

SMALL ALISON

(Excited to show him.)

In school we're learning maps and globes and Miss Windsor said draw a map of all the places people in our family have been to.

BRUCE

Aha.

SMALL ALISON

They're for showing tomorrow in class.

BRUCE

What's this?

SMALL ALISON

Okay, so: This is a keystone because Pennsylvania is the Keystone state.

BRUCE

This square?

SMALL ALISON

That's Beech Creek, see? That's the bridge, that's the ford, that's the creek, the Fun Home, our house, Aunt Jane and Uncle Randy's house-- That's Germany! Ooh, I know. John, Christian, me. See? Floating in bubbles because we're not born yet--

BRUCE

Okay, that's interesting but let me show you how you can make it better. This is visually confusing; you've got about ten different drawings so you can't really see any of them. Pick one.

SMALL ALISON

But this is a cartoon and in a cartoon there's all different parts.

BRUCE

But we can make it better than a cartoon.

SMALL ALISON

I like cartoons.

BRUCE

Sure, cartoons are fun but I'm showing you here how to do something substantial and beautiful. Listen to me, you have the potential to become a real artist. Do you know that? You do. But that means you have to learn the craft, you have to study the rules. Let's talk about composition. You've got too much going on here. Pick one area.

SMALL ALISON

The Keystone State.

BRUCE

That's too much. Watch this. I'm going to draw our mountains. See that? How I'm shading them? See how that gives them dimension.

SMALL ALISON

I want the whole state.

BRUCE

I'm explaining to you that you can't do that.

SMALL ALISON

Let me try.

BRUCE

Alison, this is the way it should look.

SMALL ALISON

But I liked the way mine was.