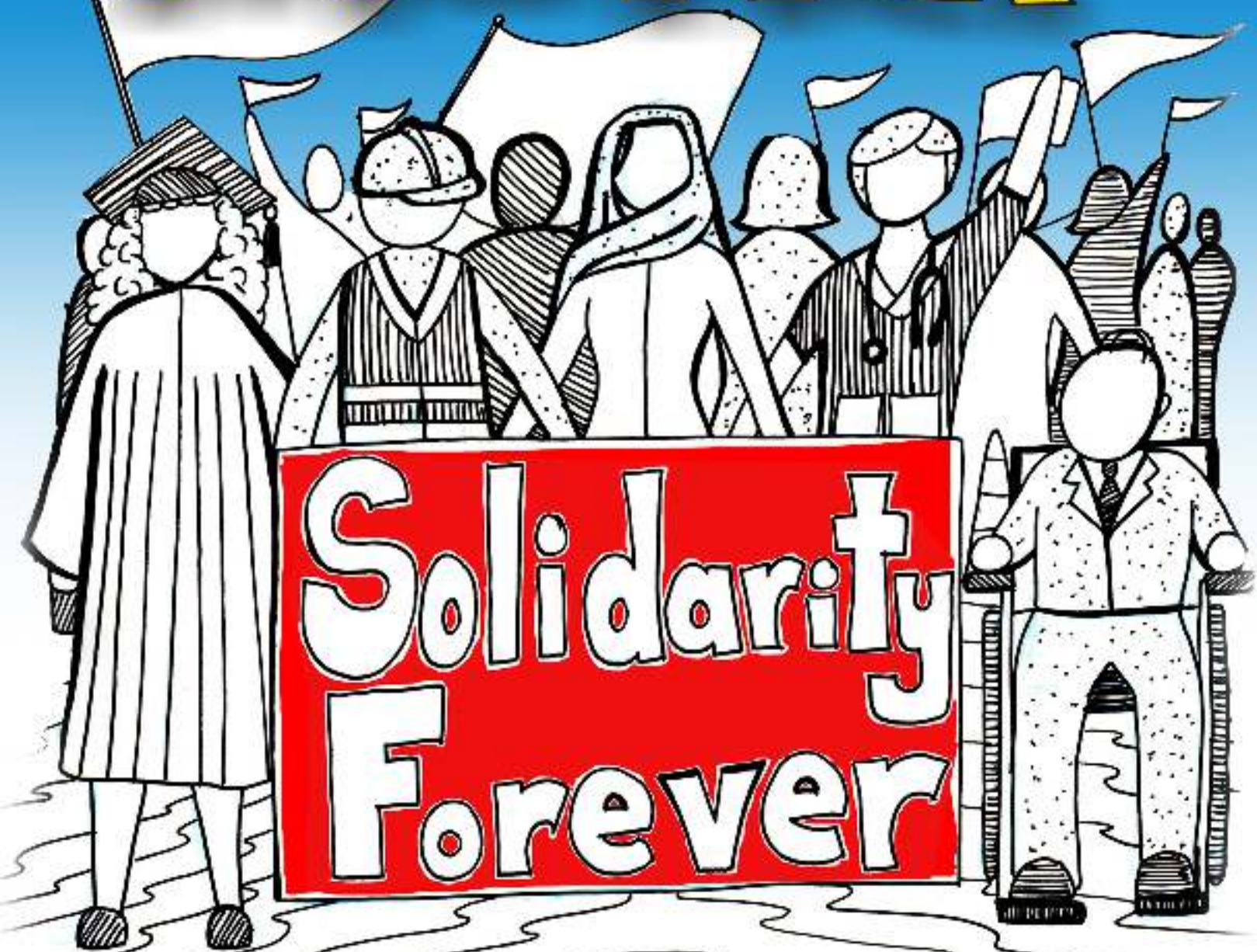


# Unions Matter



ILLUSTRATIONS BY CATHERINE GIBBS

Published by the National Union  
of Public and General Employees 2017



**W**hen the union's inspiration  
through the workers' blood shall run,  
There can be no power greater  
anywhere beneath the sun;  
Yet what force on earth is weaker  
than the feeble strength of one,  
**But the union makes us strong.**

Is there aught we hold in common  
with the greedy parasite,  
Who would lash us into serfdom  
and would crush us with his might?  
Is there anything left to us  
but to organize and fight?  
**For the union makes us strong.**





Ali 2016

It is we who plowed the prairies;  
built the cities where they trade;  
Dug the mines and built the workshops,  
endless miles of railroad laid;  
Now we stand outcast and starving  
midst the wonders we have made;  
**But the union makes us strong.**

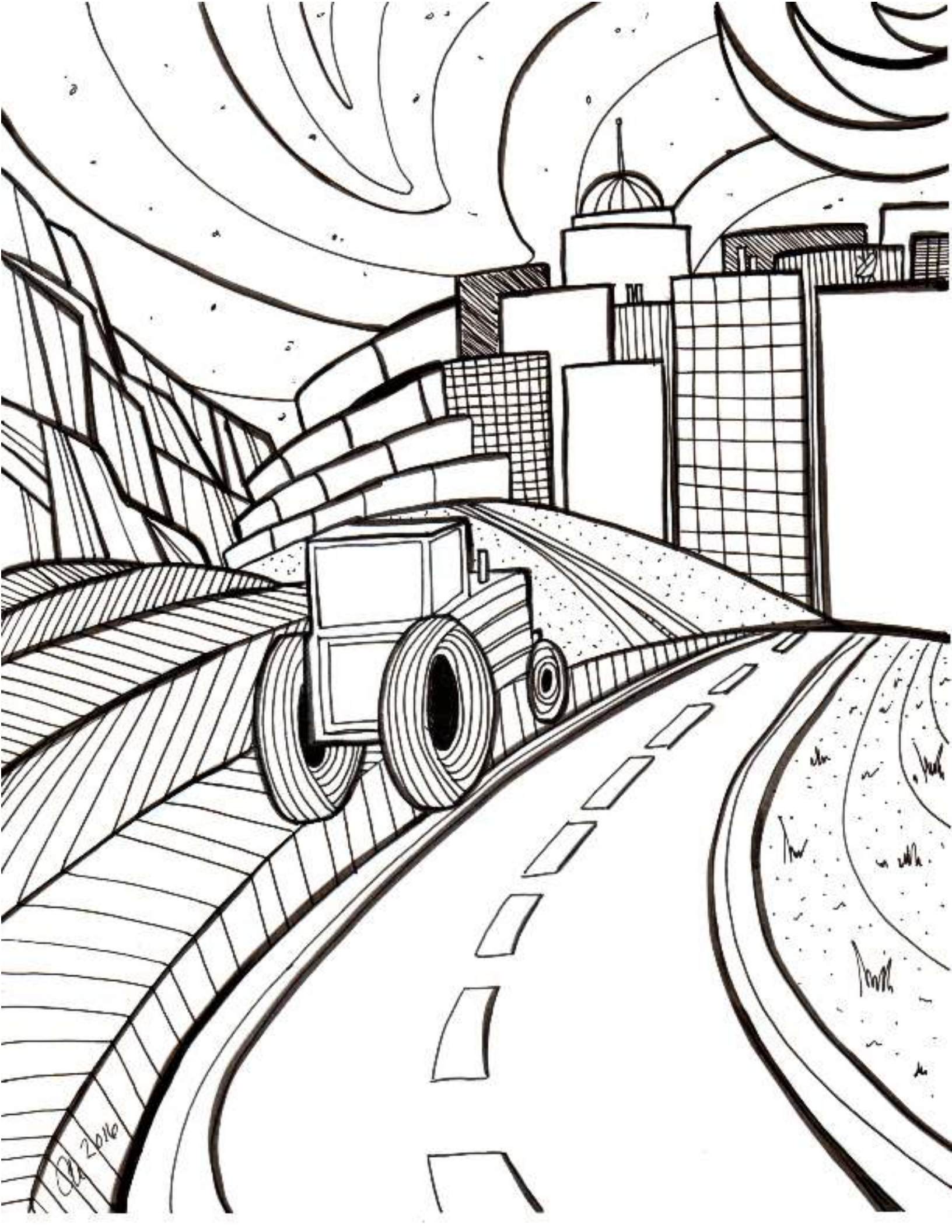
All the world that's owned by idle drones  
is ours and ours alone.

We have laid the wide foundations;  
built it skyward stone by stone.

It is ours, not to slave in,  
but to master and to own.

**While the union makes us strong.**



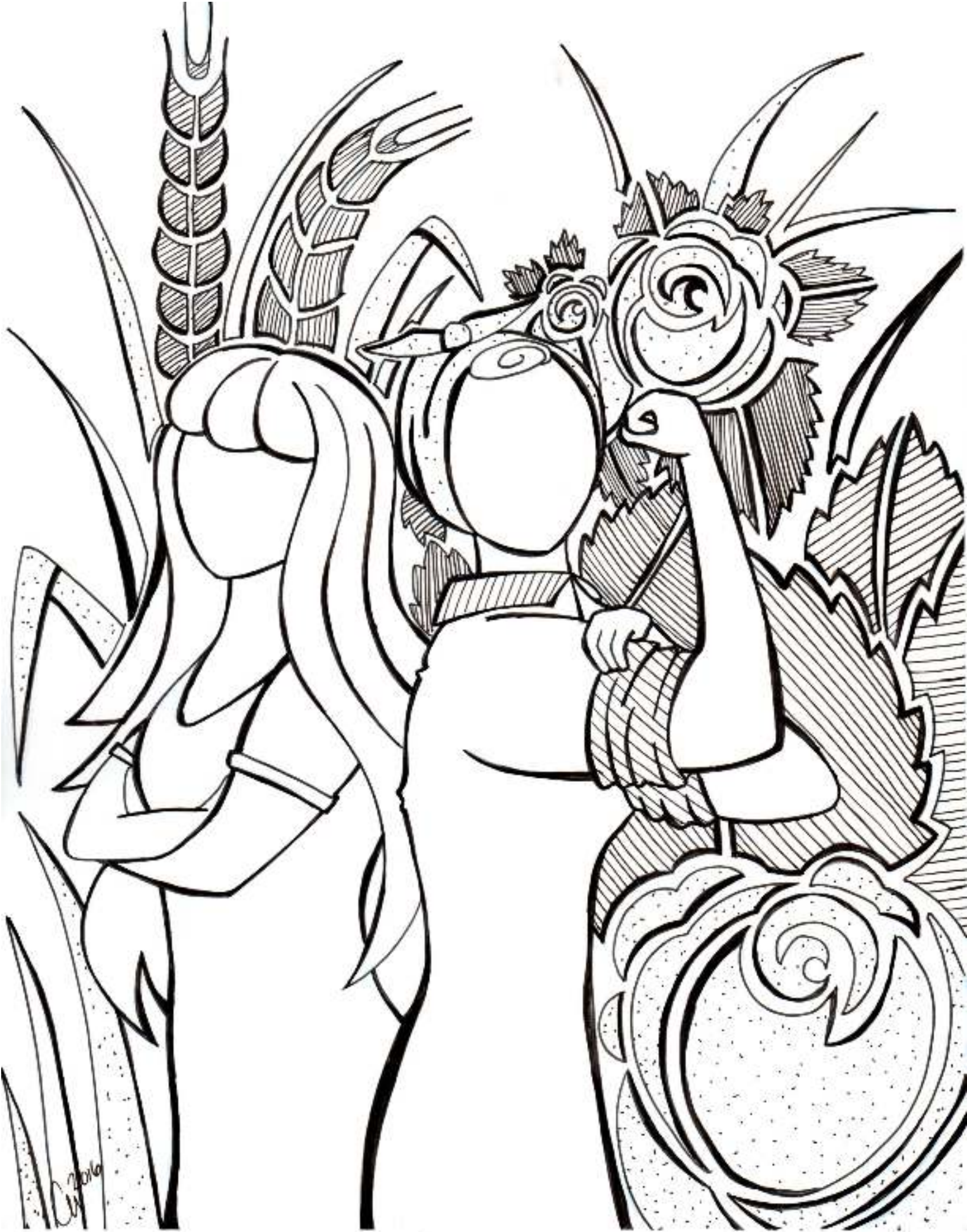


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They have taken untold millions  
that they never toiled to earn,  
But without our brain and muscle  
not a single wheel can turn.  
We can break their haughty power,  
gain our freedom when we learn  
**That the union makes us strong.**

In our hands is placed a power  
greater than their hoarded gold,  
Greater than the might of armies,  
multiplied a thousand-fold.  
We can bring to birth a new world  
from the ashes of the old  
**For the union makes us strong.**







We're the women of the union  
in the forefront of the fight,  
We fight for women's issues,  
we fight for women's rights,  
We're prepared to fight for freedom,  
we're prepared to stand our ground,  
**Women make the union strong.**

Through our sisters and our brothers,  
we can make our union strong,  
For respect and equal value  
we have done without too long,  
We no longer have to tolerate  
injustices and wrongs,  
**For the union makes us strong.**



Jw 2016



They say our day is over;  
they say our time is through,  
They say you need no union  
if your collar isn't blue,  
Well that's just another lie  
the boss is telling you,  
**For the Union makes us strong!**

They divide us by our colour;  
they divide us by our tongue,  
They divide us men and women;  
they divide us old and young,  
But they'll tremble at our voices,  
when they hear these verses sung,  
**For the Union makes us strong!**



Solidarity  
Forever



NUPGE  
CANADA

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