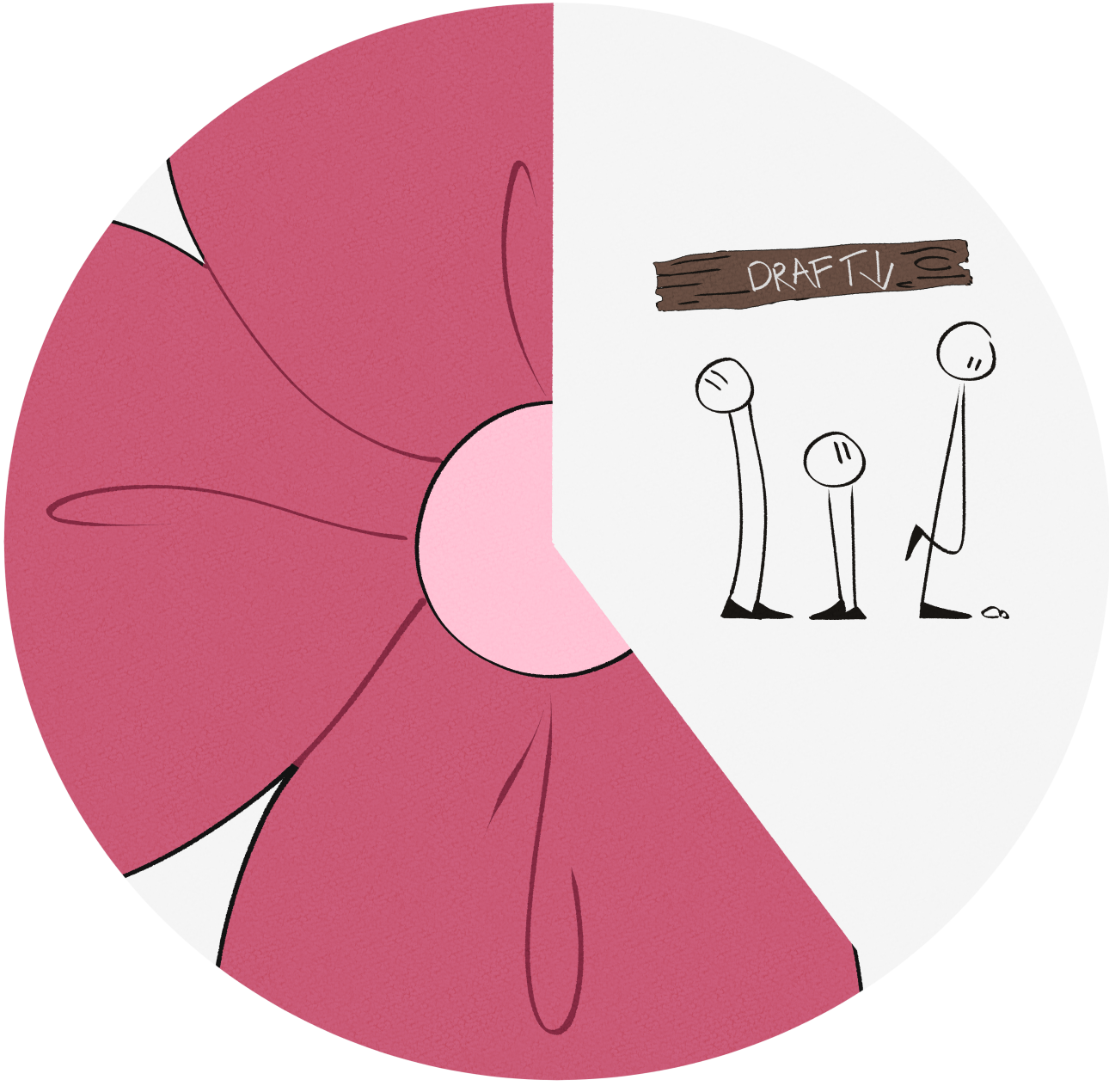
He wants to fight overseas like his ancestors did in the second world war.

During the second world war,
50 million men registered for the draft
and 10 million had been inducted into the military.

This is not very much compared to
the Vietnam War, where only 17,000 men
were drafted.

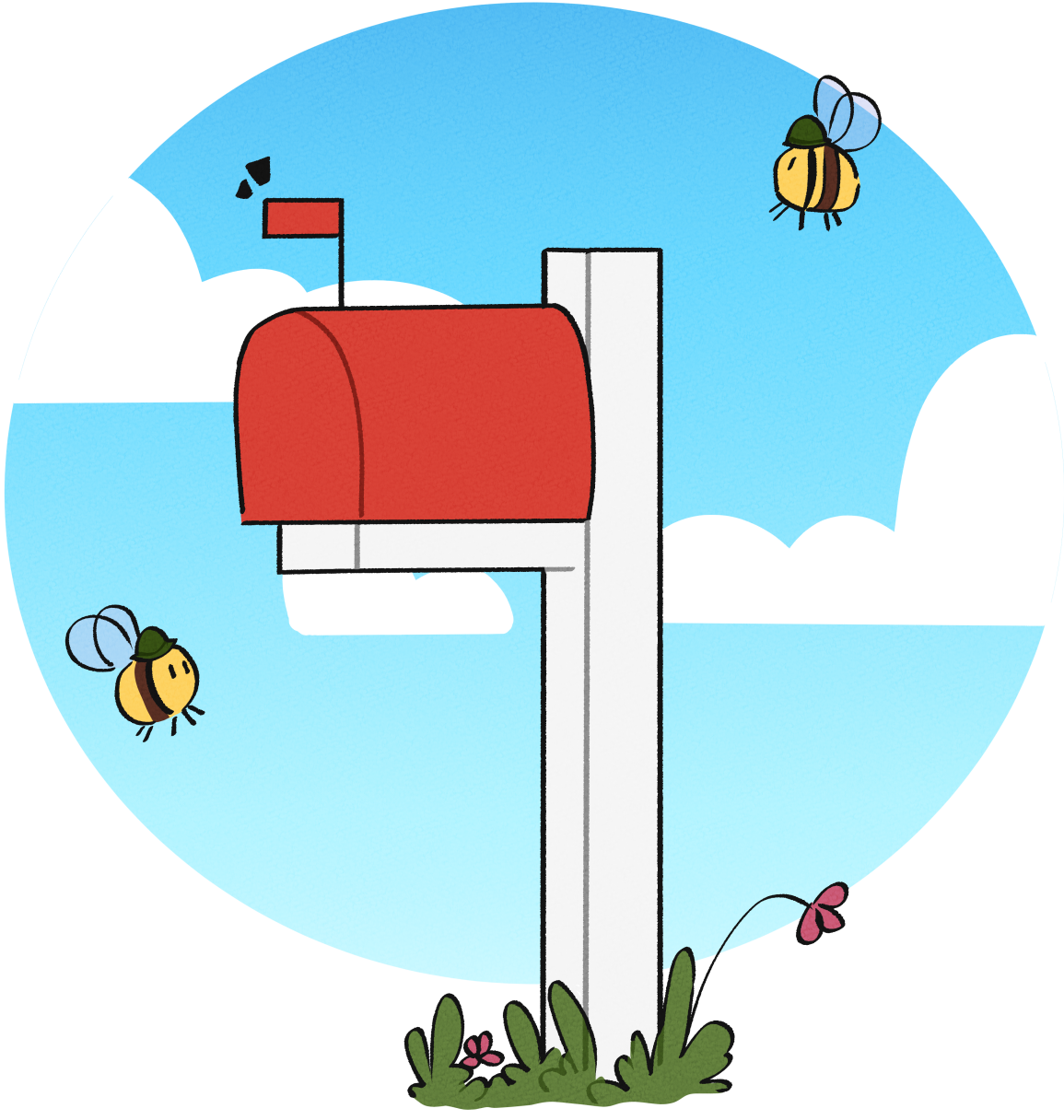


In the end, Jum will join the 60% of volunteers,



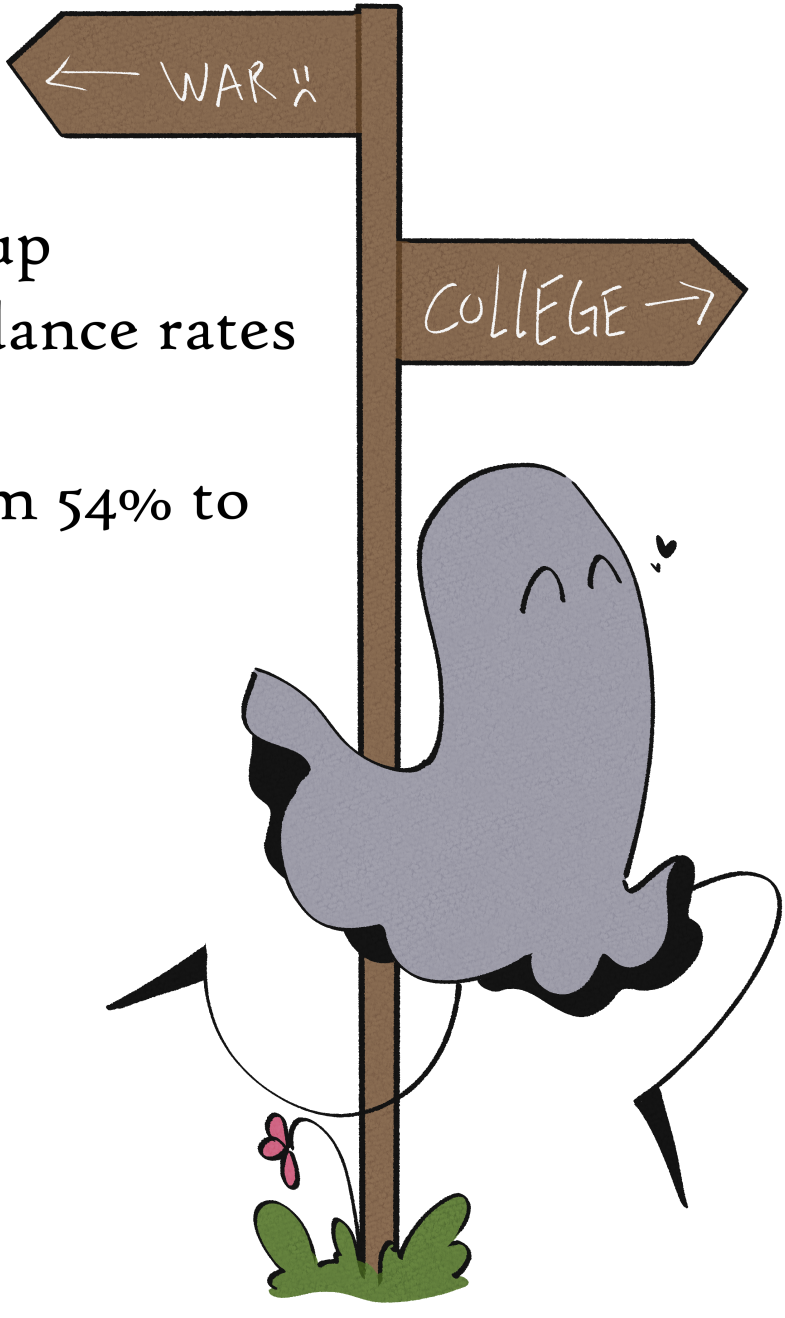
which will go against the popular belief that the Vietnam War was fought mostly by draftees.

Jim and Jam have received
their draft cards,

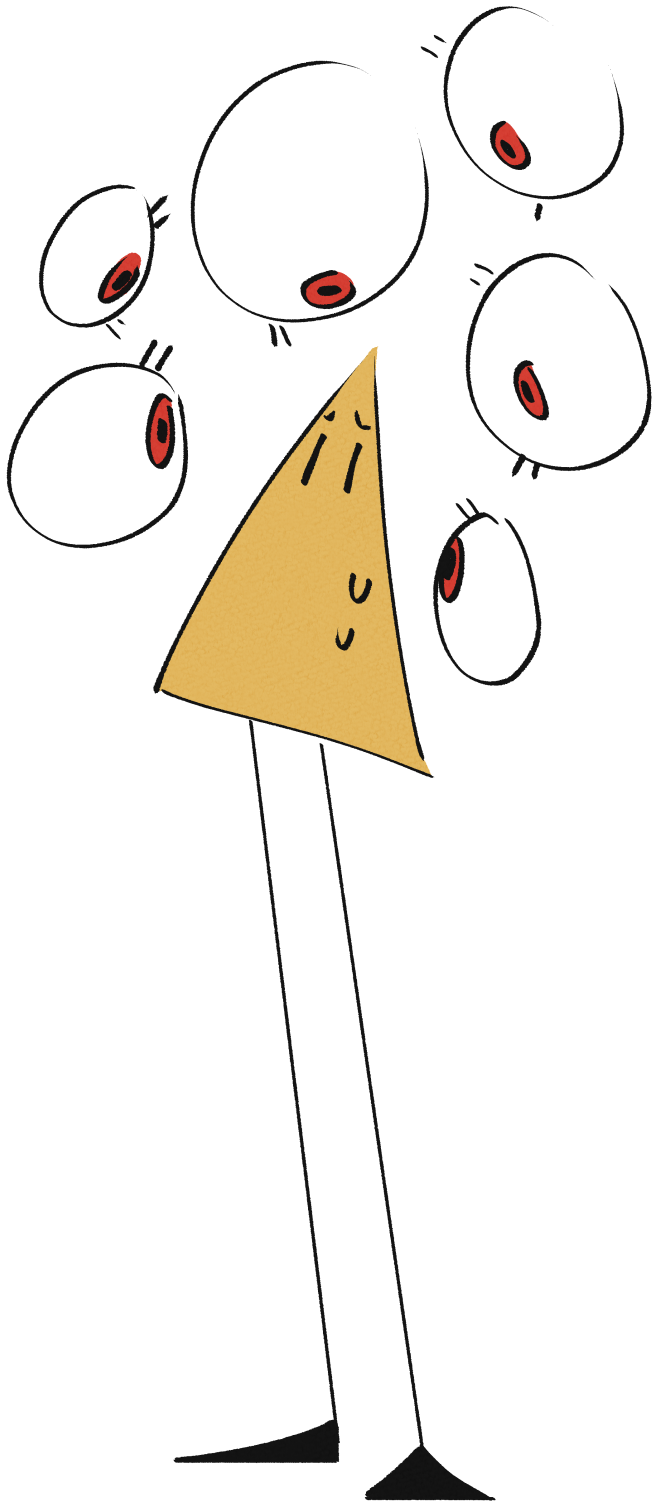


soon they will be called on
to fight in the war overseas.

Jam doesn't want to go fight overseas.
He thinks the war is wrong
and applies for a graduate deferment instead.

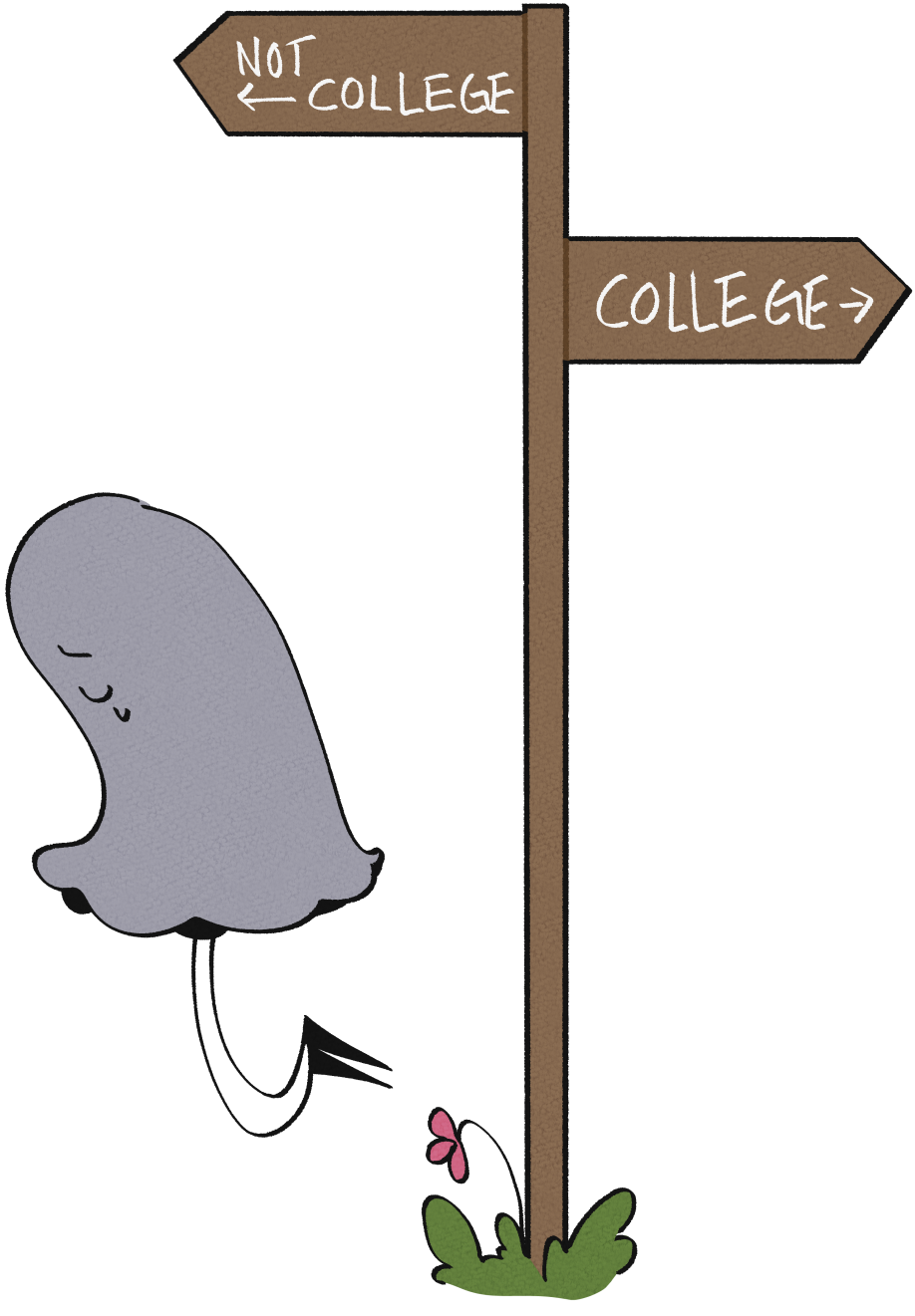


People like Jam will end up
influencing college attendance rates
by 4-6%,
as the entry rate rises from 54% to
63% from 1963-68.

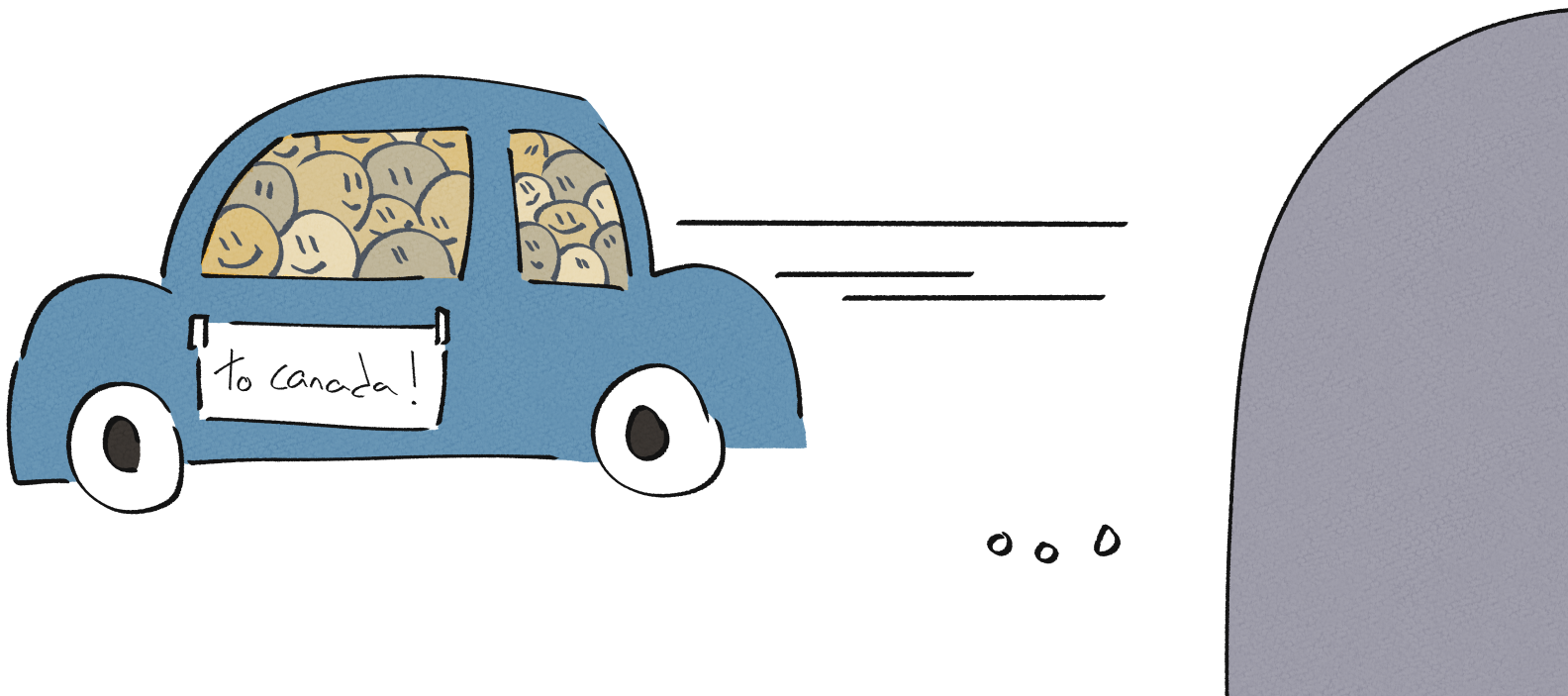


Jim is not so lucky.
As he is a person
of colour and
from a lower income
family, he will be
unfairly targeted by
the selective service
and sent
off to Vietnam.

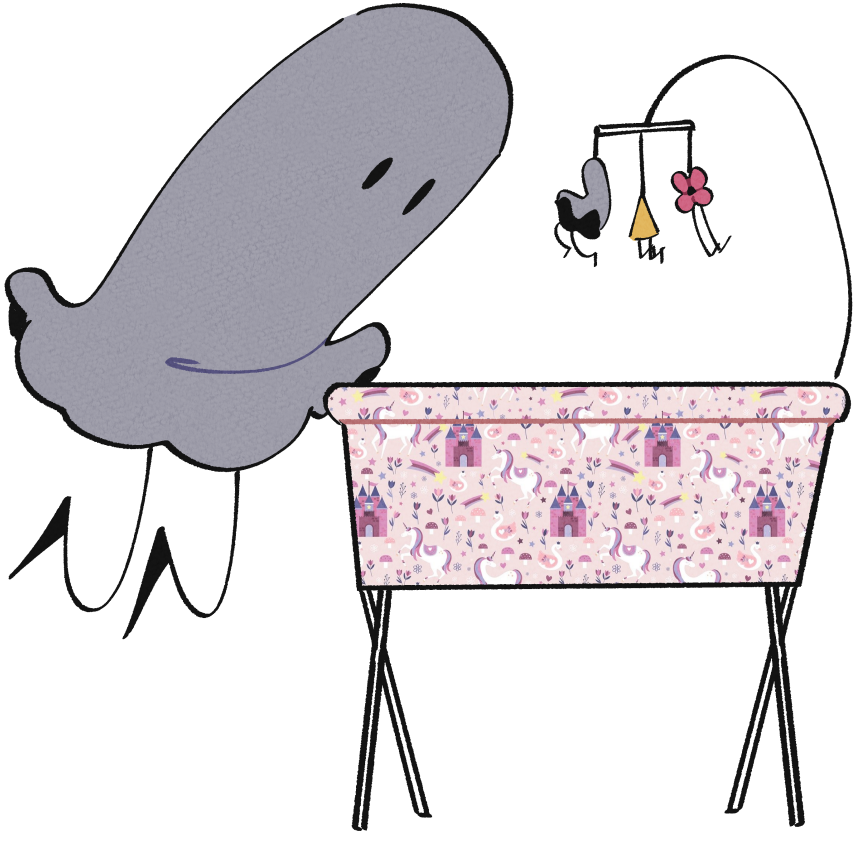
In 1967 graduate deferments are taken away, and Jam is left looking for other ways to avoid conscription.



Like his 5,000 or more friends,
he could leave the country and go to Canada,
Switzerland or Sweden where draft evaders
won't be extradited.

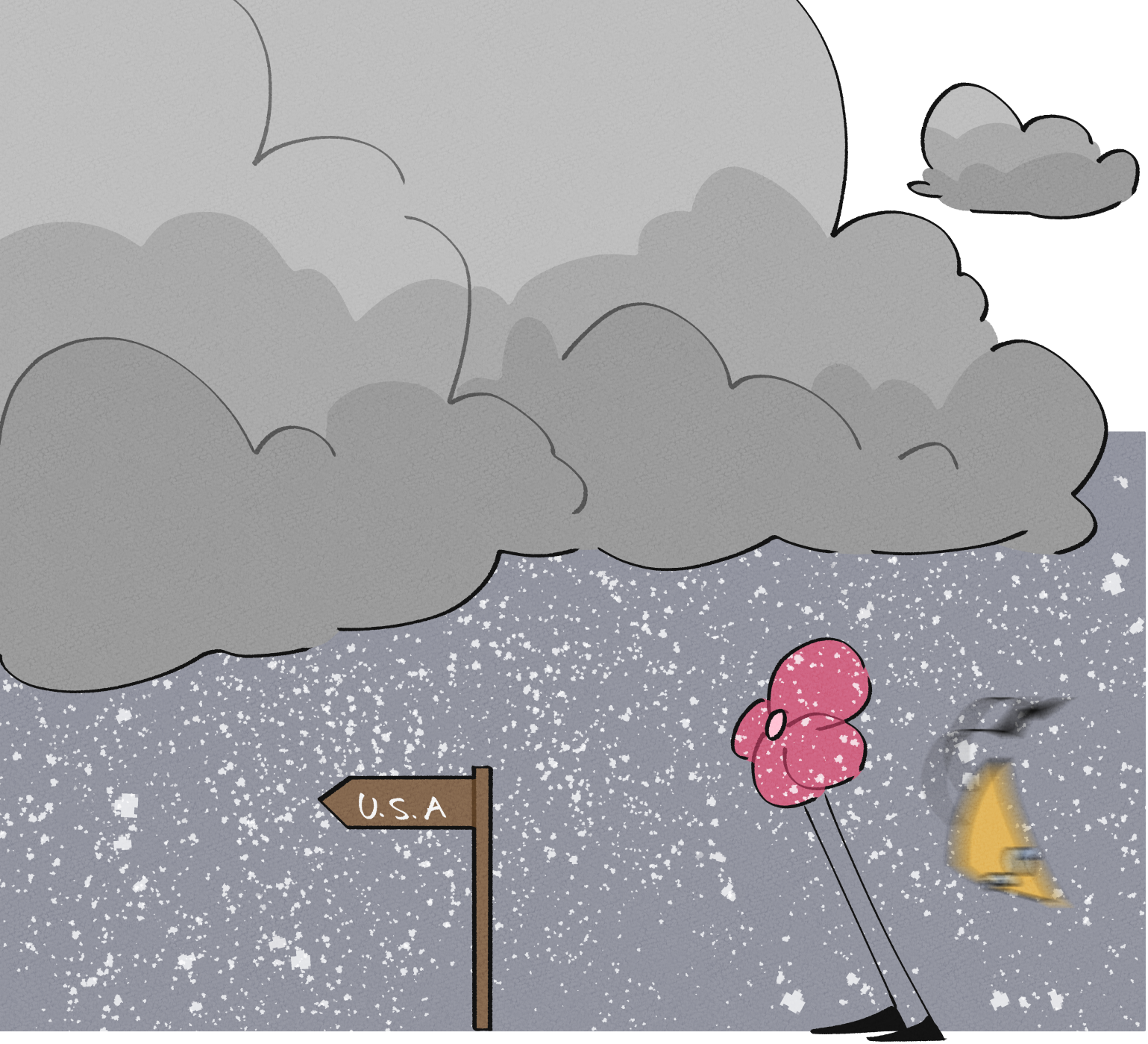


However, Jam doesn't want to leave his country, and instead has a child. Deferring him for the entire war as he's a father now.



Now that the war is over,
Jim and Jum are returning back home.





When they get back, there is a less than warm welcome waiting for them. Most people are angry at Vietnam Veterans for the atrocities that occurred during the war.

Even today, the Vietnam war is
remembered as a dark mark
at the expense of people
like Jim, Jam and Jum.
While people like Jam may have avoided
the draft, and only ⅓ of the soldiers were
drafted like Jim, the Vietnam war will forever
be remembered for the impact
it had on the nation as a whole.

