

Candle Point

SUEÑO BAY
ADVENTURES



MIKE DEAS AND NANCY DEAS



The mysterious moon crystals must not be moved!

A wild winter storm rolls in, knocking the power out across the town of Sueño Bay. Feeling crowded by her big family, Kay decides to brave the cold to stay with her aunt Gayle, the lighthouse keeper of Candle Point.

While exploring, Kay stumbles upon an injured Moon Creature and discovers a whole colony of them living in a network of tunnels. Excited for an adventure, she tricks her friends into coming to the lighthouse and helping the injured creature. But nothing goes according to plan and Kay ends up putting them all in danger when she steals a crystal to try and help the Moon Creatures. Somehow Kay must regain the trust of her friends **before Candle Point crumbles into the ocean.**

This is the
fourth book in
the Sueño Bay
Adventures series,
following
Shadow Island,
Otter Lagoon
and *Hermit Hill*.

This is an advance reading copy of the uncorrected proofs and is not for sale. Changes may be made to the text before publication, so **all quotations for review must be checked against the final bound book.**

GRAPHIC NOVEL • AGES 6–8

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Candle Point

Sueño Bay Adventures #4

Authors: Mike Deas and Nancy Deas

September 12, 2023

Illustrator: Mike Deas

In this graphic novel for early middle readers, a young girl sets off a dangerous chain of events when she disturbs mysterious crystals in an effort to help an abandoned Moon Creature.

FORMAT

6.625 × 10.25"

192 pages

Paperback

9781459831513

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KEY SELLING POINTS

- The fourth in the popular Sueño Bay Adventures series, this story is about a young girl who tries to reunite an abandoned Moon Creature with its family. She upsets the balance by impulsively taking moon crystals, setting off a dangerous chain of events that she must fix before Candle Point crumbles into the ocean.
- *Candle Point* is a story about honesty, earning trust and taking accountability for our actions.
- Set on a mysterious island, the realistic art and moody setting are sure to appeal to young readers and adults alike. Think *The Goonies* meets the Amulet series.
- Sparse text and easy-to-follow narrative make this the perfect graphic novel introduction for readers interested in something more than picture books.
- Mike Deas is well-known for illustrating the Graphic Guide Adventures series and as the illustrator for the popular Tank & Fizz series. He lives on a small island in the Pacific Northwest (Salt Spring Island).

ABOUT THE CREATORS



PHOTO CREDIT: BILLIE WOODS

MIKE DEAS is an author/illustrator of graphic novels, including the Sueño Bay Adventures, the Tank & Fizz and the Graphic Guide Adventures series. While he grew up with a love of illustrative storytelling, Capilano College's commercial animation program helped Mike fine-tune his drawing skills and imagination. Mike and his family live on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia.



PHOTO CREDIT: BILLIE WOODS

NANCY DEAS grew up on a farm on Mayne Island, British Columbia, where she wandered in forests and on beaches. Nancy holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Victoria. She now explores Salt Spring Island, where she lives with her family.

PROMOTIONAL PLANS INCLUDE

- Print and online advertising campaigns
- Promotion at national and regional school, library and trade conferences
- Extensive ARC distribution, including NetGalley
- Blog and social media promotion
- Outreach in Orca newsletters

PRAISE FOR THE SUEÑO BAY ADVENTURES

★ “Deas’s expressive artwork includes the colorful landscapes and flora...Atmospheric, wordless pages pack a huge punch in this book’s emotional communication.”

—*School Library Journal*, starred review for *Hermit Hill*

“Underlying messages of environmentalism, friendship, and home make this magical mystery a win.”

—*Kirkus Reviews* for *Otter Lagoon*

“A fun, magical romp that younger readers will enjoy.”

—*Booklist* for *Shadow Island*

BISACS

JUV008040 JUVENILE FICTION / Comics & Graphic Novels / Action & Adventure

JUV037000 JUVENILE FICTION / Fantasy & Magic

JUV039060 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Friendship

RIGHTS

Worldwide

AGES

6–8

PUBLICITY

For more information or a review copy, please contact Kennedy Cullen at kennedy@orcabook.com

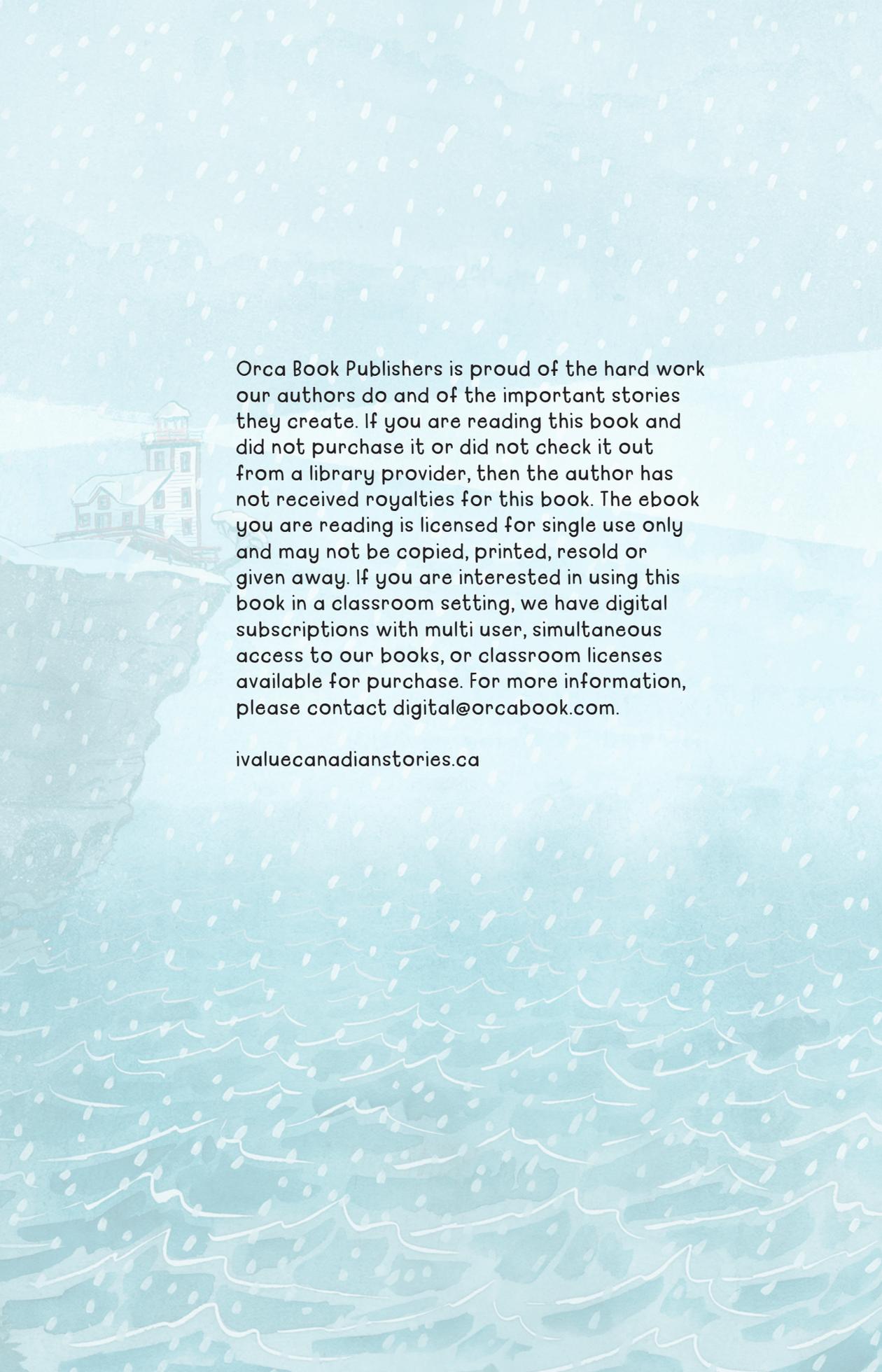
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The background of the page is a light blue wash with white, teardrop-shaped snowflakes falling from the top. On the left side, there is a stylized illustration of a white lighthouse with a red roof and a small balcony, situated on a dark grey cliff. The lighthouse has a red door and windows. The overall scene is a winter or snowy coastal setting.

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Candle Point

SUEÑO BAY
ADVENTURES 

MIKE DEAS AND NANCY DEAS

ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS

To Annie and Faye. Thanks for all your coloring help!

— M.D. and N.D.

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Illustrations copyright © Mike Deas 2023

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Summary: In this graphic novel for early middle readers, a young girl sets off a dangerous chain of events when she disturbs mysterious crystals in an effort to help an abandoned Moon Creature.

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Photos of Mike Deas and Nancy Deas by Billie Woods

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PROLOGUE

Lost at Sea







CHAPTER ONE

My Home Is Your Home

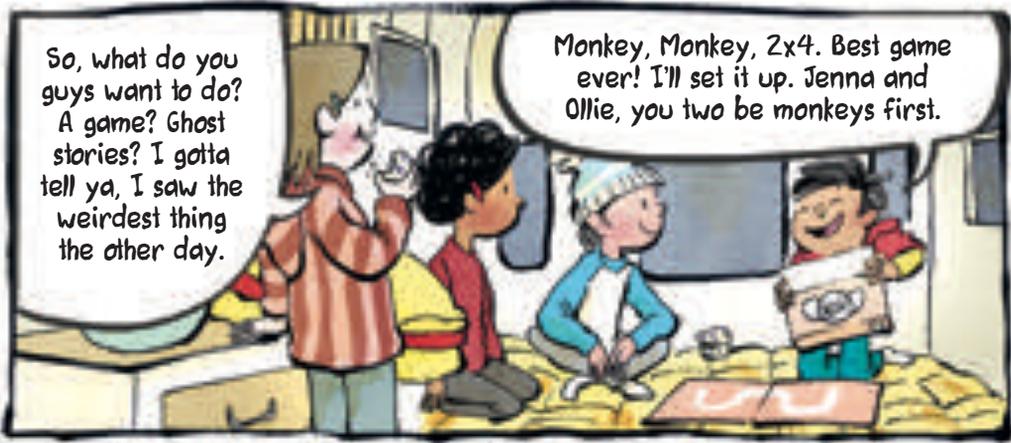




My name is Kay. I have a really big family. It's fun, but sometimes it gets a little crowded. I was born on this island and have been here my whole life. Sueño Bay is an amazing place. It's a magical place. There's something wild around every corner. My friends and I have had some real adventures here. It rains a lot too. But I like the rain. No one else seems to, but I do.







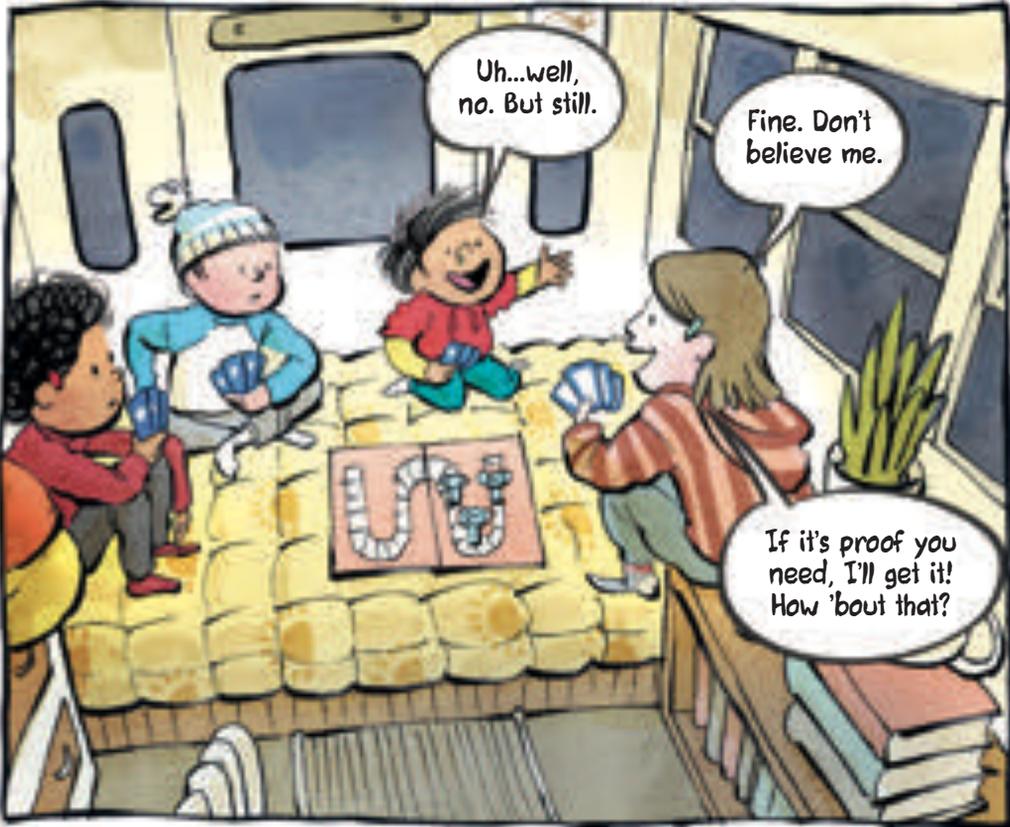


WHOOOSH!











Two hours later...













KAY!

COMING!



Power's out, kiddo.
Better sleep in
here tonight.

I'm fine out here.
I have my blankets
and hot-water bottle.
Everything I need.



Kay, what you need is to not
freeze in your sleep. Your
space heater is electric. It's
not doing anything.

I told you.
I'm fine!



Down the coast...

TAP TAP TAP
TAP

CRACK!

BOOM!

What in the world was that?
Oh, man. This is a doozy of a storm.
Maybe when it calms down,
I'll get some pictures to prove
the lights are real.



Okay, so it's
a titch cold.



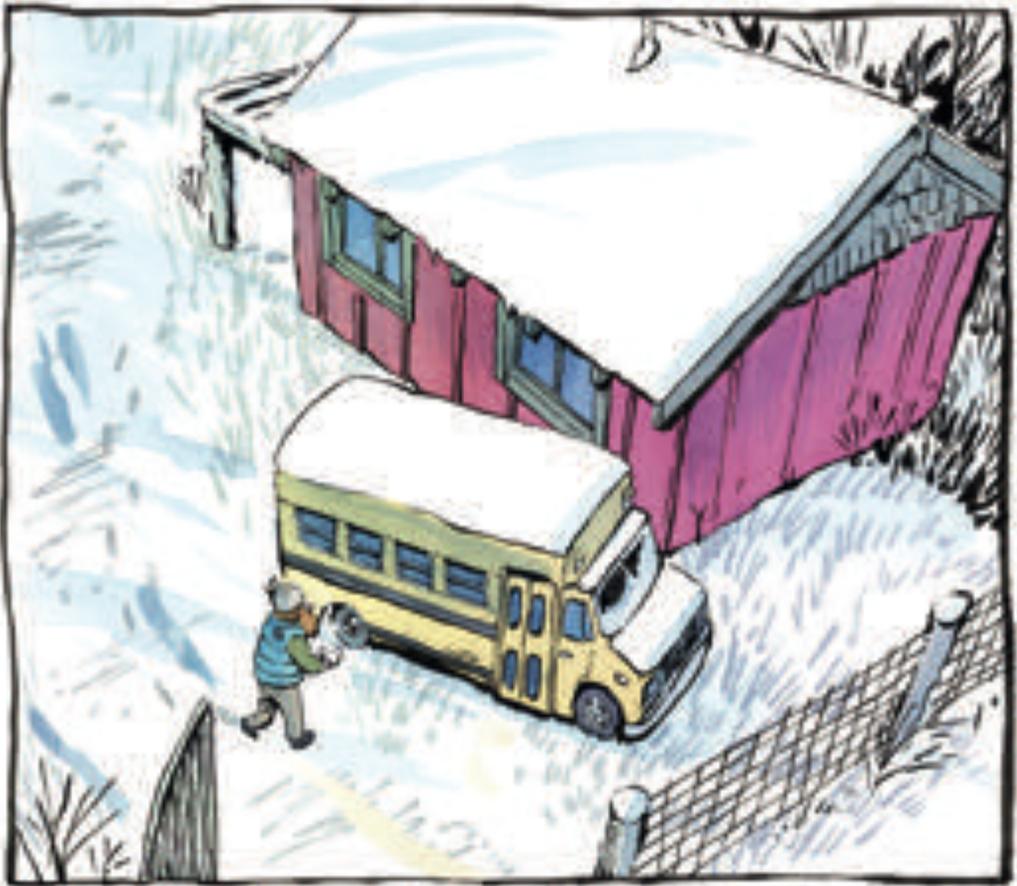
Stay positive, Kay.
Imagine a volcano.
Yeah, a lovely, toasty
volcano would warm me
up. Yum...marshmallows
over a volcano.

Brrrrr...



Next morning...





Morning, Sunshine!



Well, how 'bout that. You survived!

See, I told you I'd be fine. Totally great.

Looks like we got a skiff of snow!



You sure you don't want to come in? Your lips are blue. You might want to rethink this one. It's below freezing out here.

Dad, I'm not coming in. I don't want to stay in the boys' room. I need my own space.



Kay, I'm being serious.
You're coming in the house.
You can sleep on the couch.
This has gone on
long enough.

Dad! Come on!
That's not fair!
I'm fine out here.

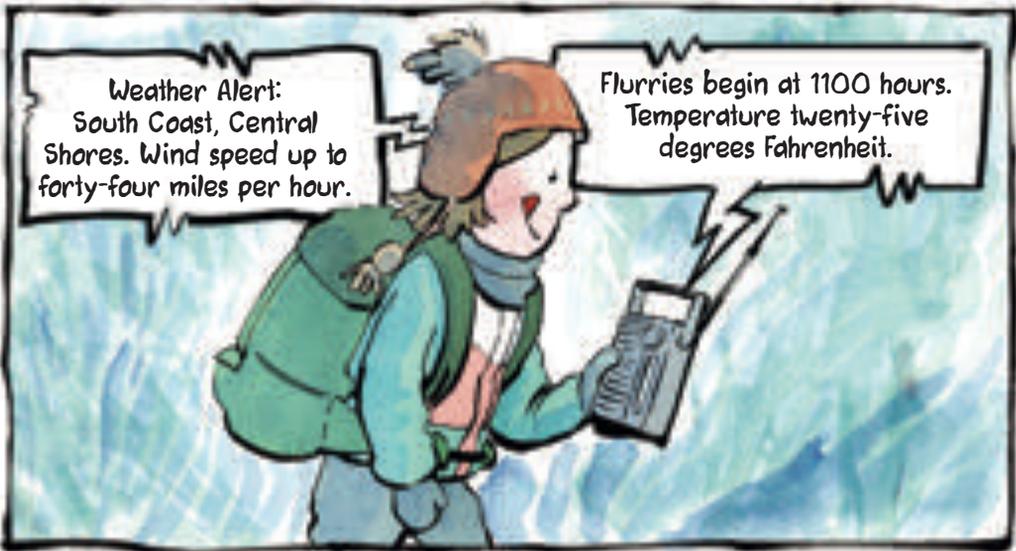
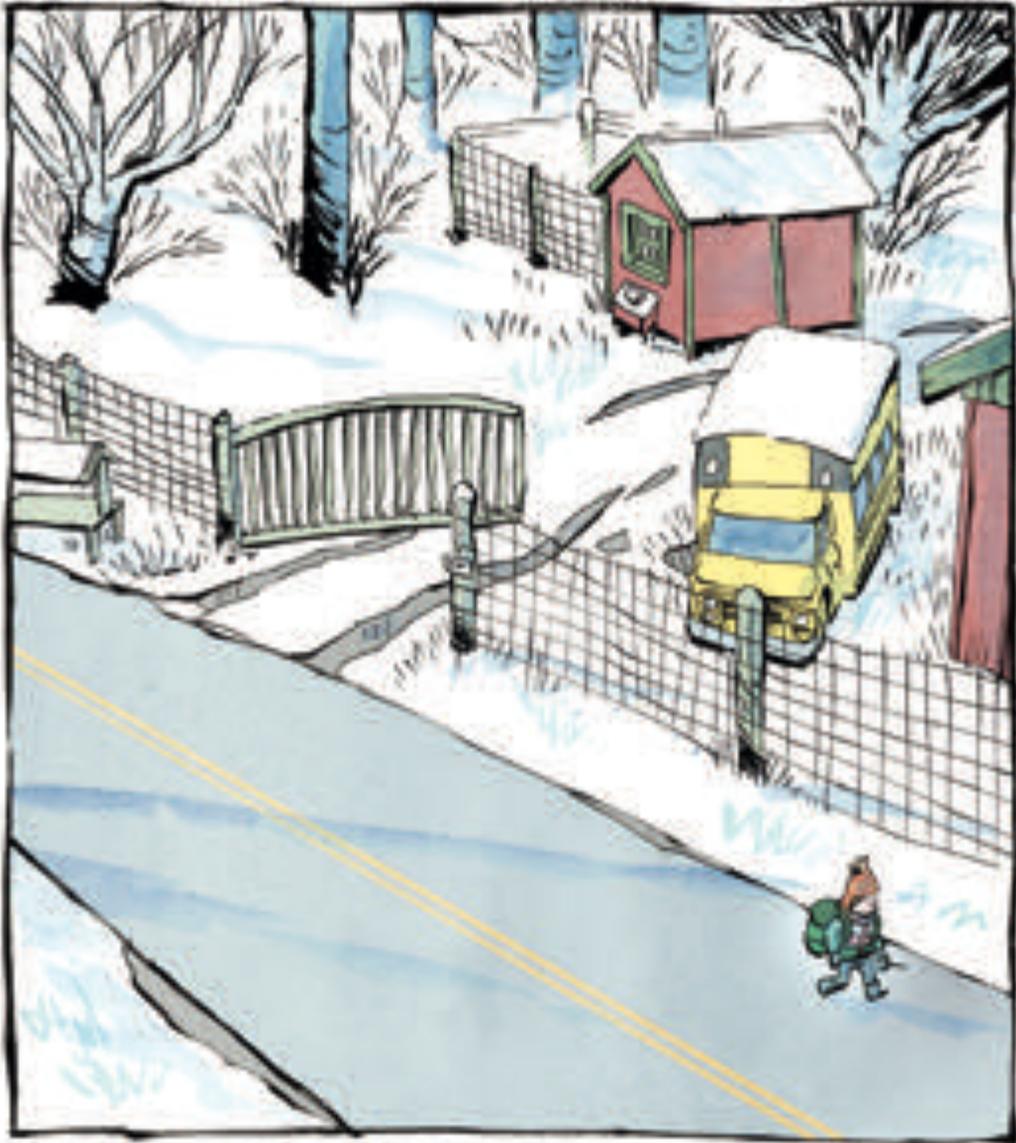
No! Kay, I love
Popsicles, but I
don't need one
for a daughter.

Or...what if I go
down to Gayle's?

We are not
bothering Gayle.
She doesn't do well
with kids. Got it?

Loud and
clear.





Weather Alert:
South Coast, Central
Shores. Wind speed up to
forty-four miles per hour.

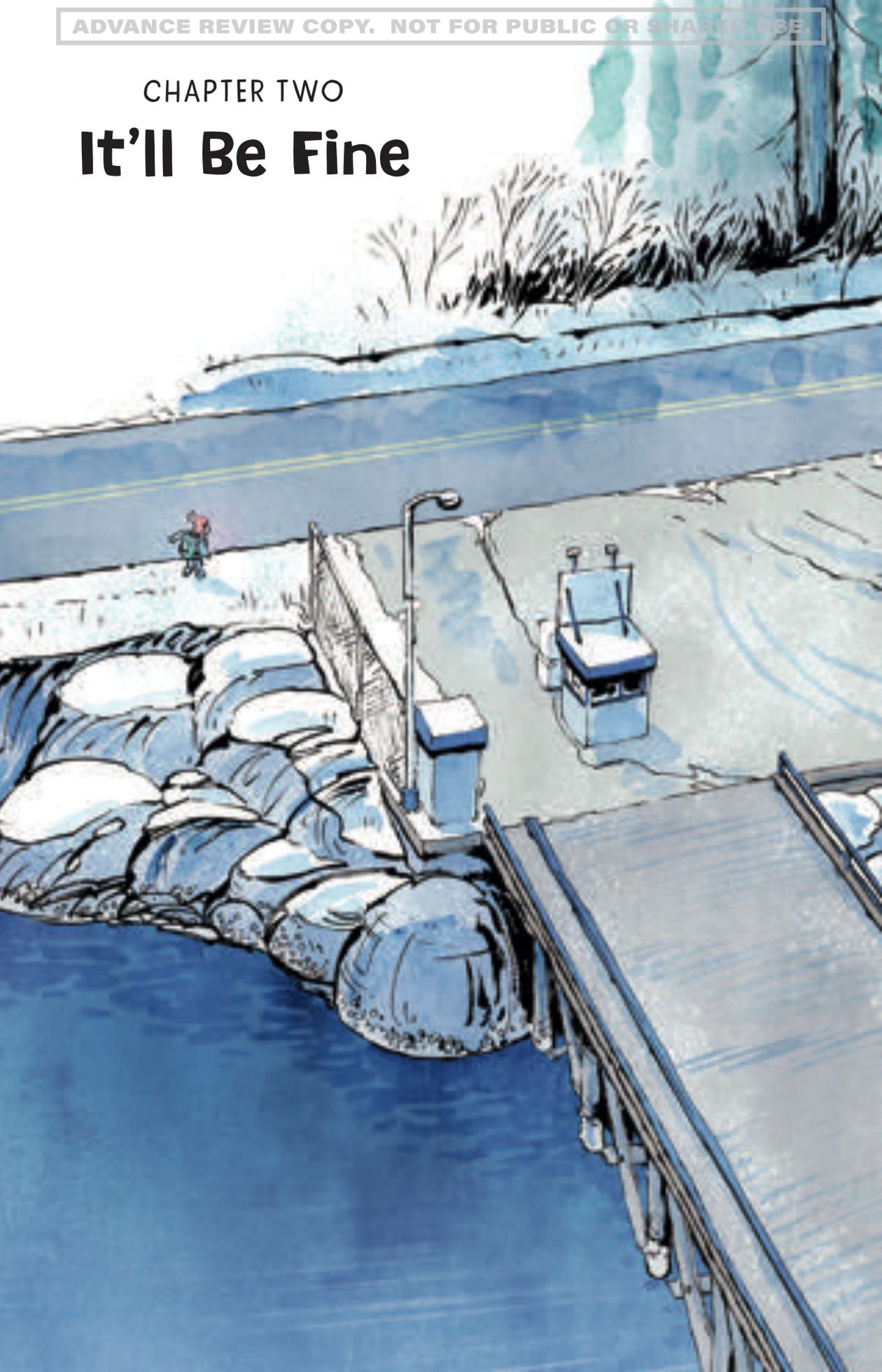
Flurries begin at 1100 hours.
Temperature twenty-five
degrees Fahrenheit.

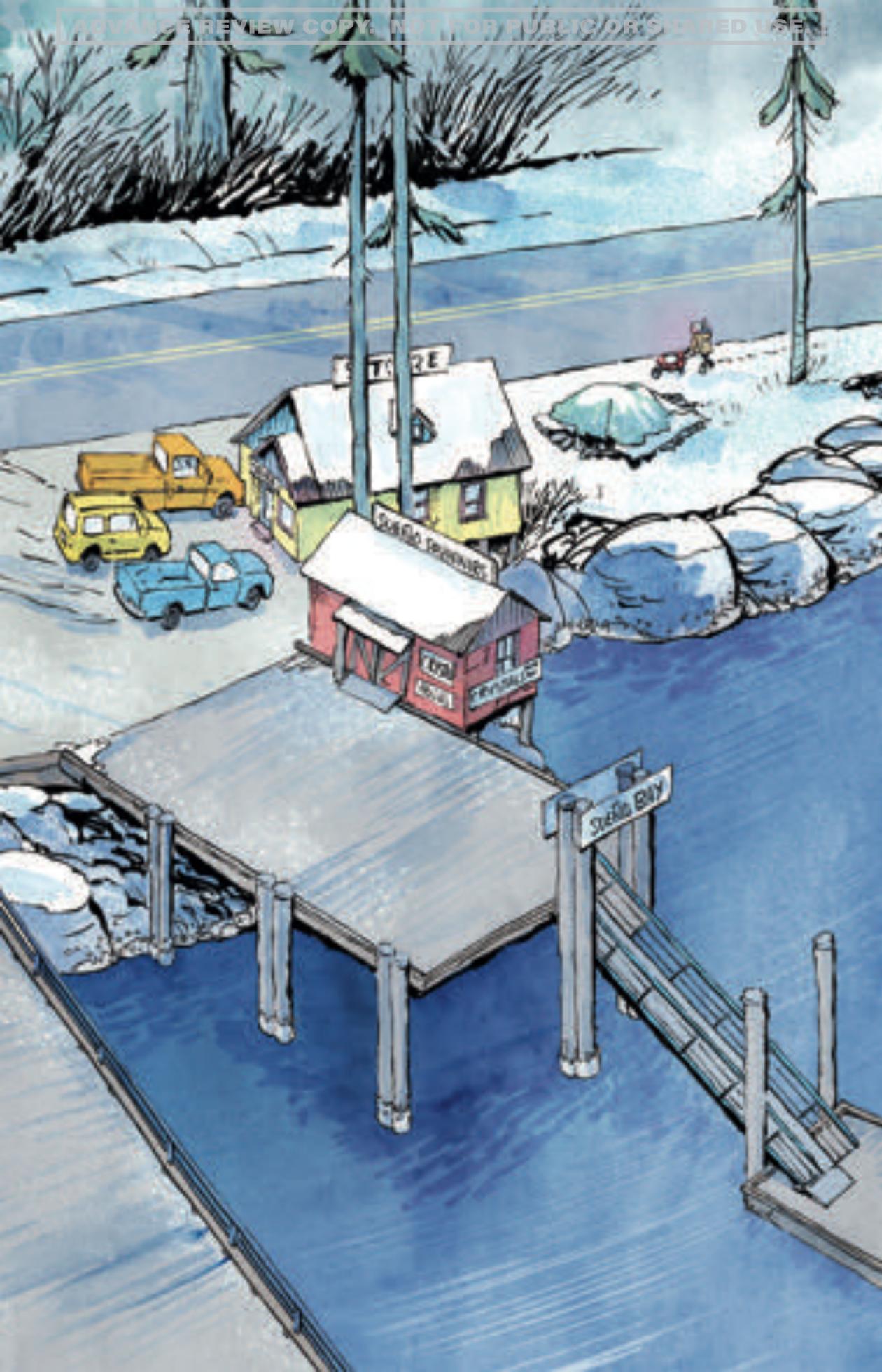


Candle Point,
Robertson Island,
overcast. Wind speed up
to fifty miles per hour.
Flurries begin at
1100 hours.

CHAPTER TWO

It'll Be Fine









Did your power go out too? Must be the whole island.

Yeah, there was a really loud bang and the lights went out. Is this gonna happen a lot?



In winter? All the time. It's no biggie. You gettin' your tank filled?

Yeah. Grampa sent me up here to get a few things. Man, it's cold. My fingers can barely move.



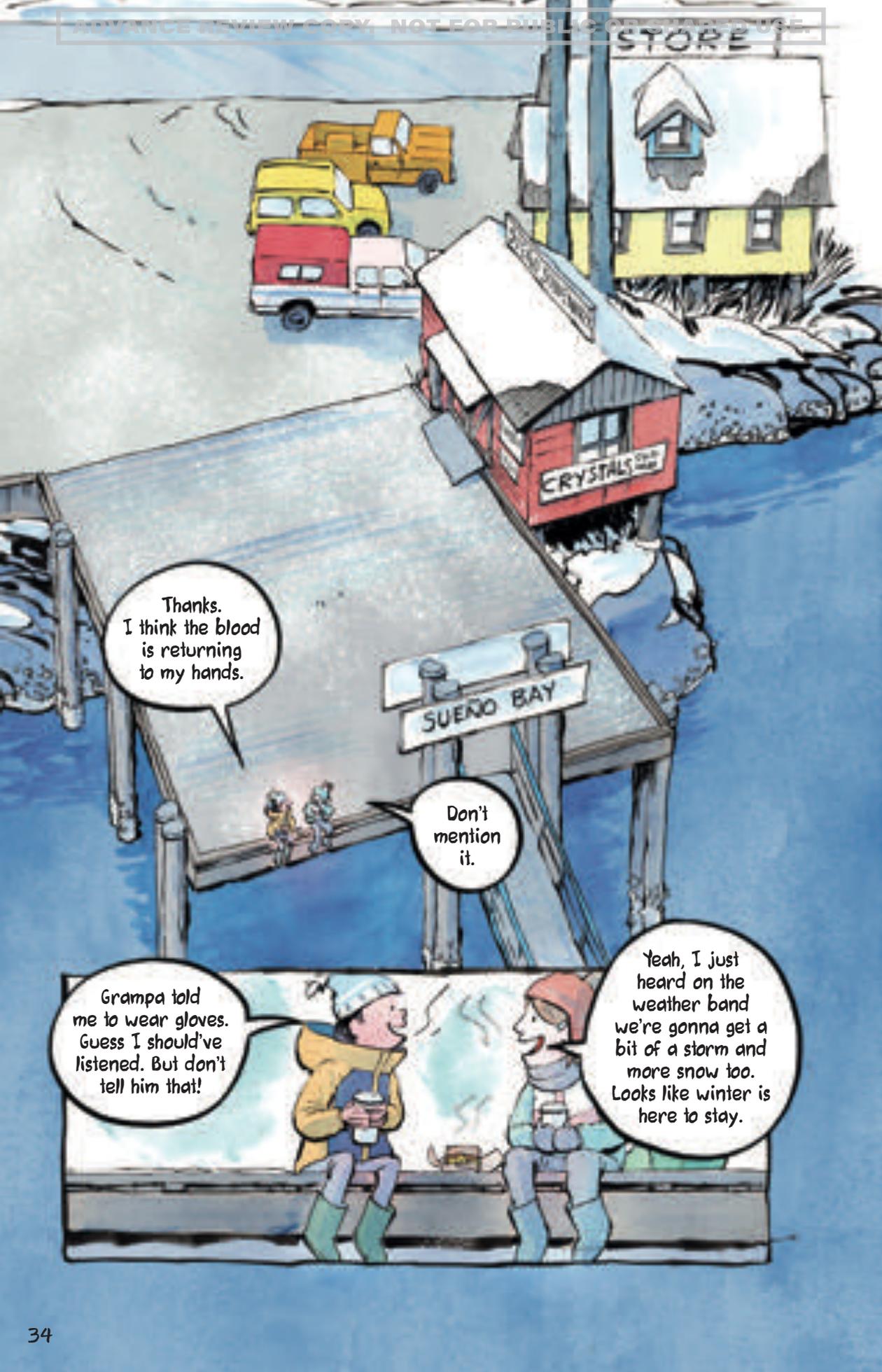
Do I just go around back for propane?

Yeah. And make sure Mathers gives you YOUR tank back!



Morning, Arlo! How's things? Can I get a couple hot chocolates and a breakfast bun with pickles, please?

For you, Kay, anything!



Thanks.
I think the blood
is returning
to my hands.

Don't
mention
it.

Grampa told
me to wear gloves.
Guess I should've
listened. But don't
tell him that!

Yeah, I just
heard on the
weather band
we're gonna get a
bit of a storm and
more snow too.
Looks like winter is
here to stay.





You know, there is the most amazing sledding hill down there. The crew should all come down.

Is there enough snow? Don't we need to see if the forecast is right first?

Oh, we need way more snow. A mouse would have a hard time sledding in this. Believe me, the forecast will be right.

Okay. I'm in. What is so great about this hill anyway?



A close-up illustration of a young girl named Kay. She is wearing a brown knit hat with a pom-pom and a green jacket. Her expression is one of surprise and concern.

A tunnel? Oh, what am I talking about? There's no tunnel...

A close-up illustration of Kay's face, looking slightly away from the viewer. Her expression is determined and reassuring.

Pull yourself together, Kay. It won't be that bad. I hope Aunt Gayle remembers who I am!

A full-body illustration of Kay walking away from the viewer through the snowy forest. She is carrying a green backpack and wearing a brown hat and green jacket. The forest is dense with snow-covered trees.

Oof. I always forget how long this walk is.



Weather Alert:
Winds gusting to
fifty-five miles per hour.
Temperature twenty-one
degrees Fahrenheit.

30
MPH



Sueño Bay

HOME OF THE SUPERNATURAL

Murmur Cove

Fairgrounds

Otter Lagoon

Candle Point

Boathouse

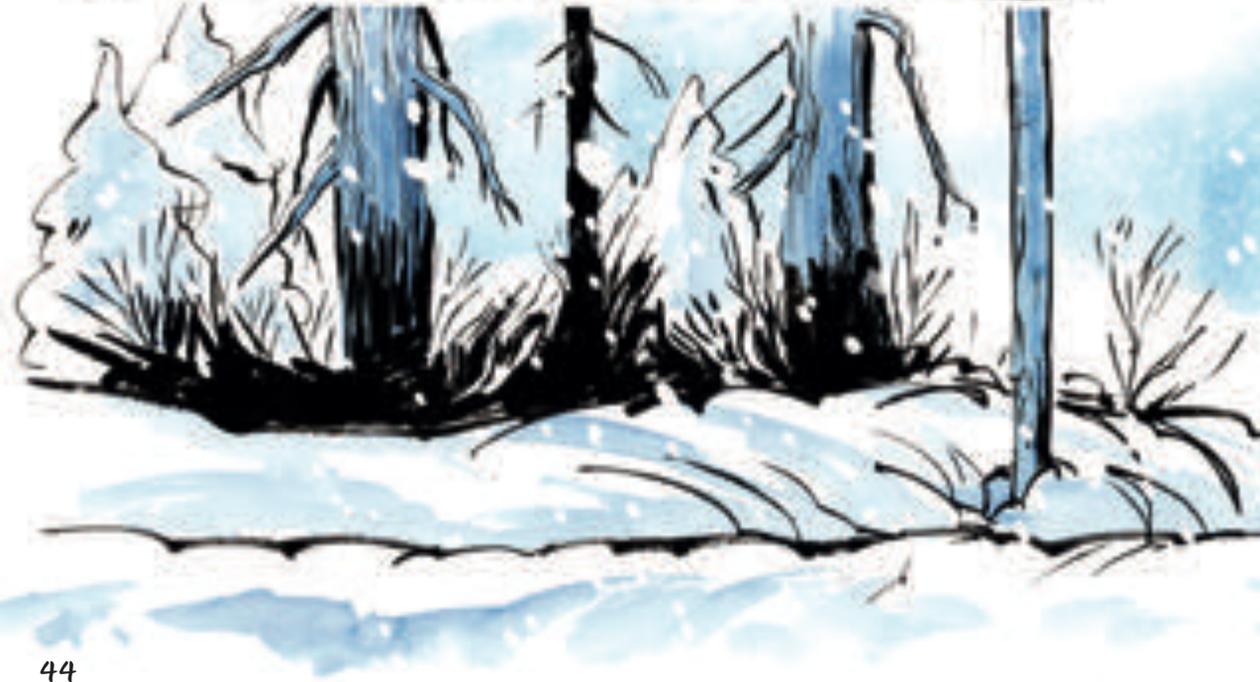






Good timing, Rita! My feet were about to turn into ice.

Kay, honey! How are you? Is that all you've got on? Let's crank this heater and see if we can warm you up.

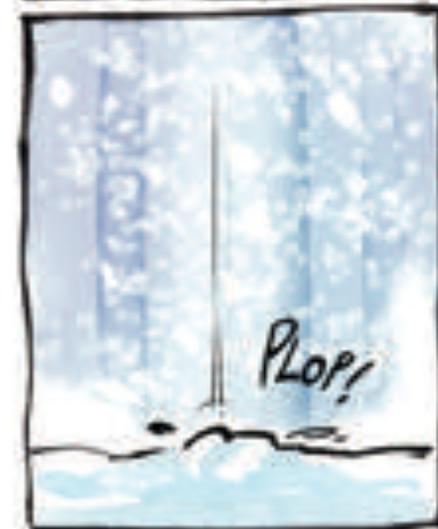


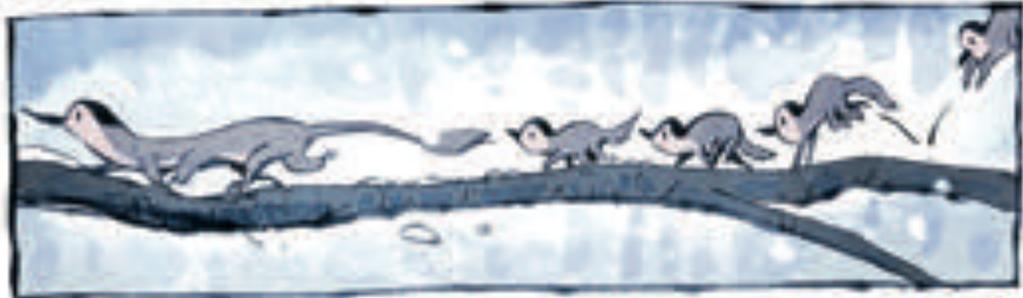




























Let's check back in the morning when we have a flashlight. We don't want to get lost in a cave.



Whoa. It's getting chilly. Maybe we better pick up the pace.





Hang on!
You guys can fly?!
You guys can dive?!
What are you?







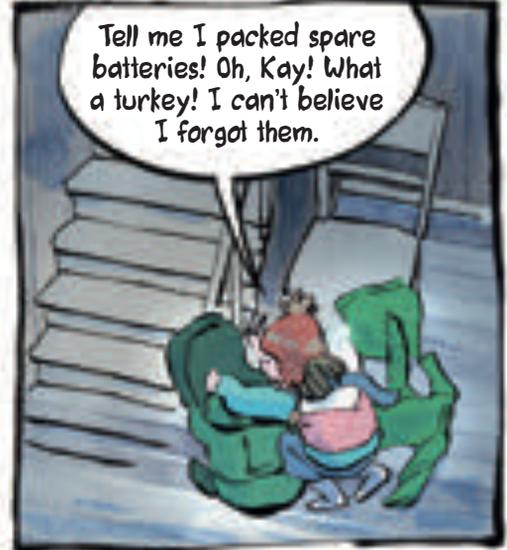
These holes
are all over the
place? What is
going on?

















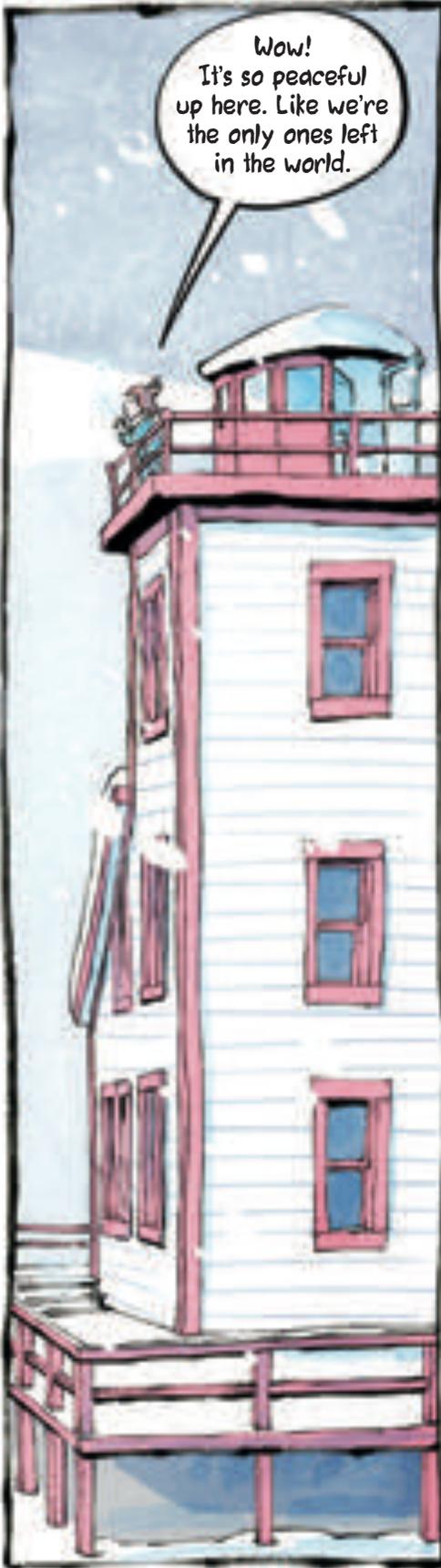
What a workout!
This is getting pretty high!



Hang on, little one.



No way!
This is awesome.



A child with a red hat and blue jacket is climbing a spiral staircase inside a lighthouse tower. The staircase is made of dark wood and winds downwards. The child is looking down with a confused expression. The surrounding structure consists of dark wooden beams and planks.

This place is crazy! These stairs don't make sense. Why do they go way down?







Kay?
What are you doing here?

Huh? Oh,
didn't my parents
talk to you? I was
going to stay here
for a few days?



This is the first
I'm hearing
about it.



Oh? Sorry.
I guess I should
have asked.



Yes.
Asking would've
been nice.



You really shouldn't
be in here. What
are you looking
for anyway?

I was
trying to find
some batteries.
My radio is
toast.

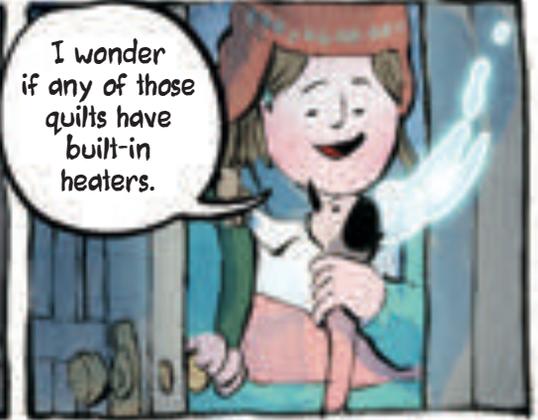


Well, you won't find any
down there. Look, if you
are needing a bed for
a day or two, that will
be fine. But this isn't a
boarding house.

Thanks,
Auntie Gayle.









You can almost see the village from here. This will be a good spot for you to rest up, and maybe I can get my proof! With a sky this open, we'll see the lights for sure!



I think you're gonna have to stay hidden though. Don't want Neptune eating you for dinner. You'll be comfy enough here. Nice and cozy.

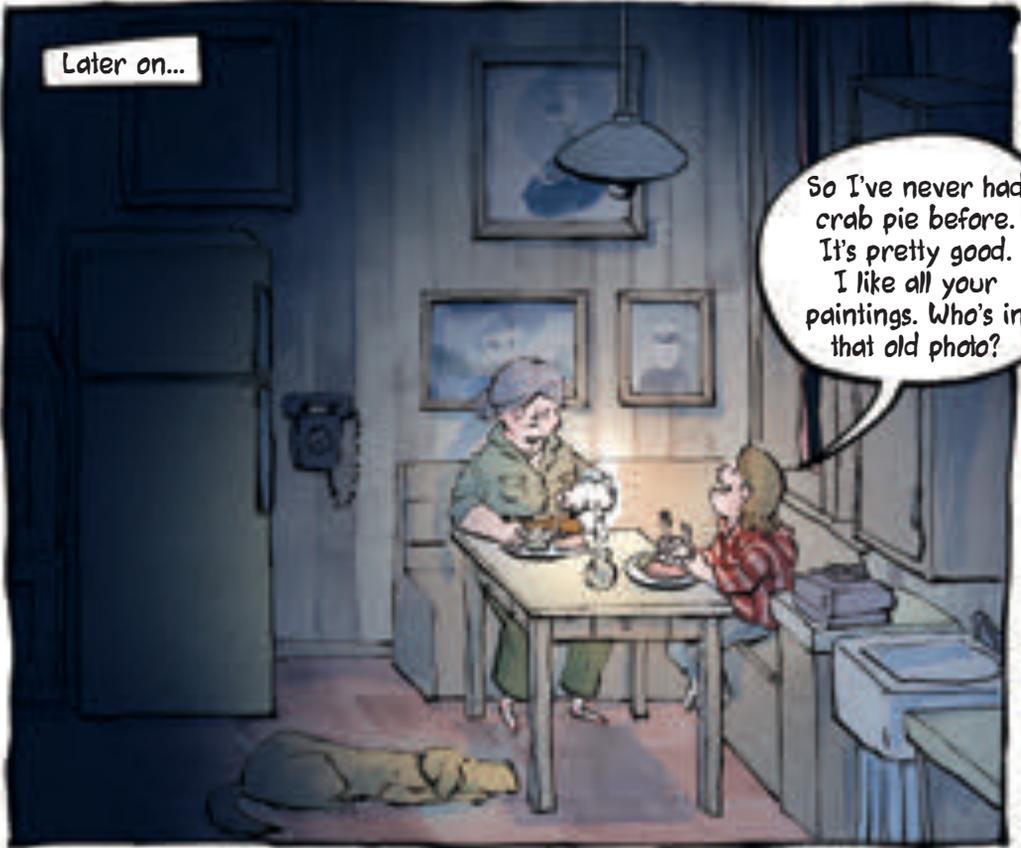


You know what? I bet I can get some good photos from the lighthouse tower.



I'll show them all, Moony. Is it okay if I call you that? Just for the time being.

Later on...

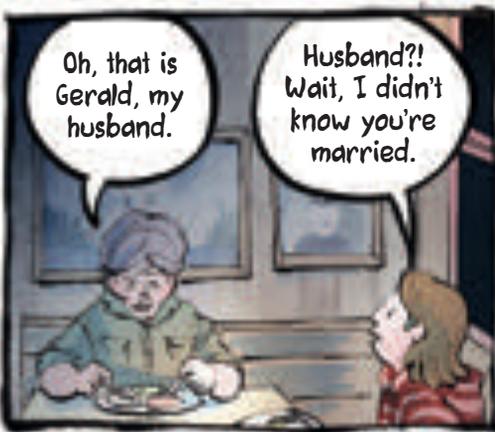


So I've never had crab pie before. It's pretty good. I like all your paintings. Who's in that old photo?



Oh, that is Gerald, my husband.

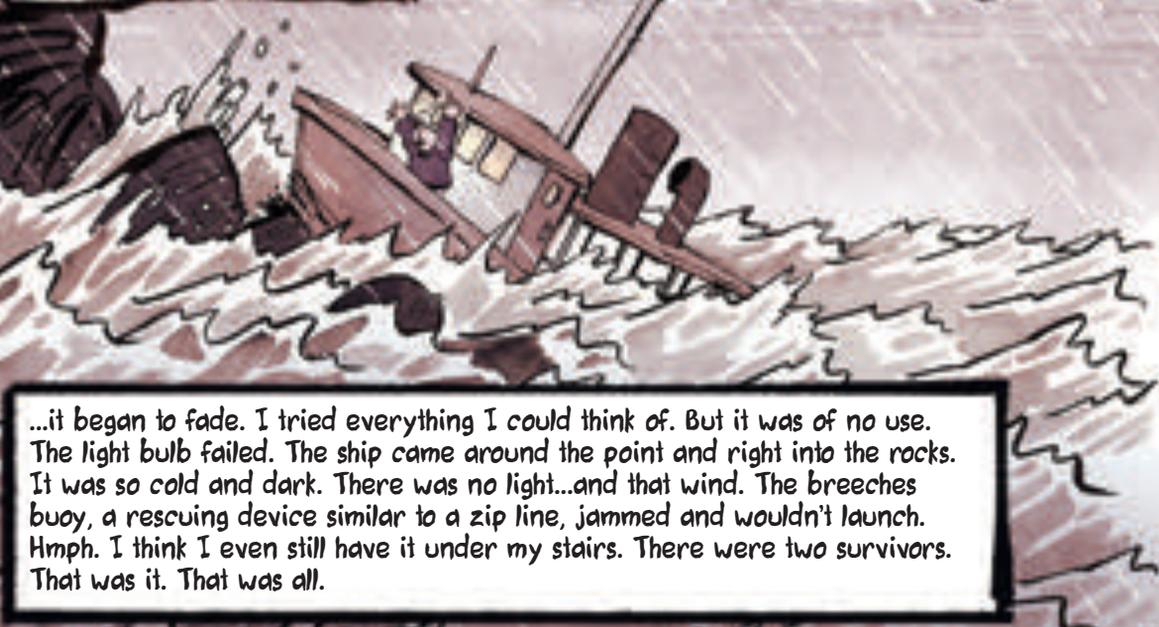
Husband?! Wait, I didn't know you're married.



That was a long time ago. His ship sank, and he was lost with it. Just off this very point. I don't bring it up often.

That's awful.







Gerald didn't make it?



No. Another soul lost to the sea. I've committed my life to seeing that it never happens again. I keep that light going. Even after they decommissioned it. This coast is unpredictable, and that light saves lives.



I'm so sorry.

Oh, listen to me carry on. I had better get to bed. Do you have something to keep you busy?



Ah, yeah, I do. I have a school report I need to work on.



That's fine. Good night then. Oh, I also spoke with your father—it's all right for you to stay a day or two. C'mon Neptune. Bed.

Oh, uh, thanks. Night.

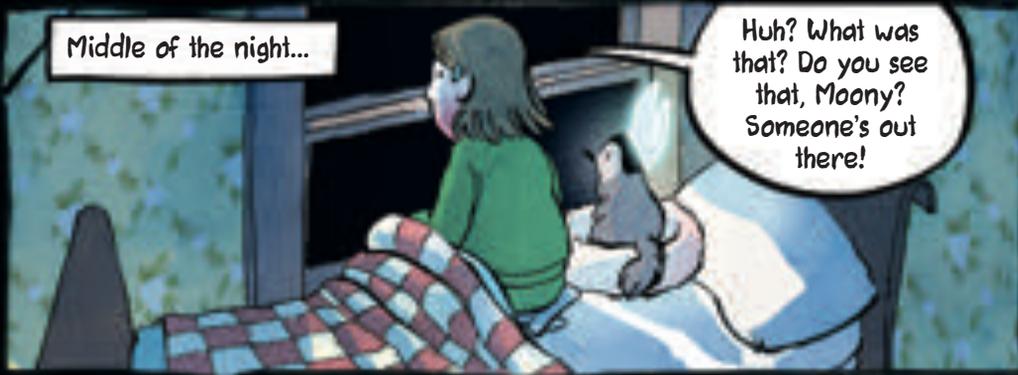




Better get some shut-eye so you are strong enough to keep up with your family.



Winds gusting up to fifty miles per hour. Flurries continue through the night.



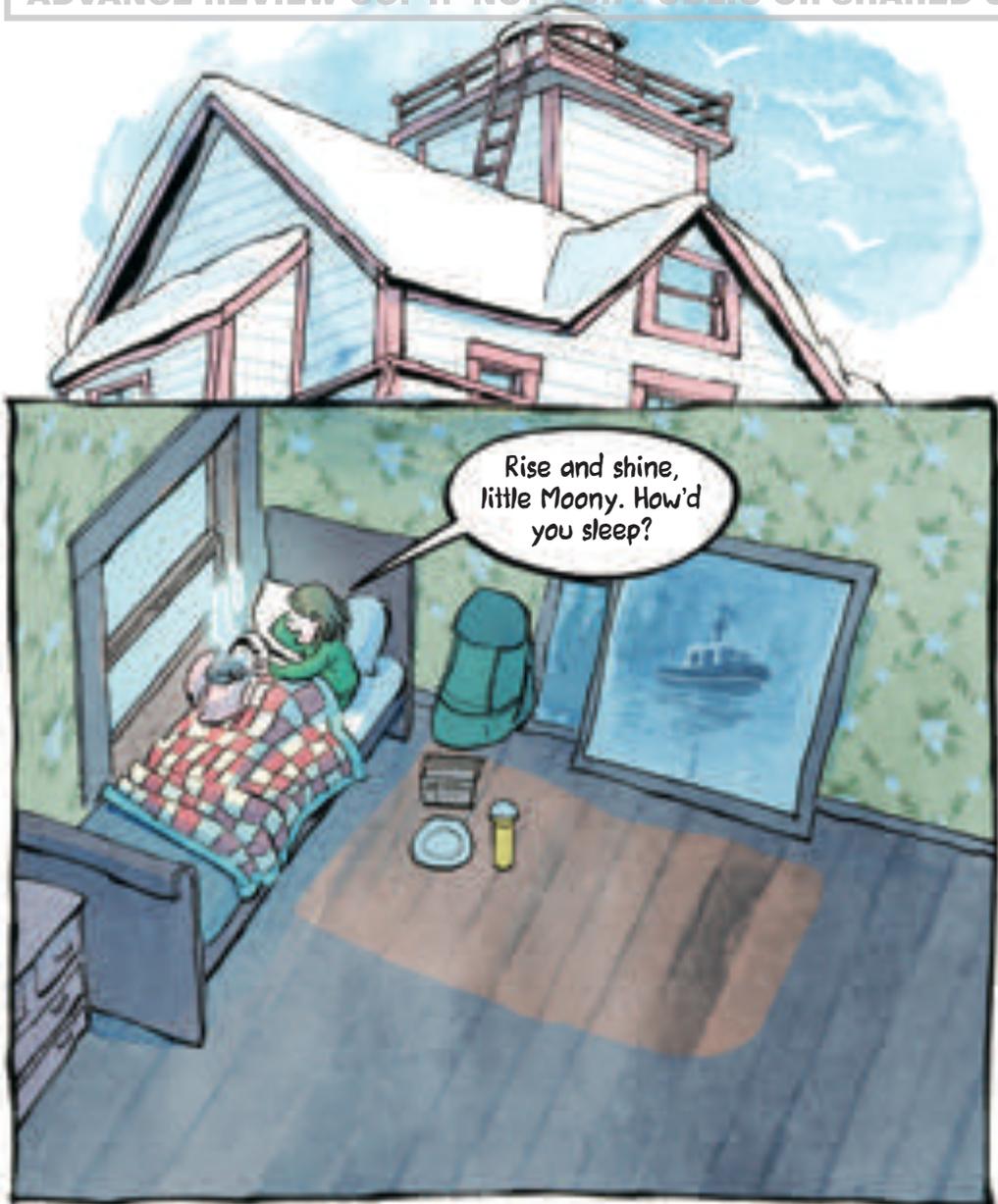


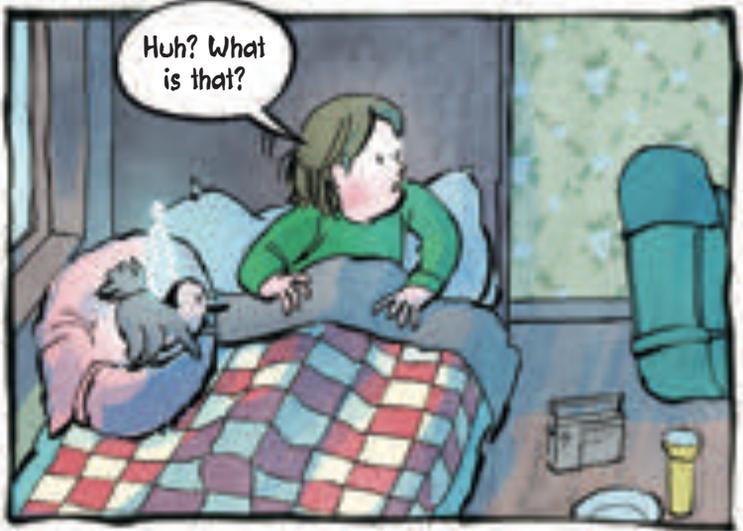
CHAPTER THREE

I Know the Feeling















This is really weird. Why don't they come?

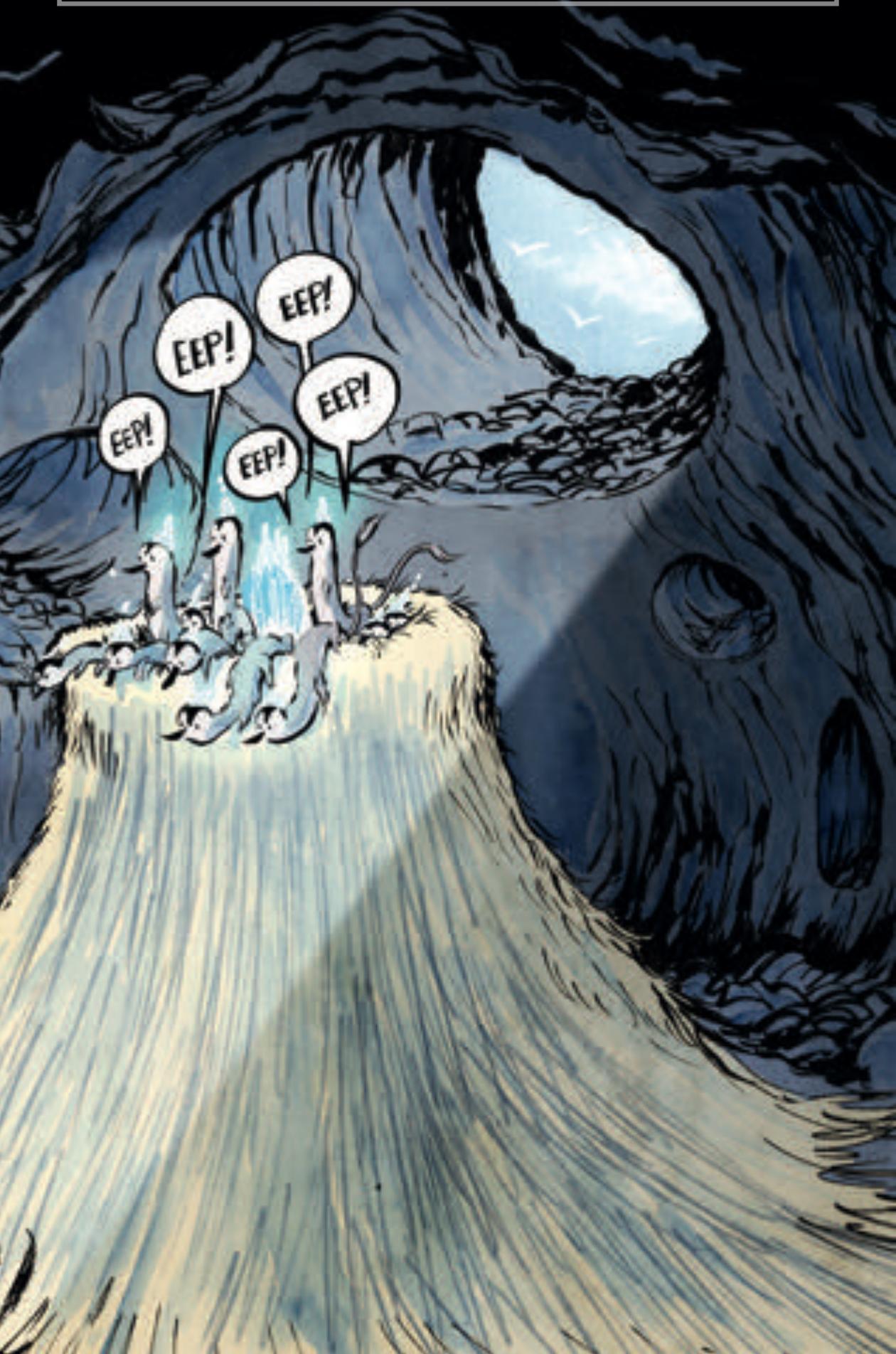
EEP!

EEP!

EEP!



Ha! Well, I'll be a barnacle. That's a lot of moonys!







EEP!

WHACK!





A little crowded, eh? Moony, I'm sorry. I know the feeling.



So what's our plan? Let me give it a try?

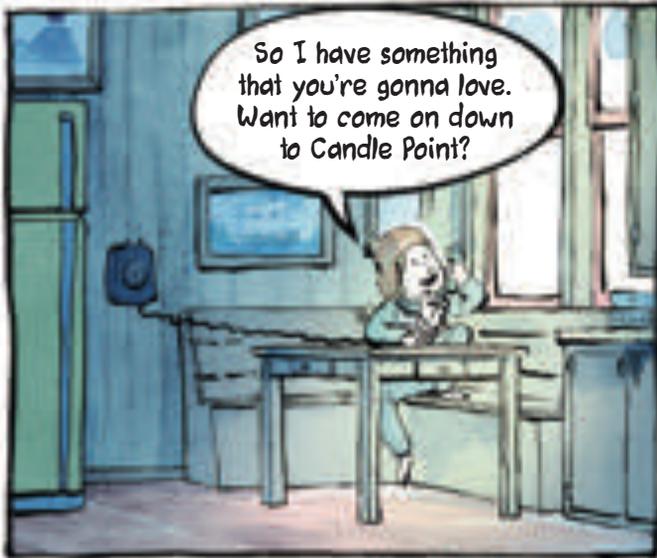


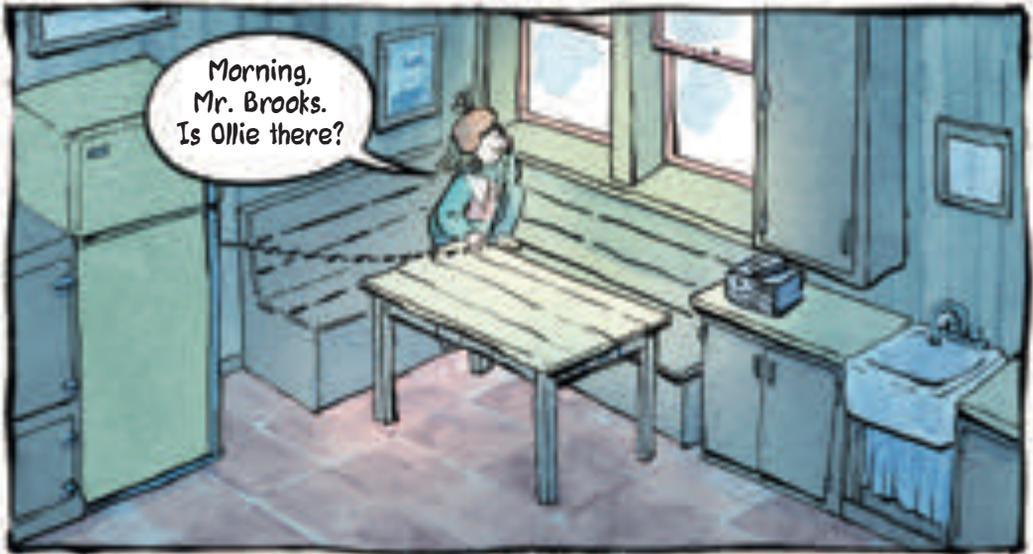
I'm usually pretty good with animals.

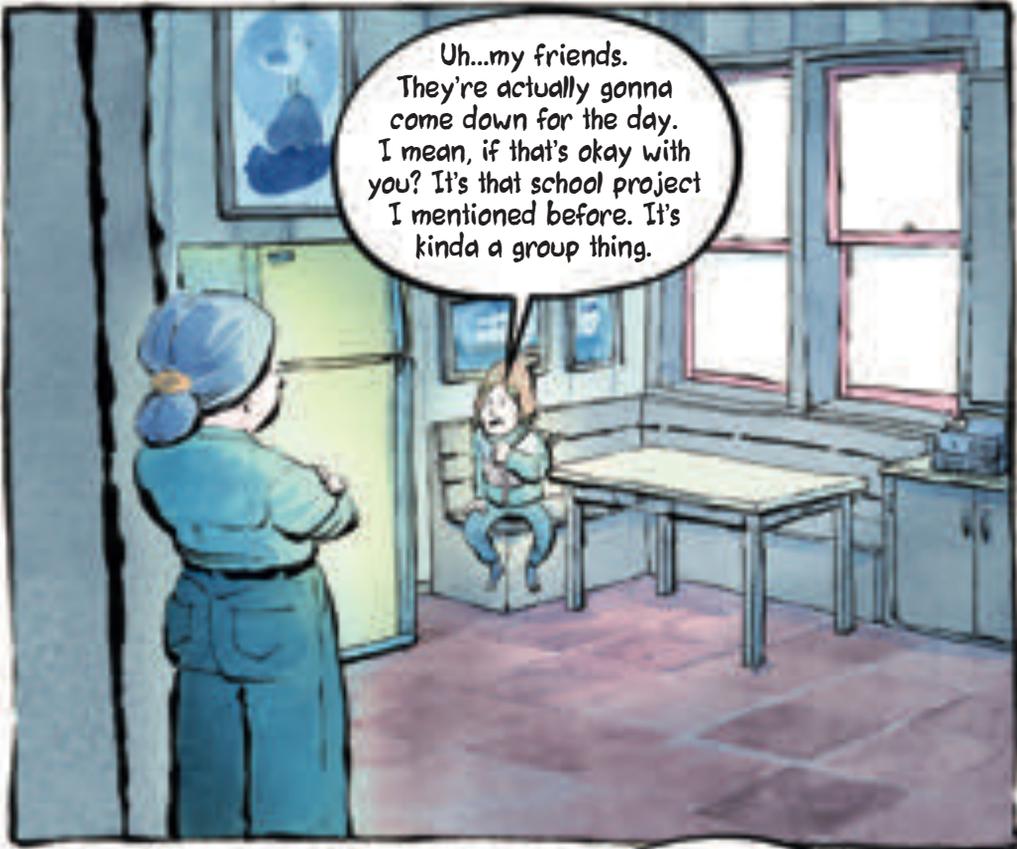


Shhhhh. It's all right. I'm Kay. Moony just wants to come home. Nice and easy...





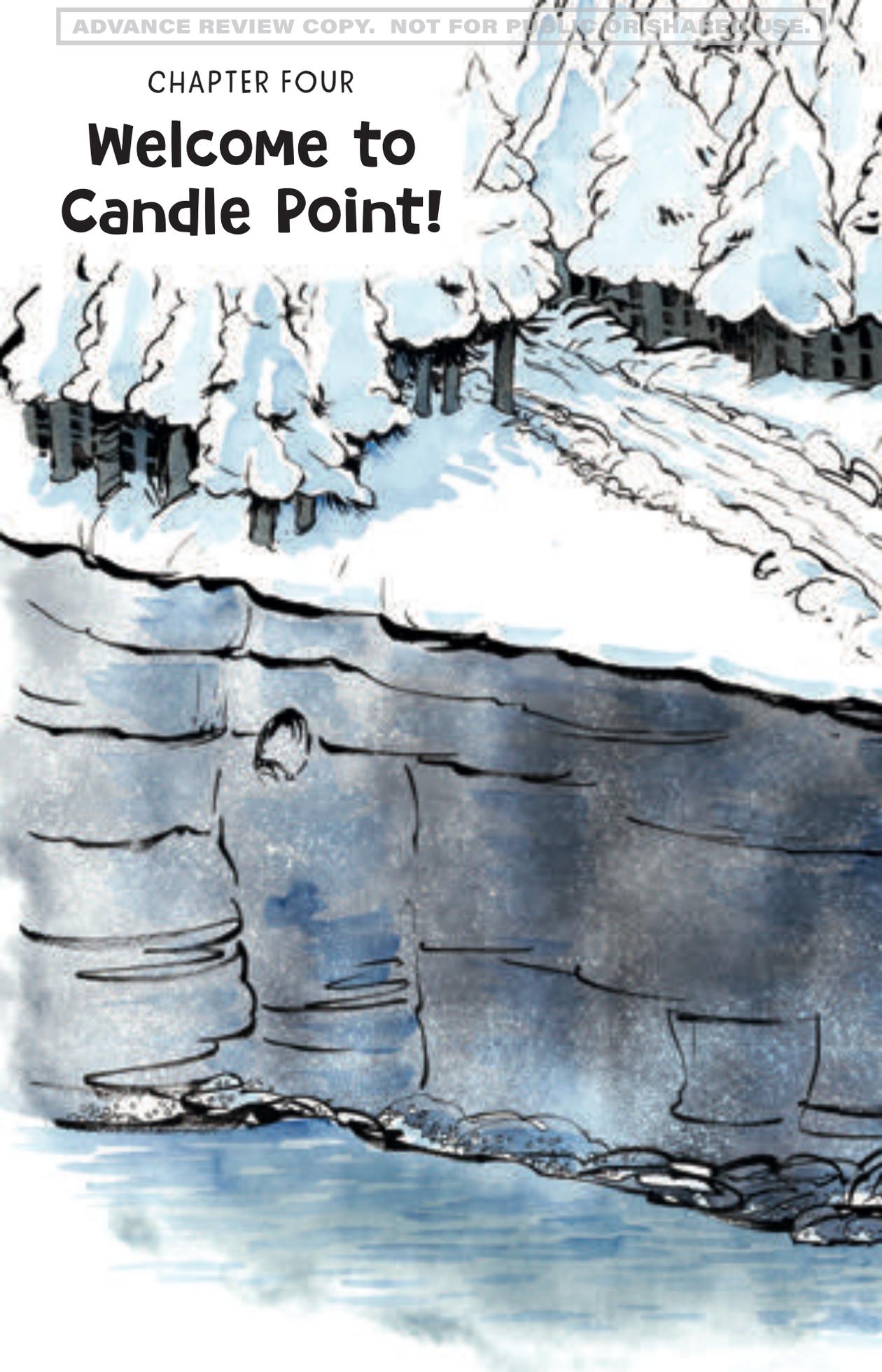






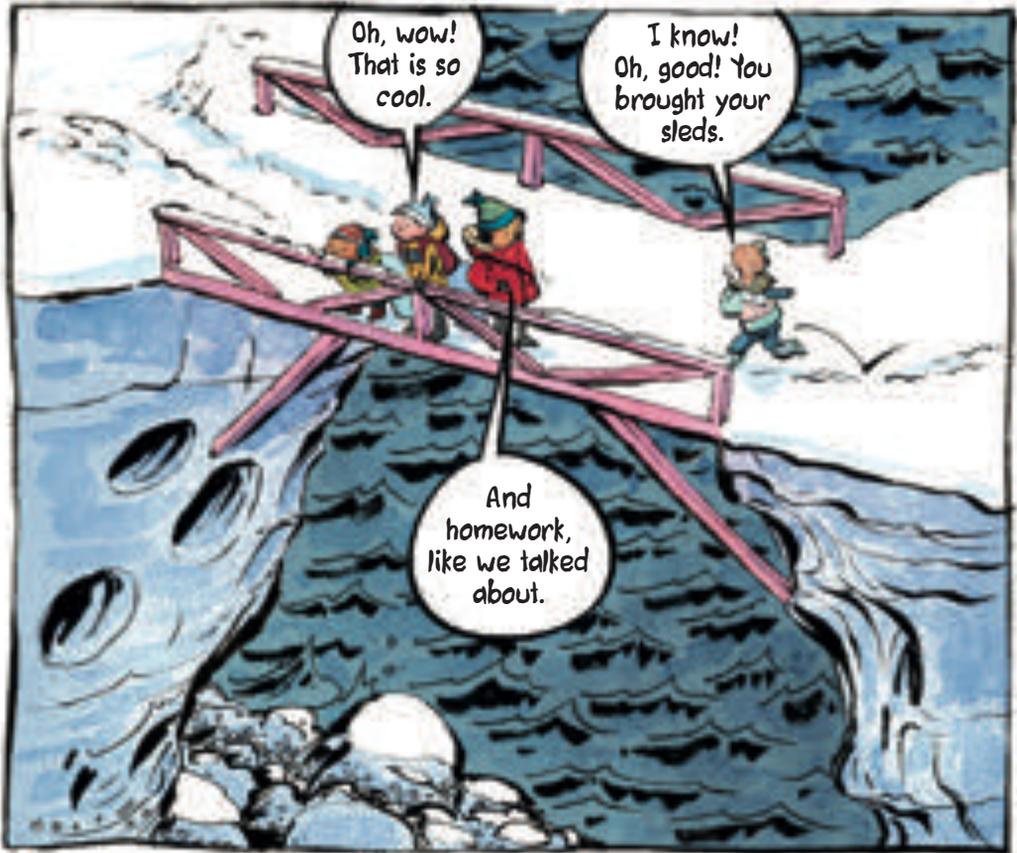
CHAPTER FOUR

Welcome to Candle Point!





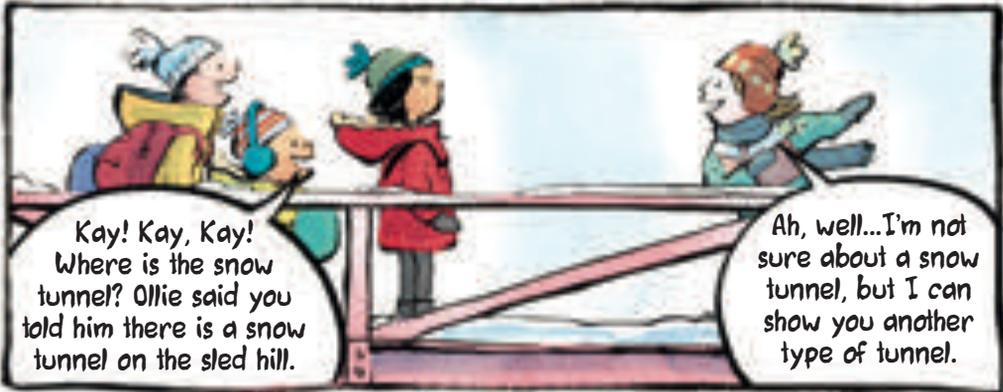
You made it!
Welcome to
Candle Point!



Oh, wow!
That is so cool.

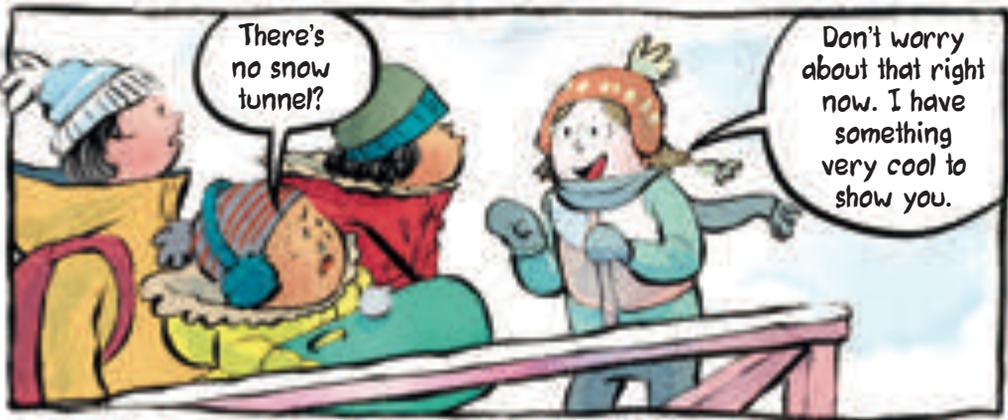
I know!
Oh, good! You brought your sleds.

And homework,
like we talked about.



Kay! Kay, Kay!
Where is the snow tunnel?
Ollie said you told him there is a snow tunnel on the sled hill.

Ah, well...I'm not sure about a snow tunnel, but I can show you another type of tunnel.



There's no snow tunnel?

Don't worry about that right now. I have something very cool to show you.





So cool!
Is it a Moon
Creature?

Kay?
Why do
you have
this creature
anyway?

The poor thing
fell out of a tree and
hurt his leg, and his
family ran away. I tried
to get him back with them.
But it's not working. So
I need your help to
save him.



Please don't tell me you dragged us all down here just to get us tangled up with yet another Moon Creature. After all the other ones, I think we better not get too involved.

This is the
hole they went
down.



I'm not
sure, Kay.

I'll hold
him!

Oh, it's
fine. He's
very gentle.



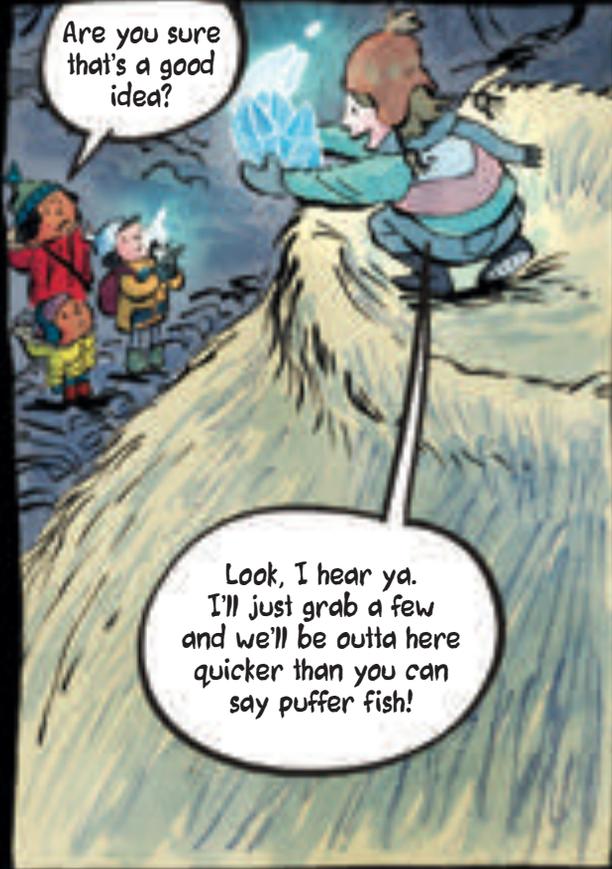






No worries. We can grab some crystals for Moony. He'll need them so he doesn't get sick.

These guys have been hogging them all.



Are you sure that's a good idea?

Look, I hear ya. I'll just grab a few and we'll be outta here quicker than you can say puffer fish!



Besides, Moon Creatures always find their way to moon crystals. They'll know how to get more.



Come on.





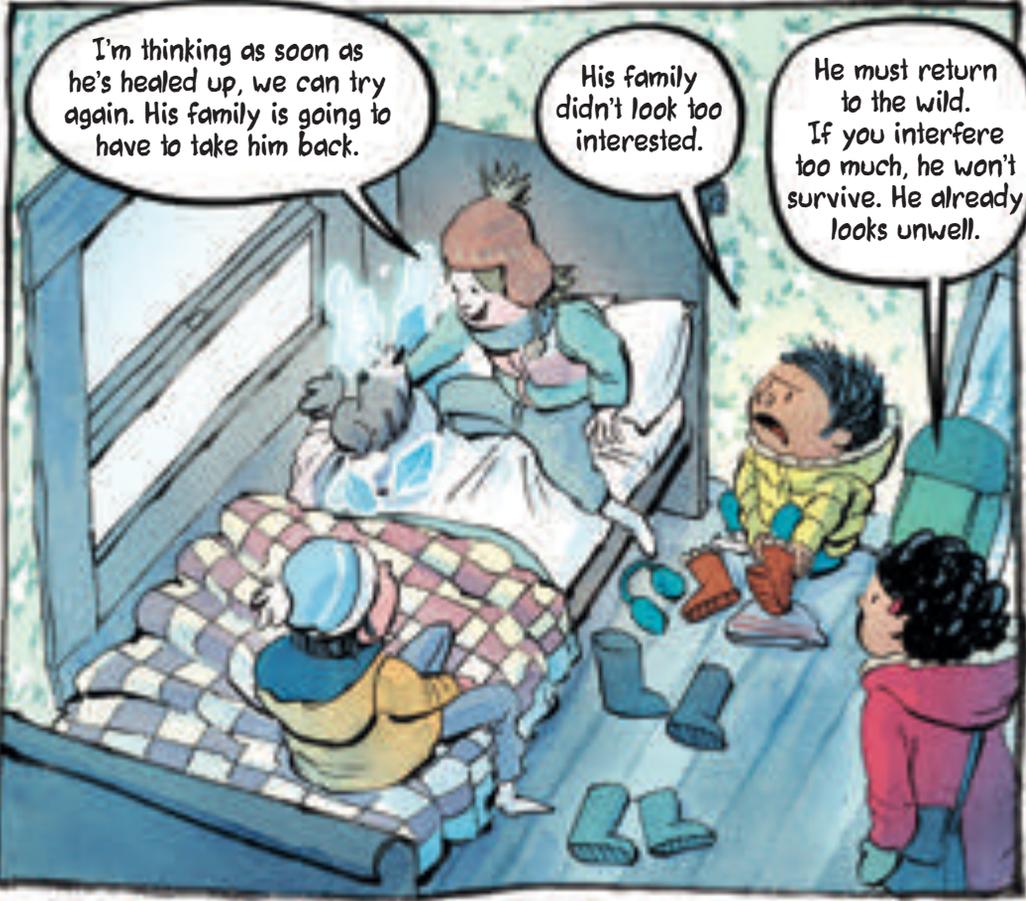


Of course, you guys are welcome here!

Sleeves is right. It is freezing in here.

Why are you even staying here?

When do we go sledding?



I'm thinking as soon as he's healed up, we can try again. His family is going to have to take him back.

His family didn't look too interested.

He must return to the wild. If you interfere too much, he won't survive. He already looks unwell.









Oh my stars!!



What was that? I can't see!



Stay back.
It's not safe!

Aunt
Gayle, what
happened?!
Where is the
bridge?

Did it
explode?



Who are
all of you?

These are my
friends. Remember,
I told you that they
were coming to visit.



Oh, I forgot.
Well, this is just
awful. Your visit
is going to be an
extended one.



Huh?! I have to get
home tonight. Grampa
needs me.

Are
we stuck?!
Here?!



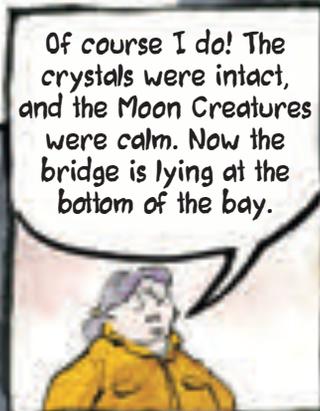
Unless you can grow wings, it's going to be a while.



That bank was secure this morning. Something must have stirred up the Moon Creatures.



What do you mean? You know about them?



Of course I do! The crystals were intact, and the Moon Creatures were calm. Now the bridge is lying at the bottom of the bay.



You mean to say those tunnels underground are causing erosion?



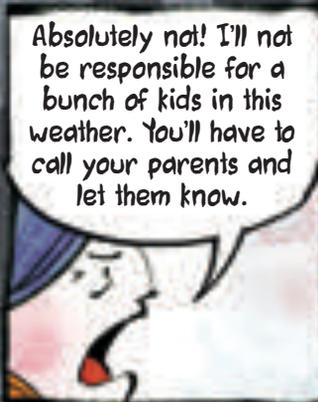
Yes, smarty-pants. Something has happened. The balance has shifted. Day in and out I manage the cliffs. Making sure they stay strong. Never taking too much.



It's too late now, but at first light I will go to town by boat and figure this out.



Can we get a lift? I really need to get home.



Absolutely not! I'll not be responsible for a bunch of kids in this weather. You'll have to call your parents and let them know.



I can't believe this!



Oh, who is making all that noise?



Noise?



Yes. The whistling. Are you mad? You'll call up the wind! It's bad luck. Every good sailor knows that! The last thing we need is a storm!



Just stay out of my hair and don't go near the edge. I have a lot of work to do. I should have told your father no!





Kay, you're going to have to fix this. I came down here to work on my report, not go on some wild goose chase!

I need to get in touch with my grampa. He's going to be really worried!

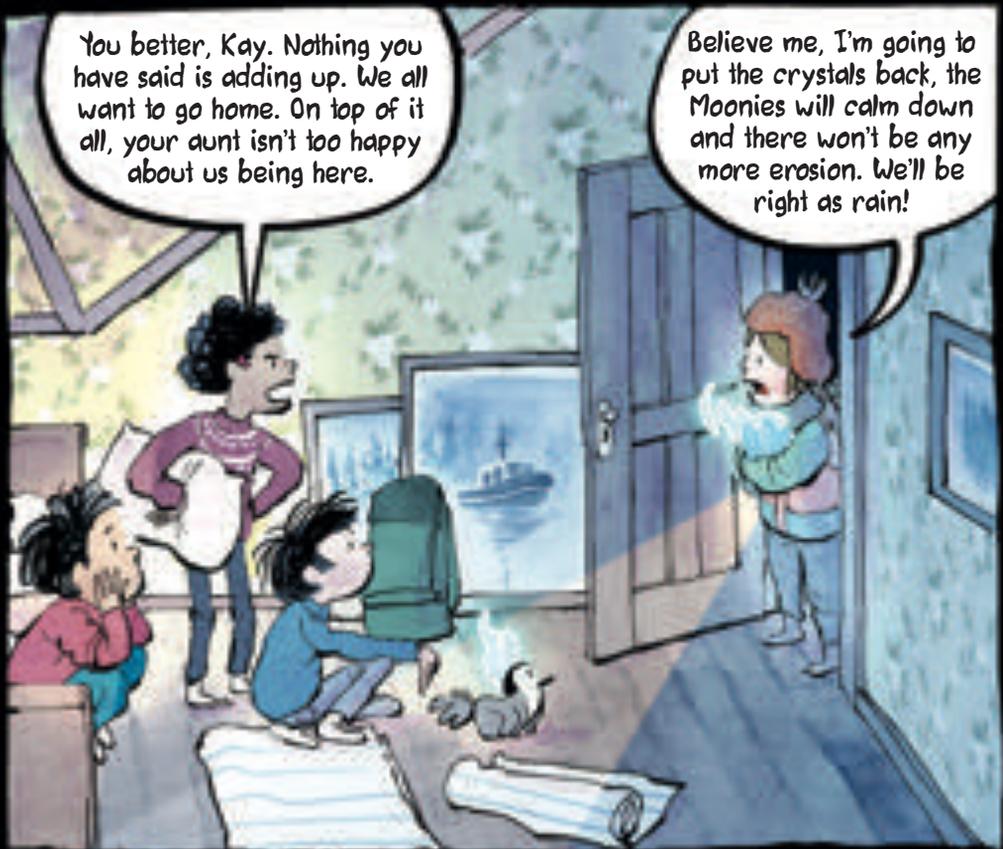
So where is this sledding hill anyway? Are we supposed to go down the bank to the ocean?

Guys! Everything is going to be just fine. Don't worry. Just relax and I'll figure something out.



Look, I can tell you are all a bit angry with me.

Angry? Kay, it's freezing and we are stuck on this rock with no way off!















CHAPTER FIVE

Red Sky in the Morning...











Oh. That makes more sense. What are we doing? Is it sledding?

Shhh, Sleeves! No. We'll go sledding later.



Are we still stuck?

Yes. For now. You said you wanted to check out the lighthouse. Now's our chance.



YES! All right! It's about time. I bet we can see all the way to the mainland from up there.

Okay, now shush.







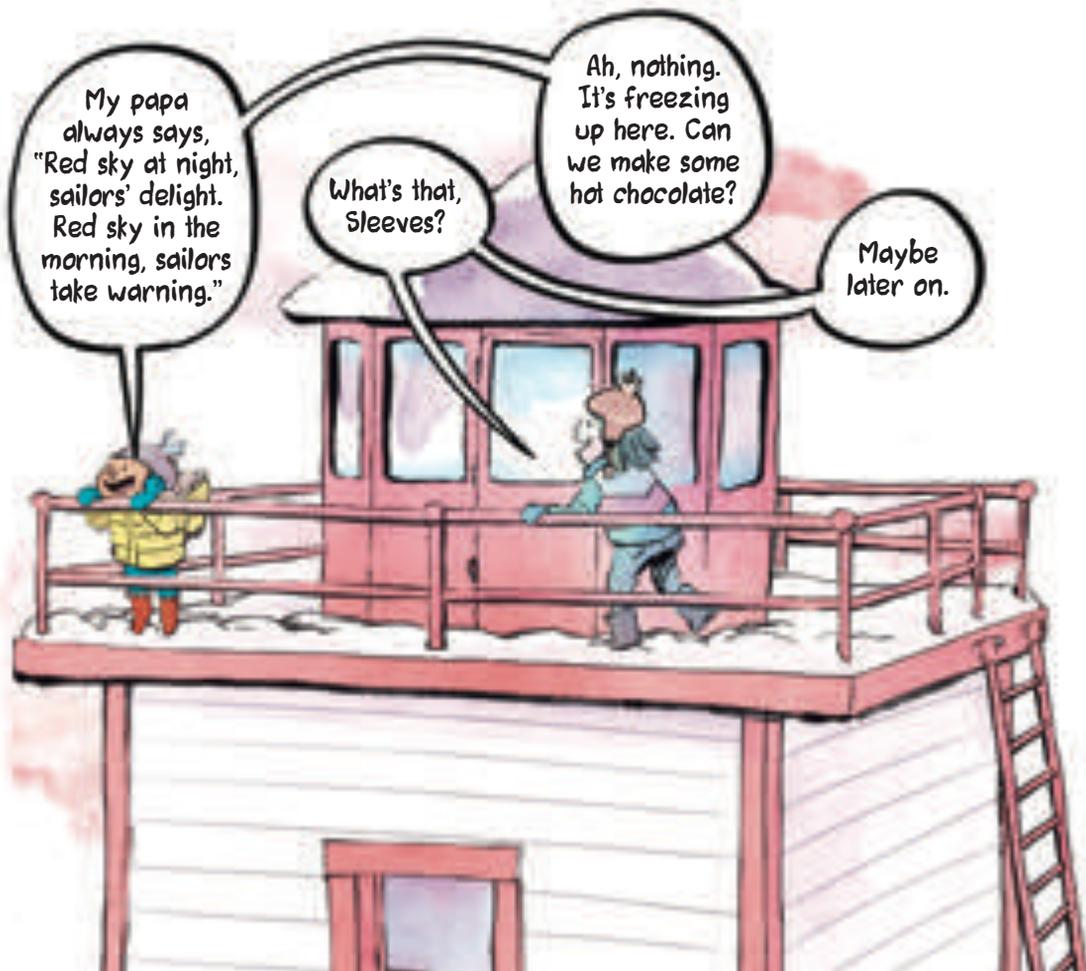


Ew, gross.
My mom
makes pea soup.
It's disgusting.
Too lumpy.



It's
clearing
up. Must
be getting
windy.

Amazing.
Look at that
color.



My papa
always says,
"Red sky at night,
sailors' delight.
Red sky in the
morning, sailors
take warning."

What's that,
Sleeves?

Ah, nothing.
It's freezing
up here. Can
we make some
hot chocolate?

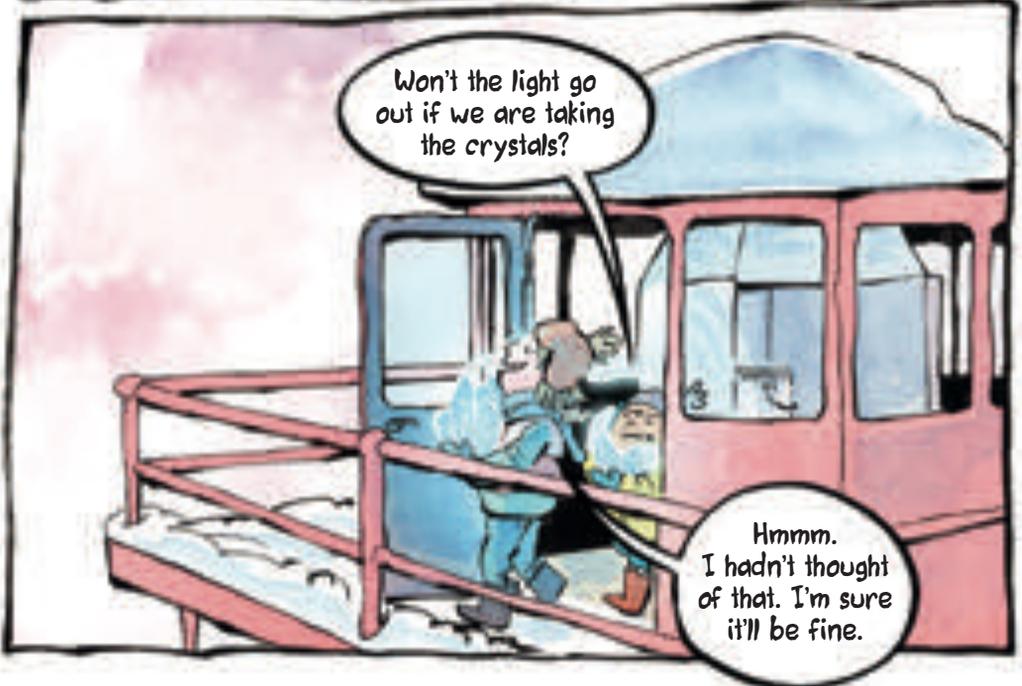
Maybe
later on.





But I thought you took the other crystals back last night. Why are we taking these?

I did. I mean, I tried. There was a little bit of an accident. You know, let's just take 'em all.

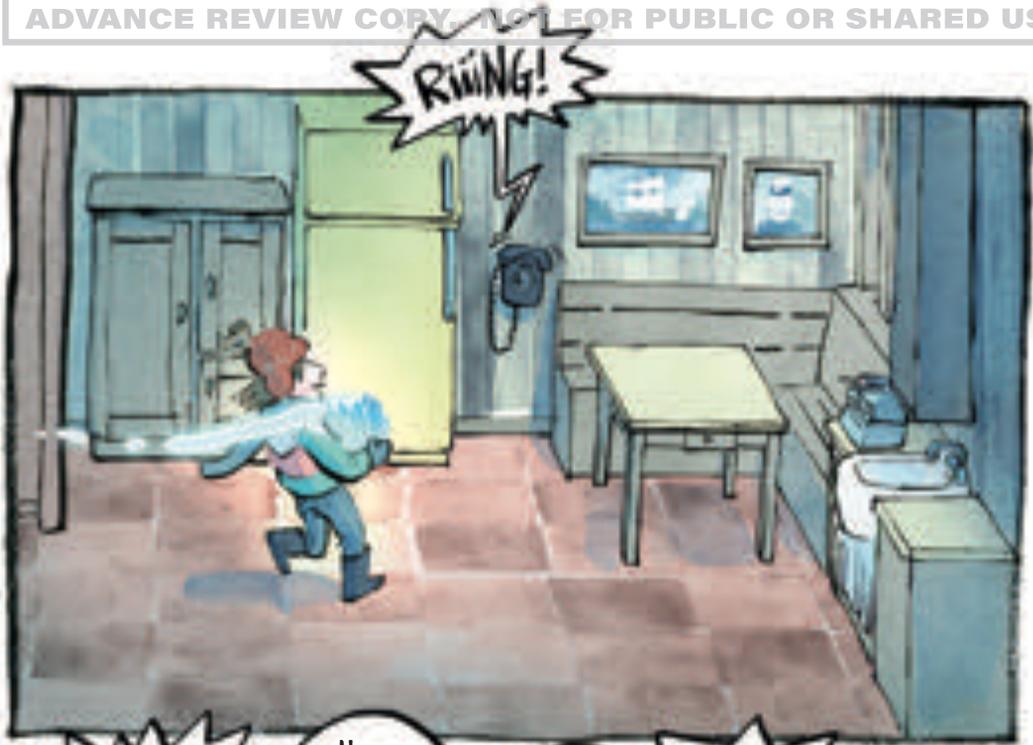


Won't the light go out if we are taking the crystals?

Hmmm. I hadn't thought of that. I'm sure it'll be fine.









It sounds like we can run a temporary bridge until spring. The crew will look at it first thing tomorrow morning. Till then we sit tight.



That's good news. How was your ride up?



Nothing I haven't seen before. Rough. Actually, quite rough, but manageable. Kay, you all still fine down there?

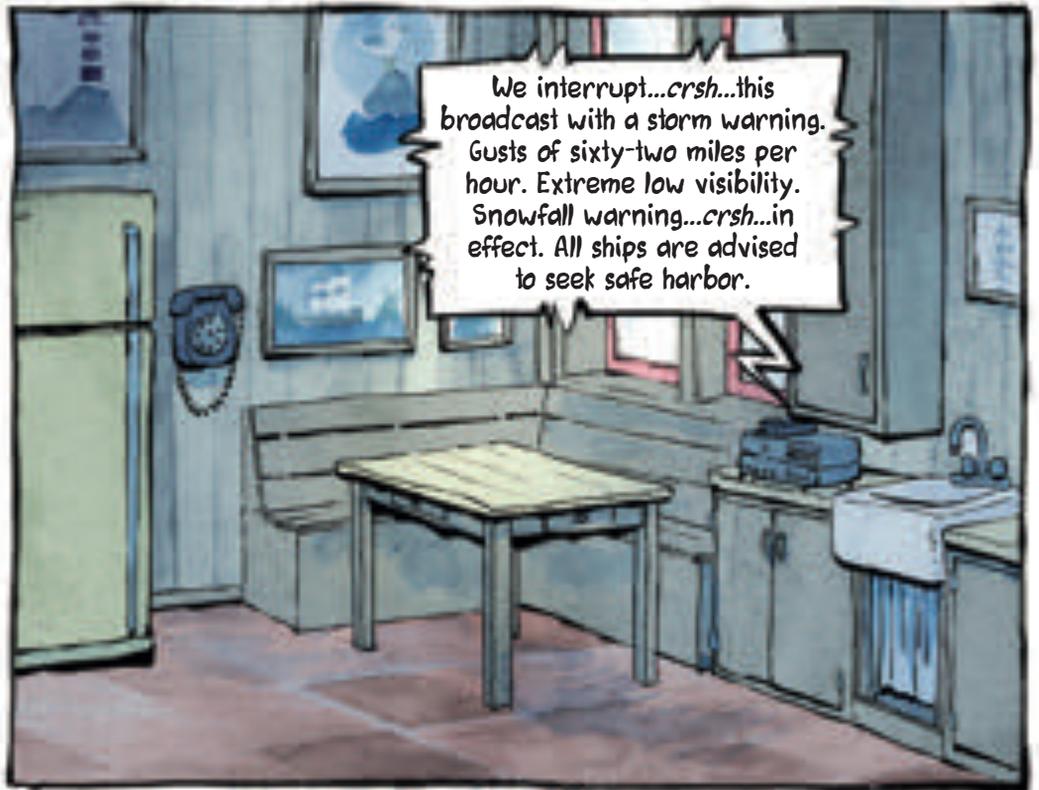


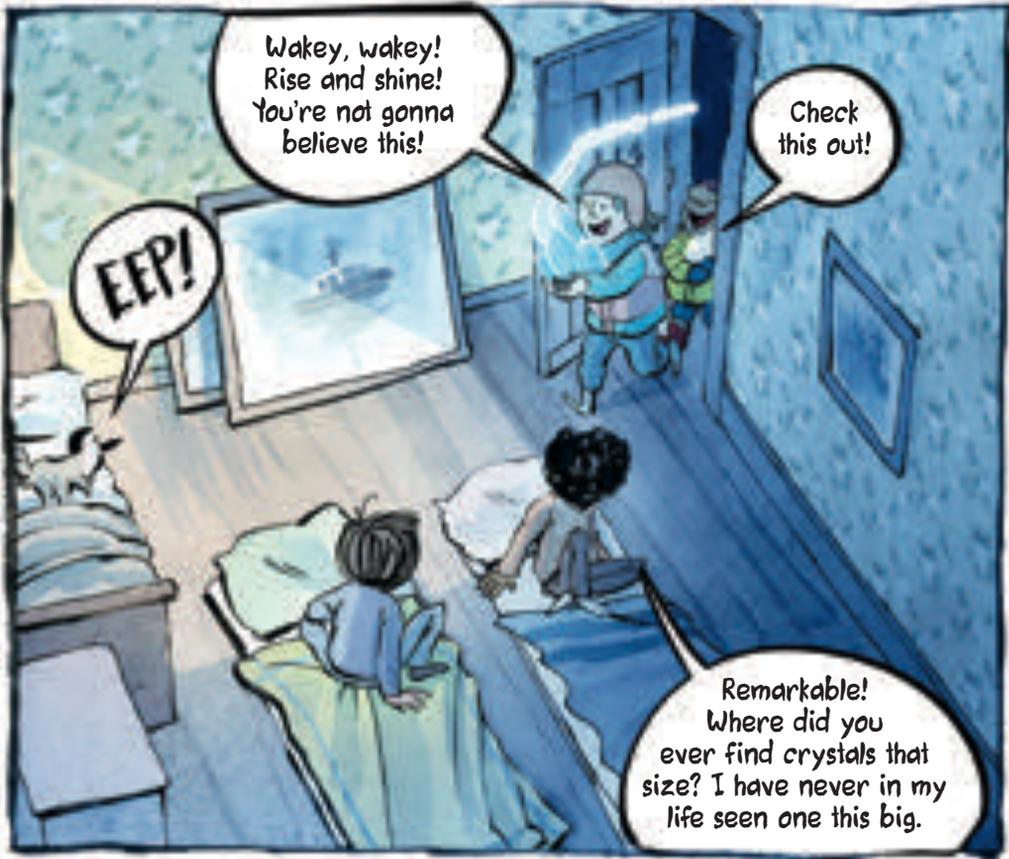
Never better! Just working on our project.





We interrupt...*crsh*...this broadcast with a storm warning. Gusts of sixty-two miles per hour. Extreme low visibility. Snowfall warning...*crsh*...in effect. All ships are advised to seek safe harbor.







I imagine Moony's family will be happy to have him back. It will be nice to see.

Wow, Jenna. Are you starting to care?



Moony, you'll be flying around with your family in no time!





Is it safe down here? These guys do burrow pretty deep.

Yeah, I think so. They really do. No wonder the bank gave way.



Just around the corner!







Later that afternoon...

Well, Kay,
I gotta hand
it to ya. I think you
aced it. One big
happy family.

Ollie is right, Kay.
You have really turned
this around. For a second
I thought the whole
place would collapse.

Thanks.
That means
a lot.

I'm starving! How long
have we been down
here? Kay, what about
that hot chocolate?

I'll go up and make
some. I do a pretty
mean hot choc. I can
check the woodstove
while I'm up there.

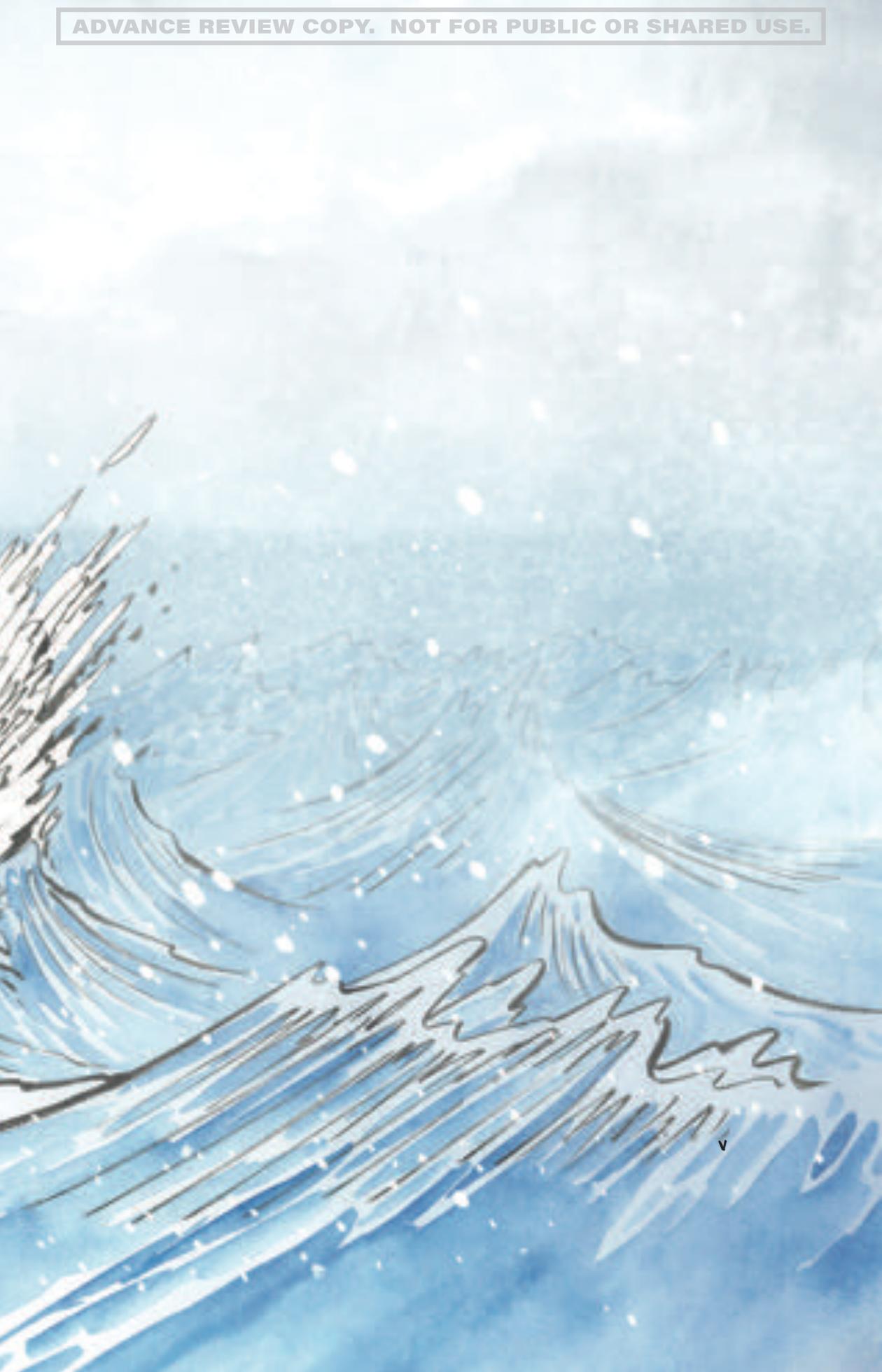
Ollie,
you're my
hero!



CHAPTER SIX

***Spirit of
the Wind, Do
You Read?***









SPLASH!

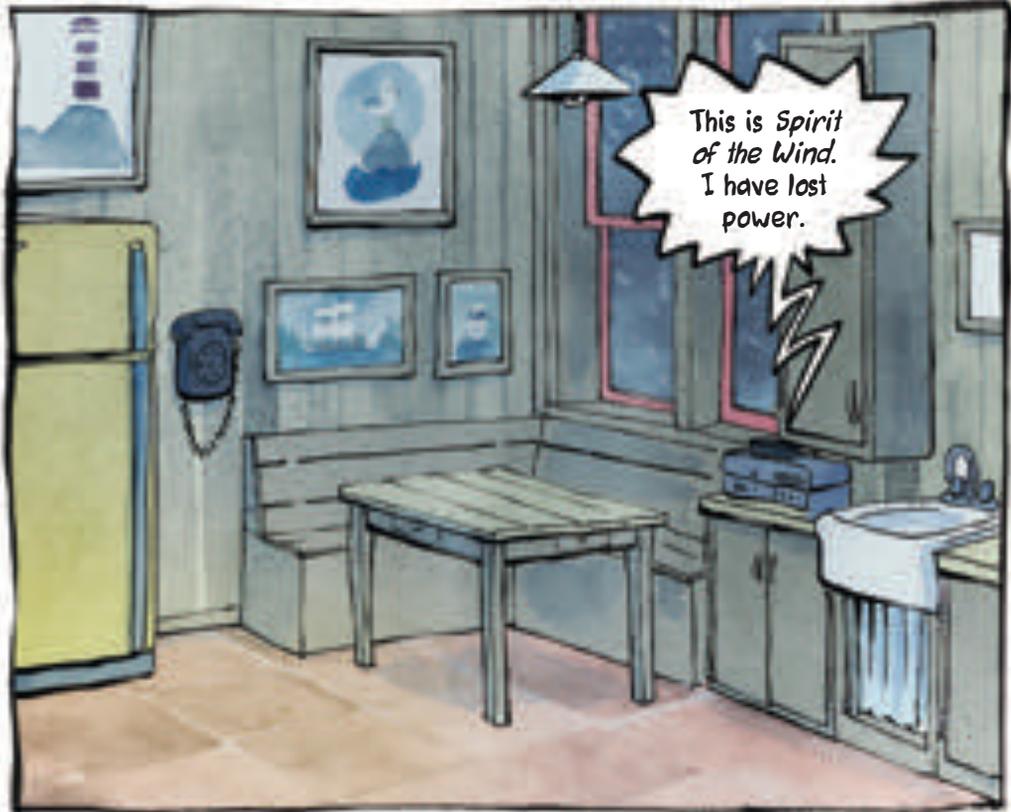


Start!

RRR... RRR



RRR... RRRR







Aunt Gayle?
Is that you?

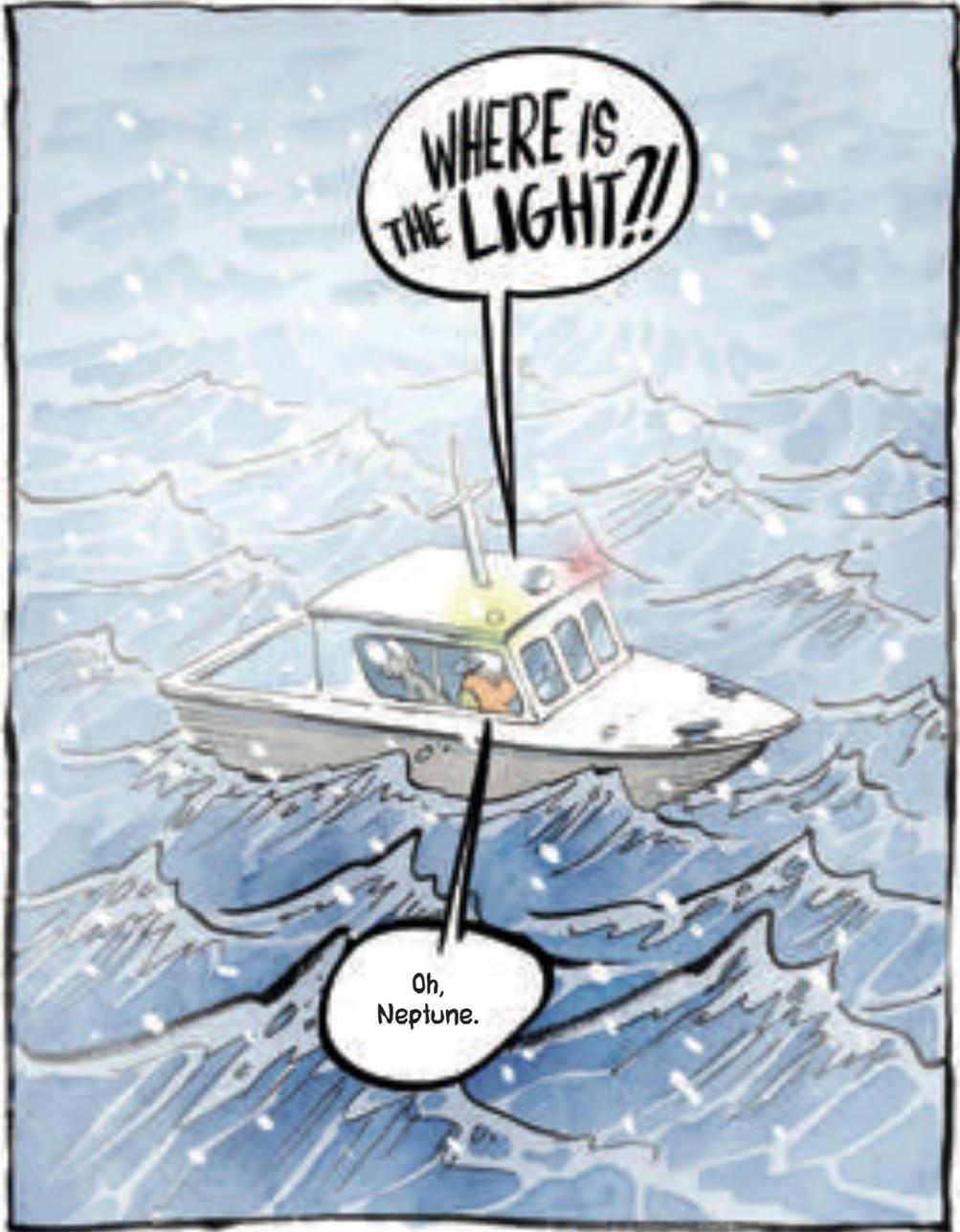
This is *Spirit of the Wind*. Kids,
you read me? I have
no power and am
headed for the rocks.
I can't see anything.
Where is the light?



This is Ollie.
I hear you.
I don't know what
to do! Should we call
the coast guard?



Do you
read me?





Help!
You guys!
It's Gayle on
the radio!

Here!
I don't know
what to say?

What
is it, Ollie?

What's
happened?!

Is she
okay?



She's lost
power and
can't see the
lighthouse!

Gayle?
Do you
read me?!



Kay,
the light
is out!

Oh no!



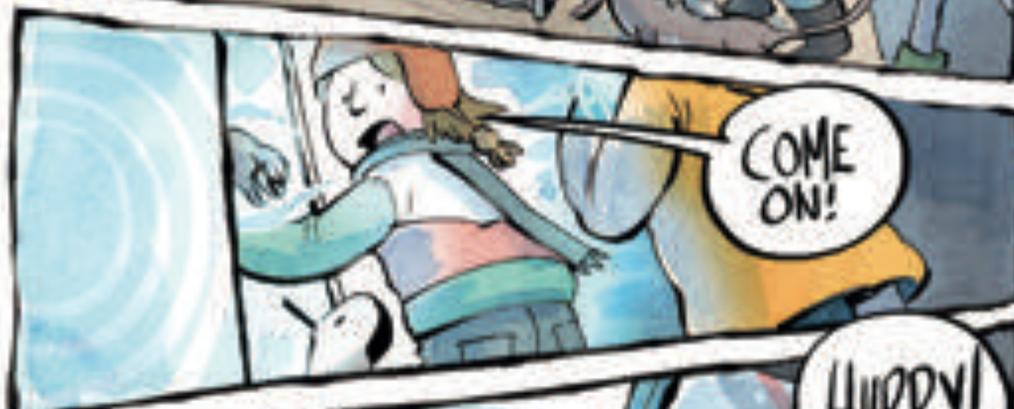
Read me?
Where is the
light? The...crsh...
crystals? What
happened?

I read you!
We have the
crystals with us!



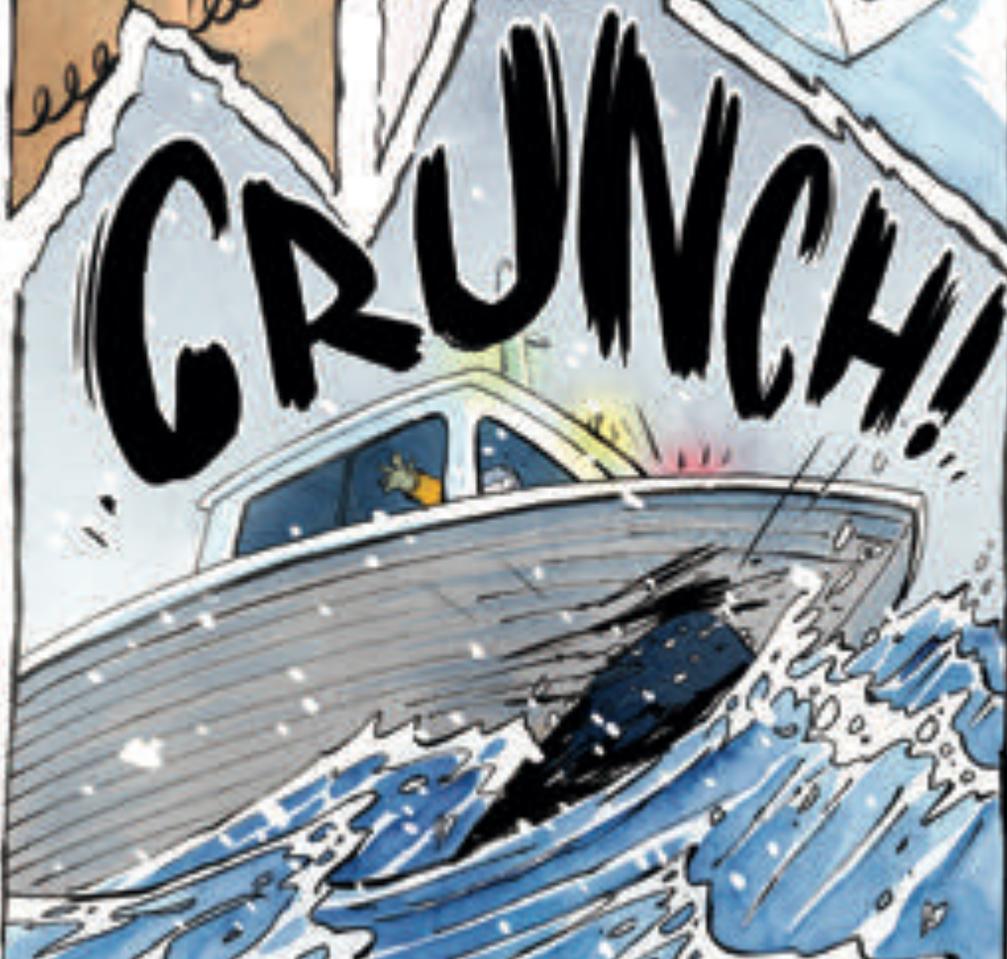








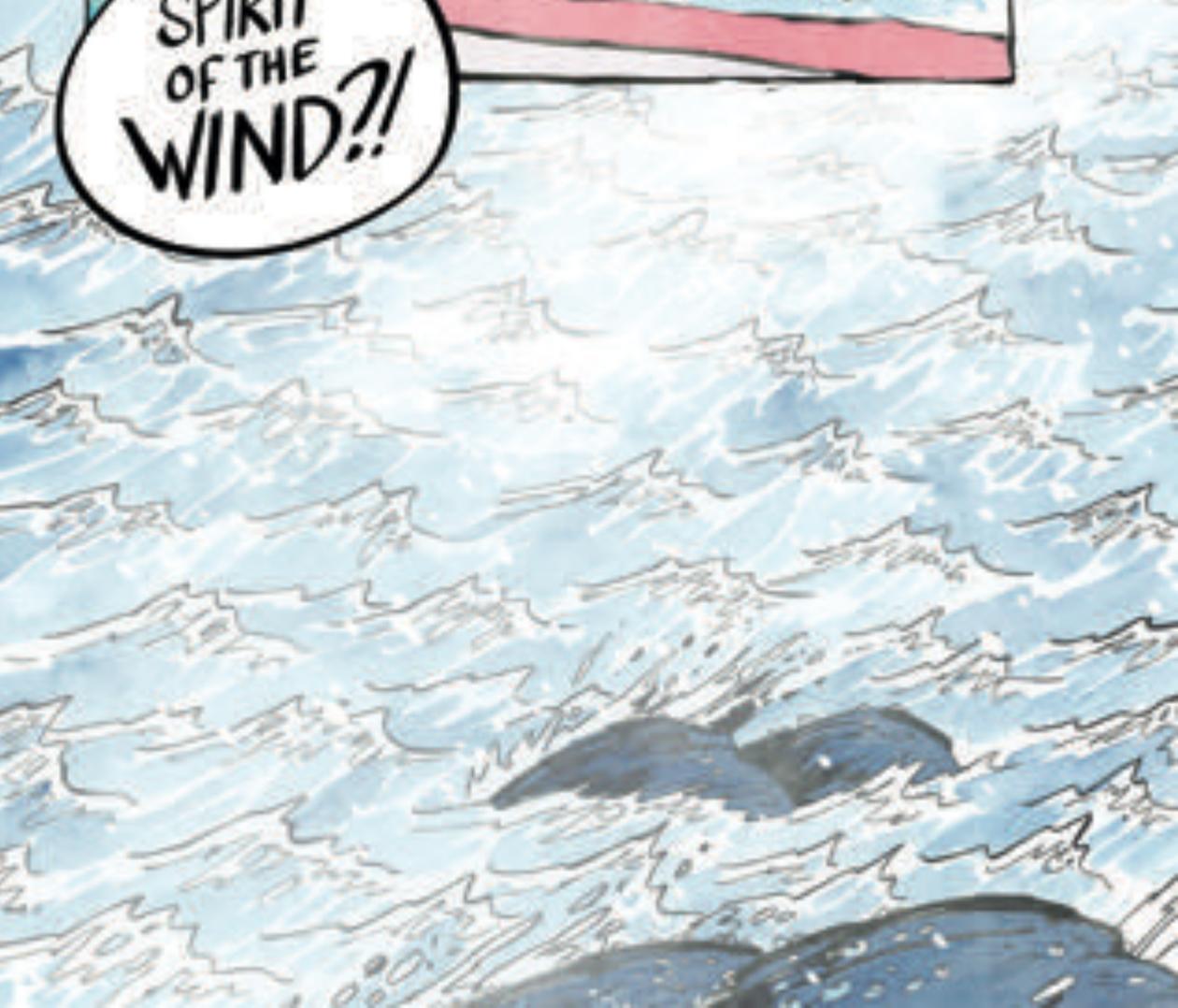






GAYLE?!

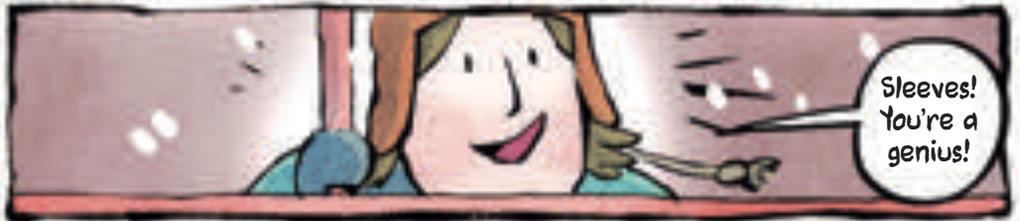
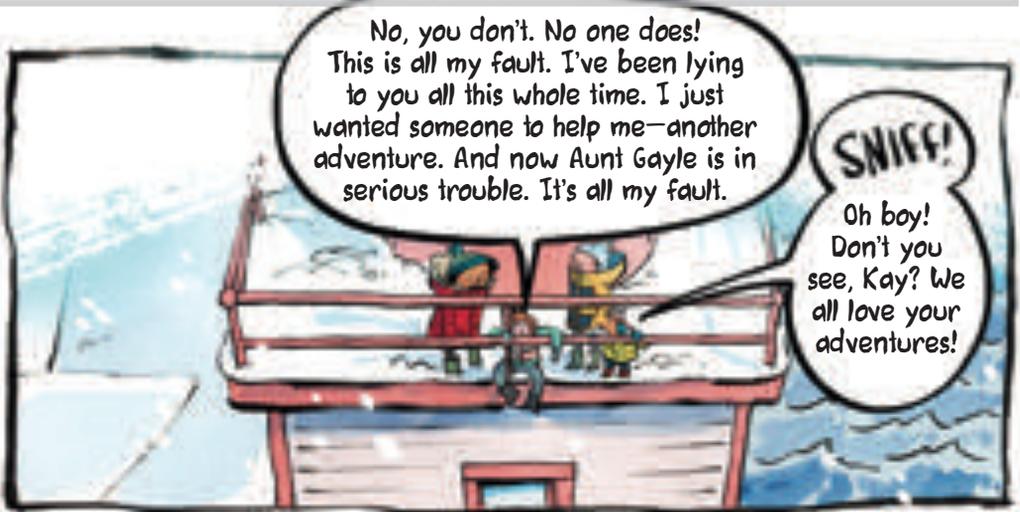
SPIRIT
OF THE
WIND?!



What have I done?! She hit something! In the little boat, she won't have long. The water is freezing!









Kay, what in the world is that?



Yeah, Kay, what is it?

It's a breeches buoy.





How does it work?

Just fasten this end to something secure and hold your breath.



In the olden days, these were used to save lives. You stretch the line from the wreck to land, and then the people come across in this buoy thing.

Or something like that.

But how do you get the other end to the boat? You can't possibly throw it all that way.

She's got a point, Kay. What do we do?





Whaddya mean?
There should be a gun
to shoot the line! It's
not in the case?

There's
nothing else here,
Kay. This is not good!
We got nothing! This is
a total disaster!



We can
try to launch
the dinghy, but the
waves are massive.
It would swamp
in no time.

What are
we going
to do?

AAAAAAAAA!!





All right, show us what you got. I know it's cold, but you're our only hope. I know you can do this.



Kay, this is just nonsensical... there has to be a better solution.



Don't listen to her. Just be careful in the wind. Hopefully Gayle will see him!



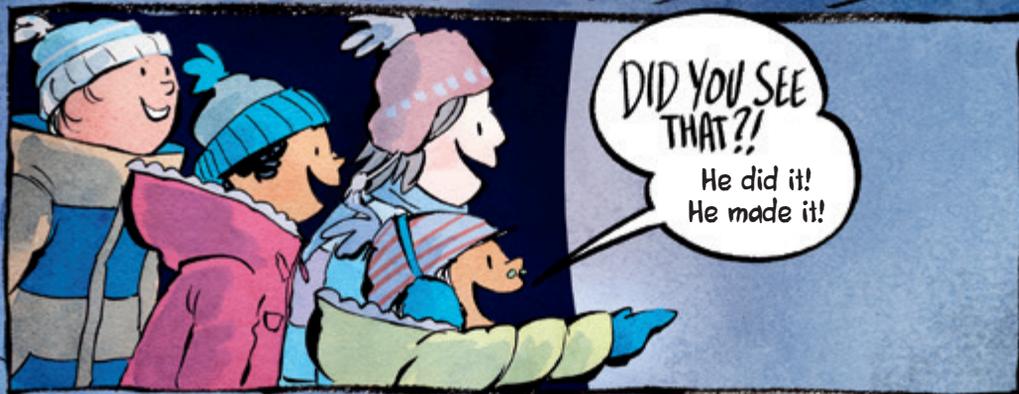
One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, four to GO!



The wind is too strong.

Look at him go!

Kay, is he gonna be strong enough?



DID YOU SEE THAT?!

He did it!
He made it!



I can't believe my eyes. He really did it.

Kay, this thing looks pretty old.

I can see Gayle. She has it! Let go of the buoy!



We still need Gayle to get in so we can pull her back. Everyone grab the line and be ready.



Did you feel that? Three pulls? That must be her signal. On three.

ONE, TWO...

...THREE!!!





IT'S WORKING!

WE'RE DOING IT!



PULL HARDER!







SHE'S OKAY!
PULL!



YOUR HAND!

GASP!
What took you so long?
Ha, ha!



I can't believe that old thing worked.

Old thing?!
You better not be talking about me, young man!



been telling people for years. They just never believed me.

They're beautiful. You were right, Kay.



SLEEVES!!





CHAPTER SEVEN

This Is the Life!



Kay, this really is awesome.

Just a little bit of hard work. This tunnel should be structurally sound.

Let's go! Before it melts!!!! I am going to go a thousand times!

My hard work is just beginning. I talked to my dad and we're going to insulate my bus. So it can handle the winter.



That's great. Bet it'll be nice to be home.

Well, you're welcome to stay here as long as you like, Kay. It's been nice having a little company.



Really? Wow, thanks, Aunt Gayle!



Don't you mean Auntie G?

HA HA HA HA HA

Careful, Jenna. Don't laugh too loud. You might end up having fun!



Sleeves, I can have fun! Watch this!







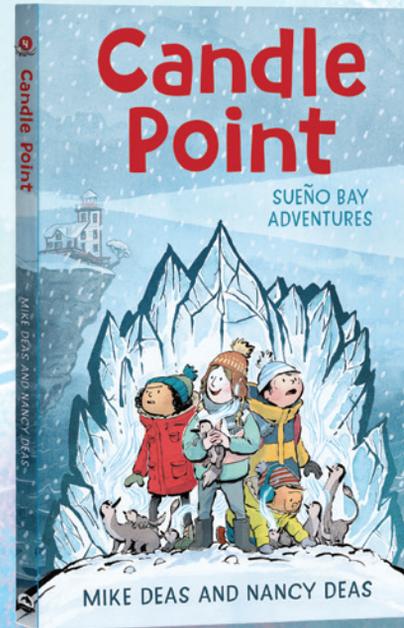
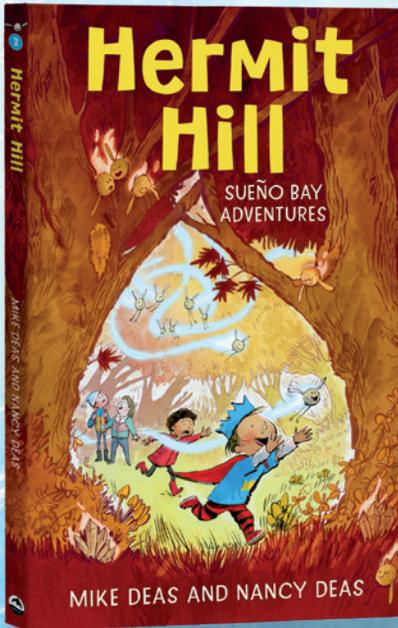
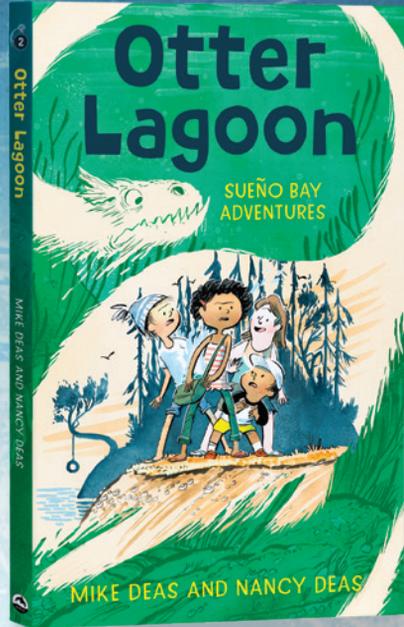
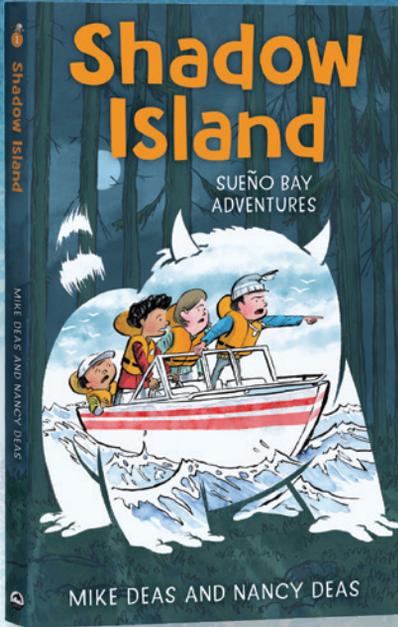


Husband-and-wife team **NANCY** and **MIKE DEAS** enjoyed collaborating on this project. Nancy grew up on a farm on Mayne Island, British Columbia, where she wandered the forests and beaches. She has a great love of travel and adventure. Nancy holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Victoria. Mike is an author/illustrator of graphic novels, including *Dalen and Gole* and the Graphic Guide Adventure series. While he grew up with a love of illustrative storytelling, Capilano College's Commercial Animation program helped Mike fine-tune his drawing skills and imagination. Mike, Nancy and their family live on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, a magical and mysterious island that inspired Sueño Bay.



Welcome to Sueño Bay

HOME OF THE SUPERNATURAL



Magic, mystery
and Moon
Creatures!

Ready for more? **New books** in the
SUEÑO BAY ADVENTURES
series are **coming soon!**