The Medal of Honor is an inverted five-pointed star, two inches long, suspended from a spread-winged Eagle standing on crossed cannons and cannonballs. At each wing the Eagle is attached to a ribbon which is blue at the top and red and white striped at the bottom.

Because this medal was created during the Civil War, the figures on it tell the story of the United States fighting rebelling forces. The spirit of rebellion is represented by a male figure who is crouching and holding serpents with forked tongues. The serpents are striking at a large female figure representing the United States of America. She holds a shield in her right hand and the fasces in her left hand. The fasces are an ancient Roman symbol of the authority to put someone to death. Around these figures are thirty-four stars representing the number of states in the Union at the time of the Civil War.

The female figure representing the United States is Minerva, the Roman Goddess of Wisdom and the Arts. She is wearing a helmet bearing an eagle, our national symbol. The engraving is known as “Minerva Repulsing Discord.”

The overall size of the Medal is four inches from top to bottom and two inches across the inverted five-pointed star.

*Using crayons and the description in the first paragraph, color the picture of the Medal of Honor.*