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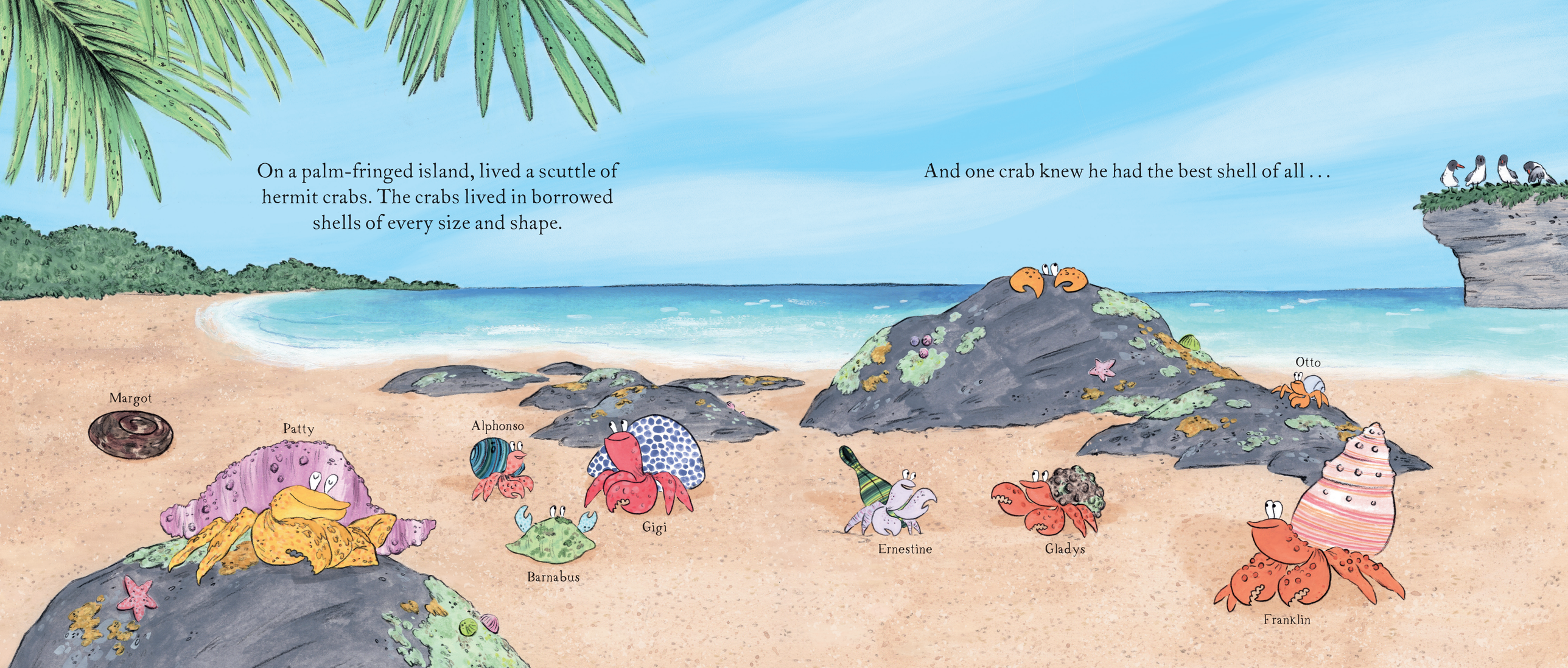
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For my parents

ANYA GLAZER

THE SELFISH CRAB

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On a palm-fringed island, lived a scuttle of hermit crabs. The crabs lived in borrowed shells of every size and shape.
And one crab knew he had the best shell of all . . .
Margot
Patty
Alphonso
Gigi
Barnabus
Ernestine
Gladys
Otto
Franklin

His name was Claude.
And his shell was BEAUTIFUL.

Show off.

Claude was not the most humble of hermit crabs.

Careful! Is that a SCRATCH?

And have you noticed this sparkly patch here?

But how could he be . . .

Really, I just feel blessed to have such a shell. I shall treasure it forever.

. . . when his shell was so magnificent?

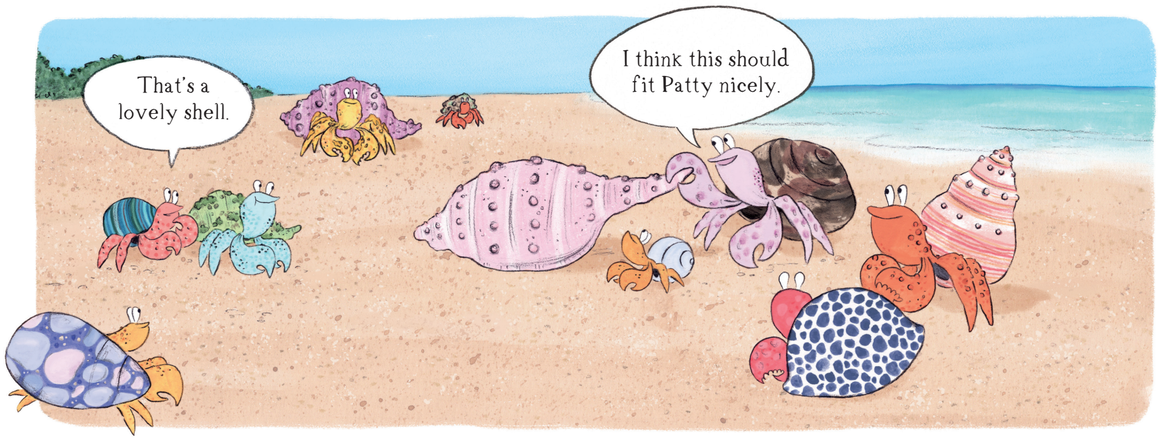
Now the thing about hermit crabs is that eventually they outgrow their shells.



So they're on the lookout for empty shells that wash ashore.



When this happens, all of the crabs gather together.



They line up in size order, so that one by one they can move into the next biggest shell.

