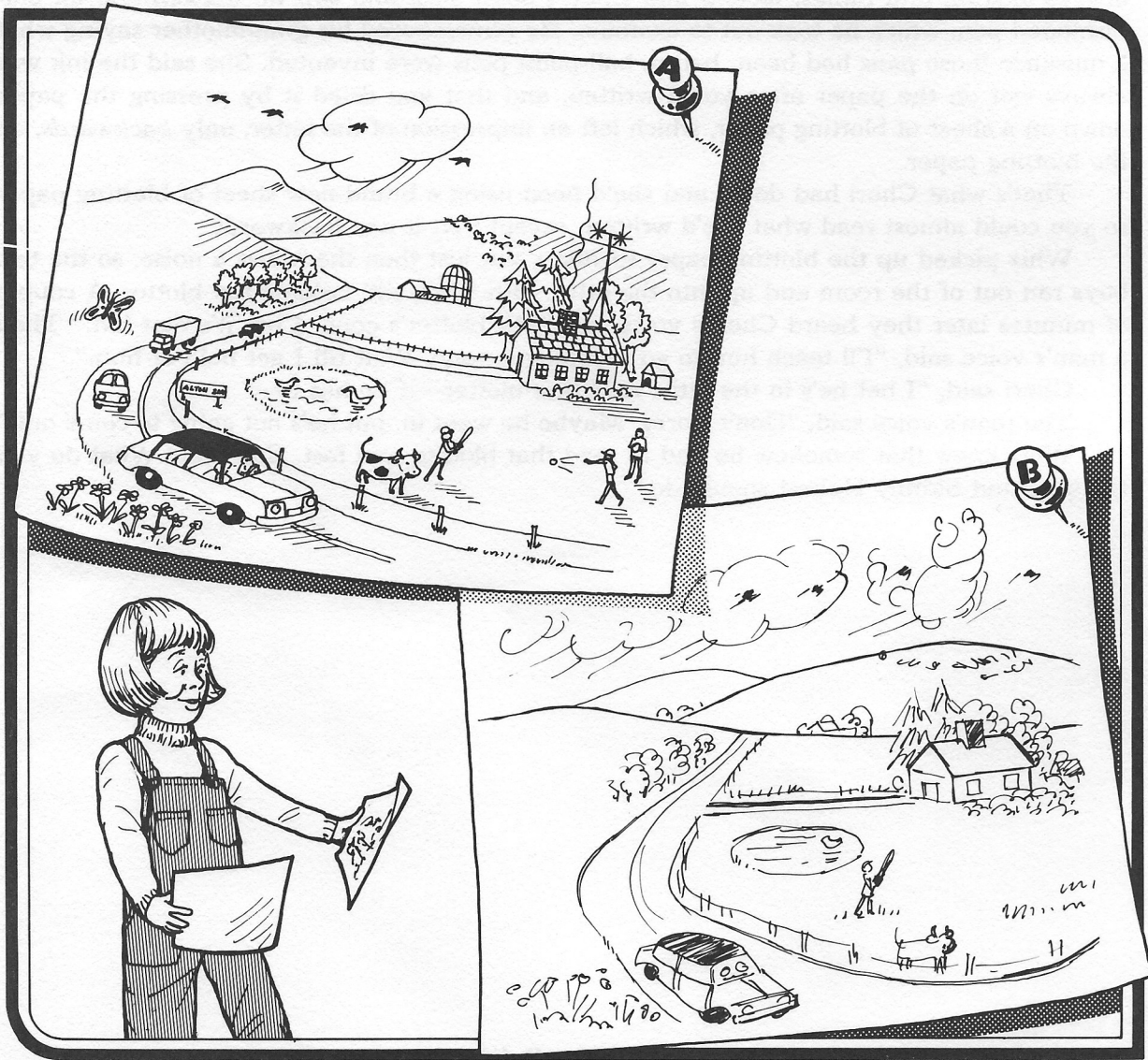


# SEEING DOUBLE

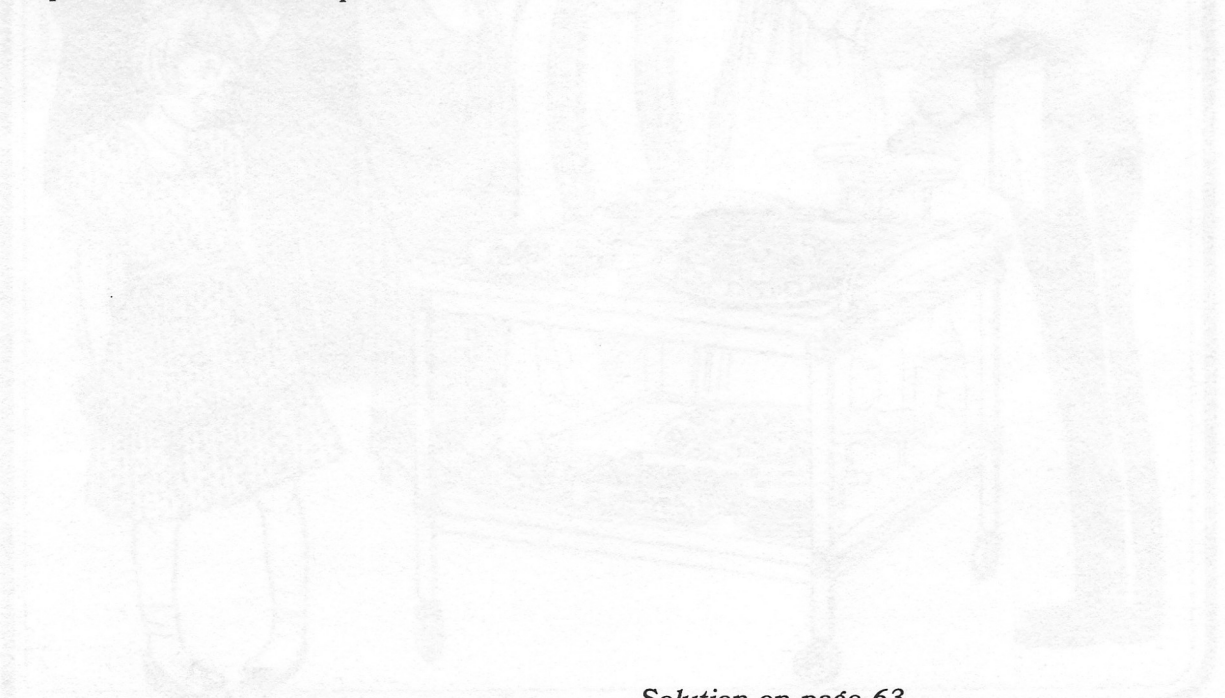


**M**artha McGonnigle thought that a chair was a chair and a mountain was a mountain, and each was the same thing for everybody. But her parents tried to explain how the world and everything in it looked different to everybody. They said that we were all individuals, and that no two individuals were exactly alike, and that therefore everyone sees things differently.

Martha didn't understand what her parents were saying, so she brought up the subject to the principal at her school, who suggested that Martha try an experiment. So Martha asked two friends to sit outside the gym door and sketch what they saw, while Martha watched them to make sure that neither one of them looked at what the other was drawing. The friends were Lily Valley, who always got A's in science; and Violet Brookside, who didn't do well in science, but was a whiz at English and history.

Of the two sketches shown here, "A" is by Lily and "B" is by Violet. They show different types of minds and different interests. For example, I once went to a movie in which there was a prairie scene where the outlaw was preparing to ambush the sheriff. I saw merely the action, but the professional bird watcher with whom I discussed the movie later asked me whether I'd noticed the Western Mockingbird. I hadn't, but to him, it was the high point of the entire movie.

What differences can you find between "A" and "B"? Why do you think each girl emphasized what she emphasized?



*Solution on page 63*