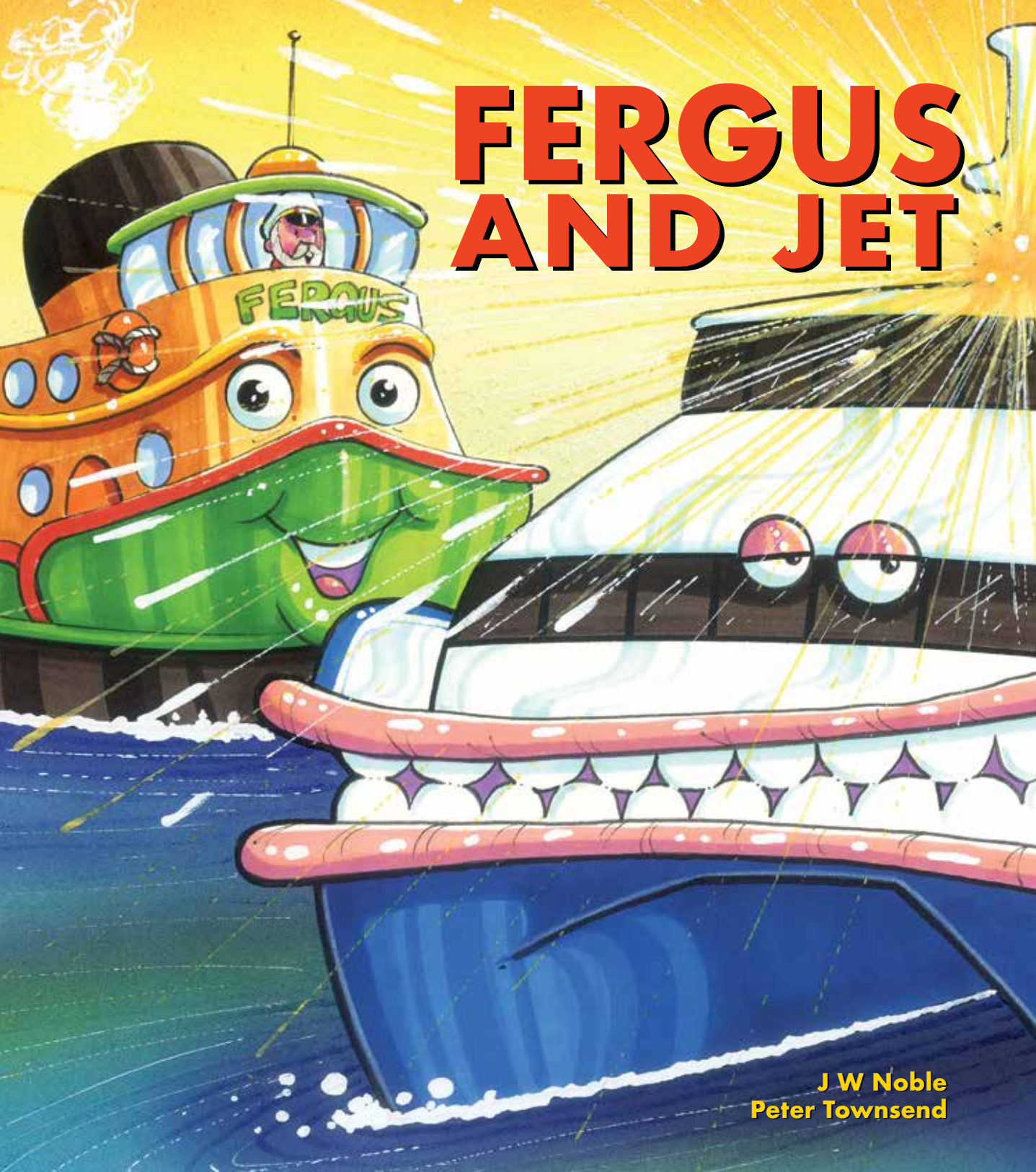


FERGUS AND JET



J W Noble
Peter Townsend



FERGUS AND JET

**J W Noble
Peter Townsend**

Snwball
PRESS

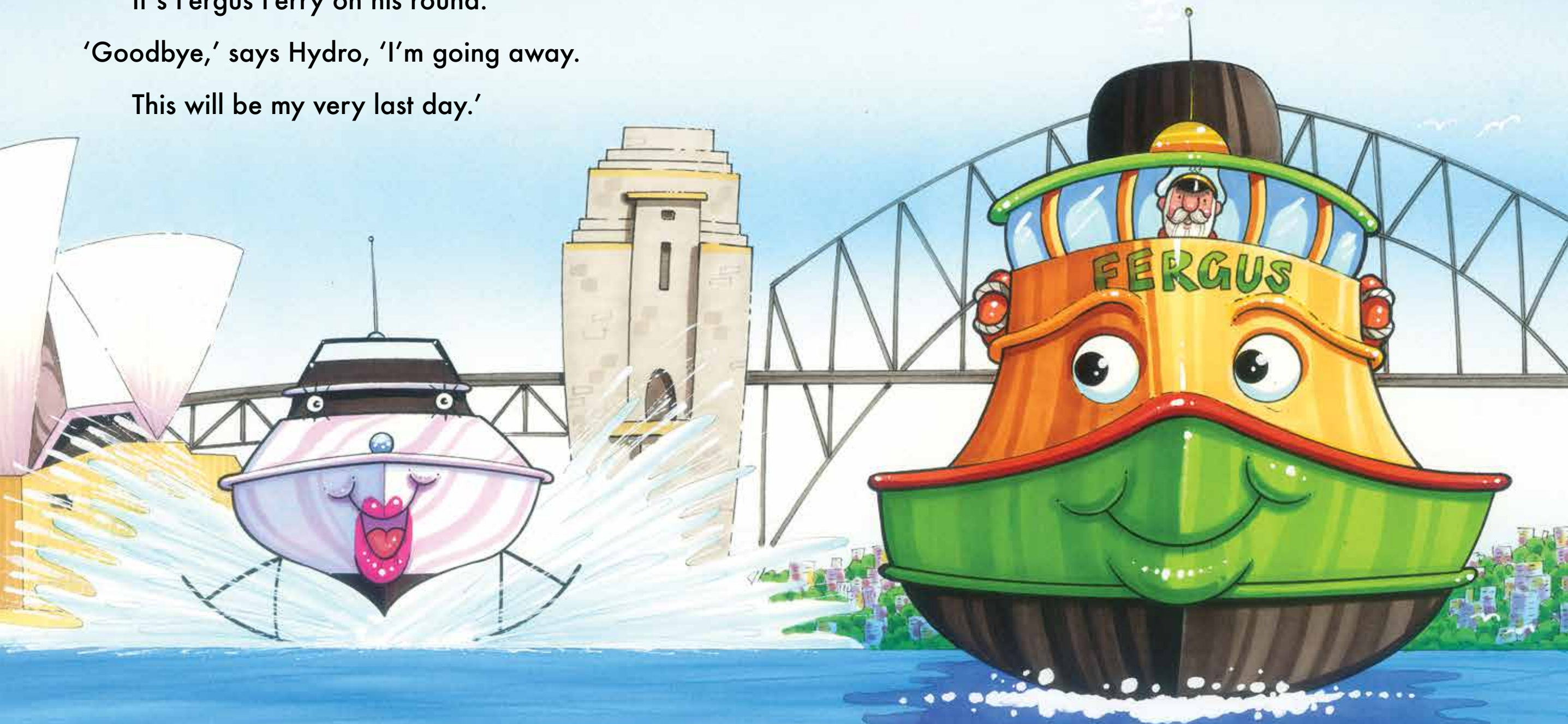
www.fergusferry.com

Chug, chug, chug—what's that sound?

It's Fergus Ferry on his round.

'Goodbye,' says Hydro, 'I'm going away.'

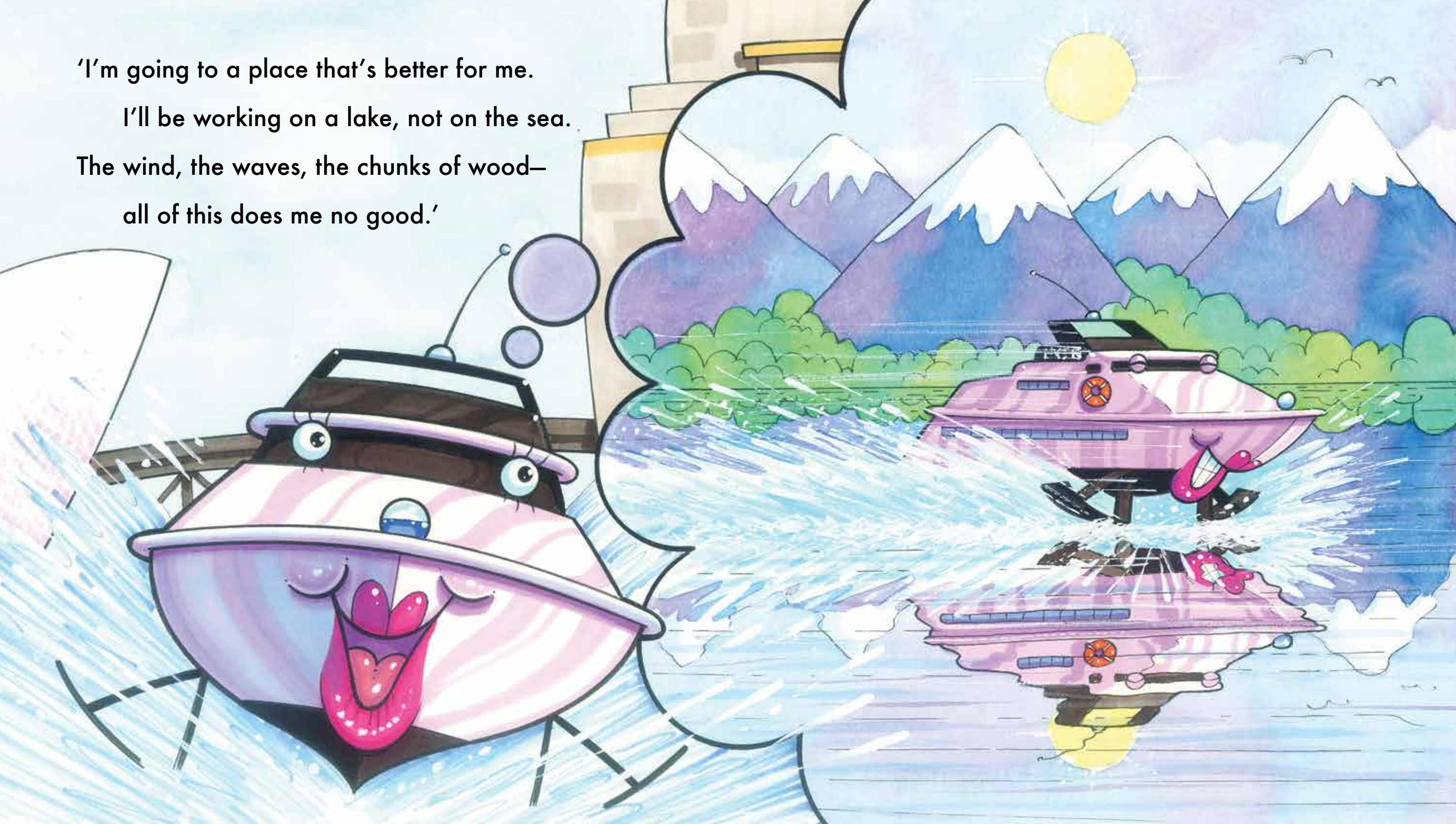
This will be my very last day.'



'I'm going to a place that's better for me.

I'll be working on a lake, not on the sea.

The wind, the waves, the chunks of wood—
all of this does me no good.'

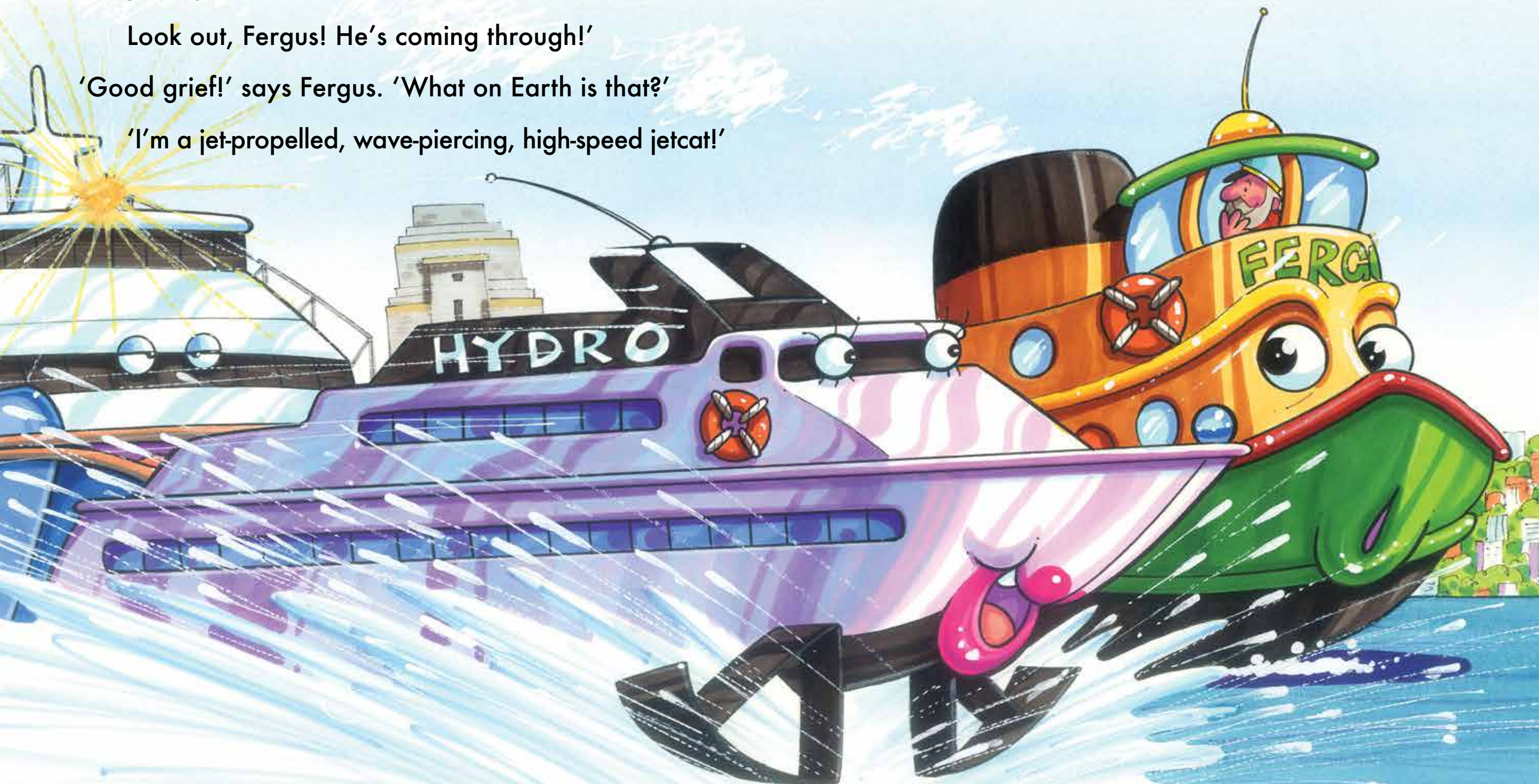


'They'll replace me with a vessel that's new—

Look out, Fergus! He's coming through!'

'Good grief!' says Fergus. 'What on Earth is that?'

'I'm a jet-propelled, wave-piercing, high-speed jetcat!'



'I'm low, I'm sleek, I've seats of leather.

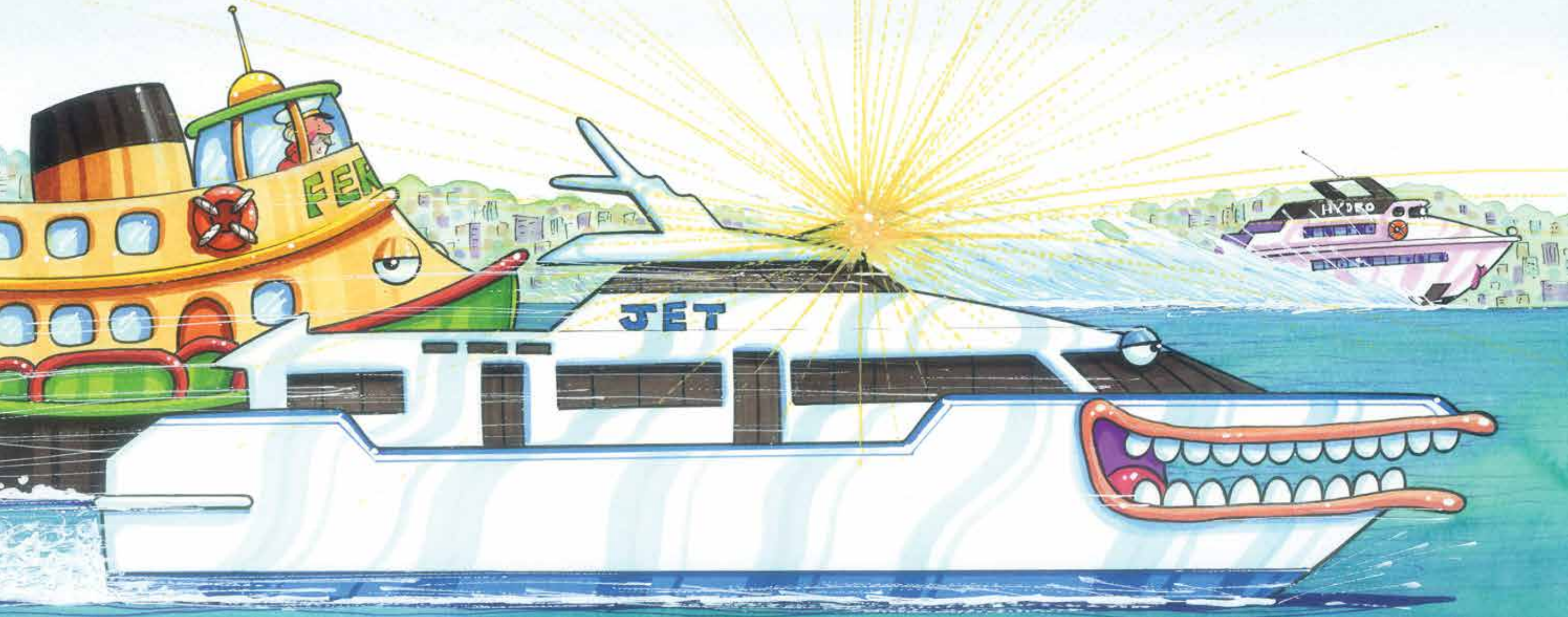
and twin hulls that deal with any weather.

I don't have propellers—only jets.

There's no denying, I'm as good as it gets.'

'Great!' says Fergus. 'It's good to meet you.

You forgot to say that you're modest too!'

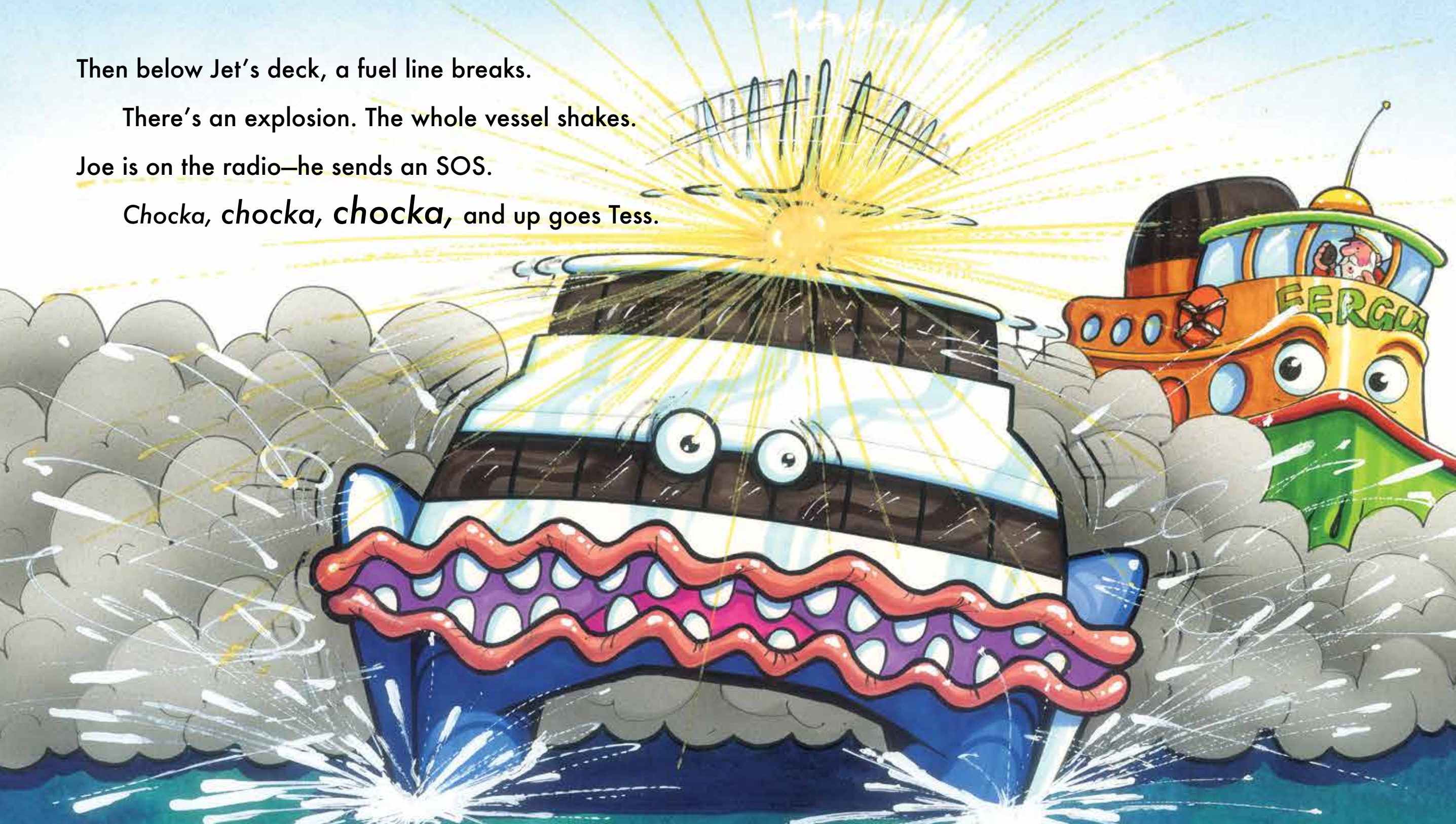


Then below Jet's deck, a fuel line breaks.

There's an explosion. The whole vessel shakes.

Joe is on the radio—he sends an SOS.

Chocka, chocka, chocka, and up goes Tess.

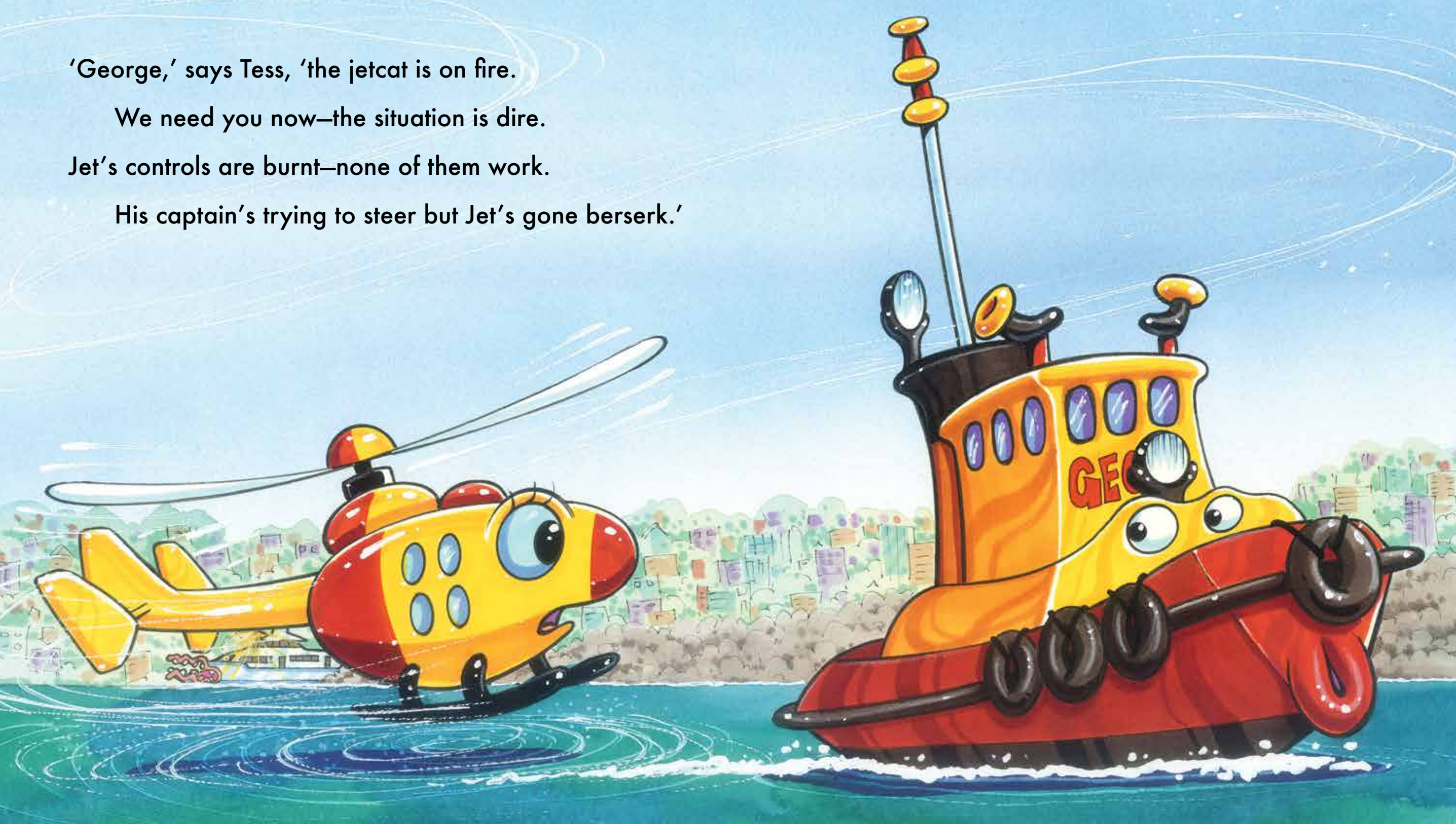


'George,' says Tess, 'the jetcat is on fire.'

We need you now—the situation is dire.

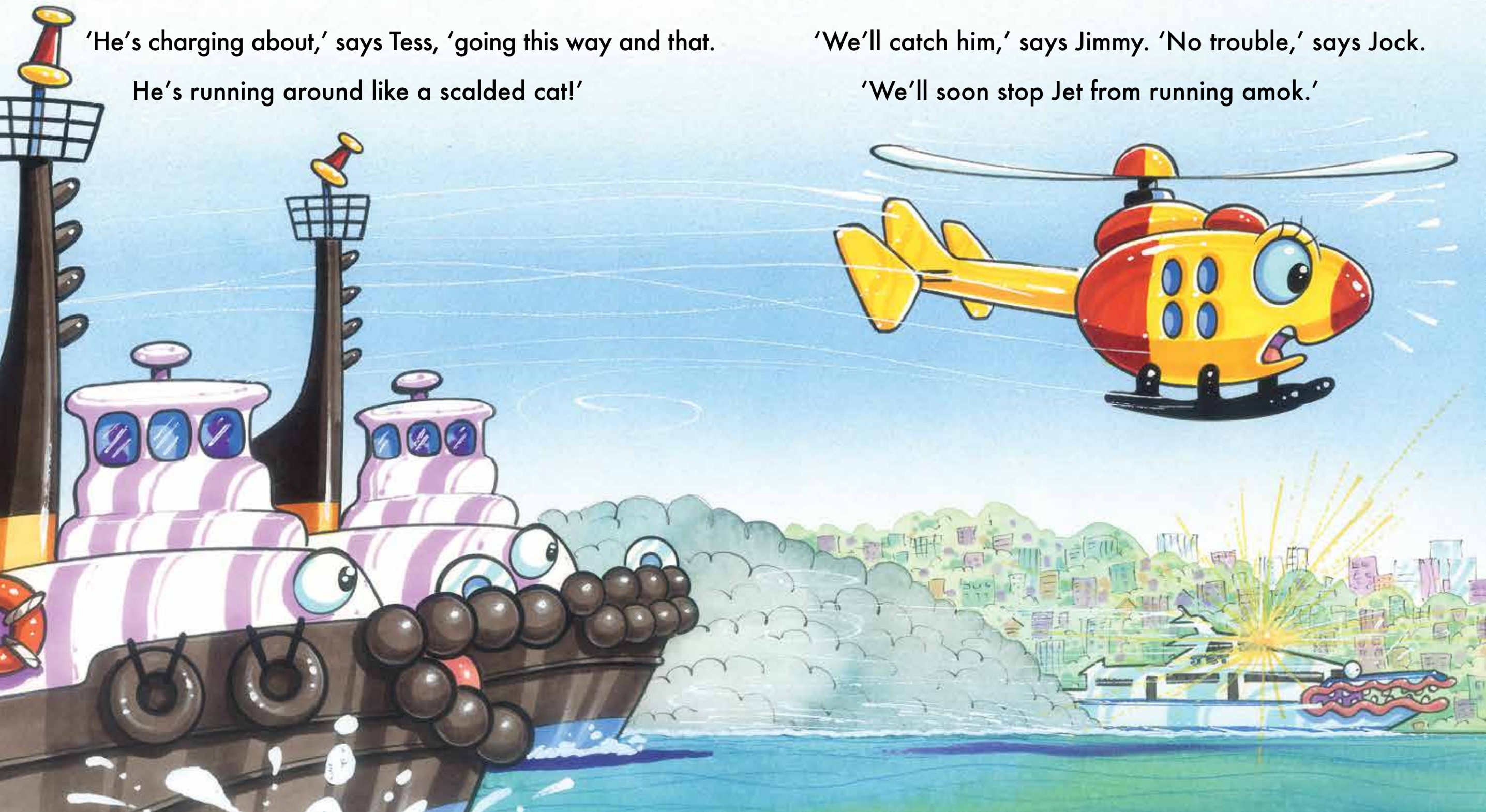
Jet's controls are burnt—none of them work.

His captain's trying to steer but Jet's gone berserk.'



'He's charging about,' says Tess, 'going this way and that.
He's running around like a scalded cat!'

'We'll catch him,' says Jimmy. 'No trouble,' says Jock.
'We'll soon stop Jet from running amok.'



But when they arrive, Jet's just too fast.

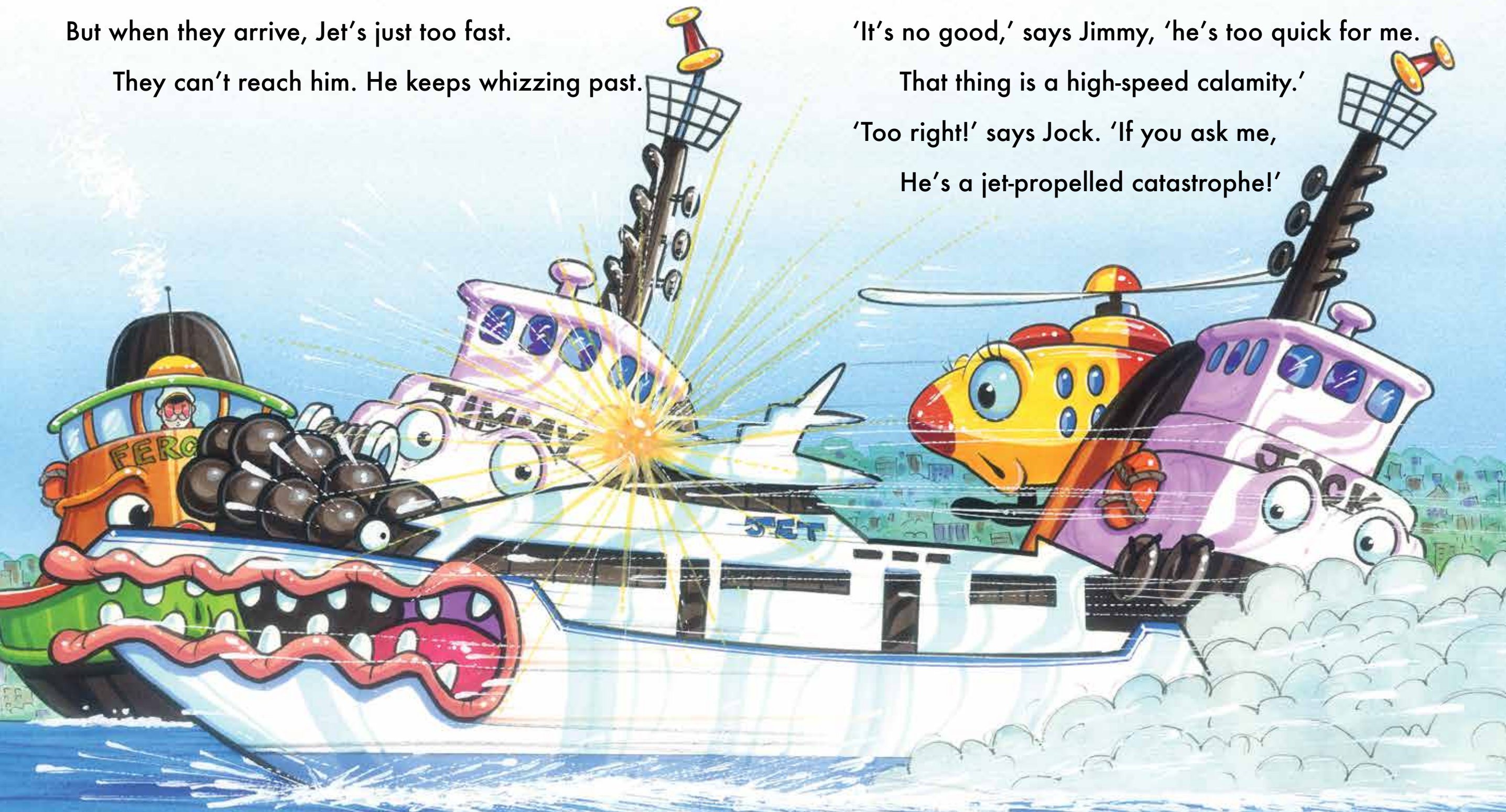
They can't reach him. He keeps whizzing past.

'It's no good,' says Jimmy, 'he's too quick for me.'

That thing is a high-speed calamity.'

'Too right!' says Jock. 'If you ask me,

He's a jet-propelled catastrophe!'

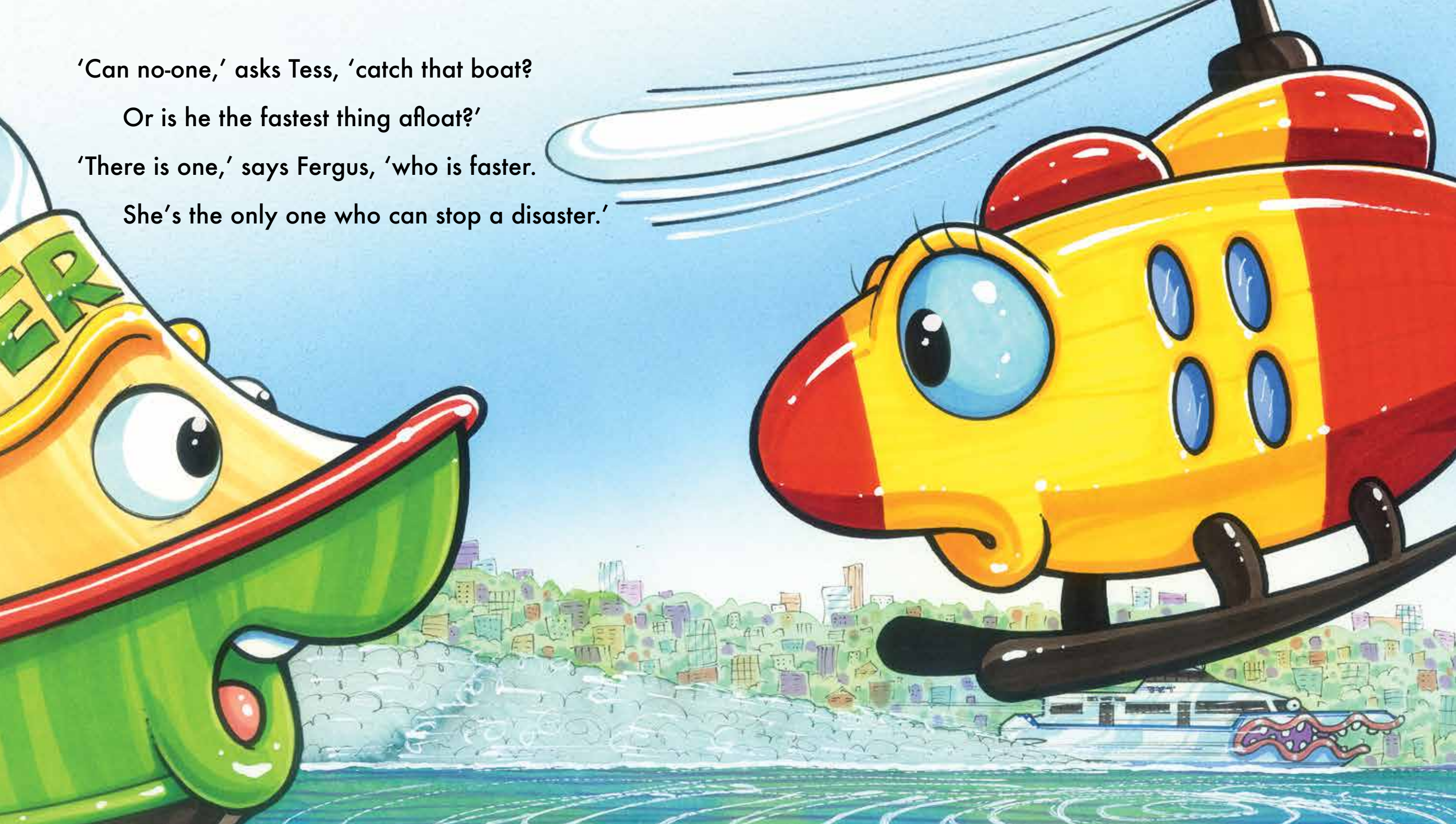


'Can no-one,' asks Tess, 'catch that boat?

Or is he the fastest thing afloat?'

'There is one,' says Fergus, 'who is faster.

She's the only one who can stop a disaster.'

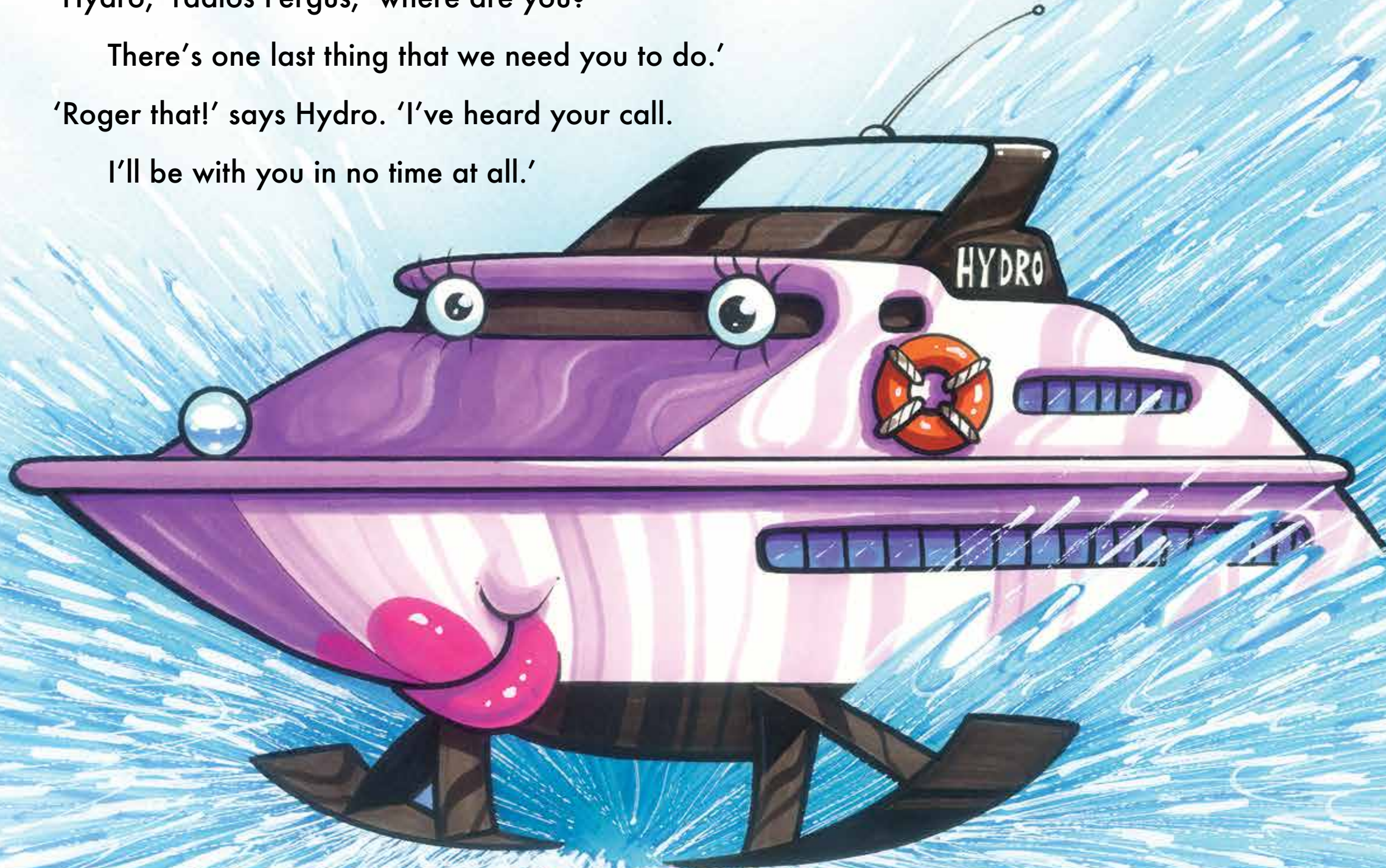


'Hydro,' radios Fergus, 'where are you?

There's one last thing that we need you to do.'

'Roger that!' says Hydro. 'I've heard your call.

I'll be with you in no time at all.'



Zoom, zoom, **zoom**—Hydro comes through.

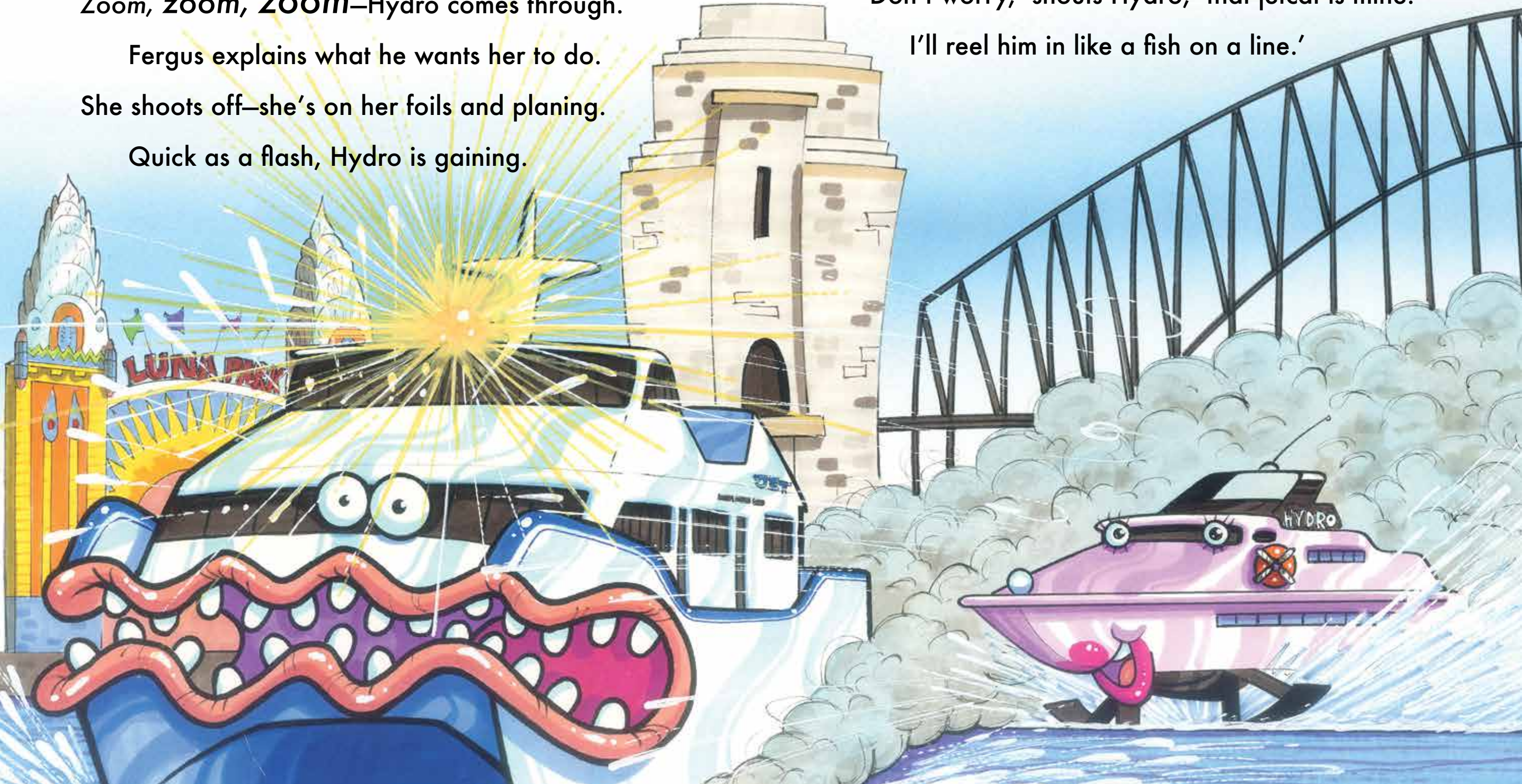
Fergus explains what he wants her to do.

She shoots off—she's on her foils and planing.

Quick as a flash, Hydro is gaining.

'Don't worry,' shouts Hydro, 'that jetcat is mine.'

I'll reel him in like a fish on a line.'



She's getting close—she's very near.

'Way to go, Hydro!' the ferries all cheer.

Hydro catches up. She's on Jet's tail.

Her skipper throws a rope over the rail.



'Got him,' says Hydro. 'He's tied fast.'

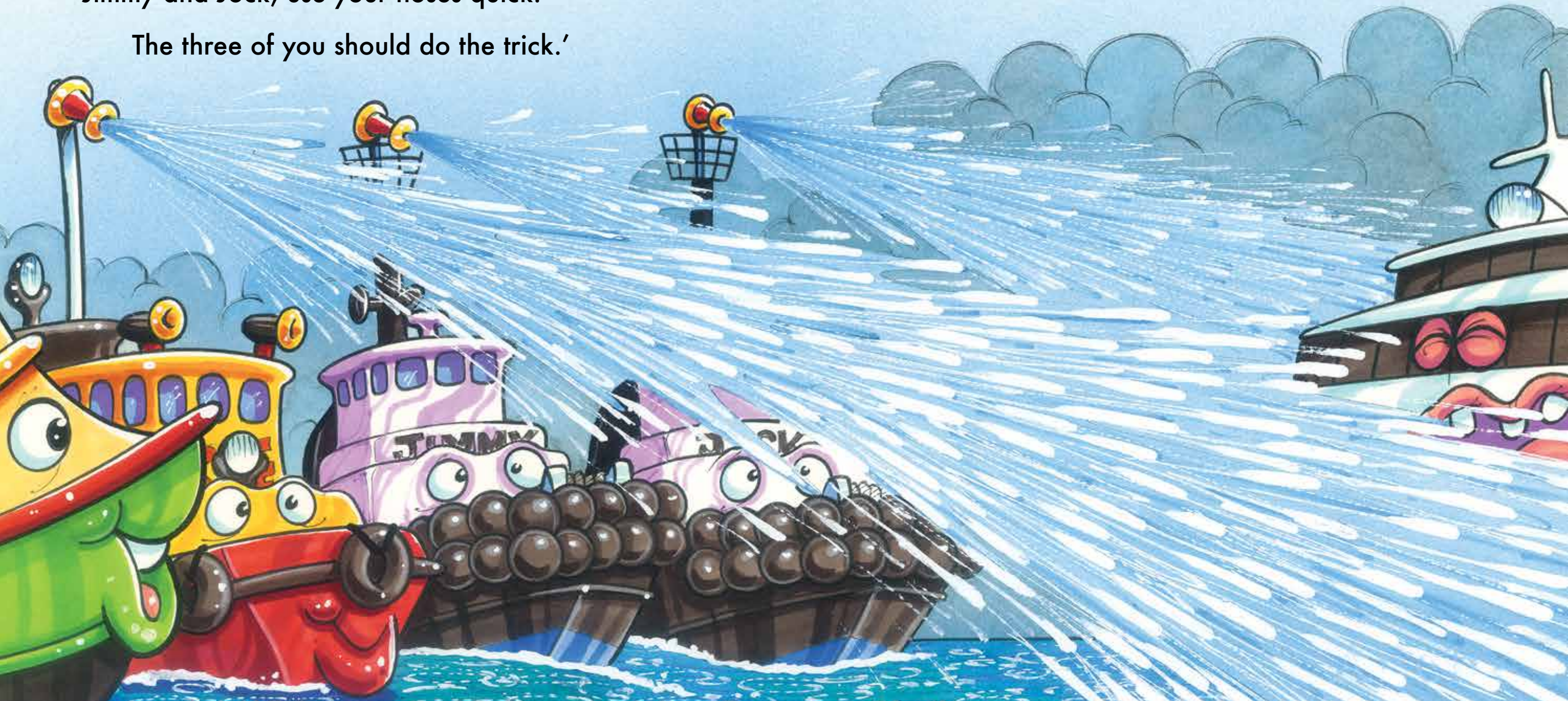
'Now George,' says Tess, 'give him a blast.'

Jimmy and Jock, use your hoses quick.

The three of you should do the trick.'

Out pours the water in three huge jets.

'And that,' says Fergus, 'is as wet as it gets!'



As they turn back to Circular Quay

Joe says, 'Is that Lady Jane I can see?'

'Look,' he says, 'that's the tip of her stack.'

I can't believe it. She did come back.'

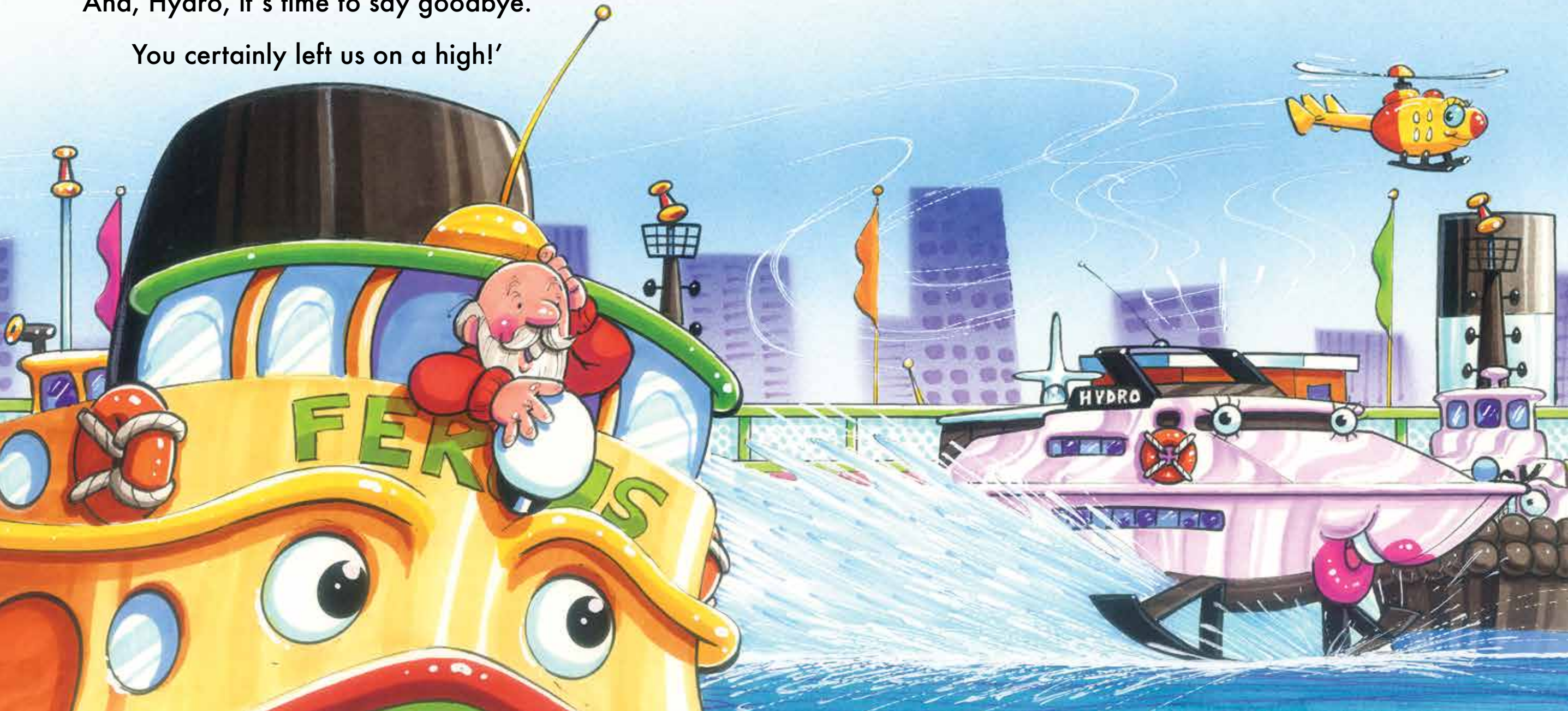
'Yes,' says Fergus, 'she'll be on display,

For people to visit in Cockle Bay.'



'It's great,' says Fergus, 'that Lady Jane
Is back with us on the harbour again.
And, Hydro, it's time to say goodbye.
You certainly left us on a high!'

Then Joe takes off his hat and scratches his head,
Shrugs his shoulders and goes home to bed.



Sometimes loved ones leave, so they can come back better.

For Helen Bateman

JWN

For Dr Ian and Ira Townsend

PT

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