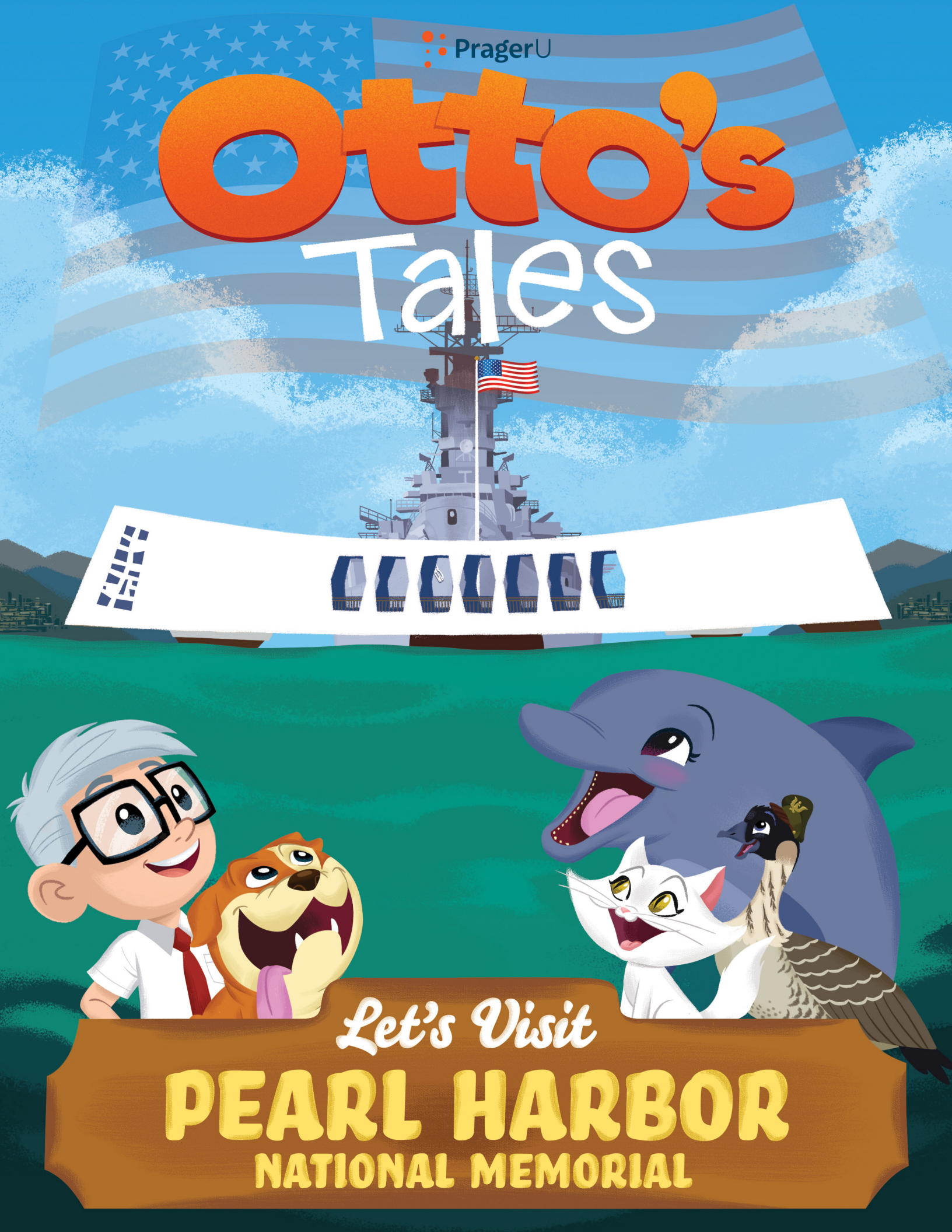


Otto's Tales



Let's Visit

PEARL HARBOR
NATIONAL MEMORIAL

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Otto's Tales

Let's Visit

**PEARL HARBOR
NATIONAL MEMORIAL**



“Steady...” Dennis carefully glued a new piece onto his battleship **replica**.



“Ruff Ruff!” That looks so real!” Otto watched his best friend. “What’s it for?”

“It’s a gift for my dad,” Dennis replied. “He served in World War II with the Navy, so he spent a lot of time on ships like this one.”



Two fluffy, perky ears popped in from around the door. Smidge grinned, fresh crumbs in her whiskers. “Is it arts and crafts time?” The kitten bounded in and started digging through Dennis’s supplies.



“Smidge, I need all of this for my battleship,” Dennis explained. The kitten ignored him and fiddled with some string. “Hmm, I could make a necklace! A necklace is much prettier than a ship. I promise I’ll only use a few things.”

Dennis sighed. “Alright, let me see if I can find more supplies.”



Otto settled next to Smidge. "Who's your necklace for?"

"For me!" she exclaimed. The kitten spotted something shiny on Dennis's desk behind the replica. "That's perfect."



Reaching over quickly, Smidge bumped the battleship, and... **SNAP!** A small piece broke off!

"Oh no!" she panicked.
"Help me fix it before Dennis comes back."

"Me?" Otto gasped. "Don't get me involved! I didn't break it. This is your problem."

"Please!" the kitten begged. "I can't tell where this piece goes. I don't know anything about ships."



Otto pointed to a photo. "Well, Dennis was building that ship."

Smidge studied the picture. "It says this is the **USS Missouri** in **Pearl Harbor**. Oh! I can get pearls for my necklace."

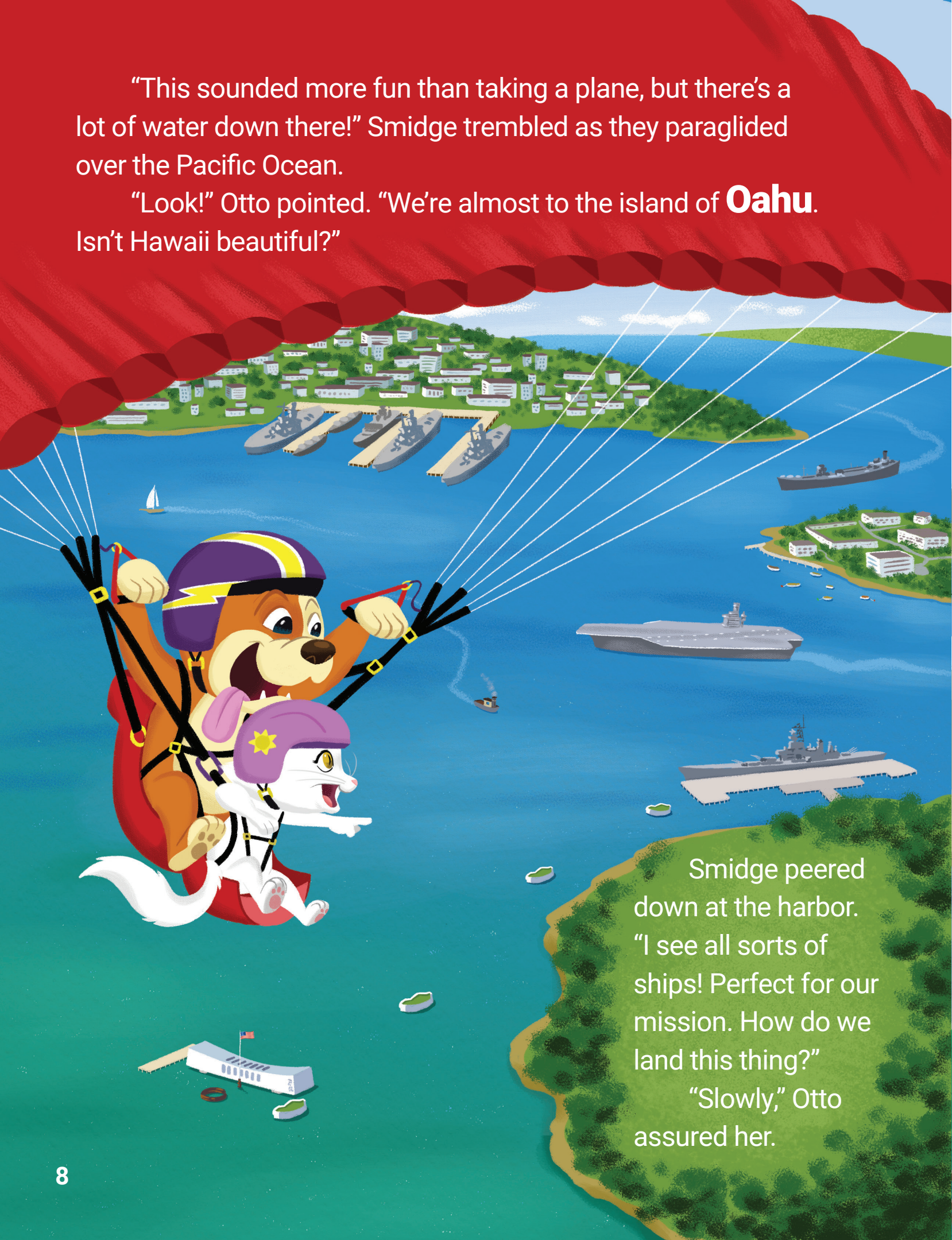


The bulldog shook his head. "Or, you could find the actual ship and figure out which part broke."

"You're right." The kitten nodded. "Let's go before Dennis comes back!"

"This sounded more fun than taking a plane, but there's a lot of water down there!" Smidge trembled as they paraglided over the Pacific Ocean.

"Look!" Otto pointed. "We're almost to the island of **Oahu**. Isn't Hawaii beautiful?"



Smidge peered down at the harbor. "I see all sorts of ships! Perfect for our mission. How do we land this thing?"

"Slowly," Otto assured her.

Suddenly, a gust of wind pushed them straight toward a white building that appeared to be floating.

"Hang on!" the bulldog yelled.



He steered the paraglider toward an opening in the roof, but they got stuck. Instantly, they were swarmed by a flock of geese!

"Don't worry! Remain calm. We're here to help!" The birds chattered all at once.

Smidge hugged the nearest bird.
“Thank you!! I’m Smidge, and this is Otto.
You saved our lives.”

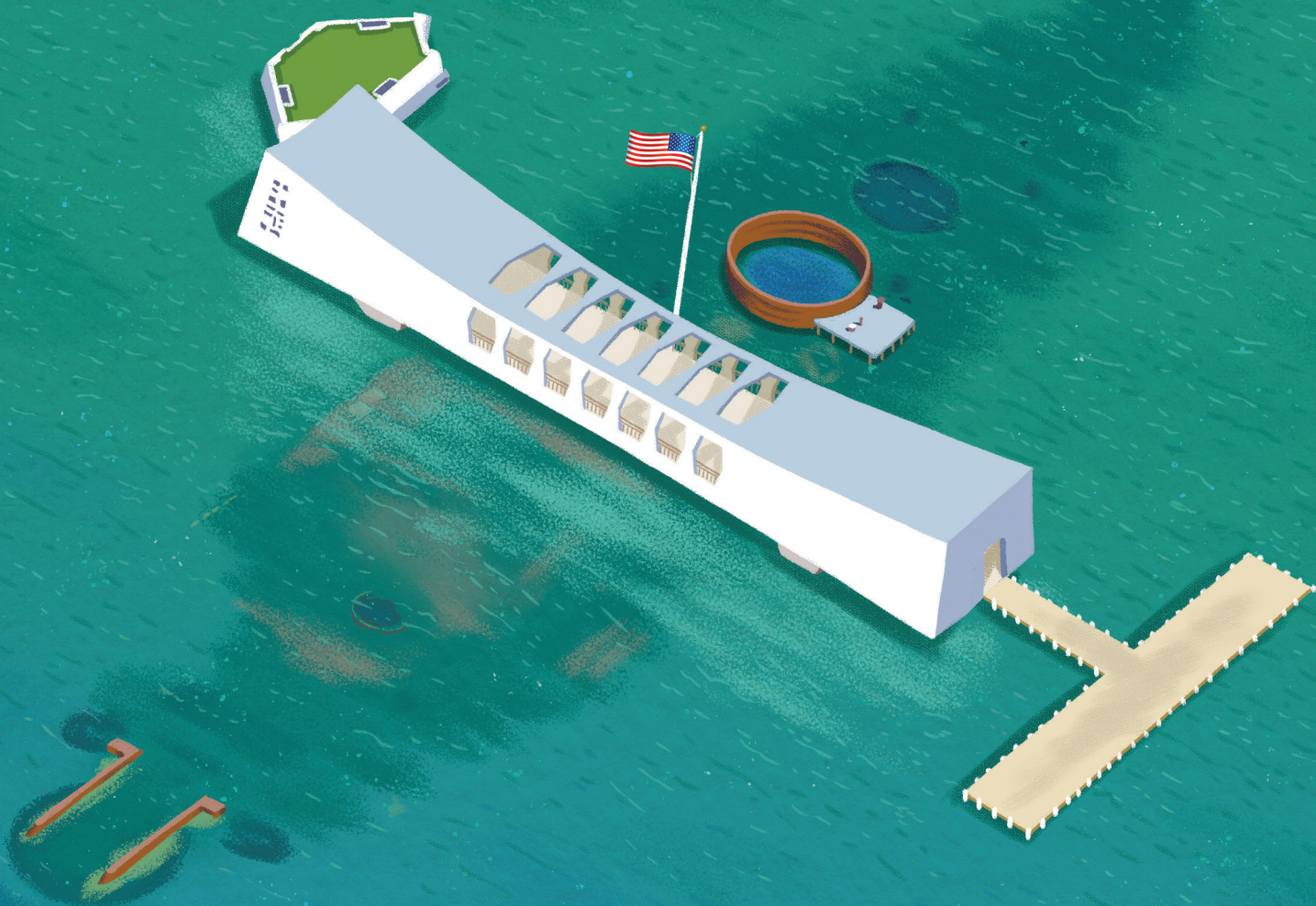
“You’re welcome,” one of the geese
piped in. “I’m Kenneth—Kenny for short.
My brothers and I are **nēnēs**, the state
bird of Hawaii. Welcome to **Pearl
Harbor National Memorial.**”



“What is this memorial
for?” Otto asked.

“A great tragedy in our
American history,” Kenny said.
“During **World War II**,
Japanese forces attacked
this naval base on December
7, 1941. It was shocking, and
many Americans were killed.”

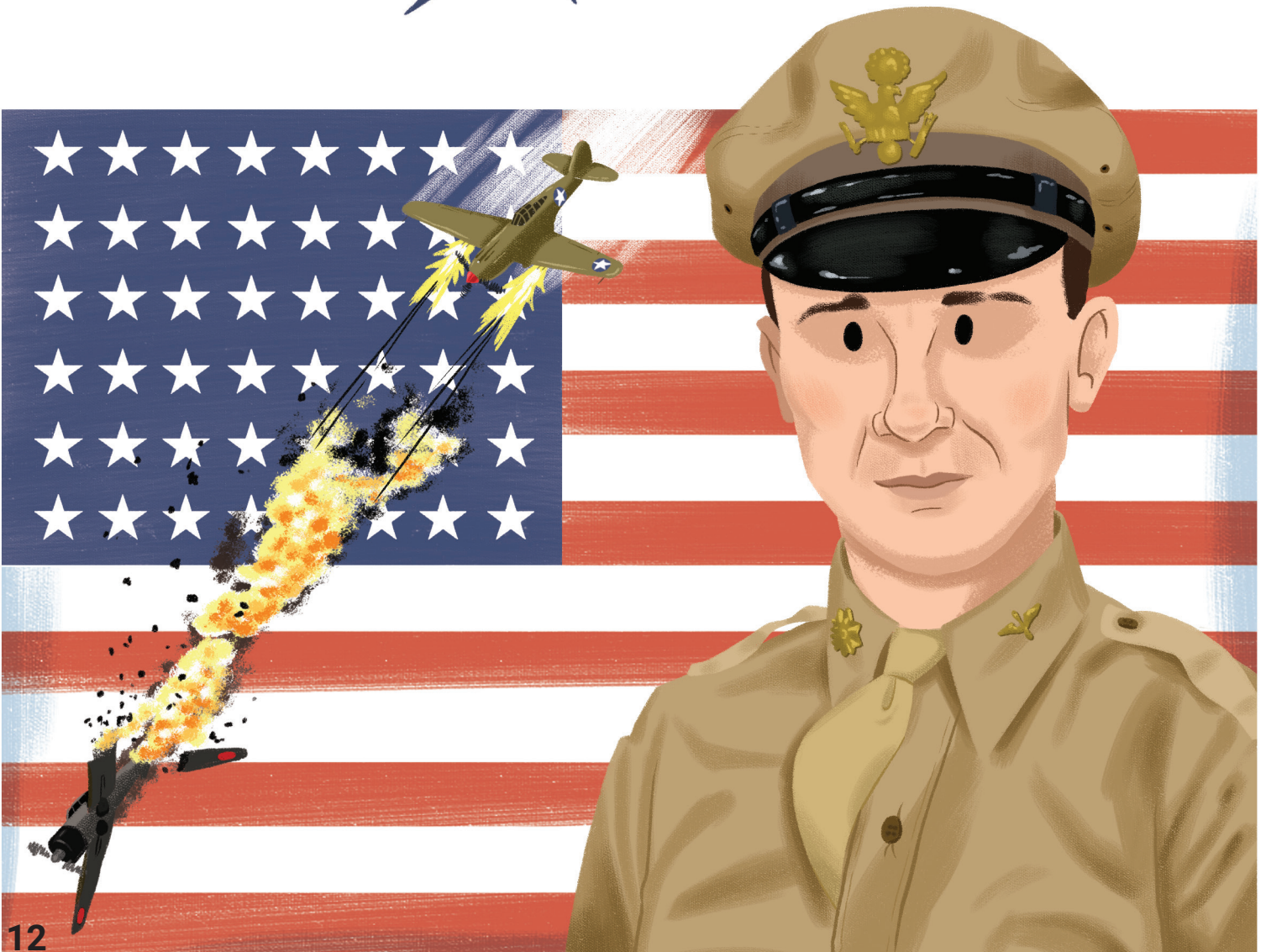
"You're right above the sunken **hull** of the **USS Arizona**.
This ship is the final resting place for over 1,000 sailors and
Marines."



"Terrible tragedy,"
Kenny's brothers echoed.
"That sounds so scary,"
Otto said.
"It was," Kenny agreed.

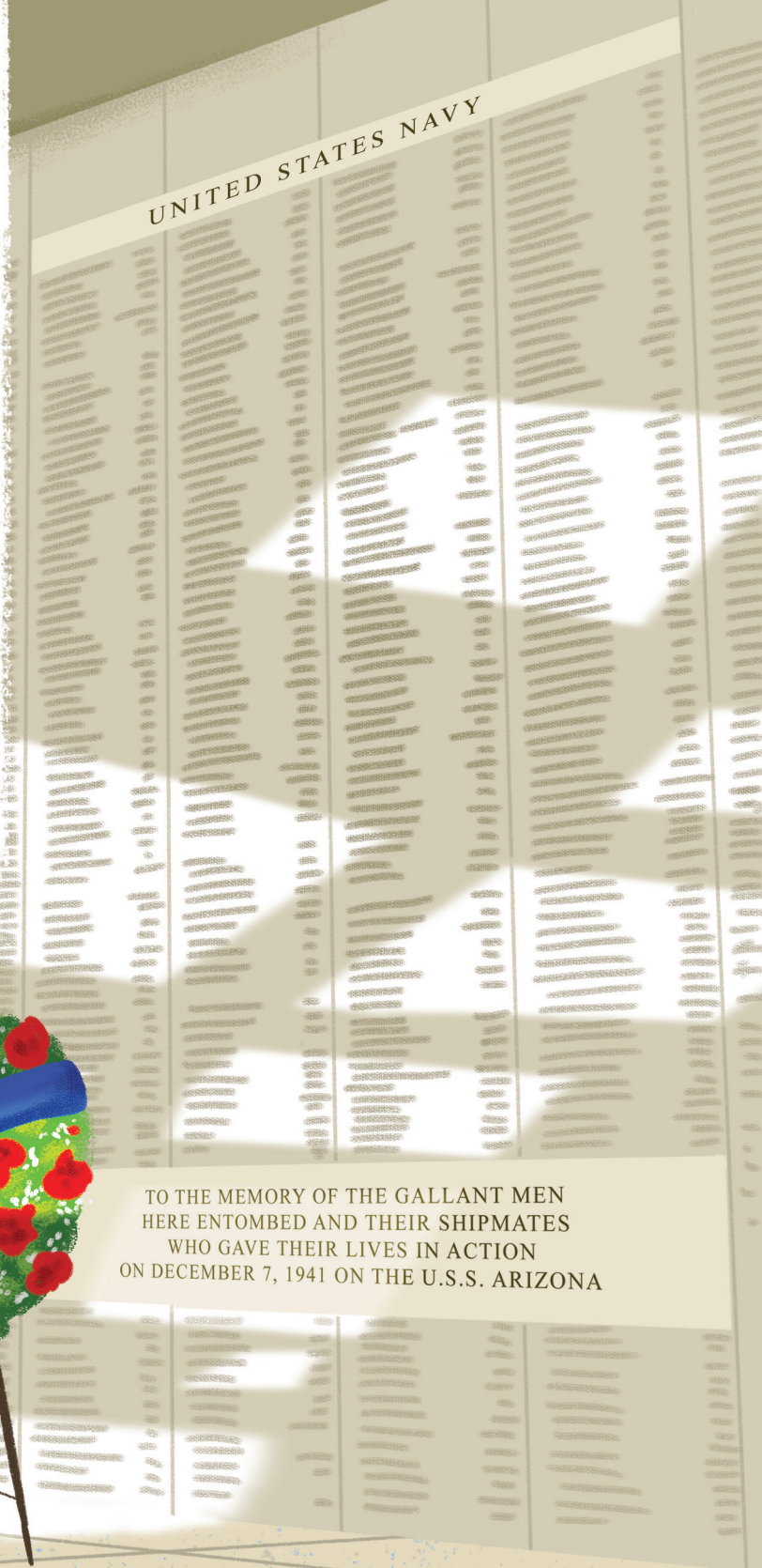


“My brothers and I are all named after the brave men who jumped into action to save lives. Samuel, Peter, and George are heroes who helped people escape and fight back. My namesake, **Kenneth Taylor**, was one of the first pilots to get flying and shoot down enemy planes.”



Kenny led them to a wall with the names of the fallen. "We honor everyone who came together during this crisis and sacrificed everything."

Smidge nodded solemnly. "It's amazing that people can be so heroic, even when things are difficult and dangerous."



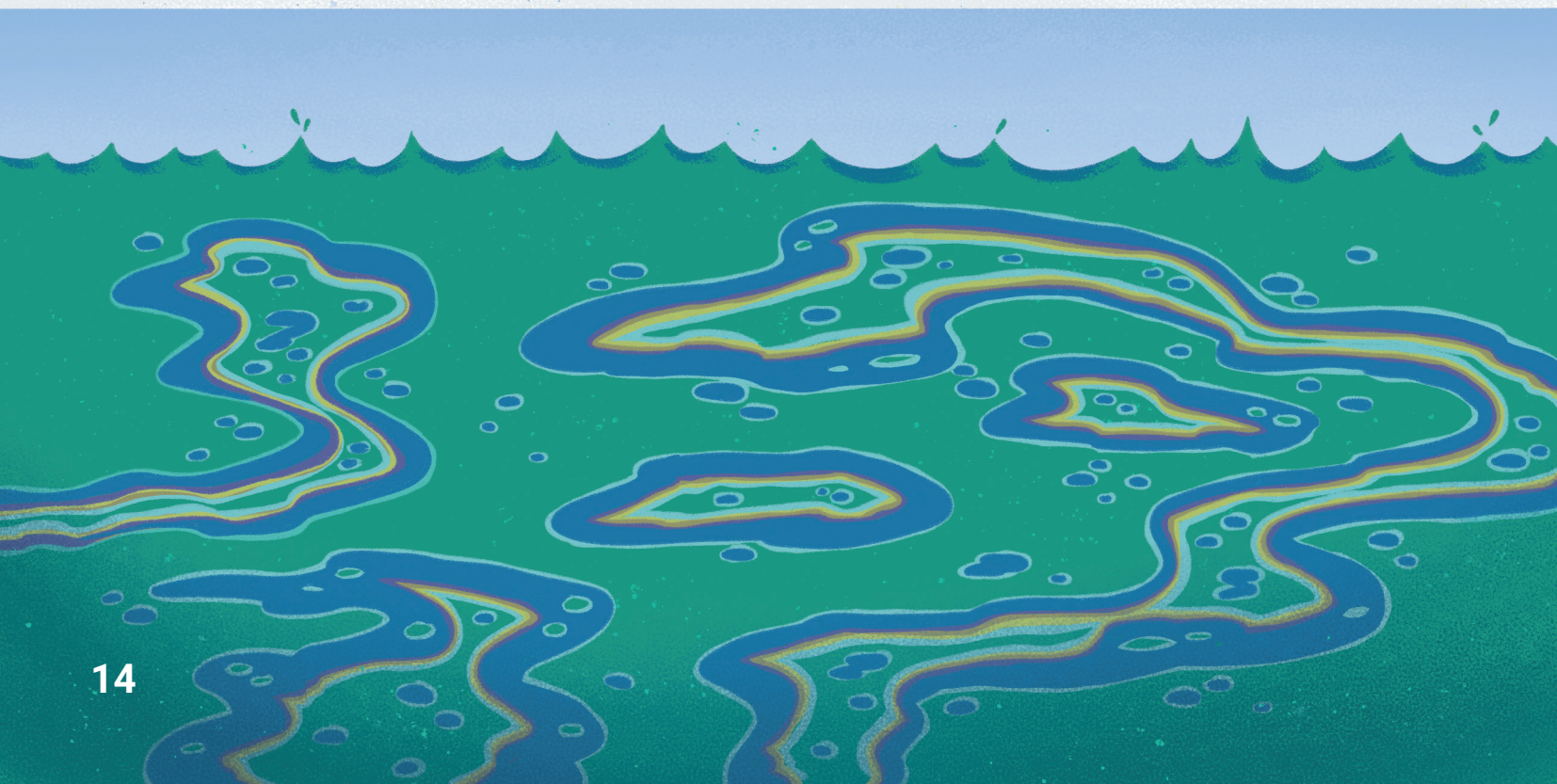
TO THE MEMORY OF THE GALLANT MEN
HERE ENTOMBED AND THEIR SHIPMATES
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN ACTION
ON DECEMBER 7, 1941 ON THE U.S.S. ARIZONA



Otto peered into the ocean. "I can't believe that such a big, powerful ship could sink."

Smidge tiptoed to the railing. "What's that dark stuff in the water?"

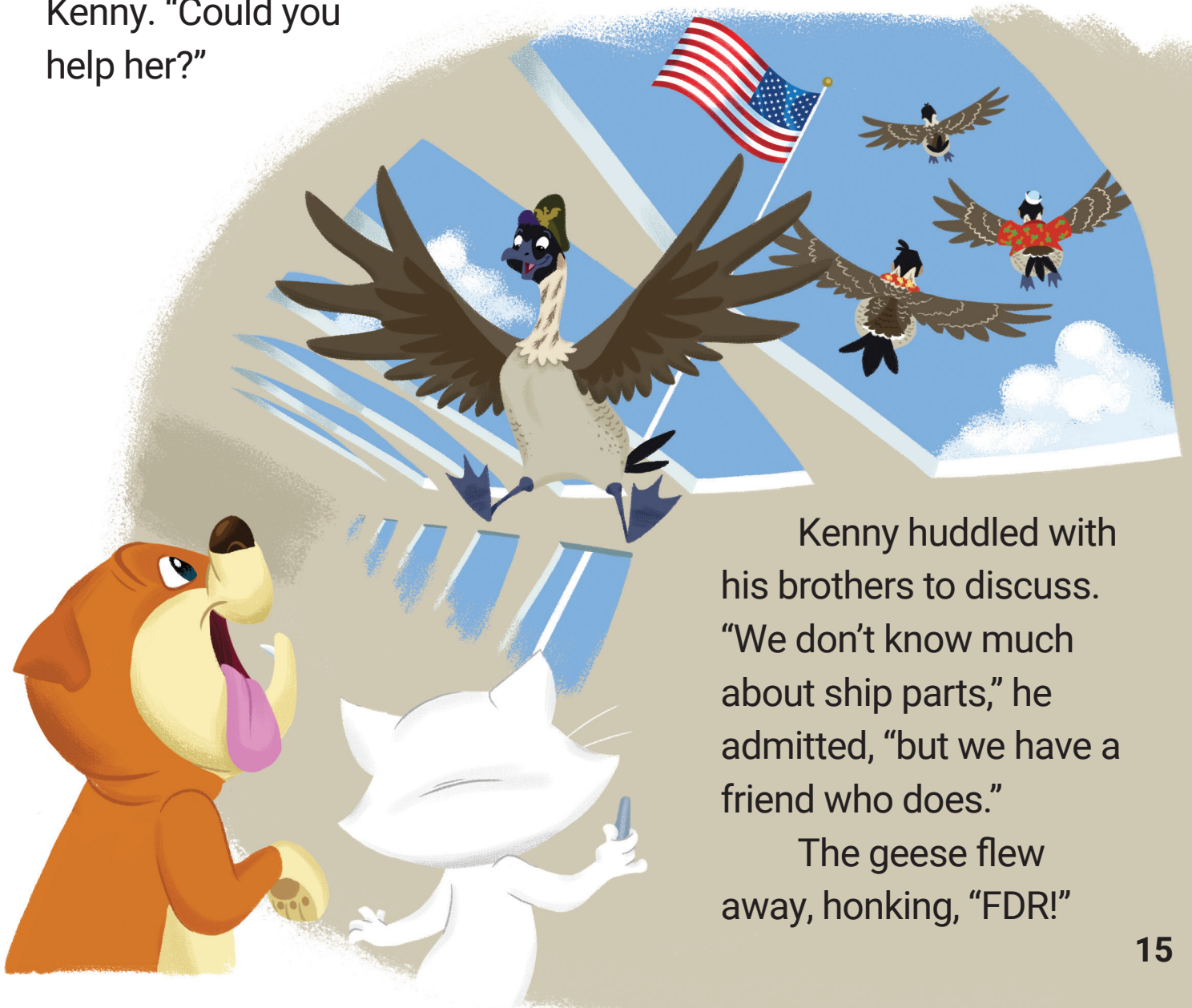
"That's the ship's oil," Kenny answered. "It still leaks to this day. We call these leaks the 'tears of the Arizona.'"





The kitten gasped. "How sad!" She clutched the broken piece from Dennis's replica. "I hope the USS *Missouri* didn't sink."

"My friend is trying to fix a broken battleship replica," Otto told Kenny. "Could you help her?"



Kenny huddled with his brothers to discuss. "We don't know much about ship parts," he admitted, "but we have a friend who does."

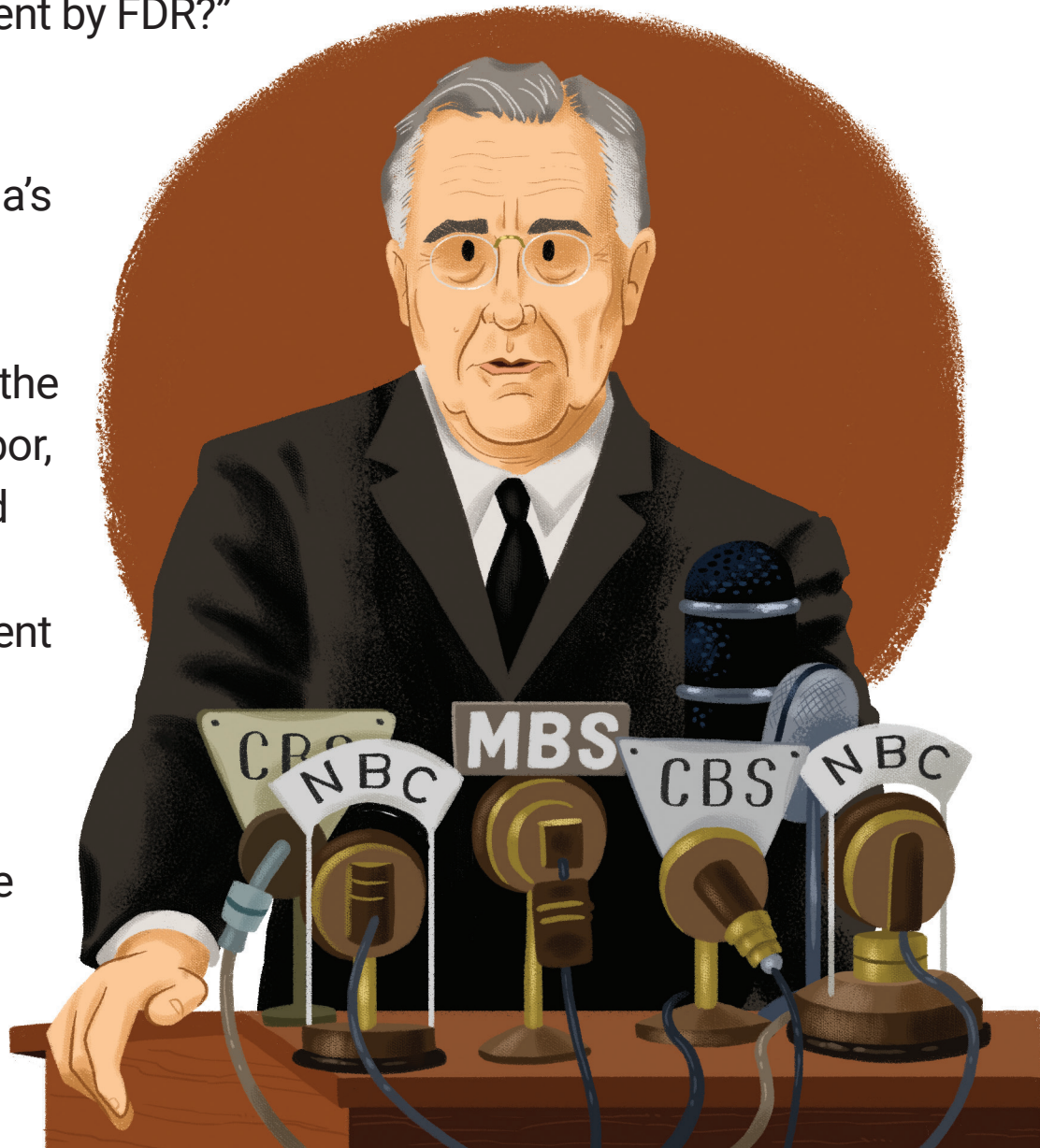
The geese flew away, honking, "FDR!"

"Aloha!" A sleek dolphin sprung out of the water toward the friends. "Finna Delano Rose at your service. FDR to my friends."



"I'm Otto, and this is Smidge. Isn't there someone famous who also went by FDR?"

"Yes! President **Franklin D. Roosevelt.**" Finna's eyes lit up. "He led America in the fight against Japan after the attack on Pearl Harbor, which got the United States involved in World War II. President Roosevelt gave a famous speech that called this event 'a date which will live in infamy.'"



“That must have been a scary time,” Otto observed.



“Yes.” The dolphin bobbed her nose. “Not only were our own people threatened, but people in Europe needed America’s help to defeat the German **Nazis** and other enemies who wanted to spread their evil ideas.”

She continued, "A few weeks after the attack here, 134,000 Americans joined the military to fight and help win the war."

"That many people stepped up?" Smidge was amazed.

"And many more got involved throughout the war, too,"

Finna added.



Otto pondered this. "Smidge, I can't help but think how I didn't want to get involved with your problem of fixing Dennis's battleship. I should have been nicer about helping you. We both want Dennis's dad to have a great gift, and that's more important than who broke it."



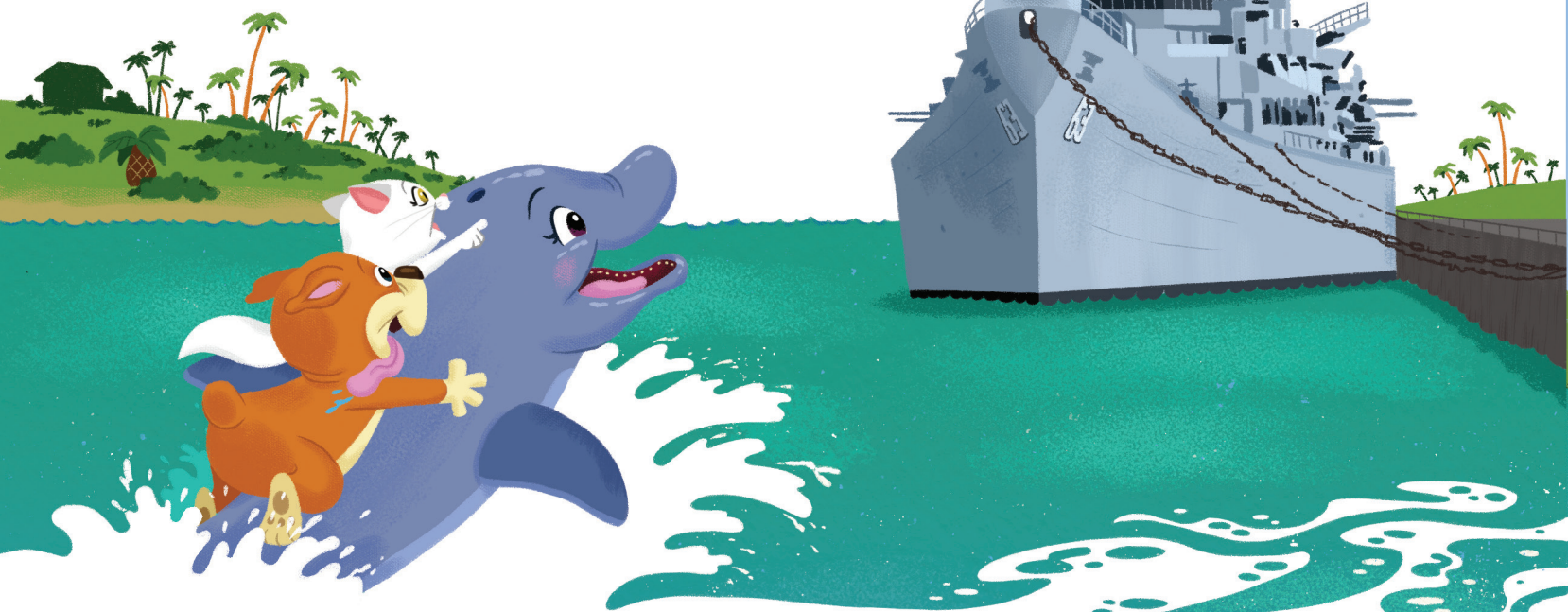
Smidge's eyes glistened. "I shouldn't have been so careless with the ship in the first place. Thank you for being such a supportive friend."

Otto smiled. "That's what friends are for. Now, the USS *Missouri* has to be around here somewhere."

Finna twirled in the sea. "I know where it is! Hop on; let's go for a ride."



SPLASH! Bouncing in the waves, Smidge nudged Otto. “That’s it! The USS *Missouri*!” A huge battleship loomed in front of them.



“This ship was still being built when Pearl Harbor was attacked,” Finna shared, swimming closer. “But, it was on this ship that the Japanese surrendered in Tokyo Bay at the end of the war in 1945. Thanks to America’s help, the Allies were finally victorious.”



“What a historic moment.” Otto admired the ship.

“People were grateful for peace after so much war,” Finna added.

As they circled the vessel, Smidge held up the tiny battleship piece.

The bulldog pointed. “Look!”

“I see it!” Smidge squealed. “It’s a gun from the ship’s defenses, right up there. Now I know exactly how to fix the replica.”



“Amazing!” Finna
splashed her tail, soaking
the friends.

Smidge cried out as
her paws slipped,
and the ship piece
went **PLINK...**

disappearing into
the ocean. “No!!”



“Don’t worry; I’ve got it.” Finna
dove down while Smidge and Otto
paddled in the water.

When their friend returned,
she had the small piece and
something shiny in her mouth
too.

“What’s that?” Otto asked.



Smidge’s eyes
sparkled. “A pearl!”

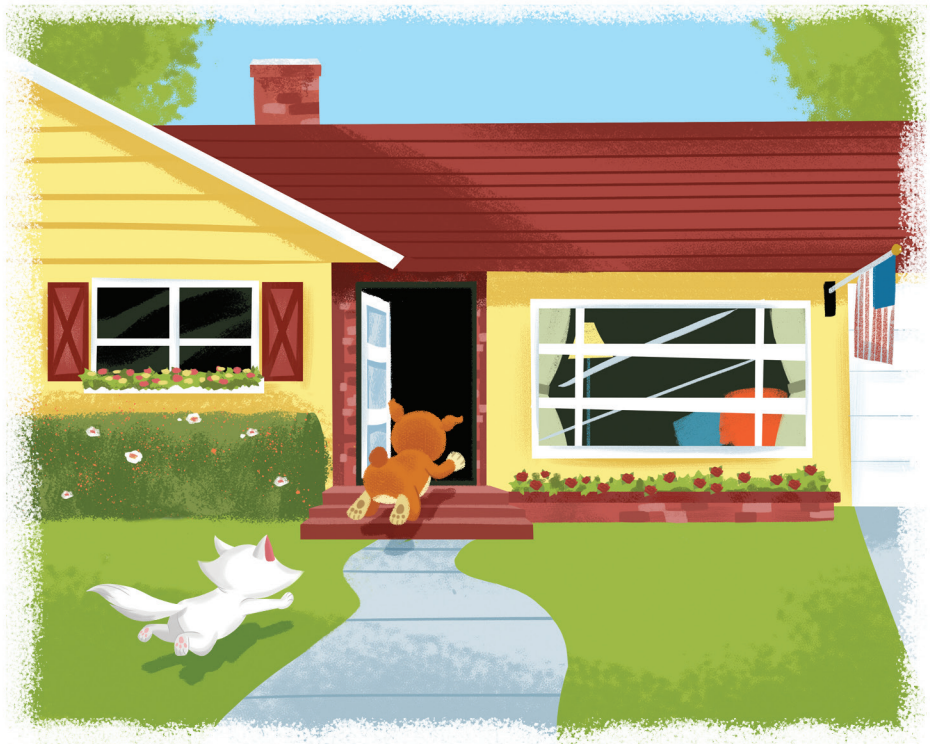
“Something to
remind you to always
treasure the strength
and sacrifice of our
people,” Finna shared.

“Thank you! I’ll
never forget it.” Smidge
accepted the treasure.



Back at Dennis's house, Smidge and Otto raced inside. Just as they were gluing the broken piece back on the ship, Dennis entered with a box full of art supplies.

"Hey, where did you two disappear to?" he asked.



Smidge blushed. "I accidentally broke your replica, so Otto and I went to Pearl Harbor to see the real ship and figure out how to fix the broken piece."

Otto jumped in. “We learned about the memorial honoring everyone who died during the Japanese attack and how America got involved in World War II because of that event.”



Otto stood up tall. “When faced with a crisis, we don’t back down. Americans protect our people and others who need our help.”



"I'm sorry I thought my project was more important than yours." Smidge apologized to Dennis. "May Otto and I help you finish your gift for your dad?"

Dennis pulled his friends close. "You bet! It'll be so much better if we work together."



"That was my favorite adventure yet!" Otto barked.



"You say that every time, Otto," Smidge laughed.



As the trio put the finishing touches on the replica, Smidge revealed her new pearl and glued it to the tippy top of the miniature mast on the ship.

“Purr-fect!”

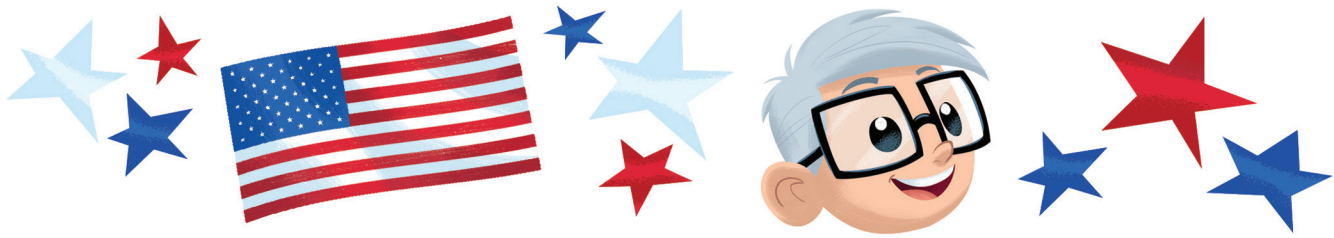


“Now, how to wrap this...”
Dennis looked at his friends for ideas.

Smidge grabbed the supply box. “I’ll only use a few things, I promise.”

“**Ruff Ruff!**”





We Love Our History

Replica: A copy or model of something, characterized by much attention to detail.

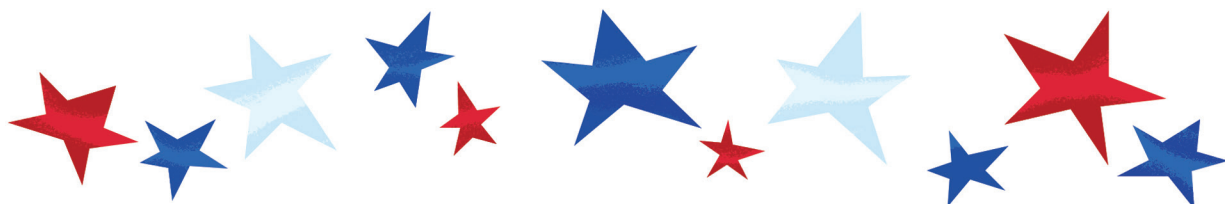
USS *Missouri*: An *Iowa*-class battleship that was built for the United States Navy in the 1940s. Completed in 1944, it was the last battleship commissioned for the United States. It was the site of the surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945, which ended World War II. The battleship served from World War II through the Persian Gulf War in the 1990s. It was decommissioned in 1992 and later donated as a museum ship in 1998.

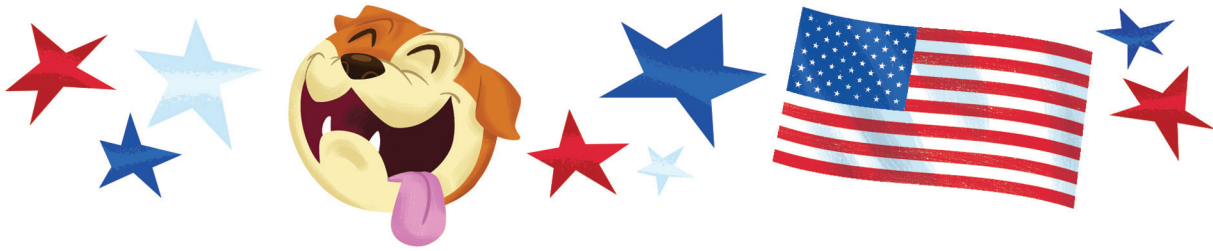
Pearl Harbor: The site of a U.S. naval base in Hawaii, just west of Honolulu. It was the target of a surprise military attack by Japanese forces on December 7, 1941, which led to America's involvement in World War II. Today, Pearl Harbor remains an active military base, the headquarters of the Pacific Fleet, and a national historic landmark.

Oahu: One of eight major islands in the state of Hawaii and home to Honolulu, the state capital. It is the most populous of all the Hawaiian islands. It features many unique sites, including Punchbowl Crater, Waikiki Beach, and Pearl Harbor.

Nēnē: The state bird of Hawaii, which is also referred to as the Hawaiian goose. It is found exclusively in Hawaii and was designated the state bird in 1957.

Pearl Harbor National Memorial: A national memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii that commemorates the events of the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. It includes the USS *Arizona* Memorial, the USS *Utah* Memorial, and the USS *Oklahoma* Memorial. Nearby are the USS *Missouri* Memorial, the Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, and the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. With around 1.4 million visitors per year, it is one of the most visited places in all the Hawaiian islands.





World War II: A war that involved many of the world's countries from 1939 to 1945. During the war, the Allied powers, led by the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Soviet Union, defeated the Axis powers, led by Nazi Germany, Italy, and Japan. It is considered the most devastating war in history.

Hull: The main body of a ship or vessel, including the bottom, sides, and deck.

USS *Arizona*: A battleship built for the United States Navy in the mid-1910s. During the attack on Pearl Harbor, the ship was hit by several bombs, sinking it and killing 1,177 sailors and Marines on board. The shipwreck still lies at the bottom of the harbor, underneath the USS *Arizona* Memorial, which can only be reached by boat.

2nd Lt. Kenneth Taylor: An Army Air Corps pilot, along with 2nd Lt. George Welch, who were the first American pilots to get airborne during the Pearl Harbor attack. Together, these men shot down at least six Japanese fighters and bombers. Taylor and Welch were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Franklin D. Roosevelt: The 32nd President of the United States. On December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before Congress after the attack to deliver his famous speech, declaring December 7 as "a date which will live in infamy." He asked Congress to declare war, which it did, launching the United States into World War II.

Nazis: Members of the German political party known as the National Socialist German Workers' Party. Adolf Hitler became the leader of the party in the 1920s and took control of Germany in 1933. The party collapsed when the Allies defeated Germany at the end of World War II in 1945. The Nazi government ruled as a dictatorship, conquered much of Europe, and killed millions of people—including six million Jews in a tragic event called the Holocaust.



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**See you in
our *next* adventure!**

- Dennis, Otto,
and Smidge

ABOUT

Otto's Tales

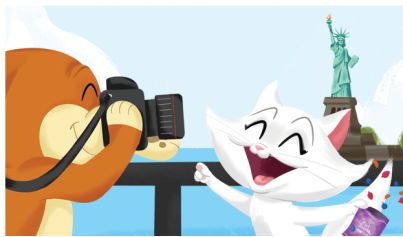
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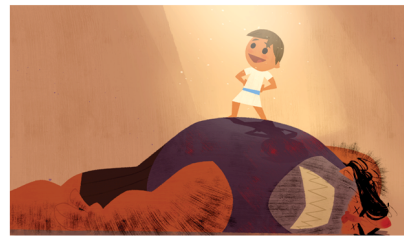
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