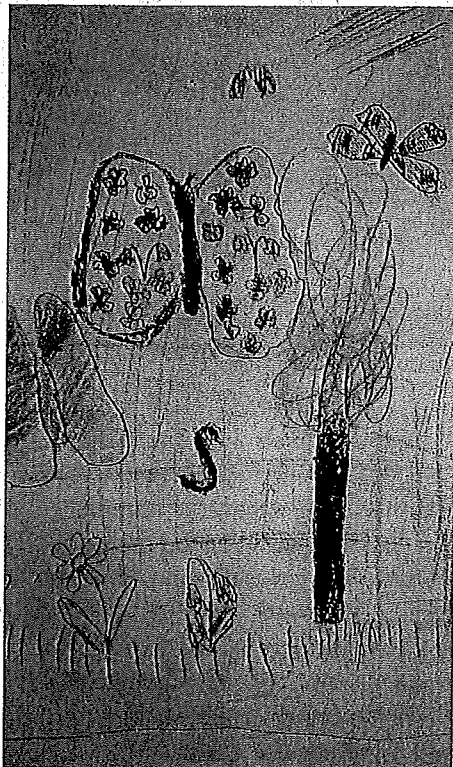
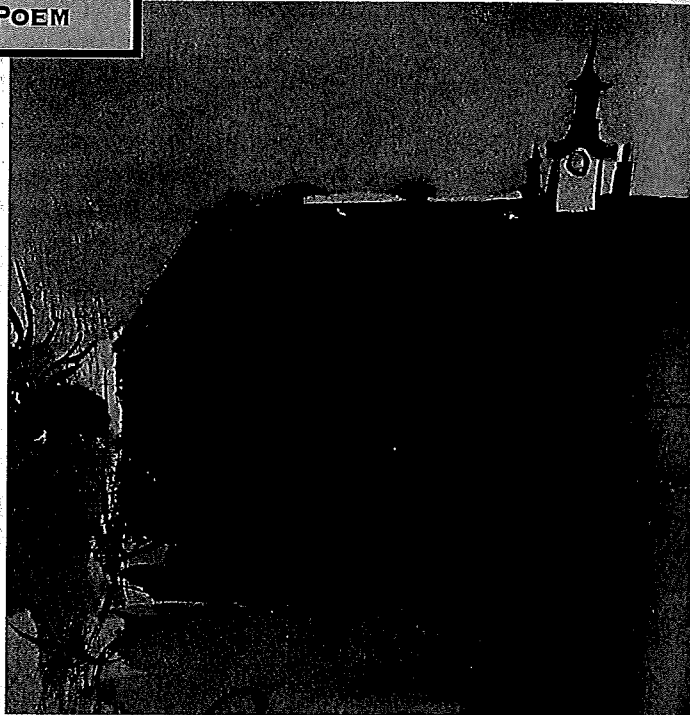


*The Nazis used the Czech town of Terezín as a concentration camp between 1941 and 1945. From 1942 to 1944, a total of 15,000 children passed through the camp. Only about 100 of them survived. Pavel Friedmann, the writer of this poem, was one of the young people imprisoned in the camp. He died in Auschwitz in September 1944.*

(Right) Terezín Barracks (detail) by Sonja Valdstein. (Below) *Flower and Butterfly* (detail) by Marika Friedman.

From *I never saw another butterfly* (Schocken Books, 1993). Courtesy U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.



## The Butterfly

Pavel Friedmann

The last, the very last,  
So richly, brightly, dazzlingly yellow.  
Perhaps if the sun's tears would sing  
against a white stone . . .

5 Such, such a yellow  
Is carried lightly 'way up high.  
It went away I'm sure because it wished to  
kiss the world goodbye.

For seven weeks I've lived in here,  
10 Penned up inside this ghetto  
But I have found my people here.  
The dandelions call to me  
And the white chestnut candles in the court.  
Only I never saw another butterfly.

15 That butterfly was the last one.  
Butterflies don't live in here,  
in the ghetto.