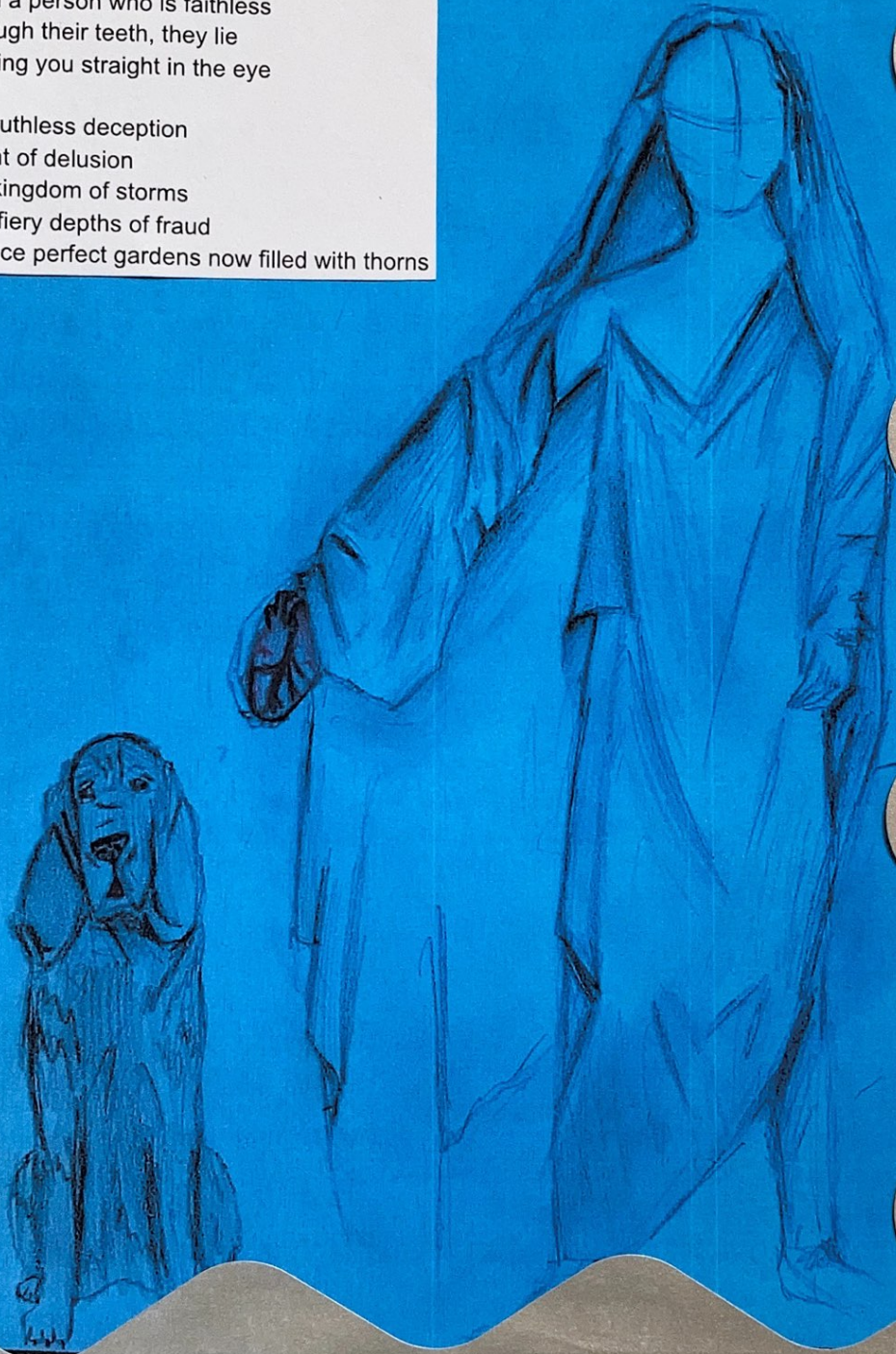


The power that is given  
To a person in such a strong position  
Cannot be forgiven  
If they do not listen

A wicked plan of greatness  
From a person who is faithless  
Through their teeth, they lie  
Looking you straight in the eye

The ruthless deception  
A glint of delusion  
The kingdom of storms  
With fiery depths of fraud  
Its once perfect gardens now filled with thorns



**Inspired by Percy Bysshe Shelley's  
'The Masque of Anarchy'**



OAKFIELD ACADEMY  
BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE



Walking through greenstraw I spotted a lake  
I leapedashed over and sat by the edge  
Baffuzzled was I when I viewed a snake  
Hissing and spitting from behind a hedge

Eyes full of hatred with claws of scamplox  
Coming near, it bared its sharp yellow teeth  
Its face sullyeer with horns of an ox  
As it leaped forwards the ground trembled beneath

Frightened and worried I sprang to my feet  
Took a sword from my pocket, scrowled with glee  
The creature howlbanged, my quest was complete  
It's enchanterbreath gone, I guarantee

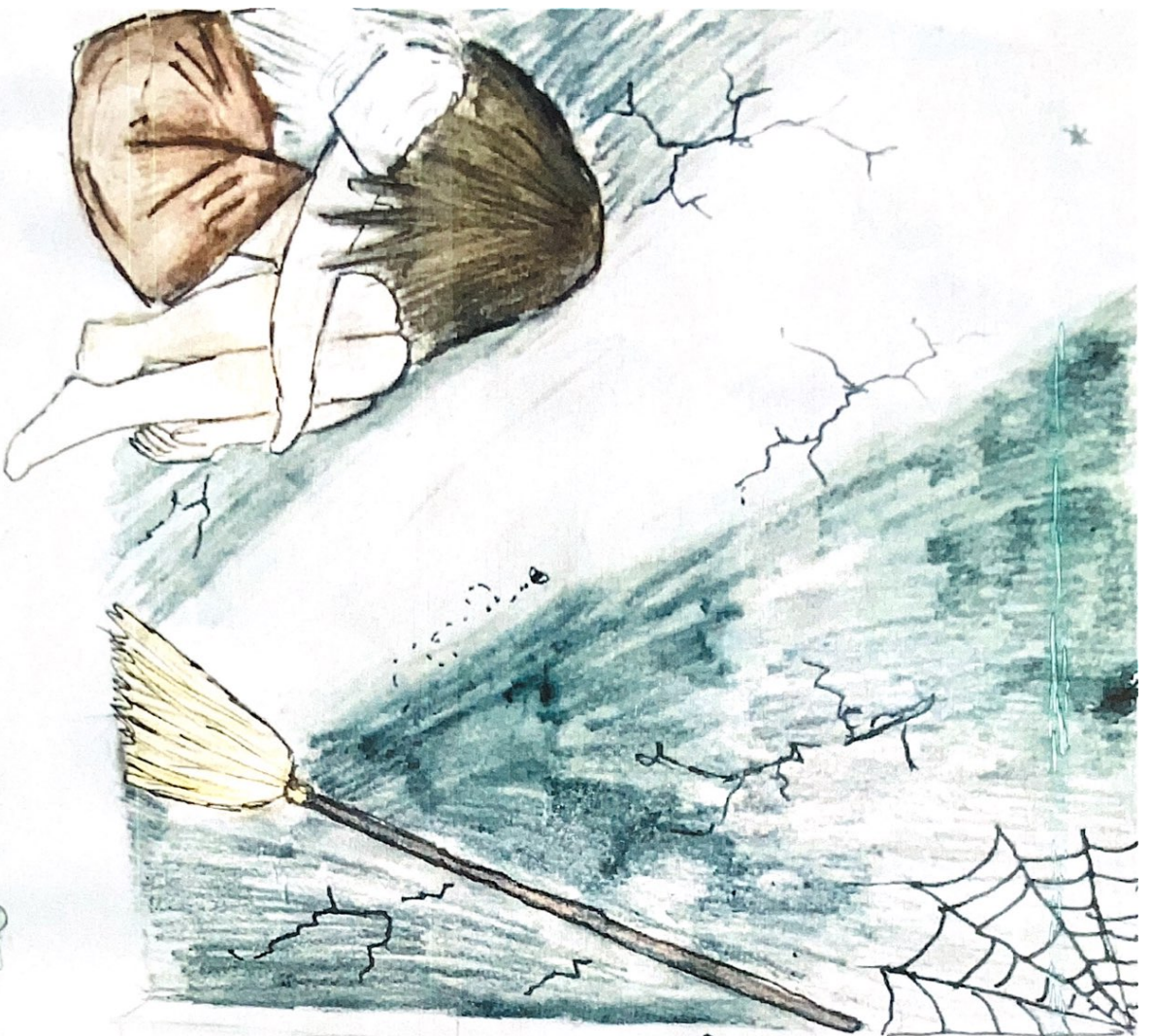
Walking through greenstraw I spotted a lake  
I leapedashed over and sat by the edge  
Baffuzzled was I when I viewed a snake  
Hissing and spitting from behind a hedge.

**Inspired by Lewis Carroll's**  
**'Jabberwocky'**



OAKFIELD ACADEMY  
BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE





Turn the long light  
that droopeth down  
the wall, —

Turn the black  
flies that crawl along  
the ceiling...

Inspired by Elizabeth Barrett Browning's

social injustice poetry





Inspired by Arthur Conan Doyle's  
'The Hound of the Baskervilles'



OAKFIELD ACADEMY  
BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK



Walking across deserted lands  
Swimming through rough seas  
Hoping someone will understand  
Hoping someone will accept their "please"  
Hoping, Hoping, Hoping...

The pain still echoes inside their ears  
Crackling fire, snaking through what used to be home  
Facing fears, wiping tears  
Wishing they had known  
If only they had known...

The reality is sinking in  
They've left so many behind  
Watched them die  
The pain stabs the heart like a knife  
Before them flashes their life  
A time gone by that smashed like glass  
When will it end at last?

They can't remember a past without war  
They've come so far  
Just to get pushed down and ignored  
Because people are too self absorbed  
To realise the sheer pain of having no home  
No family  
Some don't make it  
The journey is too tough for the strongest of souls  
War tears family apart  
Demands the rest of your strength  
With it's greedy eyes  
And a snarling smile.

**Inspired by Benjamin Zephaniah's  
political poetry**



some of the  
other children  
at school started  
to pick on me...



traitor!

%!#\*?

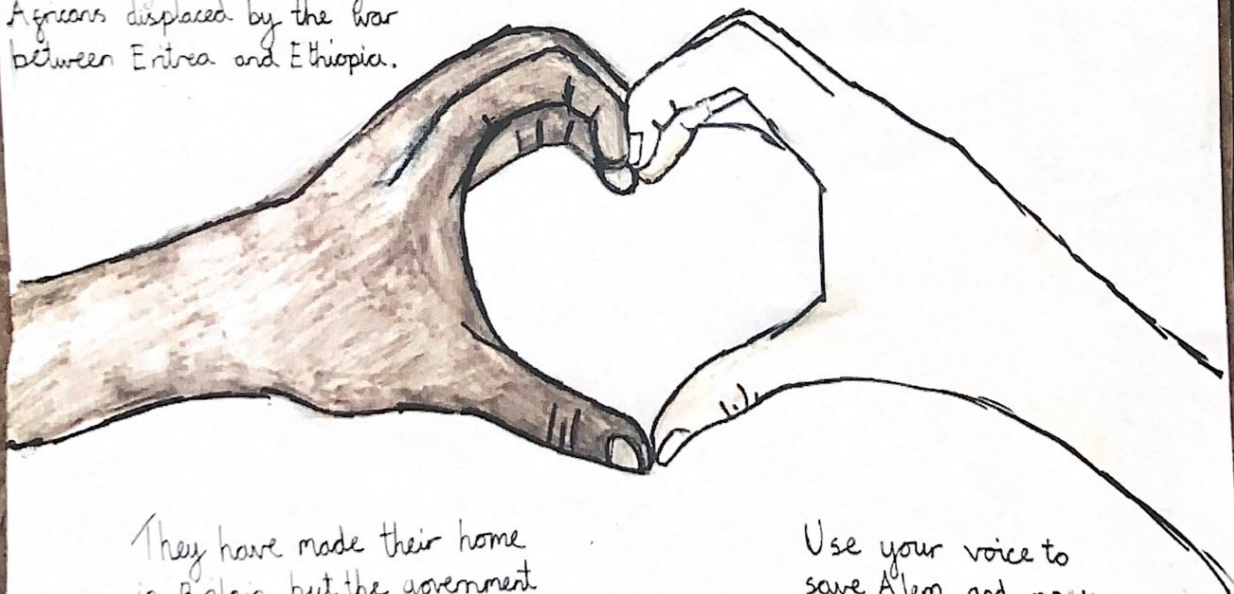
You're not  
welcome

GO  
AWAY



# THEIR LIFE IN YOUR HANDS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

Alem and his father are just two of the thousands of Africans displaced by the war between Eritrea and Ethiopia.



They have made their home in Britain but the government want to send them back to a country where 150,000 have already died.

Use your voice to save Alem and many others from this war and cruelty.



# Newham Echo

Issue No. 640 • Wednesday 15th March 2000 •



Protesters outside Town Hall, Newham, East London

## Growing Support For Refugees

**O**N SATURDAY the 11th of March at 11:00am thousands gathered at the local school to take part in a 2 hour long peaceful protest march against the removal of refugees, ending at The Town Hall, Newham, East London. Robert Fernandez assembled this march for his friend, Alem, whose asylum request in Britain had recently been refused. Alem and his father can not go back to their home in Eritrea because of the war in Africa.

Alem's teachers and closest friends stood by him along with many others. Disappointingly, partway through the march, six men disrupted the protest, making comments such as "go march in your own country" and threw stones in the crowd's direction. However policemen were very swift to put a stop to this, removing the

men from the area after a small scuffle. On a more positive note, local businesses offered their support by providing food and drink for the people taking part.

Once the marchers arrived at The Town Hall, Robert Fernandez welcomed Mariam Desta, a representative from the Refugee Council, to the stage. Mariam thanked everyone for their participation and gave a passionate speech about the reasons for the protest. Alem Kelo, the boy under threat of deportation was then invited onto the stage. Alem said: "In my homeland they are fighting over a border, a border that is mainly dust and rocks" he told everyone, "I have not come to England to become a problem". For one so young, Alem was a very powerful speaker.

After the event I spoke to Mariam Desta who gave more

detail about the reasons behind this peaceful protest. She said, "We are at a critical point, a judge has said that Alem must return to his persecution. A judge who has never talked to Alem about his fears and dreams is sending him back to a nightmare, to live in danger. We must not let this happen. We at the Refugee Council are supporting Alem and his father because we know what it is like to live in fear of your life."

One of the most striking things about this protest is that it was organised by a group of local teenagers who have become Alem's closest friends while living in England. As well as being the driving force behind this event, the youths have been running an organised campaign over the last few weeks, which has included an awareness event with a performance from local band Pithead which raised an impressive £750. They have also been distributing badges and flyers as well as coordinating a petition which gained 6,000 signatures which was presented to Mrs. Leonie Ranks, the local MP for Newham at the march.

Alem and his father are now awaiting their appeal which will take place next month. They are hoping that the strength of support from the community and the assistance from the Refugee Council will lead to a positive outcome.



Oakfield Academy,  
Oakfield Road,  
Frome,  
Somerset,  
BA11 4JF.

3rd February 2021.

Priti Patel,  
Home Office,  
2 Marsham Street,  
London,  
SW1P 4DF.

Dear Ms. Patel,

I am writing to tell you why you should accept Alem and his fathers' request for Asylum.

Firstly, Alem and his father (Mr. Kelo) have come from Africa where there is currently a war between Ethiopia and Eritrea. So far, between 40,000 to 60,000 people have been killed. Alem would be at great risk. Do you want that? By refusing their asylum request you would be automatically putting Mr. Kelo and his son in great danger.

Secondly, as you may know, Alem's mother was found violently hacked to death by evil people and left by the border. This is what this worrying war has come to! Country against country, death upon death. It must stop and this won't happen unless we open our arms to those at risk. Is this really the example we want to set for Britain? That we are too selfish to save lives. Too lazy to give care. Too oblivious to see what is right in front of our faces. No. We are better than this.

Furthermore, Alem and his father can't be accepted in Ethiopia or Eritrea. Alem's father is Ethiopian and his Mother Eritrean. In Ethiopia, Alem would get bullied for being part Eritrean. When the war first started, Alem and both his parents went to Eritrea and people threw stones at Mr. Kelo for being Ethiopian. Will we do the same thing: banish them because of their race? I would certainly not.

Finally, I don't see what harm Alem and his father would cause by living in England. He has been in the foster care of the Fitzgeralds where he has settled in wonderfully! Mrs Fitzgerald even says that Alem has been her favourite foster child to care for. Mr Kelo could stay in the spare room at the Fitzgerald house - the Fitzgeralds are happy for this to happen - until he finds his feet and can afford an appropriate house for Alem and himself.

I hope you can see how happy it would make Alem and his father for you to accept their asylum request and mend this broken family. I believe that you will make the right decision and support this young boy and his father.

Yours sincerely,  
Violet Ascott

**Inspired by Benjamin  
Zephaniah's  
'Refugee Boy'**

