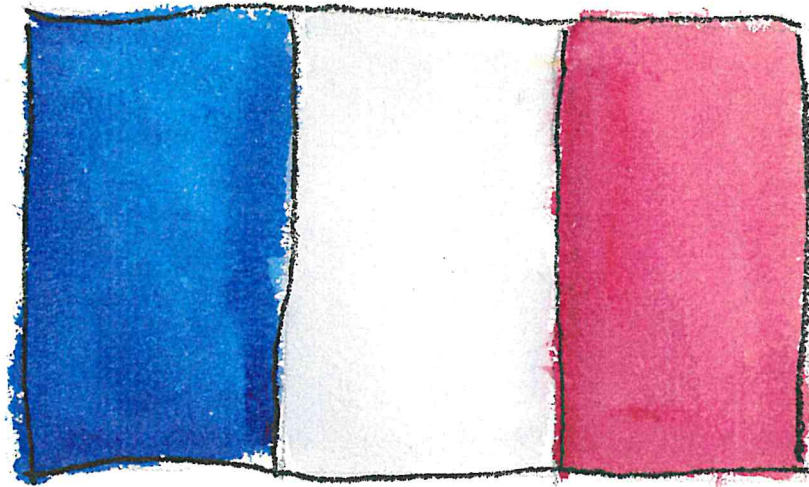


St. Joan of Arc.

Written and Illustrated by Lily Drennen



Hundreds of years ago France
and England fought a long war.
Many of the French people suffered.



In a small town called Domremy, a young peasant girl lived during that time and felt sad for those who were suffering. She helped those she could and wanted only to help France.

One day in her garden, Joan began to see visions. The saints in her visions told her she would help the dauphin, Charles, become King. Many people believed that the current French King was not the true king.

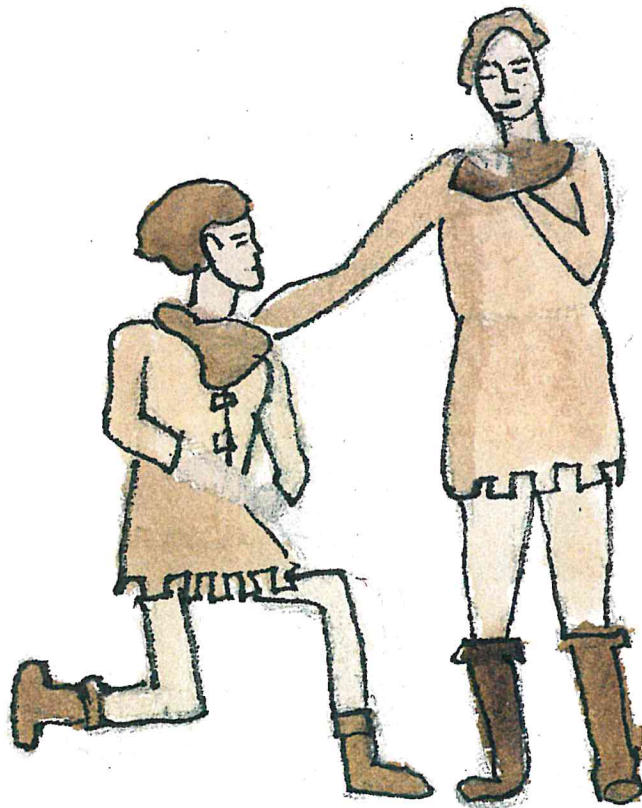


A few years later Joan convinced a French leader to take her to meet Charles. People began to hear about the girl who spoke to angels and who was going to save France.

The visions told her to cut her hair and dress as a boy, which she obeyed.



Joan finally met the dauphin and told him about her visions and mission. He listened and agreed to the plan to help him become king.





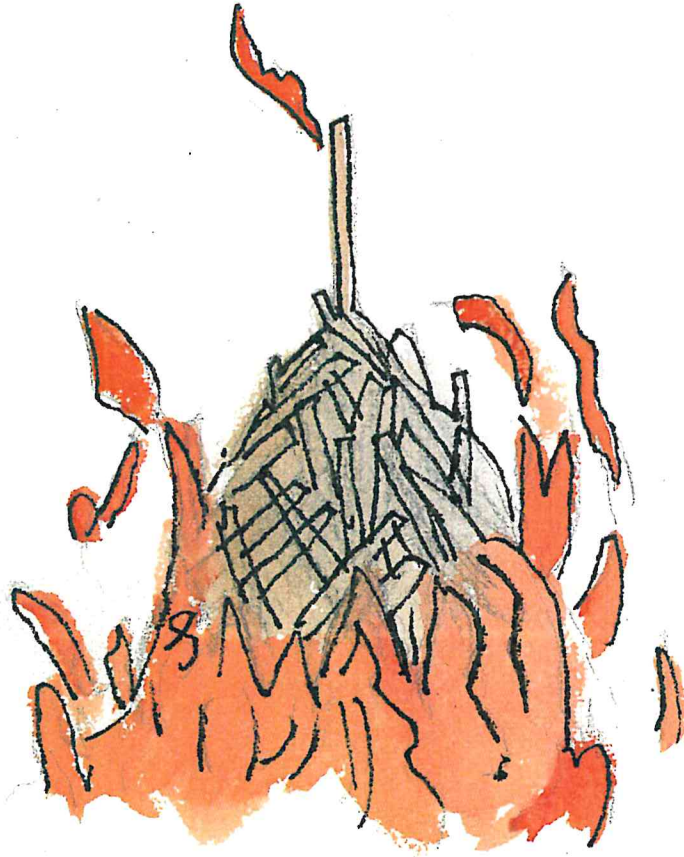
Joan dressed in armor and rode before the French army and helped rescue Orleans. Joan was injured but was able to return to battle and her banner gave the French courage.



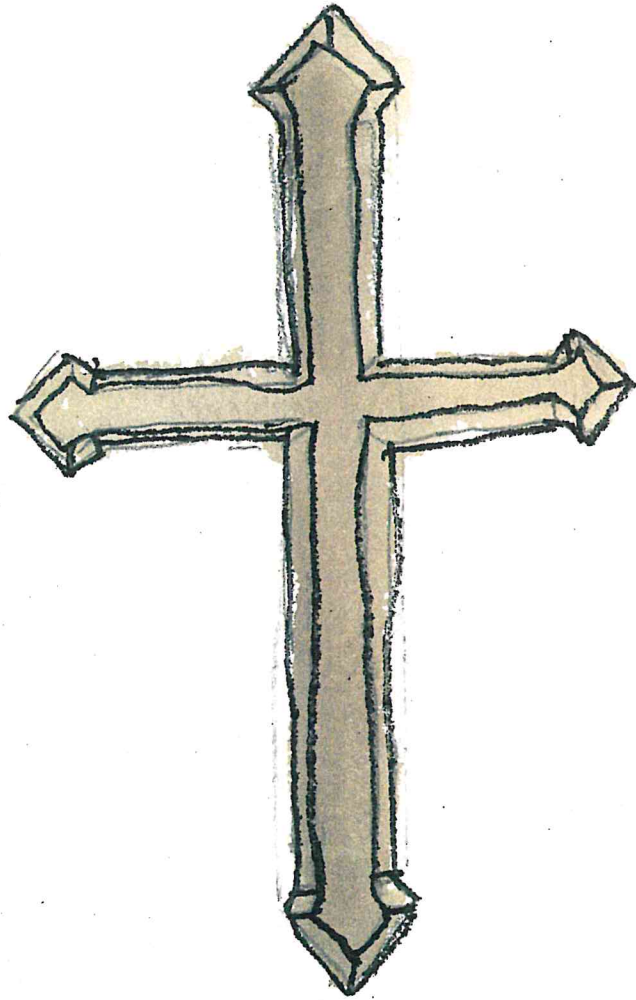
After this victory, Charles still needed to go to Reims to be crowned King. Many English were between Orleans and Reims, but Joan led the soldiers and the English fled. The dauphin was then crowned Charles the 7th of France at Reims.



Joan continued to fight for the French and during one battle she was left outside city gates and captured by the English. The Catholic Church did not believe that Joan had seen visions and wanted to put her on trial.



At the time, people who were believed to not follow church teaching were sometimes killed. Though Joan never admitted to any wrongdoing it was decided she should die. She was killed by fire.



Joan dies so patiently and honorably her death is regretted and she is now considered by the Catholic Church to be a Saint. Over the years people grew to love her, especially in France. She is known around the world as a woman of great faith and bravery.