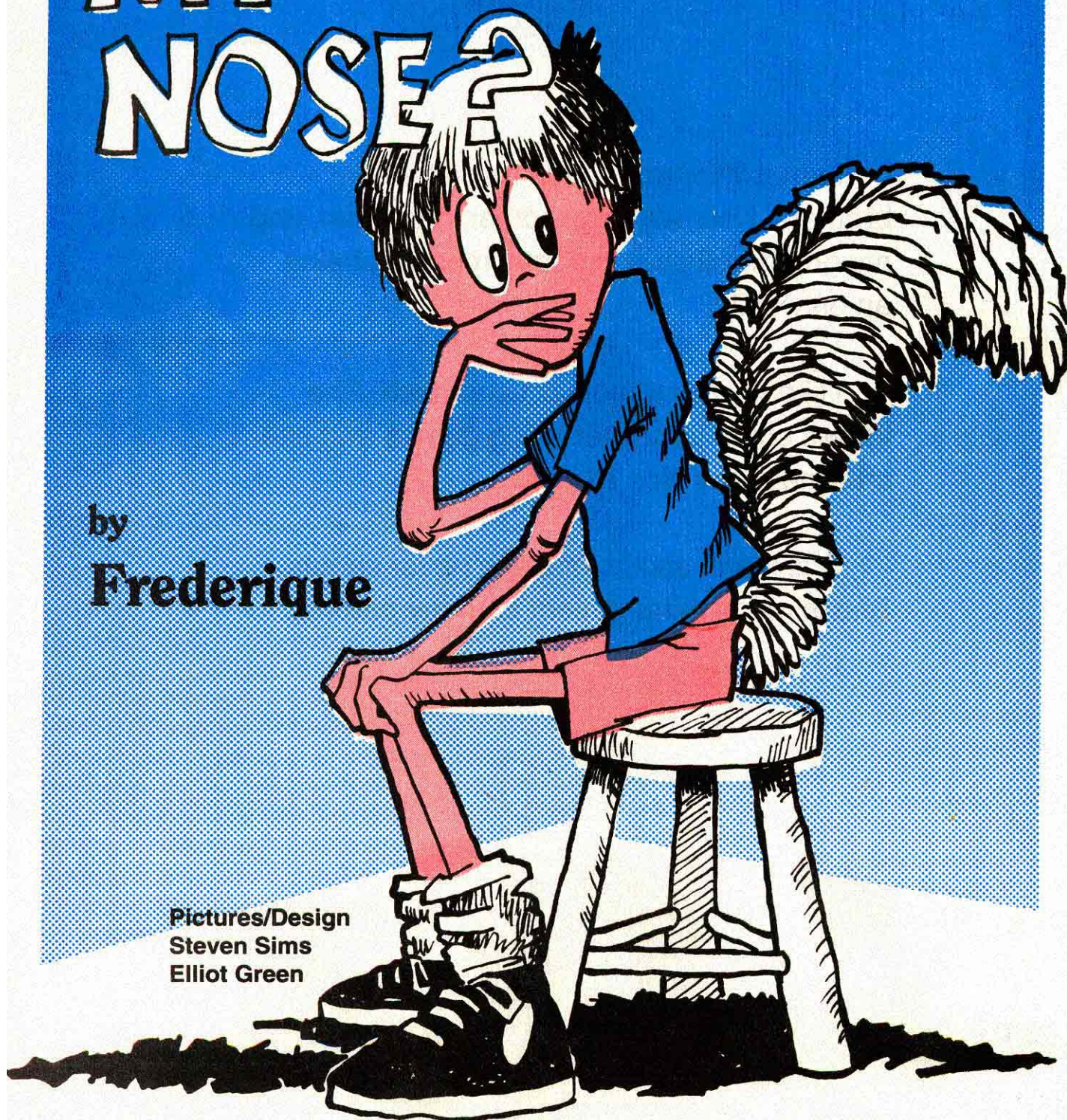


12-5650

WHERE'S MY NOSE?

by
Frederique

Pictures/Design
Steven Sims
Elliot Green



I am a little boy. I have no sisters or brothers. I live with my mother, my father, and my grandmother. It is sometimes sad being an only child.

I like my grandmother very much. She knows some very interesting games and she tells me many nice stories.

She never scolds me; she never shouts. She is much more patient than my parents.

And she has three lovely cats
and a charming black poodle.

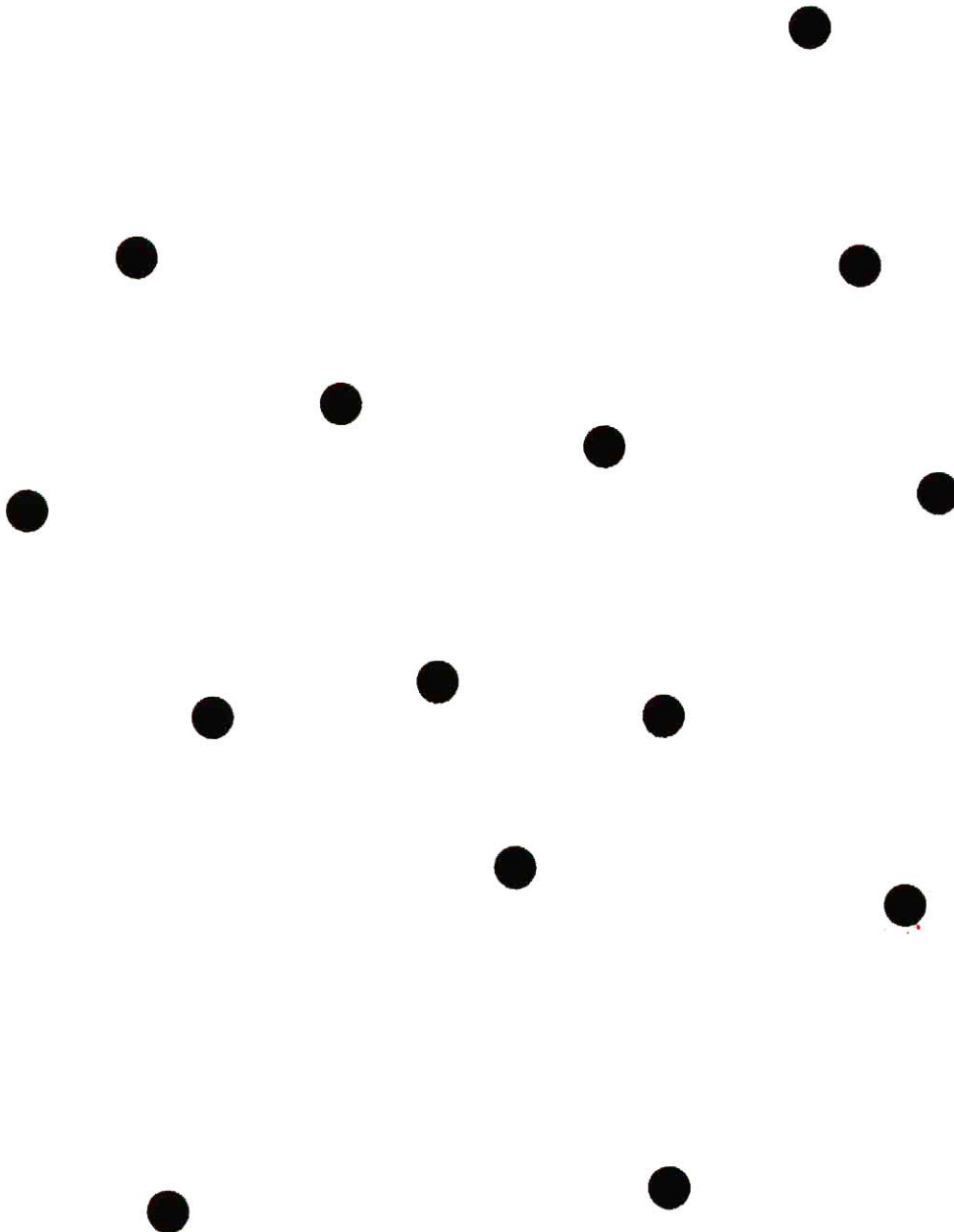


Last night my grandmother said to me,
“While you were in school, I drew a picture
that is like a detective story.”

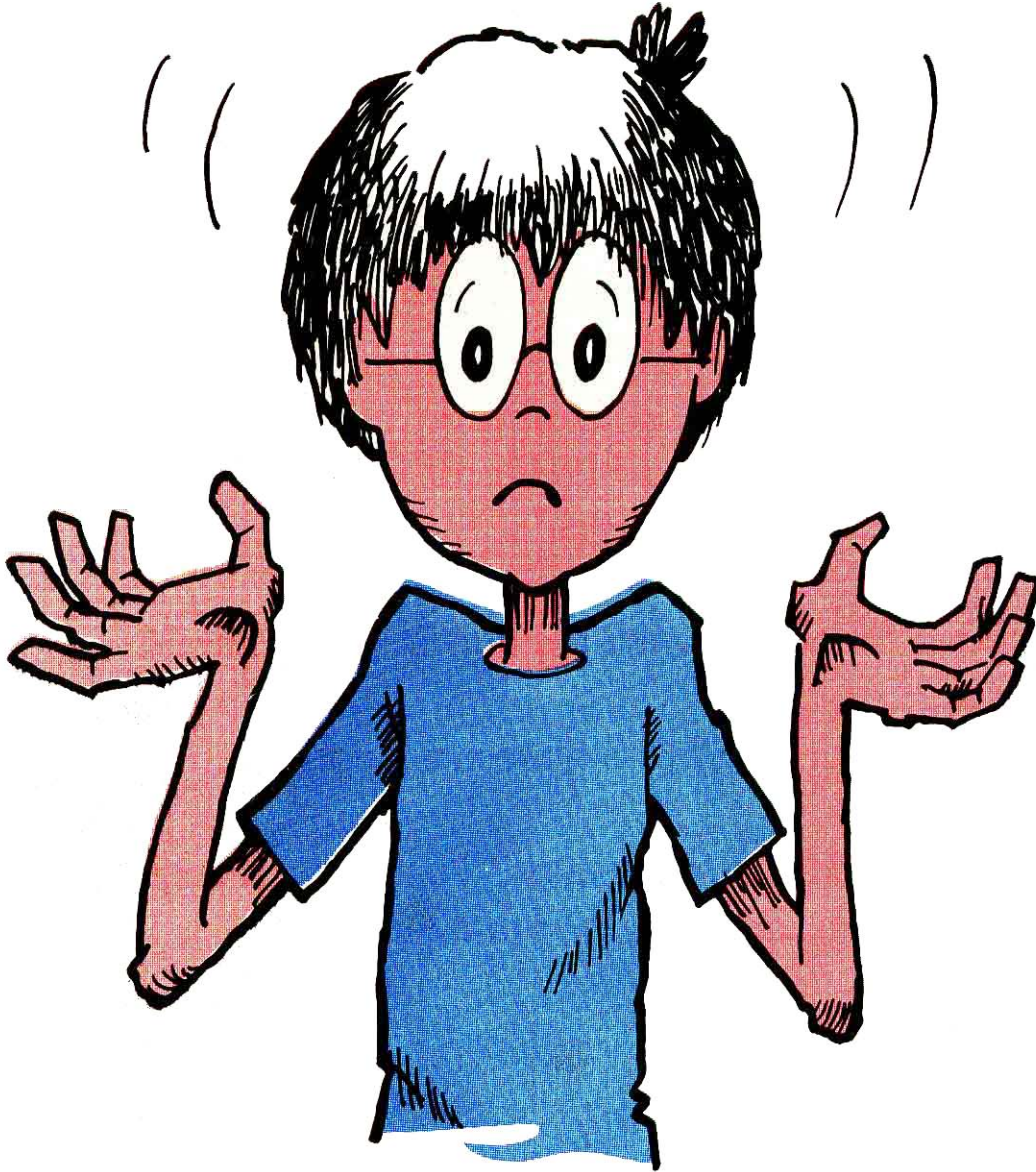
I was very excited.

She showed me this drawing.

I was a little disappointed.



My grandmother smiled. "I drew for you three rabbits, one squirrel, three plant bugs, my three cats, my little poodle, you, me, and your nose. Can you recognize them?"



"IMPOSSIBLE!" I said. "They are all the same! You are making fun of me!"

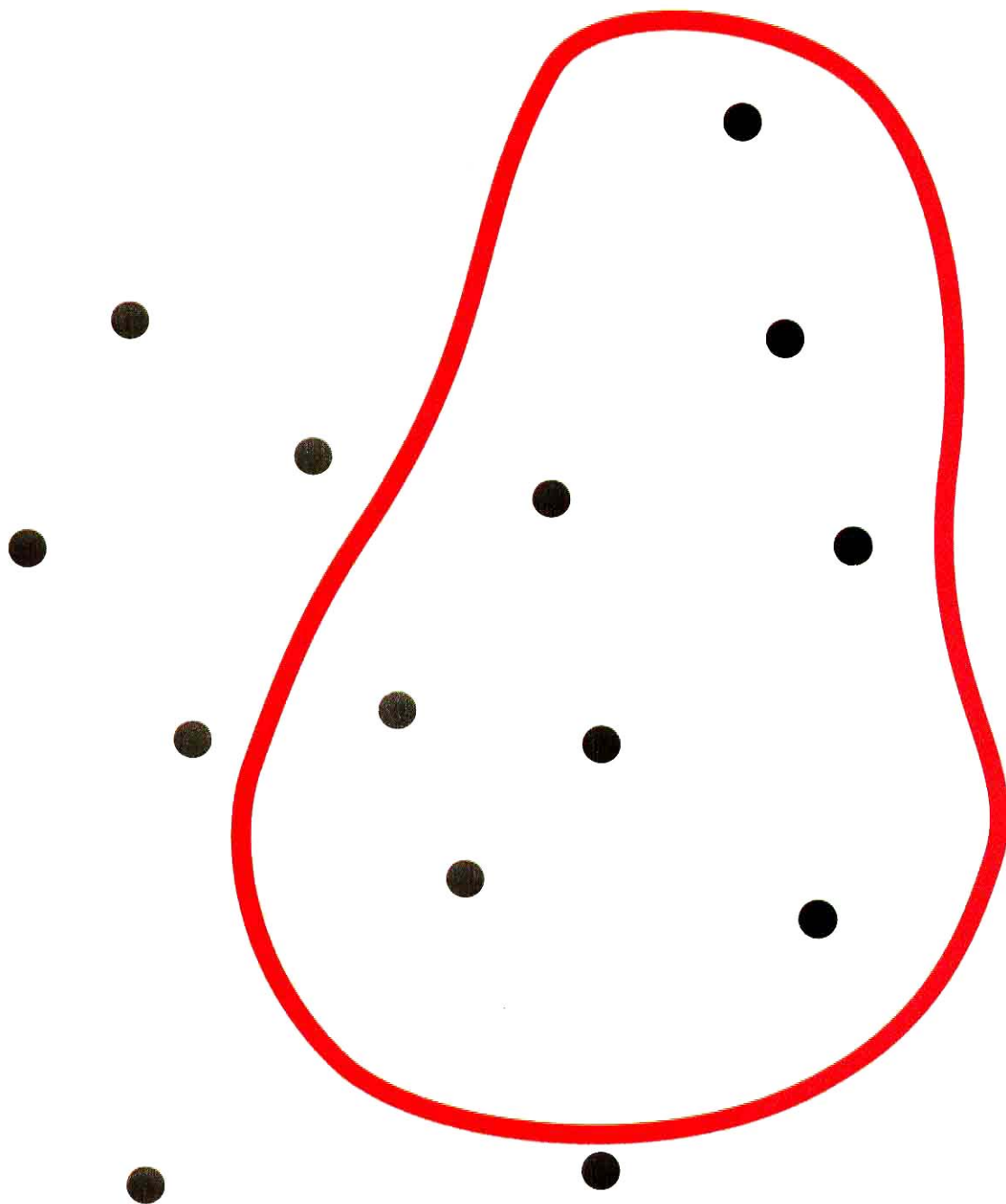
“Be a little patient,” replied Grandmother, as she drew a RED string.

“All the dots inside the RED string are animals with four legs.”

“Then you and I are outside,” I remarked.

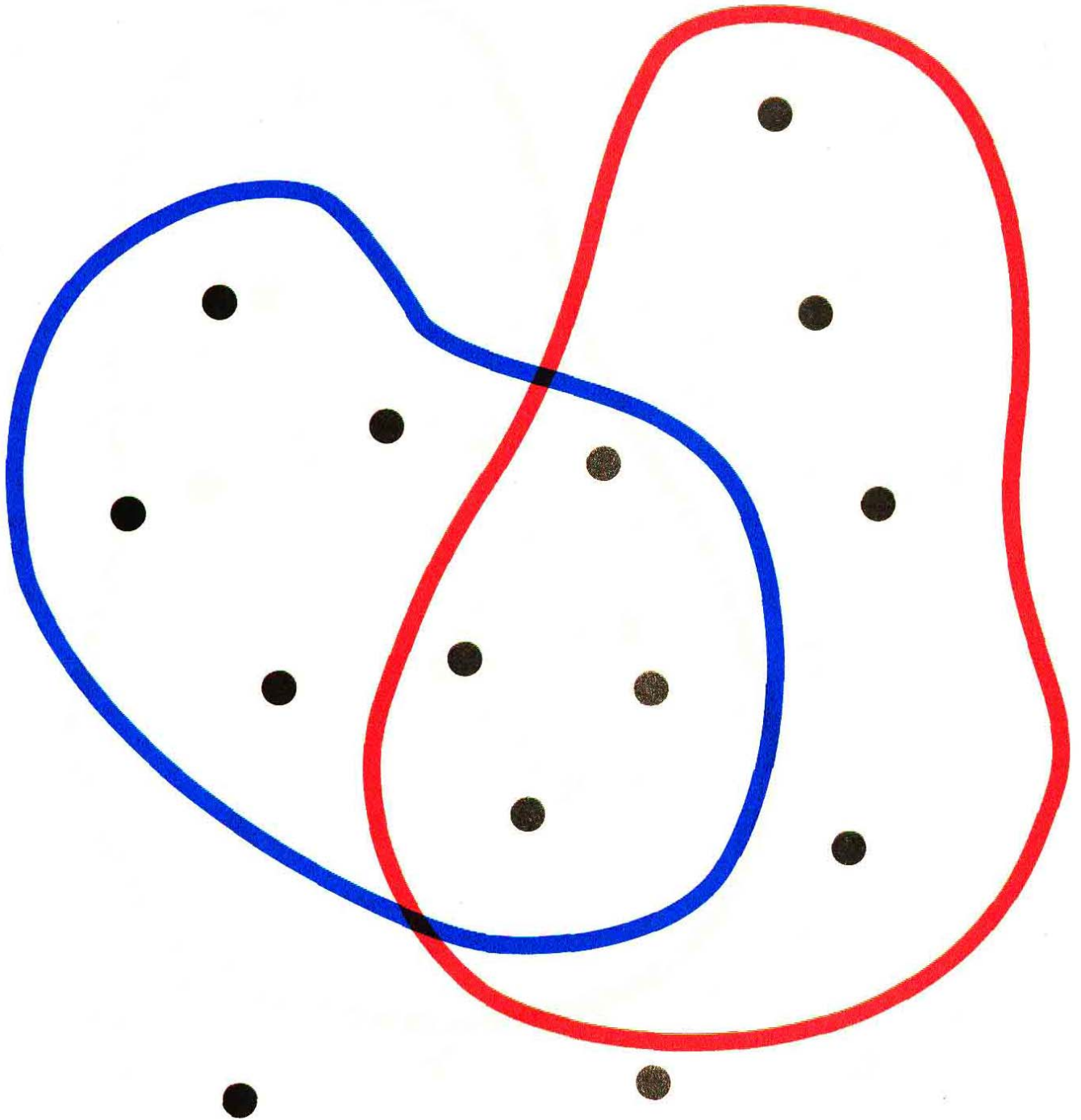
“Right, and your nose is outside, too.”

“And so are the bugs,” I said. “Most bugs have six legs. I learned that on TV.”



Grandmother drew another string.

“Everything inside the BLUE string
can climb trees.”



“Then you are outside both strings,
Grandmother,” I said.

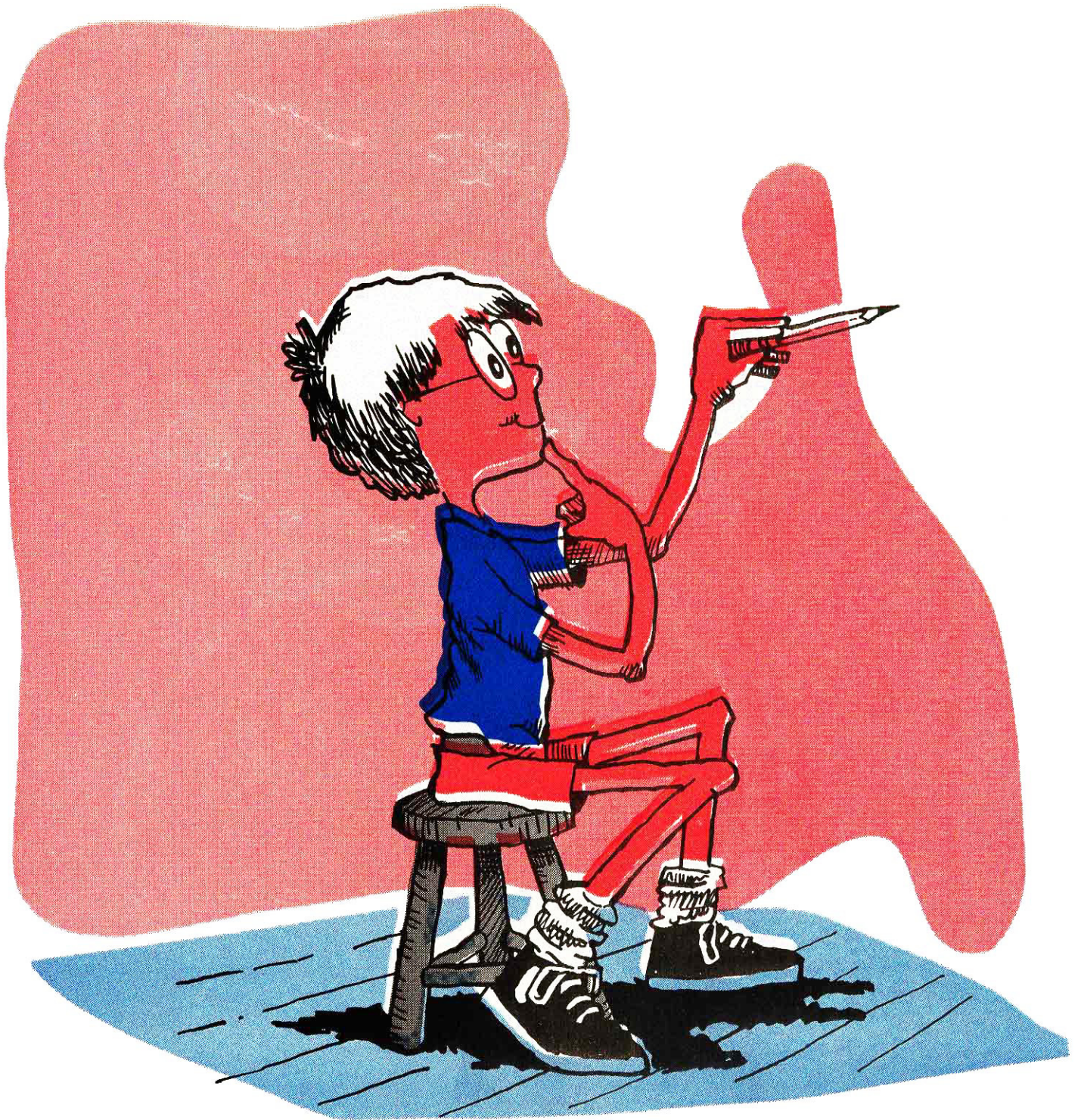
“Right, and so is your nose.”

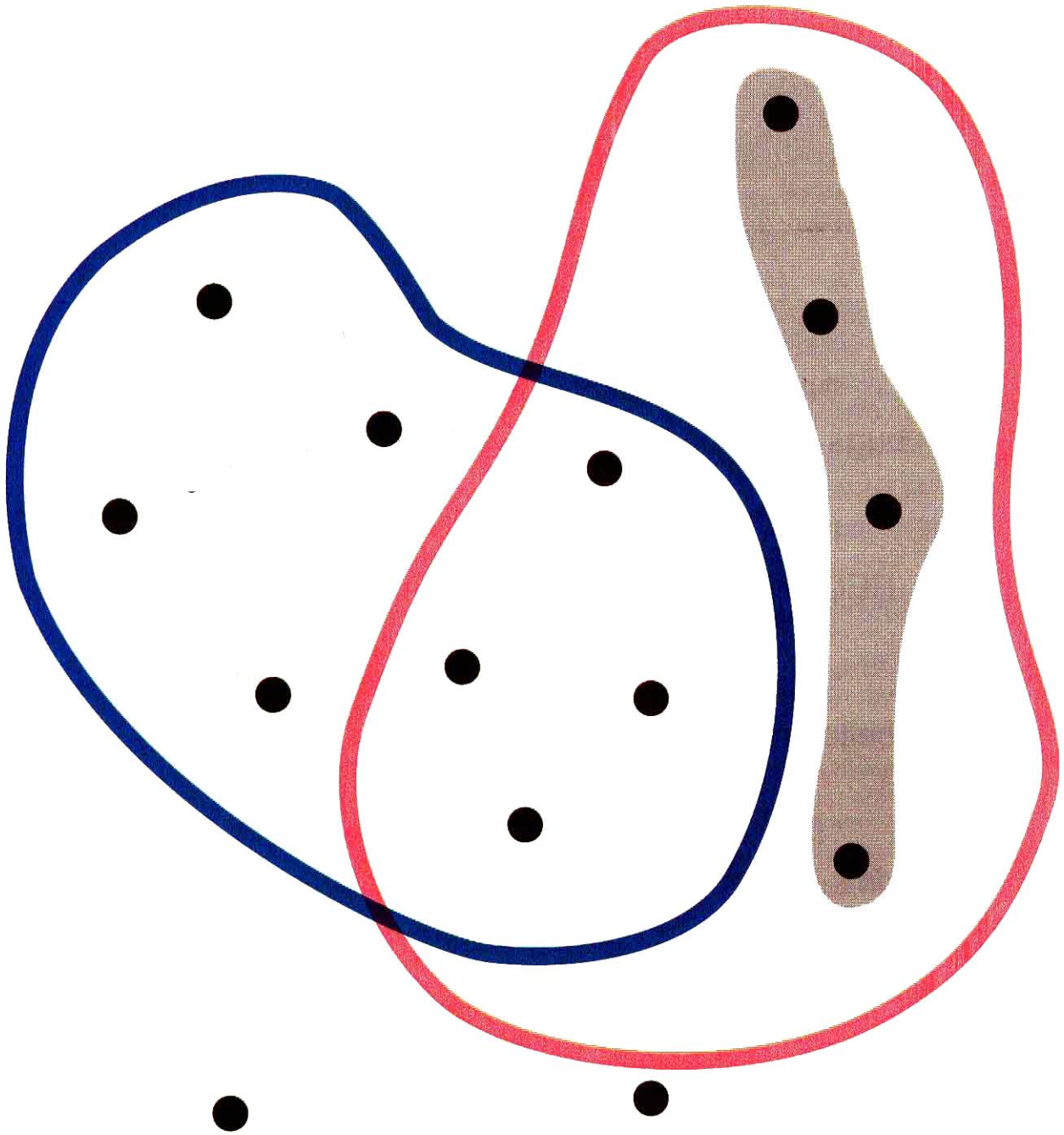
“But where could my little poodle be?”
asked my grandmother.

Try to answer this question before you
turn the page.



“Your poodle is an animal with four legs, but a dog cannot climb trees. So the poodle must be inside the RED string but outside the BLUE one—one of these four dots,” I concluded.



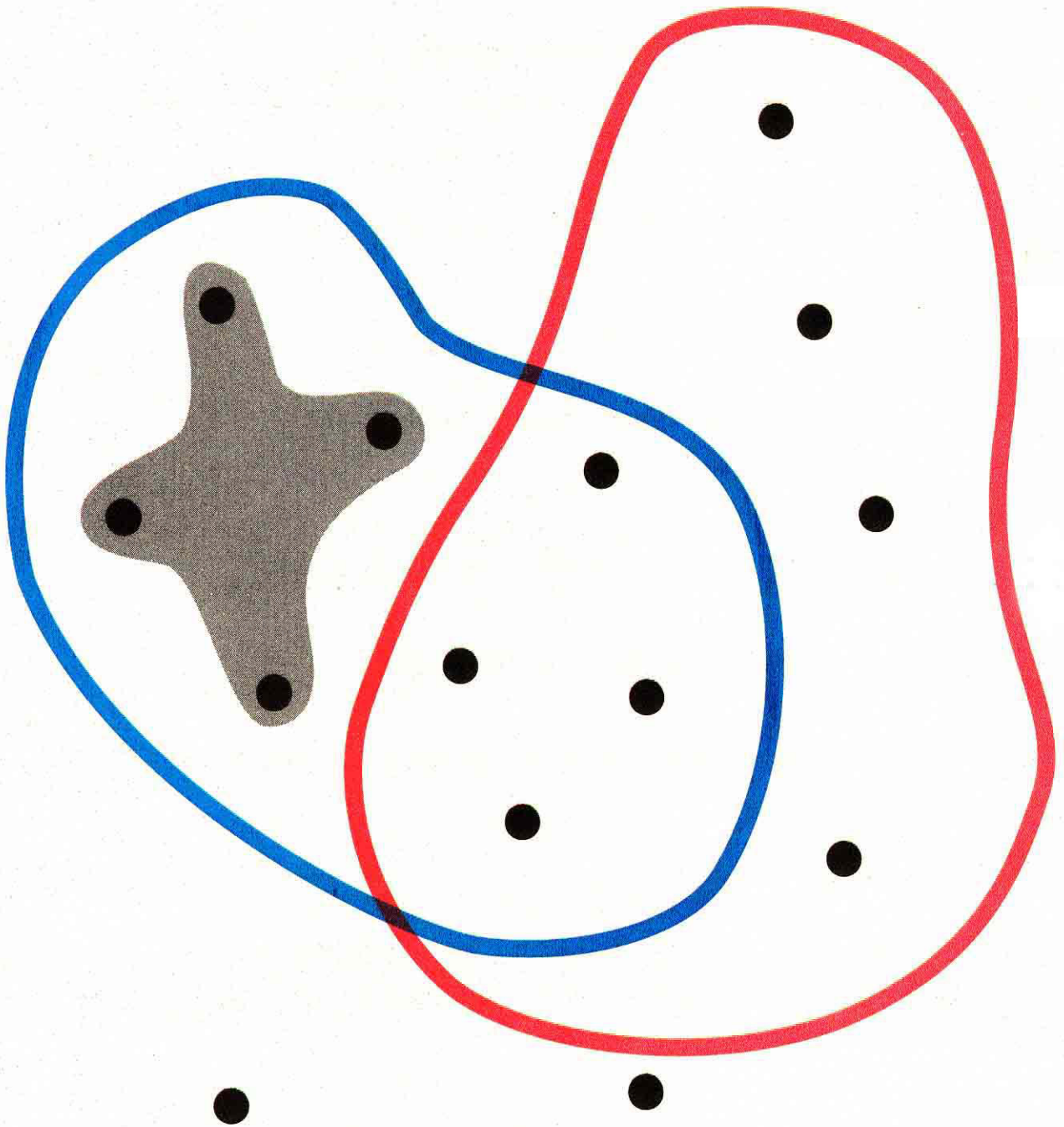


“Now, do you know where the three plant bugs could be?”

I was thinking about that: “Outside the RED string, because they have six legs!”

“Right! But ALSO inside the BLUE string, because they can climb trees.”

“Then they must be three of these four dots,” I concluded.



“And how about my three lovely cats?”

I was silent.

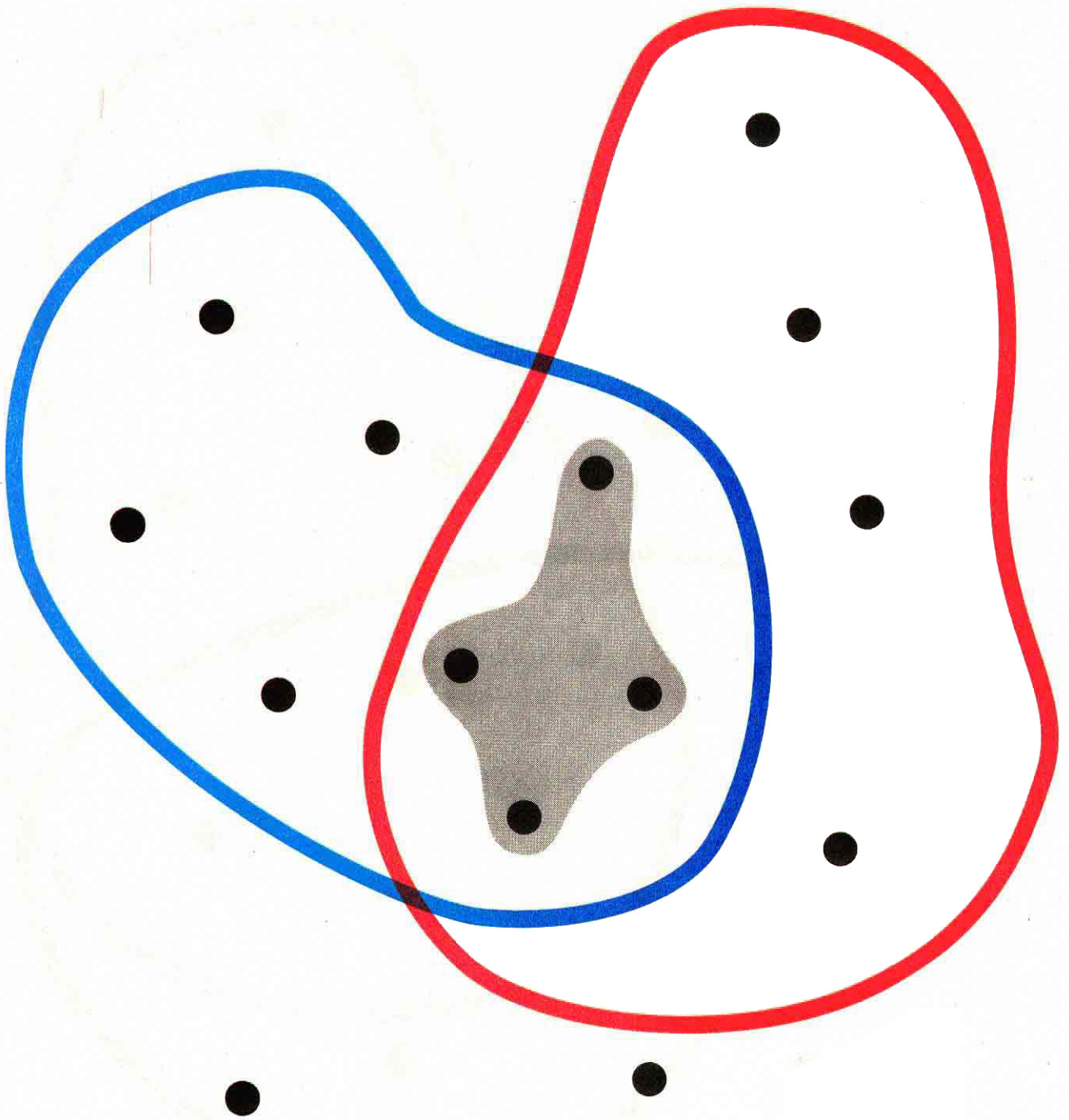
“Can they climb trees?” asked my grandmother.

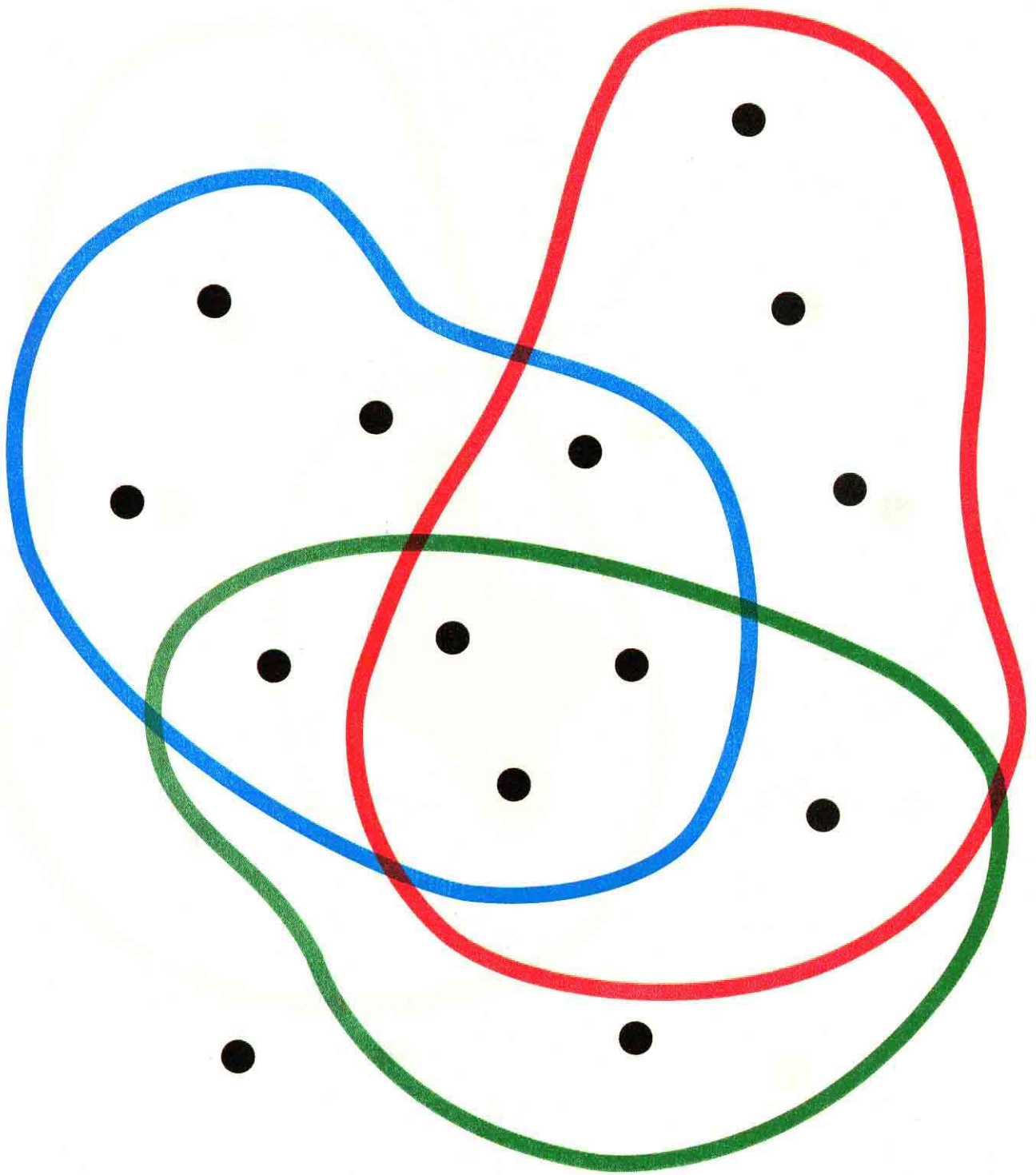
“Yes; they are inside the BLUE string!”

“How many legs do they have?”

“They have four legs, so they are inside both strings.”

“Then three of the dots among these four must be my cats,” said my grandmother.





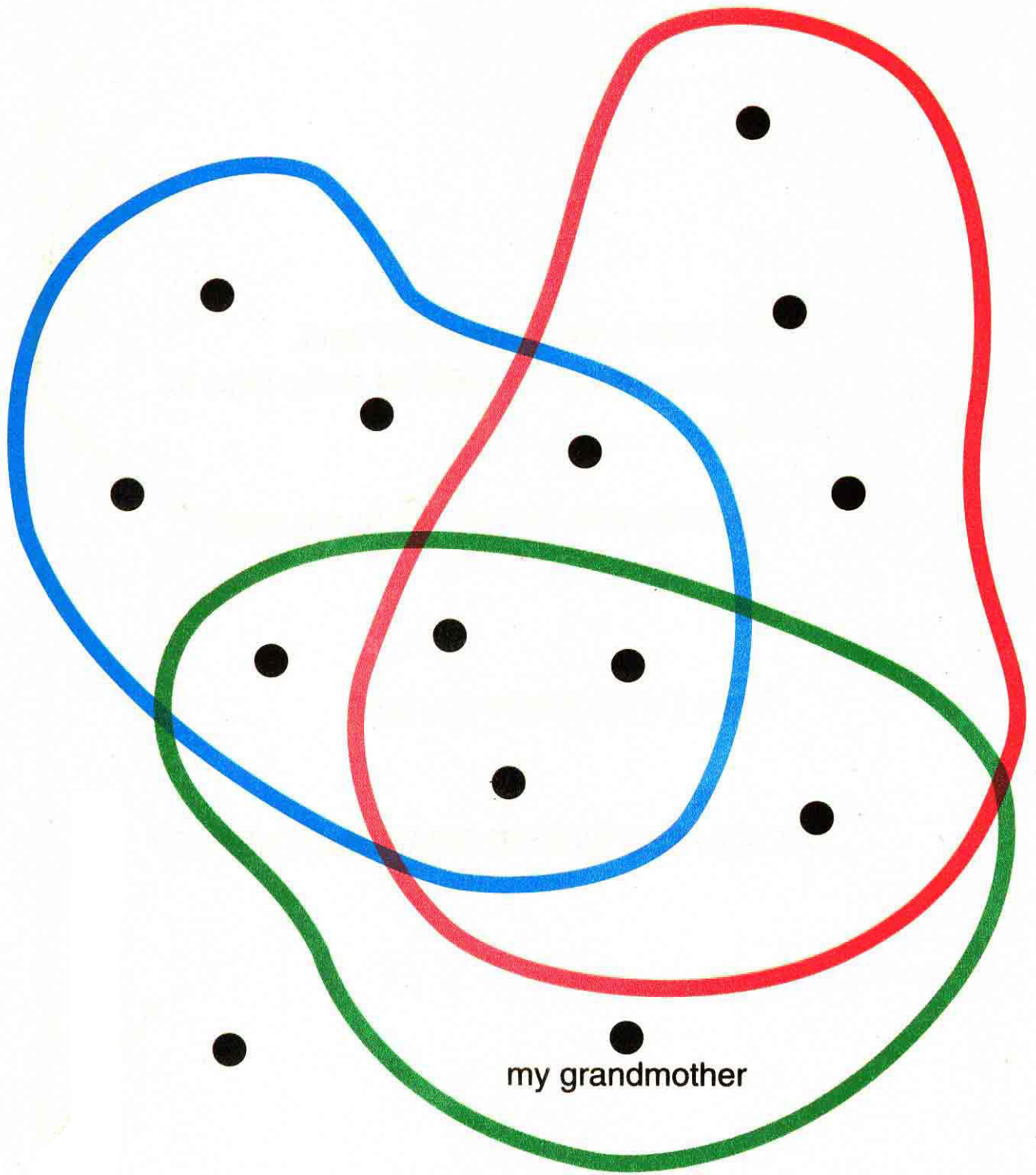
She drew a third string and said,
“Everything inside the GREEN string likes to
eat meat.”

“Grandmother, do you like to eat meat?”

“Yes.”

“Then I know where you are!”

DO YOU SEE WHERE GRANDMOTHER IS?



my grandmother

“And I also know where you are,” replied my grandmother. “Can you climb trees?”

“Yes.”

“Do you have four legs?”

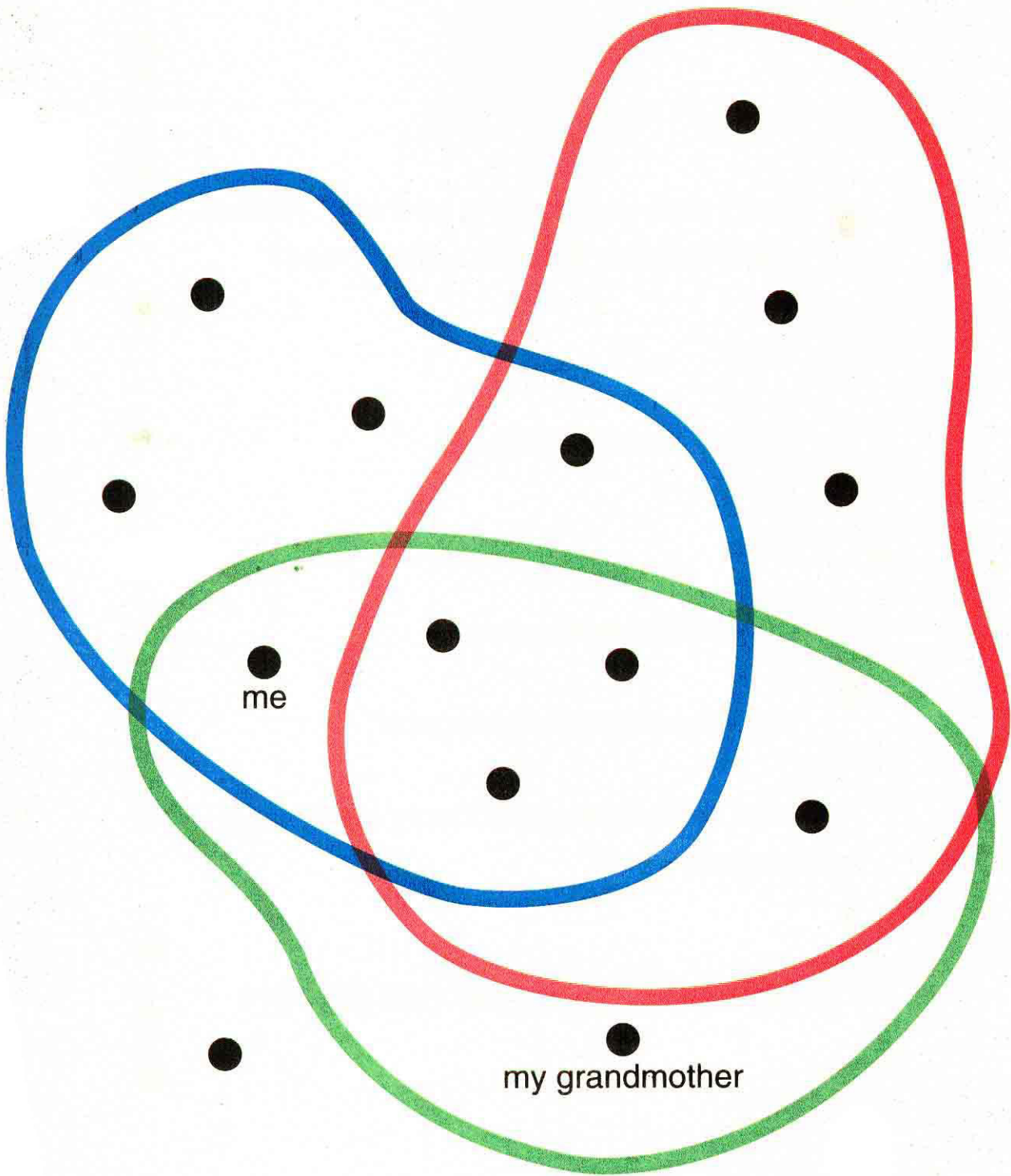
“No.”

“Do you like to eat meat?”

“Yes, especially hamburgers!”

I kept thinking and suddenly shouted, “I know where I am!”

DO YOU SEE WHERE THE BOY IS?



"And my three lovely cats? Where are they?" asked my grandmother. I was silent.

"Do they like to eat meat?"

"Yes."

"Can they climb trees?"

"Yes."

"Are they animals with four legs?"

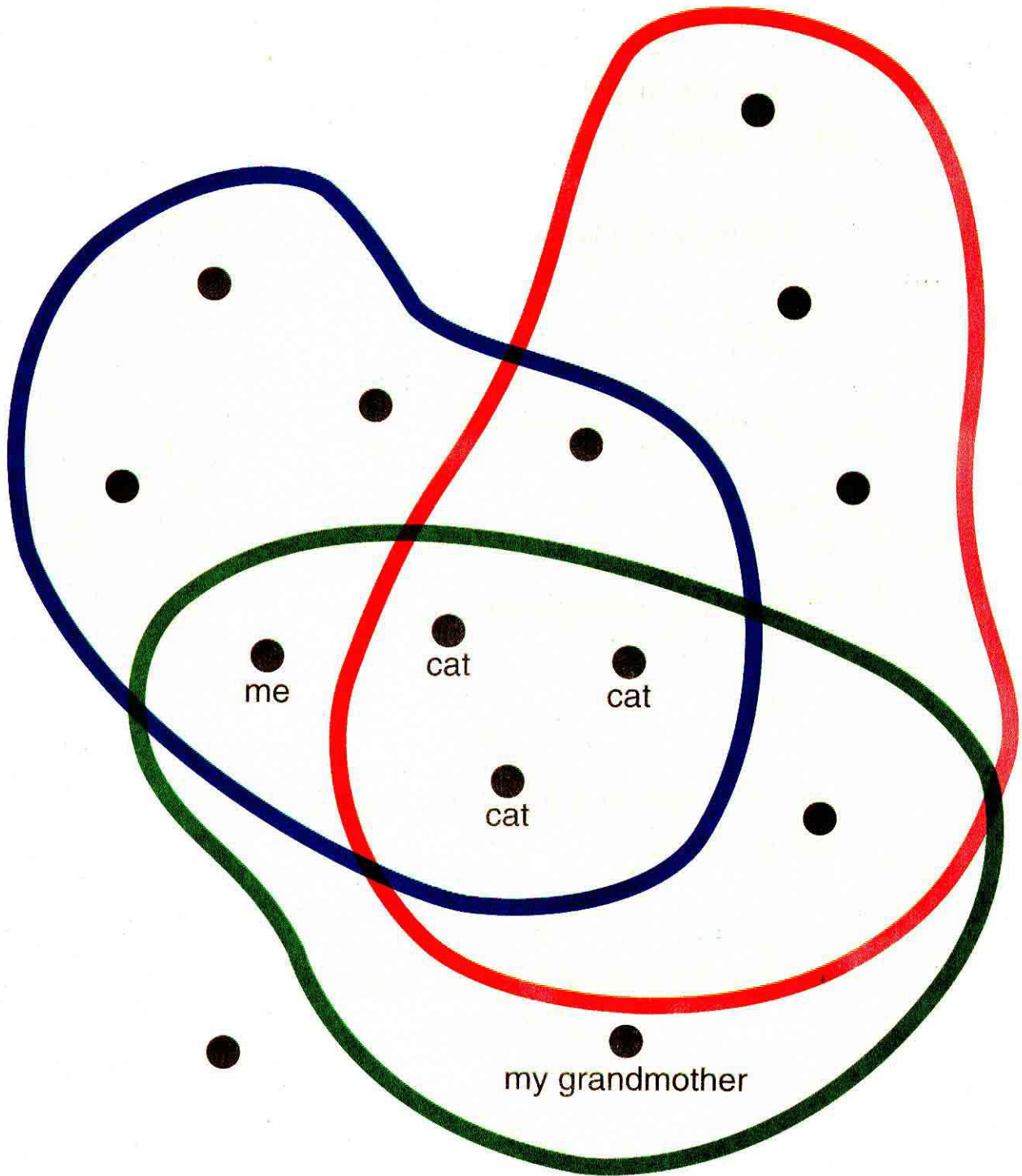
"Yes."

As I looked at the picture, I was thinking,

"Yes, yes, yes."

**DO YOU SEE WHERE THE THREE LOVELY
CATS ARE?**

“But it is easy!” I shouted. “Your three cats are in the middle!”



“Grandmother, I know where your poodle is.”

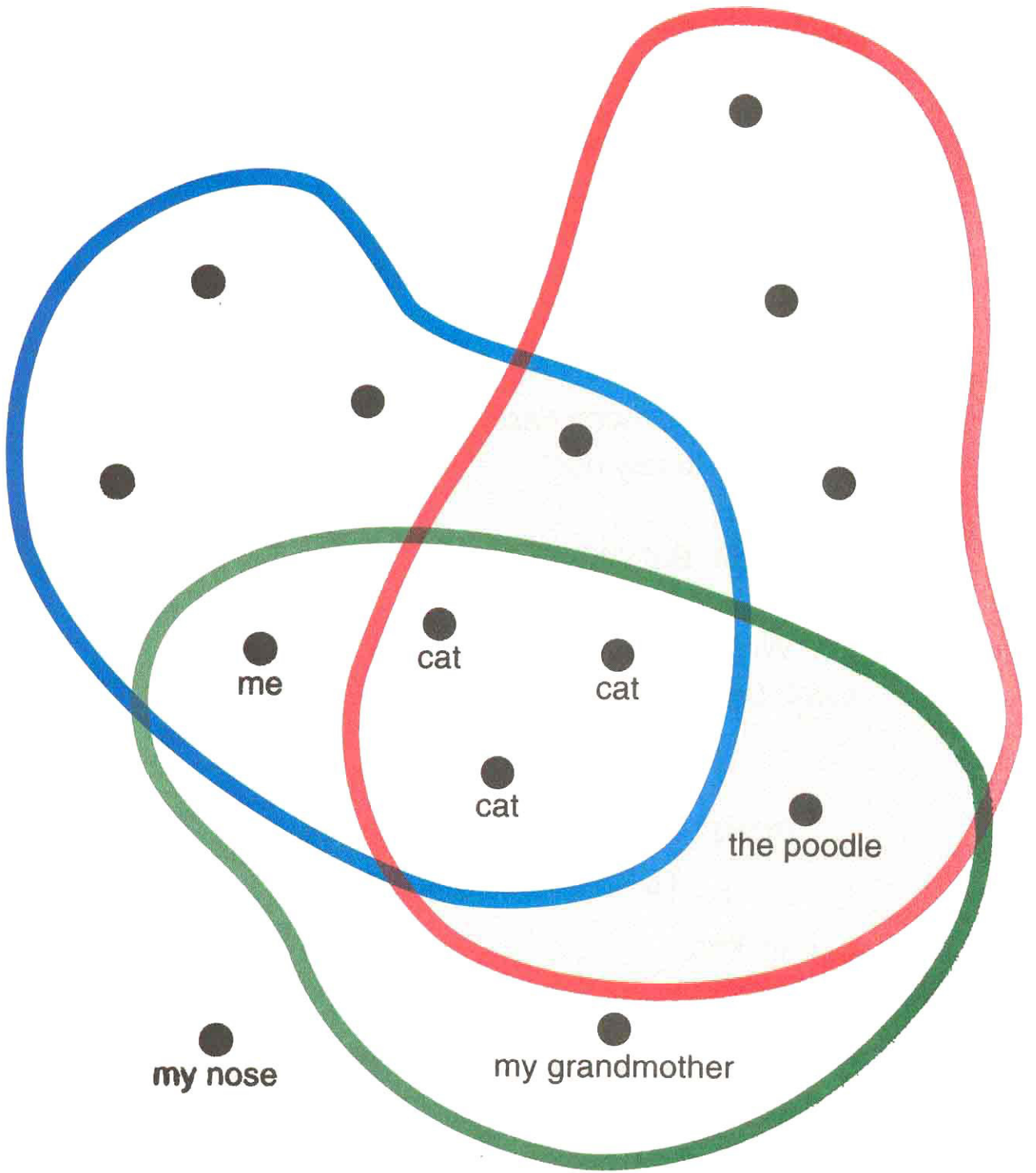
“All right, show me where.”

“A poodle has four legs but cannot climb trees—the dot for your poodle is inside the RED string and outside the BLUE string. Meat is your poodle’s favorite food, so the dot is inside the GREEN string.”

“Right!”

DO YOU SEE WHERE THE POODLE IS?

“And my nose is outside all the strings.
It has no legs at all, it cannot climb trees
(at least not by itself), and it does not like to
eat meat. In fact, noses do not eat anything
at all!”



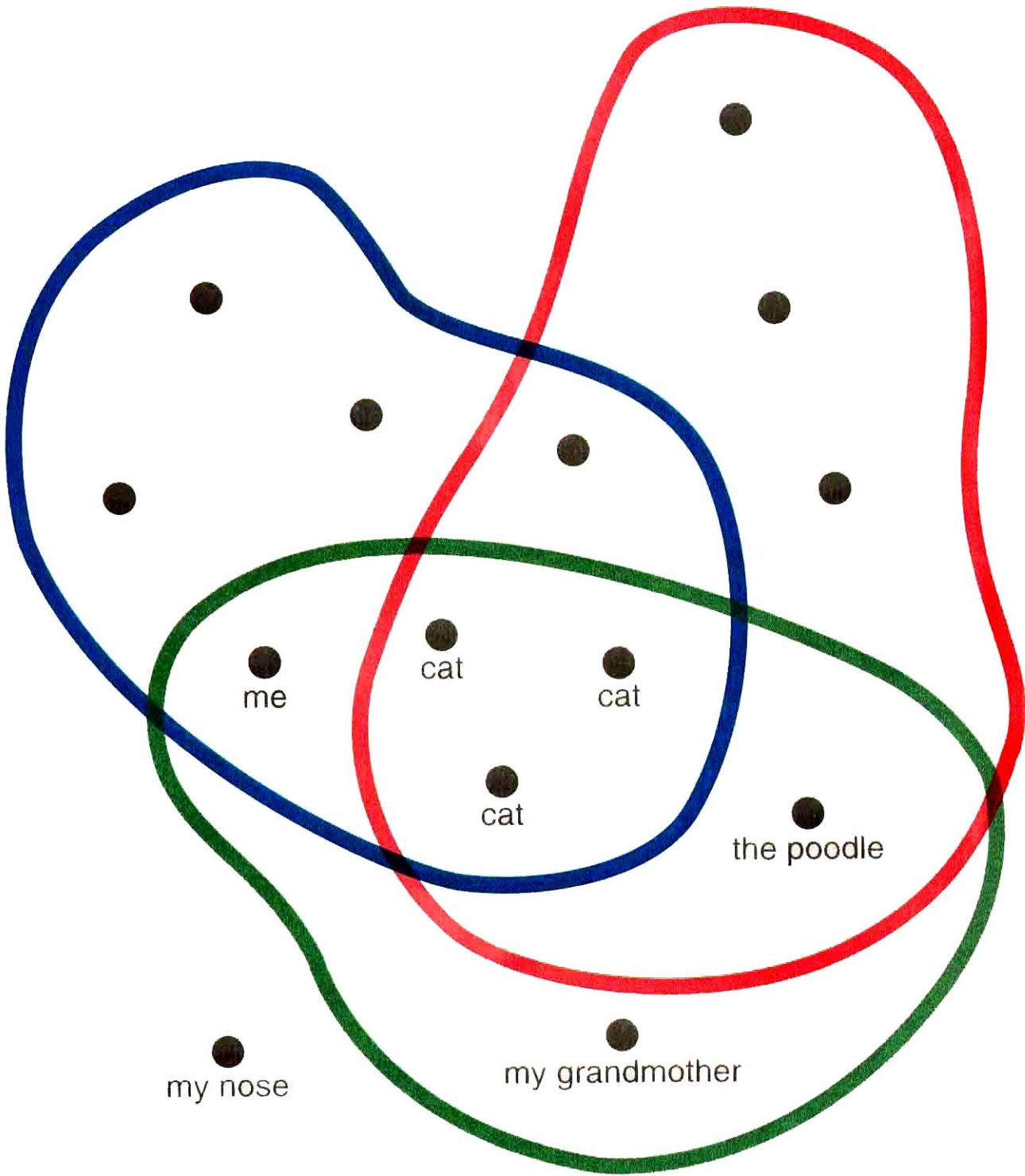
“And the three bugs, the three rabbits, and the squirrel? Where are they?” asked my grandmother.

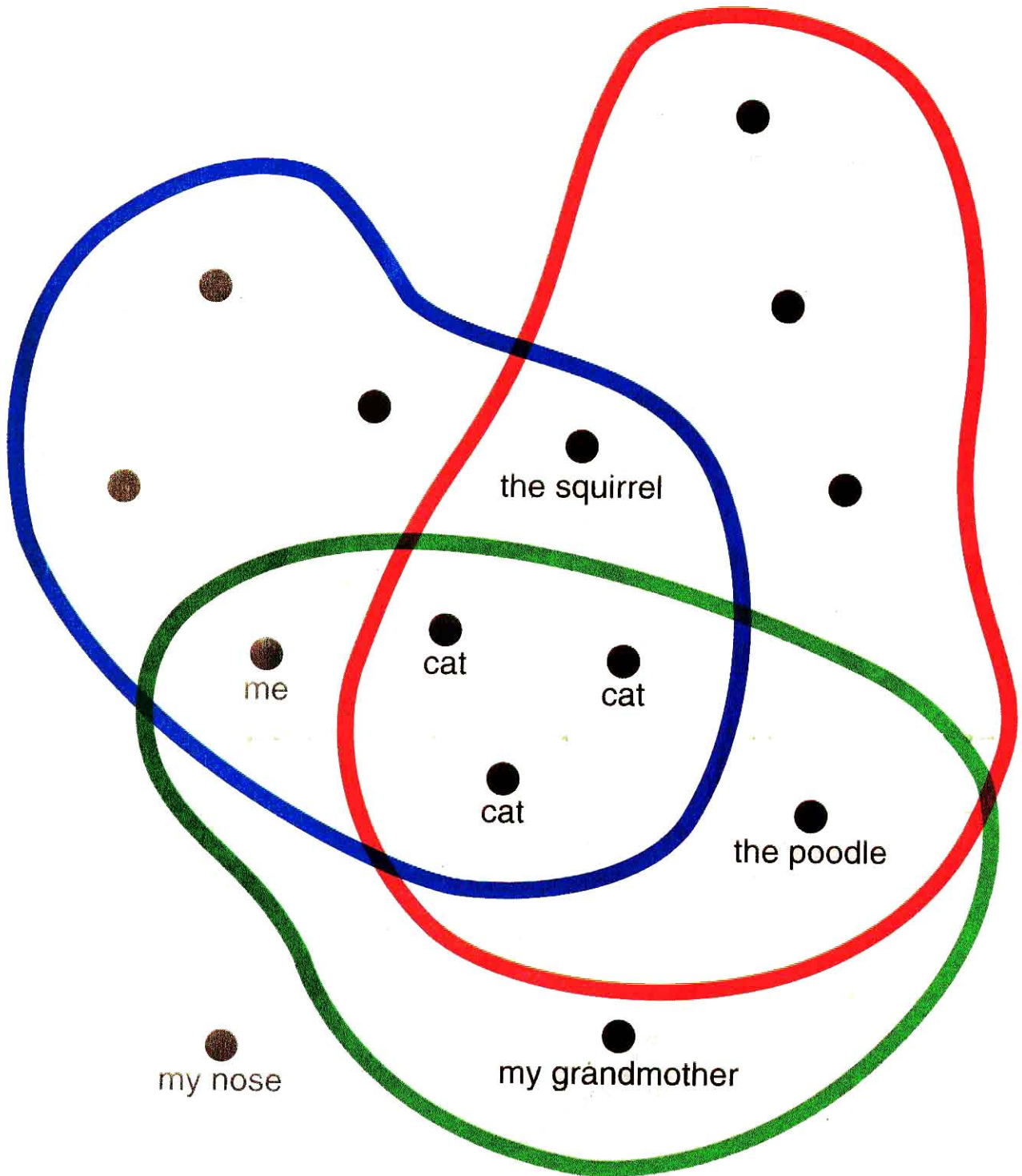
“Now it is much easier! I think the squirrel is the last lonely dot.”

“Right. But why?”

“Well, a squirrel has four legs and can climb trees, but does not eat meat.”

**POINT TO THE SQUIRREL BEFORE
TURNING THE PAGE.**





“It is getting easier and easier now. I know which dots are for the three rabbits and which are for the three plant bugs.”

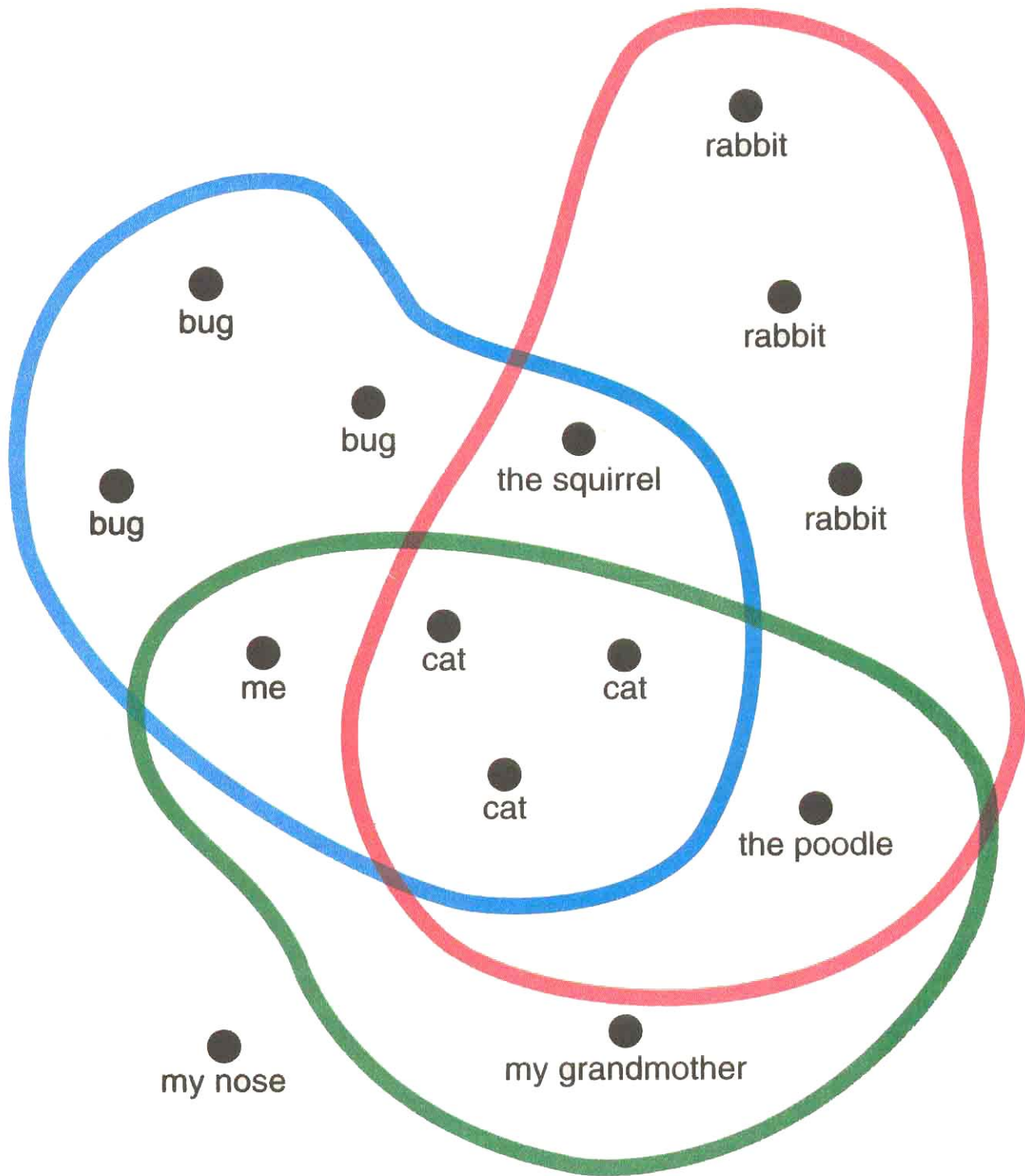
“Explain to me how you know,” said my grandmother.

“The three rabbits are inside the RED string, because they have four legs. They are outside the BLUE string, because they cannot climb trees. And they are outside the GREEN string, because they do not eat meat. And the three bugs are the three dots that are left, but I will not explain how I know. You understand very well why it is true.”

CAN YOU SHOW WHERE THE THREE
RABBITS ARE?

CAN YOU SHOW WHERE THE THREE
PLANT BUGS ARE?





"Where's My Nose?"

"Where's My Nose?" is a story about an only child whose understanding grandmother amuses him with a "detective" story about the boy, his nose, herself, her three lovely cats, three bugs, and a charming black poodle.

At first the boy is disappointed to find that his grandmother's story consists of nothing more than a picture of 14 dots, one for each of the characters. But the grandmother is patient and begins to attract the boy's interest by drawing a colorful string about all the dots for animals with four legs. As more clues are given and more strings are drawn, the boy becomes absorbed in the discussion of the picture until, finally, he solves the mystery.

If you read this story with children, allow them to pause at each picture to express their ideas about what they know about the dots. Just like the grandmother, ask thoughtful questions about the dots inside or outside one string or another.

A child who becomes involved in "Where's My Nose?" is living, for the moment, in the world of mathematics.

Stories by Frederique

Ages 5–8

The Playful Numbers
The Baby Is Born
81 Roses
One Out of Seven
I Am a Very Happy Boy
The Little Dreamer
Two by Two
The Weird Story of 24
Where's My Nose?
The Happy Puppet
The Magic Box
Summer School in the Old Days

Ages 8–12

The Little Donkey
Singing Friends
Dancing Friends
I Am Not My Name
The Square Trap
Nabu Wins an Award

Ages 10–14

The Hidden Treasure
A Valentine Mystery
Election in the Number World
A Very Strange Neighborhood