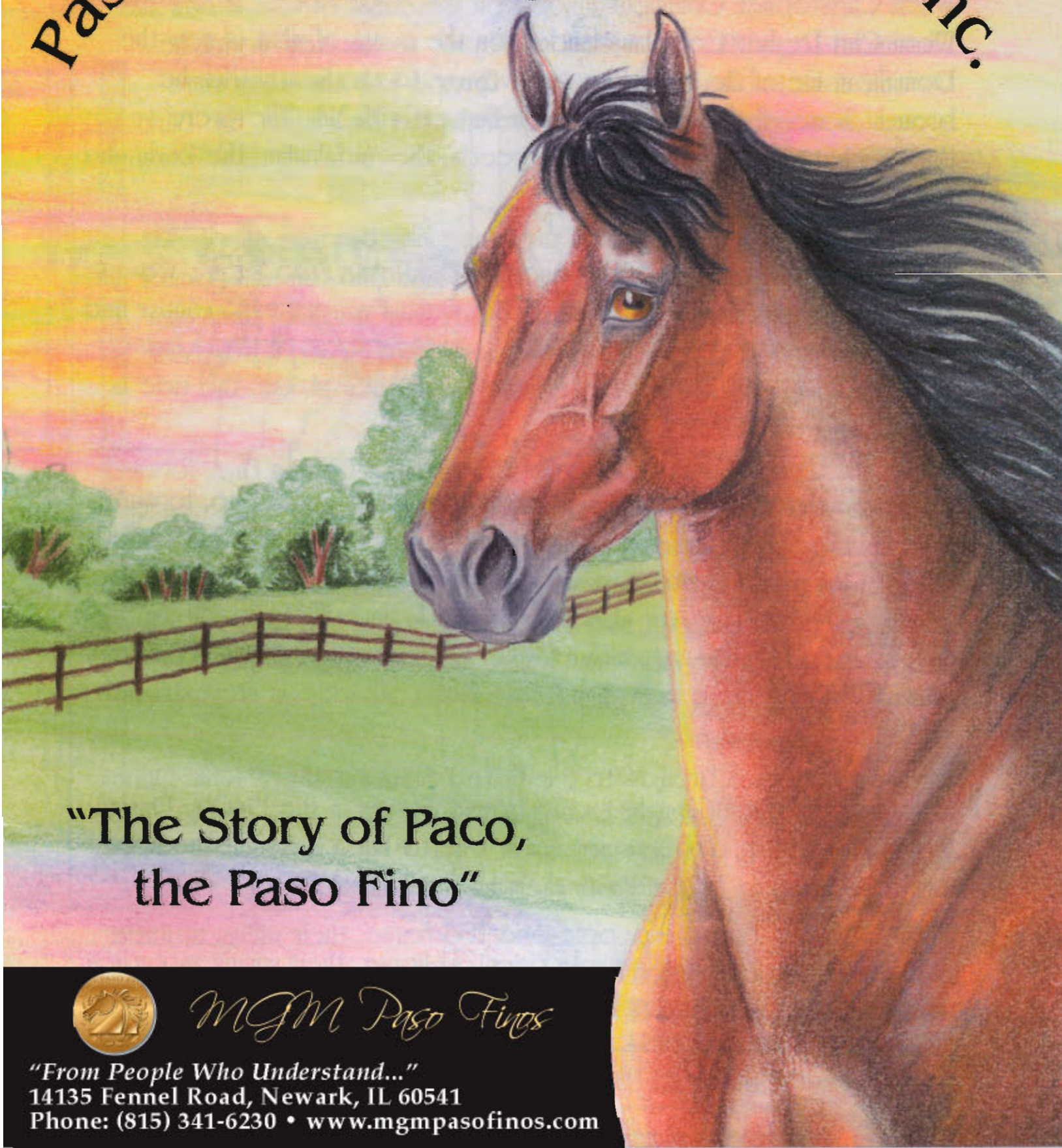


Paso Fino Horse Association, Inc. Coloring Book



"The Story of Paco,
the Paso Fino"



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The Paso Fino Horse

When Christopher Columbus landed on the coast of what is now the Dominican Republic, on his second voyage to the New world, he brought some of the finest horses in Europe with him. They were horses chosen from several great breeds: the Andalusian, the Barb and the now extinct Spanish Jennett.

The Conquistadors called them the horse with the "fine step". We know them today as the Paso Fino. The Paso Fino can walk, canter and gallop like any other horse, however, they have a gait of their own which they naturally prefer. There is no jolt in their stride, the ride is smooth and even.

There are three forward speeds of the gait: the Classic Fino, forward speed is very slow and the footfall is extremely rapid, it is still smooth to ride; the Paso Corto, forward speed is moderate, about the same speed as a trot, however absolutely smooth; and the Paso Largo, the fastest speed of the gait, with a longer extension and stride. Forward speed varies with the individual horse. Again, all speeds are extremely smooth.

The Paso Fino was brought to the United States in the 1940's. During World War II, U.S. Soldiers serving in Puerto Rico, brought the horse with the smooth ride home with them to the United States.

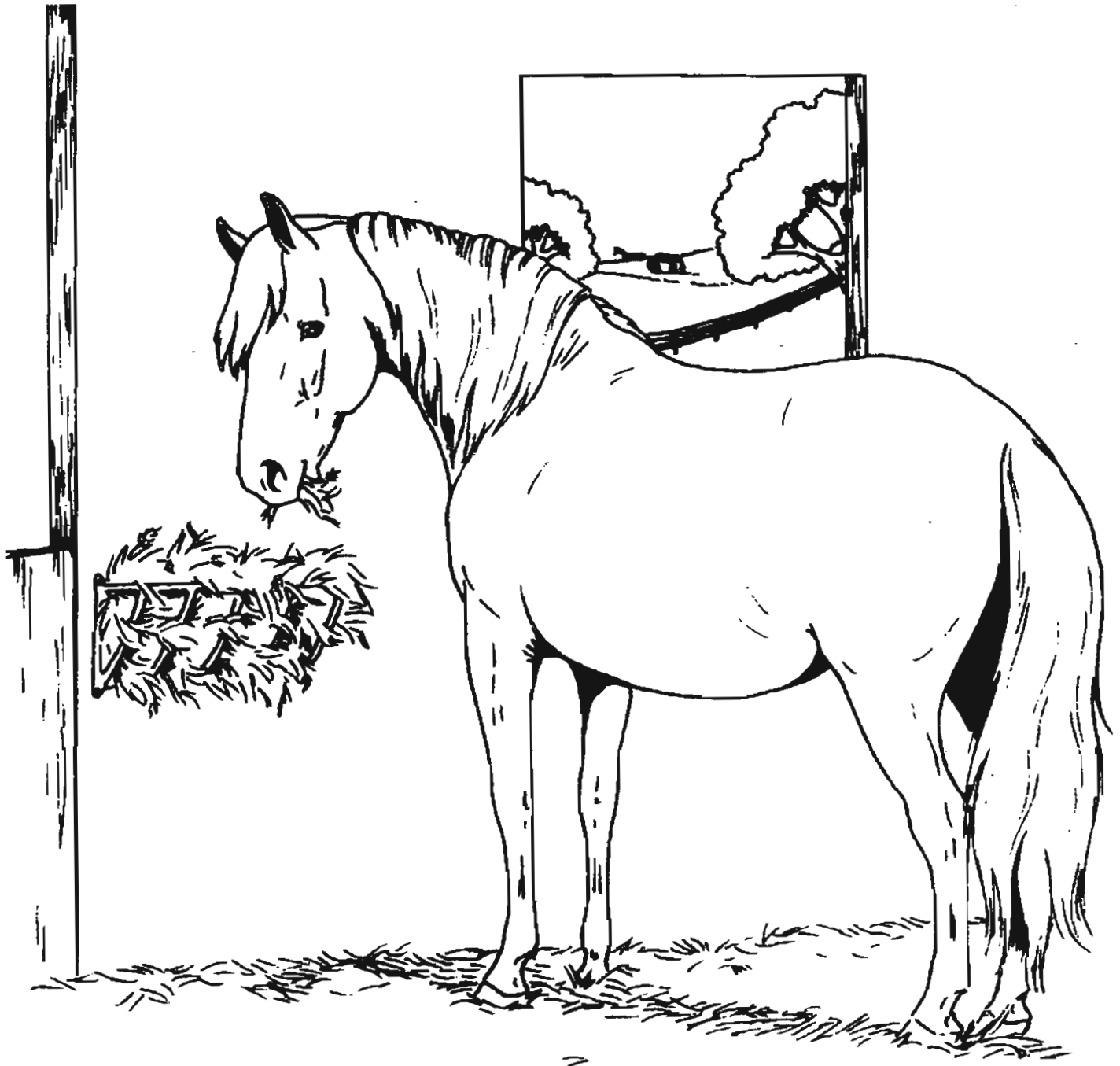
While the Paso Fino is a people oriented horse, their willing attitude makes them a great choice for kids. They range in height from 13 to 15.2 hands with an average of 14 hands. The great joy of riding a Paso Fino comes from the ability of the horse to move without jarring the rider.



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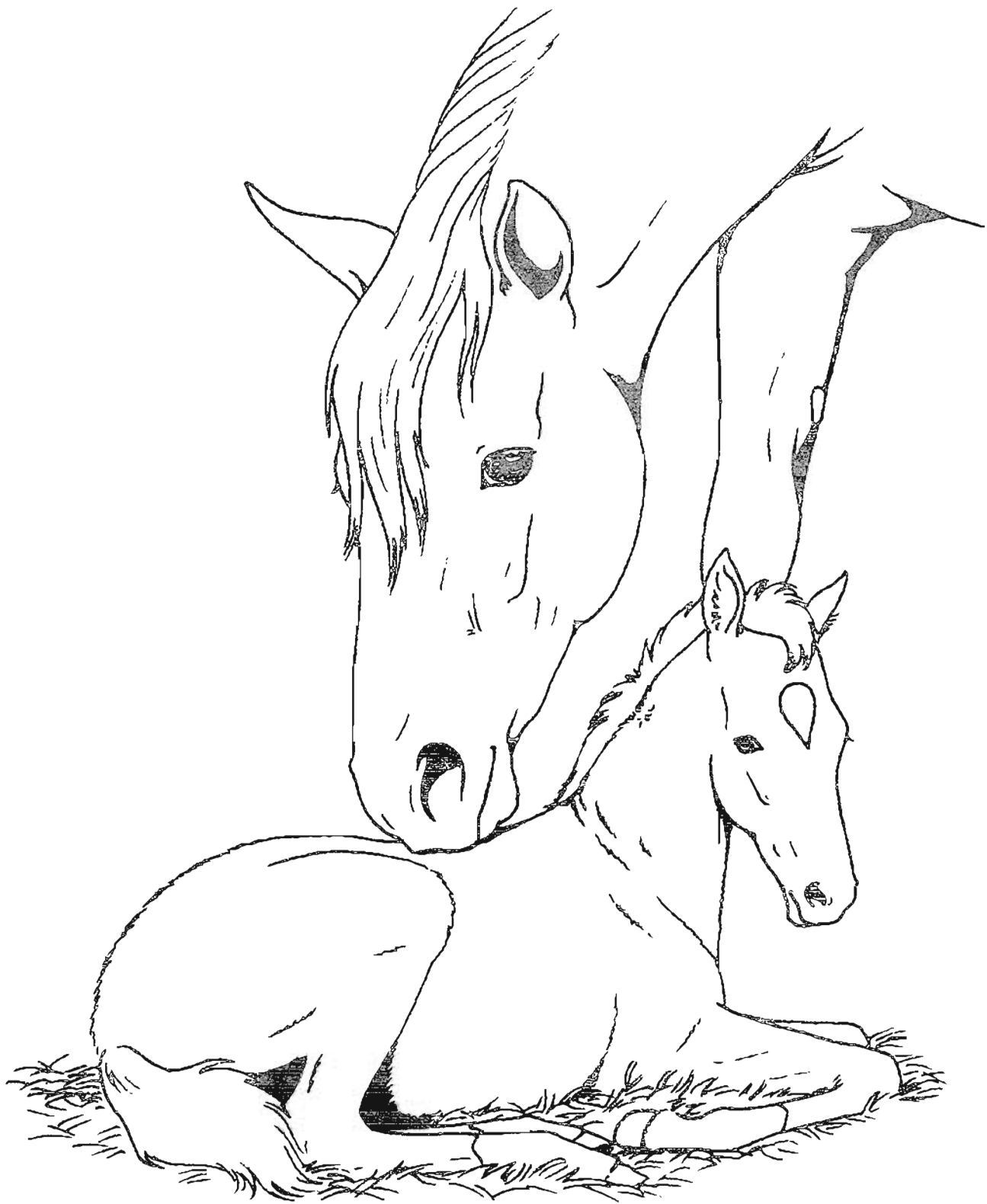
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A Paso Fino mare patiently awaits the birth of her foal.



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"What a beautiful colt! I think I'll call him Paco."



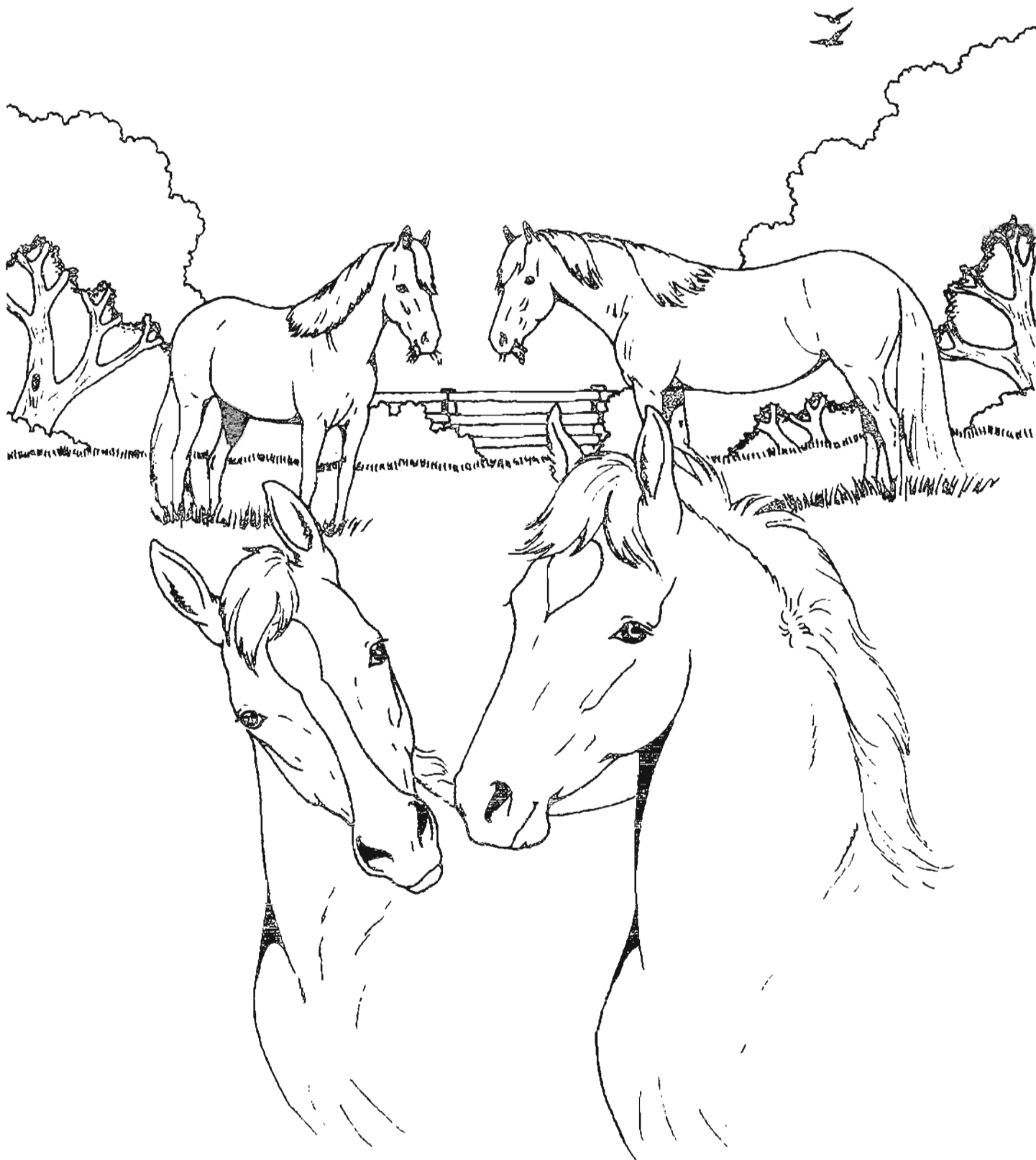
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A week later Paco and his mother join the other mares and foals in the pasture. A curious filly introduces herself.



"My name is Nina. What's yours?"



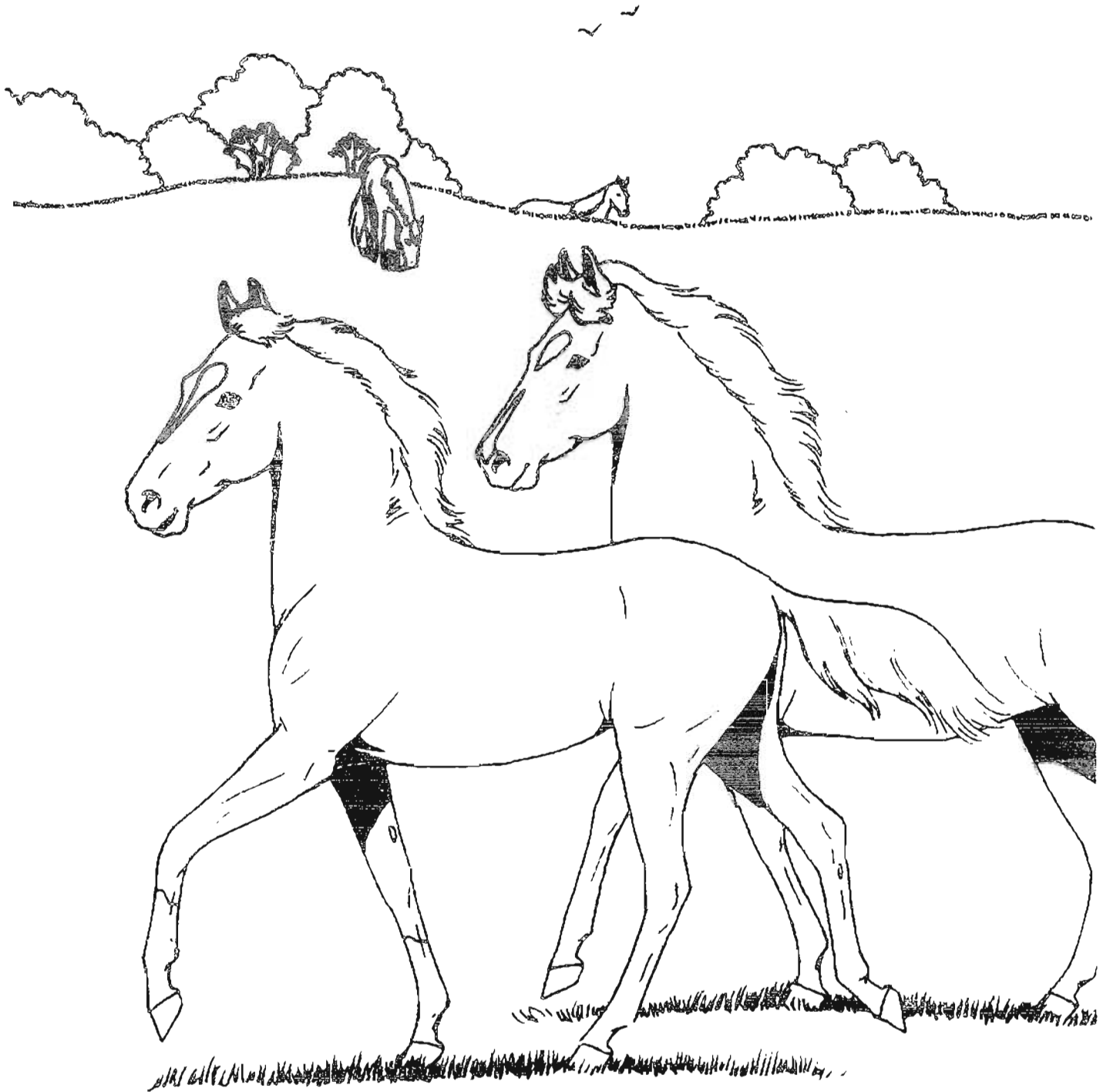
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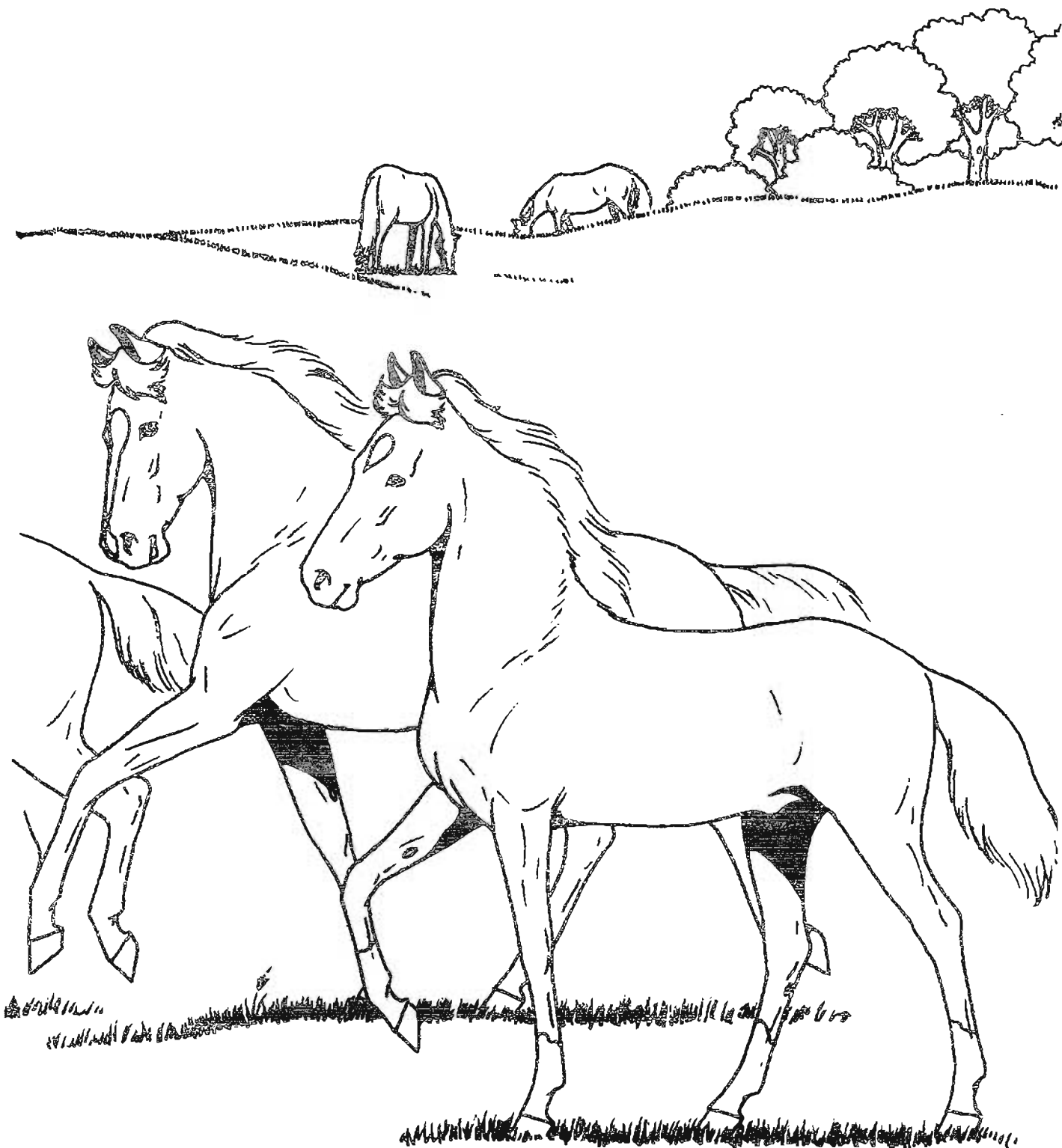
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Paco enjoys playing with his friends.....



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....But weaning time comes all too soon.



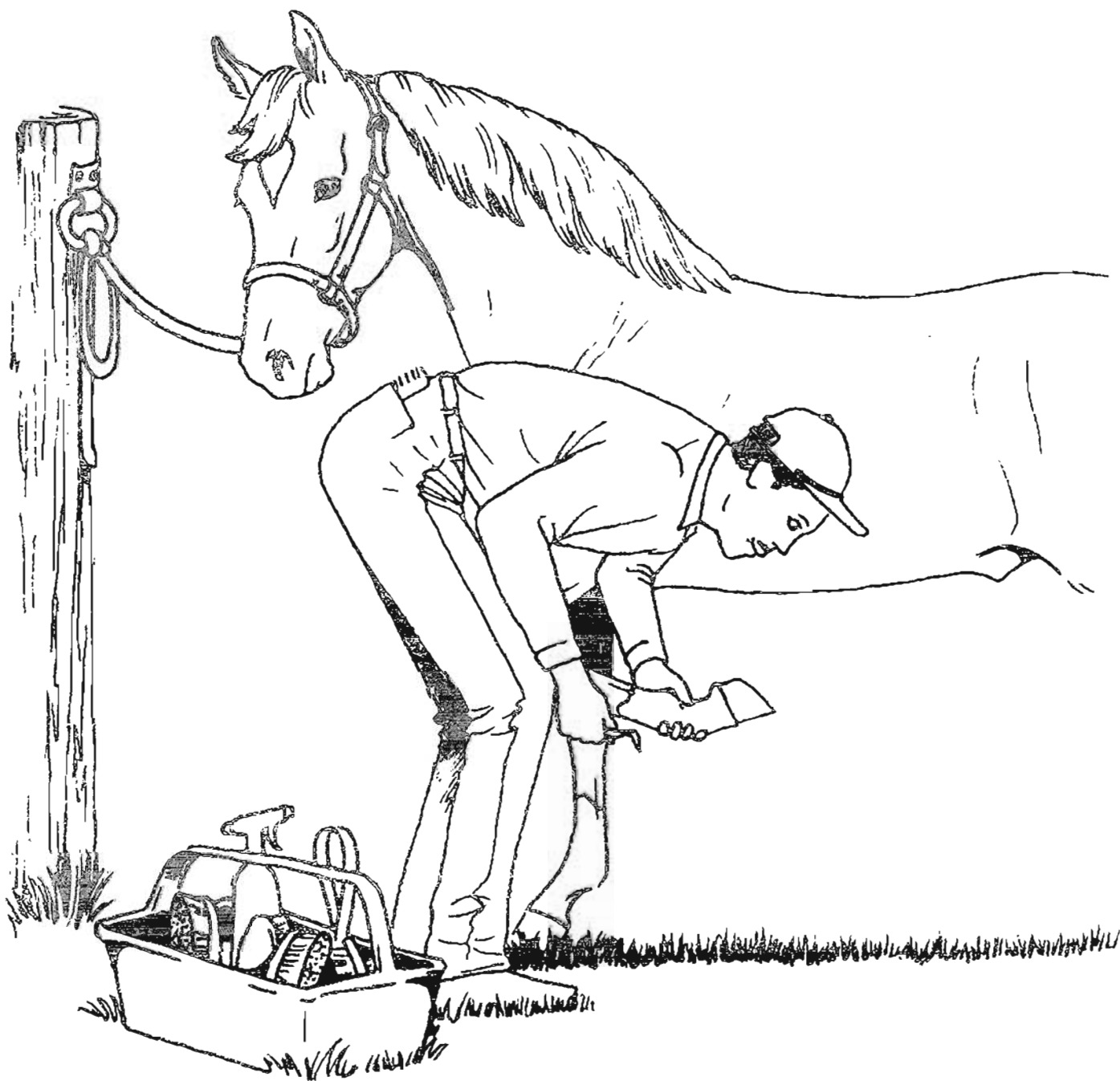
"Where's Mamma?"



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During the next few months Paco is taught to lead and stand patiently for brushing. He begins to like the attention and looks forward to it each day.



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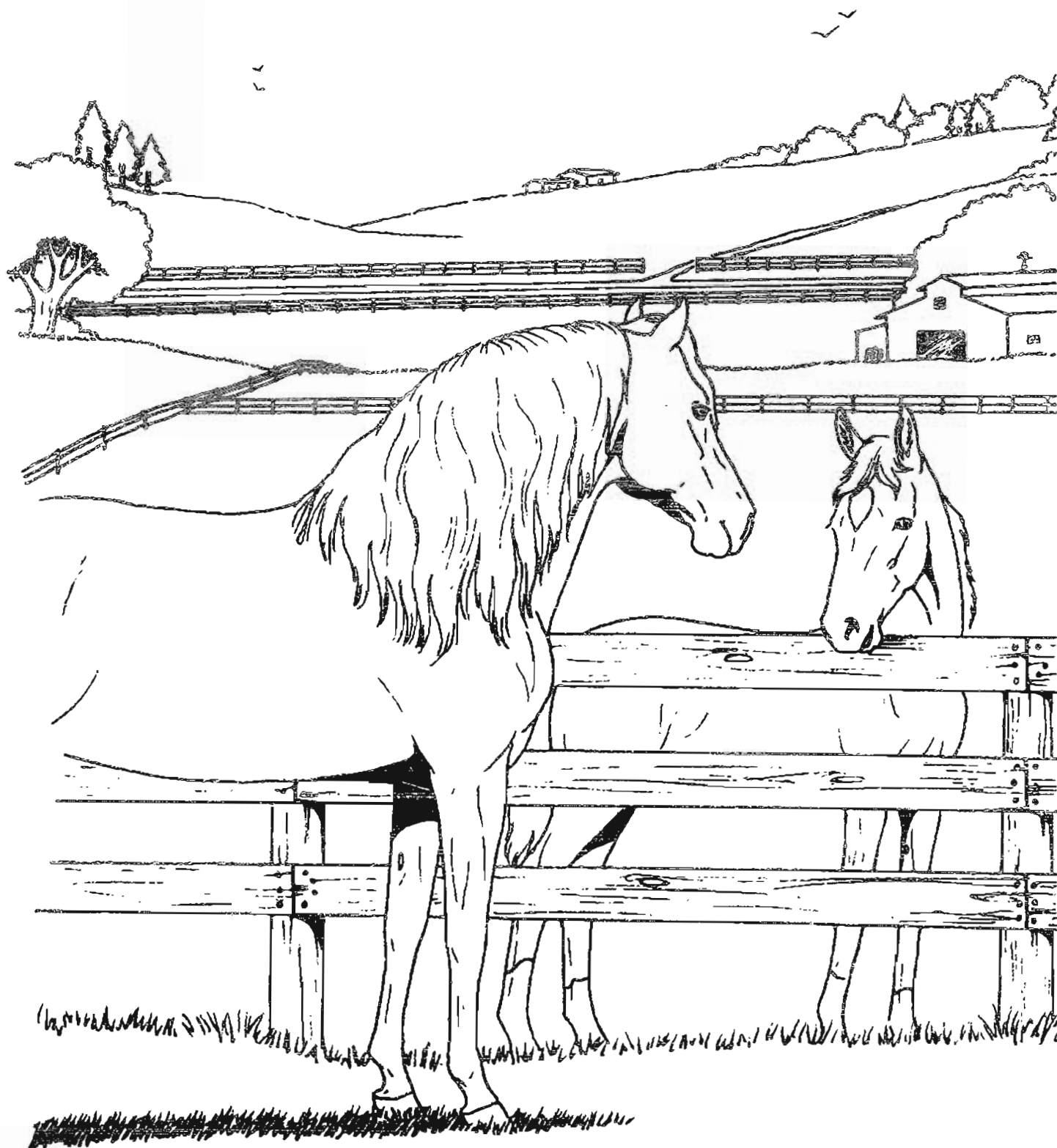
"Hi! I'm Paco. Who are you?
The Stallion smiles and says,
"Well, let's just say I'm a friend."



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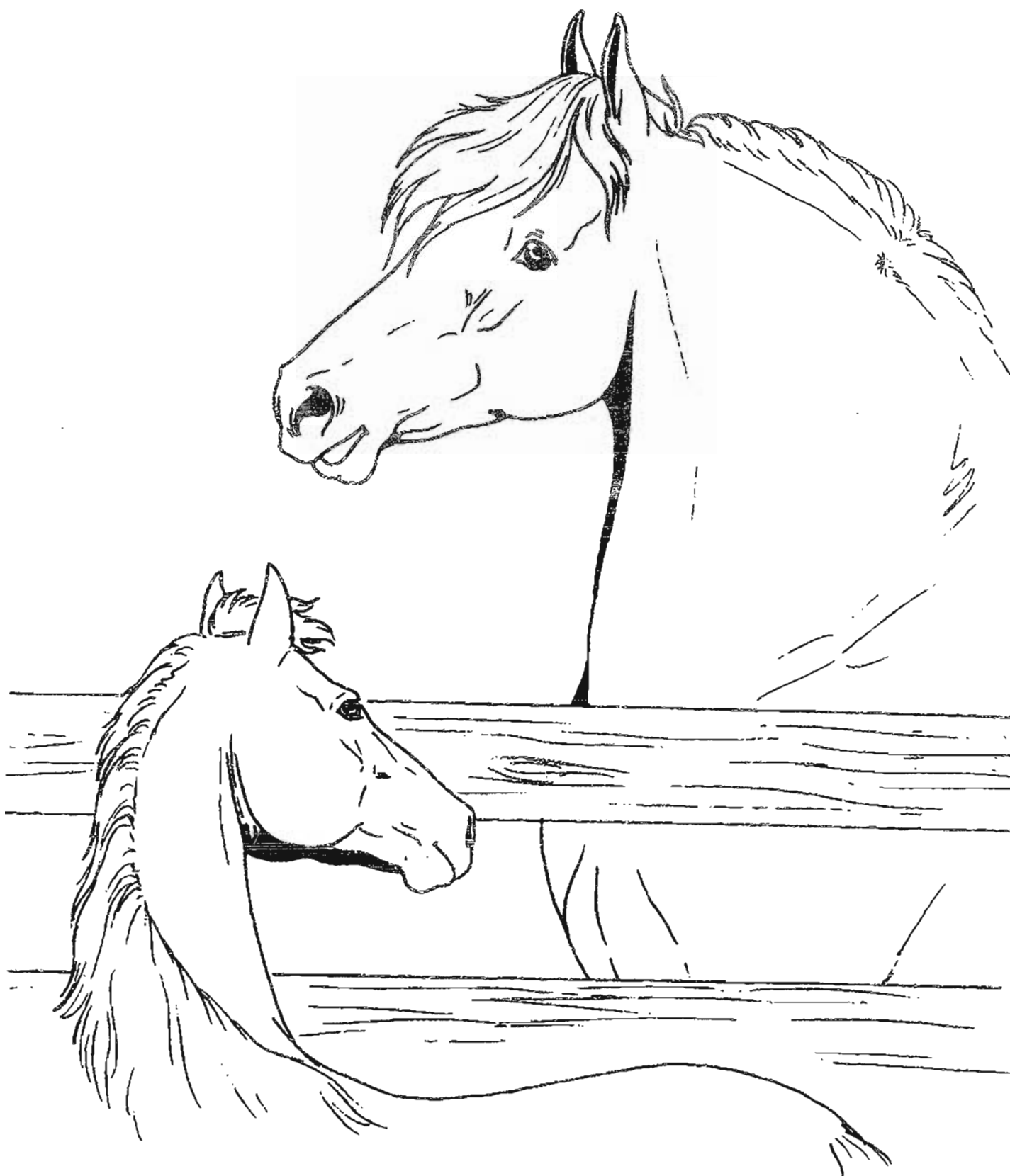
"Really? Says Paco, Well in that case
I have been sad lately. Can you help me?"



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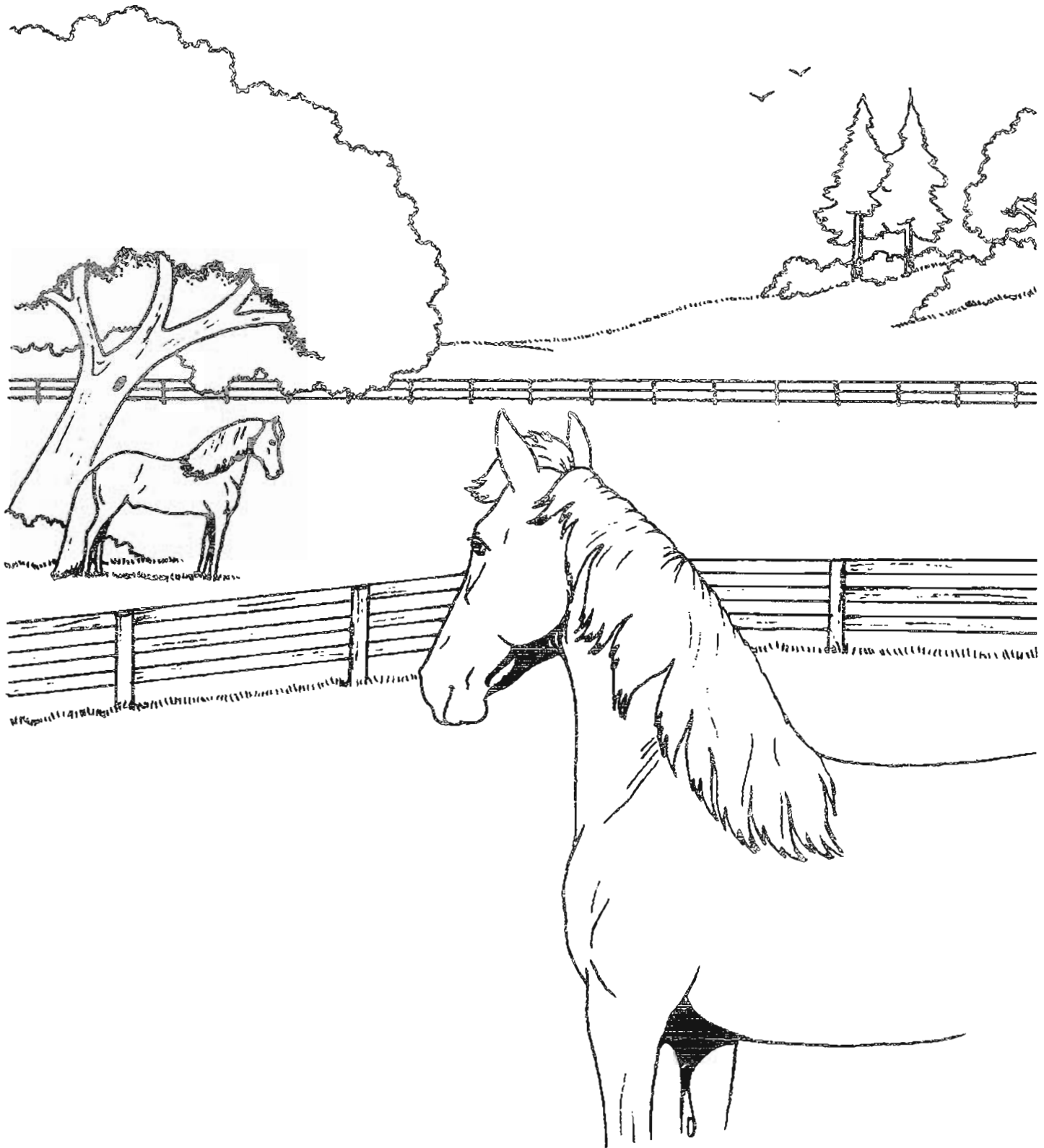
The stallion proudly says,
"Let me tell you a story that might cheer you up."



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One day while in the pasture with the other colts,
Paco notices an old stallion nearby.



"I wonder who that is?"



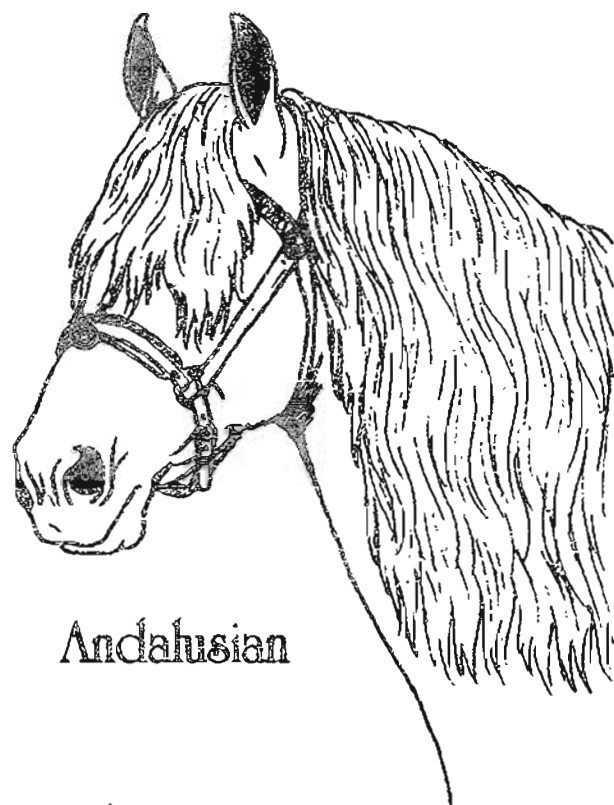
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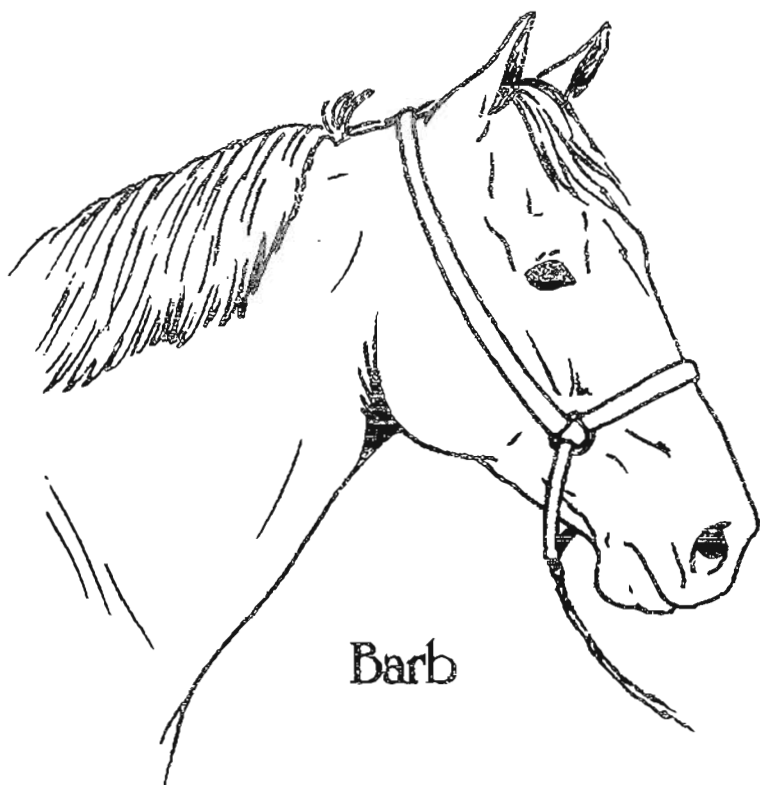
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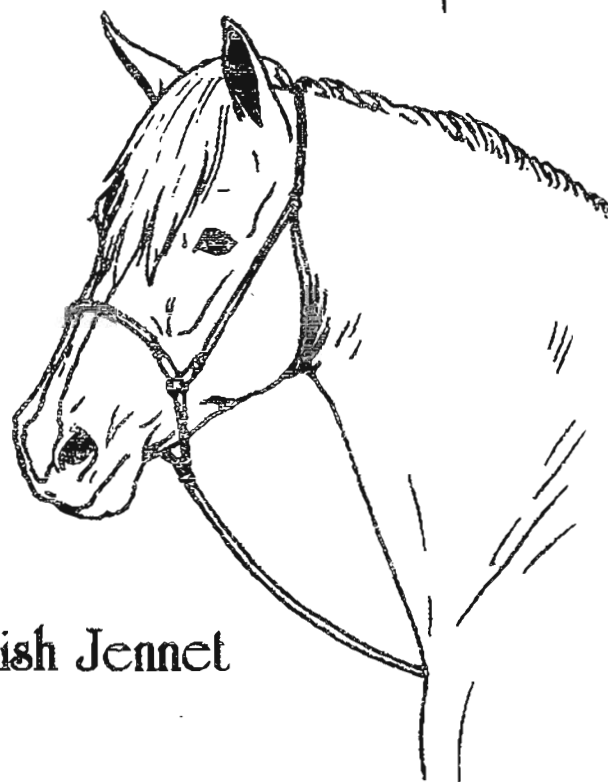
"Long ago there were three breeds of horses that were mixed over the years to create one great breed."



Andalusian



Barb



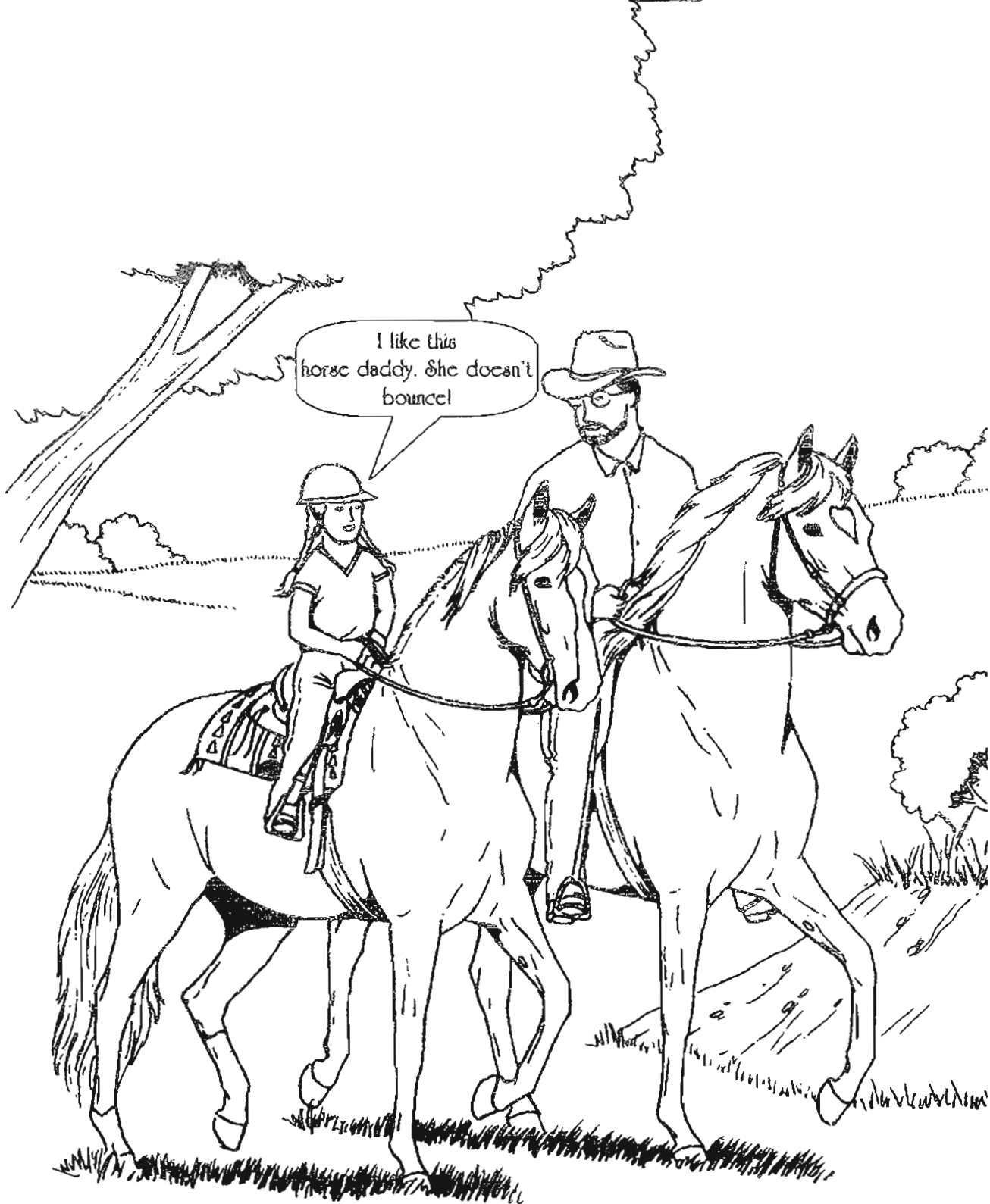
Spanish Jennet



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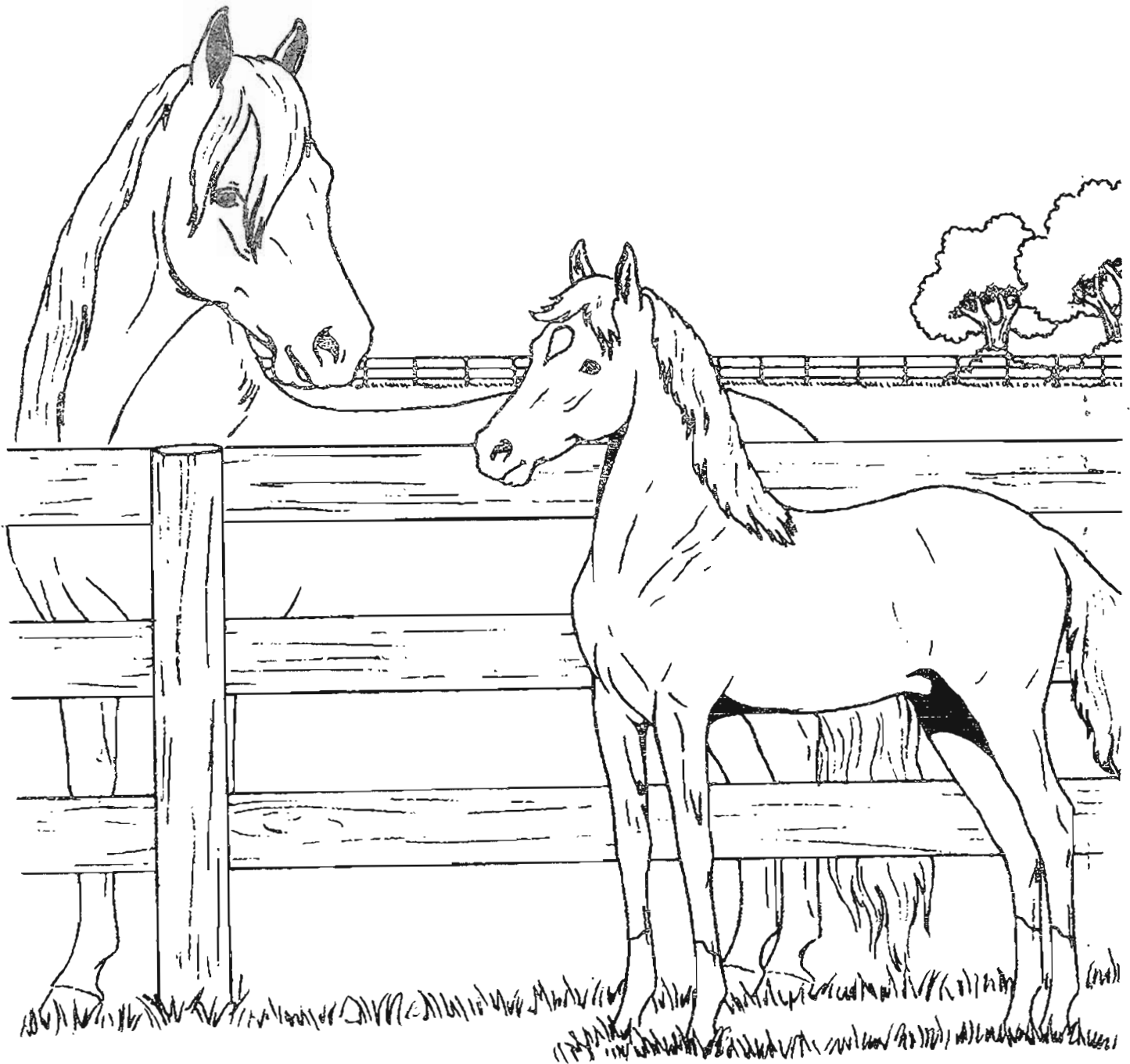
"Through the years the Paso Fino has been the preferred horse for people that really love to ride."



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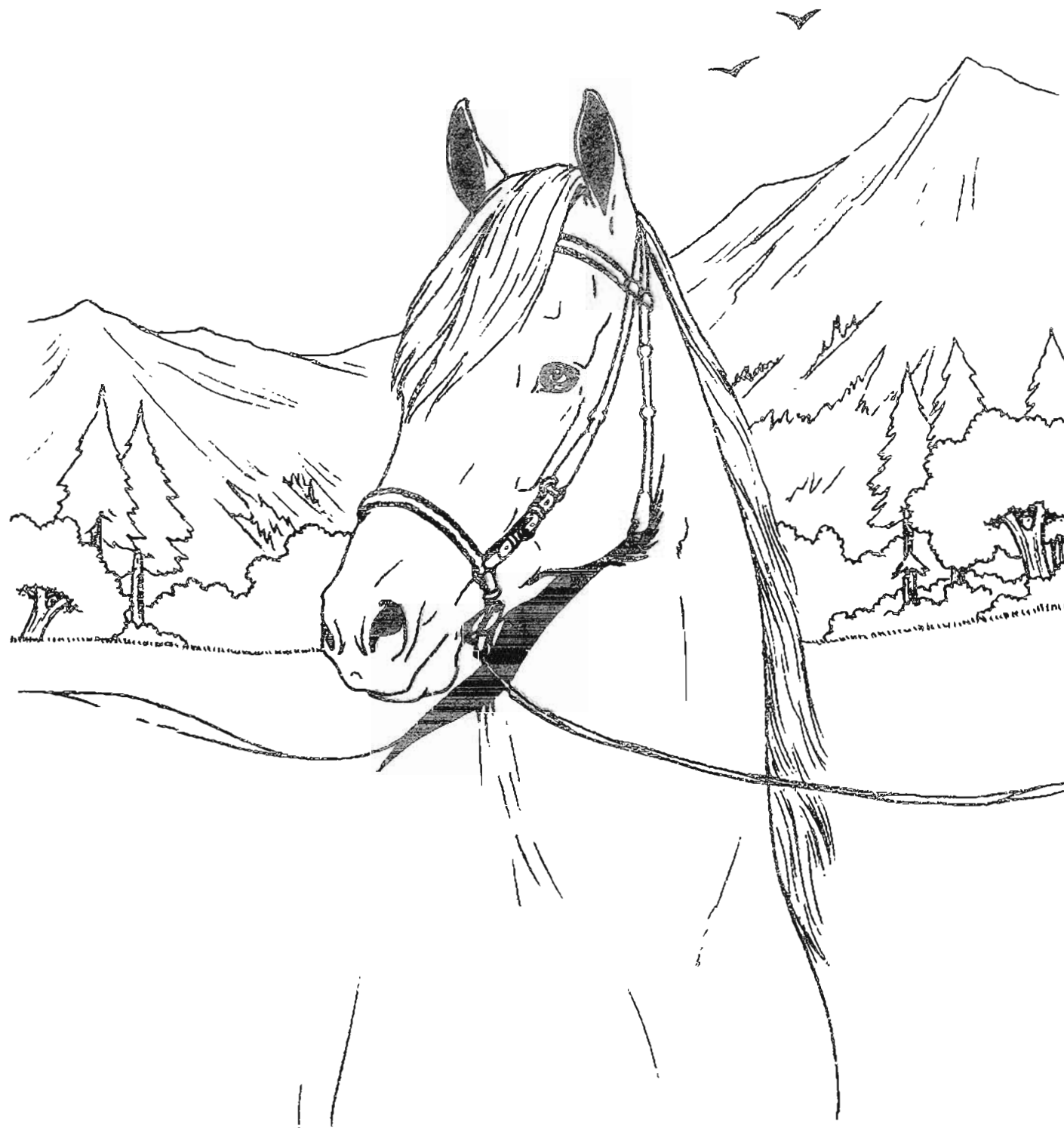
"This is the heritage that has been passed down to you."



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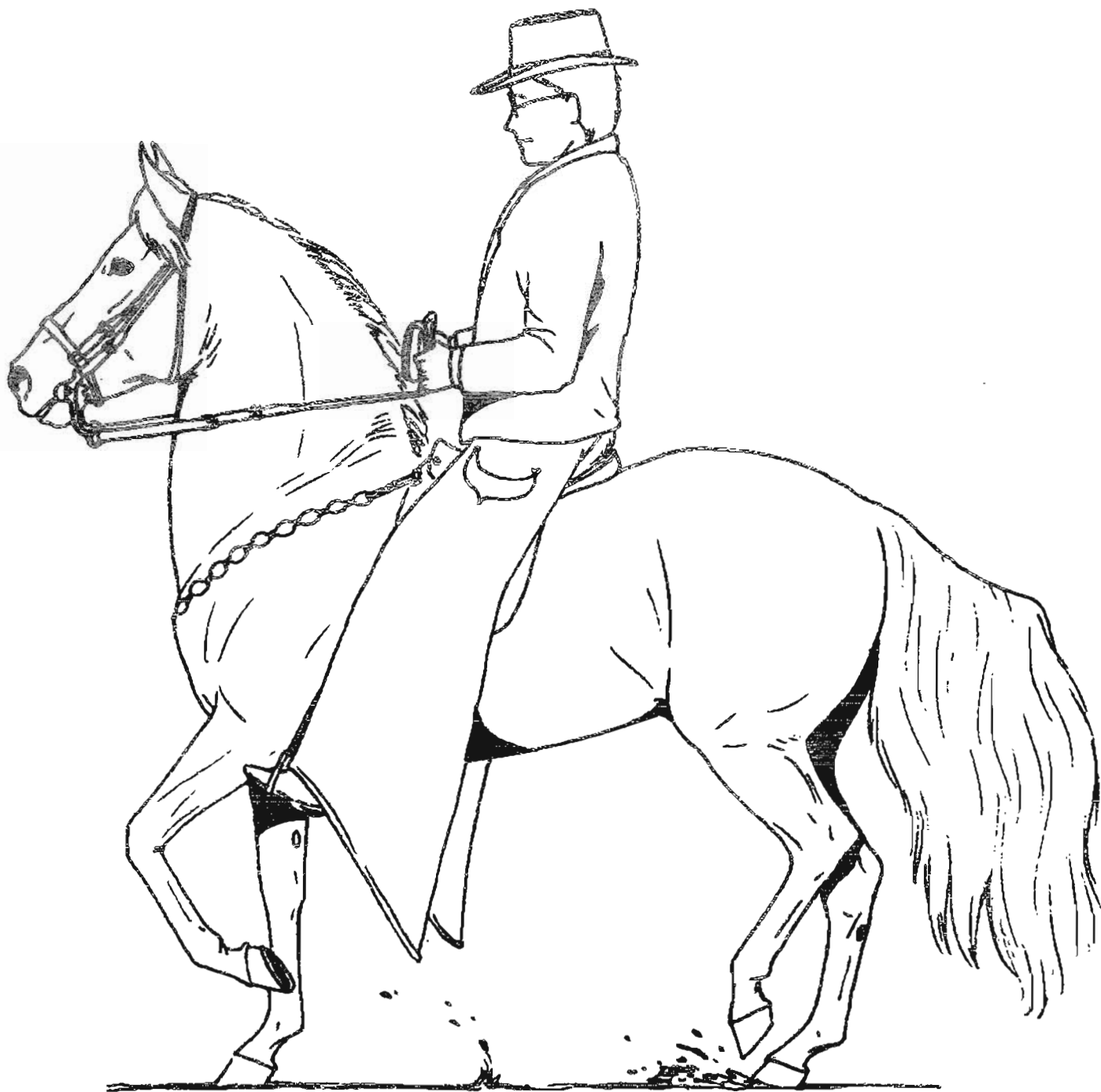
"That great breed is known as the Paso Fino."



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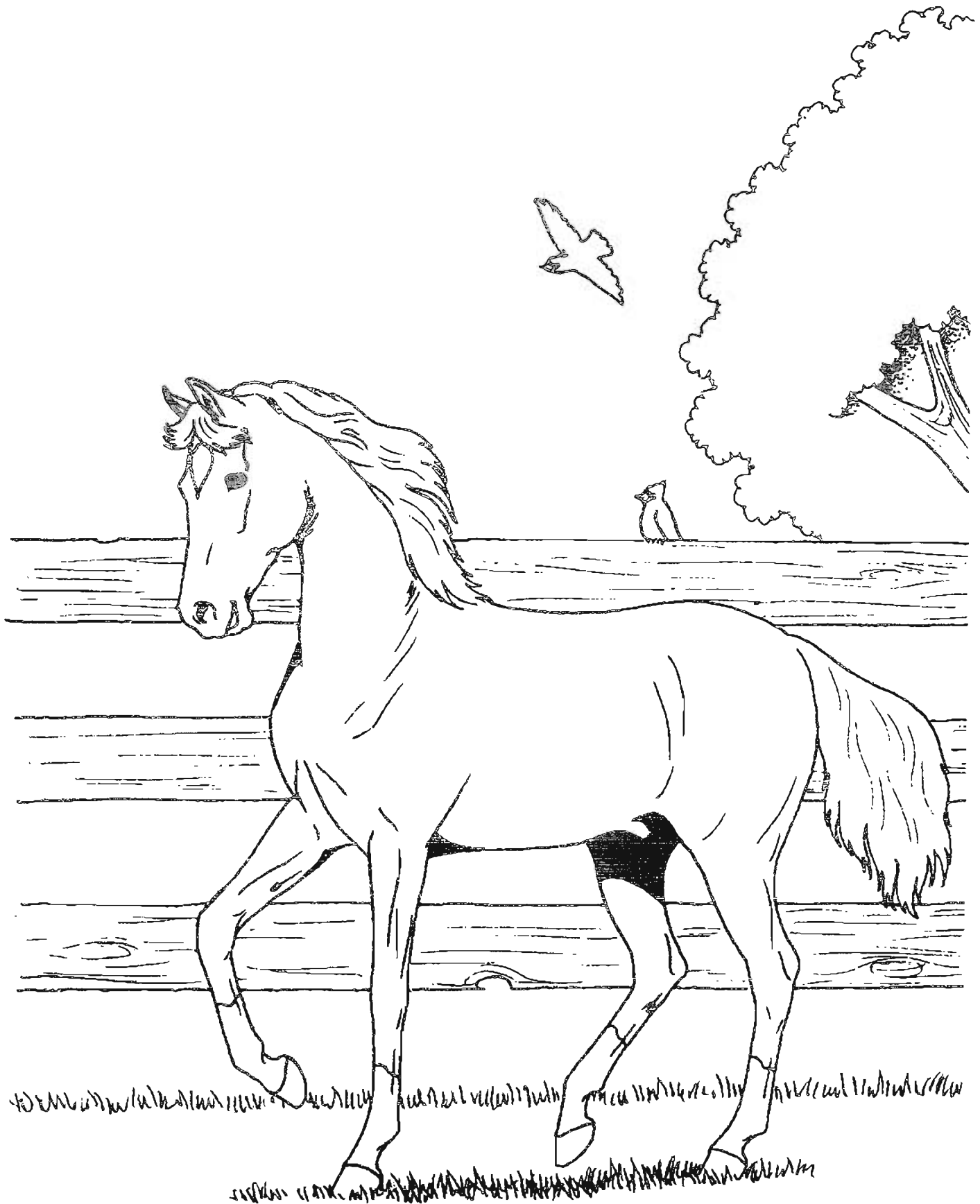
"The Paso Fino's smooth natural gait made them
different from all other breeds."



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"Wow! I really am special!"



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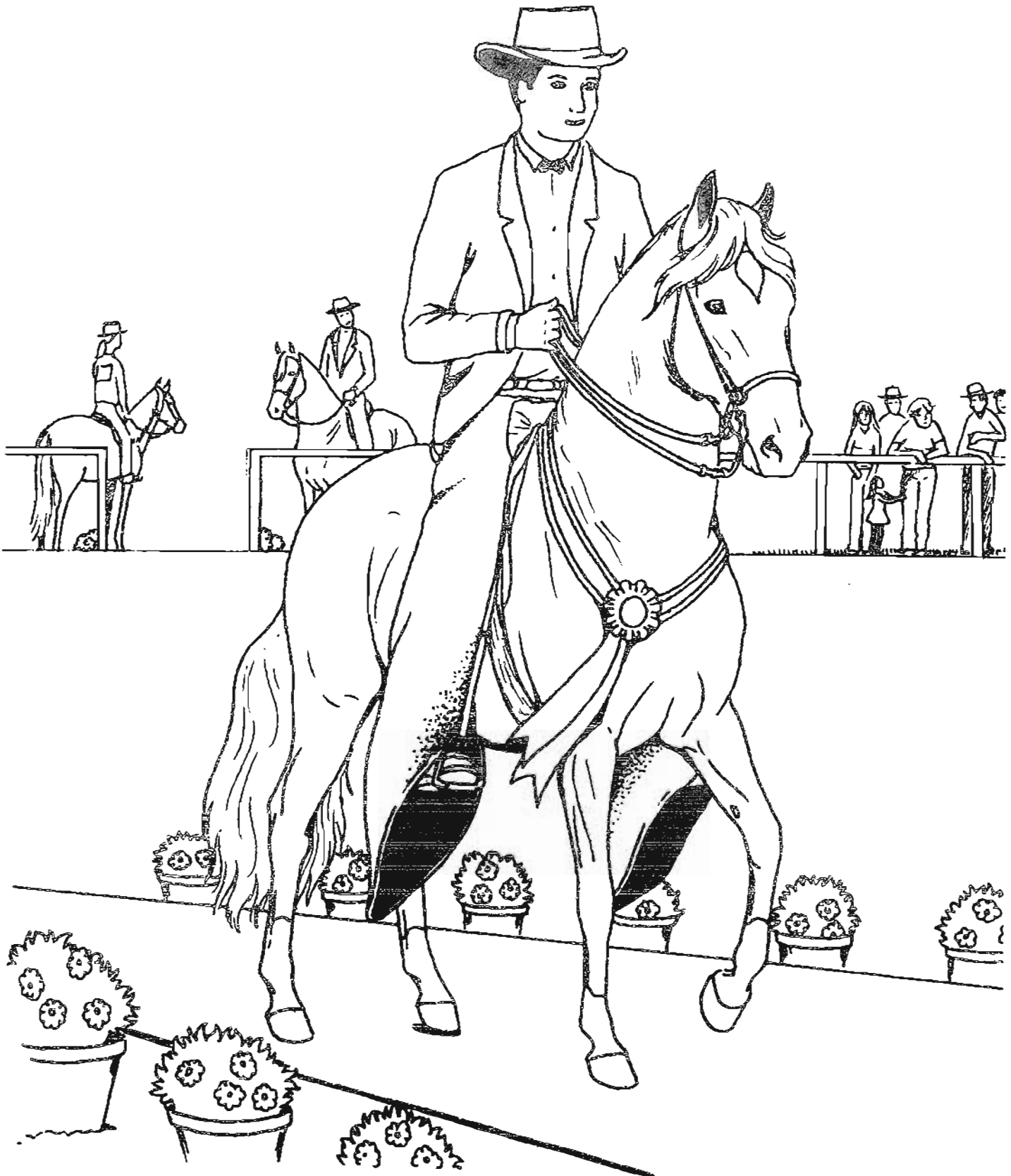
Paco enjoys a relaxing trail ride.



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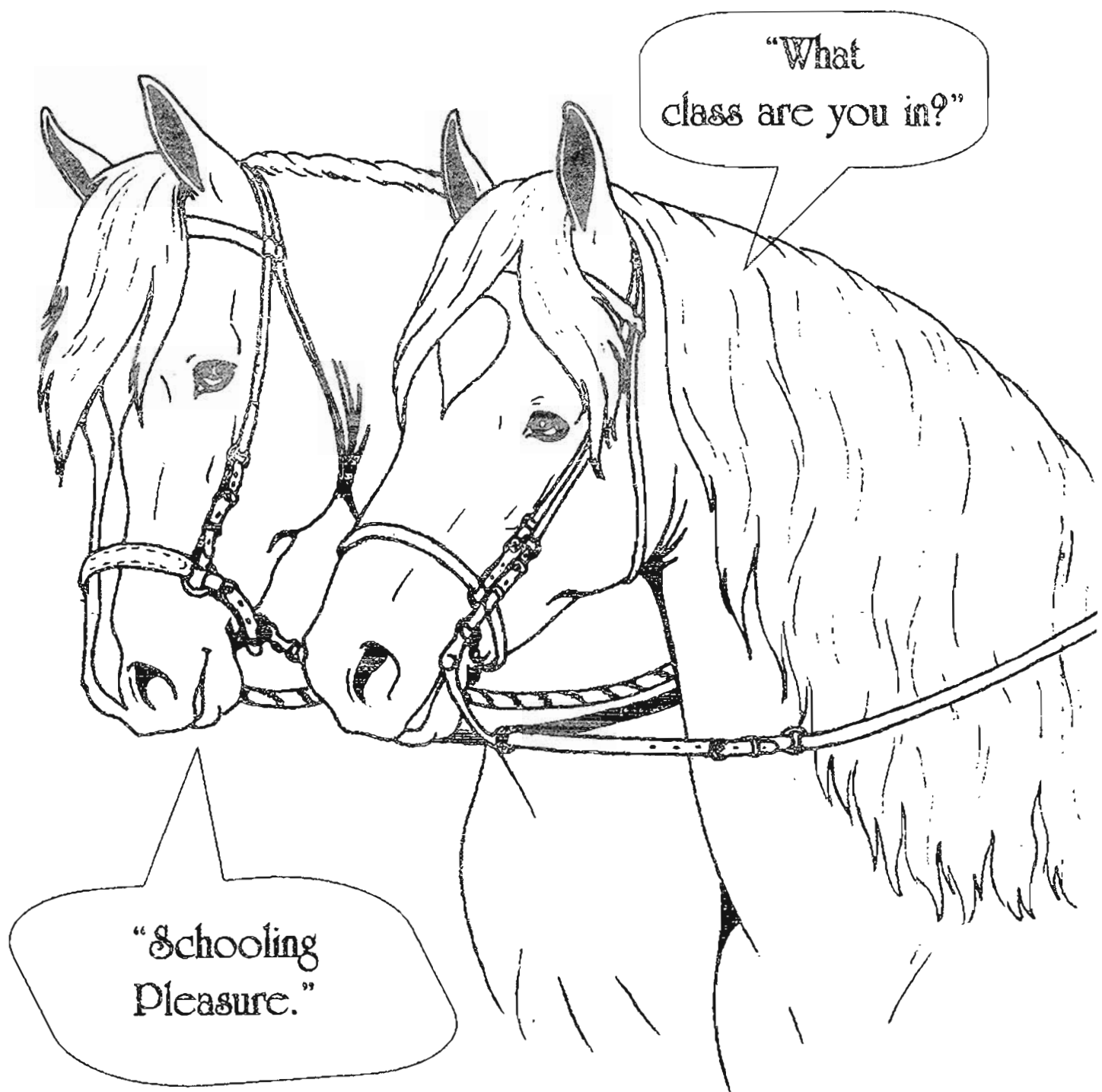
Paco wins his first show.



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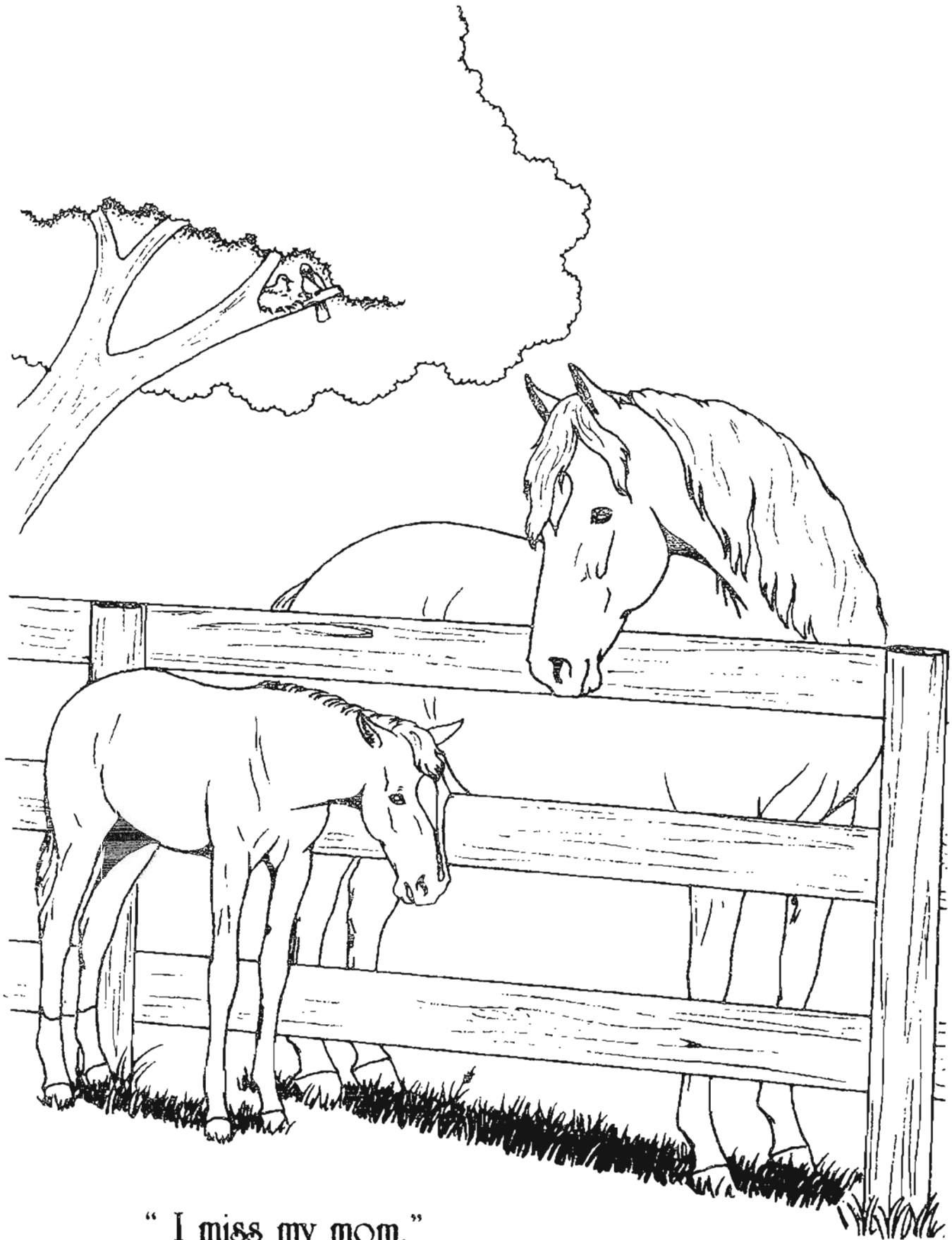
Paco meets other Paso Finos at the shows.



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"What's the matter little fellow?"



"I miss my mom."



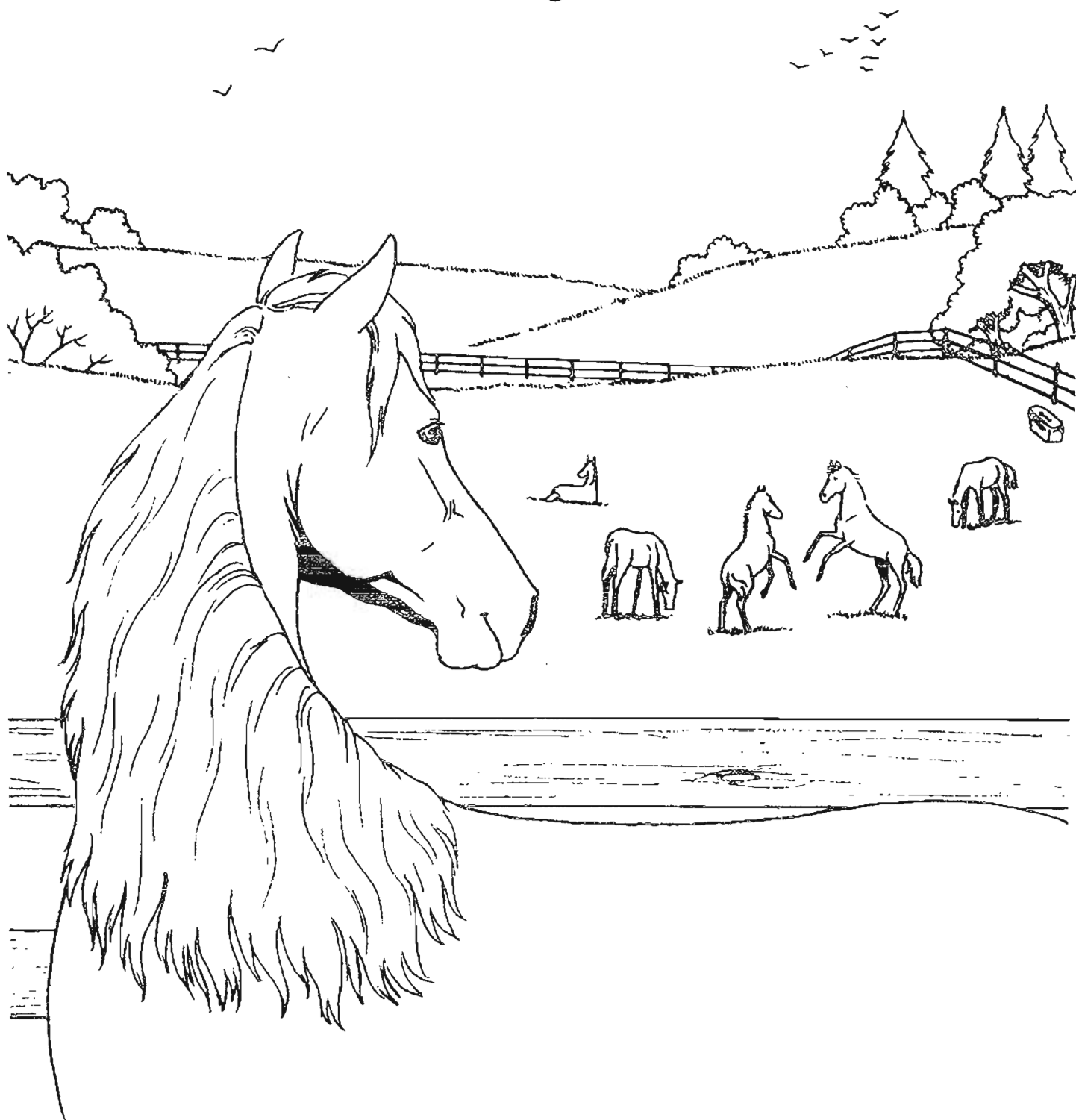
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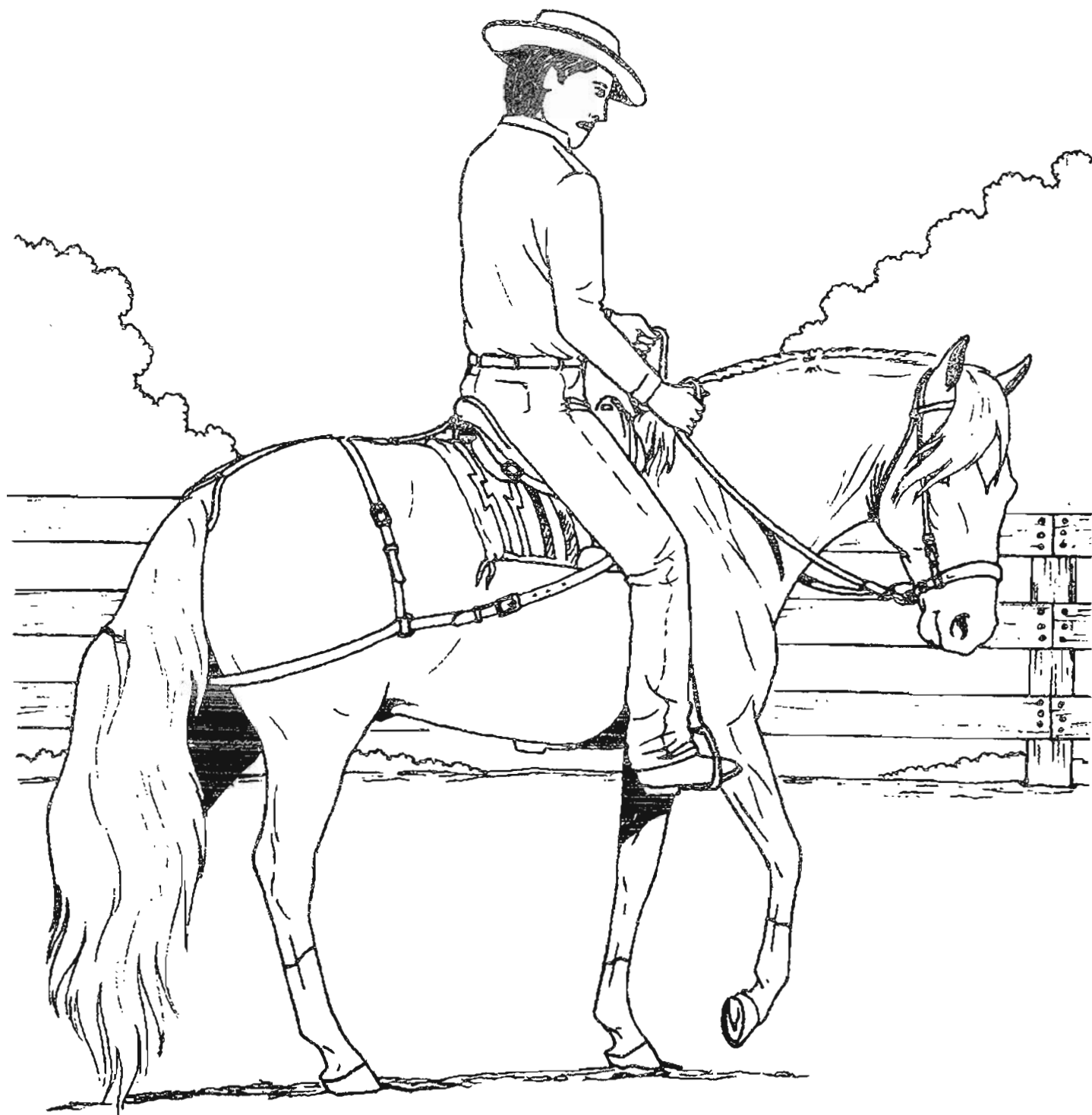
Paco proudly watches the foals play in a nearby pasture.
He knows it is now his turn to pass the story on
to the next generation.



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Two years later Paco begins his training. Through basic exercise of flexing, turning and circles, Paco's natural gait begins to improve.



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"Well, let me tell you a story!"



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