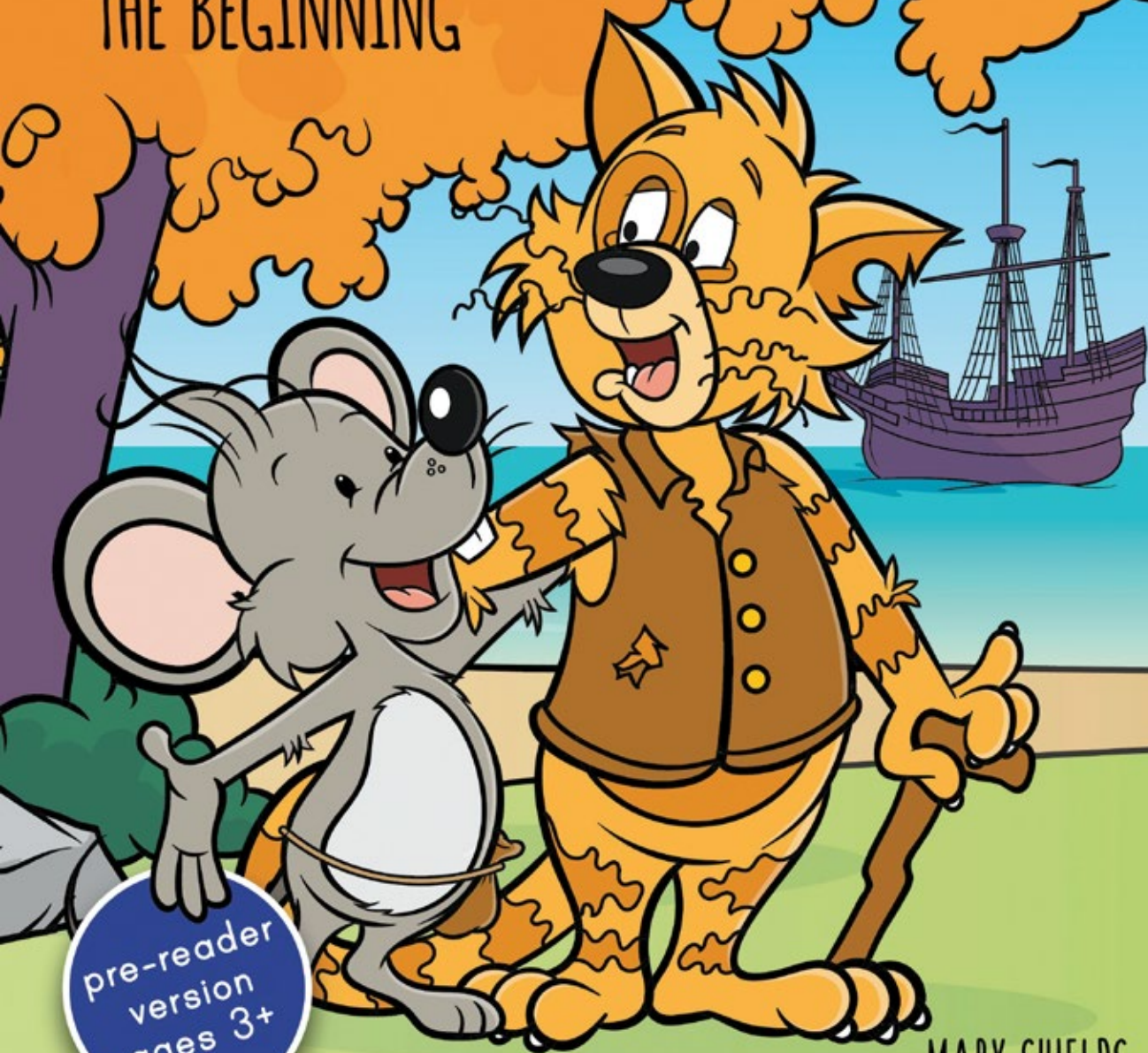


Barnicle and Husk™

THE BEGINNING



MARY SHIELDS

Illustrated by Bob Ostrom

Barnicle[™] and Husk[™]

THE BEGINNING

A book for pre-readers

by Mary Shields
Illustrations by Bob Ostrom

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DEDICATION

I thank my husband, Jim McKinnell, for all his love,
understanding, and continuing support.

It is said that creativity is a gift—something we inherit from those who
have come before us. Therefore, I thank my parents and grandparents
for this wonderful inheritance they passed on to me.

A very long time ago, in the year 1620, a large boat was sailing to America. It was called the *Mayflower*, and it was sailing from England.

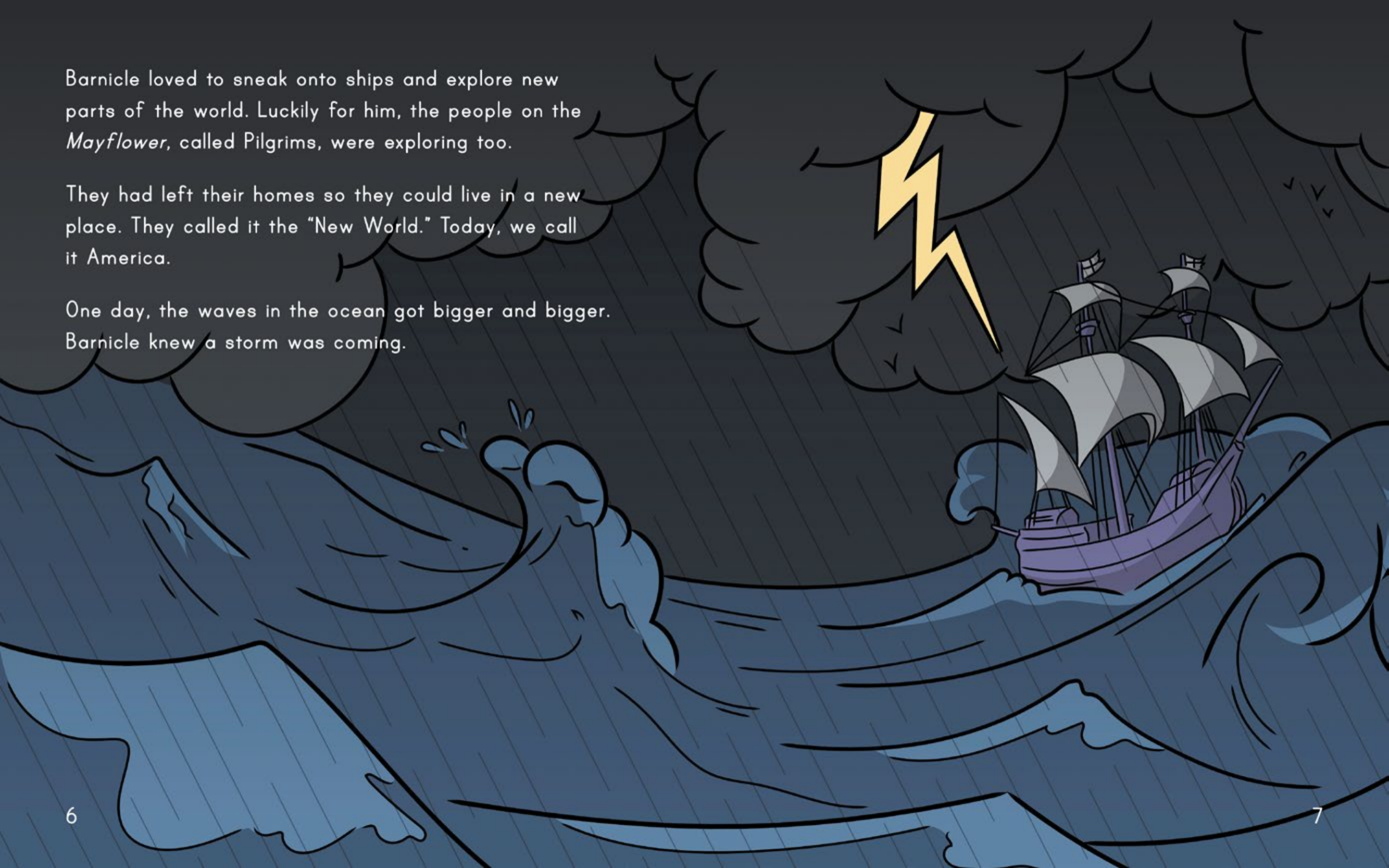
The boat carried many people. There was even an orange striped cat on the ship! His name was Barnicle.



Barnicle loved to sneak onto ships and explore new parts of the world. Luckily for him, the people on the *Mayflower*, called Pilgrims, were exploring too.

They had left their homes so they could live in a new place. They called it the "New World." Today, we call it America.

One day, the waves in the ocean got bigger and bigger. Barnicle knew a storm was coming.



Barnicle was hiding among the cargo on the ship when he heard a tiny voice.

"Oooh! I'm so seasick..." the voice moaned. Barnicle looked behind some barrels and saw that it was a mouse! He could see that she looked tired and sad.

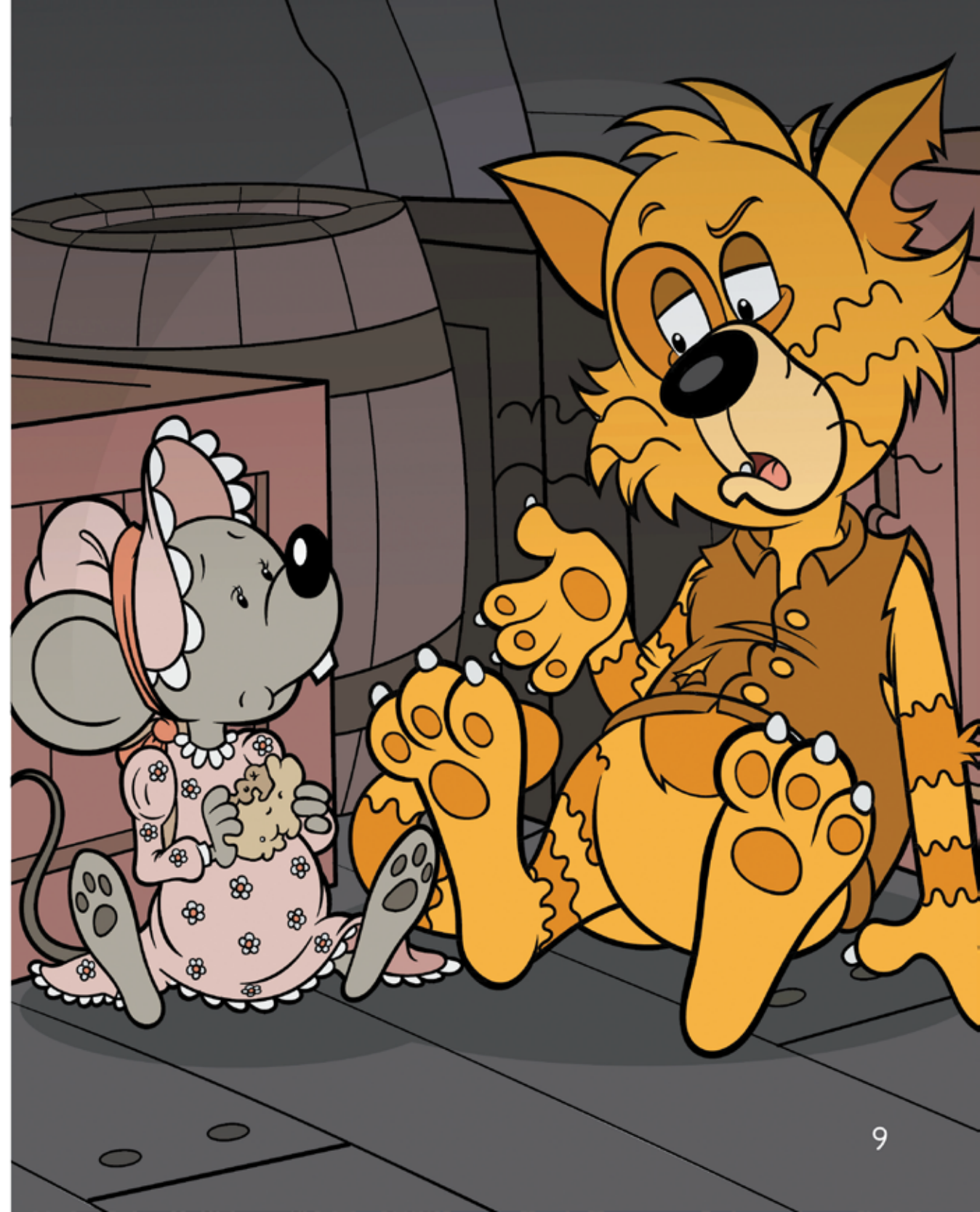
"What's your name, mouse?" he asked.

"My name is Agnes," she said. Her voice was scared.

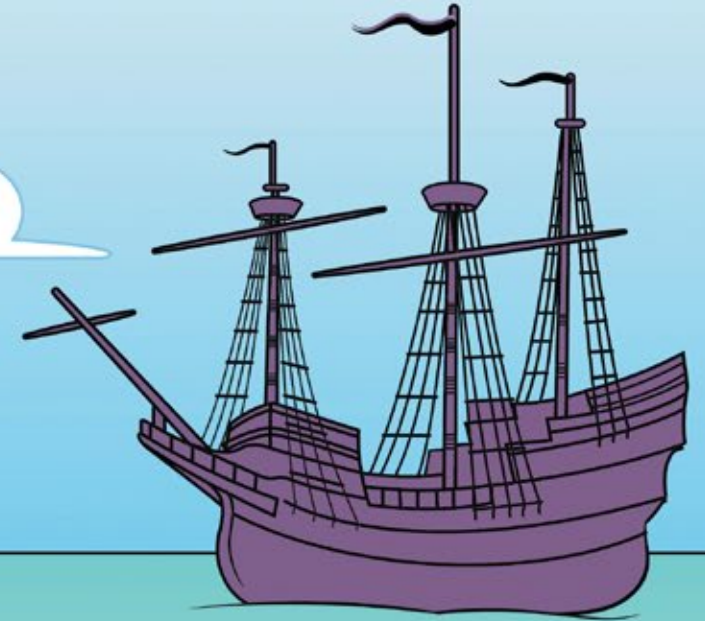
"Don't worry," said Barnicle. "I won't hurt you." He handed Agnes a small piece of bread. She began to eat a little at a time and started to look better.

For the next week, Barnicle and Agnes lived on the lower deck of the *Mayflower*. Barnicle liked his new little mouse friend, and Agnes loved hearing stories about Barnicle's adventures.

The *Mayflower* arrived at a small piece of land behind the tip of Cape Cod, which today is called Provincetown. However, the passengers waited on the ship while some men searched until they found the perfect spot to land.

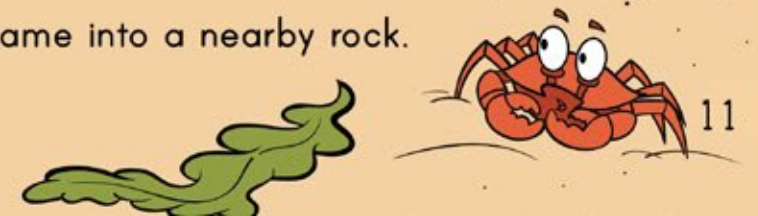


Finally, on a cold December morning, the *Mayflower* landed in a village that already had been cleared. The Native American people who lived in this village, named Patuxet, were called the Wampanoag. Sadly, all the people of Patuxet died in a sickness that sailors carried over from Europe. But there were still many other Wampanoag villages left. Today we call this area Plymouth.



Barnicle and Agnes snuck onto land and looked around.

"I can't wait to explore!" Barnicle said. But first, he made his mark by carving his name into a nearby rock.





Barnicle and Agnes knew that they had to go their separate ways now. Barnicle left to seek adventure, and Agnes settled into a cornfield to have a baby. She named him Husk, and every night she rocked him to sleep with stories of her trip on the *Mayflower*.

Together they were cozy and happy, but as the winter wore on, Agnes felt herself getting weaker. One sad day, Agnes fell asleep and never woke up again. Husk was all alone and very sad.

"I must learn to find food for myself now," Husk thought. So he went out into the fields. He wandered back and forth but could not find anything to eat. It was wintertime and the corn was all gone. He only found a few small kernels.

It wasn't long before Husk learned ...

the field was full of danger! Suddenly a large hawk swooped down, trying to catch Husk in its sharp claws. Husk ran away and hid in the dried cornstalks, waiting for the hawk to pass. He feared the worst, but luckily for Husk, he was saved!



A young girl with long, dark, braided hair, and a shell and feather necklace found him hiding among the cornstalks.

Husk was very scared.

"My name is Running Deer," she said, "would you like to come live with me in my village? It is called Manomet."



Husk and Running Deer arrived in the village, and Husk could see that it was a busy place with a lot of people. They seemed to live in round houses made out of wood and bark. Running Deer told him that those were called *wetus*. "They are the homes that we live in."

Running Deer also told him that her people were called the Wampanoag and that they have lived here for thousands of years. She pointed down a path. "See the light? The sun shines there in the east first thing in the morning. That is why we are called the People of the First Light."



Running Deer brought Husk into her wetu, where her family was gathered around the fire.

She introduced Husk to them and they welcomed him warmly. Running Deer's mother wrapped an animal hide blanket around Husk to keep him warm.

Husk's new life in the village taught him how to live with the seasons. In the spring the Wampanoag planted corn and other vegetables. In the summer they gathered nuts and berries and they hunted and fished all year long. In the fall, they stored food in baskets deep in the ground so they could eat all winter.



Husk loved his new family. One day when the weather was warmer, he said to Running Deer, "You have been so good to me. How can I help you in return?"

One of the elders, Flying Eagle, heard Husk.

"Would you like to help us fish? We use *mishoons*, boats that we make from trees. We can find many fish and shellfish like clams and quahogs."

Husk said yes!



Running Deer had a friend named Pathfinder. He was a very good hunter but also had another important job too. He would run through the forest and along the shore to take messages and important news from village to village.

Pathfinder was strong and brave, but he also was fast and quiet. Message runners had to be strong and quiet while they were running. Husk dreamed to be like Pathfinder, and hoped someday to join him.



Husk loved to listen to the elders tell stories. He would sit by the fire with Running Deer and hear all kinds of exciting tales. Some were happy and others were very sad.

One was about a time many years ago when many men and boys were stolen from the village and were taken far away. Husk listened very carefully. He knew these stories must be very important to his new family and could see the tears in Running Deer's eyes.

One night, Husk woke up. He could hear someone sneaking around outside! He got out of bed to look and found a cat eating their food!

"Stop!" said Husk. "Whoever you are, that's our food. You can't take it!"

"My name is Barnicle," said the cat. "I'm very hungry. Why don't you stop pointing and eat some food with me?"



Husk remembered that his mother had told him about an orange striped cat named Barnicle!

"Did you know my mother, Agnes?" asked Husk.

"Yes! She was a good friend," said Barnicle. "We were on the *Mayflower* together."

Barnicle and Husk spent the whole night telling stories and sharing food.

The next morning, Husk told Running Deer that he was going off to find adventure in the New World with Barnicle.

Running Deer gave him a big hug. "I'm so proud of you! You're always welcome here with the Wampanoag," she said.

Before he left, she gave him his own leather belt, pouch, and dried corn to take with him.





Husk caught up with Barnicle, who was standing on the beach with a rock that he found on the shore. "This one has a stripe on it, that's how you know it is a lucky one," Barnicle said.

"We may need some luck on our adventure!" Husk said.
"Let's go!"

Together they walked off to begin their journey.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my mentor, Wampanoag Chief Flying Eagle, Earl Mills, Sr., of Mashpee, MA, for all his support. This project may never have taken off without the encouragement and collaboration he kindly offered when I reached out to him. I am thankful for the time Earl spent sharing the stories of his people that expanded my inspiration into something greater than planned. I will continue to use the knowledge he has given me, as well as that of other cultural leaders, to develop a series of children's books based on various aspects of history and culture, using my fictional characters as a vehicle to spark interest. Earl is a leader, educator, entrepreneur, storyteller, and author.

Thank you to Linda Jeffers Coombs for her consultation, patience, and guidance throughout my journey. The lessons I have learned through this process have been remarkable. Linda Jeffers Coombs is an Aquinnah Wampanoag and is a Museum Educator and Wampanoag Historian.

A special thank you to artist Bob Ostrom for creating the images for my dream.

Thank you to Lisa Akoury-Ross who has helped me navigate the publishing world, as well as Lisa Schleipfer.

I could not have accomplished this without my amazing staff at Shields Design Studio (SDG Direct, Ltd.). The talented team of creative forces are behind my every move and keeping me on course. Especially Ali Stevenson and Megan James.

And to Plymouth 400, Inc. whose inspiring mission is to plan and execute a 400th anniversary commemoration that is historically accurate, culturally inclusive, and which shines a light on America's founding story, renewing its legacy, and preserving it for future generations.

America is poised for a commemoration of national and international significance; the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower voyage and the founding of Plymouth Colony. The Plymouth 400 Anniversary will highlight the cultural contributions and American traditions that began with the interaction of the Wampanoag and English peoples, a story that significantly shaped the building of America. —Plymouth 400, Inc.

ABOUT THE CREATOR

Mary Shields is the founder and president of Shields Design Studio. She splits her time between Plymouth, MA, and Harpswell, ME, with her husband Jim McKinnell. She has two grown stepchildren and two beautiful granddaughters.

Creative work was something Mary knew she would continue after she received an honorable award for her painting of an abstract forest fire in first grade. Mary founded Shields Design in 1991 and is located in the historic Plymouth waterfront. Nearly three decades later, Shields Design Studio continues to design visuals, from digital to print, for an impressive clientele ranging from tourism, healthcare, sports, technology, government agencies, and entertainment giants.

The ideas for Barnicle™ and Husk™ percolated in the late 1990s, inspired by Mary's personal life experiences. A chance encounter with Wampanoag Chief Flying Eagle, Earl Mills, Sr., helped her project take wing. His wisdom and encouragement were priceless.

The characters' home in Plymouth is richly steeped in history. The mission of Plymouth 400, Inc. and Mary's vision for her historical characters are well aligned. To learn more about the Plymouth 400th commemoration, visit plymouth400inc.org. Although the characters are fictional, they're woven into a fabric of reality. Whether you choose to follow them on an adventure for fun, or learn from them, they are sure to capture both the young and the young-at-heart.

Barnicle and Husk will prove to be a multifaceted brand with a pipeline of fun for kids. Visit BARNICLEandHUSK.com!

ABOUT PLYMOUTH

Plymouth Colony's 400th anniversary commemorates the 1620 landing of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod, in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and in the cities and towns that expanded as part of Plymouth Colony. The commemoration highlights the cultural contributions and American traditions that began with the interaction of the Wampanoag and English peoples, a story that is still relevant today.

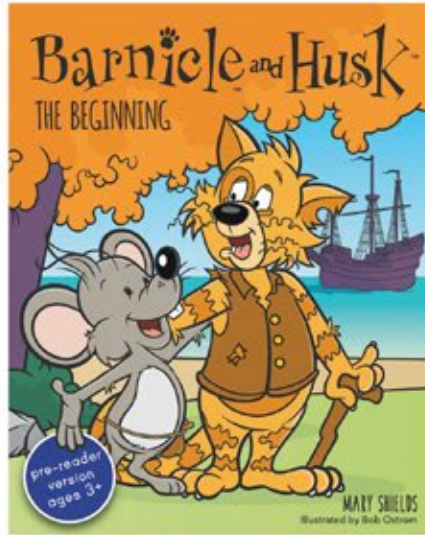
This anniversary is the Nation's most significant to date. It is America's Founding Story and the icon of our national holiday, Thanksgiving. The story, including Native American history and culture and America's immigration story, is inclusive of themes that resonate with people of many cultures.

The Signature events and programs of Plymouth 400 will help to renew awareness among residents and visitors to Massachusetts wishing to learn more about Plymouth County, Cape Cod, Boston and other historic destinations.

"OUR"STORY, 400 YEARS OF WAMPANOAG HISTORY

This unprecedented exhibit, *"Our"Story: 400 Years of Wampanoag History*, reveals little-known historic and cultural realities of the People of the First Light. *"Our"Story: 400 Years of Wampanoag History* is conceptualized, researched, and produced by a team of Wampanoag people of both Aquinnah and Mashpee Plymouth 400's Wampanoag Advisory Committee. The exhibit is part of Plymouth 400, Inc.'s Signature Programs and Events and will continue to travel through 2020. Additional chapters of Wampanoag history will be added each year in November. Inquiries regarding upcoming locations and opportunities for hosting this exhibit should be directed to Plymouth 400, Inc. Visit plymouth400inc.org.





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Also available in ebook format.

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Contact us at: info@SDPPublishing.com

Barnicle[™] and Husk

Barnicle and Husk: The Beginning takes readers on an adventure beyond the *Mayflower*. Husk, an orphaned mouse, is befriended by a young Wampanoag girl named Running Deer. As Husk learns the way of her people and is accepted into her family, an unlikely cat named Barnicle comes into his life and challenges Husk to find his own way in the New World. Full of adventure and authentic details of the Wampanoag life, this tale of friendship and family is just the beginning for this cat and mouse pair. This adorable read-aloud offers a historically accurate view of America's founding story that will charm children and adults alike.

www.BARNICLEandHUSK.com



PLYMOUTH 400[™]

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