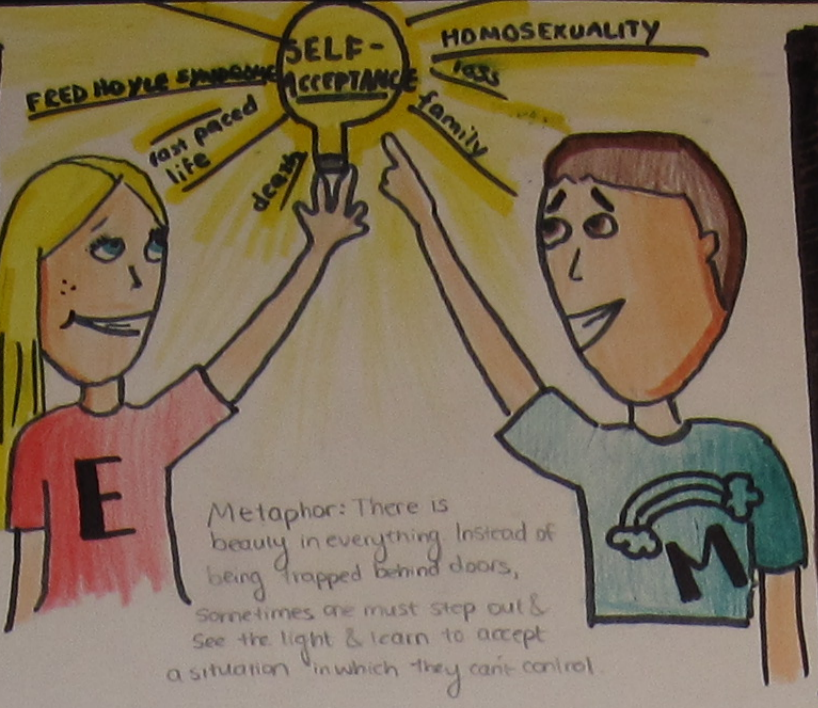
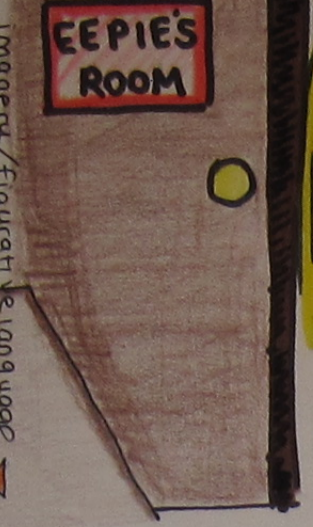
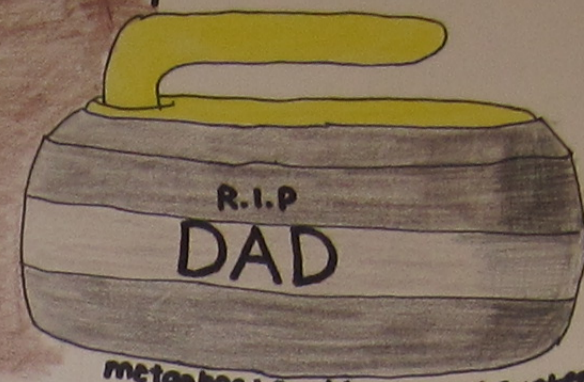
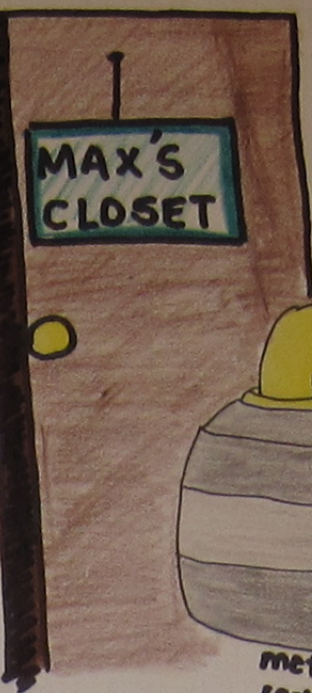


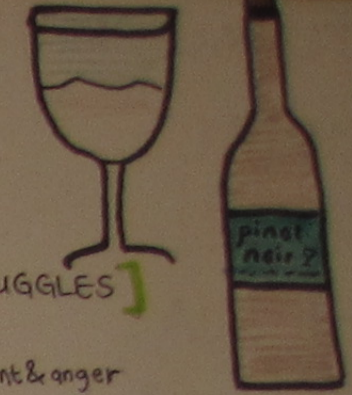
metaphor: describing love & passion



Metaphor: There is beauty in everything. Instead of being trapped behind doors, sometimes one must step out & see the light & learn to accept a situation in which they can't control.



metaphor: Dad is support system / rock of the family.



[FAMILY & STRUGGLES]

↳ **ALCOHOLISM:**
Max's embarrassment & anger
Max is unable to completely forgive his mother
Max has past memories about his mother's drinking & the toll it had on his father (FLASHBACK)

↳ **DEATH OF MAX'S FATHER:**
use of metaphor (dad's ashes in curving stone-like he was the rock/support system of the family)
His dad wasn't here to "set him straight" P.46

SELF-ACCEPTANCE

[BANG CRUNCH]

[LOVE]

① **OPTIMISM**
↳ Roy keeps Epi motivated & has her look forward to every day w/ optimism
QUOTE: "He hits your head and plants his lips on your forehead and minutes go by and he doesn't kiss you and then he does"

② **TRUST**
↳ used to describe their passion & sex life
QUOTE: "He hits your head and plants his lips on your forehead and minutes go by and he doesn't kiss you and then he does"

③ **SUPPORT**
↳ Roy supports every decision Epi makes, & remains by her side throughout the entire story
↳ Mom somewhat supports Epi
QUOTE: "Mom quits her job as part mistress and becomes your impresario"

[DIVERSITY]

① **Gillis De la Tourette Syndrome**
↳ quote: "clipped bark like Jack Russell terriers and boy barks and you say, Gillis de la Tourette syndrome!"

② **Fred Hoyle Syndrome**
↳ quote: "a rare disease that, although it boosts your brain power exponentially, has begun aging you a month a day."

metaphor: support



[CONFLICT]
vs SELF, SOCIETY

Bang Crunch

① vs. self
↳ quote: "you deage a year a day, [...] & your mom lifts a lock suspiciously & you lie [...] since the truth will knock her off her meds."

② vs. society
↳ quote: "the police come sniffing but who to arrest? a forty seven year old woman loving a sixteen year old boy or a sixteen year old boy loving a nine year old girl."



Green Fluorescent Protein

① vs. self
↳ quote: "man I feel totally disgusted! At myself for hurting Ruby Doo."

② vs. society
↳ quote: "is to challenge what we define as genetically pure. what we define as otherness"

[GREEN FLUORESCENT PROTEIN]

[FRIENDSHIP]

① **SUPPORT & TRUST:**
↳ Ruby Doo's support of the loss of Max's dad
QUOTE: "I don't usually tell people super-confidential things like this. But I do with Ruby Doo, and I swear he gets all teary-eyed."

[LOVE]

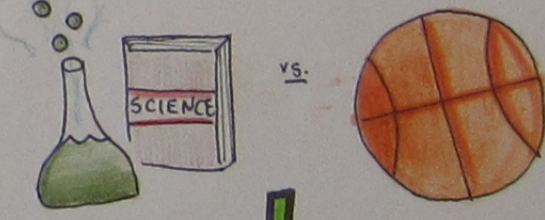
① **ANGER & FRUSTRATION:**
↳ towards mother's alcoholism
↳ towards death of his father
↳ frustration towards growing feelings towards Ruby-Doo
↳ towards Ruby-Doo's actions

② **MIXED FEELINGS:**

QUOTE: "Then I picked up Ruby-Doo up - he's as light as a girl - and throw him on my mom's bed"

② **ACCEPTANCE OF DIFFERENCES:**

↳ both are complete opposites, yet still form a strong friendship & accept one another's unique attributes
QUOTE: "He's a shortish skinnish guy. Well atleast compared to me."



[EXPERIMENTATION & CONFUSION]

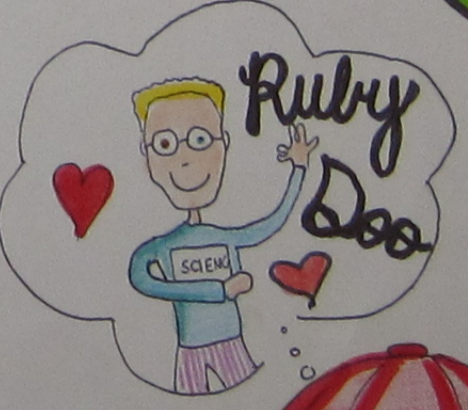
↳ Towel incident:
QUOTE: "As a joke, I vank his towel off. I'm going to say, yep, sure is scinny, but with him there naked, the words get trapped behind my teeth."

↳ Little interest in girls & keeps catching himself thinking about Ruby Doo
QUOTE: "I look over at the girls. Then I look past them."

SELF ACCEPTANCE

① **Bang Crunch**
↳ quote: "she's not running away, she's running in place."

② **Green Fluorescent Protein**
↳ quote: "and I swear I want to move away, but my leg stays put."



Foreshadowing: Growing feelings towards Ruby Doo

