

JUMP THE SHARK & PARUVREW

(it's pronounced "pear of roo")



Written and Illustrated by
Sally & Daddy



Once upon a time, Jump the Shark wanted to visit Finger Village. But because he was big compared to the finger people, he thought he might scare them. He decided to go and Trick or Treat on All Hallow's Eve, so they would think he was wearing a shark costume.



"Trick or Treat," said Jump the Shark when a finger person came to the door of a finger house.

The finger person looked up at the great big shark. "I think you've had enough candy already," he said.



Everywhere Jump went, fingers didn't want to give him candy. But they weren't running away or attacking him, so Jump counted it as a success because he could explore Finger Village.

In one dark corner, he saw something strange. A short fence surrounded by another fence.



When Jump started walking towards the fence, the finger people began to shout, "No! Don't touch that fence! It's Chesterton's Fence!"

But Jump didn't listen. After all, he was a big, strong shark. Jump wasn't afraid of anything. Especially not a fence.





"I'm very sorry," said Jump the Shark, "but I'm afraid I have to take a fence." He grabbed Chesterton's fence.

A giant, spooky, ghostly monster erupted from the fence!





The finger people turned around and ran into town to raise the hue and cry. "The Time Ghost is loose! The Time Ghost is loose," they shouted.





Jump the Shark said, "Oh. I see. Well. I guess since I made this mess, I'd better clean it up." But he wasn't feeling nearly so brave as he had a minute ago.

Jump ran up the side of the ghost monster, slashing at it with his razor-sharp denticles.

His footsteps and his blows landed. That was a good sign: the ghost could be touched. Jump figured anything that can be touched can be broken.

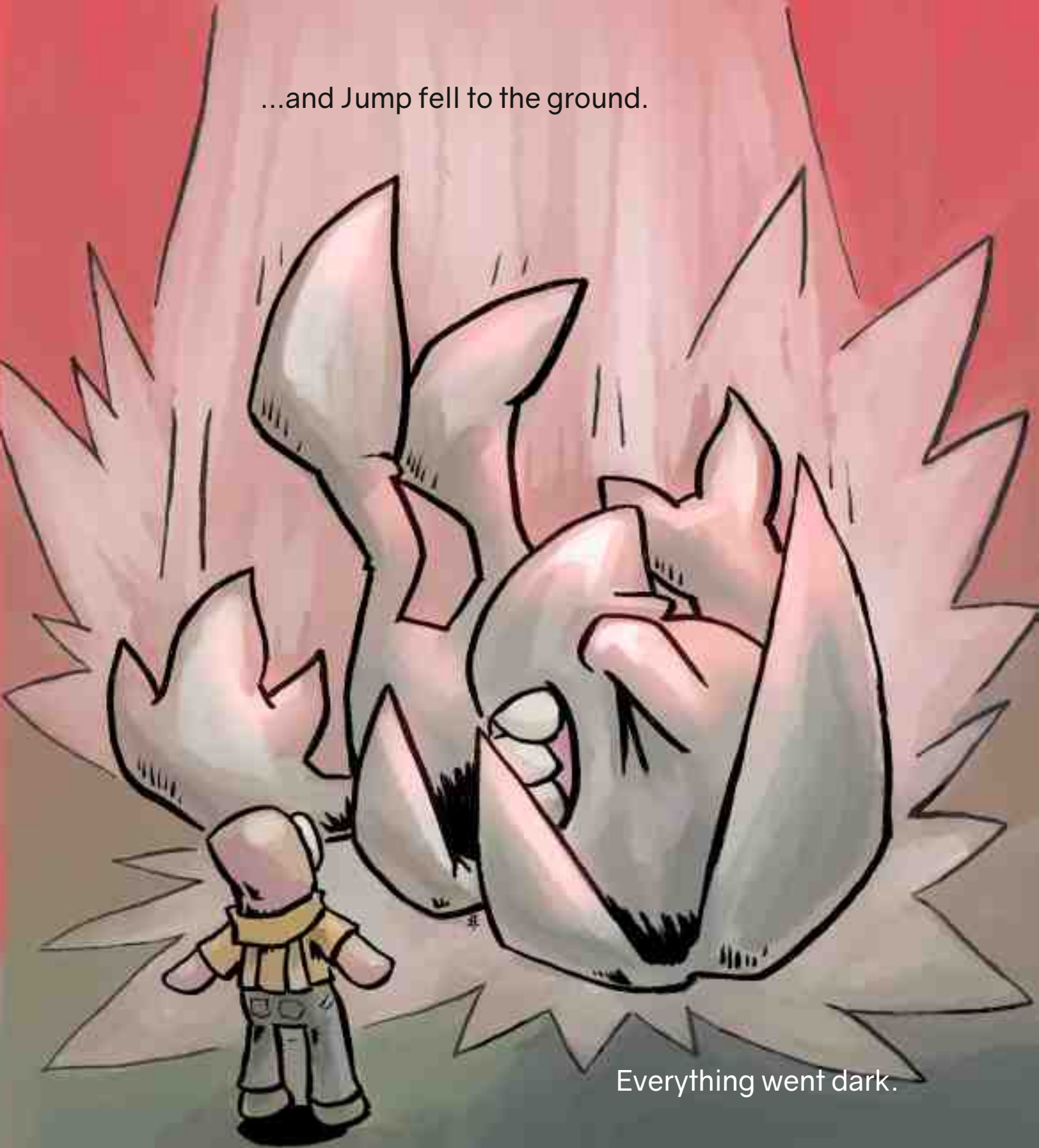




The Time Ghost slapped Jump the Shark as if he was nothing more than a mosquito...



...and Jump fell to the ground.



Everything went dark.

When Jump the Shark woke up, he was in the presence of Sera Mermaid.





"There's a ghost," Jump the Shark began, but Sera Mermaid stopped him.

"I know," she said. "The finger people who brought you here told me what you did."

"In ancient times, the Time Ghost was trapped behind Chesterton's Fence by the finger wizard, with the help of a great monster called 'Paruvrew'. To get Paruvrew's help, you need to go to Paruvrew Island and find the finger fairies."



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"The Time Ghost is searching for you," she told Jump, "so it'll be here soon, and it'll trash my castle."

"I guess I'd better lead it to Paruvrew Island, then," said Jump.

"I guess you'd better," Sera agreed.

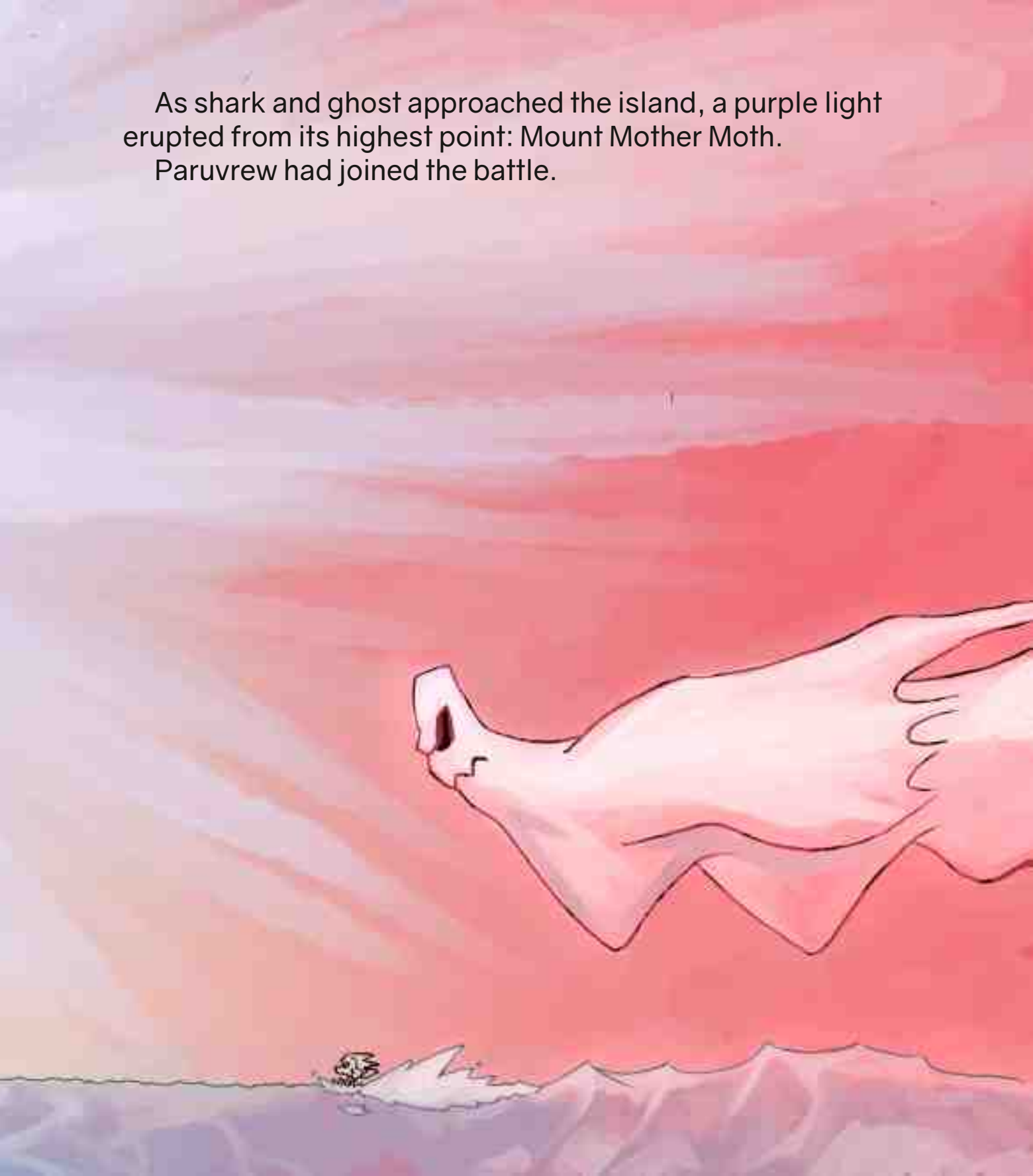
She showed him the Bellman's Map, so he could find his way, and Jump the Shark set out for Paruvrew Island.



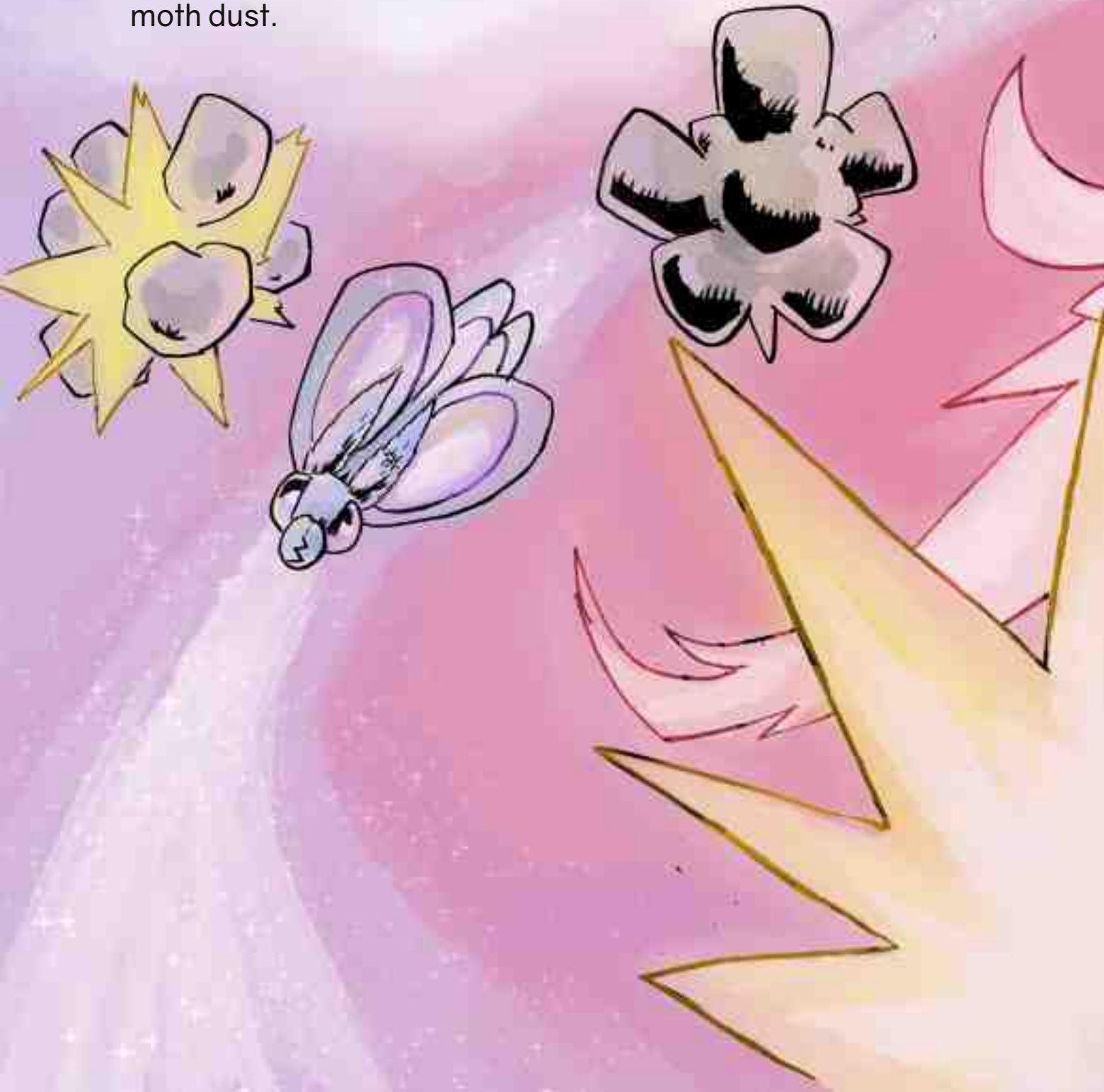




As shark and ghost approached the island, a purple light erupted from its highest point: Mount Mother Moth. Paruvrew had joined the battle.

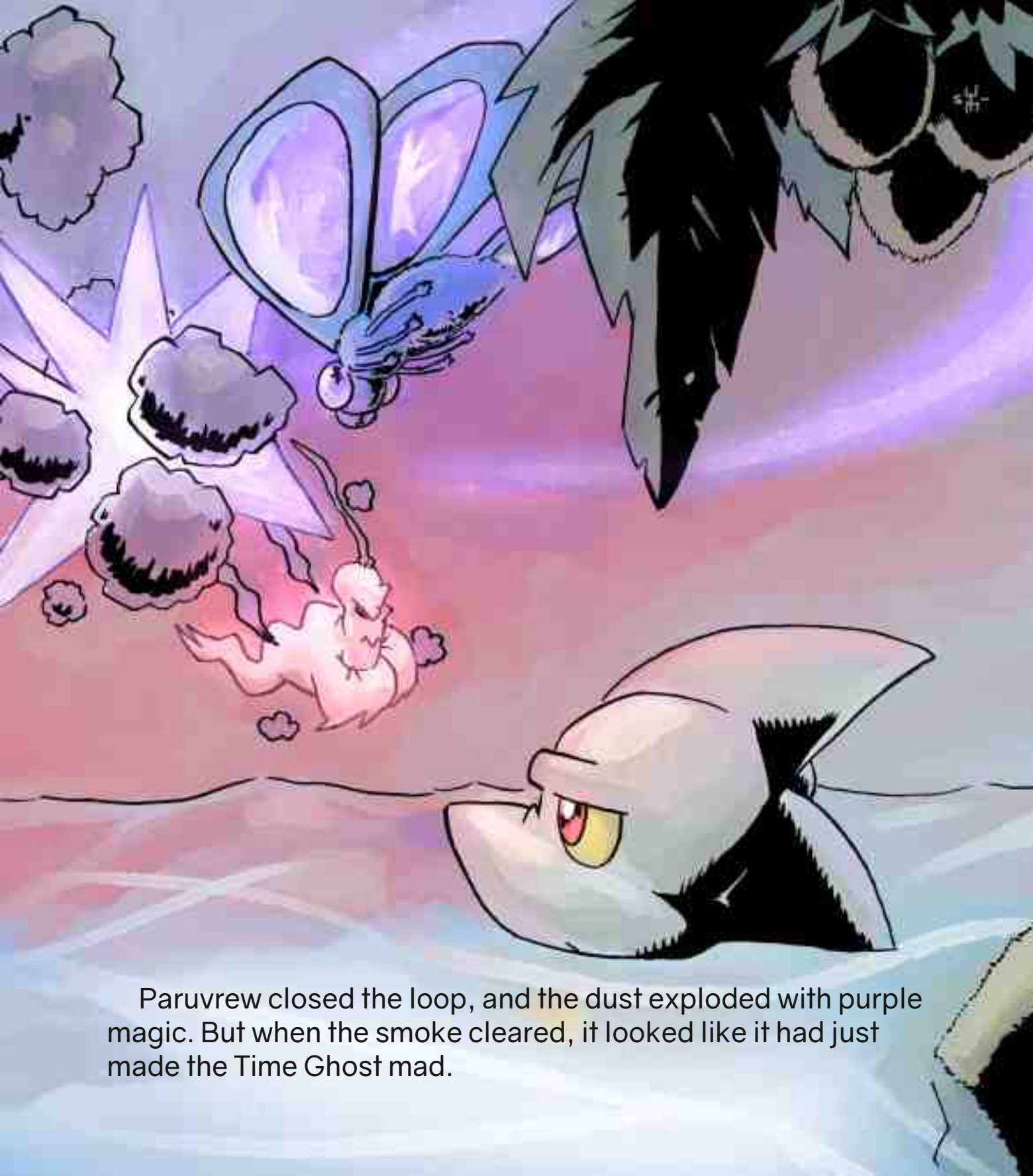


Paruvrew recognized her old foe, the Time Ghost. She began to circle around him to entrap him in magic moth dust.





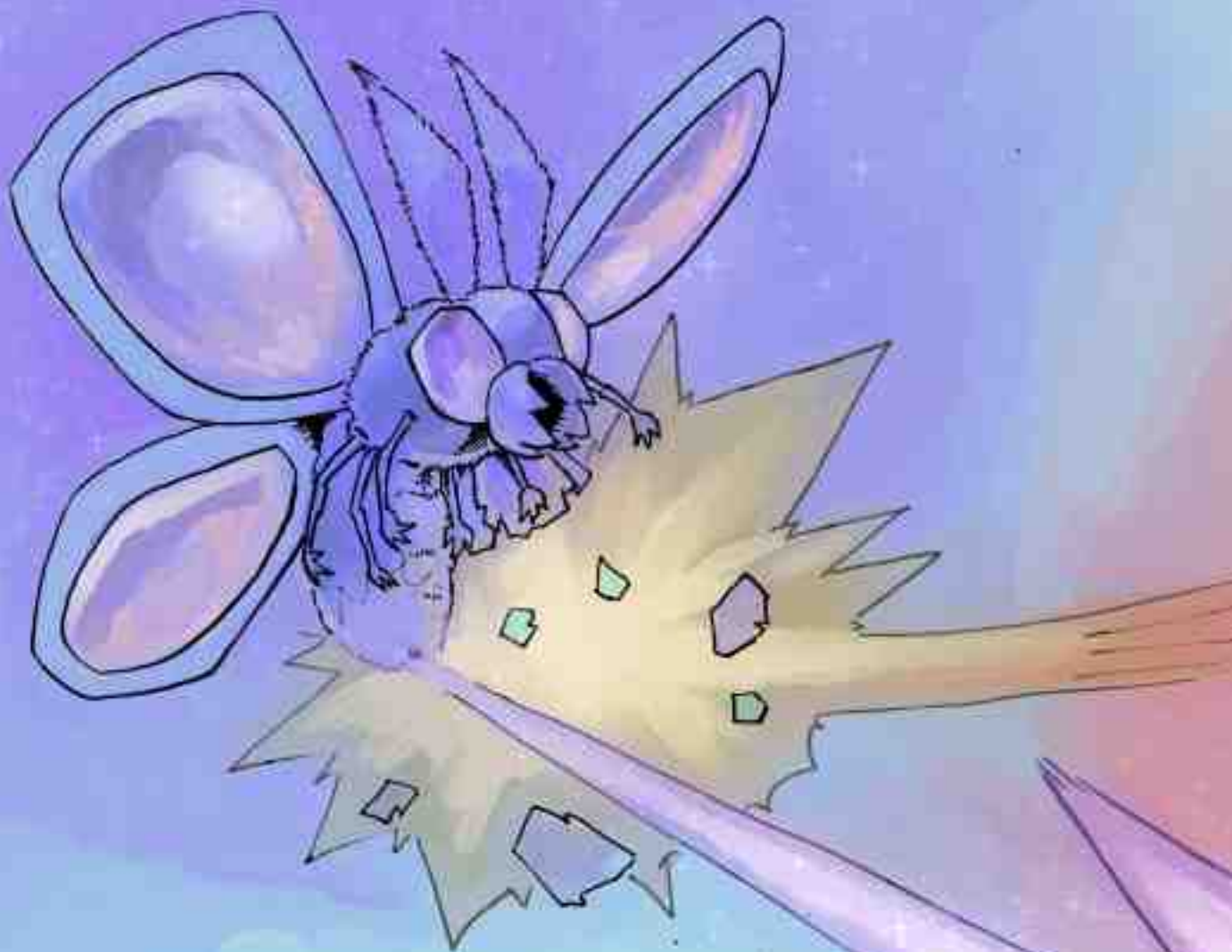
The Time Ghost threw Time Bombs, which exploded in bursts of entropy.



Paruvrew closed the loop, and the dust exploded with purple magic. But when the smoke cleared, it looked like it had just made the Time Ghost mad.



Jump the Shark watched the fight from the shallows near the island. He was frustrated because he wanted to help. "Dr. Jellybrain gave me the powers of the sea monsters," he said to himself. "If I could only figure out how to use them, surely I could join the fight!"

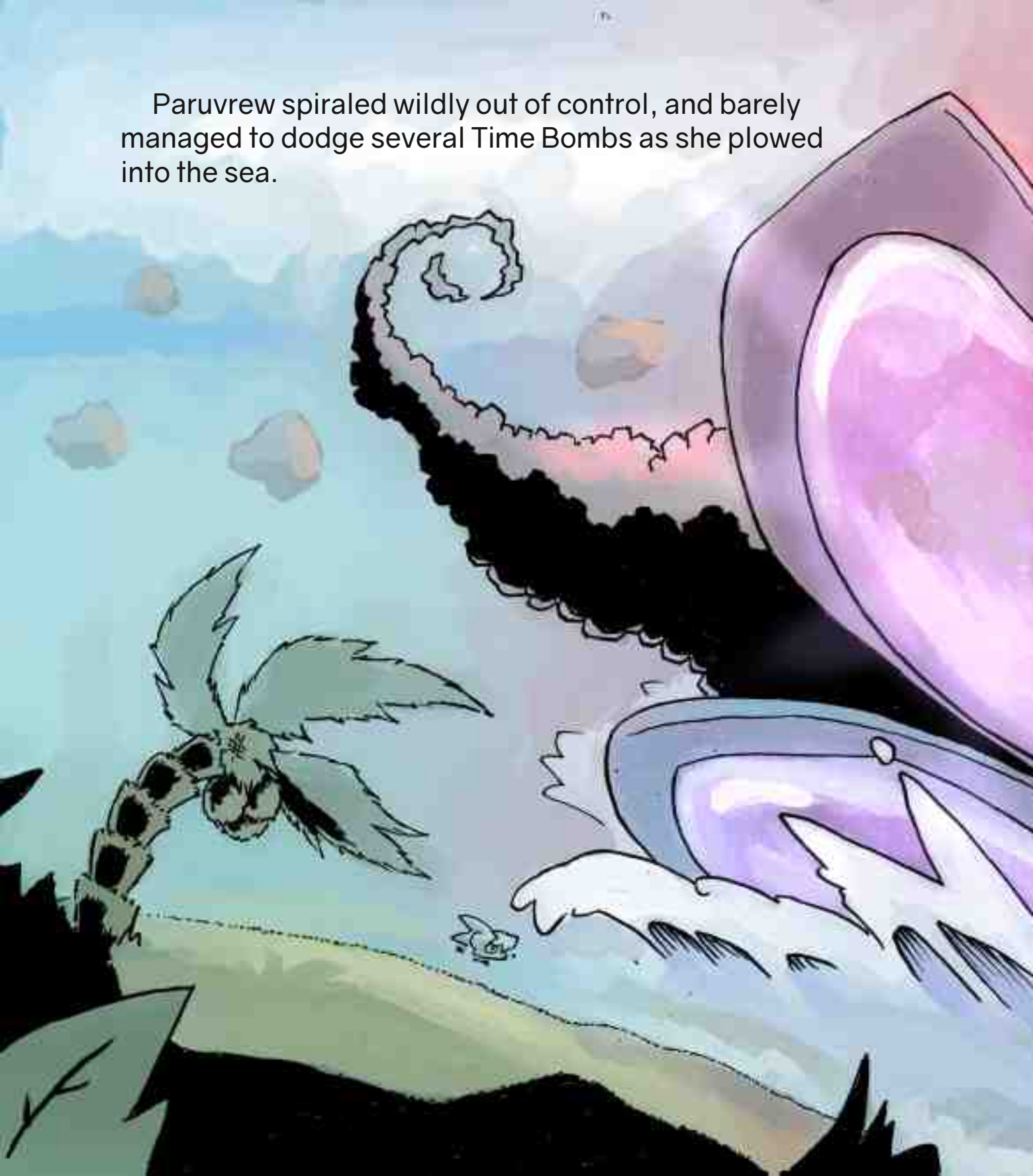


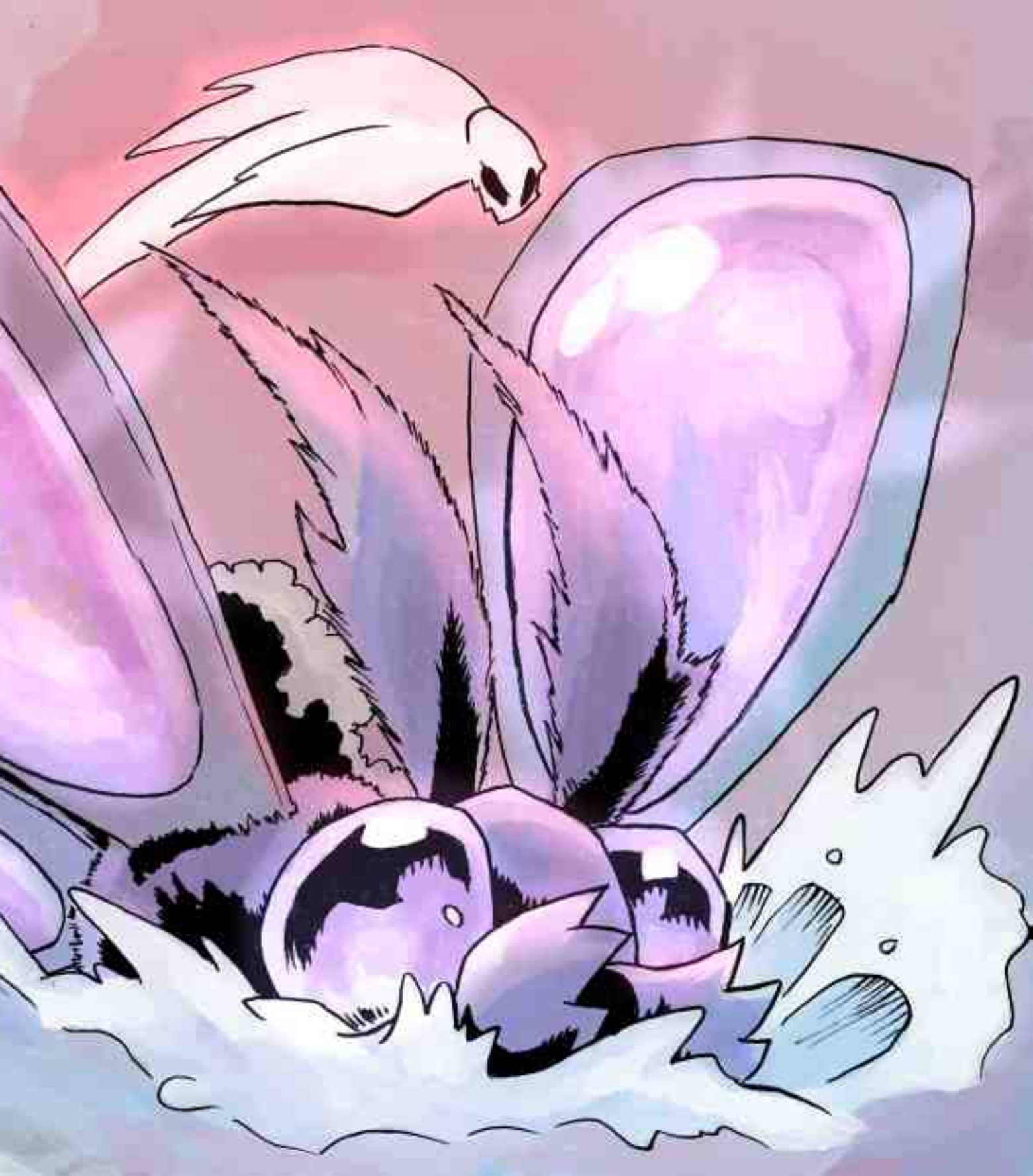
Paruvrew fired a purple poison plume at the Time Ghost. But the Time Ghost saw it coming and slipped to one side.

In the same moment, it threw another time bomb at Paruvrew, and the bomb slammed into Paruvrew's left hind wing and exploded. Her wing withered and crumbled.



Paruvrew spiraled wildly out of control, and barely managed to dodge several Time Bombs as she plowed into the sea.



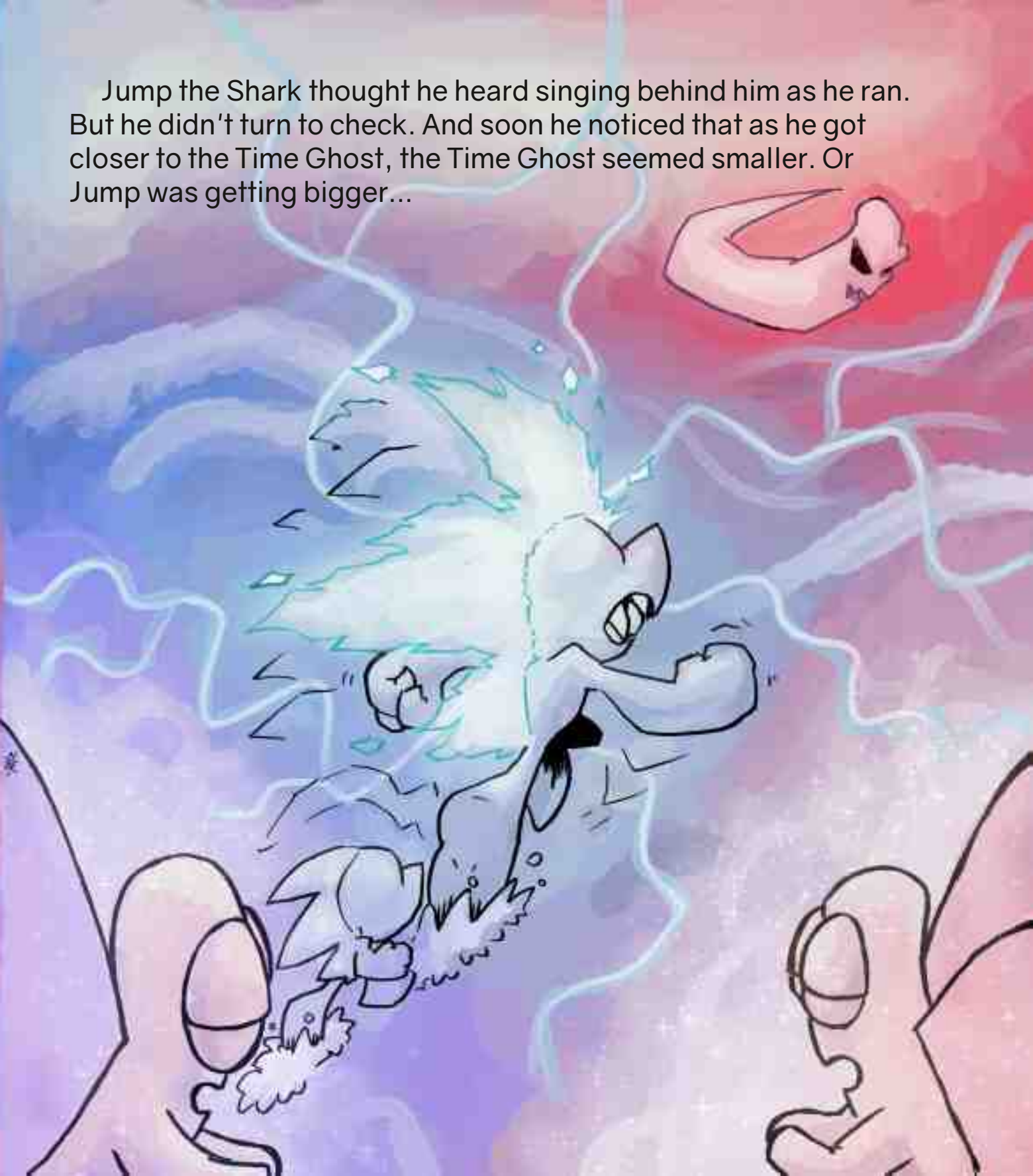


"That's it!" said Jump the Shark. "Sea monster powers or not, I have to help the moth!"

He began to run towards the Time Ghost once again.



Jump the Shark thought he heard singing behind him as he ran. But he didn't turn to check. And soon he noticed that as he got closer to the Time Ghost, the Time Ghost seemed smaller. Or Jump was getting bigger...





By the time Jump reached the ghost, he was almost as big and as strong as the ghost.

Almost.

He leaped between the ghost and Paruvrew and roared, and from his roar came blue fire.



The blue fire seemed to hurt the Time Ghost. But not enough. The ghost smacked Jump the Shark so hard, he crashed down into the sea.











On the evening of All Hallow's Day, Jump the Shark rested on the shore of Paruvrew Island, while Sera Mermaid bandaged his wounds and sang magic mermaid songs over them.

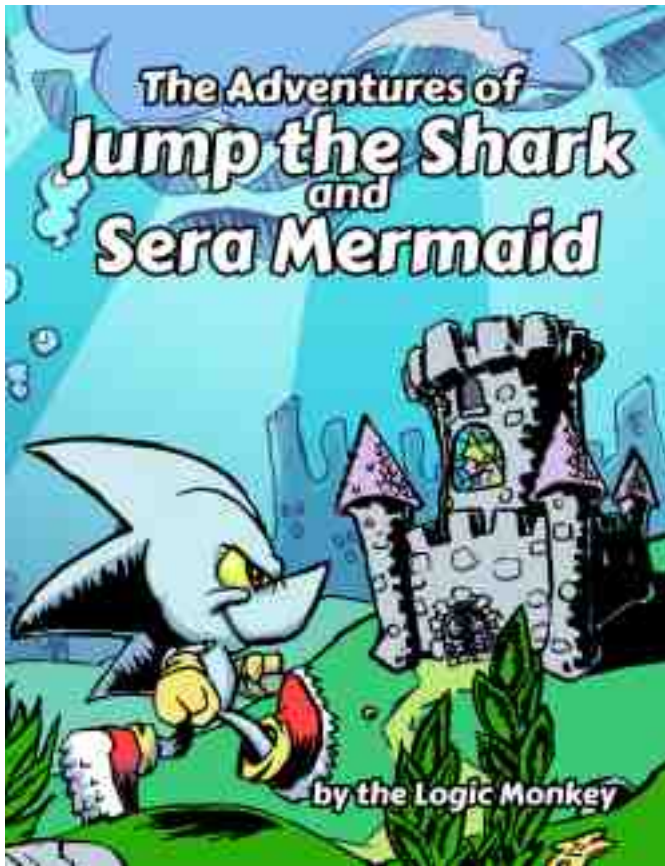
"I never did see those finger fairies," Jump said.

"Perhaps they are just a legend," Sera replied.

When she finished, Sera said, "I hope you have learned not to play with strange fences."

"Maybe," said Jump the Shark. "At the very least, I've learned to find out what they are for first."





Get the rest of the story!

Learn how Jump the Shark got his powers in *The Adventures of Jump the Shark and Sera Mermaid*, and find out what became of the magical Pearl of MacGuffin in *Jump the Shark & The Pirate Princess*, both available for purchase on Amazon.



John Michael Jones Gets a Life

...is a free adventure web comic available in the Mad Christian Mondays Newsletter (madpxm.com), or archived at bunny-trail.com. The print first volume is scheduled to come out in March of 2023.

To Sally's Cousins

Jump the Shark & Paruvrew

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About the Authors:

Hi. I'm E. Darwin Hartshorn, the Irrepressible Logic Monkey. One day I started to read a book to my child and the book was lame and full of propaganda. So I set out to make books for my children that are not lame and not full of propaganda.

Sally is getting old enough to have some input in the book-making. This is our first work together. To find out what else we've made, check out bunny-trail.com!