



丽声妙想英文绘本

第十级

# The Selkie Child

## 海豹仙子

(英) Gill Howell 改编  
(英) Sophie Keen 绘

外语教学与研究出版社  
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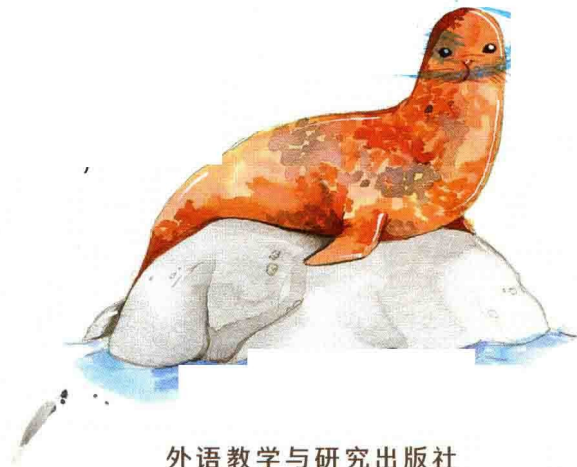
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## 词汇

again   blue   came   from   home   house   more   old   one   out   people   saw  
seven   some   them   when   with

## 这本书讲的是什​​么？

这个故事源于塞尔克（变成人形的海豹）的传说。约翰和凯特一直想要孩子，所以当约翰在海岸上发现一个女婴、看到一旁的海豹皮时，他把女婴抱回了家，并把海豹皮藏进了箱子里。他们幸福地生活着，但是这个叫摩根的孩子却越来越不快乐。一天，凯特发现了海豹皮，明白了这个孩子是海豹仙子，便把海豹仙子放回了大海。海豹仙子的父亲塞尔克国王为了报答凯特，赐给她七个孩子。

## 一起聊一聊

跟孩子一起看封面，读一读英文书名，然后问孩子：What do you think the story will be about? 再跟孩子一起阅读第 2 ~ 3 页，如果有必要的话，给孩子解释一下什么是传说。然后阅读整篇故事，浏览书中的图片，让孩子说出图片中的角色和故事发生的地点。

## 读一读

- 鼓励孩子大声朗读故事，您也可以跟孩子一起朗读，享受阅读的乐趣。
- 如果孩子在朗读的过程中，发现自己读得不对并自己改正了，请您及时给予表扬。
- 读到第 5 页时，让孩子说一说 her heart grew heavy 是什么意思。
- 读到第 12 页时，问孩子：Why did John keep the skin a secret?
- 鼓励孩子有感情地朗读故事，并根据标点符号调整语调。
- 如果孩子试着猜测新单词的意思，并且猜对了，请您及时给予表扬。
- 读完这本书，问问孩子最喜欢故事的哪一方面。

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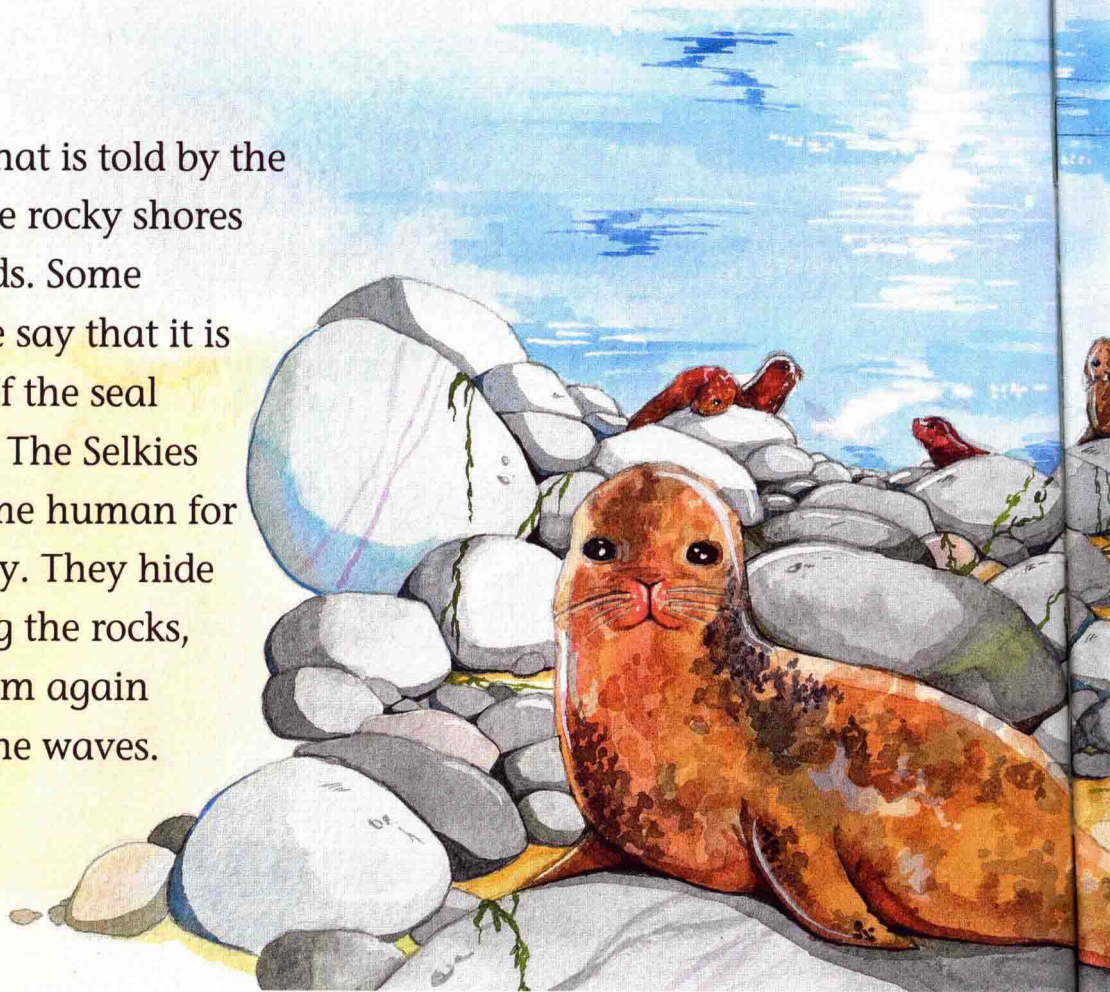
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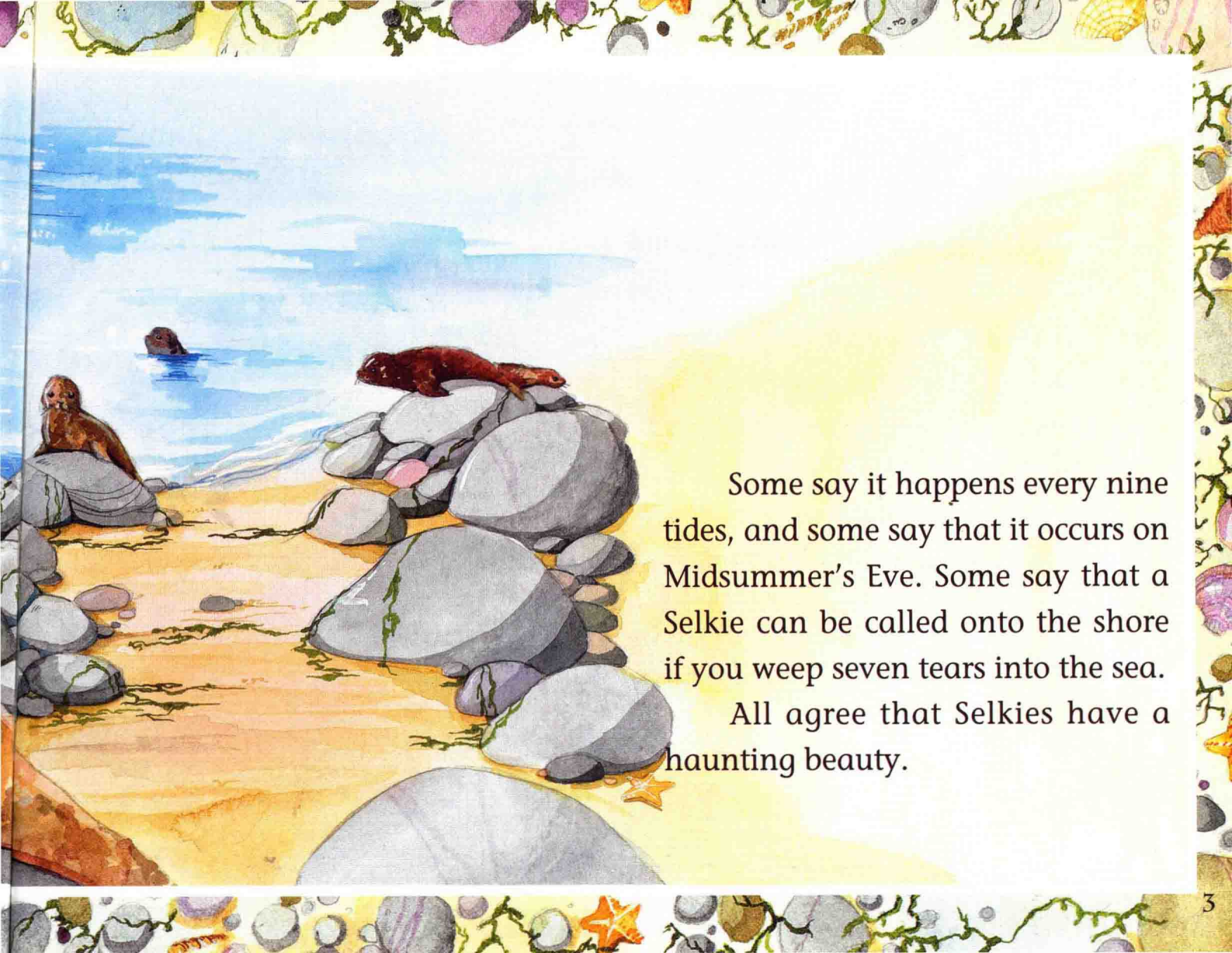


## The legend

There is a story that is told by the people who live on the rocky shores of the Northern Islands. Some believe it is true; some say that it is just a legend. It tells of the seal people, called Selkies. The Selkies leave the sea to become human for one night and one day. They hide their seal skins among the rocks, for they must find them again in order to return to the waves.



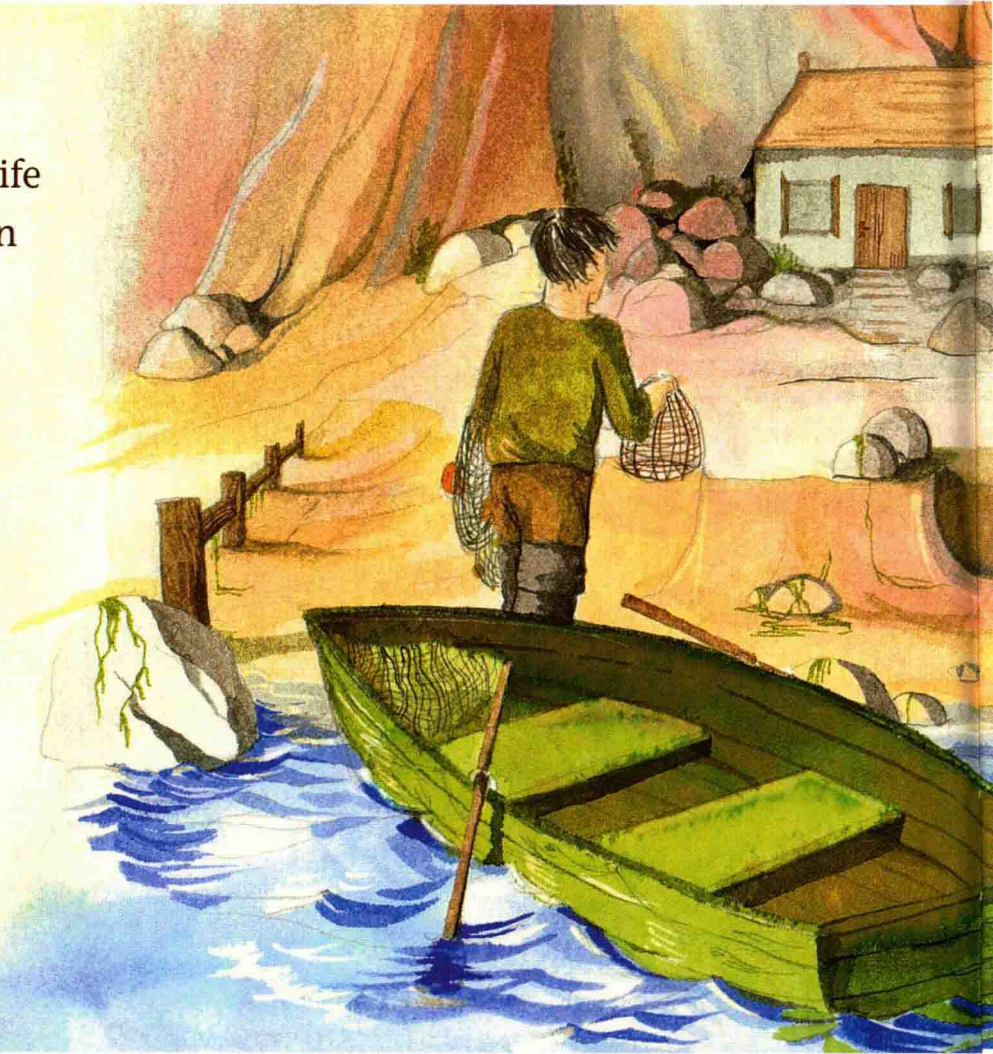




Some say it happens every nine tides, and some say that it occurs on Midsummer's Eve. Some say that a Selkie can be called onto the shore if you weep seven tears into the sea.

All agree that Selkies have a haunting beauty.

John Wilson, and his wife Kate, lived a contented life in their low house facing the sea. The house crouched against the cliffs, lashed by winter storms and baked by summer sun. John loved the sea, and went each day to chase the shoals of fish off the shore in his fishing boat.







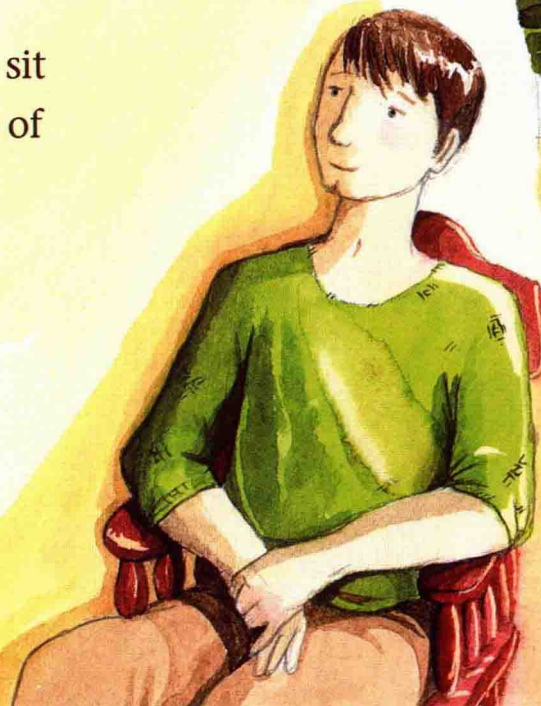
Kate cleaned the little house, and filled the days in mending John's nets or walking among the pebbles and driftwood. She often stood and gazed over the waves, watching the seals and waiting for John's return at the end of the day. Their life passed quietly, for they had no children.

But Kate longed to fill the house with the laughter of sons and daughters, and slowly her heart grew heavy.



John felt his wife's sadness, he too wished for a daughter to greet him when he came home and to bounce upon his knee.

He imagined how, when the storms brought wild, cold weather, they would all sit closely by the fire. He would tell her stories of the sea to make her eyes wide with joy and wonder. He would tell her of mermaids, sea monsters and the beautiful blue-eyed seal people.





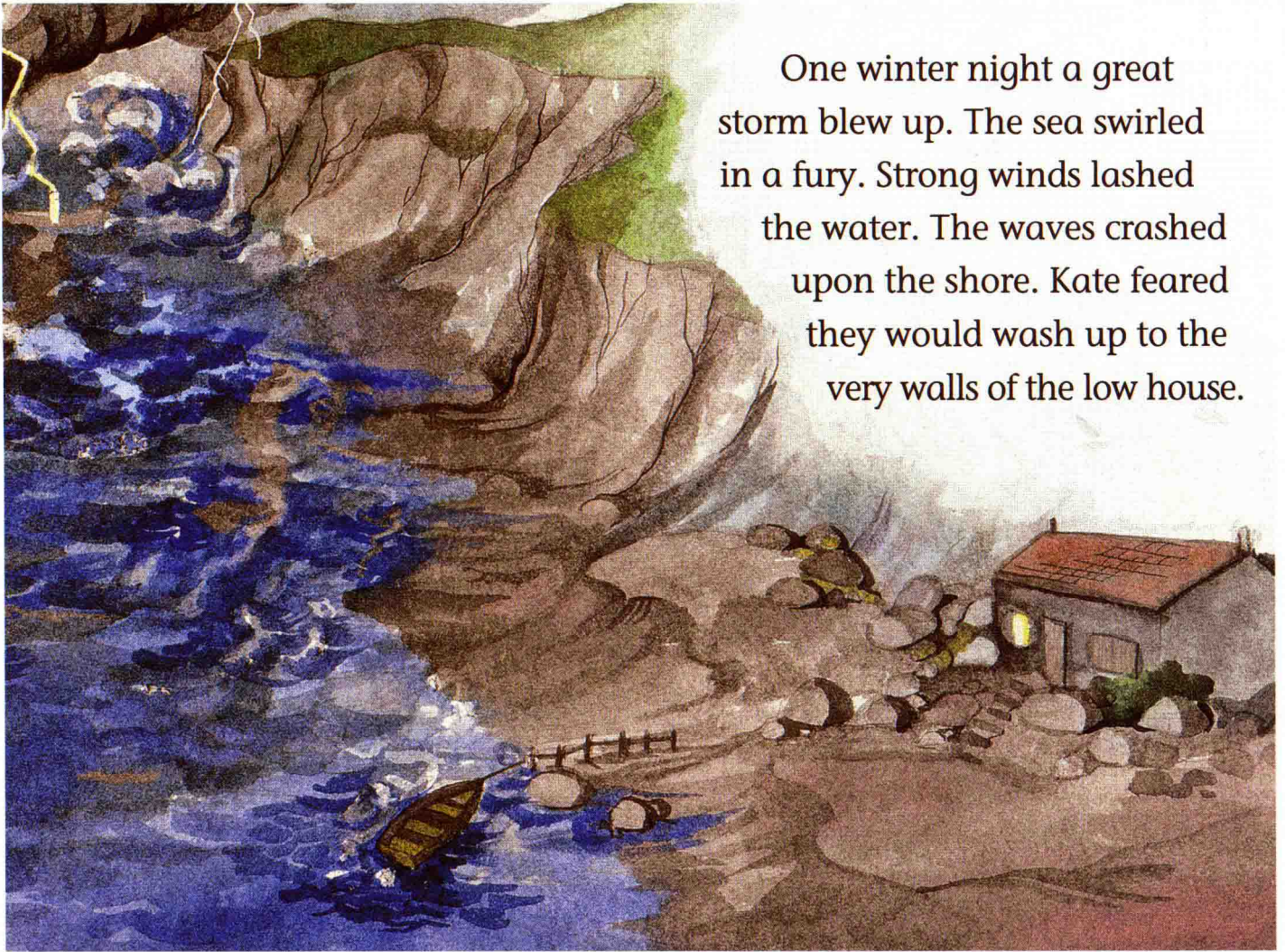


When the sun shone and warm winds came, he would take his daughter along the shore. They would find driftwood, pebbles, and treasure from the sea. He would teach her to swim like a seal, and take her out fishing in his boat.

But as time passed, their home stayed childless.

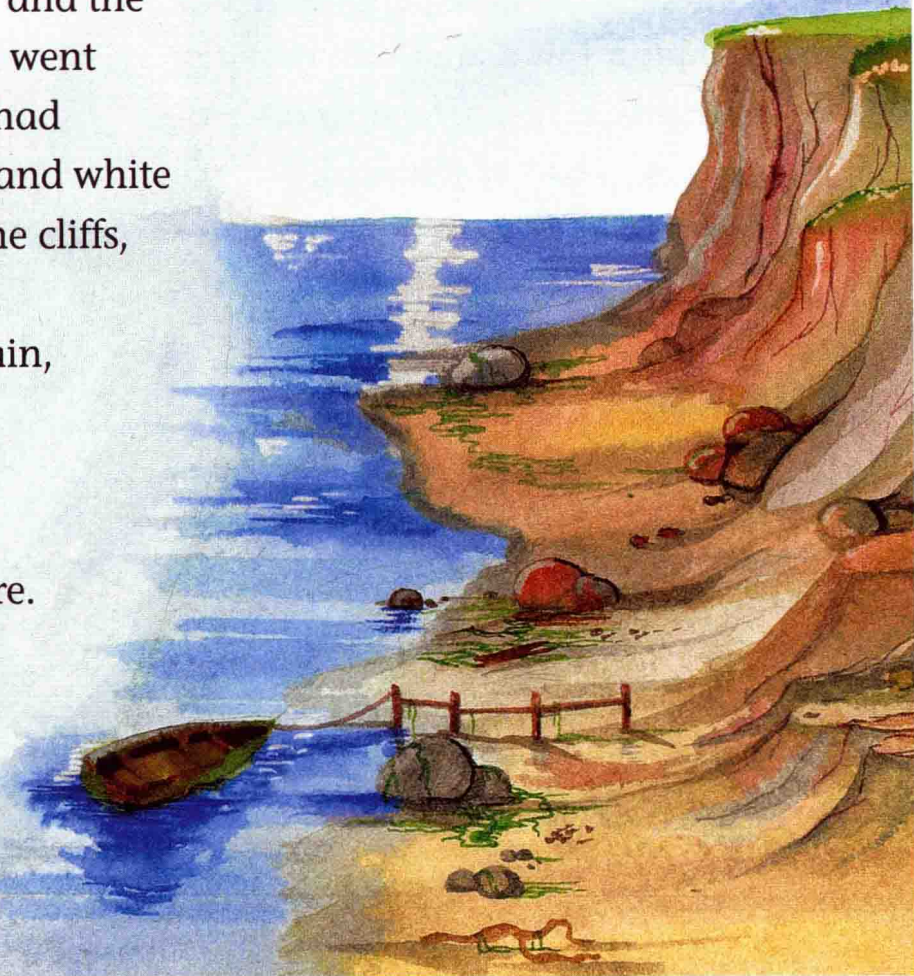


One winter night a great storm blew up. The sea swirled in a fury. Strong winds lashed the water. The waves crashed upon the shore. Kate feared they would wash up to the very walls of the low house.





When morning came and the wind had died away, John went out to see what the storm had brought. The cries of grey and white gulls filled the air above the cliffs, blown inland by the gale. Now the sea was calm again, and John gazed along the rocky beach over the glistening grey rocks and pebbles that lined the shore. Driftwood, bleached by the salt, was turned to silver in the watery sunlight.

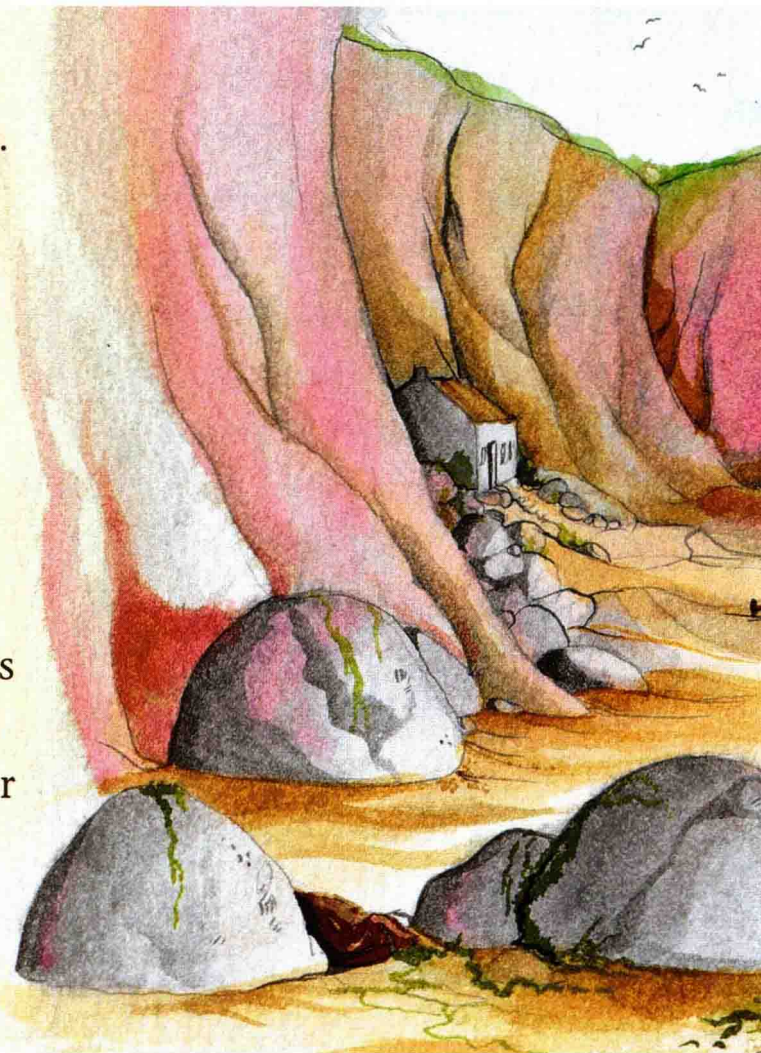




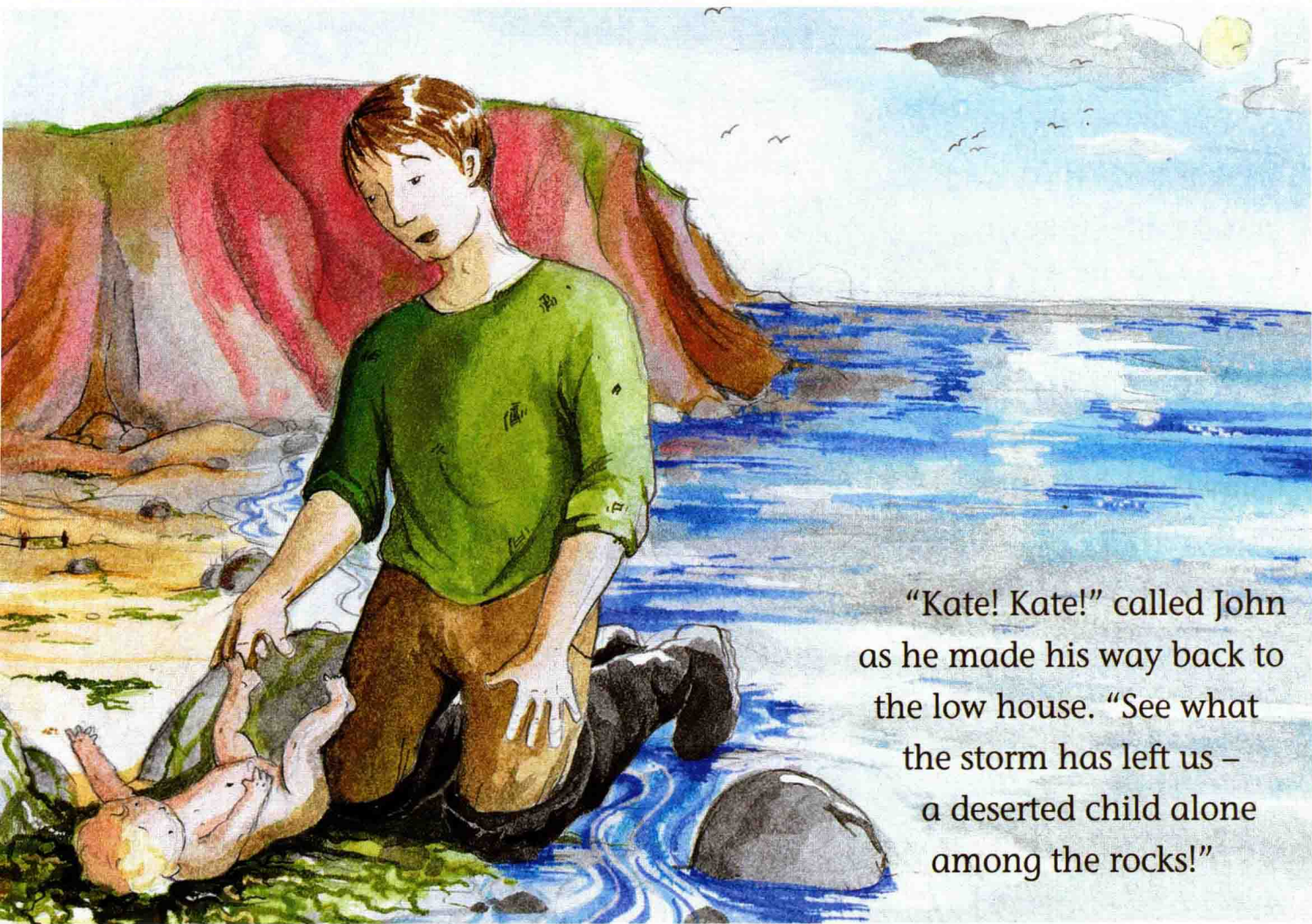
But there, where the pebbles met the waves, John saw something moving. As he drew closer, he found a small child, lying on a bed of seaweed.

“Here is a strange gift from the sea!” cried John. As he stared in wonder, he saw a glossy brown skin nearby in a crack in the rocks. Quickly he bent, snatched it up and hid it in his pocket.

John went to pick up the child and he wrapped her inside his warm coat. As the child looked up at John, she seemed to hold all the mysteries of the sea in her clear, crystal-blue eyes.





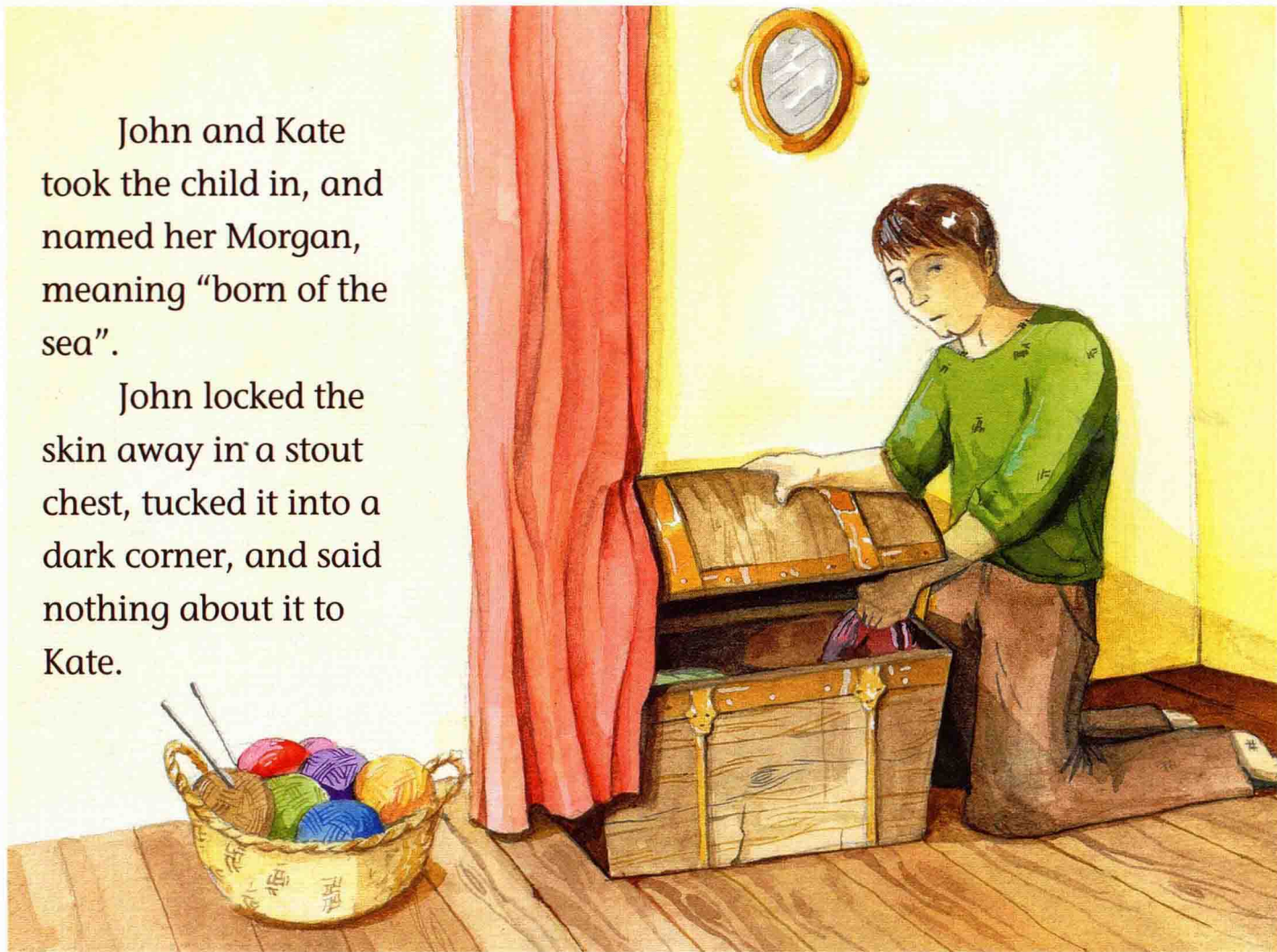


“Kate! Kate!” called John as he made his way back to the low house. “See what the storm has left us – a deserted child alone among the rocks!”

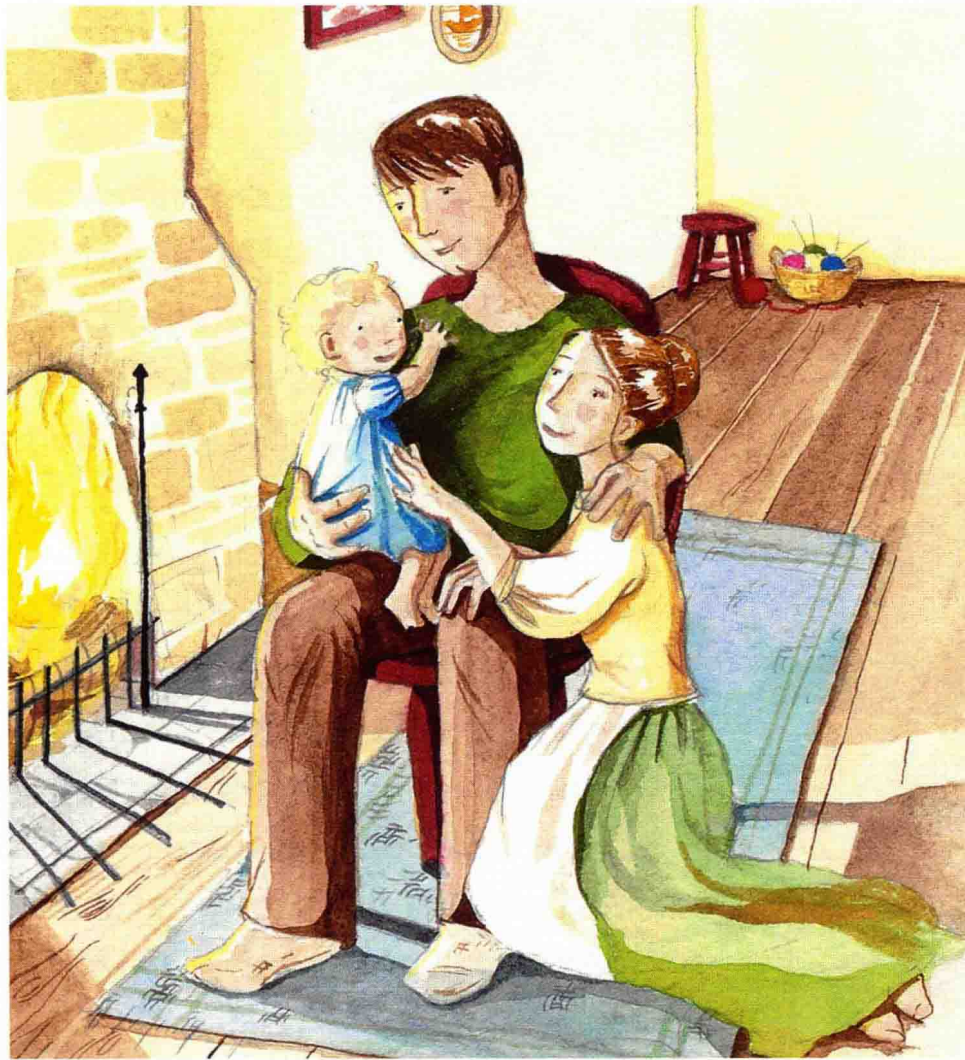


John and Kate took the child in, and named her Morgan, meaning “born of the sea”.

John locked the skin away in a stout chest, tucked it into a dark corner, and said nothing about it to Kate.







They both talked and laughed happily with the child each evening, and gazed with love into her pale, crystal-blue eyes. But though Morgan's laughter filled the house with joy, no other sound passed her lips.