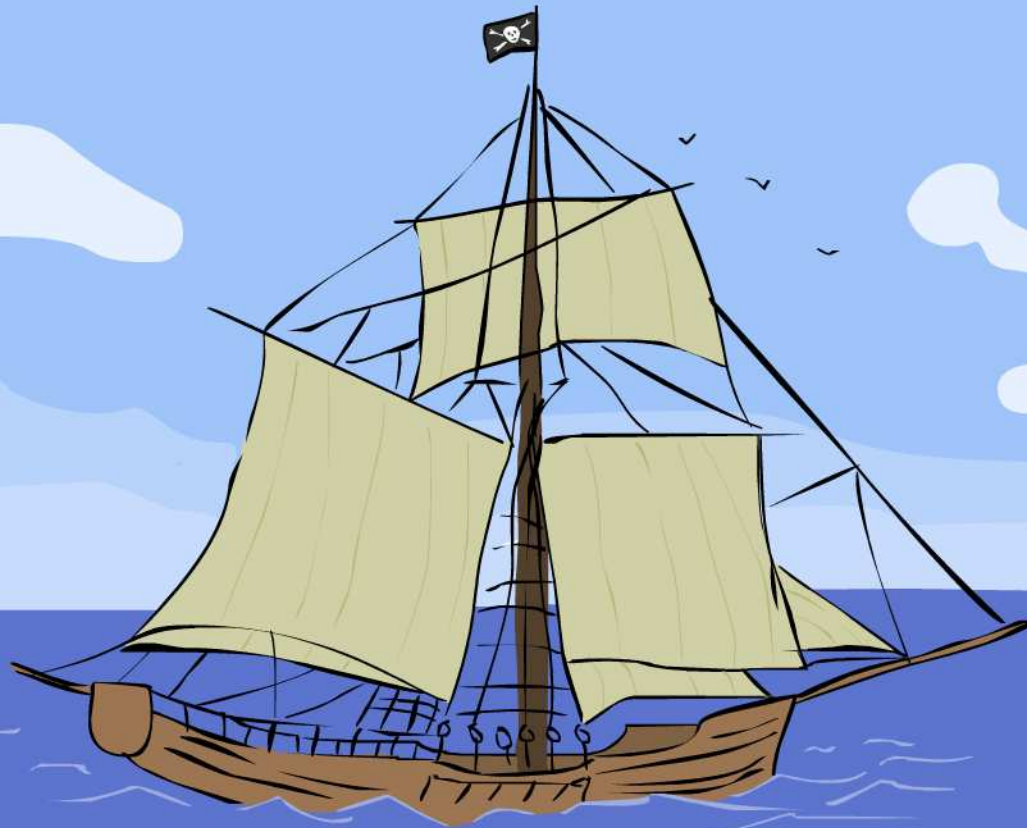




Stinky Toes
the Pirate



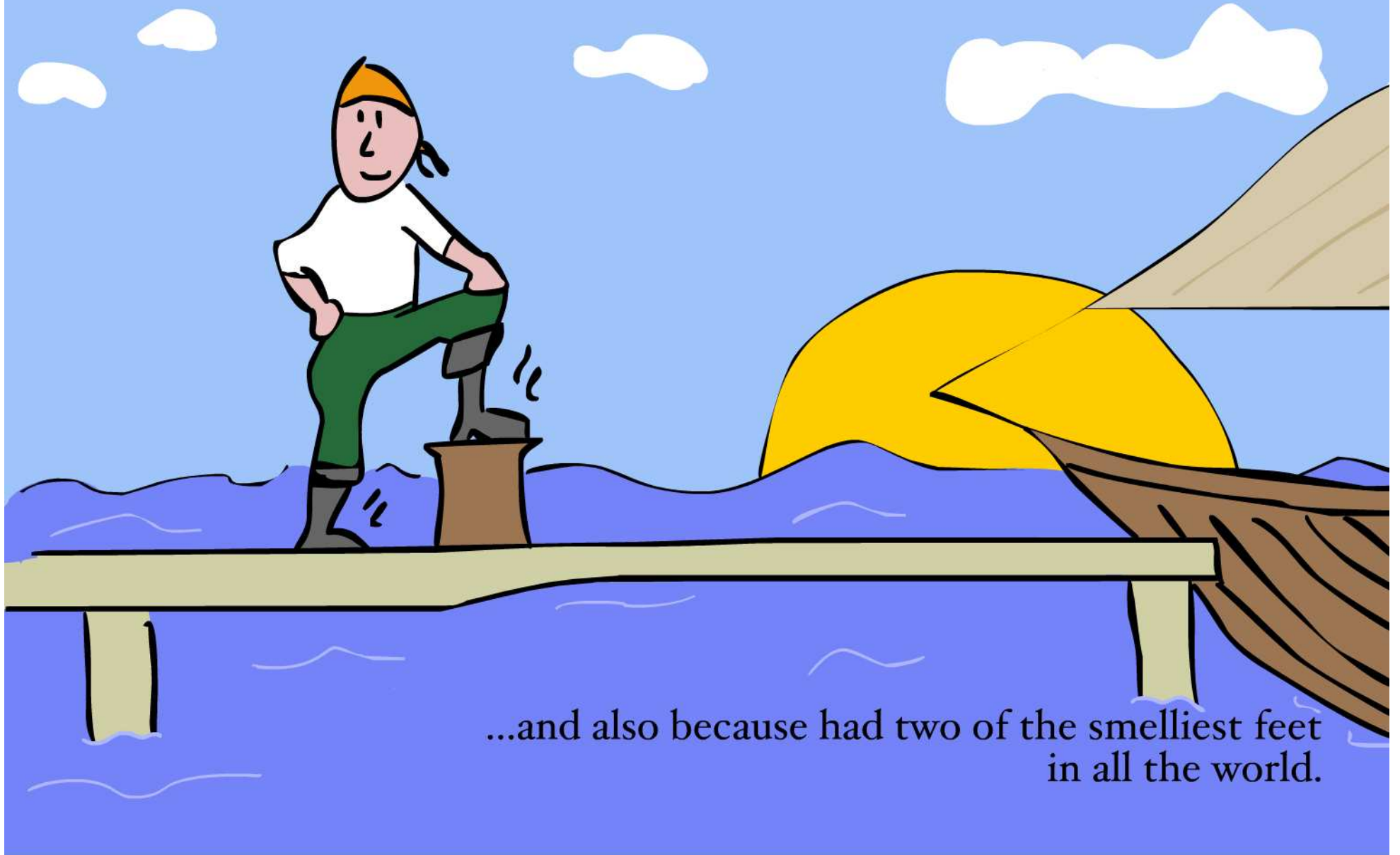
Throughout history, seafaring adventurers have earned themselves some pretty interesting names.

There was Red Beard, Black Beard,
and even a guy called Polka-Dot Beard.

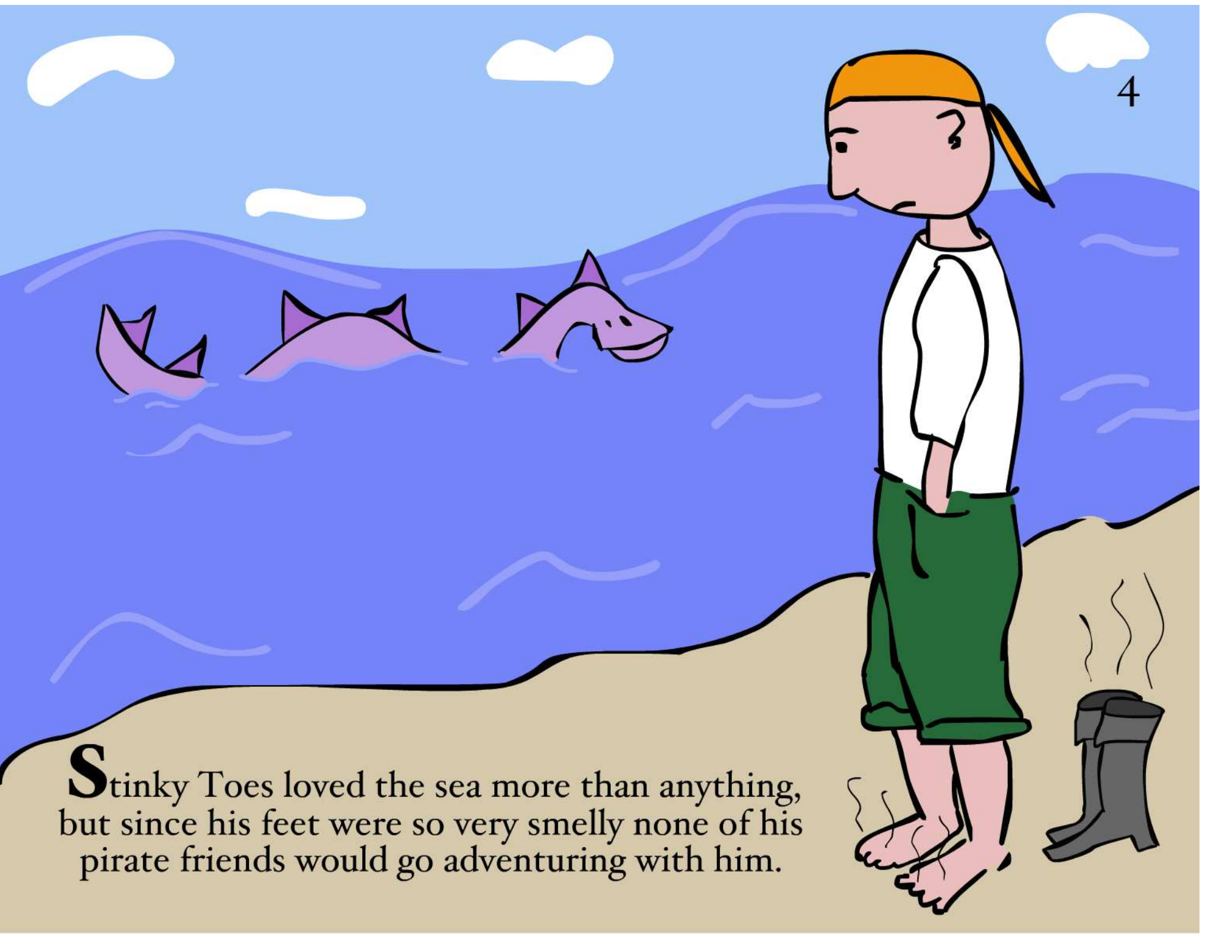


But this story isn't about them.
This is the tale of Stinky Toes the Pirate.

Folks called him that because he was a pirate, of course...



...and also because he had two of the smelliest feet
in all the world.



Stinky Toes loved the sea more than anything, but since his feet were so very smelly none of his pirate friends would go adventuring with him.

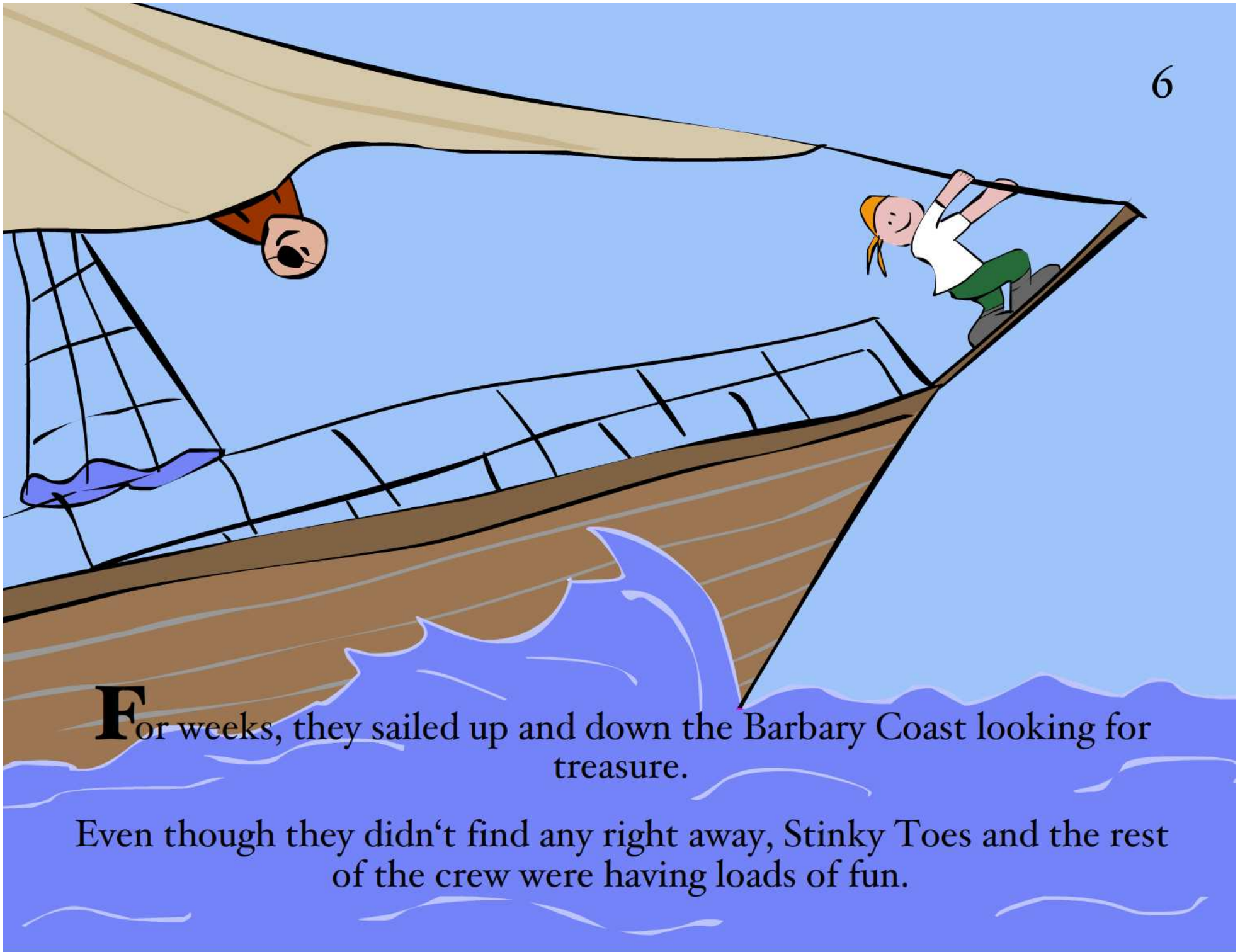
An illustration showing two hands shaking on a wooden dock. The hand on the left is pinkish, and the hand on the right is brownish. A speech bubble above the hands contains the word "YARR!". The background is a blue sky and a blue body of water. The dock is made of wooden planks.

YARR!

One day he had an idea and rushed down to the dock to see his best friend Oscar.

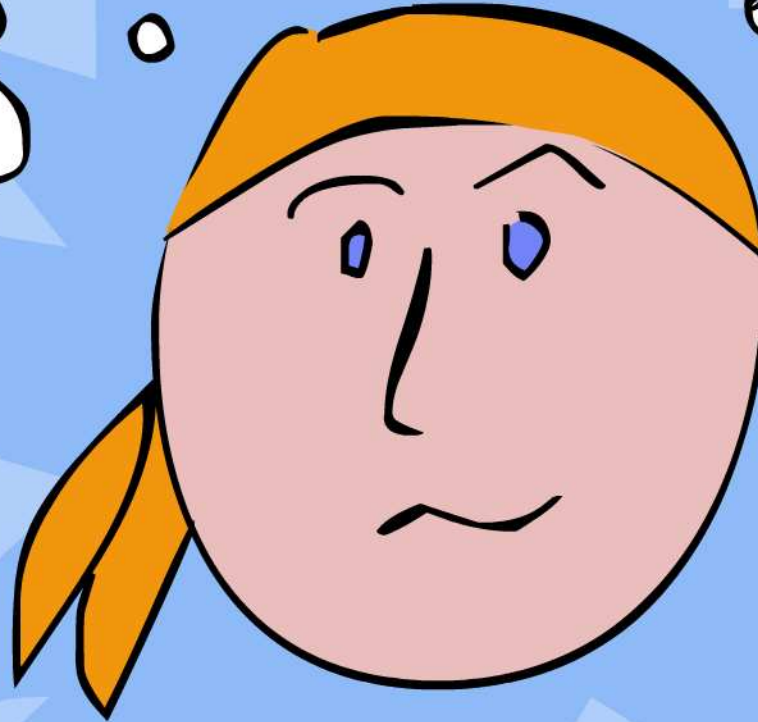
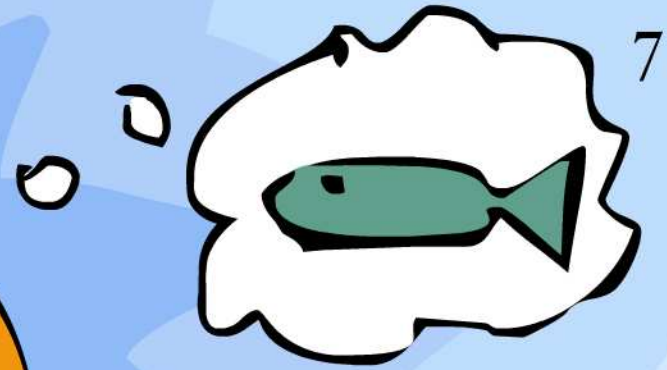
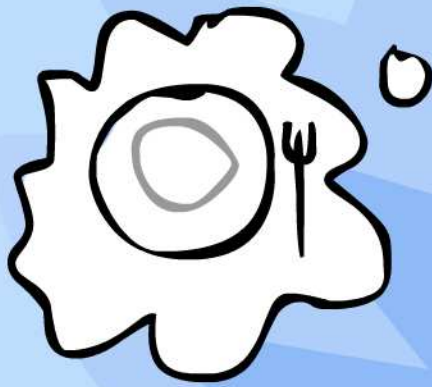
“If you agree to set sail with me,” he said, “I promise never to take off my boots during the whole journey.”

They sealed the deal with a handshake and a “yarr!”



For weeks, they sailed up and down the Barbary Coast looking for treasure.

Even though they didn't find any right away, Stinky Toes and the rest of the crew were having loads of fun.

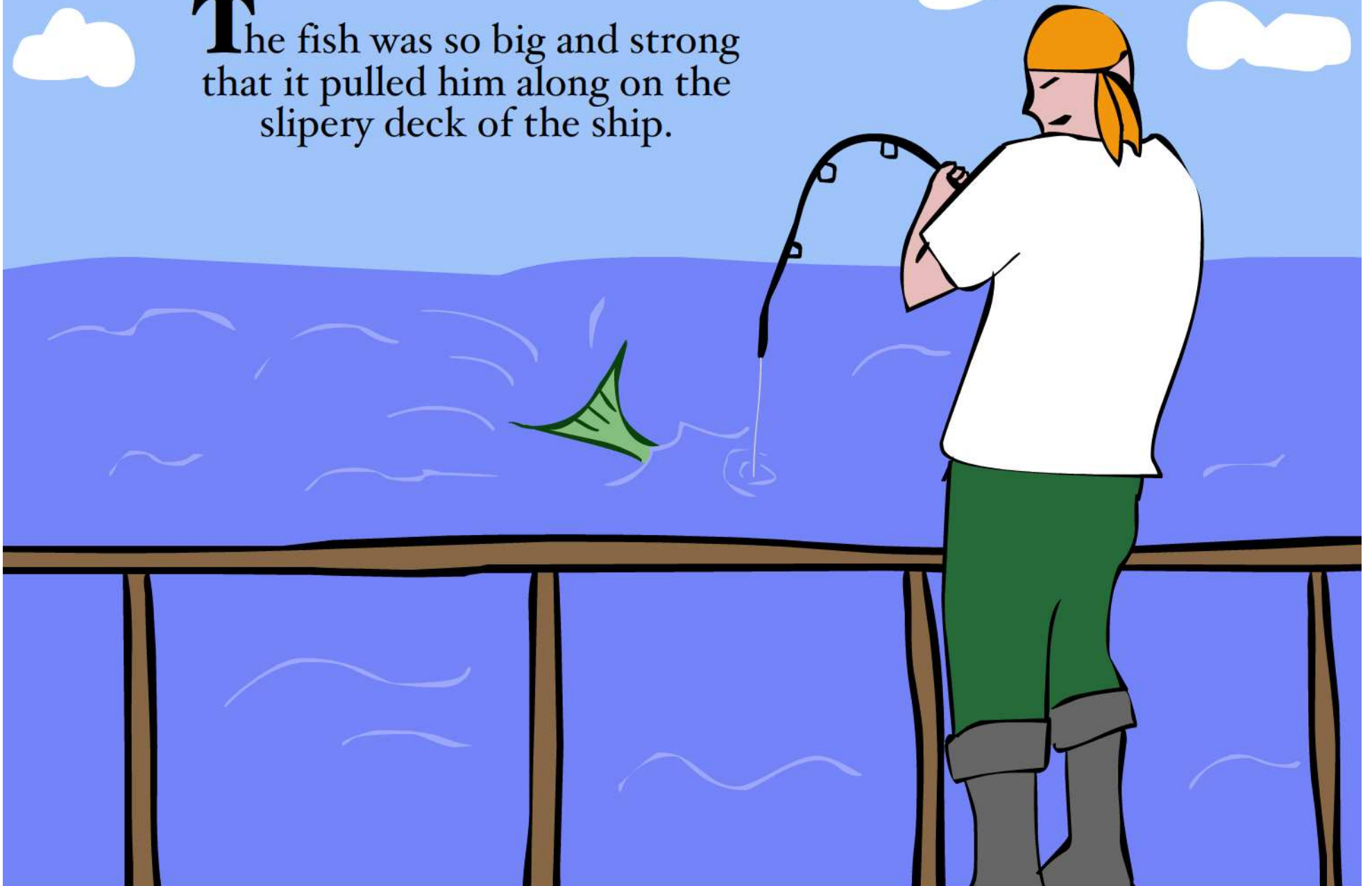


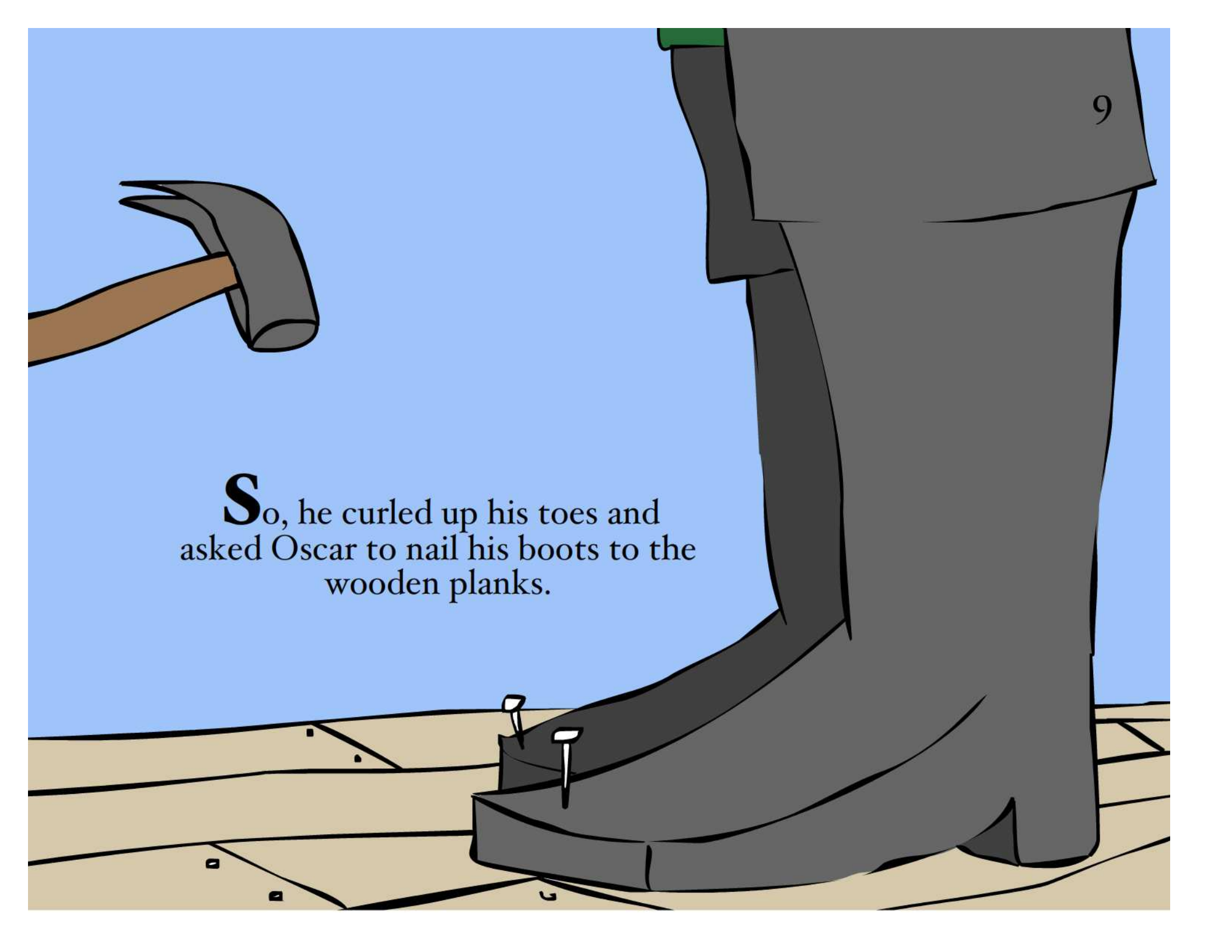
After a while, they began to run short of food, so Stinky Toes decided he would catch the largest fish in the ocean for dinner that night.

He waited for hours with no signs of a bite.

Suddenly, he felt a tug on his line.

The fish was so big and strong that it pulled him along on the slippery deck of the ship.



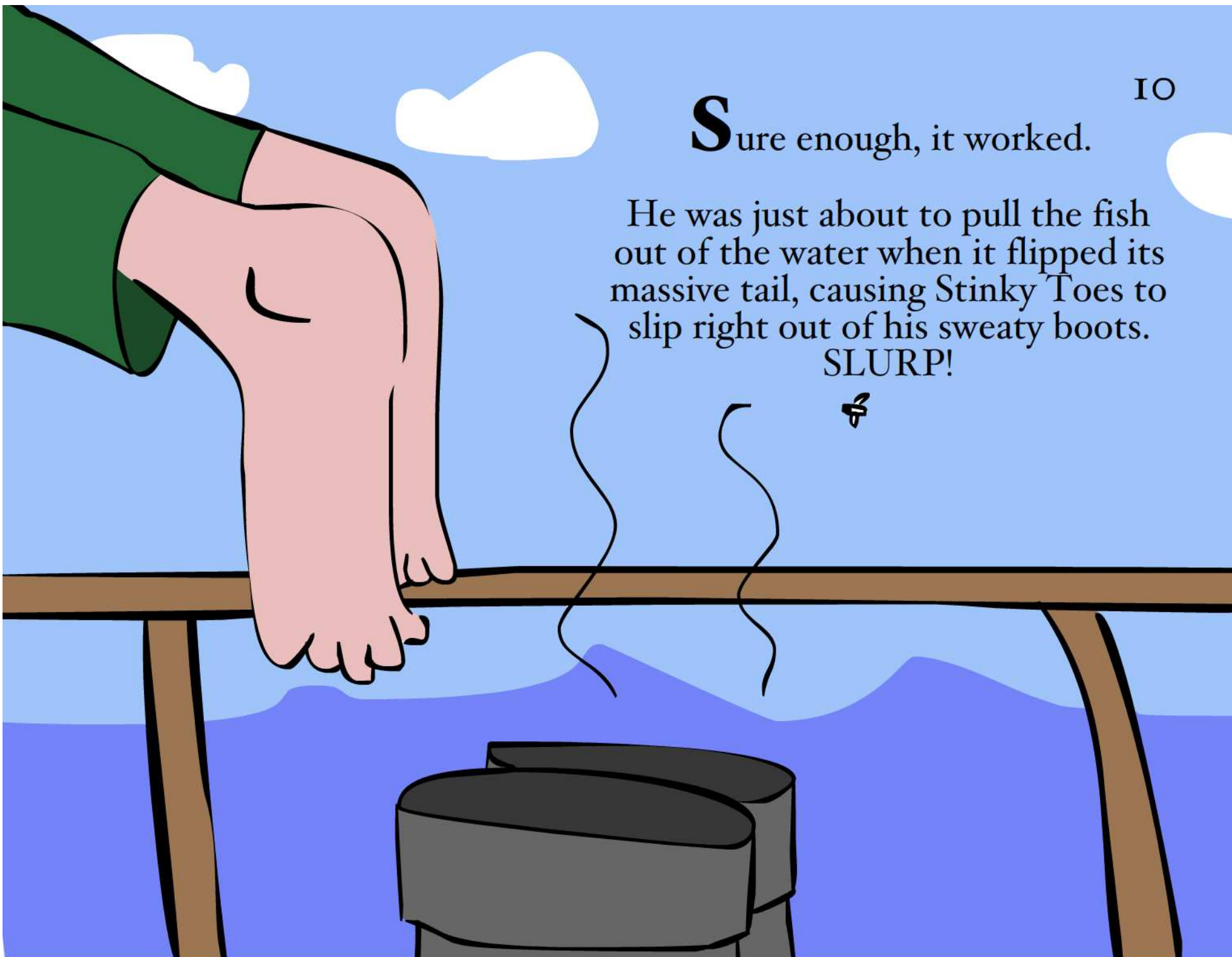


So, he curled up his toes and
asked Oscar to nail his boots to the
wooden planks.

Sure enough, it worked.

He was just about to pull the fish out of the water when it flipped its massive tail, causing Stinky Toes to slip right out of his sweaty boots.

SLURP!



Stinky Toes was sad. Not only had he lost the fish, but now the stench of his feet was worse than ever.

Even miles away people covered their noses and asked each other
“what is that smell?”



“**A** deal’s a deal,” said his friends,
and they all prepared to leave Stinky
Toes on the nearest beach.

Stinky Toes sat in the sand and cried.

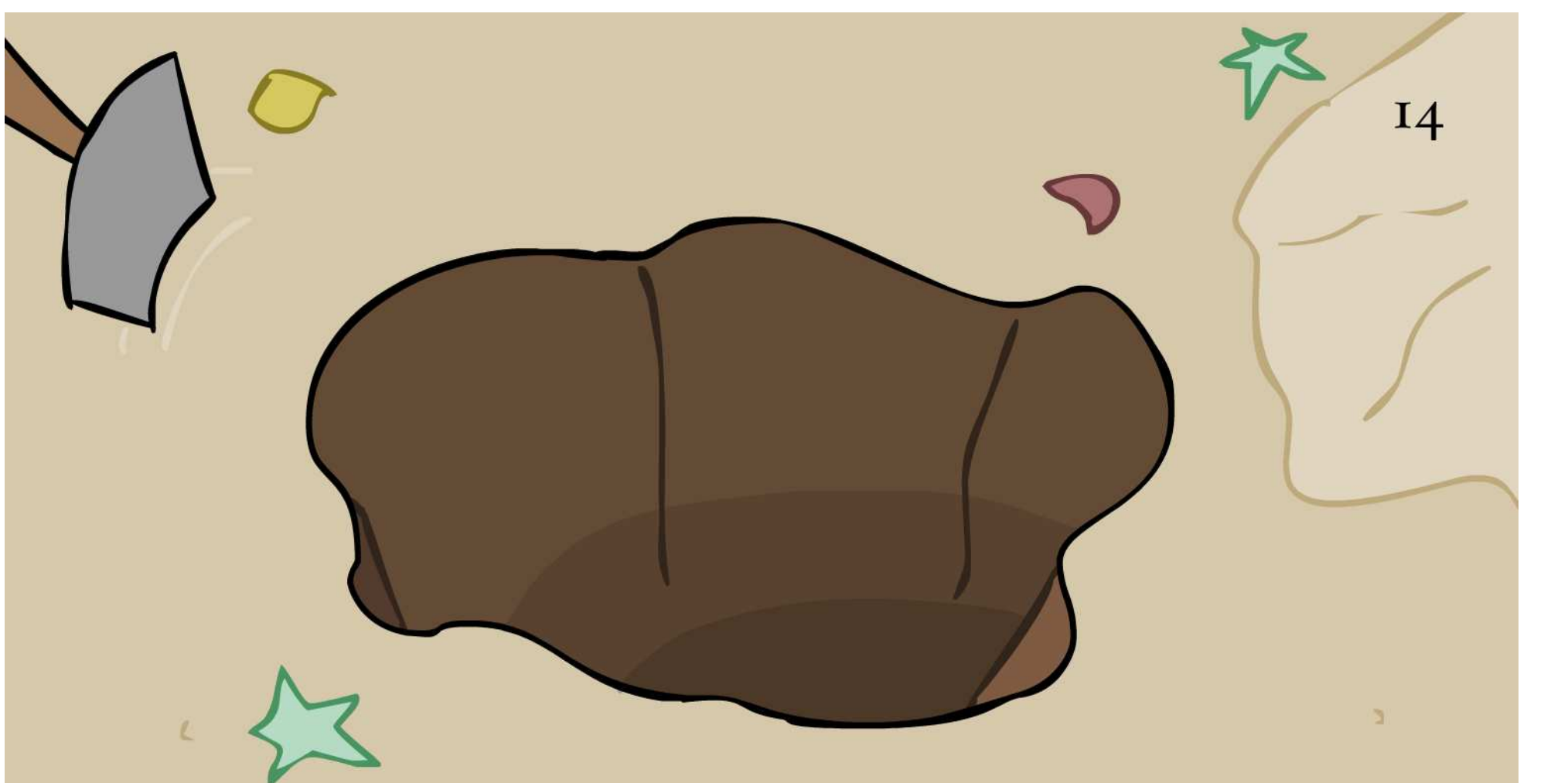


As he watched his friends row back to the ship, Stinky Toes noticed something on the sand...

... a letter written in shells and starfish.

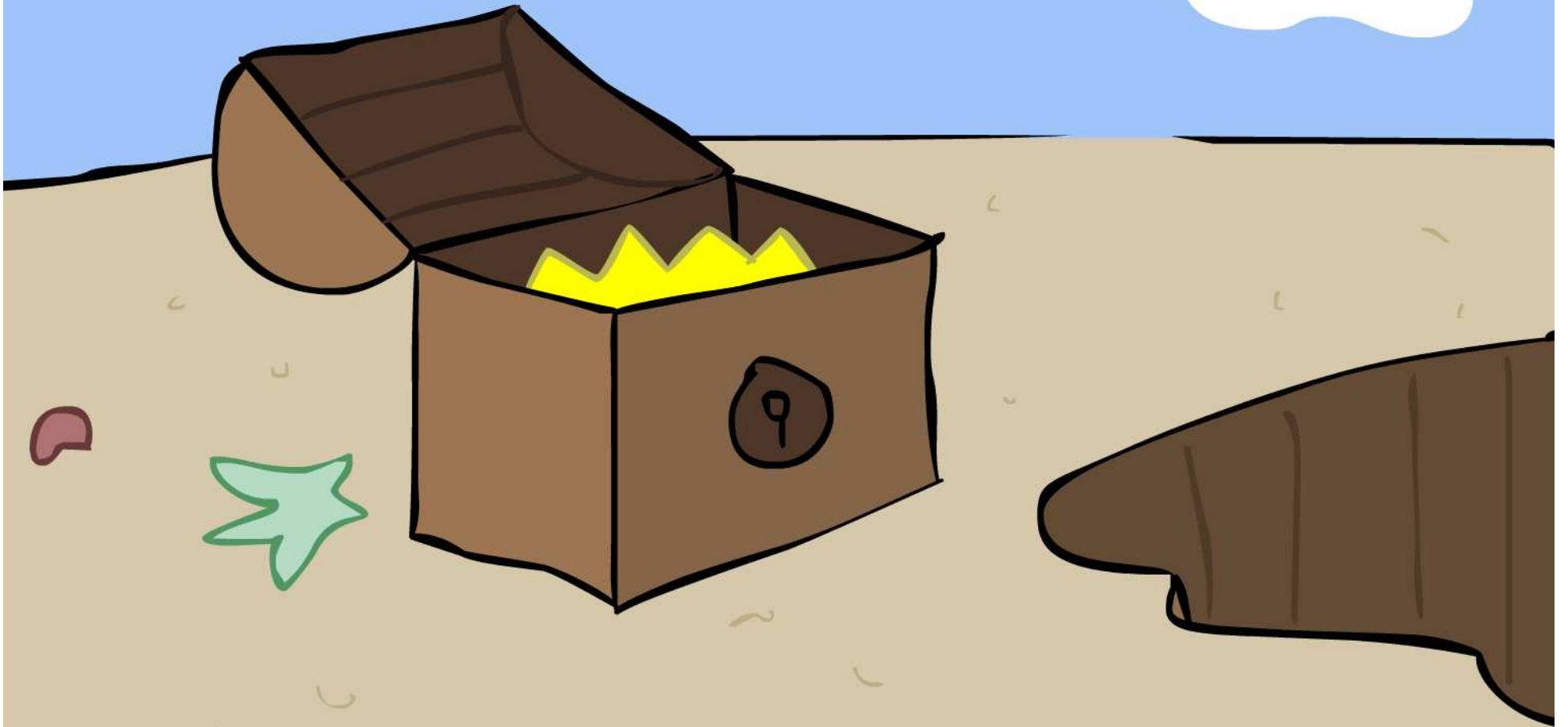
He remembered that it was a special letter pirates sometimes use on maps.

It was an X!



Stinky Toes began digging with his hands as fast as he could, deeper and deeper.

His friends, noticing that he had found something, quickly rowed back with picks and shovels. Soon they had a very deep hole, and at the bottom they found a small wooden chest.



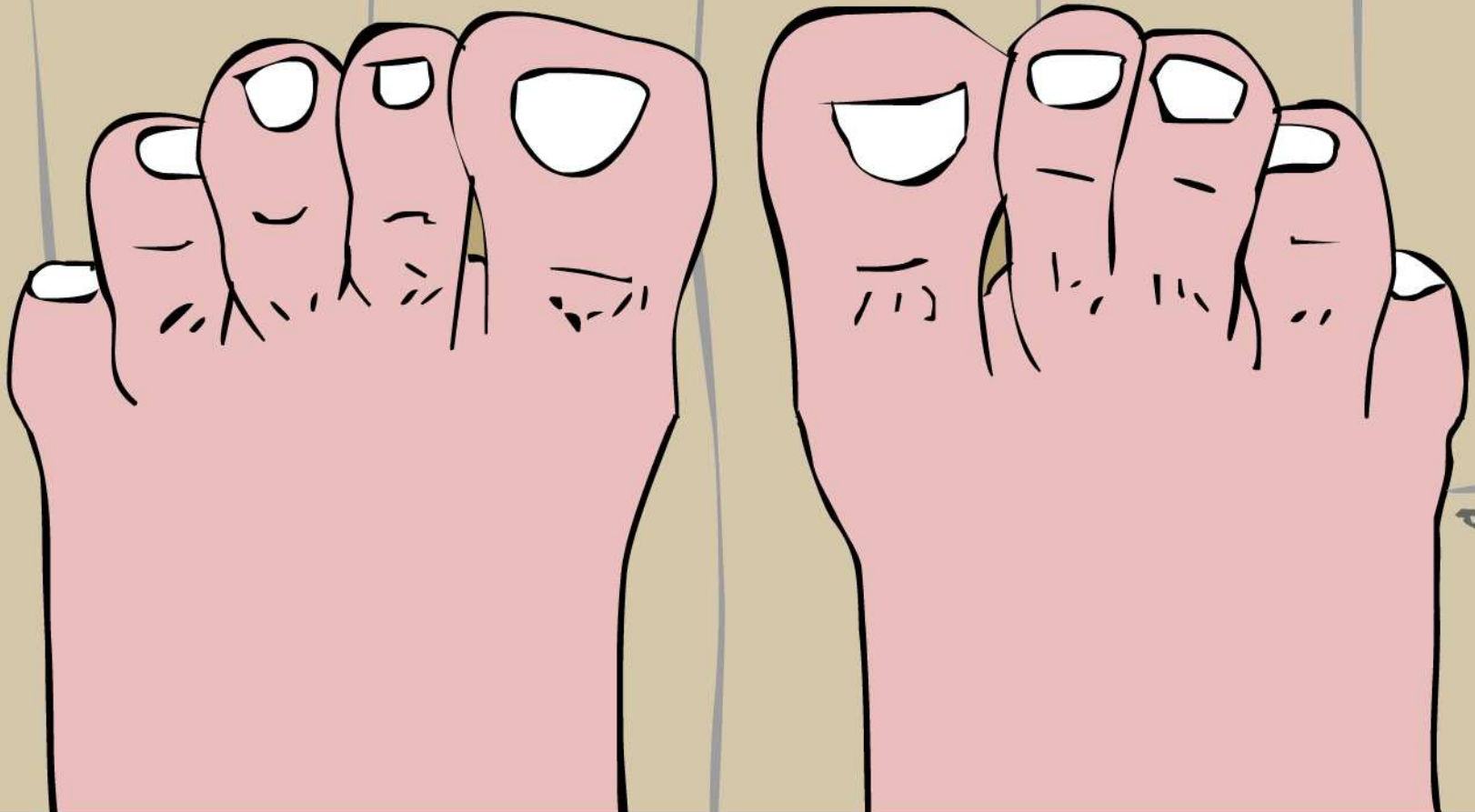
Stinky Toes held his breath as he opened the creaky chest.

Did he find gold doubloons? Diamonds? Gems?

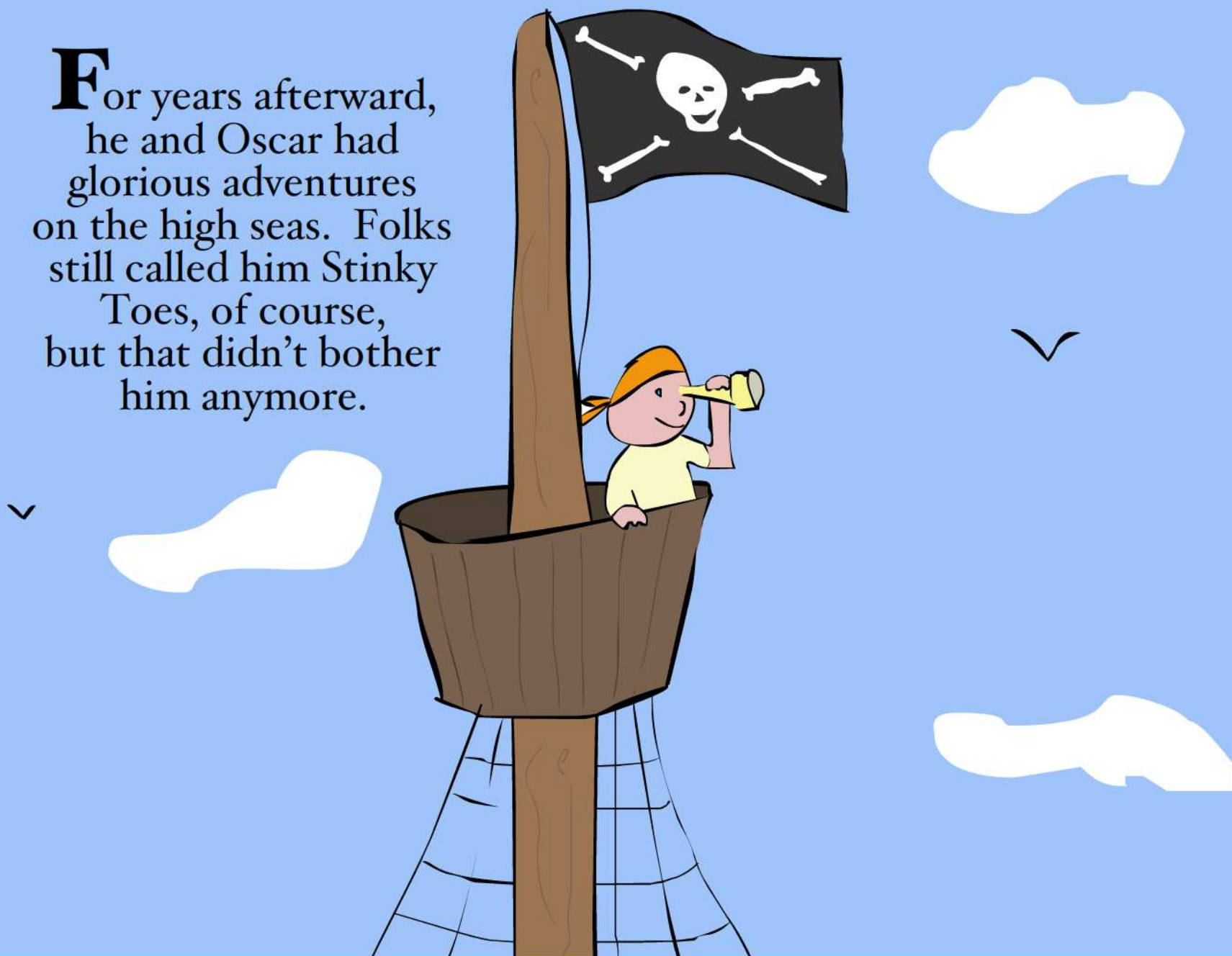


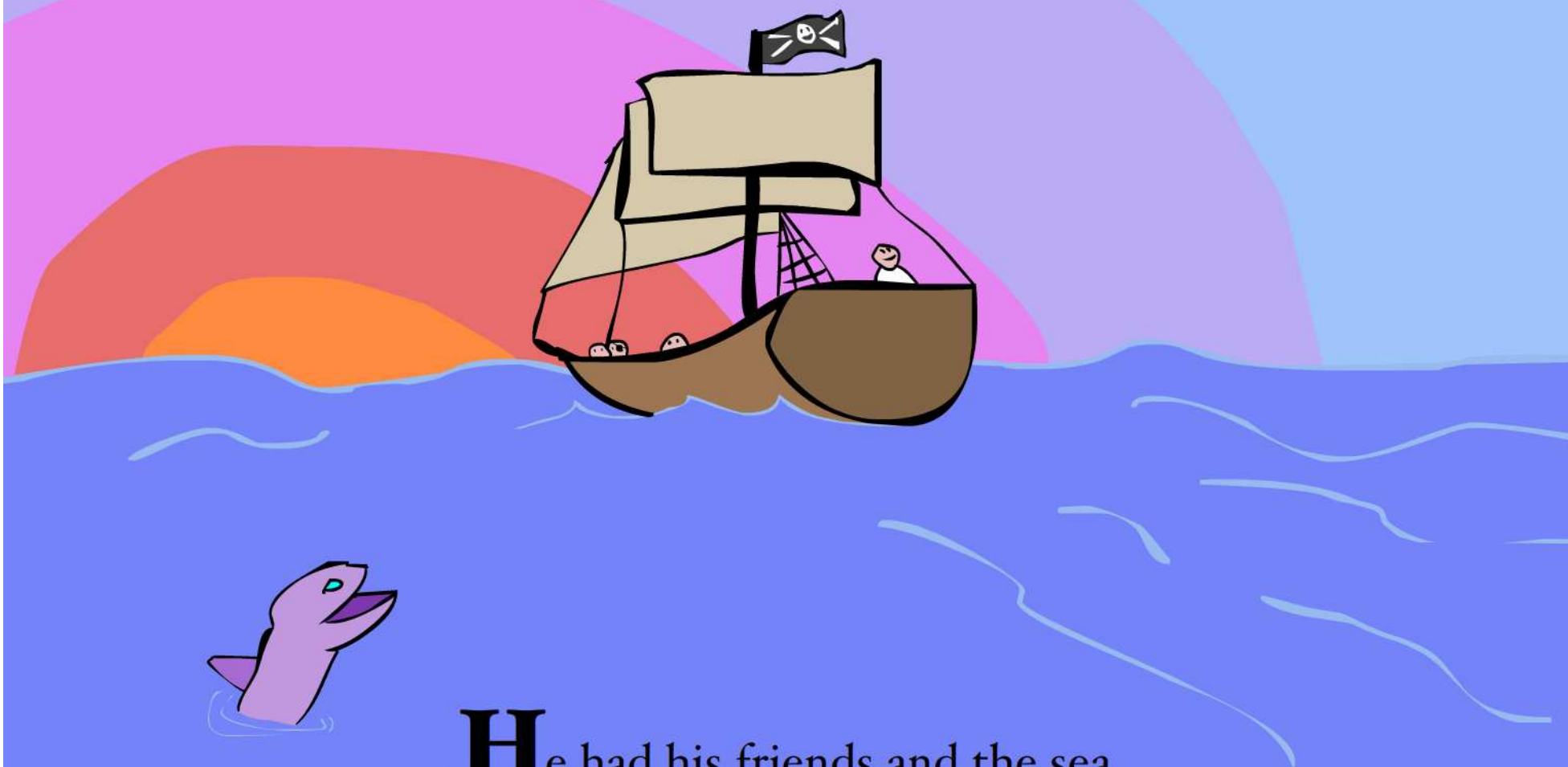
Not quite. At the bottom of the chest, under a layer of coconut husk, he found a package of Dr. Shoal's charcoal foot pads.

But Stinky Toes wasn't disappointed at all. With the pads in his boots, his feet didn't smell anymore, so he could keep on sailing with his friends. The rest of the crew was happy to have him back because he was so good at tying knots.



For years afterward,
he and Oscar had
glorious adventures
on the high seas. Folks
still called him Stinky
Toes, of course,
but that didn't bother
him anymore.





He had his friends and the sea.

The end