The Christmas Pirate

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Character Illustrations by: Elena Velasco Alarcòn

“**The Christmas Pirate**” ®
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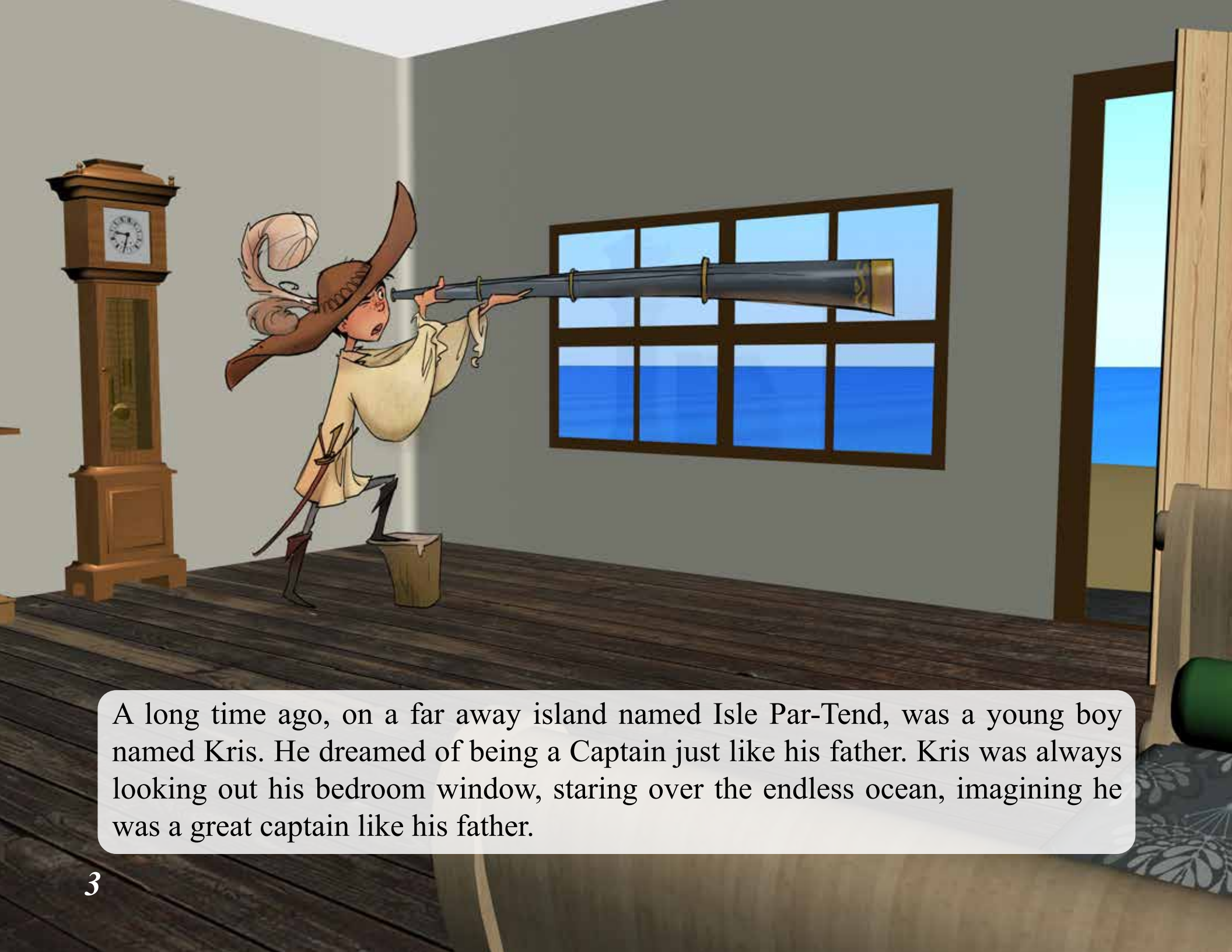
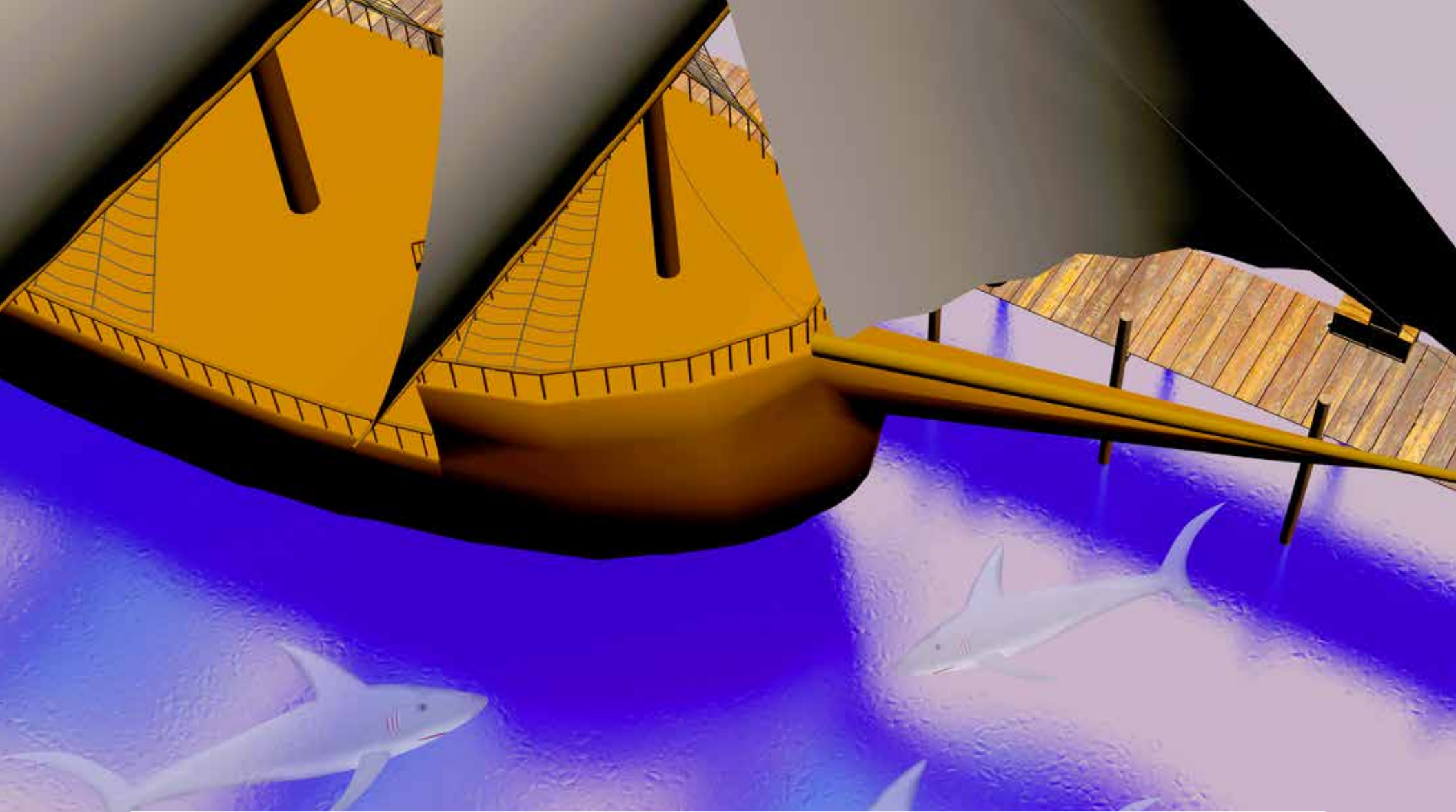


A long time ago, on a far away island named Isle Par-Tend, was a young boy named Kris. He dreamed of being a Captain just like his father. Kris was always looking out his bedroom window, staring over the endless ocean, imagining he was a great captain like his father.

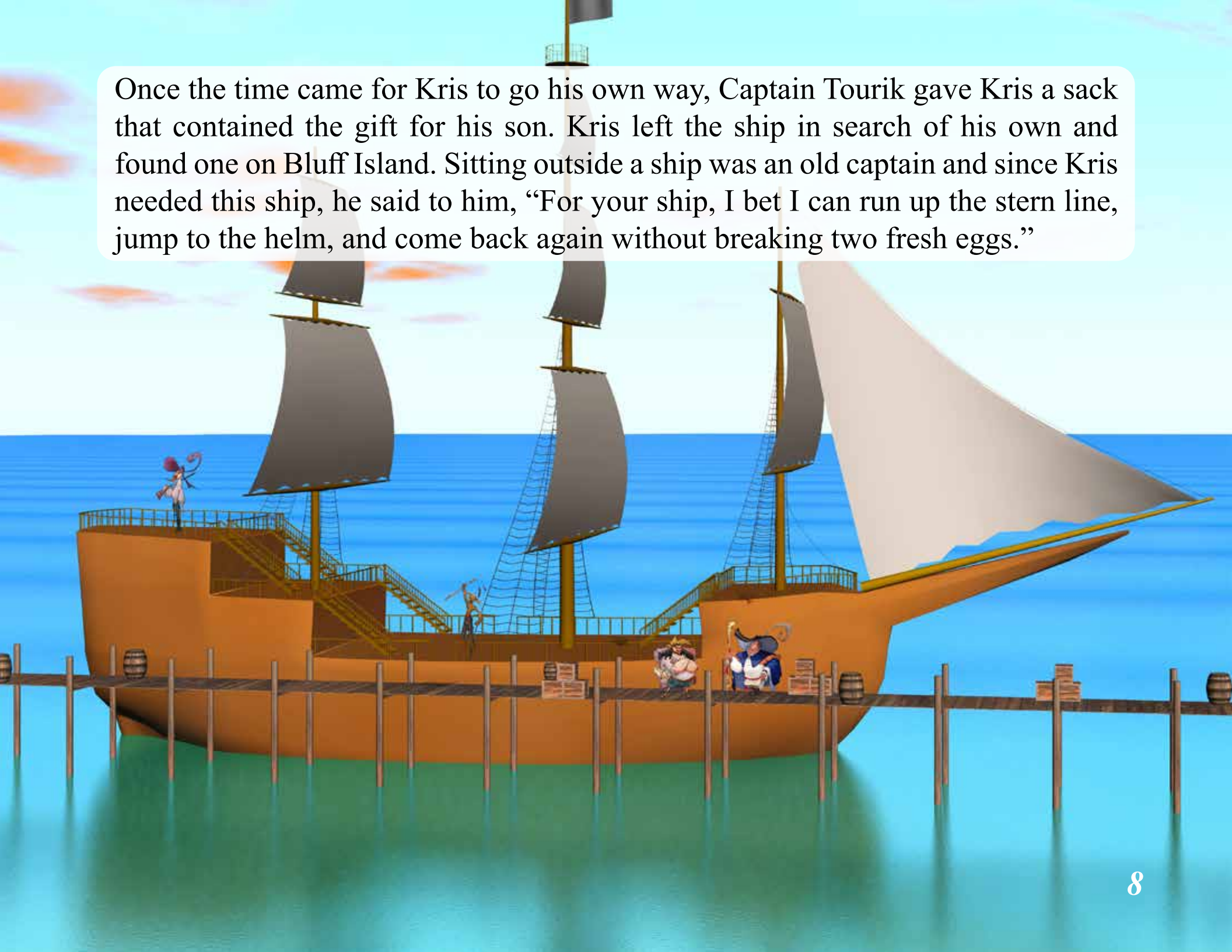
One late, stormy night, a knock came to the door. As Kris's mother opened the door, he could see two large figures. Suddenly, his mother let out a cry and fell to her knees. Captain Masterson was lost at sea.

As the years slipped by with no word of Kris's father, many rumors spread across the island. One such rumor claimed that Captain Masterson's ship sank to the bottom of the ocean during a nasty storm. Another rumor claimed his ship was taken over by ruthless pirates.



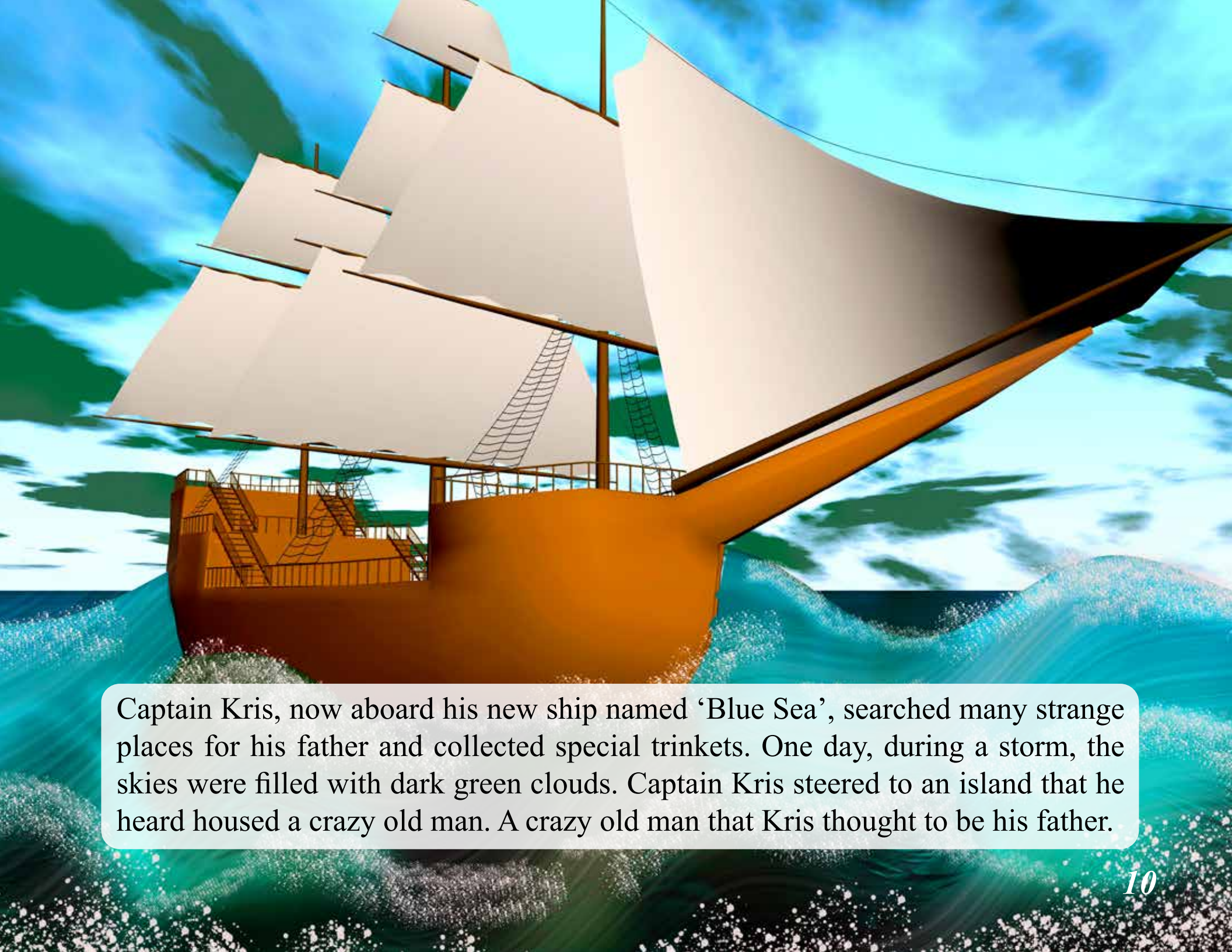
Now older, one early morning when no one was looking, Kris snuck aboard the mighty ship, The Surveyor, which was captained by none other than the great Captain Tourik. Captain Tourik was known for his fierce temper, and if Kris was caught aboard as a stowaway, he would certainly be thrown overboard to the sharks.

On The Surveyor's last day at sea, Captain Tourik walked over and opened the bulk head to where Kris was hiding. "Come here boy" the Captain shouted, "You must bring my son a gift that I had promised long ago." Without hesitation, perhaps out of fear, Kris said yes.



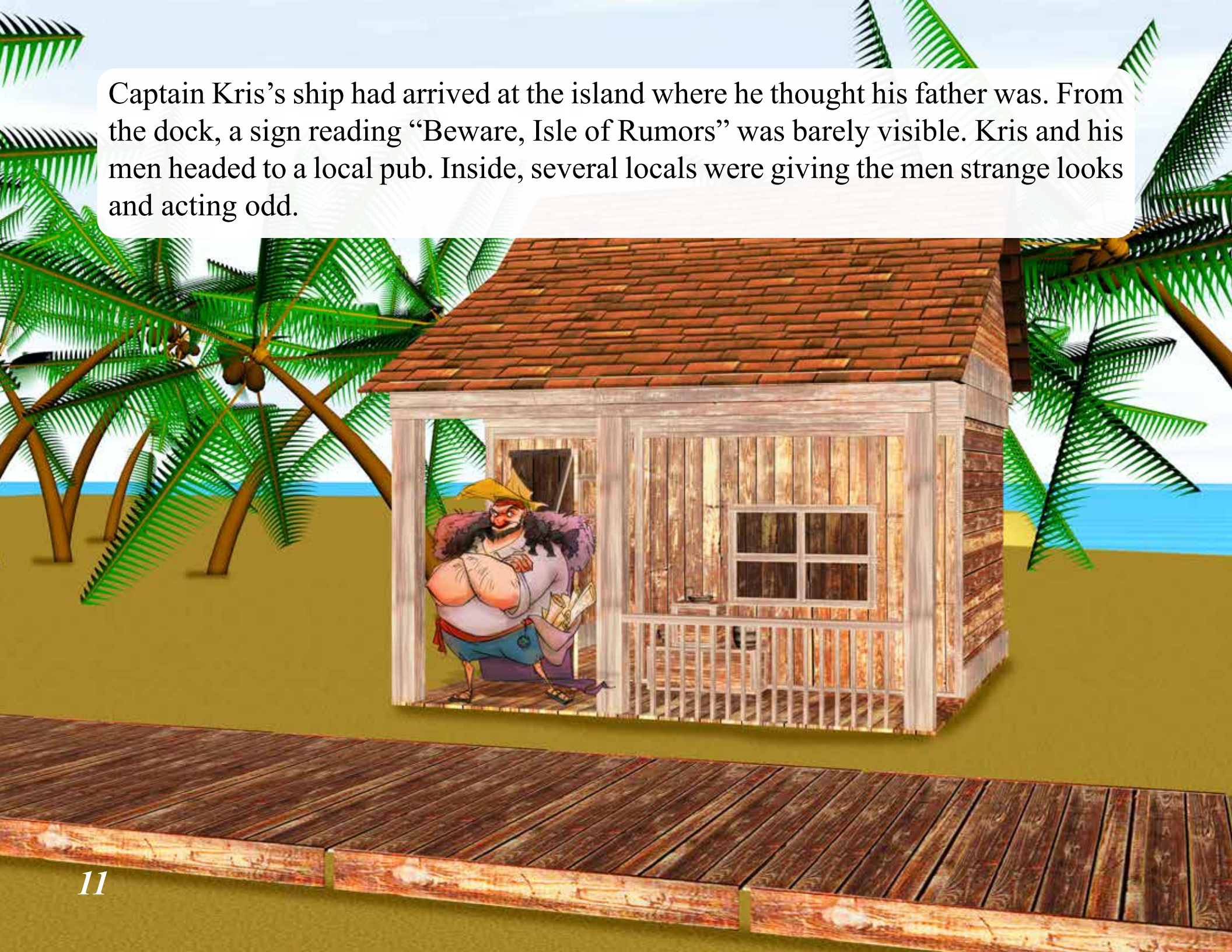
Once the time came for Kris to go his own way, Captain Tourik gave Kris a sack that contained the gift for his son. Kris left the ship in search of his own and found one on Bluff Island. Sitting outside a ship was an old captain and since Kris needed this ship, he said to him, “For your ship, I bet I can run up the stern line, jump to the helm, and come back again without breaking two fresh eggs.”

The old captain said to him, “You’ve got yerself a deal, but if either egg cracks even a bit, you’ll be my new ship hand for two years without pay.” The old captain didn’t know that Kris wrapped the eggs and placed them under his hat. Kris ran back and forth across the ship, not an egg cracked. “All right then Captain Masss… Massser… oh heck, you won.



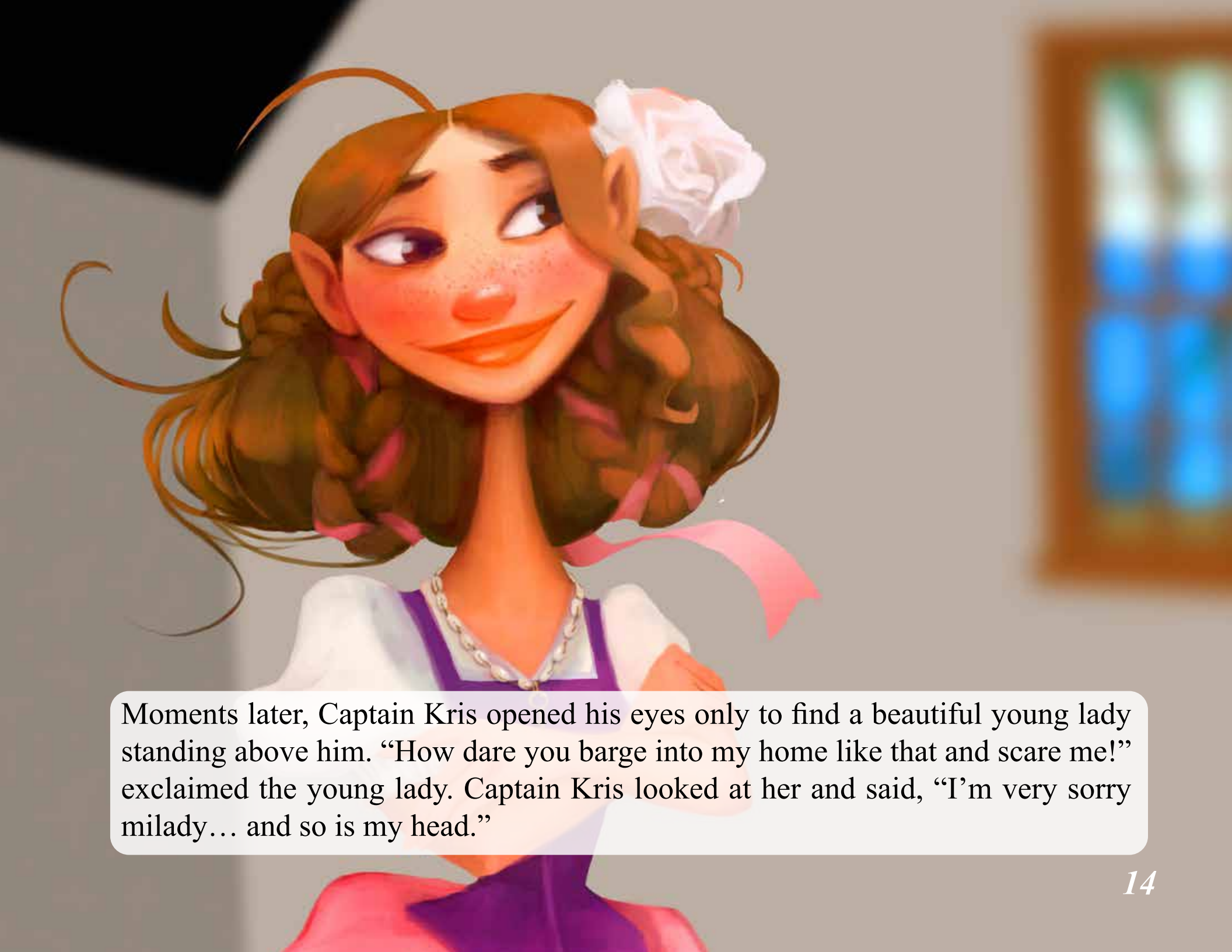
Captain Kris, now aboard his new ship named ‘Blue Sea’, searched many strange places for his father and collected special trinkets. One day, during a storm, the skies were filled with dark green clouds. Captain Kris steered to an island that he heard housed a crazy old man. A crazy old man that Kris thought to be his father.

Captain Kris's ship had arrived at the island where he thought his father was. From the dock, a sign reading "Beware, Isle of Rumors" was barely visible. Kris and his men headed to a local pub. Inside, several locals were giving the men strange looks and acting odd.



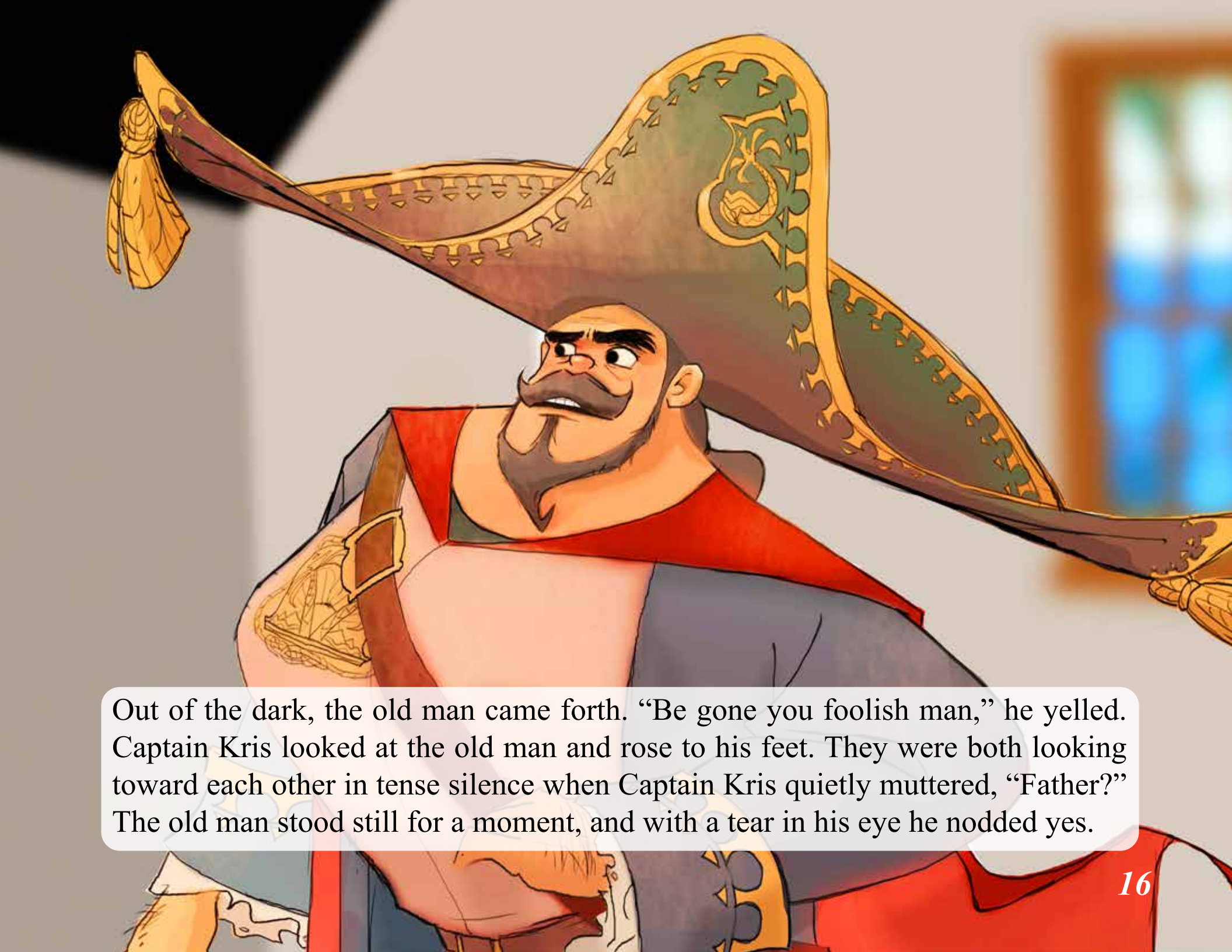
As time passed the locals began to brew a story about Captain Kris. A man sat next to Captain Kris and said, “I hear ye are as crazy as the old man up on the hill.” As the man laughed he said, “Well he’s crazy I tell ya. Lives up on that hill.

Captain Kris left the pub and started up the hill to the crazy man's house. He quickly found himself in front of a window where he saw a shadow within. Captain Kris barged through the door yelling, "Who are you?" At that very moment, he felt a large thump on his head, and darkness fell upon his eyes.

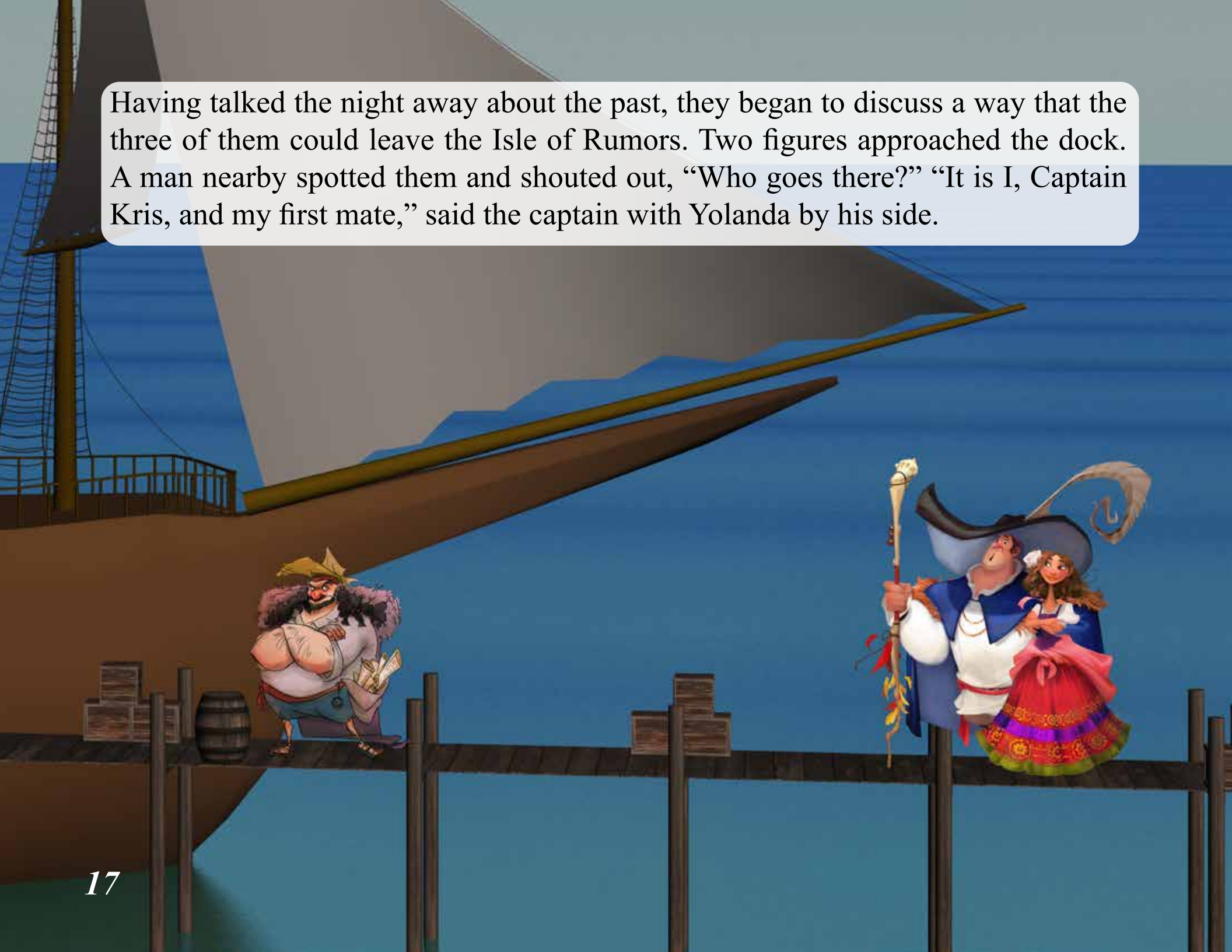


Moments later, Captain Kris opened his eyes only to find a beautiful young lady standing above him. “How dare you barge into my home like that and scare me!” exclaimed the young lady. Captain Kris looked at her and said, “I’m very sorry milady… and so is my head.”

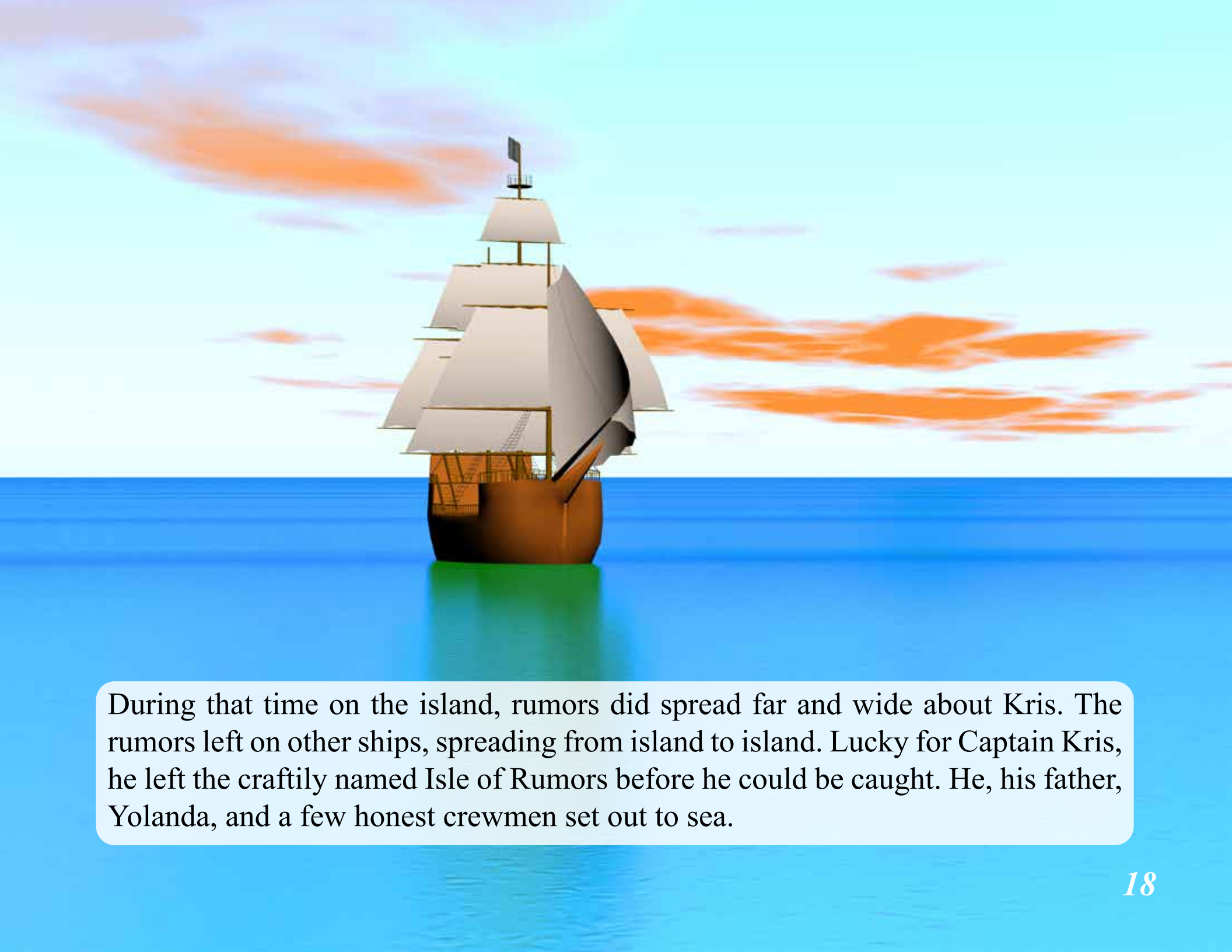
"The old man that lives here hit you. He thought you were an intruder. He's like a father to me. Always has been, ever since he saved me from the mob of angry islanders." Captain Kris gazed at the young lady and asked, "What is your name?" "Yolanda," she replied. At that very moment Captain Kris fell in love with her.



Out of the dark, the old man came forth. “Be gone you foolish man,” he yelled. Captain Kris looked at the old man and rose to his feet. They were both looking toward each other in tense silence when Captain Kris quietly muttered, “Father?” The old man stood still for a moment, and with a tear in his eye he nodded yes.



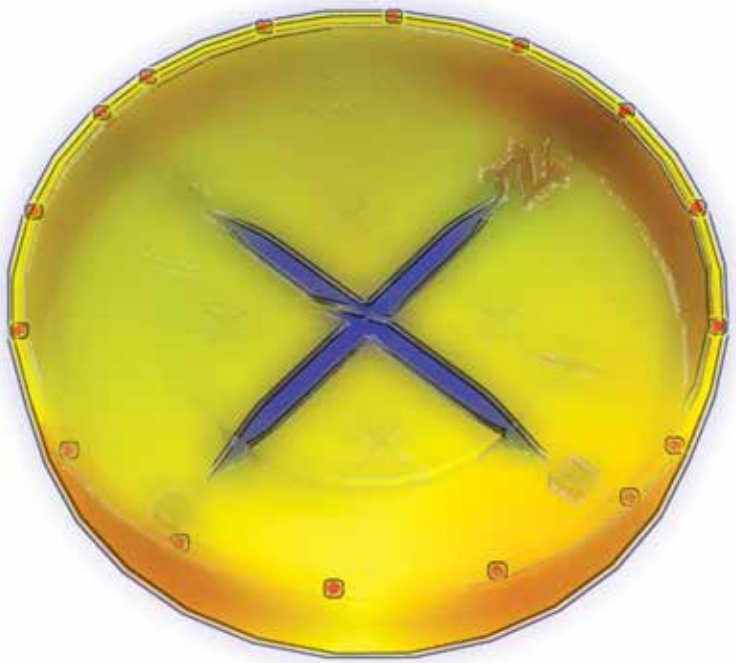
Having talked the night away about the past, they began to discuss a way that the three of them could leave the Isle of Rumors. Two figures approached the dock. A man nearby spotted them and shouted out, “Who goes there?” “It is I, Captain Kris, and my first mate,” said the captain with Yolanda by his side.



During that time on the island, rumors did spread far and wide about Kris. The rumors left on other ships, spreading from island to island. Lucky for Captain Kris, he left the craftily named Isle of Rumors before he could be caught. He, his father, Yolanda, and a few honest crewmen set out to sea.

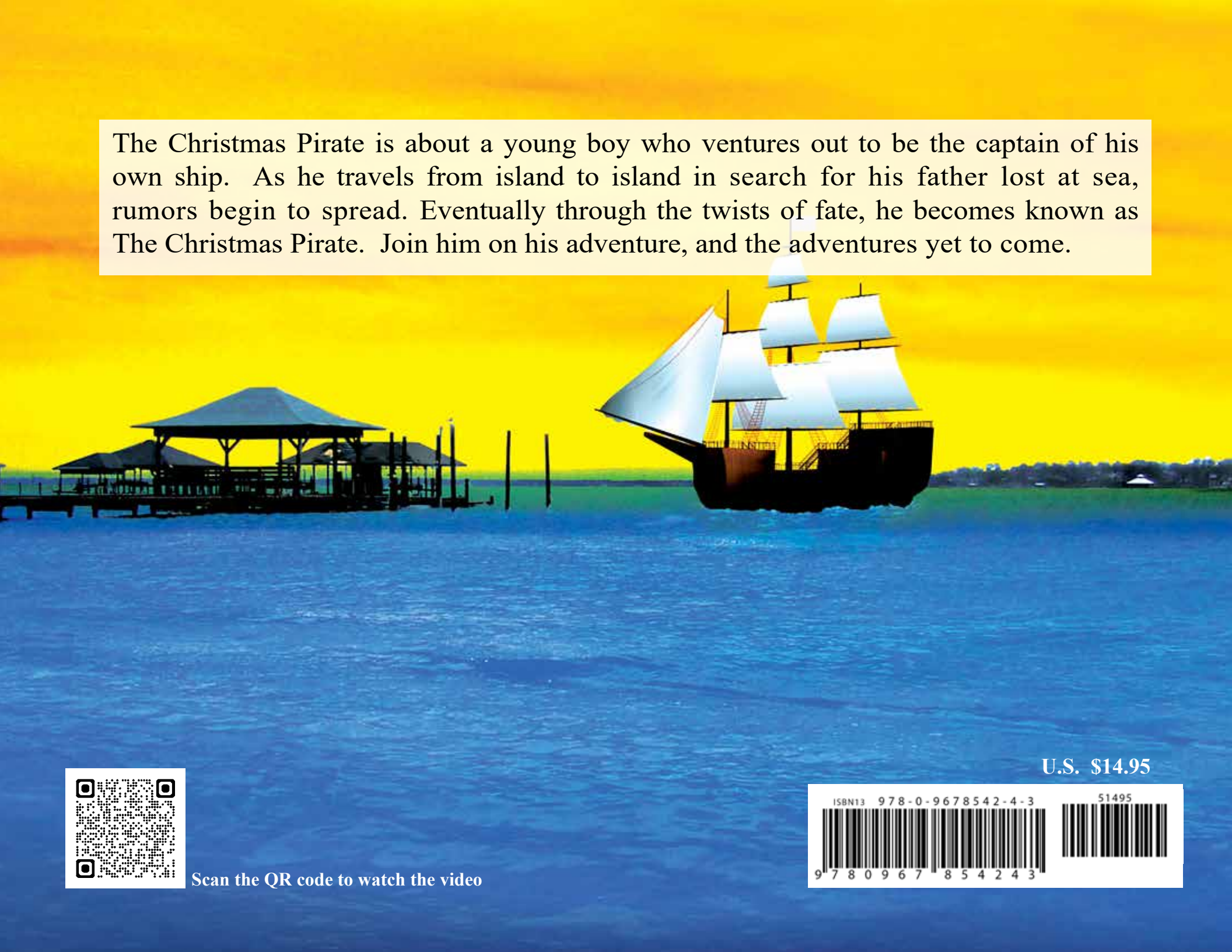
The ship was heading to where Captain Tourik's son lived. An old man on the docks yelled out, "Hey, it's Kris Masss… Mas…" The crowd began to jeer and scream, "Pirate! He's a pirate I tell ye!" A woman, confused in the situation, yelled, "He's the Christmas Pirate!"

People gathered around the dock, all trying to get a glimpse of the Christmas Pirate. Loudly, a voice exclaimed, “I have a gift here for the son of Captain Tourik!” Many children ran to the ship in excitement. A crewman, in sight of this, yelled out to the captain, “Sir, there seems to be more than one.”



Captain Kris ordered that all trinkets and treasures be hauled on deck and yelled. “Well, come and get your gifts!” Captain Kris, now known as the Christmas Pirate, saw a young boy who looked like Captain Tourik. He then slid out a beautiful golden compass and gave it to the boy. This gift was just for him, as promised long, long ago.

The Christmas Pirate is about a young boy who ventures out to be the captain of his own ship. As he travels from island to island in search for his father lost at sea, rumors begin to spread. Eventually through the twists of fate, he becomes known as The Christmas Pirate. Join him on his adventure, and the adventures yet to come.



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