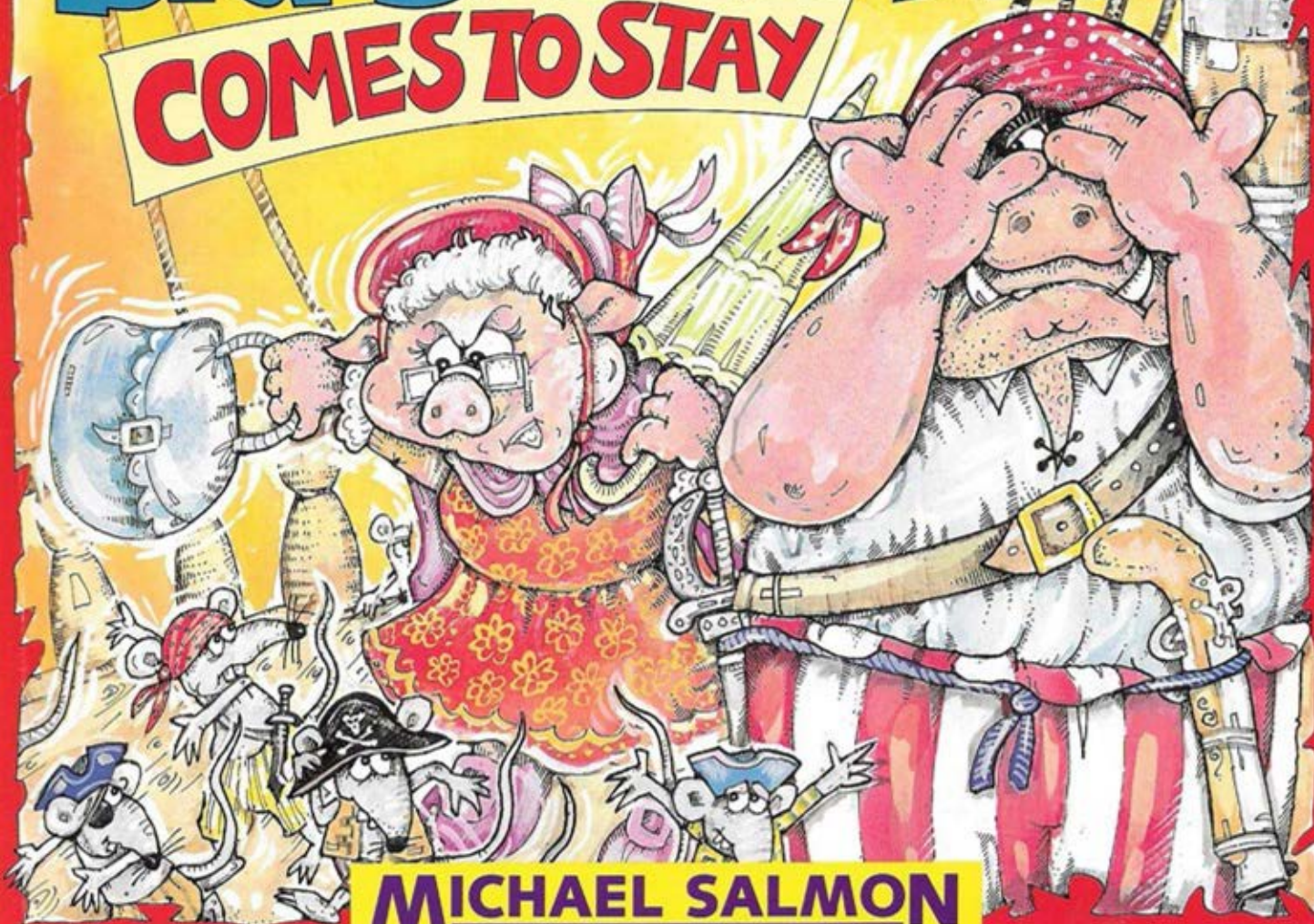


**PIGANEERS**

# BIG BOAR'S MOM

**COMES TO STAY**



**MICHAEL SALMON**

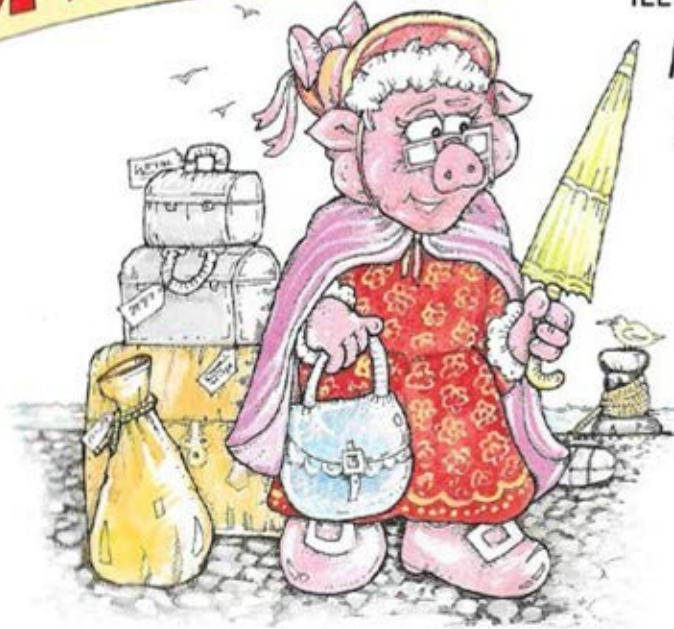
PIGANEERS

# BIG BOAR'S MOM

COMES TO STAY

WRITTEN AND  
ILLUSTRATED BY

Michael  
Salmon



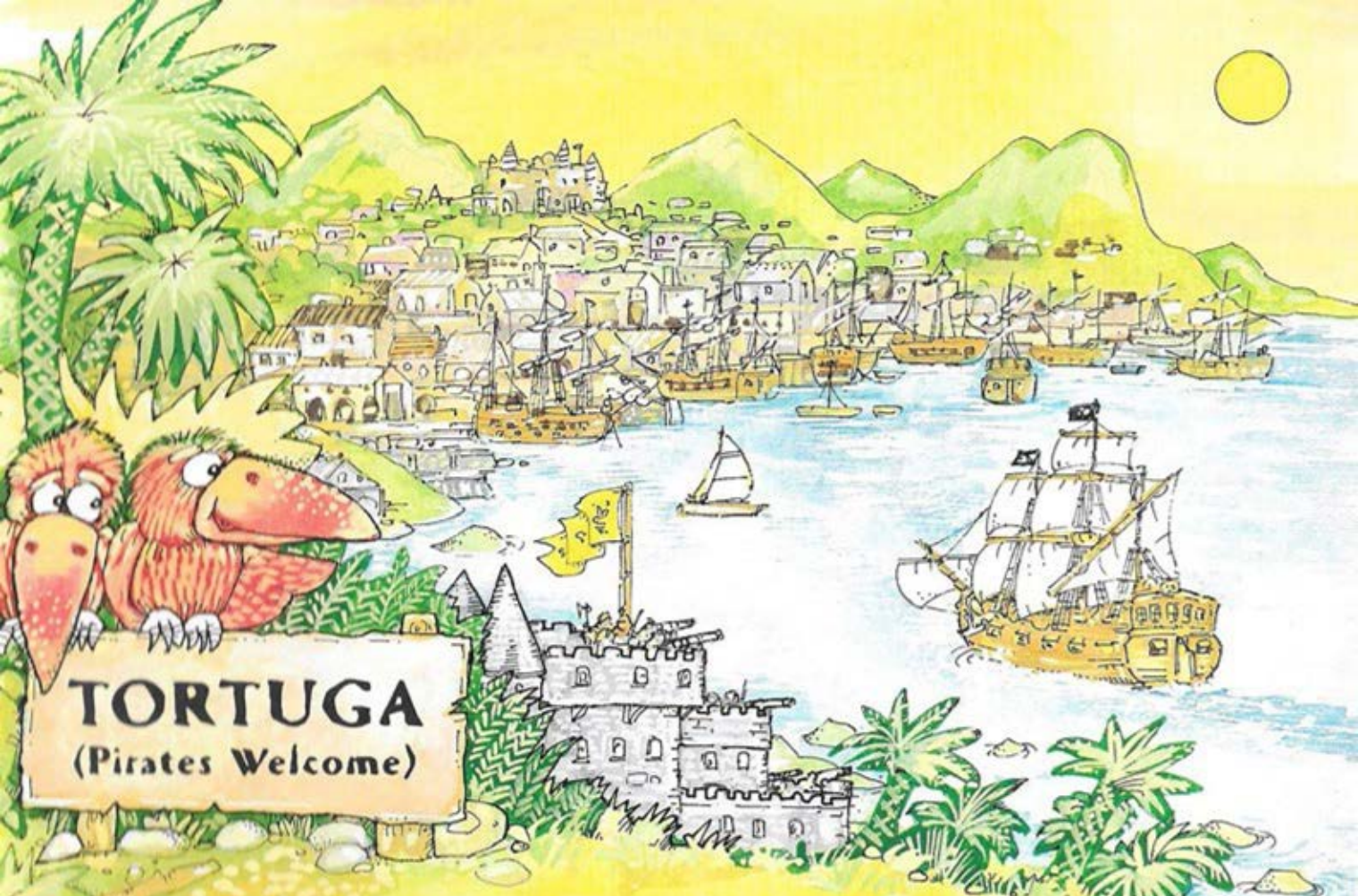
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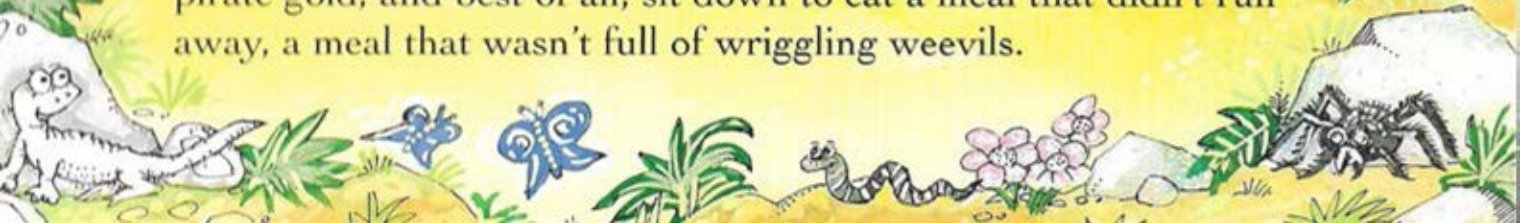


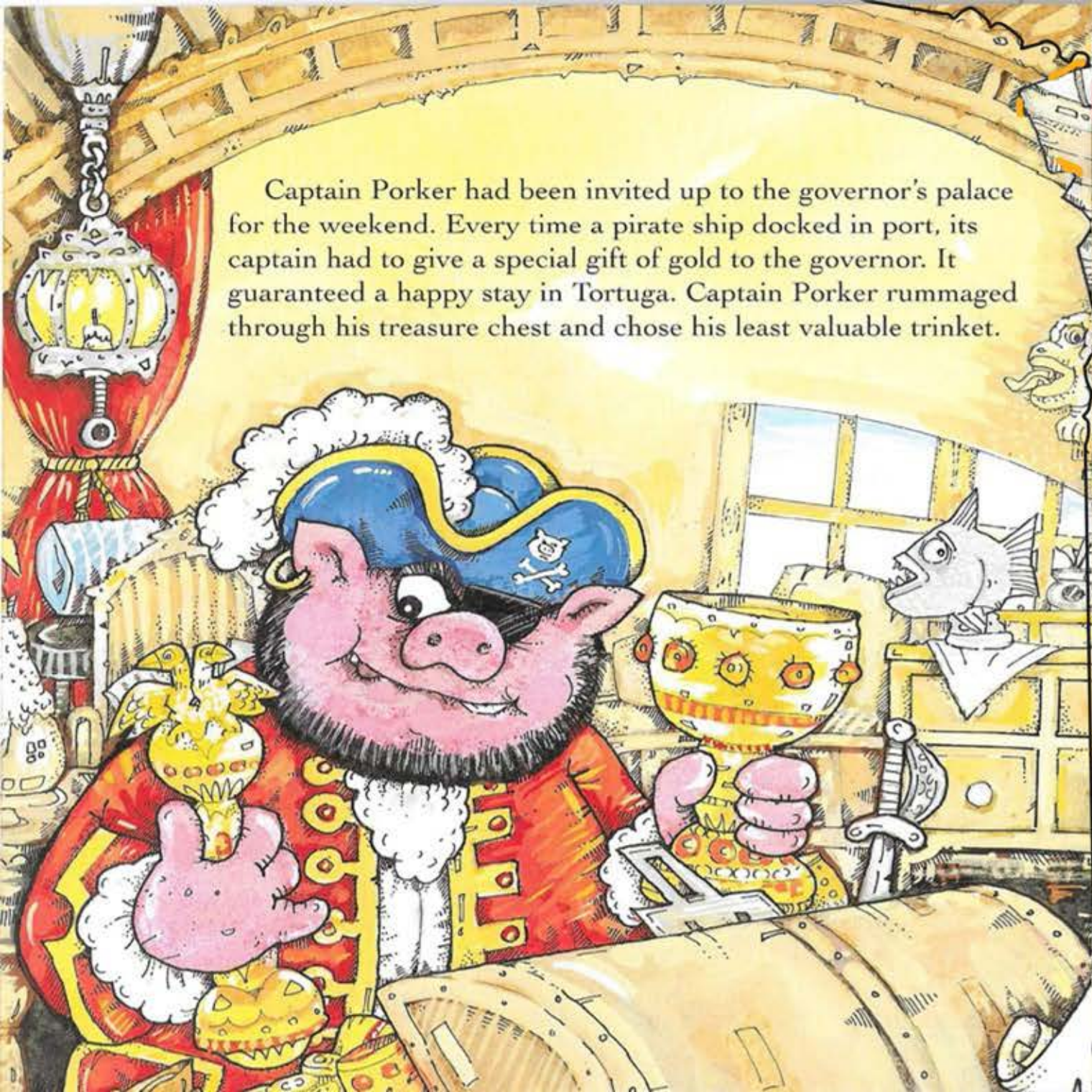
## TORTUGA

(Pirates Welcome)

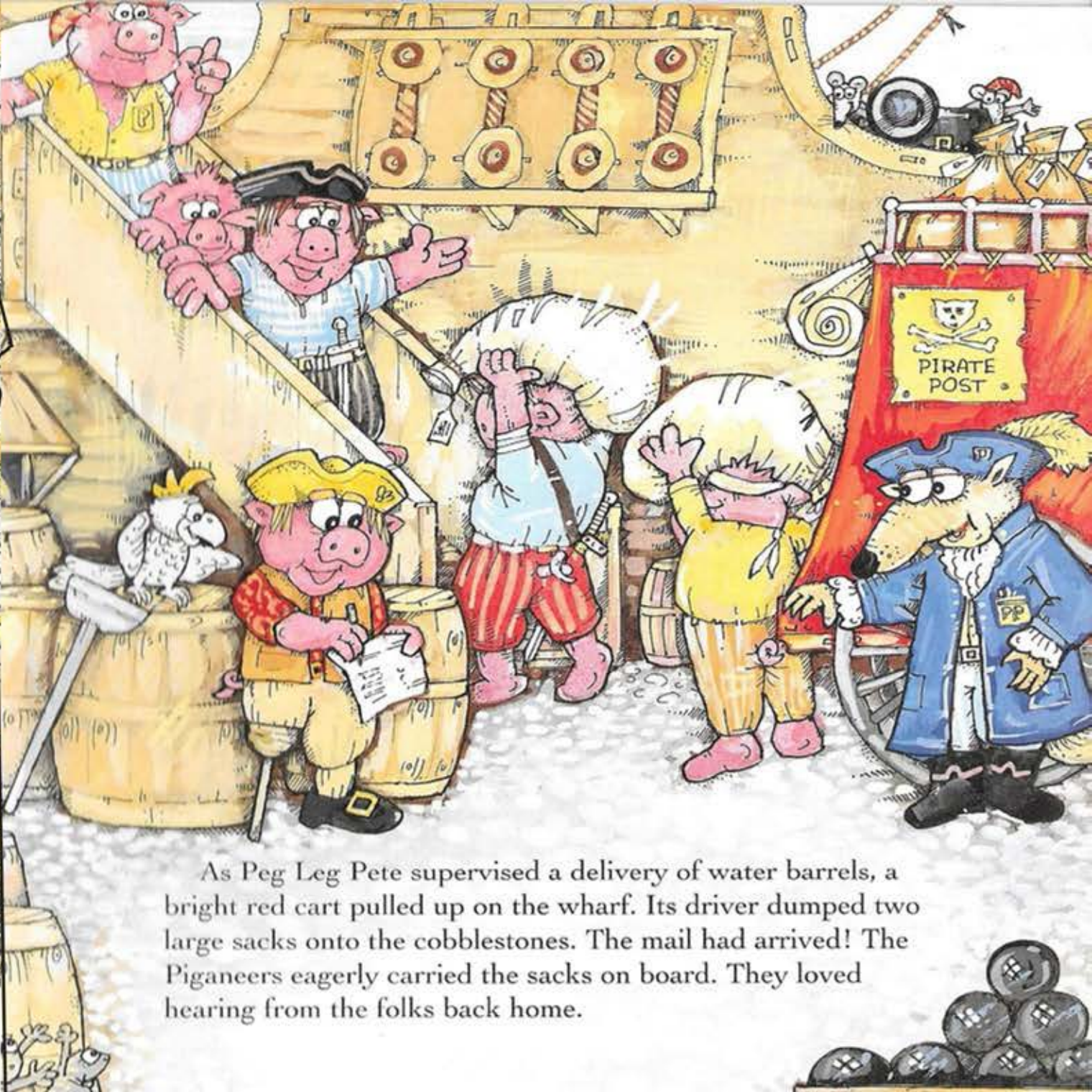
The Piganeeers sailed into the Bay of Tortuga after being at sea for months. Tortuga provided a safe haven for all pirates. No one dared disturb them there.

The crew always looked forward to their time in port. While the ship was being restocked, the pigs could relax, spend some pirate gold, and best of all, sit down to eat a meal that didn't run away, a meal that wasn't full of wriggling weevils.





Captain Porker had been invited up to the governor's palace for the weekend. Every time a pirate ship docked in port, its captain had to give a special gift of gold to the governor. It guaranteed a happy stay in Tortuga. Captain Porker rummaged through his treasure chest and chose his least valuable trinket.



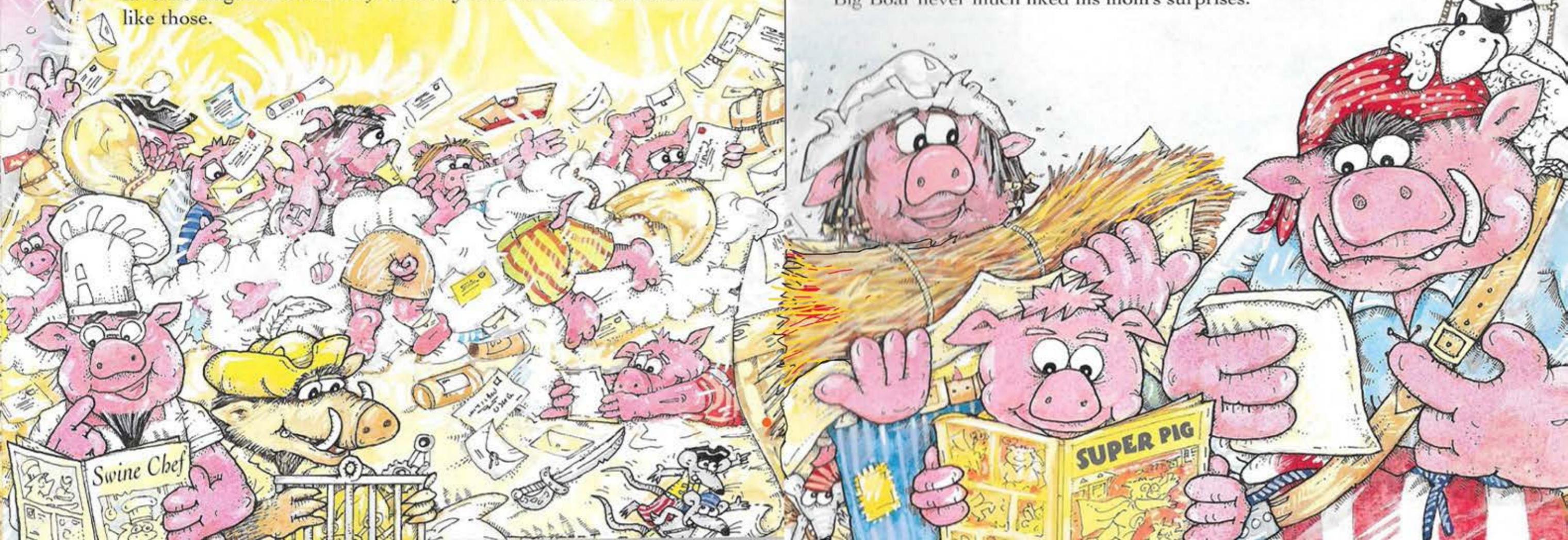
As Peg Leg Pete supervised a delivery of water barrels, a bright red cart pulled up on the wharf. Its driver dumped two large sacks onto the cobblestones. The mail had arrived! The Piganeers eagerly carried the sacks on board. They loved hearing from the folks back home.

Pigsty cut the drawstrings. Out tumbled all kinds of mail: letters, postcards, magazines, and bulky packages. The pigs searched excitedly for items addressed to them.

Warty Hog grunted with delight. His new rat catcher had finally arrived. Pigswill the cook gazed at the tasty-looking pictures in his favorite magazine *Swine Chef*. One day he'd make delicious dishes like those.

Pigsty received a parcel of smelly straw from his family back on the farm. He'd sleep well tonight! Piglet Ned dreamt of being an action hero as he flipped through his new comic book.

There was a note to Big Boar from his mom saying that she had a surprise for him. *Oh, no. What's she up to this time?* he thought. Big Boar never much liked his mom's surprises.





Big Boar didn't have to wait long.  
"Yoo-hoo . . . Percival." It was a voice he knew well. Down on the wharf a little old lady swine stepped out of a carriage. "It's Mother. I've come to visit you."  
Big Boar rushed down the gangplank, red with embarrassment. None of the Piganees had known that his first name was Percival. . . . Now they did!

"Mom, it's great to see you," whispered Big Boar. "But I can't take you on board. Ladies aren't allowed."  
"Don't be silly, Percival," replied Mrs. Boar. "Take my bags and follow me."  
"But Mom," pleaded Big Boar, "you can't."  
It was no use. There was no stopping his mother . . . ever.  
"Oh, *Percival* . . . How are you? . . . *Percival*," teased the other Piganees.



As Big Boar's mom strode up the gangway, Captain Porker emerged from his cabin. He stopped dead in his tracks when he saw Mrs. Boar. "Suffering seaweed!" he bellowed. "A female aboard my ship! It's against the pirate code. It will be seven years bad luck. Who is responsible for this? I'll have him punished."



"It's my mom. She's come to visit me," mumbled Big Boar. "Well, get her off my ship immediately!" roared the captain. "Percival, I'll handle this," snorted Mrs. Boar as she pushed him aside. *Jab!* She poked the captain in the ribs and he fell over backwards. "That's the way I deal with rude little boys!" she scolded Captain Porker. Fighting fierce sea battles was nothing compared with an angry Mrs. Boar!



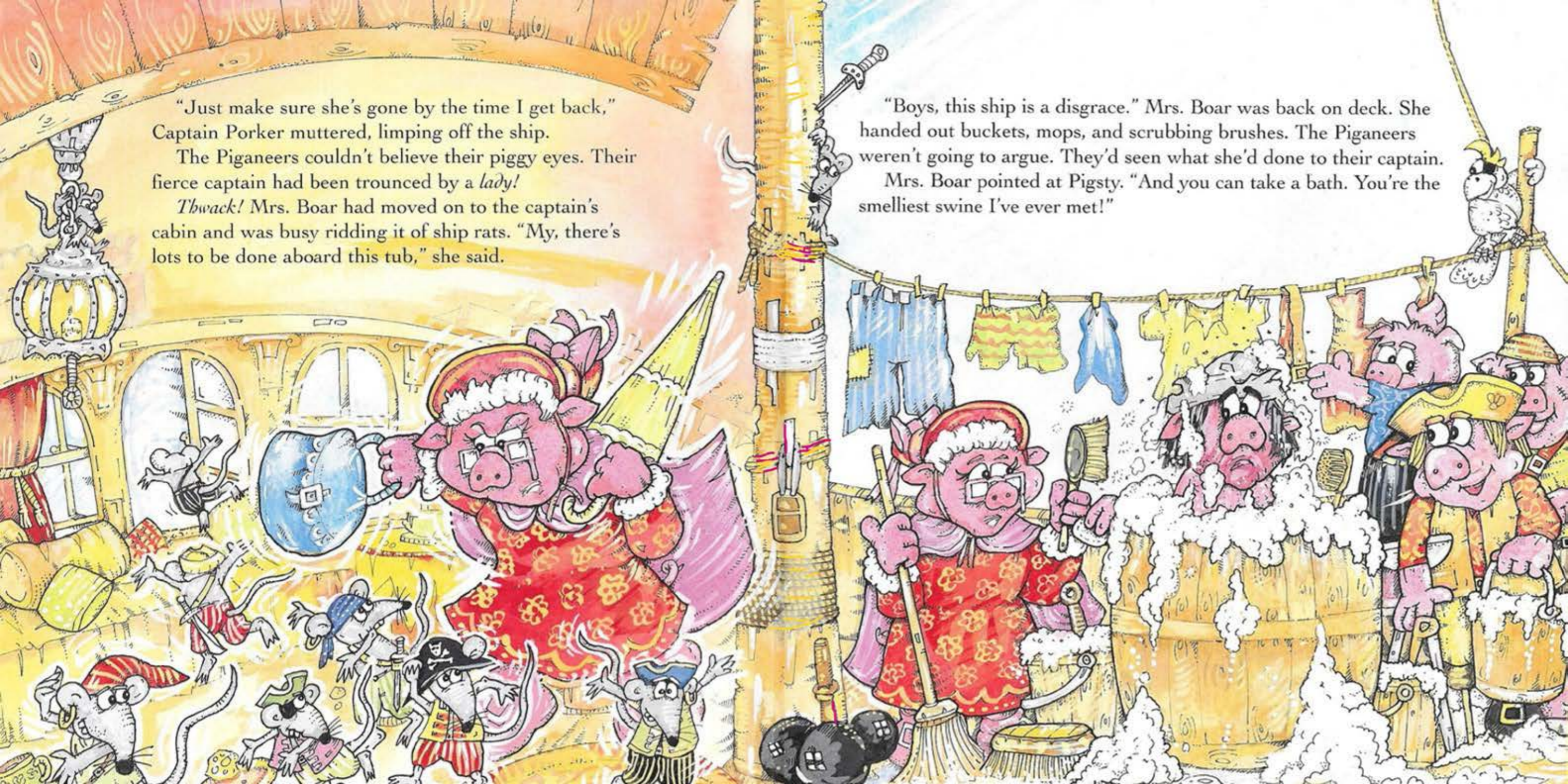
"Just make sure she's gone by the time I get back," Captain Porker muttered, limping off the ship.


The Piganeeers couldn't believe their piggy eyes. Their fierce captain had been trounced by a *lady!*

*Thwack!* Mrs. Boar had moved on to the captain's cabin and was busy ridding it of ship rats. "My, there's lots to be done aboard this tub," she said.

"Boys, this ship is a disgrace." Mrs. Boar was back on deck. She handed out buckets, mops, and scrubbing brushes. The Piganeeers weren't going to argue. They'd seen what she'd done to their captain.

Mrs. Boar pointed at Pigsty. "And you can take a bath. You're the smelliest swine I've ever met!"





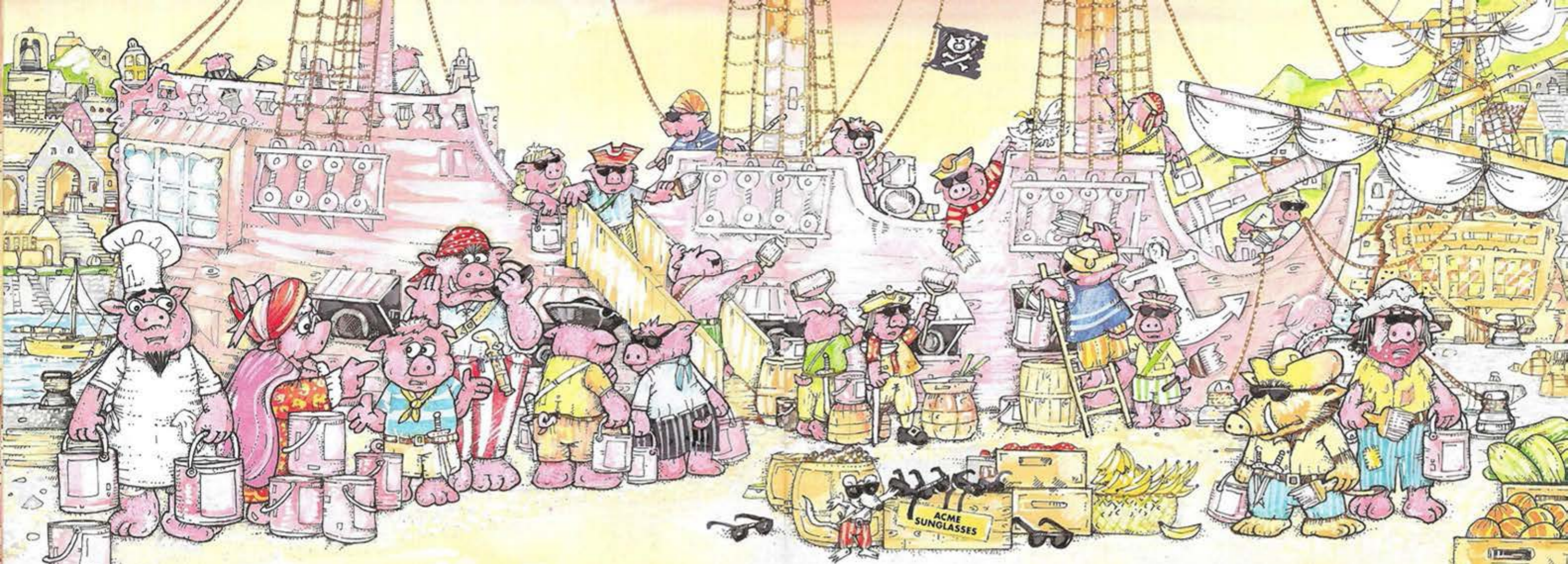
After a hard day spent cleaning, the Piganeeers were exhausted and starving. But before they could eat dinner, they had to wash up and stand in line for inspection.

They glared at Big Boar, but he couldn't help how his mother was. She was the reason he had run away to become a pirate in the first place.

After dinner Mrs. Boar tucked the Piganeeers snugly into their hammocks.

"Doesn't she ever stop?" complained Peg Leg Pete. "Tonight, I've got a special treat for you," Mrs. Boar said. "A bedtime story! It's Percival's favorite, *The Three Little Pigs*."

Mrs. Boar made herself comfortable and opened up the book. She was having a lot more fun aboard the ship than she ever had at home.



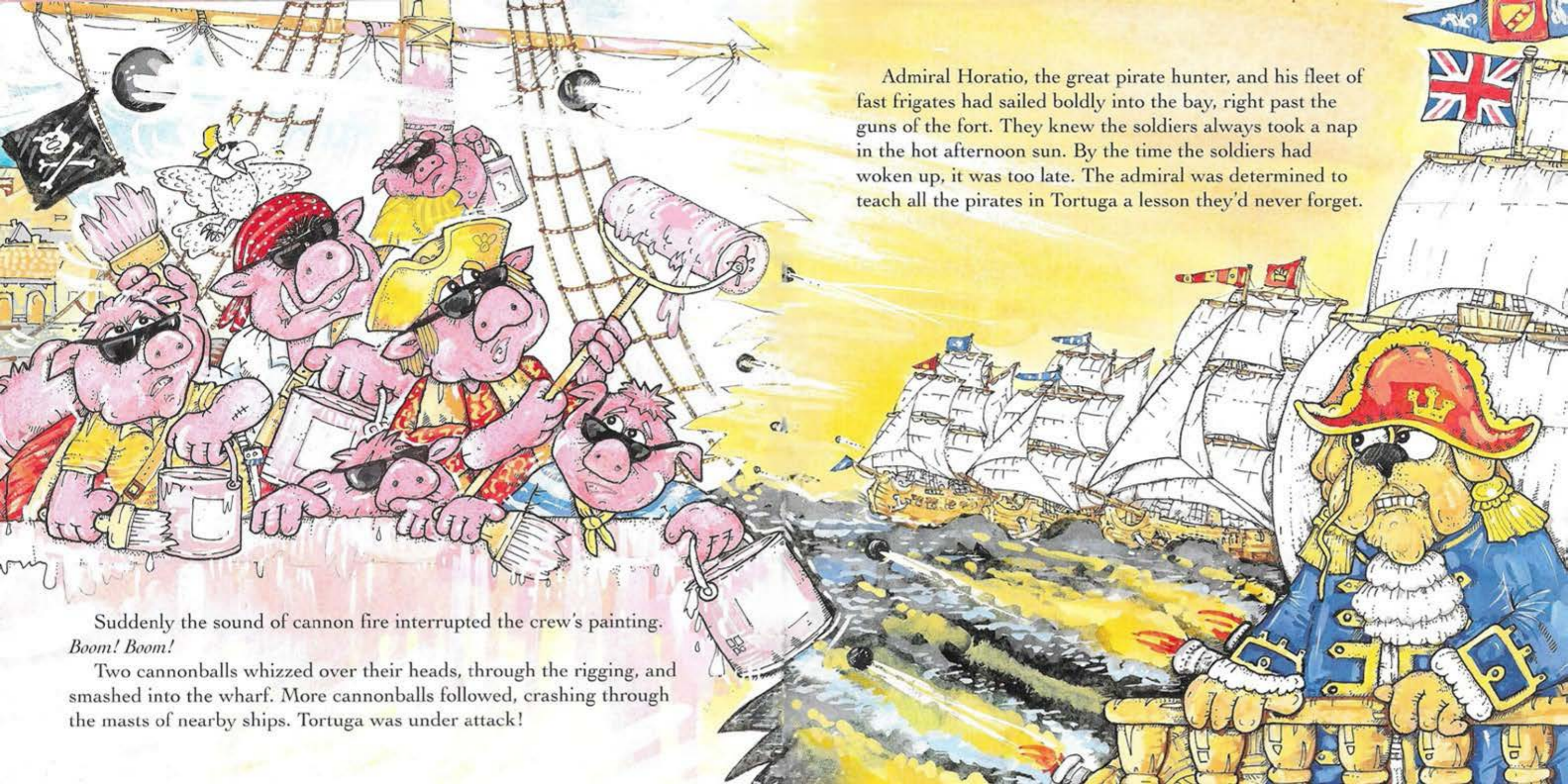
Mrs. Boar awoke early the next morning. "Rise and shine, Piganeeers. There's work to be done. This ship needs a new coat of paint. That grumpy old captain of yours won't recognize the *Hogwash* by the time we've finished."

Mrs. Boar grabbed Pigswill and a bag of gold she had found in the captain's cabin and set out to buy some paint.

When they returned, the Piganeeers couldn't believe it. Mrs. Boar had bought *pink paint*!

"The *Hogwash* is going to be as pretty as a picture!" she said with delight. But the crew all wore sunglasses for a disguise as they painted. They didn't want to be known as the "Pink Pig Pirates." They'd be laughed out of port!

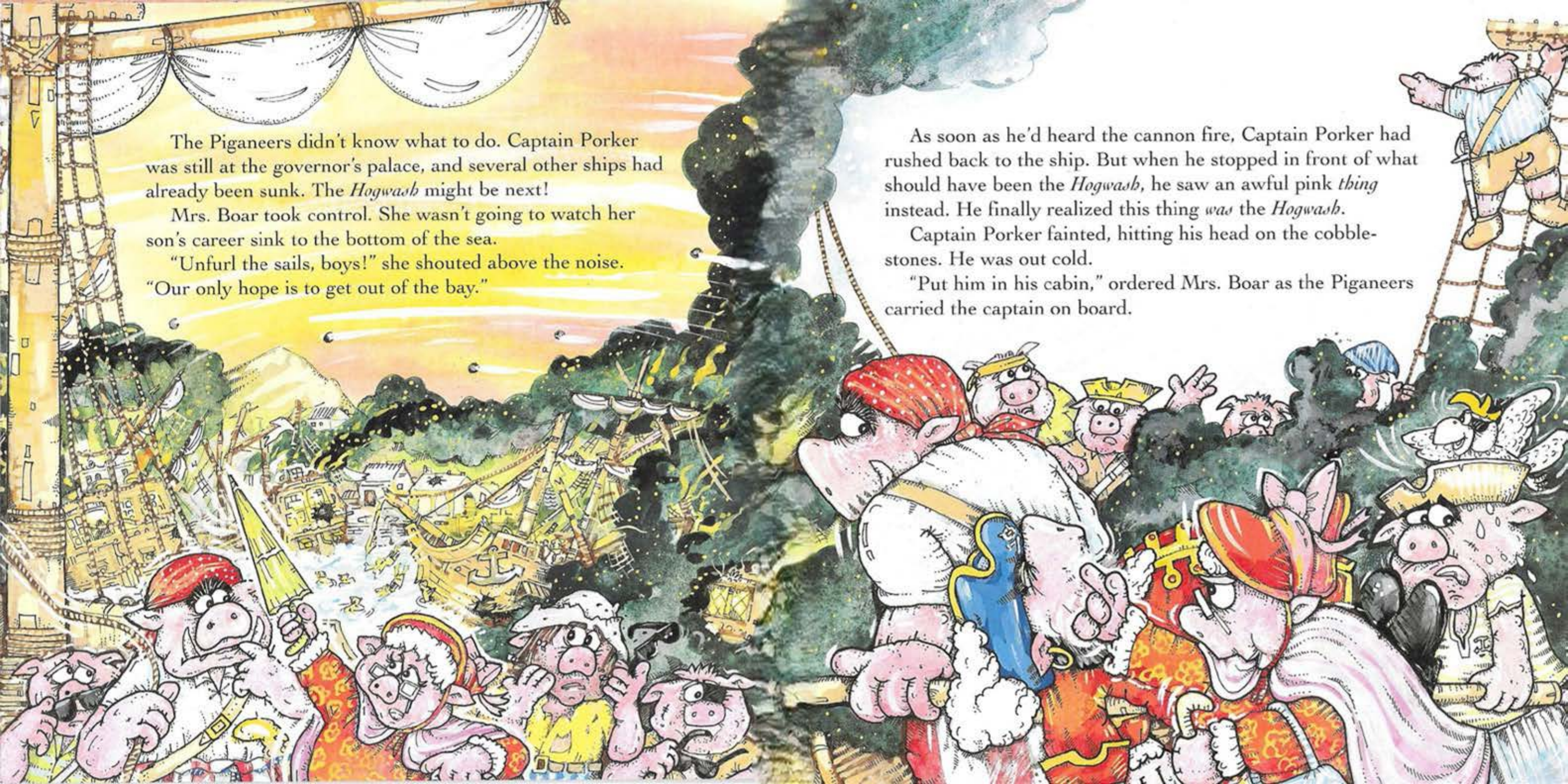




Admiral Horatio, the great pirate hunter, and his fleet of fast frigates had sailed boldly into the bay, right past the guns of the fort. They knew the soldiers always took a nap in the hot afternoon sun. By the time the soldiers had woken up, it was too late. The admiral was determined to teach all the pirates in Tortuga a lesson they'd never forget.

Suddenly the sound of cannon fire interrupted the crew's painting. *Boom! Boom!*

Two cannonballs whizzed over their heads, through the rigging, and smashed into the wharf. More cannonballs followed, crashing through the masts of nearby ships. Tortuga was under attack!



The Piganeers didn't know what to do. Captain Porker was still at the governor's palace, and several other ships had already been sunk. The *Hogwash* might be next!

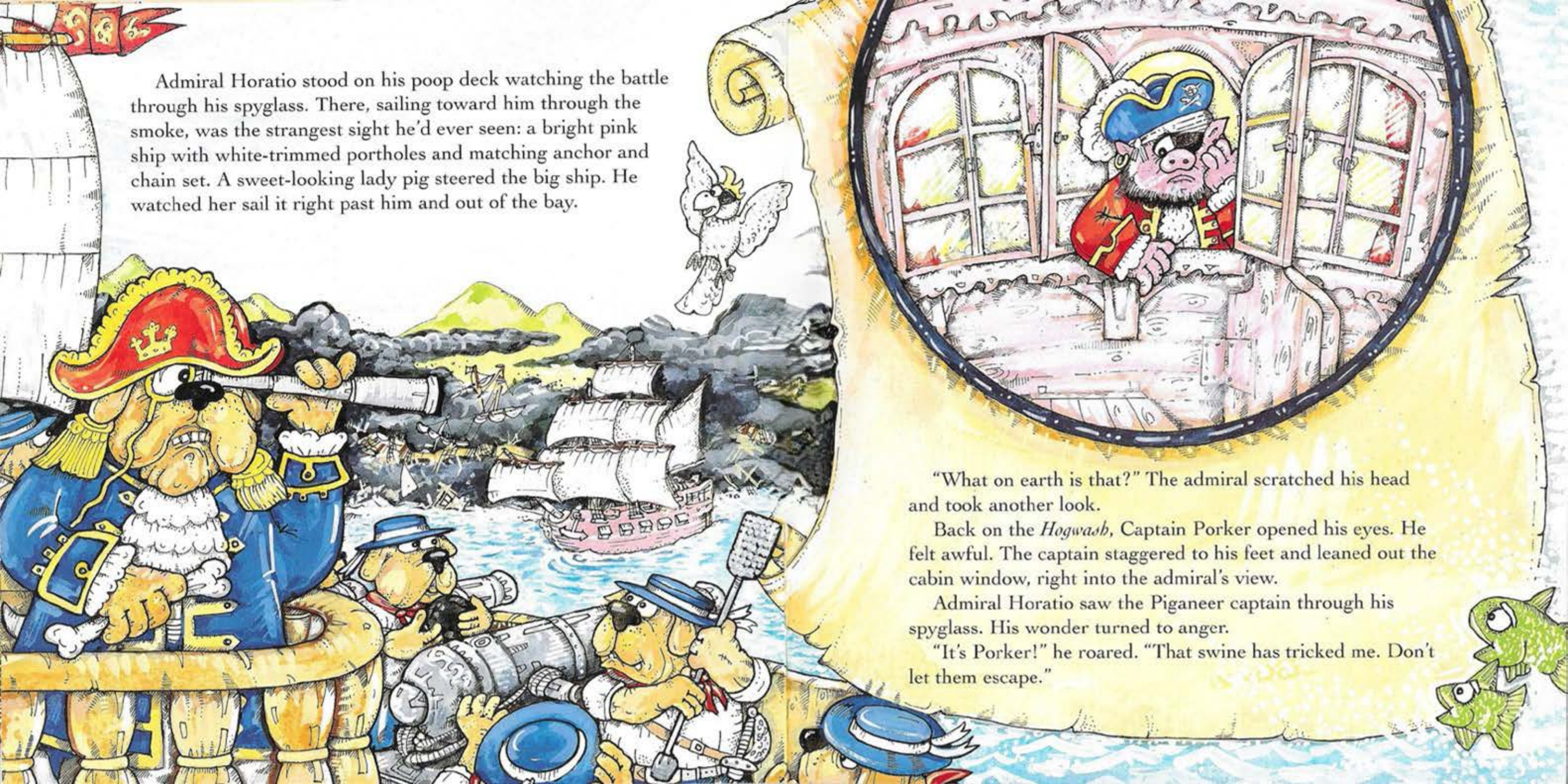
Mrs. Boar took control. She wasn't going to watch her son's career sink to the bottom of the sea.

"Unfurl the sails, boys!" she shouted above the noise. "Our only hope is to get out of the bay."

As soon as he'd heard the cannon fire, Captain Porker had rushed back to the ship. But when he stopped in front of what should have been the *Hogwash*, he saw an awful pink *thing* instead. He finally realized this thing *was* the *Hogwash*.

Captain Porker fainted, hitting his head on the cobblestones. He was out cold.

"Put him in his cabin," ordered Mrs. Boar as the Piganeers carried the captain on board.




Admiral Horatio stood on his poop deck watching the battle through his spyglass. There, sailing toward him through the smoke, was the strangest sight he'd ever seen: a bright pink ship with white-trimmed portholes and matching anchor and chain set. A sweet-looking lady pig steered the big ship. He watched her sail it right past him and out of the bay.

"What on earth is that?" The admiral scratched his head and took another look.

Back on the *Hogwash*, Captain Porker opened his eyes. He felt awful. The captain staggered to his feet and leaned out the cabin window, right into the admiral's view.

Admiral Horatio saw the Piganeer captain through his spyglass. His wonder turned to anger.

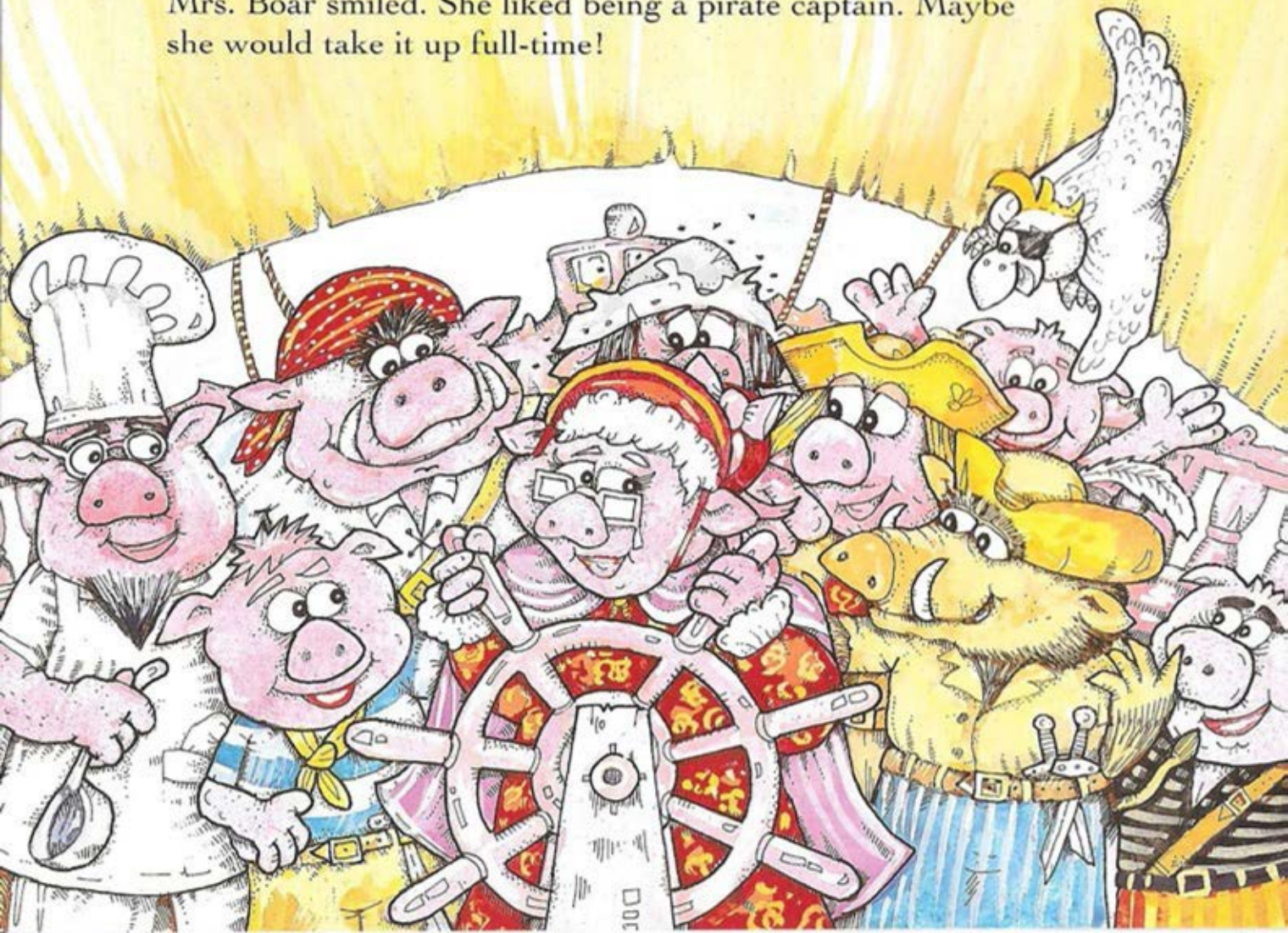
"It's Porker!" he roared. "That swine has tricked me. Don't let them escape."



But the *Hogwash* had too much of a lead on the frigates and left them far behind.

The Pigancers gathered around Mrs. Boar. If it hadn't been for her redecorating and quick thinking, the *Hogwash* would now be lying at the bottom of the Bay of Tortuga.

Big Boar was very proud of his mom and gave her a big hug. Mrs. Boar smiled. She liked being a pirate captain. Maybe she would take it up full-time!



# PIGANEERS

