

MAKING OF A MEADOW
— a notebook

This notebook is a gift for you to use to
notice,
draw,
and respond
to the habitats that surround you.

'The field that you are standing before appears to have the same proportions as your own life.'
The Field, John Berger, 1971



Listen to bird song.

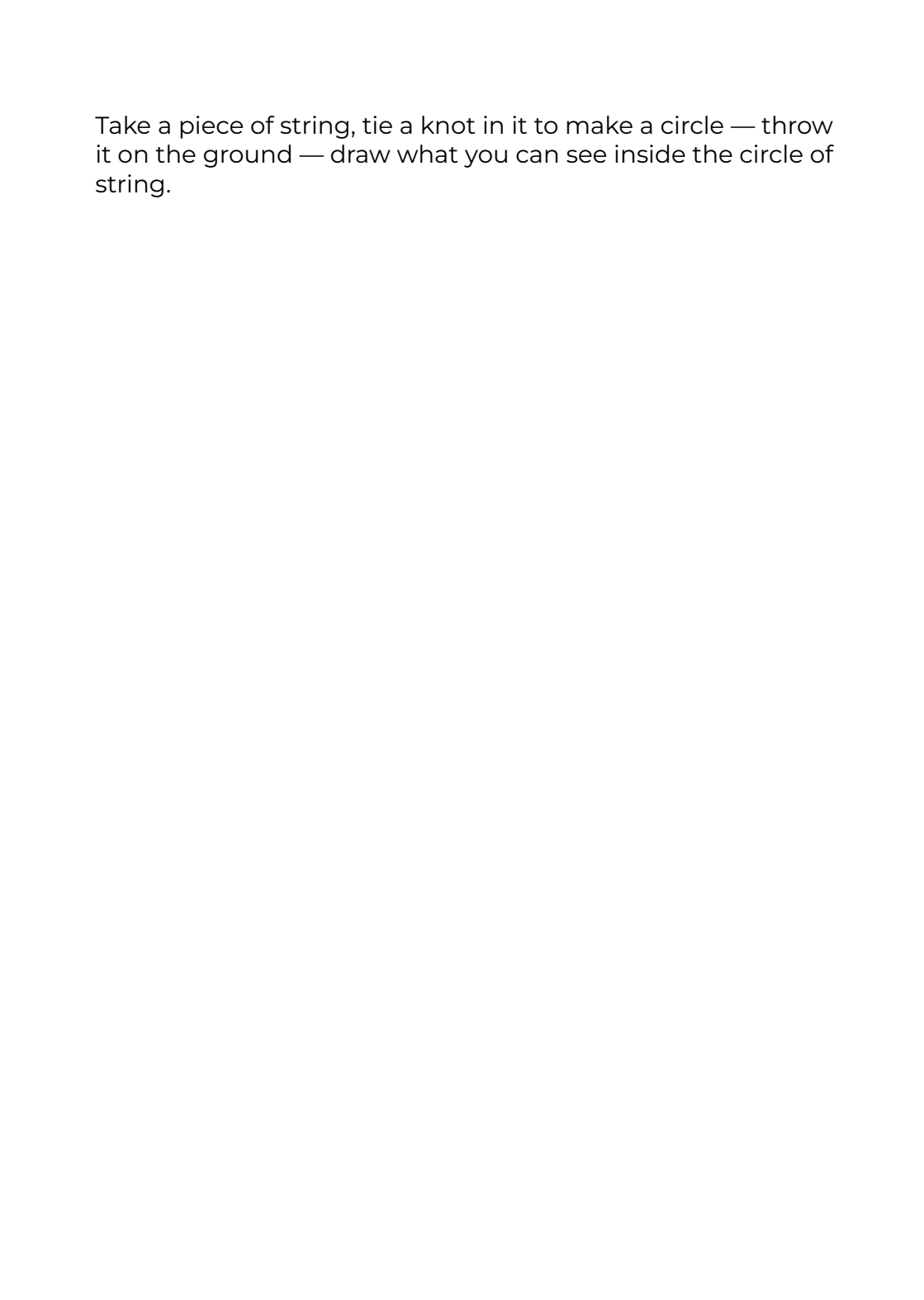
Draw the sound.



'I reflected then on its origin, its nature. A metamorphosis of water, I said to myself, linked with this earth, that is, with rock reduced to very small fragments and mixed with all sorts of debris from the other kingdoms, vegetal and animal. All of it reduced to particles, minute—and layered, *bedded down*. That nonetheless stand upright, flourish.'
Paris, 11 October, 1960



Sing and shout to the chalk downs. Remember ancestors.



Take a piece of string, tie a knot in it to make a circle — throw it on the ground — draw what you can see inside the circle of string.



'Stretched neat as a pin between four rocks or four hedges of hawthorne, this *pré*, agreeable surface, moraine of the forests, place of the sources.'
VI/27/64 (I)



Pick a handful of grasses. Twist them, plait them, place them on this page.



'At times—or we might say as well at certain places—at times, our nature—
I mean in a word both nature on our planet
And what we are each morning on awakening—
At times, our nature has prepared us (for) a *pré*.'
Paris, 25 November 1962 (III)



'The sudden consciousness of the constant insurrection of the grass revives us.'
24 February 1963, 5 o'clock in the morning



Make an acrostic poem from the name of a plant.



'The hoofprints of the colt (who galloped there) (on the *pré*) or the cattle who slowly hastened there, then trampled it on their way, right up to the watering place; a flattening. Grass laid low, crushed, vegetal earth taking over again.'
Paris, 11 October 1960



Draw a map to locate all the creatures you can hear and see.



Choose a tree that is nearby. Write a story about it.



'I believe, you see, that a *single natural pré* is the most simple proof, *gives proof* calmly and vivaciously at the same time of the future and the variety of the world...'
17 November 1962



Press a plant into this page. Carefully tape it down. In the blank spaces around the plant make drawings.



'So let us prepare the page where today there can be born a verity that is green.'
13 July evening (2) (night of 13 to 14)