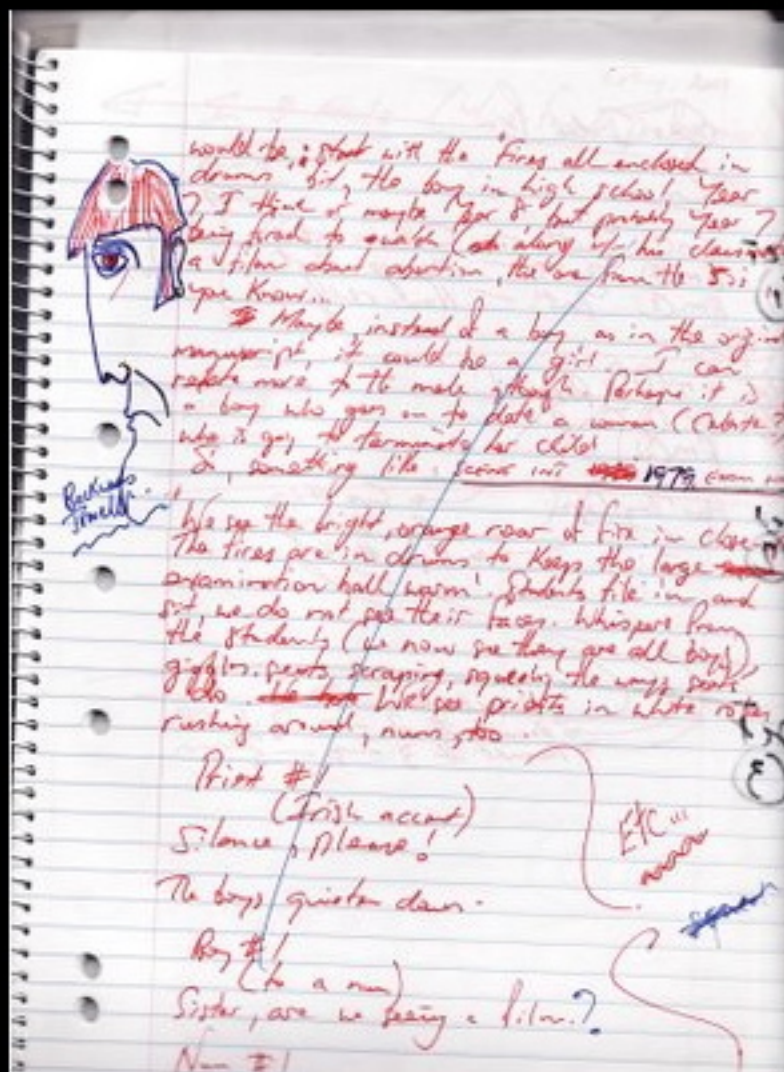


## Matthew Ward: Sketches from The Film



Above, Matthew Ward has provided sketches from a story called The Film, about an abortion film he was forced to watch in the late 1970s while attending an all-boys' Catholic college. He lives in Newcastle Australia. He had been published internationally, including short stories, poetry, articles, and three books in the last five years (Australia & US). Also, he is the publisher of Skive magazine.



Backwards  
Travel

would be: start with the "fires all enclosed in  
drums" bit, the boy in high school Year  
7 I think or maybe year 8 but probably Year 7  
being forced to watch (with a boy of his classmate  
a film about abortion, the one from the 50s  
you know...

Maybe, instead of a boy as in the original  
manuscript, it could be a girl. I can  
relate more to the male though. Perhaps it is  
a boy who goes on to date a woman (Cecilia?)  
who is going to terminate her child  
is something like: scene in 1979 (exam time)

We see the bright, orange roar of fire in close-up.  
The fires are in drums to keep the large  
examination hall warm. Students file in, and  
sit, we do not see their faces. Whispers from  
the students (we now see they are all boys)  
giggles, feet scraping, squeaking the way seats  
do. ~~the~~ We see priests in white robes  
rushing around, nuns, too.

Priest #1  
(Irish accent)

Silence, please!

The boys quieten down.

Boy #1  
(to a nun)

Sister, are we seeing a film?

Nun #1

etc...  
~~~~~

~~scribble~~