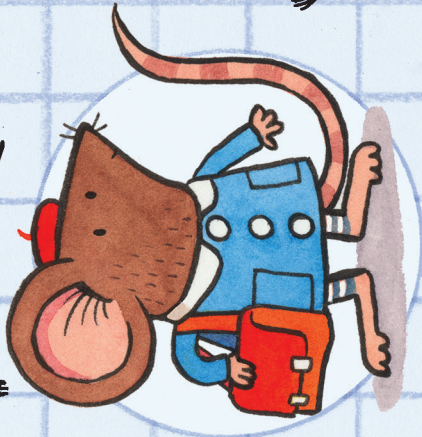
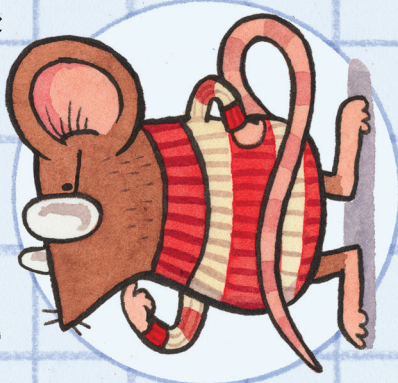




MILLIE



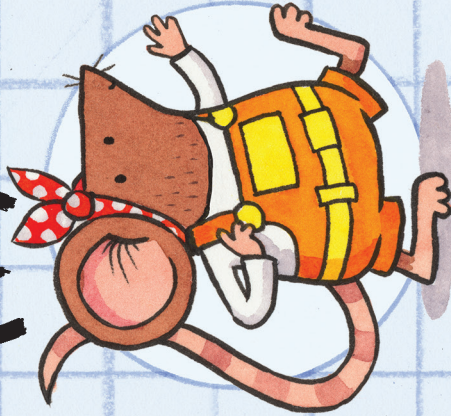
JUNIPER



PEDRO



IVY



BOSUN



SKIPPER



FEDERMAUS





There is a lot of tiny text on this page and the Adventuremice were wondering if you would read it.  
 If you have read it: congratulations!  
 You have keen eyes and would make an excellent member of the Adventuremice team.  
 You can find out more about what we get up to on our website: [Adventuremice.com](http://Adventuremice.com)



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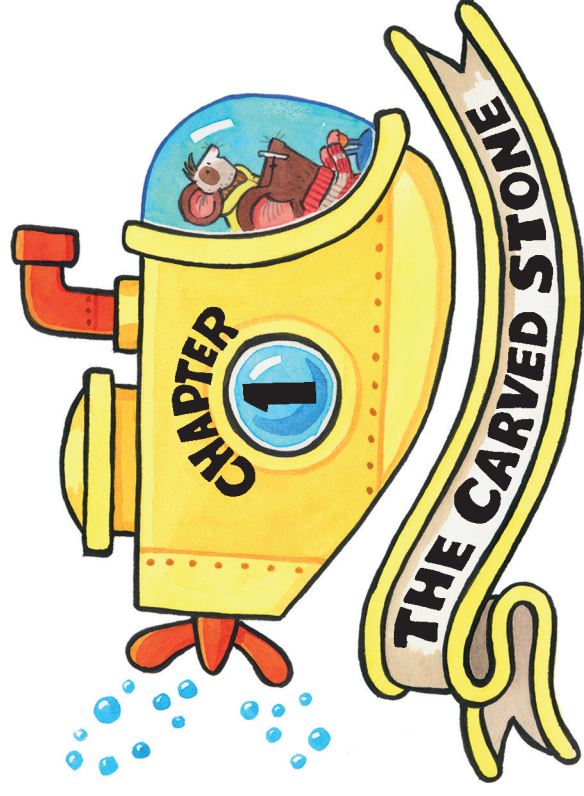


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BY **PHILIP REEVE**  
 AND **SARAH MCINTYRE**  
 FICKLING **db**  
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It was a summer morning in the Mouse Islands, and as there were no adventures happening, Pedro and Juniper decided to visit their friends the mermice. They parked Juniper's submarine on the slopes of an underwater hill and went for a walk through the seaweed gardens.



Pedro scampered ahead with little Meepie, playing hide-and-seek among the fronds.

Suddenly, Meepie spotted something. 'Meep!' he said excitedly, calling Pedro over to see what he had found.

'It's just a big old slab of stone,' said Pedro. But when Meepie used his tiny paws to clear away some of the sand that covered it, Pedro saw that the stone was covered in strange pictures.

'Meep!' said Meepie proudly.

Pedro helped Meepie to clean away the rest of the sand. The stone was absolutely covered in pictures, rows and rows of them. Pedro thought it looked very important, so he shouted for Juniper and Meepie's mum. They hurried over to take a look.

'Great cheesy nibbles!' gasped Juniper. 'Those are hieroglyphs!'





‘Wow!’ said Pedro, very impressed.

‘What are high-ro-gliffs?’ he asked.

‘A sort of picture-writing used by the ancient Egyptians,’ said Juniper. ‘But these hieroglyphs were carved by mice! Do you know what this means?’

‘Er . . .’ said Pedro, who didn’t.

‘Meep?’ said Meepie.

‘This is a Very Important Discovery,’ said Juniper. ‘Thousands of years ago, there was a wonderful mouse civilization

on the banks of the River Nile in Egypt.



‘There were mouse cities, mouse temples and mouse farms.



‘They had kings and queens called pharaohs, who lived in magnificent mouse palaces.



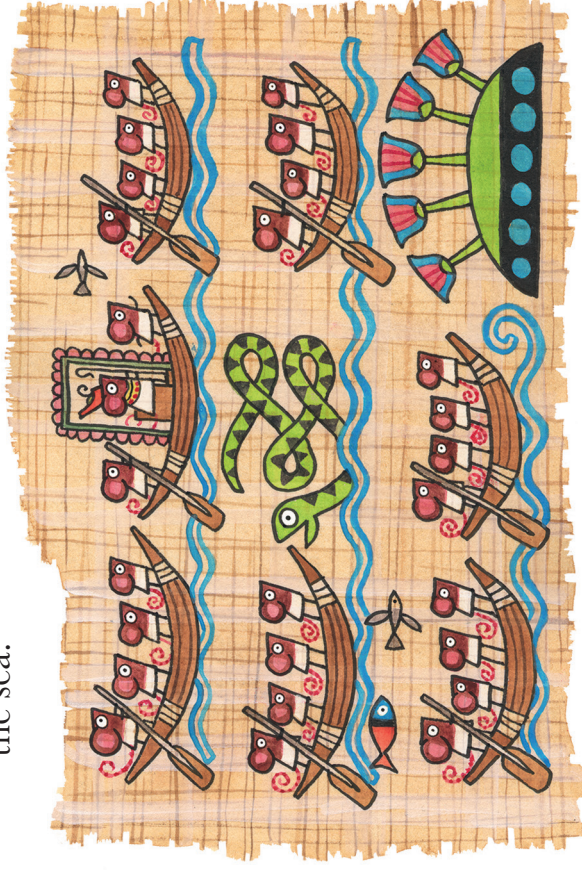


‘But there were humans in Egypt too,  
and those humans loved cats. They let  
them wander everywhere!’

‘It got so bad  
that the mouse  
pharaoh, Queen  
Neferteacake,  
decided that the  
mice must leave  
Egypt and find  
a new home.



‘The mice wove boats out of reeds, and  
sailed away down the Nile and out into  
the sea.



‘The legends say that, after a long, long  
voyage, they found a secret island and  
lived happily there. Years later when



Queen Neferteacake

died, she was buried in  
a golden sarcophagus  
in a magnificent tomb.



‘But no one has ever worked out where  
the island was. Until now! Pedro, this slab  
will tell us how to find the tomb of Neferteacake!’

‘Gosh!’ said Pedro, feeling extremely  
pleased with himself. ‘But it was Meepie  
who found it really,’ he added, because

he was a truthful sort of mouse.

‘Meep!’ said Meepie.

‘So what should we do now?’ asked  
Meepie’s mum.

Juniper thought for a moment. ‘Let’s  
send a message to the Mousebase,’ she  
said. ‘We’ll need the whole team’s help to  
take the stone to Big Island.’

The archaeologists at the  
museum there will want  
to study it. Then they’ll  
probably want to arrange  
an expedition to discover  
Neferteacake’s tomb.’





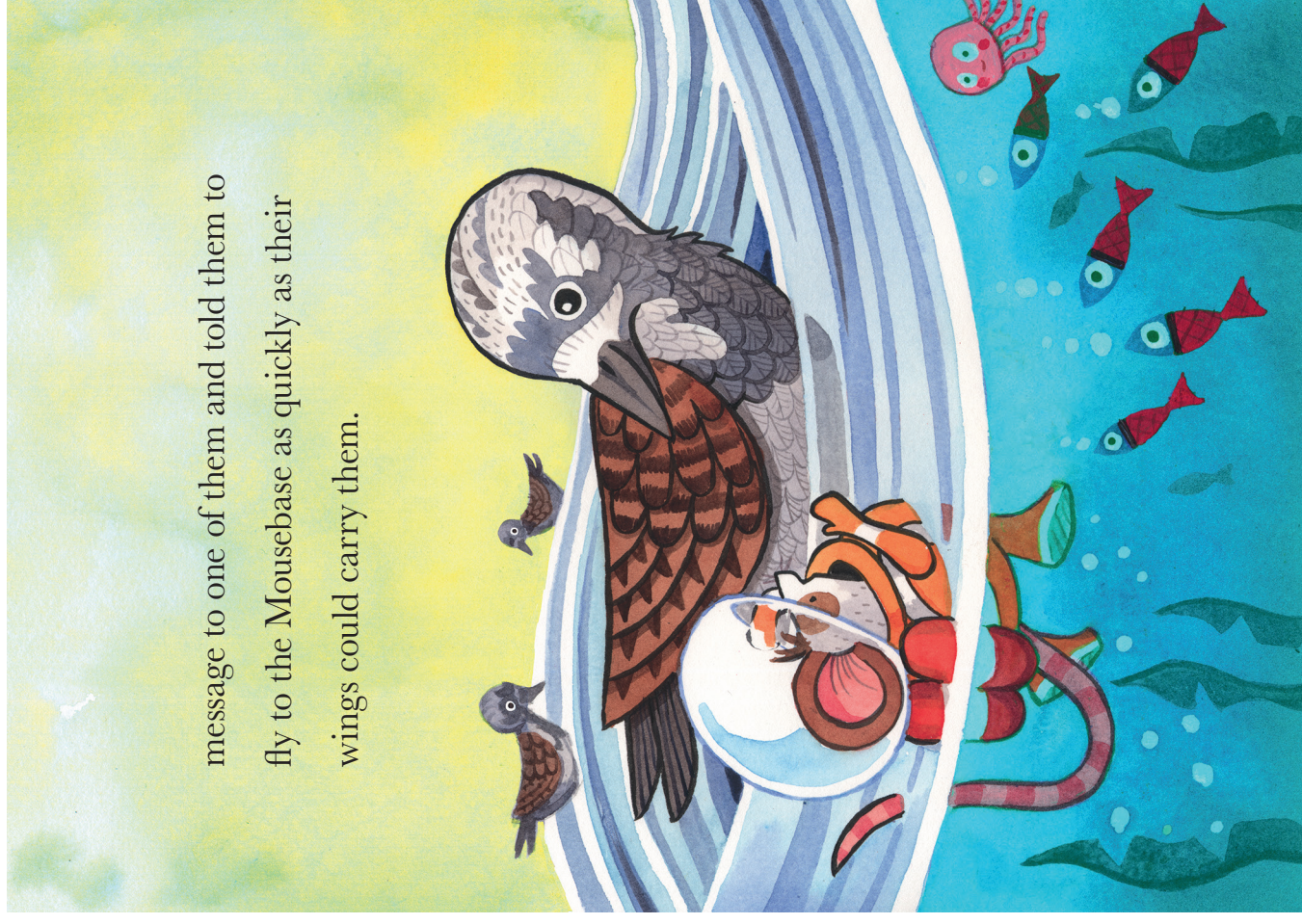
‘Ooh!’ said Pedro, who liked expeditions.  
‘Can we go?’

‘Maybe,’ said Juniper. ‘But it won’t be for a long time. They’ll have to make all sorts of preparations, and get hold of lots of sun hats and baggy shorts and all the other things explorers need.’

Pedro was disappointed. He wanted to go and find the pharaoh’s tomb right away. But Juniper knew best, so he swam up to the surface to send a message to the other Adventuremice.

Luckily a flock of friendly seabirds were swimming about up there, so he gave the

message to one of them and told them to fly to the Mousebase as quickly as their wings could carry them.



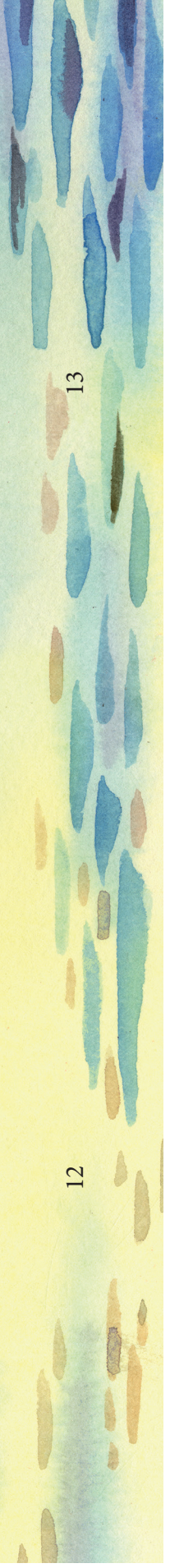


But unluckily the birds were very friendly, talkative birds, and news of Meepie's discovery was soon all over the Mouse Islands.



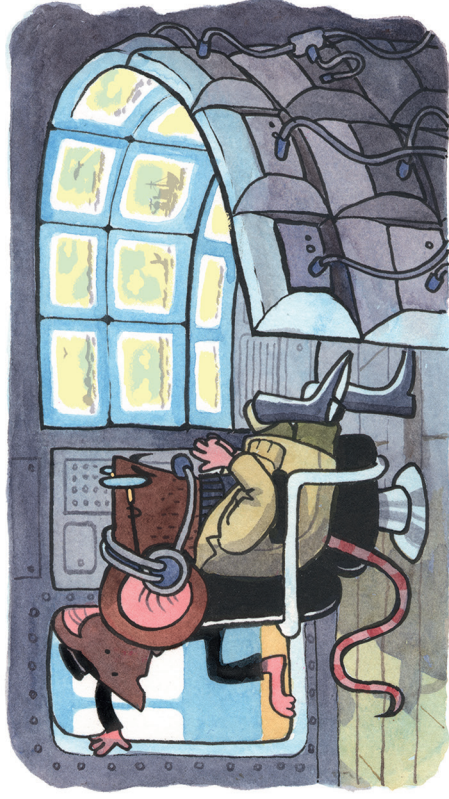
In a lonely cove a big, shiny boat was moored. It was a mouse-sized superyacht, and it was called the *Swordfish*. One of its crew heard the news from a passing

bird and ran inside, where the *Swordfish*'s captain sat in a big black chair watching a wall of TV screens.





‘Boss!’ said the crewmouse. ‘Those Adventuremice have found a clue that might lead them to Neferteacake’s tomb!’



‘Excellent!’ said the captain, whose name was Gorgonzola. ‘Set a course to intercept them!’



## CHAPTER 2

Soon the Adventuremice arrived aboard the *Daring Dormouse*, with Millie’s helicopter and Fledermaus’s seaplane. Skipper set about organizing the raising of the stone slab. He, Bosun and Ivy went down in diving suits and heaved the stone into a strong net. Then they