

Opening extract from

# **Whale gets Stuck!**

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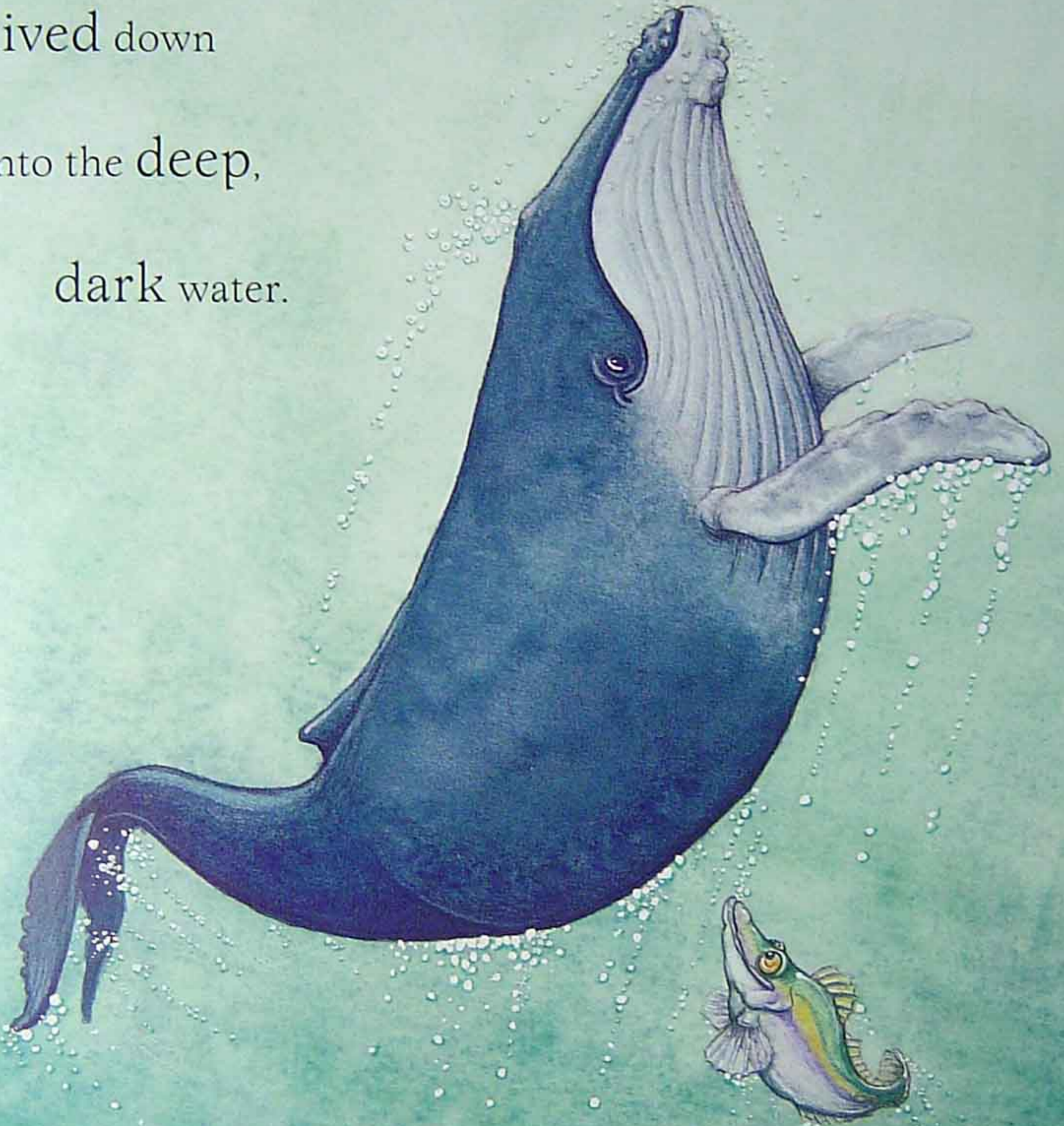
**I**t was midsummer in the Arctic. The sun shone all day and all night, and the sheet of ice that had covered the sea all through the winter was melting and breaking into small islands.





Whale loved the open sea.

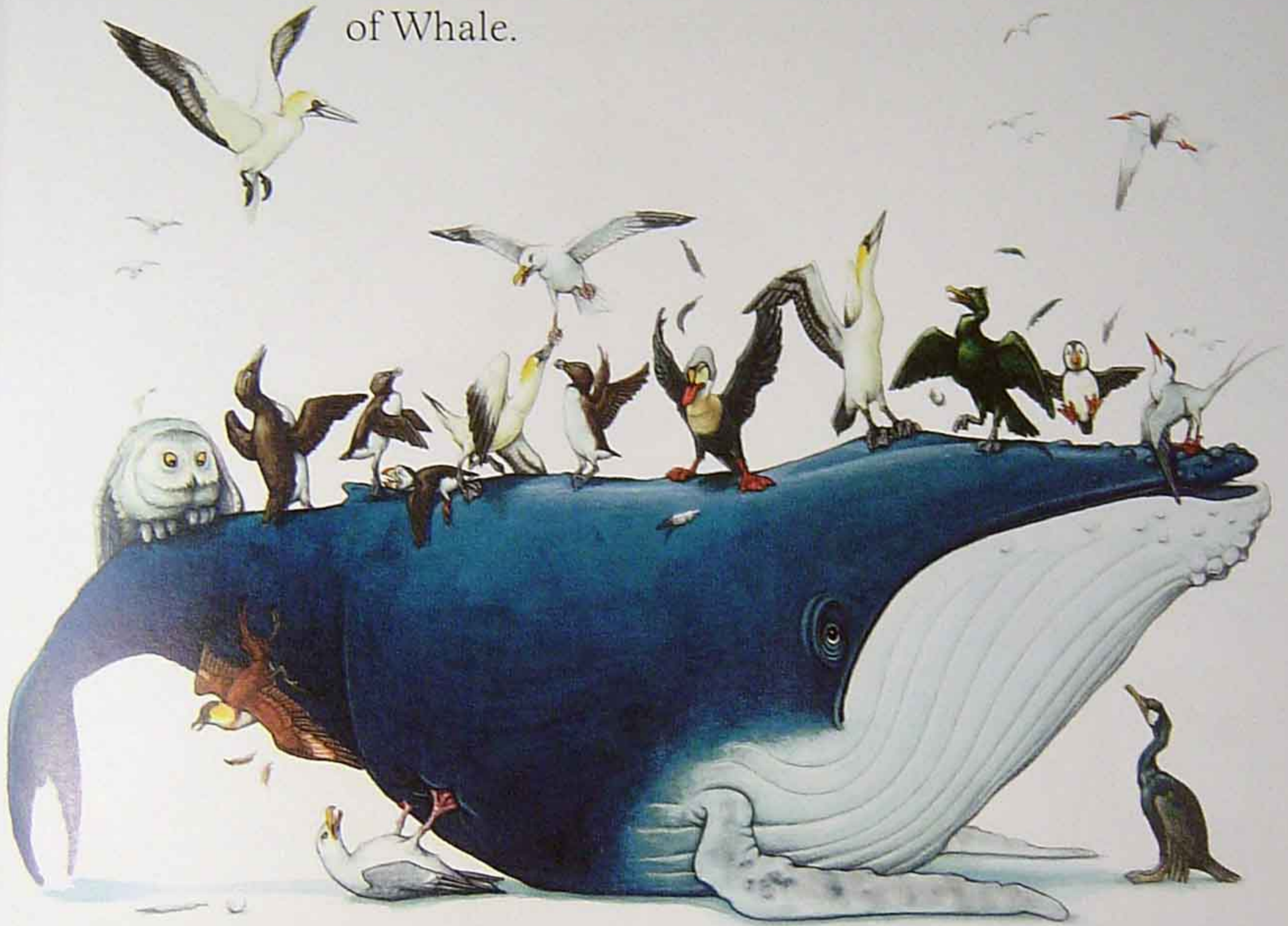
He dived down  
into the deep,  
dark water.



Then he turned, thrust his tail as hard as he could,  
and swam back up to the bright surface.



The birds flew up and perched on top of Whale.



“Ouch! Stop!” shrieked Whale as the birds tried to grip his slippery skin with their sharp claws. “It won’t work,” he sighed, sadly. “I’m stuck here forever!”