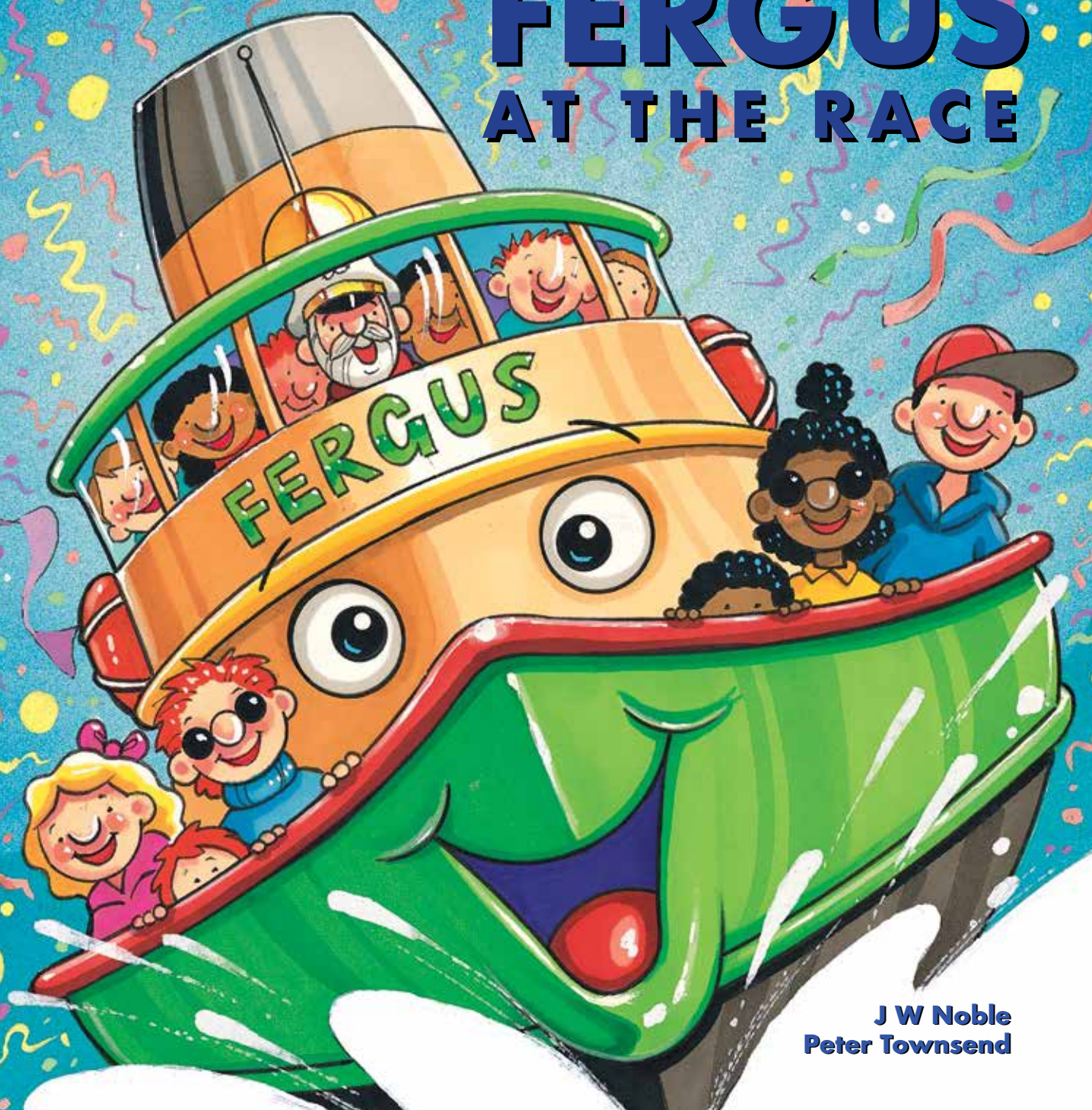


FERGUS AT THE RACE



J W Noble
Peter Townsend

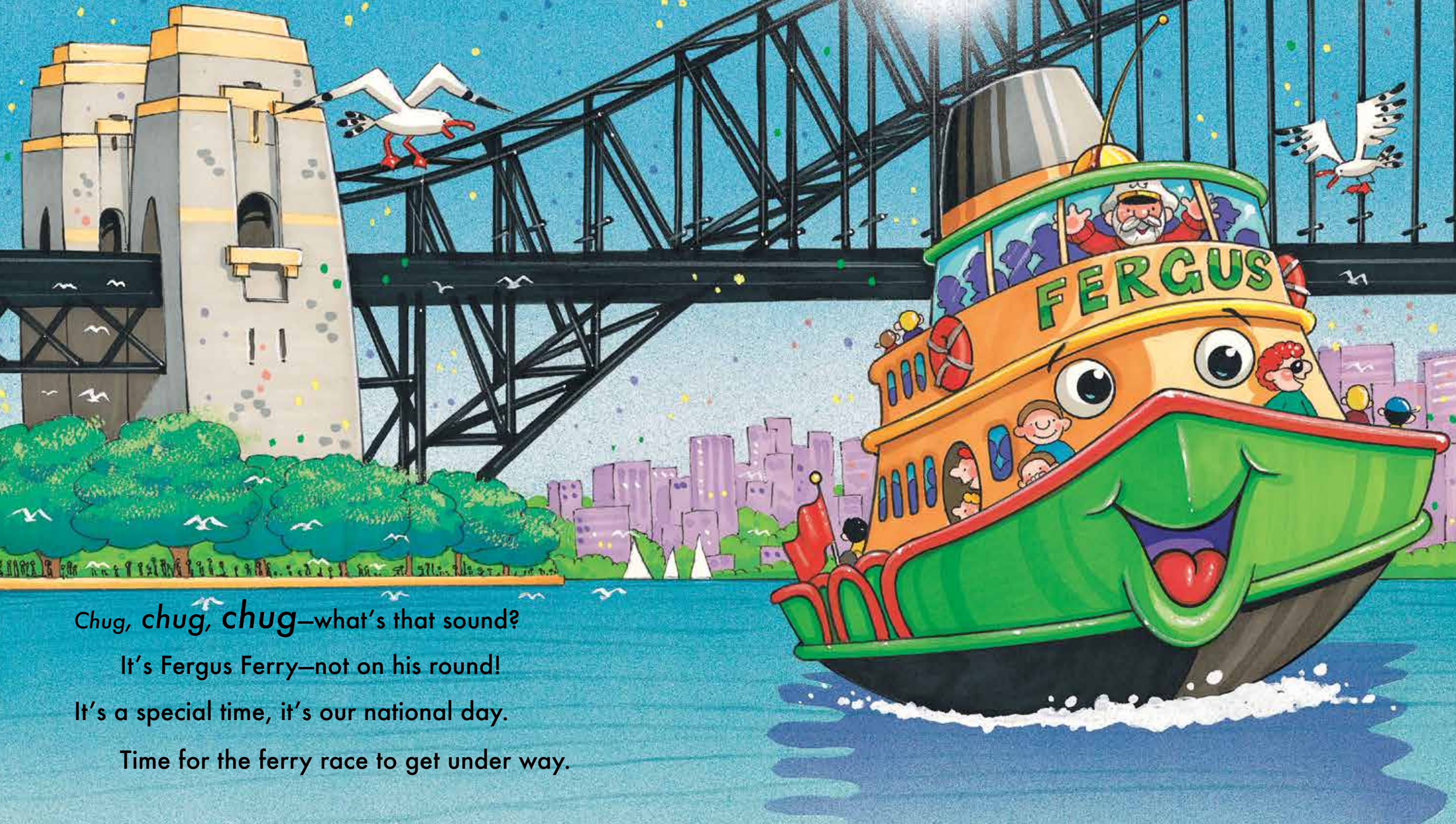


FERGUS AT THE RACE

**J W Noble
Peter Townsend**

Snwball
PRESS

www.fergusferry.com



Chug, chug, chug—what's that sound?

It's Fergus Ferry—not on his round!

It's a special time, it's our national day.

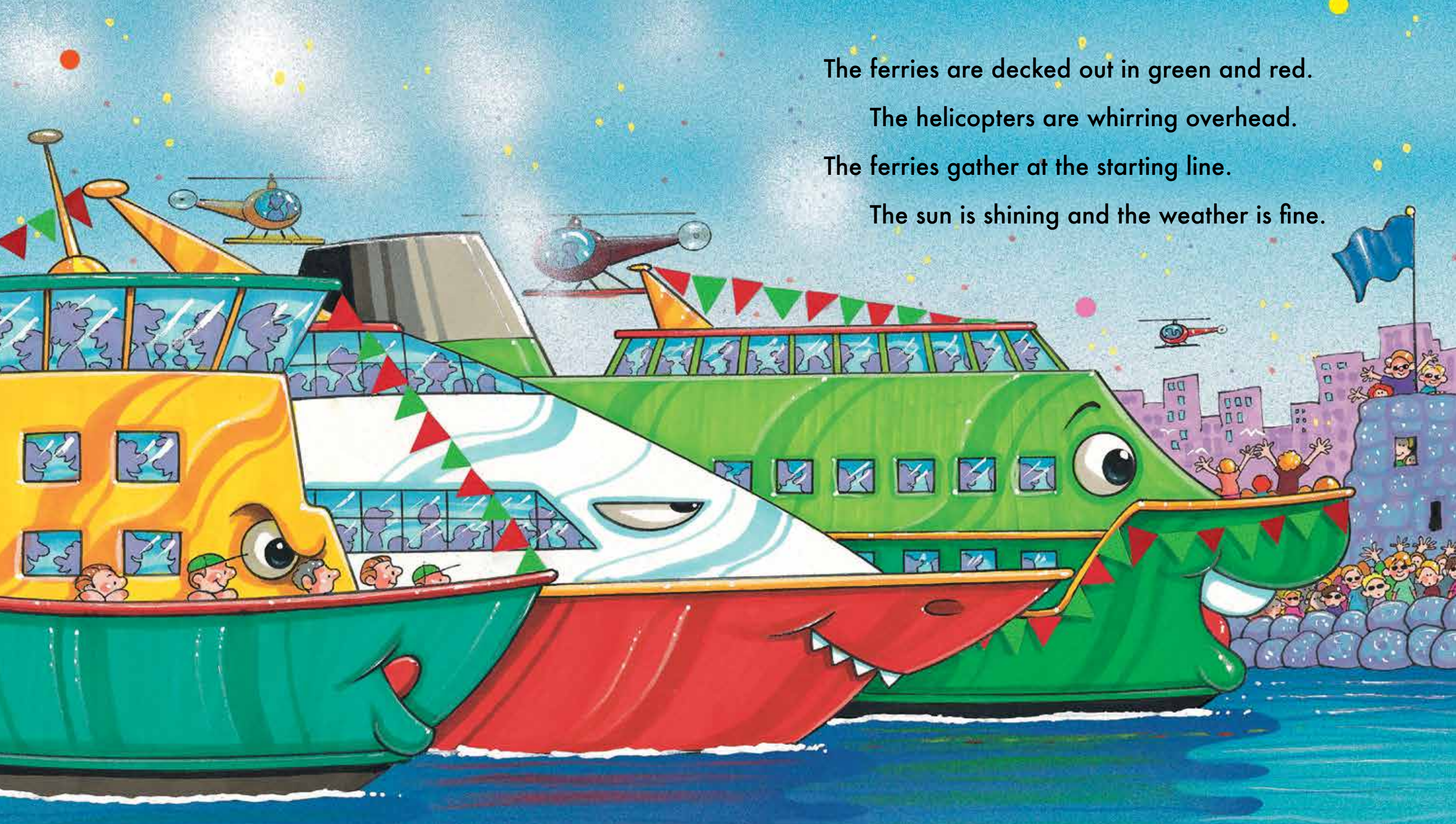
Time for the ferry race to get under way.

The ferries are decked out in green and red.

The helicopters are whirring overhead.

The ferries gather at the starting line.

The sun is shining and the weather is fine.



They rev up their engines, ready to go.

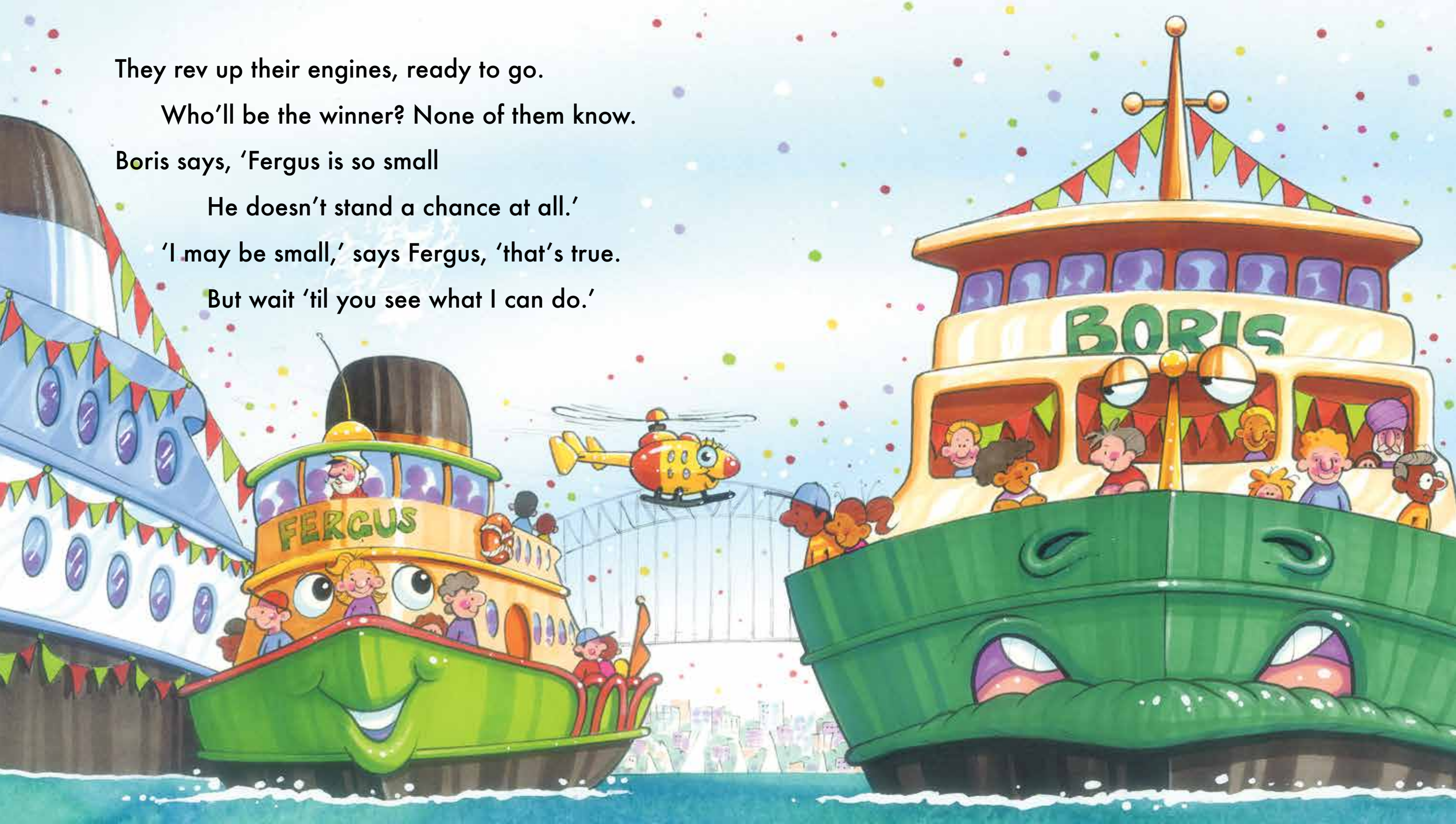
Who'll be the winner? None of them know.

Boris says, 'Fergus is so small

He doesn't stand a chance at all.'

'I may be small,' says Fergus, 'that's true.

But wait 'til you see what I can do.'

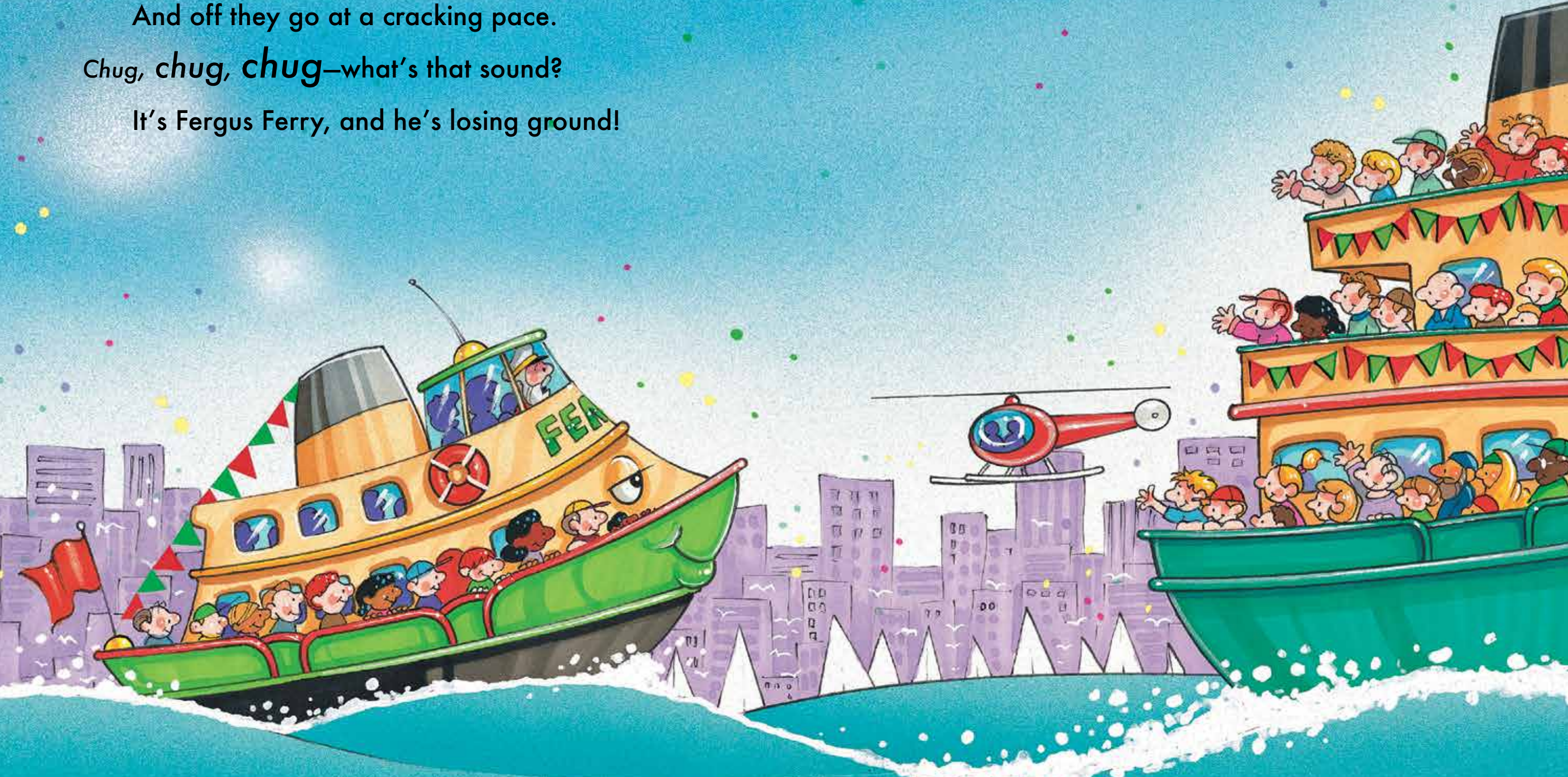


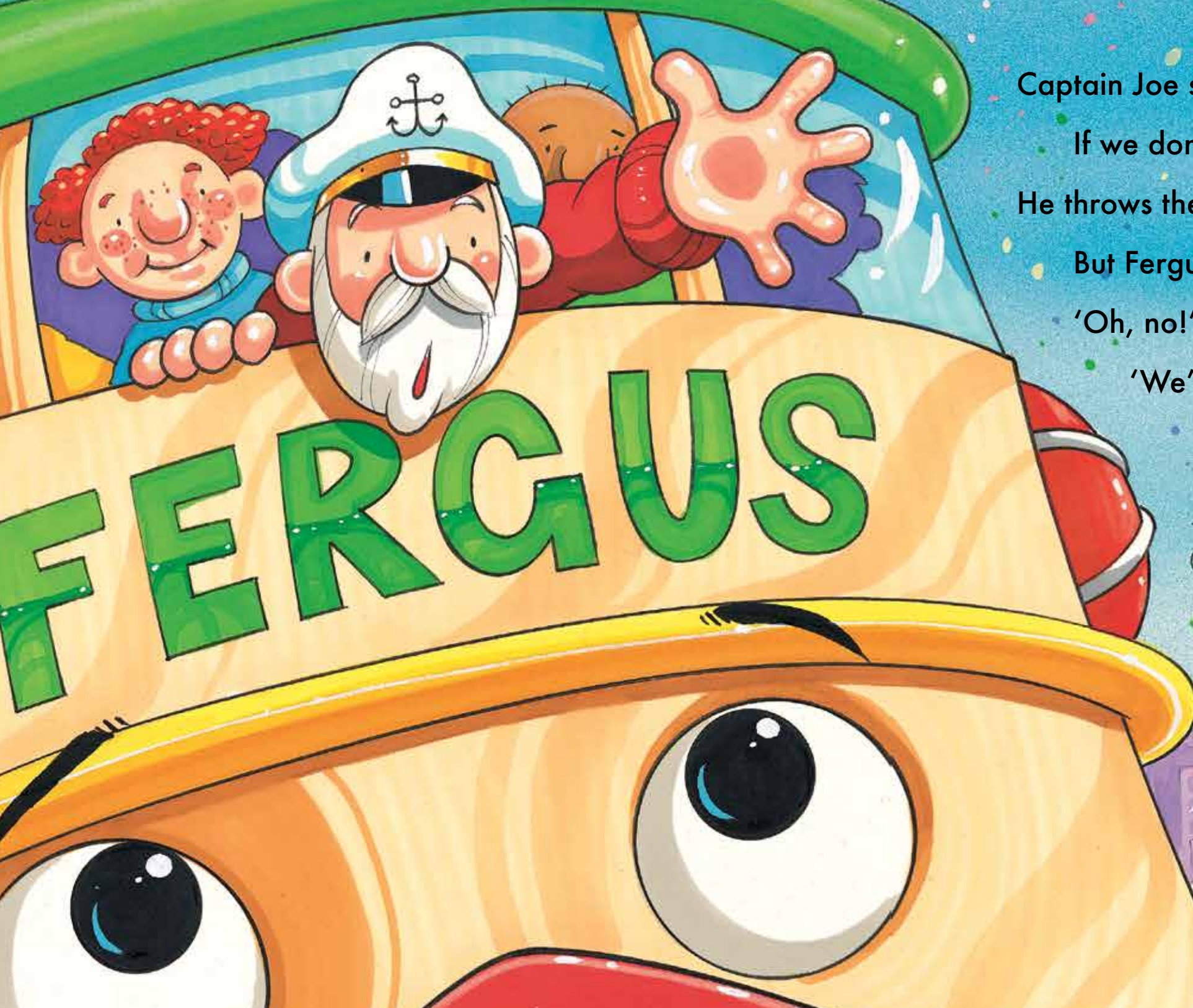
Bang goes the gun—it's the start of the race!

And off they go at a cracking pace.

Chug, chug, chug—what's that sound?

It's Fergus Ferry, and he's losing ground!





Captain Joe shouts, 'Hurry! We have to go fast.

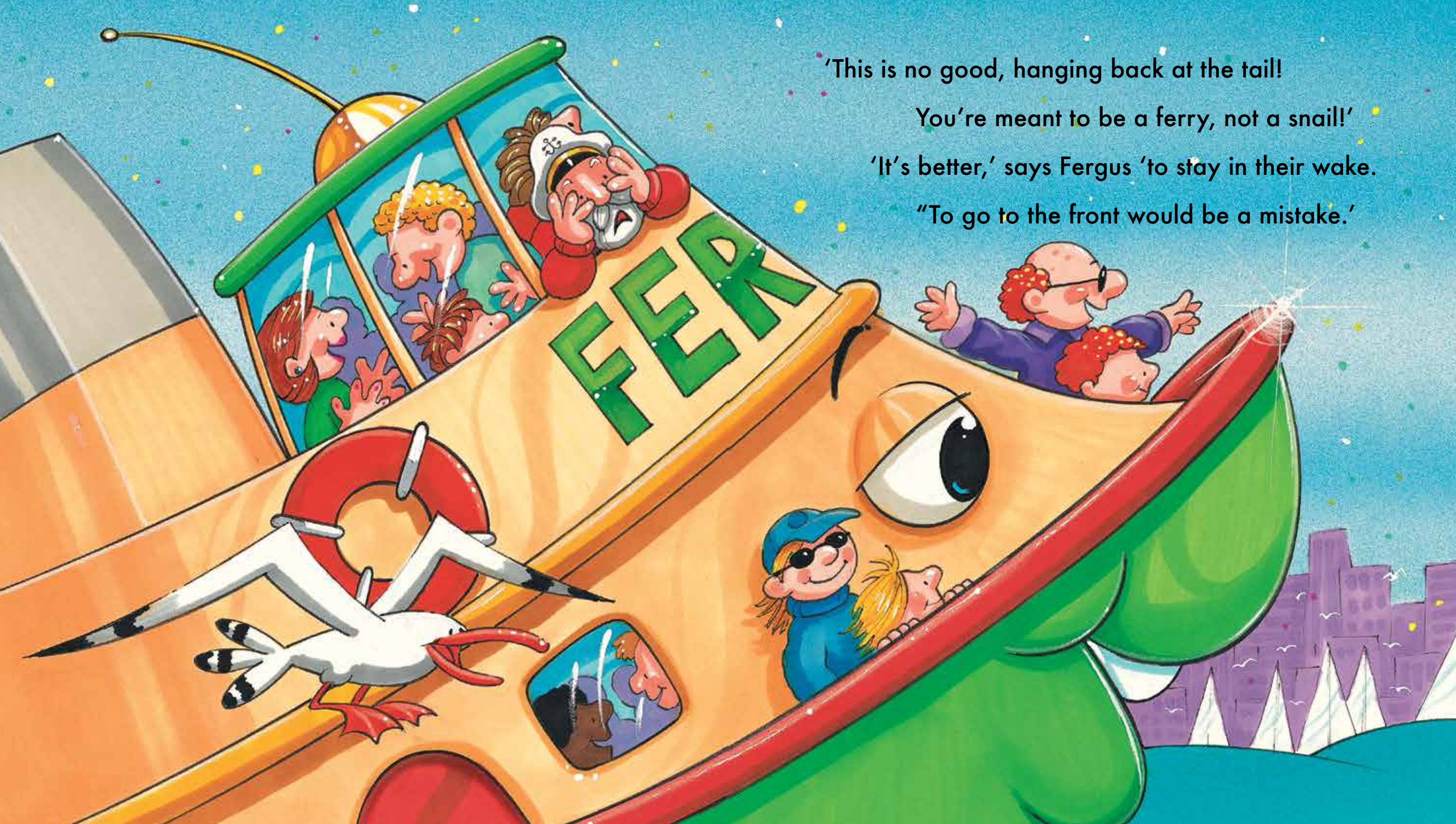
If we don't get a move on we'll end up last!'

He throws the throttle to full steam ahead,

But Fergus chugs on at his own speed instead.

'Oh, no!' says the captain, and stamps his feet,

'We've fallen behind—we're last in the fleet.'



'This is no good, hanging back at the tail!

You're meant to be a ferry, not a snail!'

'It's better,' says Fergus 'to stay in their wake.

"To go to the front would be a mistake.'

The boats are going fast. They've reached Rose Bay,
But they start getting tired and losing way.

'Maybe,' they mutter, 'it wasn't so smart'
To charge off so quickly right at the start!'





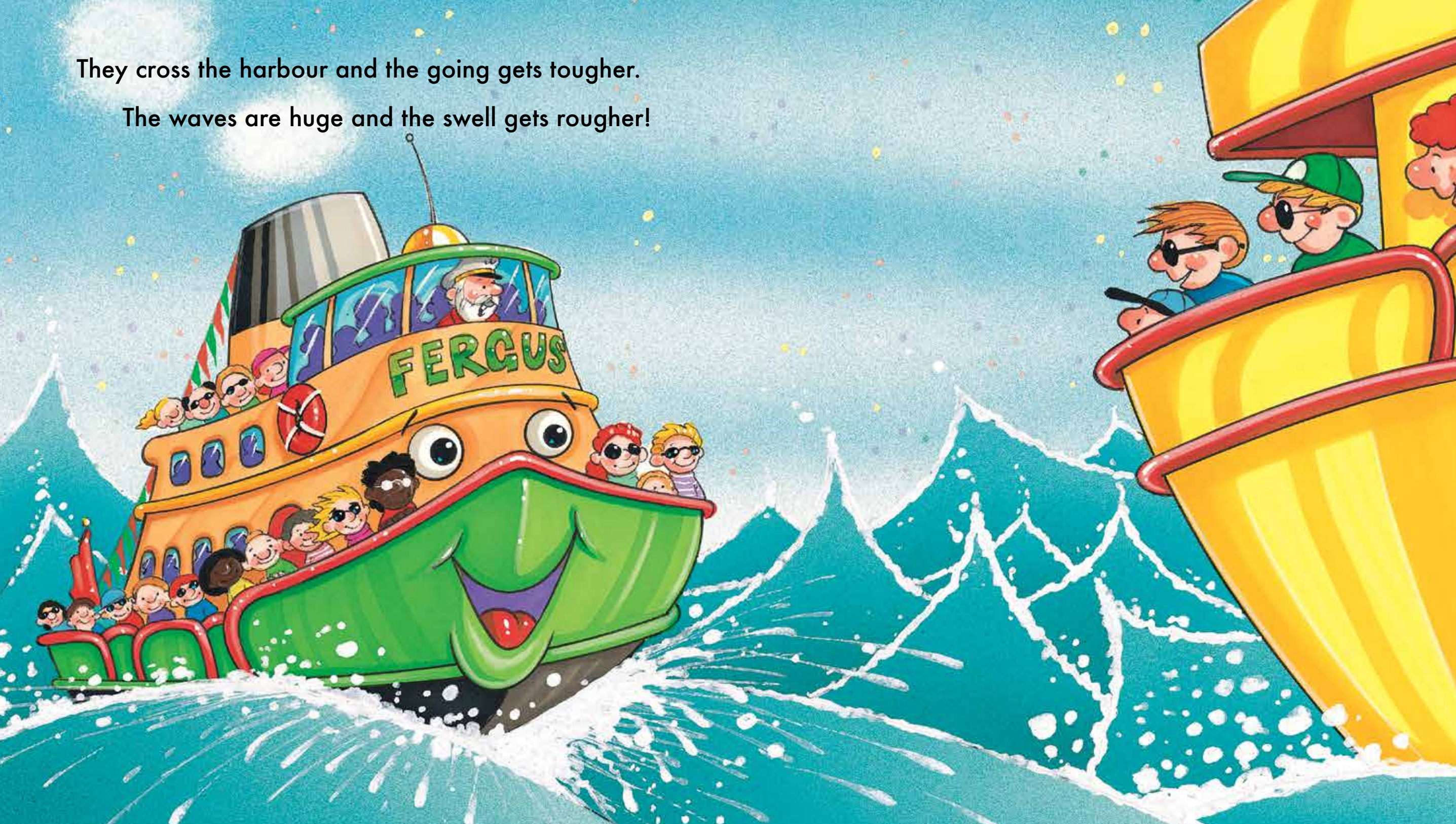
Chug, chug, chug—what's that sound?

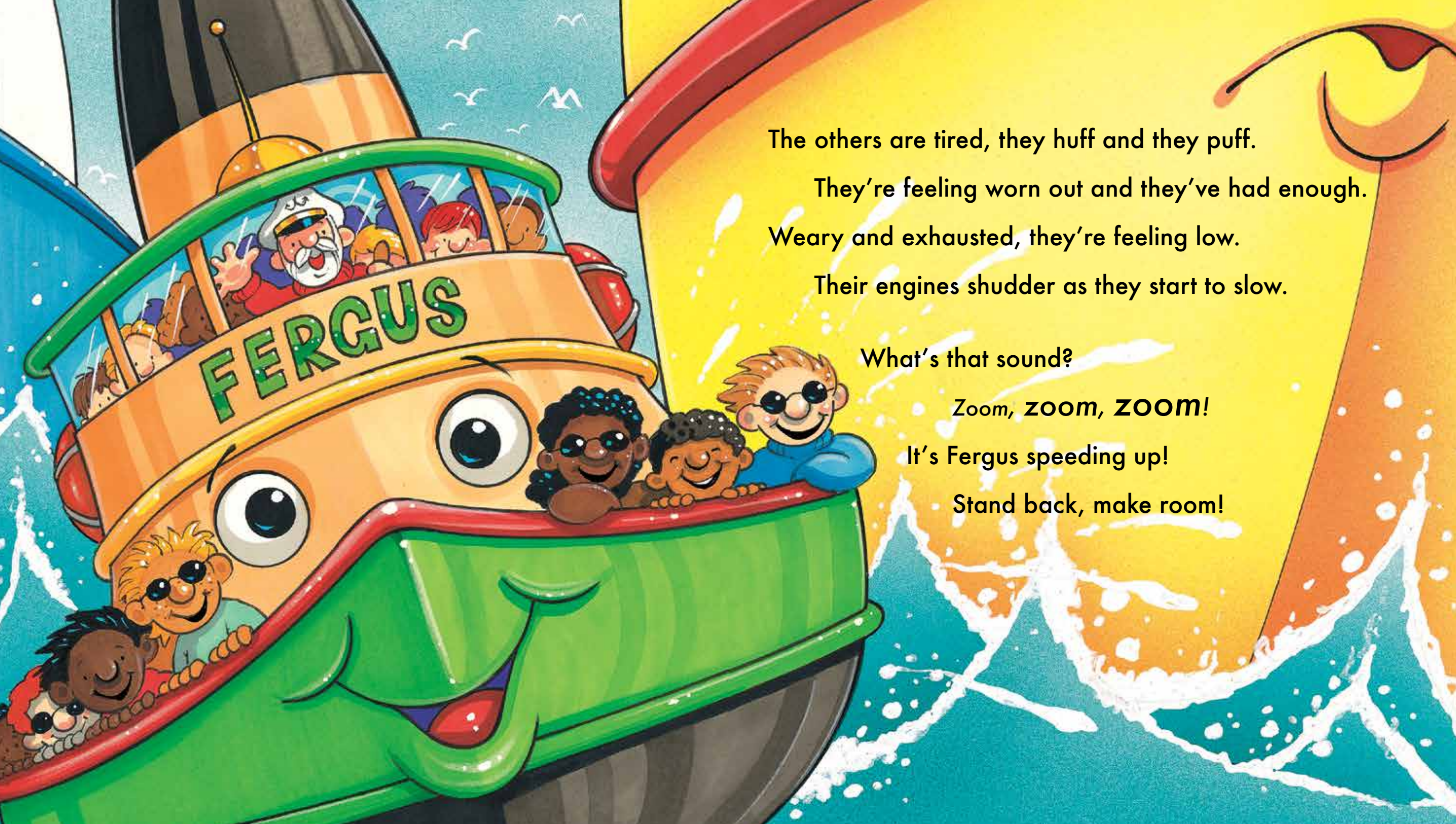
It's Fergus Ferry, and he's gaining ground!
Captain Joe looks up and can't believe his eyes.

The gap is closing—what a surprise!
'That's the way!' shouts Joe. 'Keep up the speed!
Before you know it, we'll be in the lead.'

They cross the harbour and the going gets tougher.

The waves are huge and the swell gets rougher!





The others are tired, they huff and they puff.

They're feeling worn out and they've had enough.

Weary and exhausted, they're feeling low.

Their engines shudder as they start to slow.

What's that sound?

*Zoom, zoom, **zoom!***

It's Fergus speeding up!

Stand back, make room!

'That's the way!' cries the Captain. 'Keep it up.

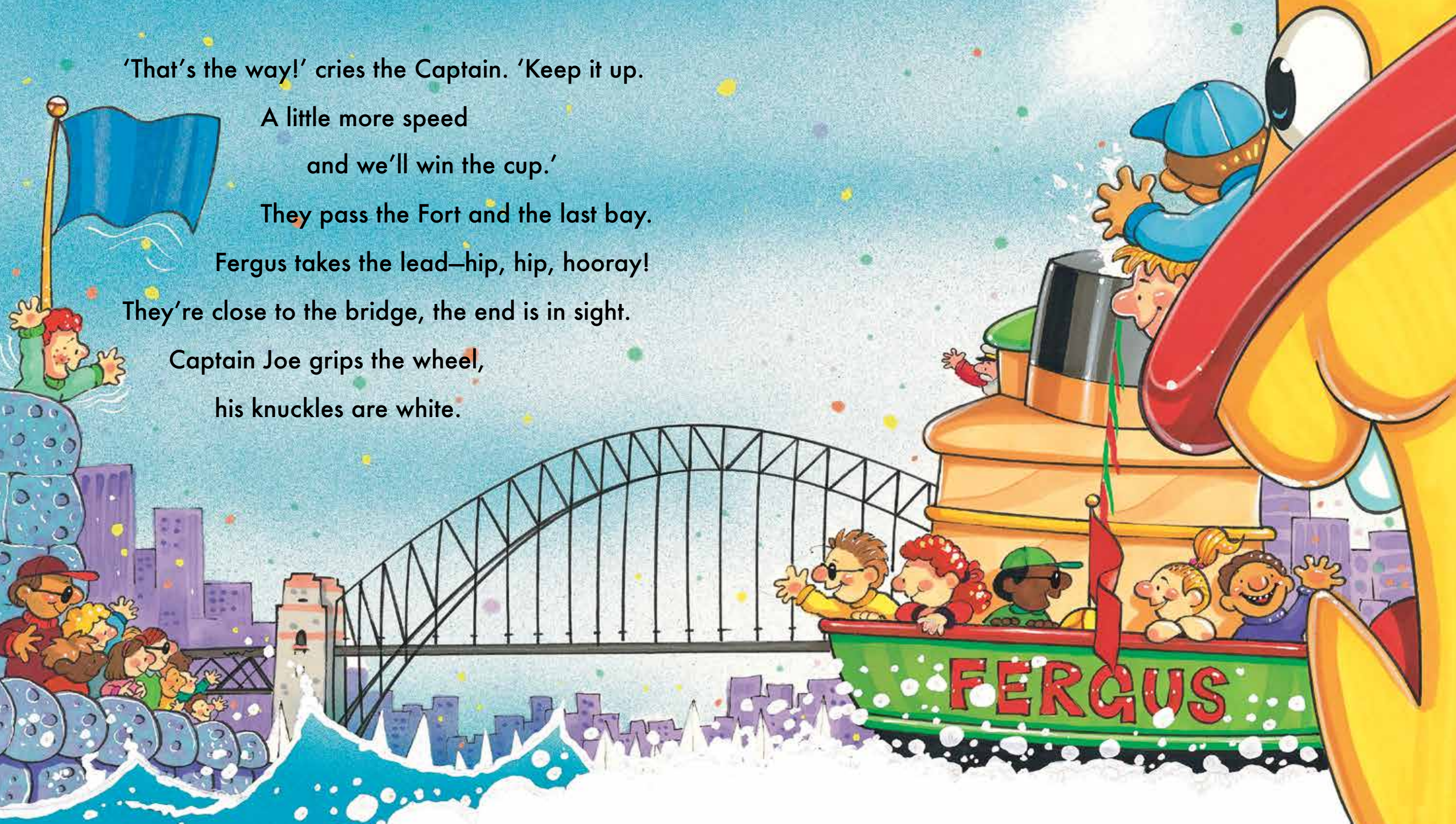
A little more speed
and we'll win the cup.'

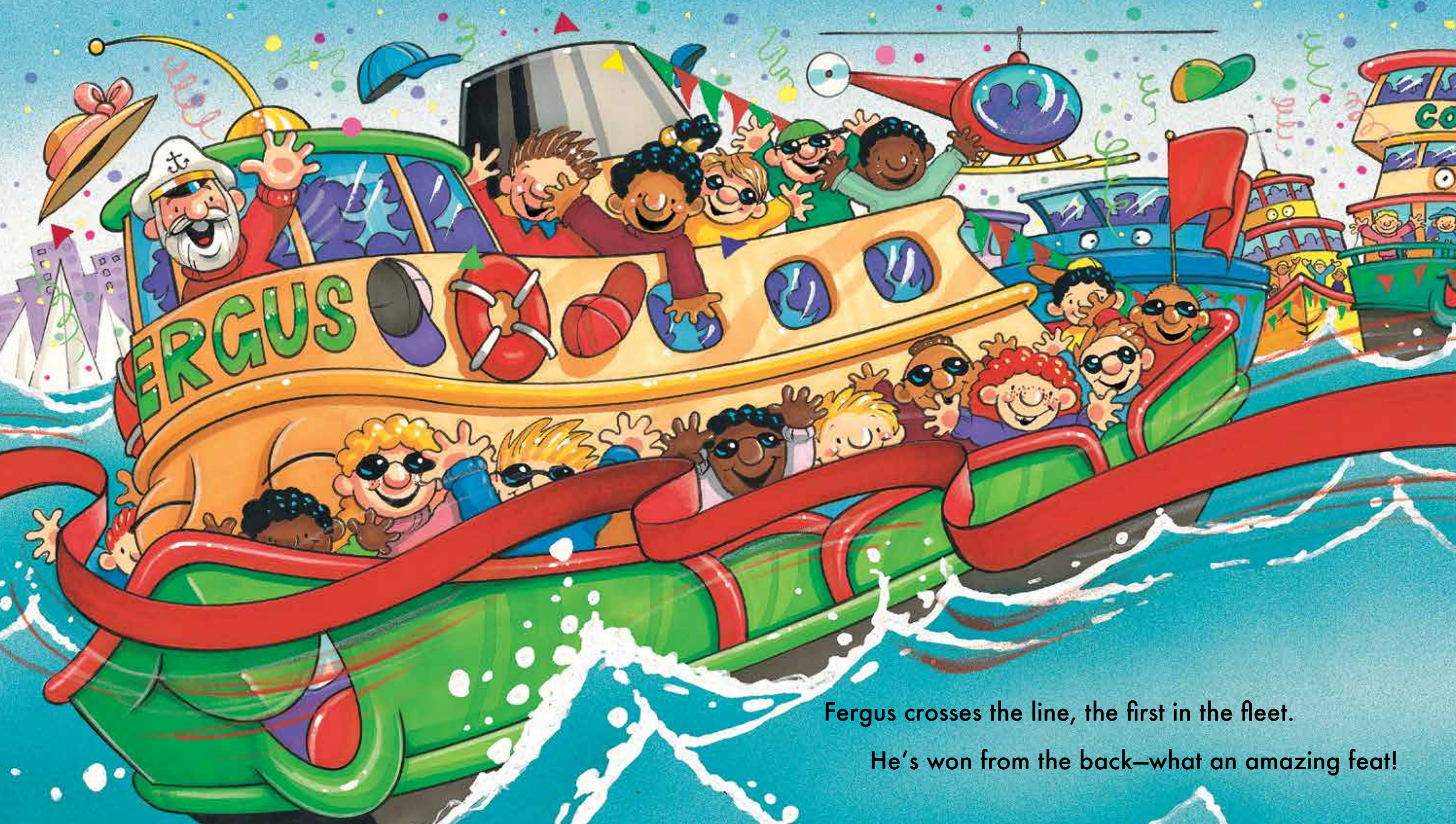
They pass the Fort and the last bay.

Fergus takes the lead—hip, hip, hooray!

They're close to the bridge, the end is in sight.

Captain Joe grips the wheel,
his knuckles are white.



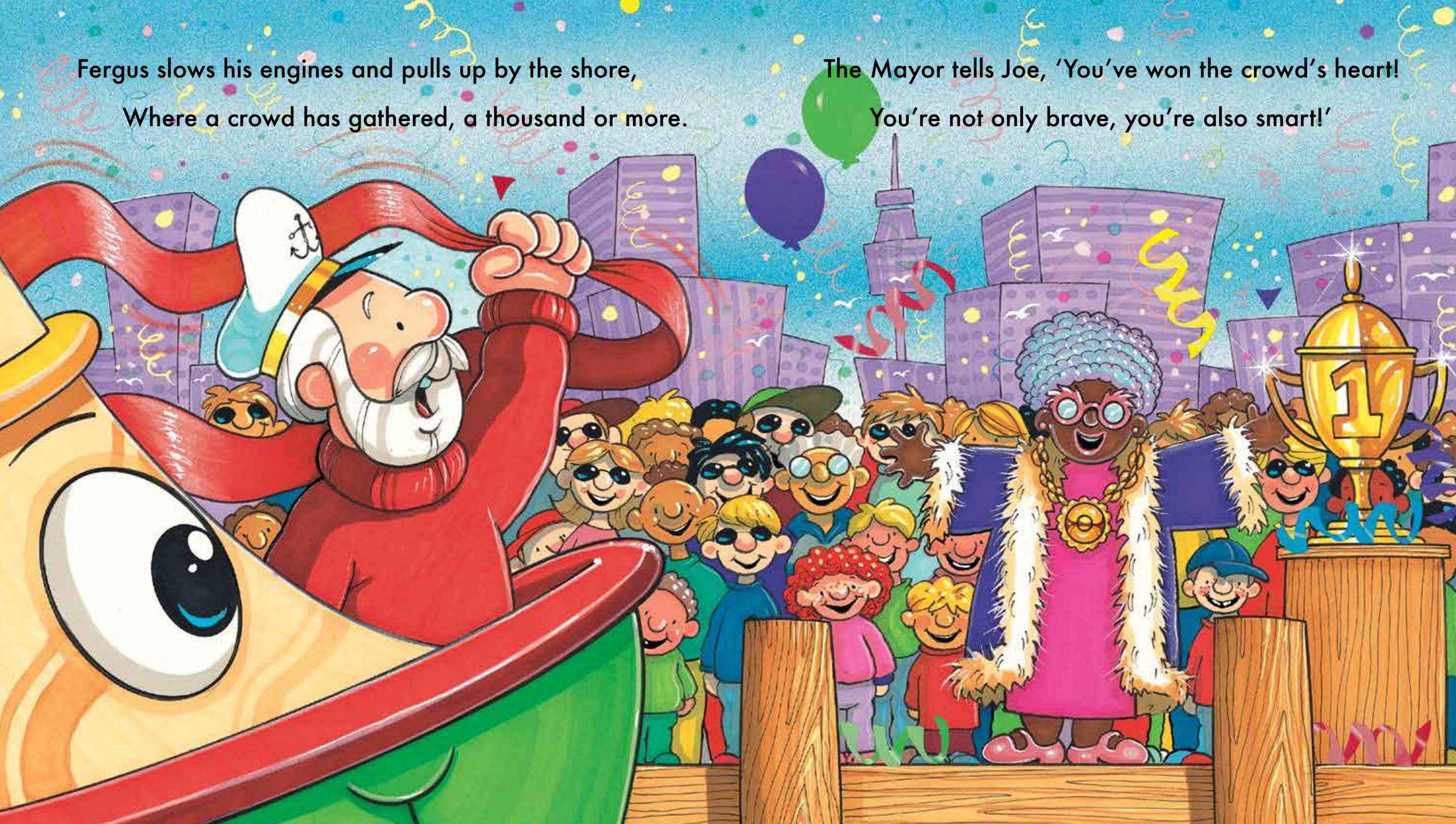


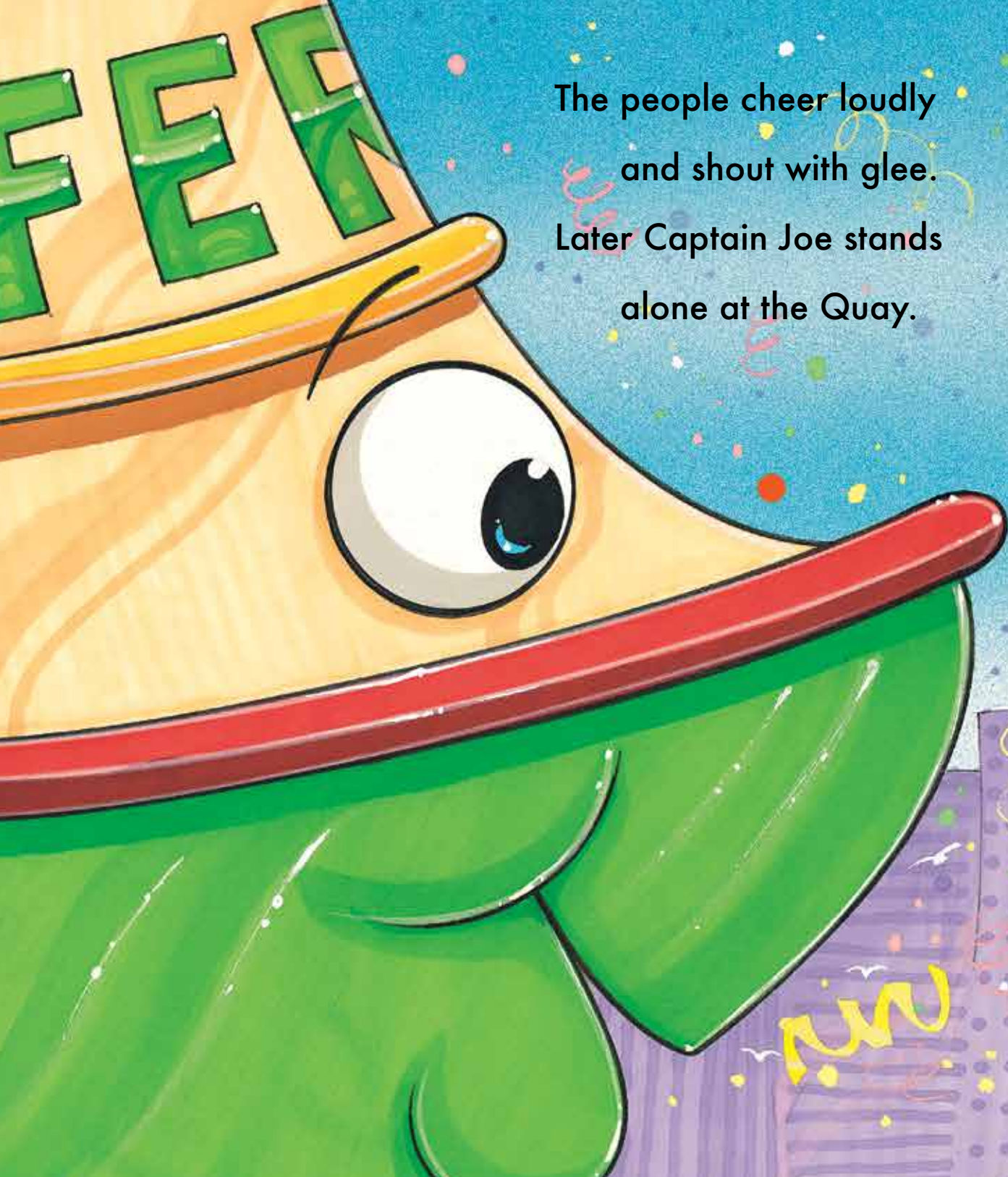
Fergus crosses the line, the first in the fleet.

He's won from the back—what an amazing feat!

Fergus slows his engines and pulls up by the shore,
Where a crowd has gathered, a thousand or more.

The Mayor tells Joe, 'You've won the crowd's heart!
You're not only brave, you're also smart!'





The people cheer loudly
and shout with glee.
Later Captain Joe stands
alone at the Quay.

'What a star you are, Fergus,' he says 'Well done.
If it wasn't for you, we'd never have won.'
Then he takes off his hat and scratches his head,
Shrugs his shoulders ...



... and goes home to bed.



Sometimes it's best not to follow the crowd.

For the crew at Sydney Ferries

JWN

For Jesse and Jemma

PT

Snowball Press Pty Limited (ACN 110 061 142)
P.O. Box A2619, Sydney South, NSW 1235
☎ + 612 9518 9999
info@fergusferry.com

First published by Snowball Press Pty Limited 2008.
This edition published 2012.

Text copyright © John Williamson-Noble 2002.
Illustrations © John Williamson-Noble.
Illustrations by Peter Townsend.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, storage in an information retrieval system, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the publisher, unless specifically permitted under the Australian Copyright Act 1968 as amended.

National Library of Australia Cataloguing-in-Publication entry

Author: Noble, J. W. (John Williamson)
Title: Fergus at the race / J W Noble ; Peter Townsend.
Edition: Rev. ed.
ISBN 9780987198105 (pbk.)
Target Audience: For pre-school age.
Subjects: Ferries--Juvenile fiction.
Other Authors/Contributors: Townsend, Peter, 1958-
Dewey Number A823.4

Dock into the website for other Fergus Ferry titles,
fascinating facts and fun games

www.fergusferry.com

Typeset in Futura.

Printed in China by Imago.

Back to Books



Dock into the website
for more books, great games
and fascinating facts

