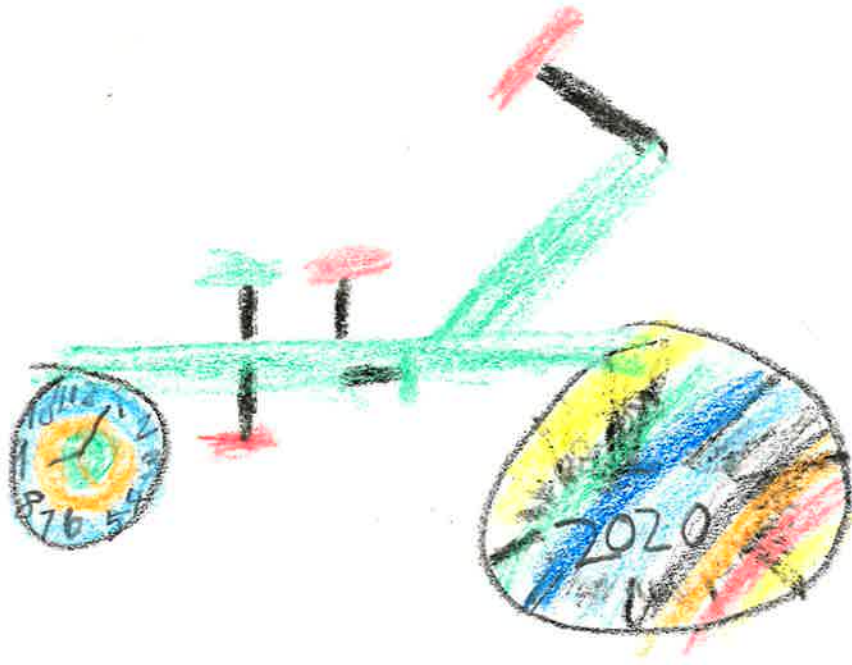


Bicycle Brothers



**Written and Illustrated by
Noel Kwon Riede**





Flint and Alabaster are two brothers, who love to explore. One day, they found a strange colorful bicycle with two seats! The front wheel had the number 2020, and the back wheel had a clock on it!

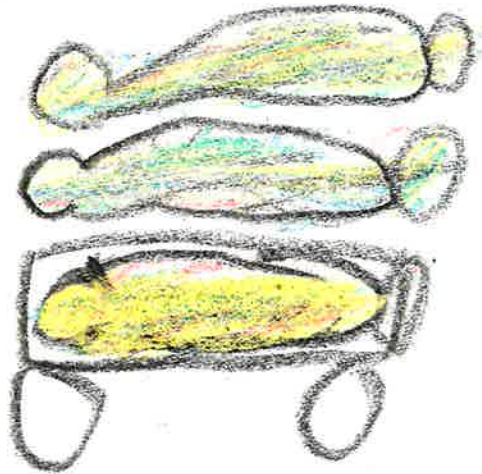
“Wow, this bicycle’s wheels show the exact time for now!” said Flint!

“Let’s try it out,” shouted Alabaster.

The virus of the year had been keeping the boys cooped up in the house with nothing to do, so the boys hopped on with excitement.

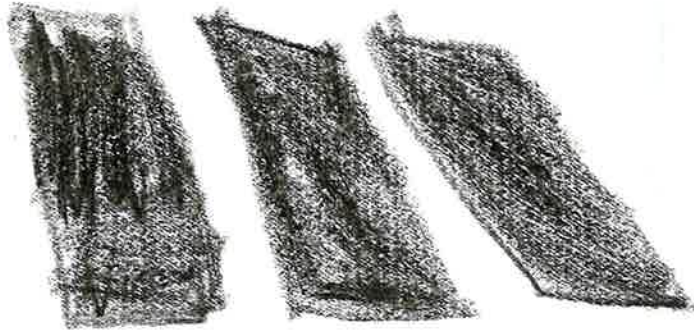
As they pedaled, the hands on the clock and the year on the front wheel started to spin quickly. The boys were amazed and held on. The bicycle ran into a rose bush, and amazingly it went right through it!





When they opened their eyes, they noticed that the front wheel now said 1346.

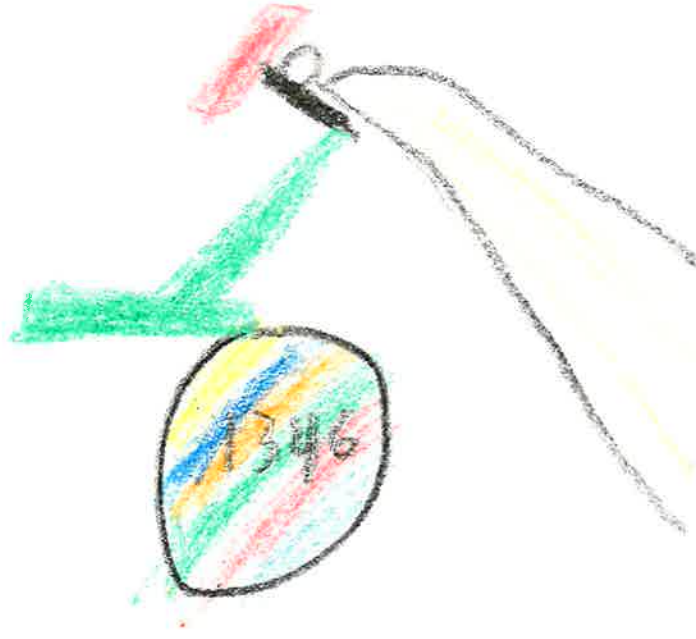
Soon, they saw people digging thousands of big holes. There was a terrible stench of rotting flesh, and some people were crying. Then, the boys saw a large wagon filled with big bundles.



Flint and Alabaster went to one woman and asked, “Why are they digging? What are these bundles? And what is this bad smell?”

The woman answered, “Don’t you know about the Plague? So many people are dying. God must be punishing us. I lost my whole family!”





Suddenly, the bicycle's light on the handle bar projected letters on the ground:

“In Medieval Europe, the bubonic plague took thousands of lives. It was caused by bacteria from rats. Fleas moved this bacteria from rats to humans. It was infectious. People developed black and red dots and vomited blood. It lasted six years.”

They quickly hopped onto the bicycle and the front wheel number changed back.

As they shot out of the rose bush, Flint shouted, “Wow, this bicycle can take us back in time!”

Alabaster said, “That was a scary time travel! Now we know that there were pandemics back then, too!”



The two boys felt relieved to be out of the Medieval time and were glad that scientists were developing vaccines.

They wondered what other adventures they might have on the bicycle.

- The End -

