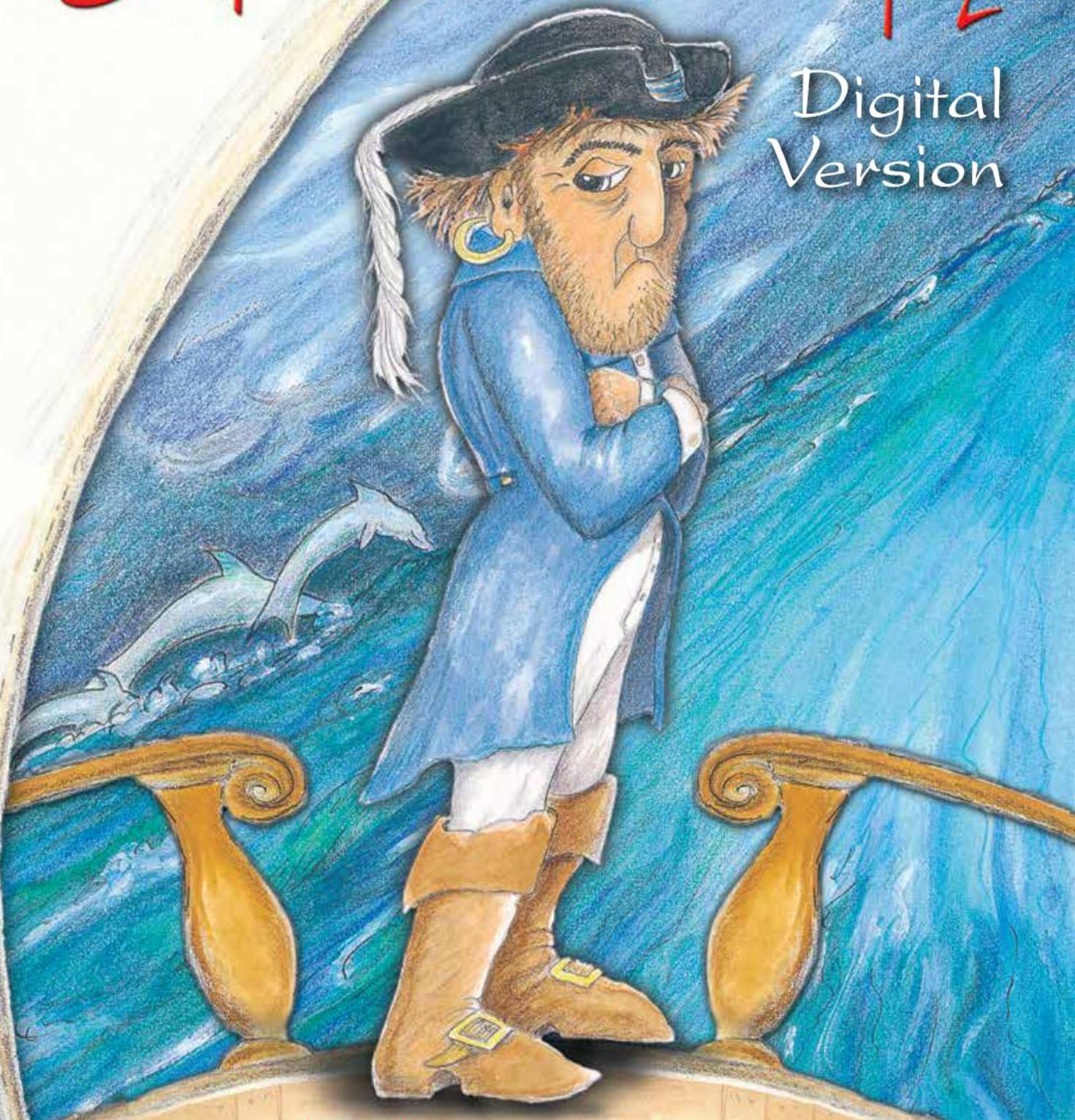


# Captain Grumpy

Digital  
Version



By Russell Deal  
Illustrated by Sue Jenkins



Was Captain Grumpy born a grump? We don't know anything about his temperament as a baby. And neither do we know if he had a happy or a troubled childhood. What we do know is that his grumpiness emerged during his journey towards independence.

Was it a conflict of expectations with his parents that fuelled a disposition towards grumpiness? In any event, Captain Grumpy was very good at grumpiness—so good that for quite a while it worked as a strength and he was rewarded for it.

Could it be that many characteristics we usually regard as deficits can, at times, also work as strengths? Perhaps grumpiness is a secret weapon we can use then confronted by examples of unfairness, bullying or tyranny.

Perhaps grumpiness initially *was* a strength—until it began to take control. Captain Grumpy learned that grumpiness, like any strength, is a good servant but a bad master. It was his overusing and misusing of grumpiness that hurt others—and himself.

Captain Grumpy didn't want to be a pirate. He probably didn't want to be a grump either. But with grumpiness bossing him around it took a mutiny and an enforced period of reflection for Captain Grumpy to discover that he was more than his grumpiness.

Hidden deeply beneath his well-rehearsed facade was a spark of curiosity and creativity that, once given a chance to flourish, awoke a range of other strengths. And they made him happy.

Captain Grumpy's journey of discovery into his long dormant strengths holds out an invitation for all of us: where might our own curiosity and creativity lead to?

Russell Deal

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*Dedicated to Sunny Rose and Sam Syme—one grumpy old pirate’s living treasures.*  
Russell Deal

*Thanks to my family, who believed in Captain Grumpy from the beginning and  
Karen Masman, a worthy pilot.*

Sue Jenkins



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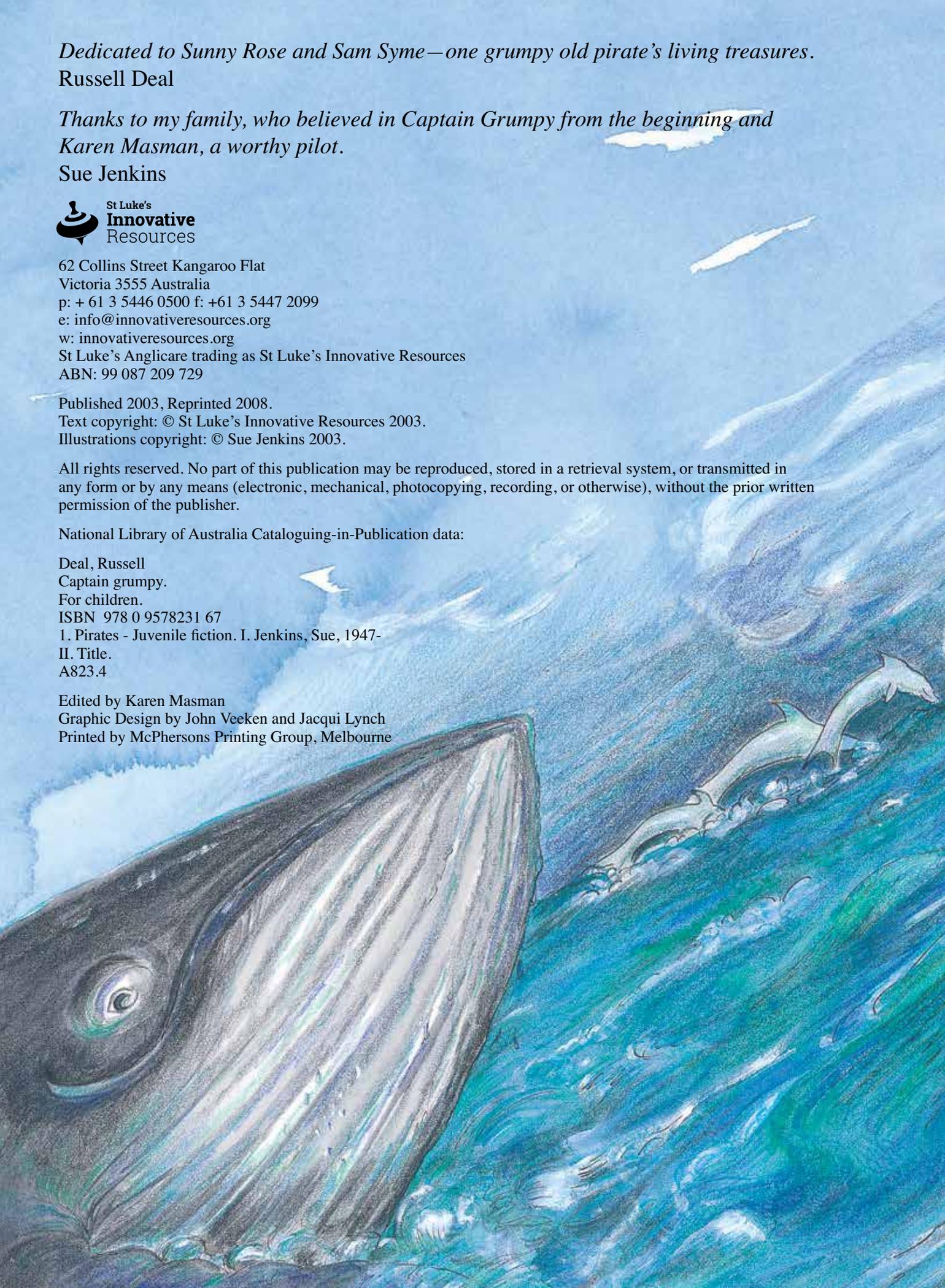
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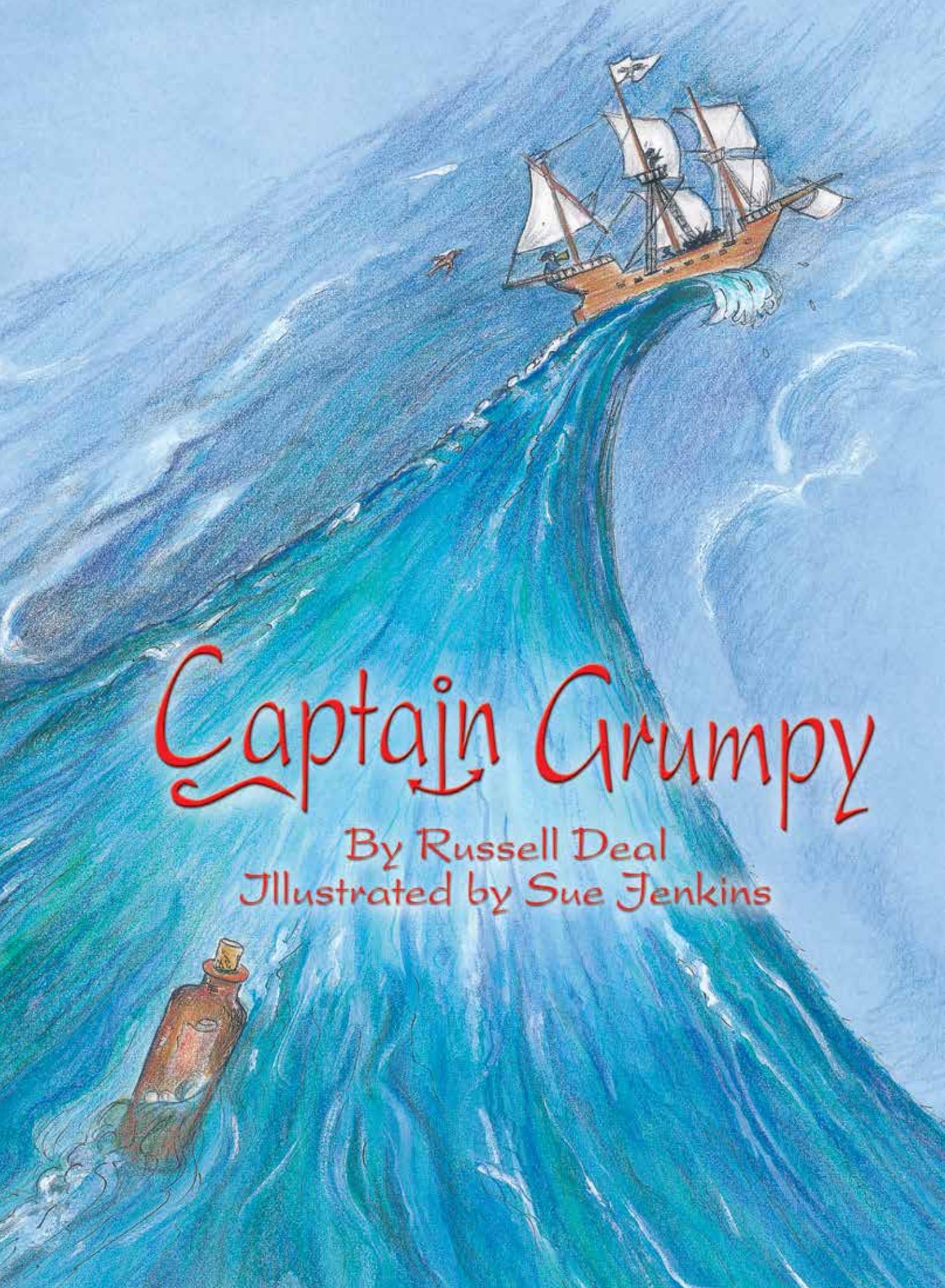
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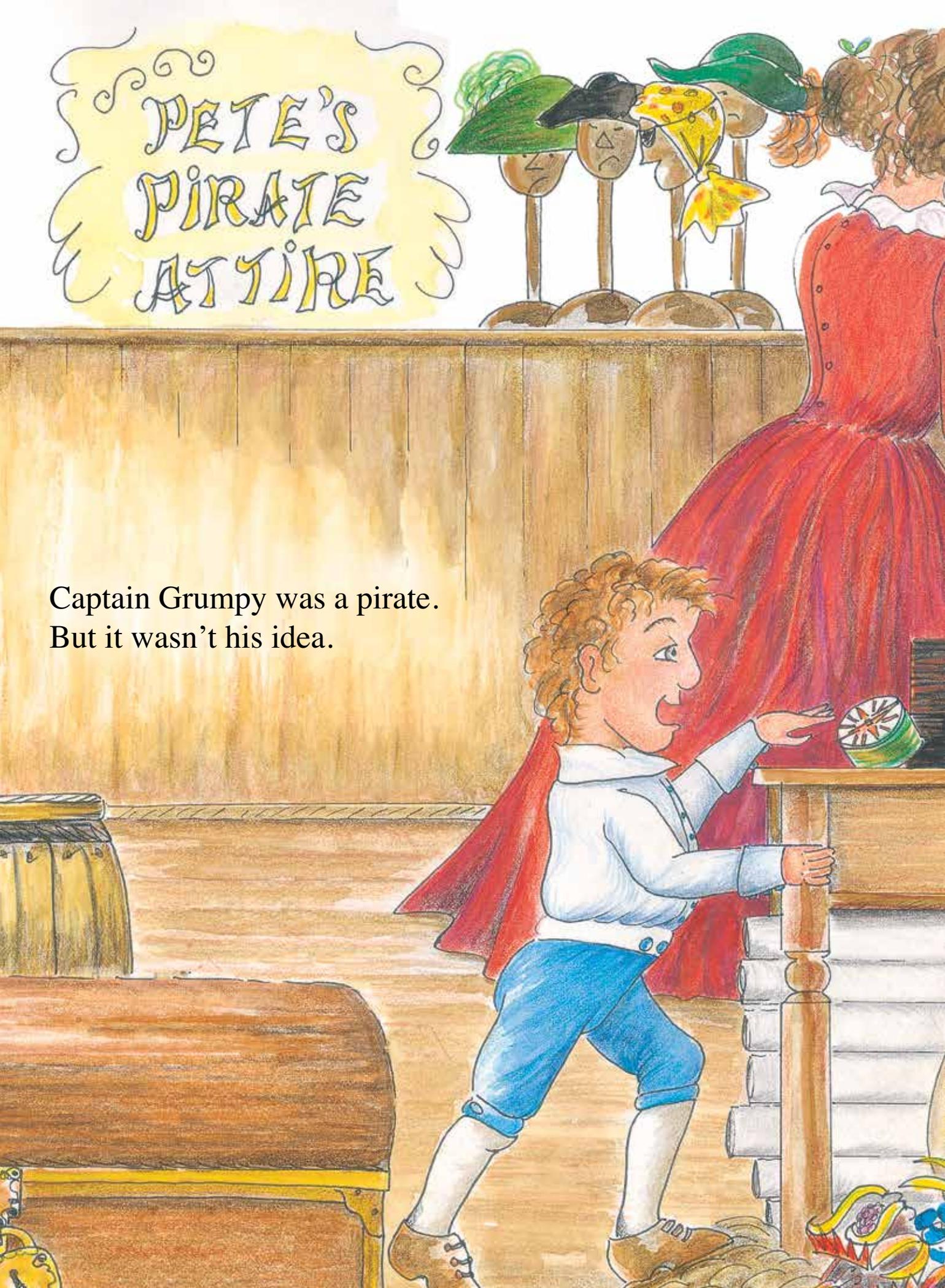


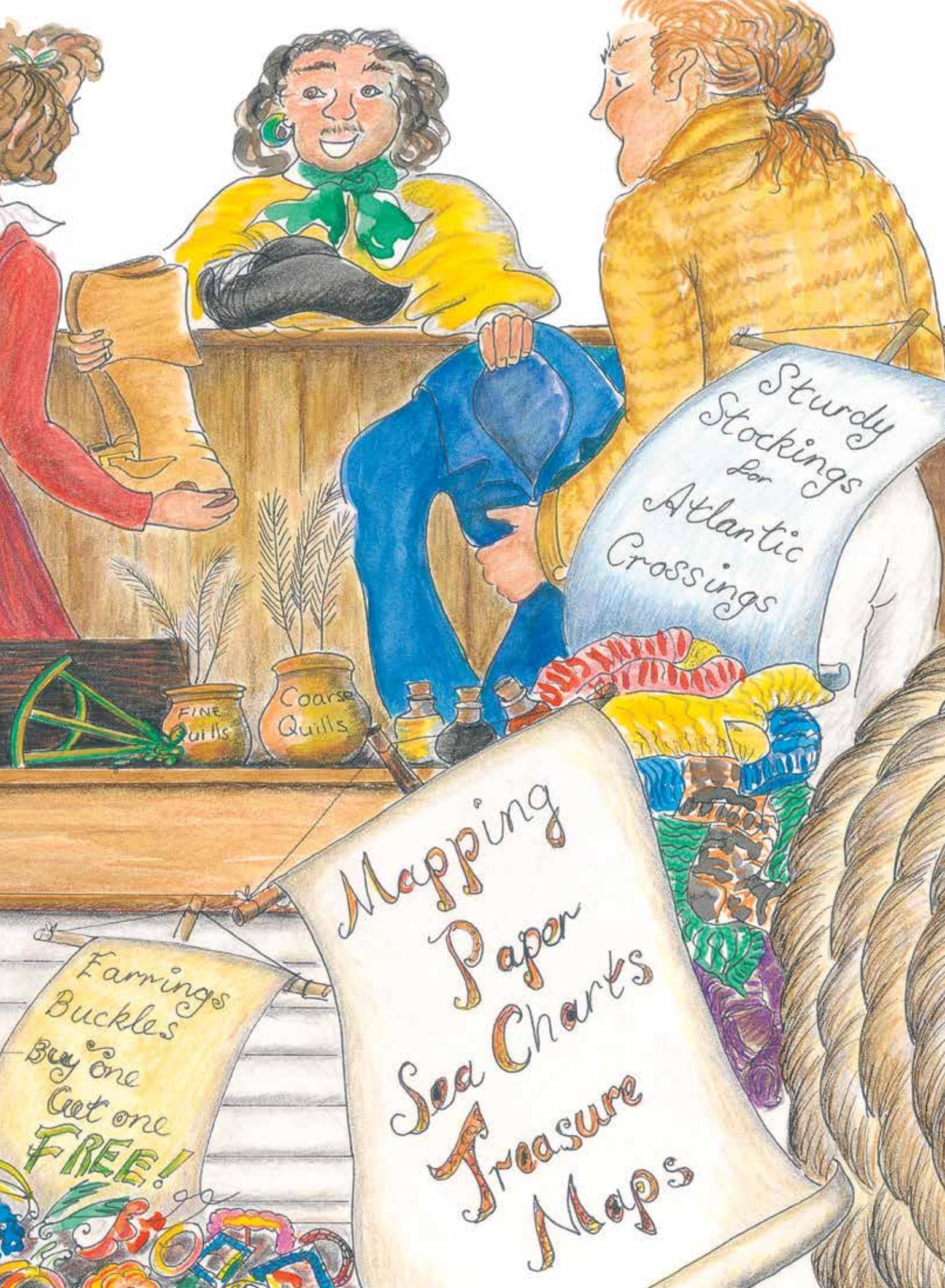
# Captain Grumpy

By Russell Deal  
Illustrated by Sue Jenkins

# PETE'S PIRATE ATTIRE

Captain Grumpy was a pirate.  
But it wasn't his idea.





Sturdy  
Stockings  
for  
Atlantic  
Crossings

Mapping  
Paper  
Sea Charts  
Treasure  
Maps

Farrings  
Buckles  
Buy one  
Get one  
**FREE!**

FINE  
Quills

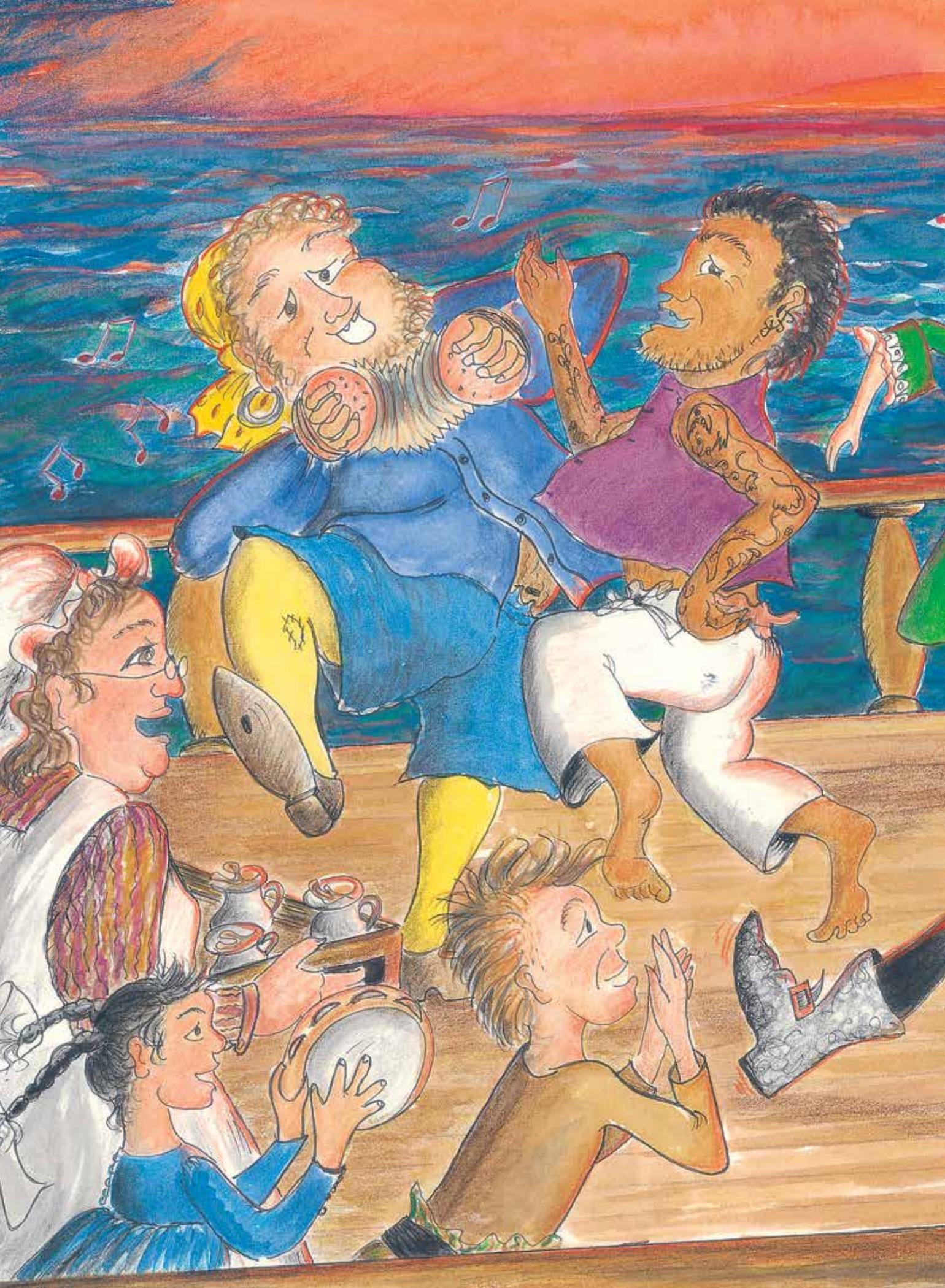
Coarse  
Quills

He dreamed of being an artist.





But his parents wanted him to find treasure.





Being a pirate made him feel grumpy.

Some people believe a grumpy pirate is a good pirate.  
So the crew made him Captain.





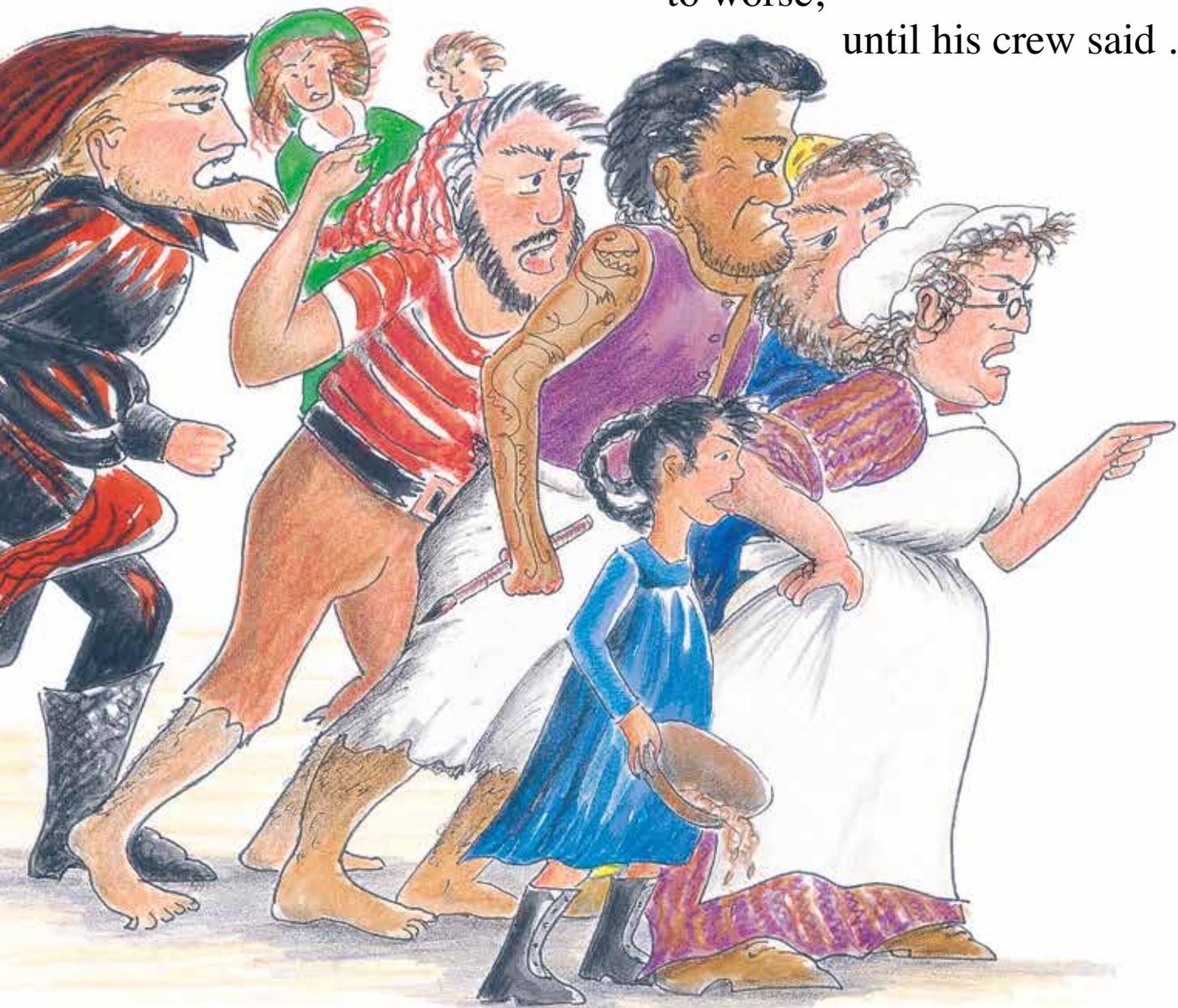
But grumpiness took control instead.







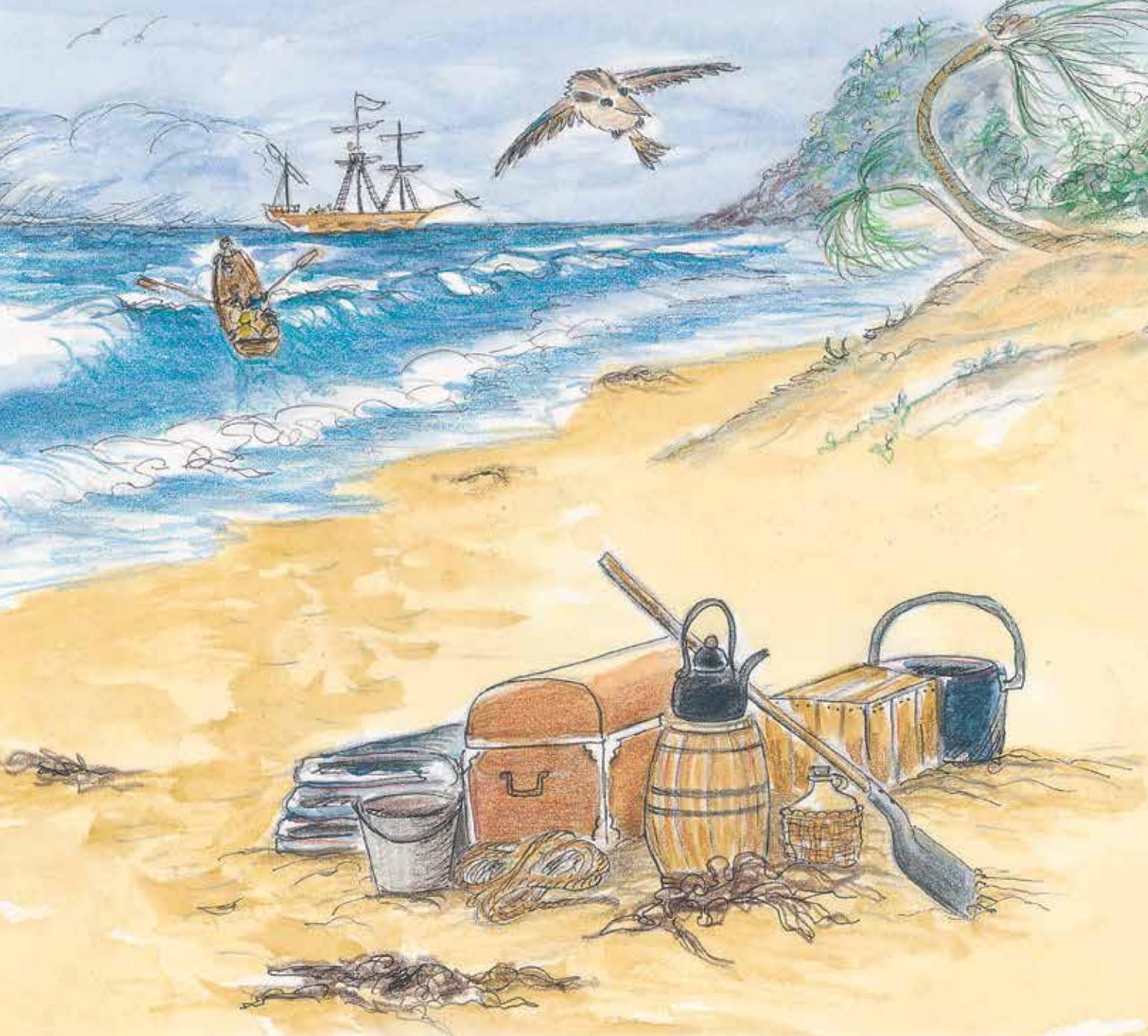
Things went  
from bad  
to worse,  
until his crew said ...





**ENOUGH**  
is  
**ENOUGH!**





They found a desert island and left him to grump alone.

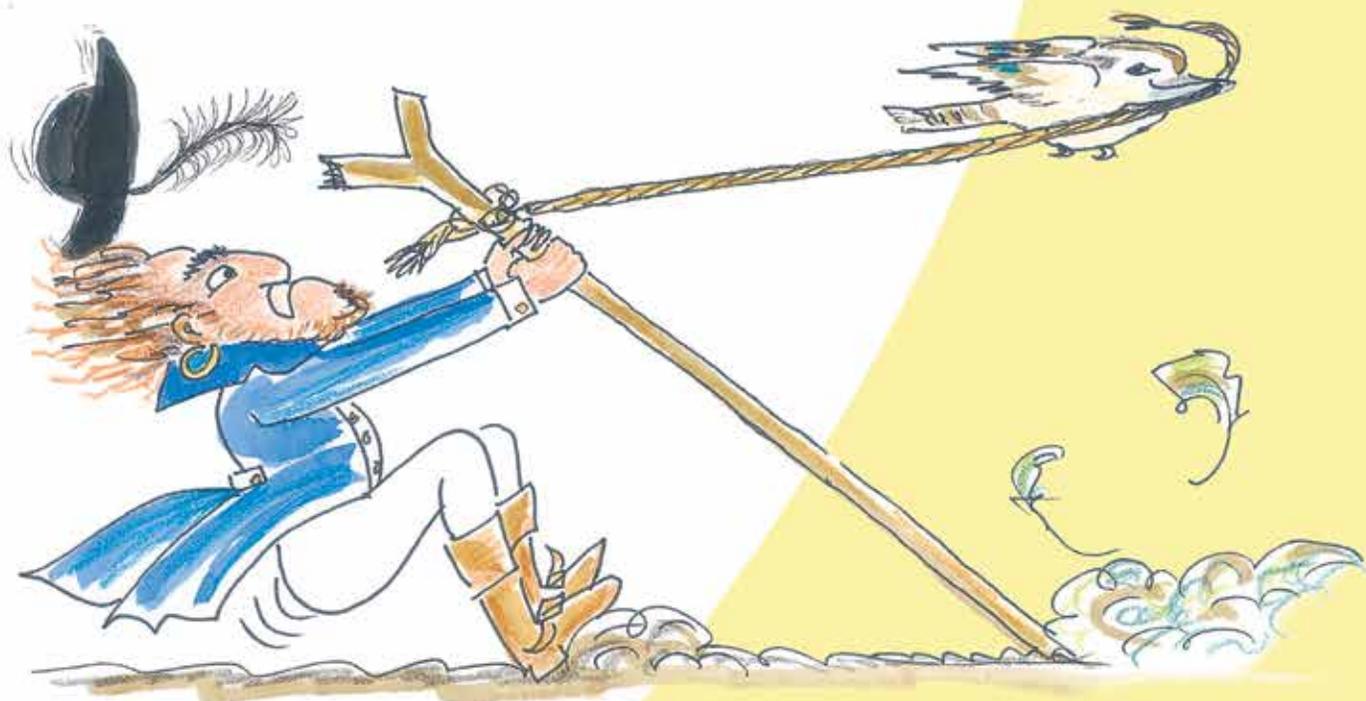
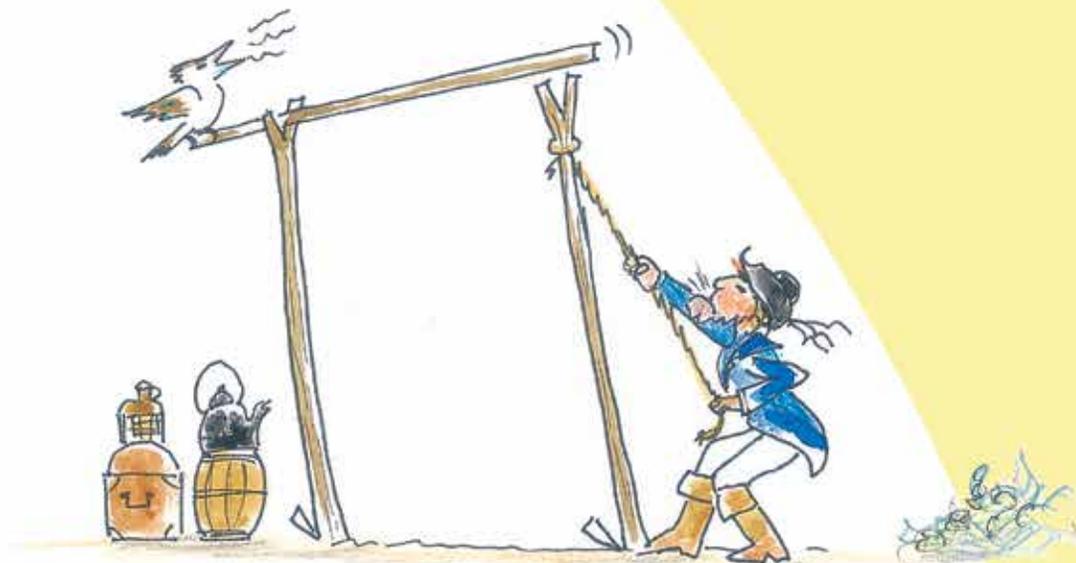
This made Captain Grumpy really, really grumpy.



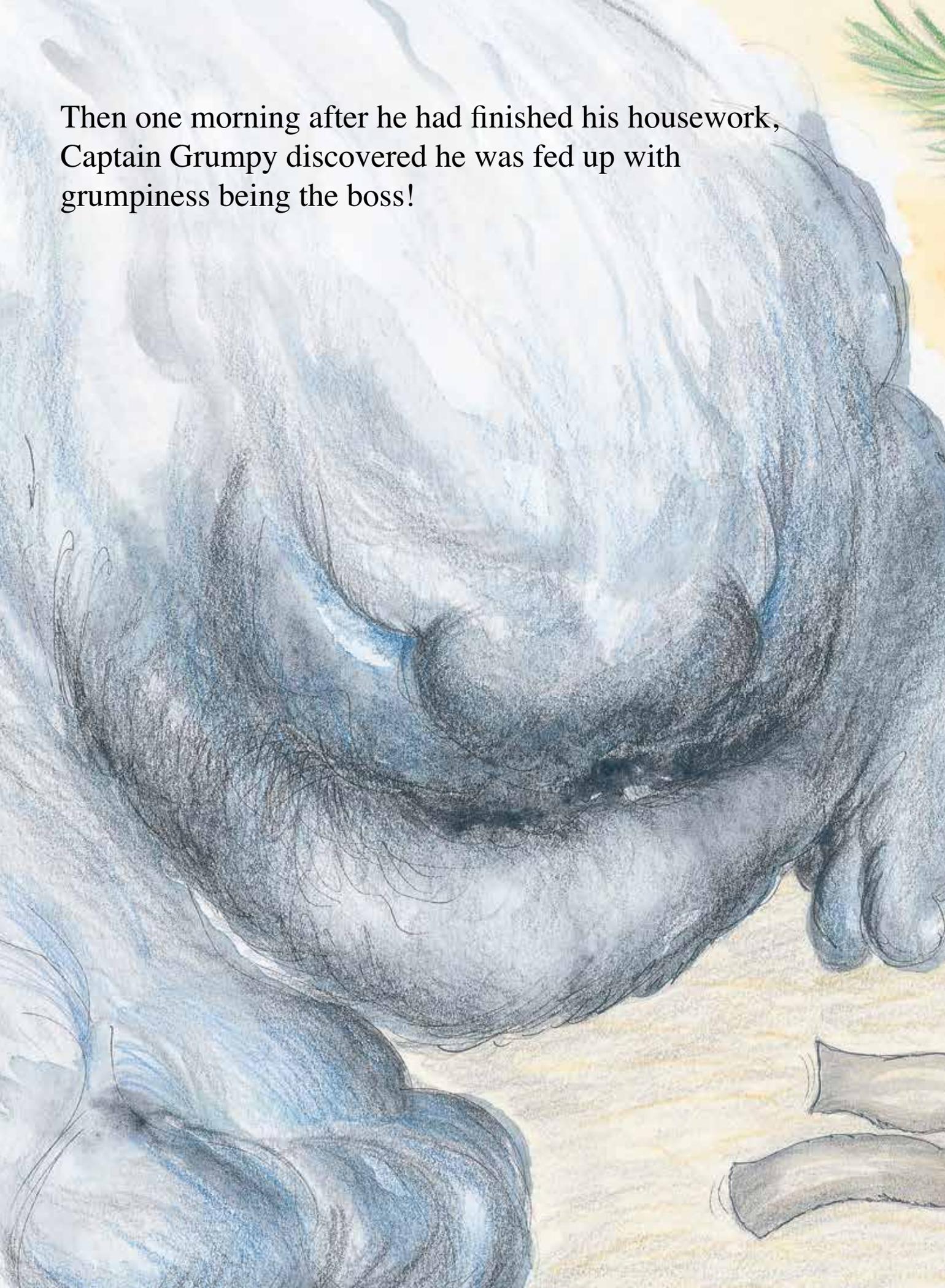


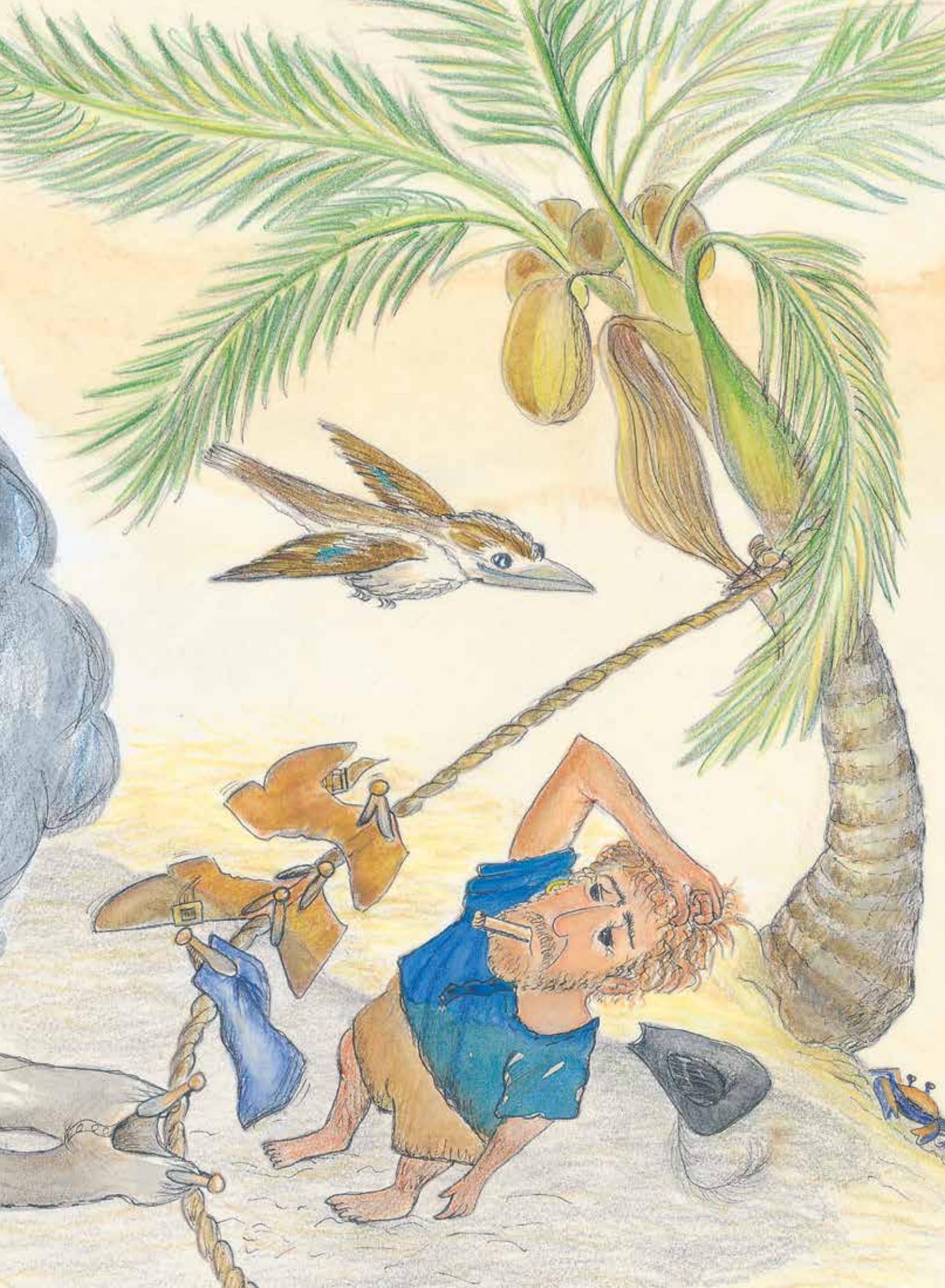
Days went by—  
grumpiness lurked  
around every corner.





Then one morning after he had finished his housework,  
Captain Grumpy discovered he was fed up with  
grumpiness being the boss!





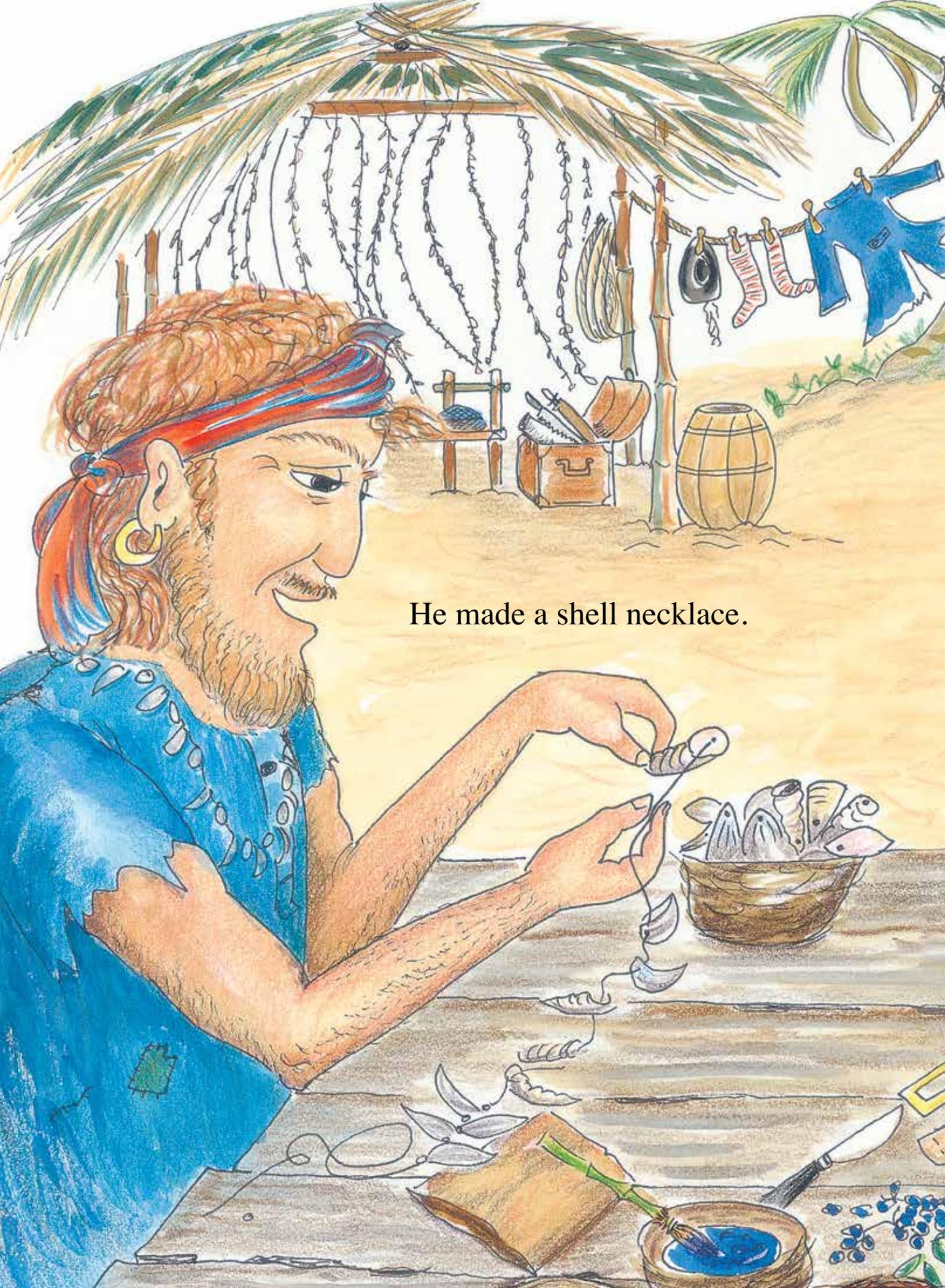
So he made a sandcastle.





He made a sculpture.





He made a shell necklace.



He even made ...





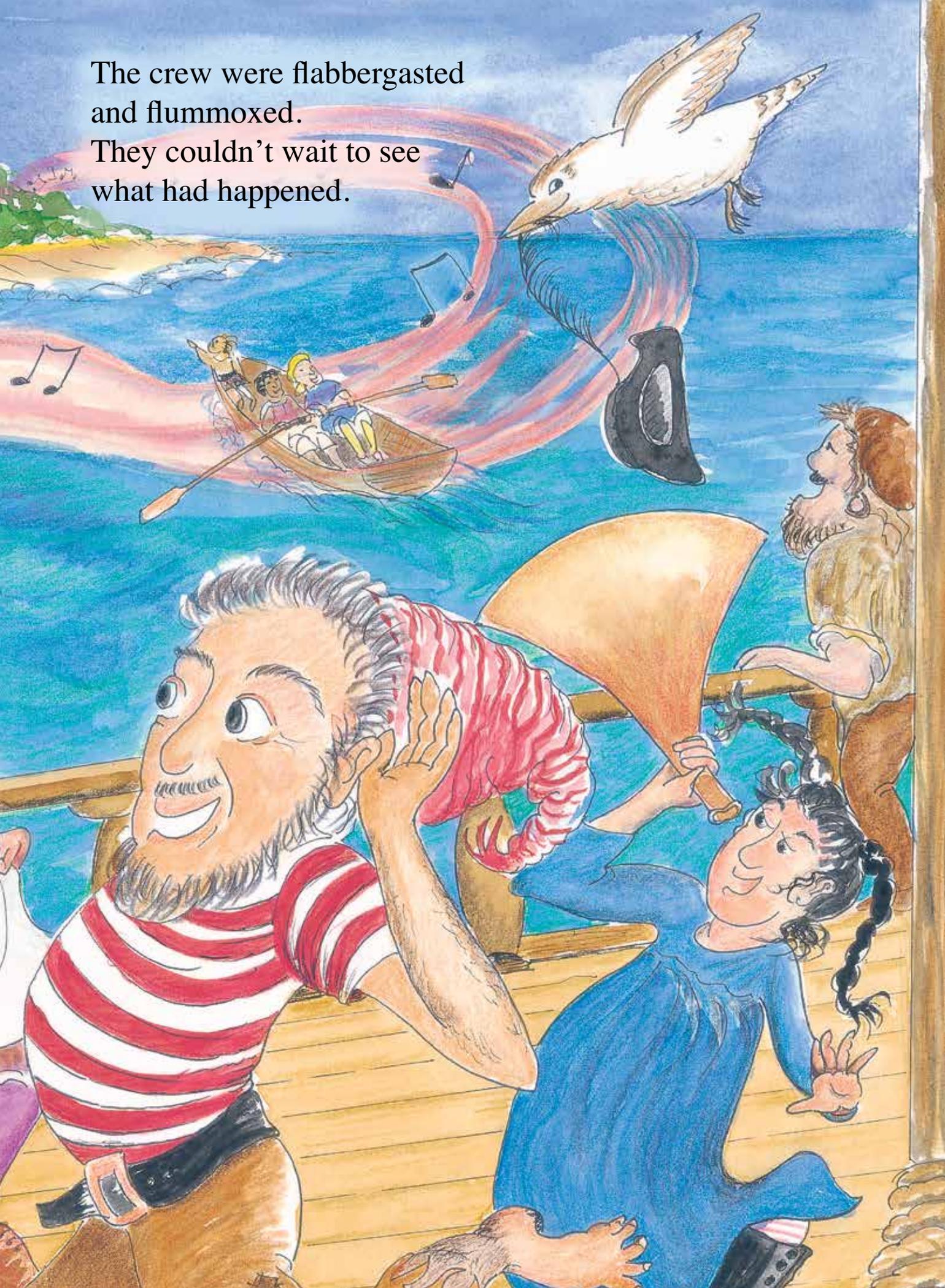


**MUSIC!**

His music travelled.



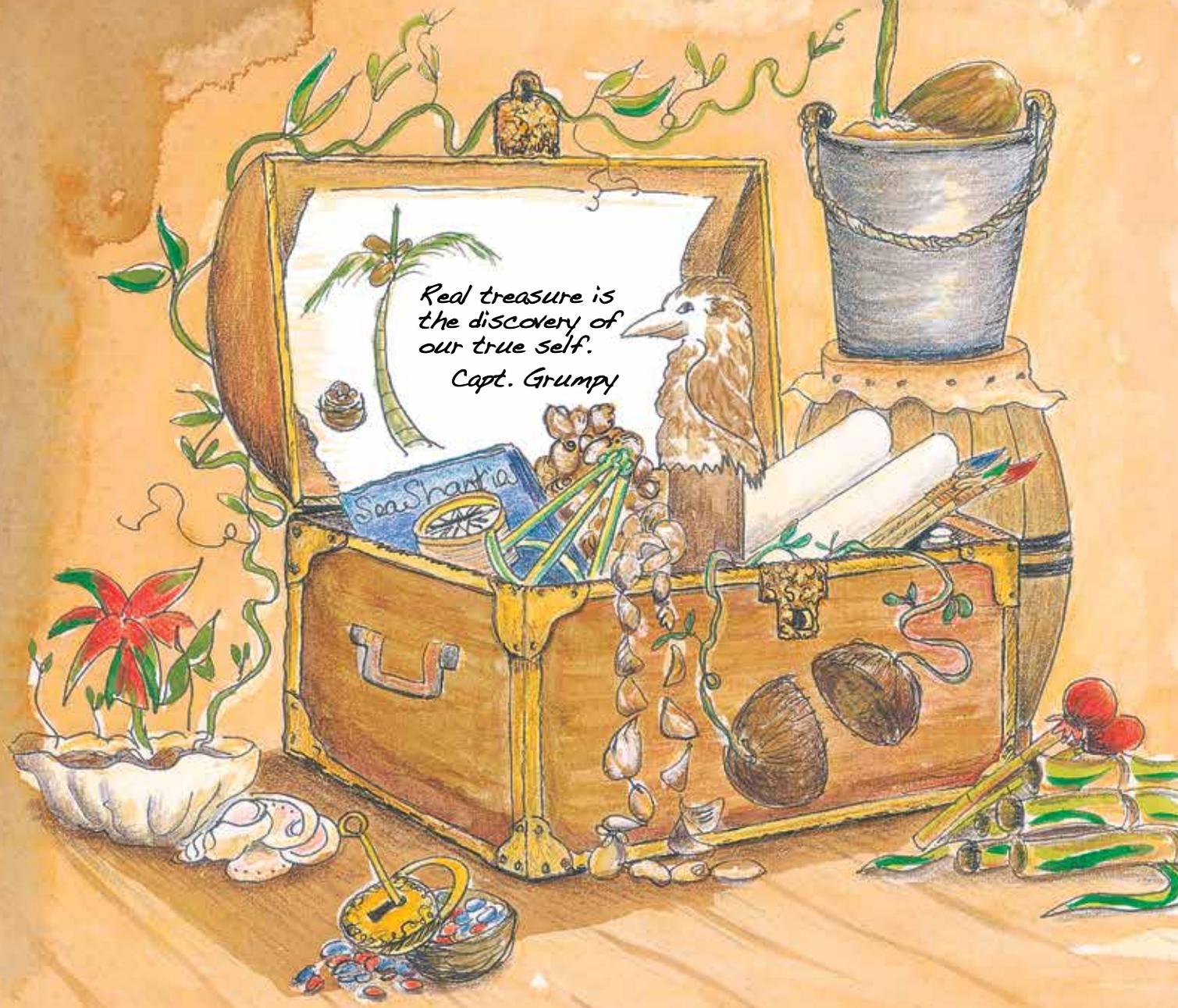
The crew were flabbergasted  
and flummoxed.  
They couldn't wait to see  
what had happened.





Captain Grumpy had found his treasure after all.





*Real treasure is  
the discovery of  
our true self.  
Capt. Grumpy*



## About the Author

Russell Deal was not born a pirate nor did his mum and dad pressure him into a life on the high seas. But every now and again he dons his pirate costume and actually resembles his hero “Captain Grumpy”. He has even been sighted in schools talking about his own battles with grumpiness. As well as being a pirate, Russell is also known as a social worker, teacher, and publisher; a husband, father and “Grumpa” to his grandchildren, Sunny and Sam. Most of his sailing these days is on an airbed on his dam at Castlemaine in Central Victoria.



## About the Illustrator

Sue Jenkins is a Queensland based author/illustrator whose infatuation with children’s books led to the publication of her young adult novel, *Call of the Dolphin*. From designing promotional posters and a lifelong love of painting, Sue plunged into the work of sea spray and pirates with Captain Grumpy. When not chasing characters across her drawing board, Sue heads for the Hinterland bush or Gold Coast beaches because you never know what you might find.



*Captain Grumpy* didn't want to be a pirate. He wanted to be an artist. But a pirate he became and he was good at it because he was good at being grumpy.



But you can have too much of a good thing and grumpiness soon became the boss of Captain Grumpy's life.

The result?

Mutiny by the crew—the whole wild and woolly, rabble-rousing, fun-loving band of 'em—tatts, outrageous boots, stripy tee shirts 'n all.

This band also includes a roly-poly cook and a fabulous girl pirate with more than a touch of glam.

And what about Captain Grumpy?

Well, it's a desert island and the discovery of very special treasure for him!

*Read on, me hearties!*