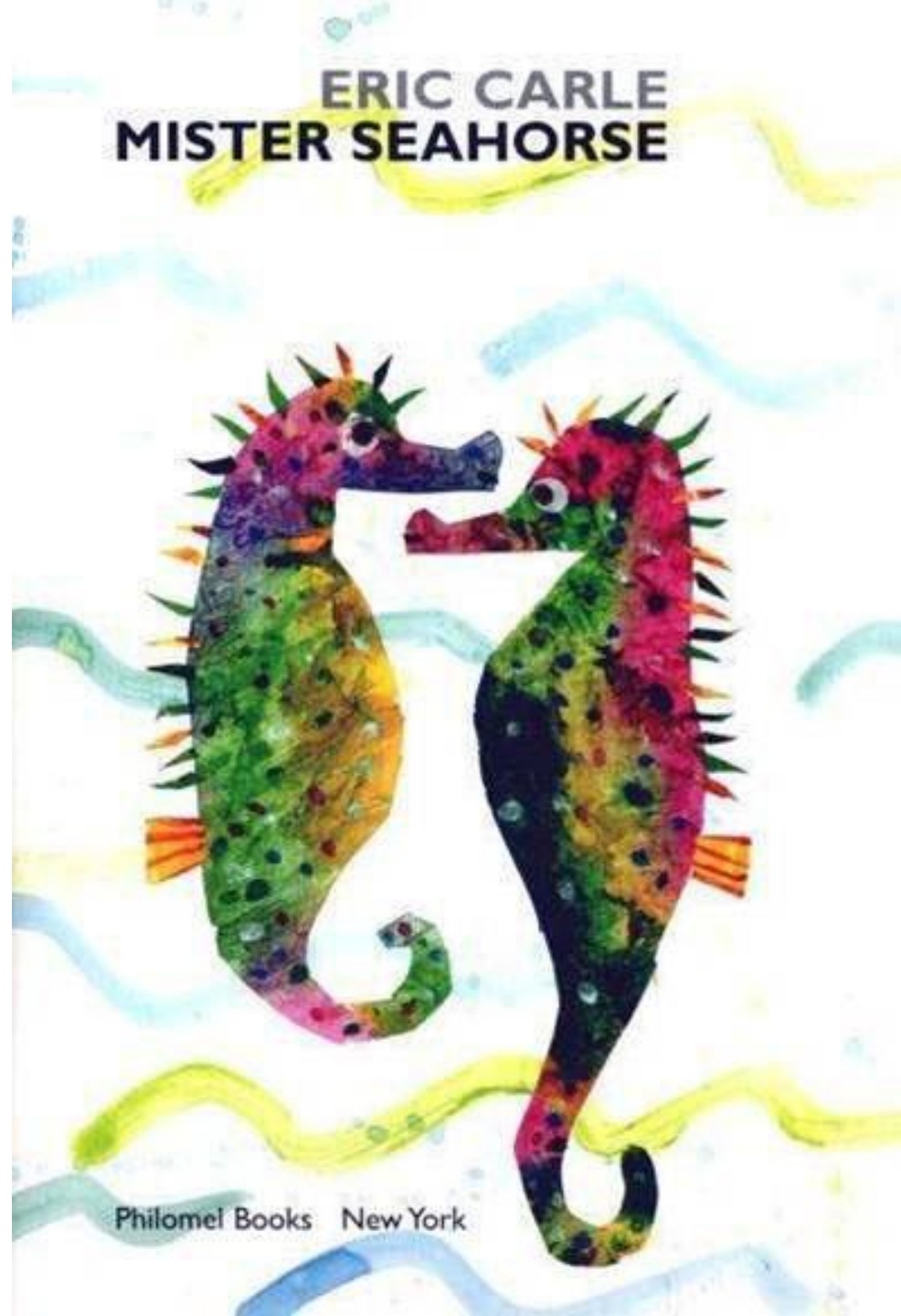


海馬先生

作者：Eric Carle
艾瑞·卡爾





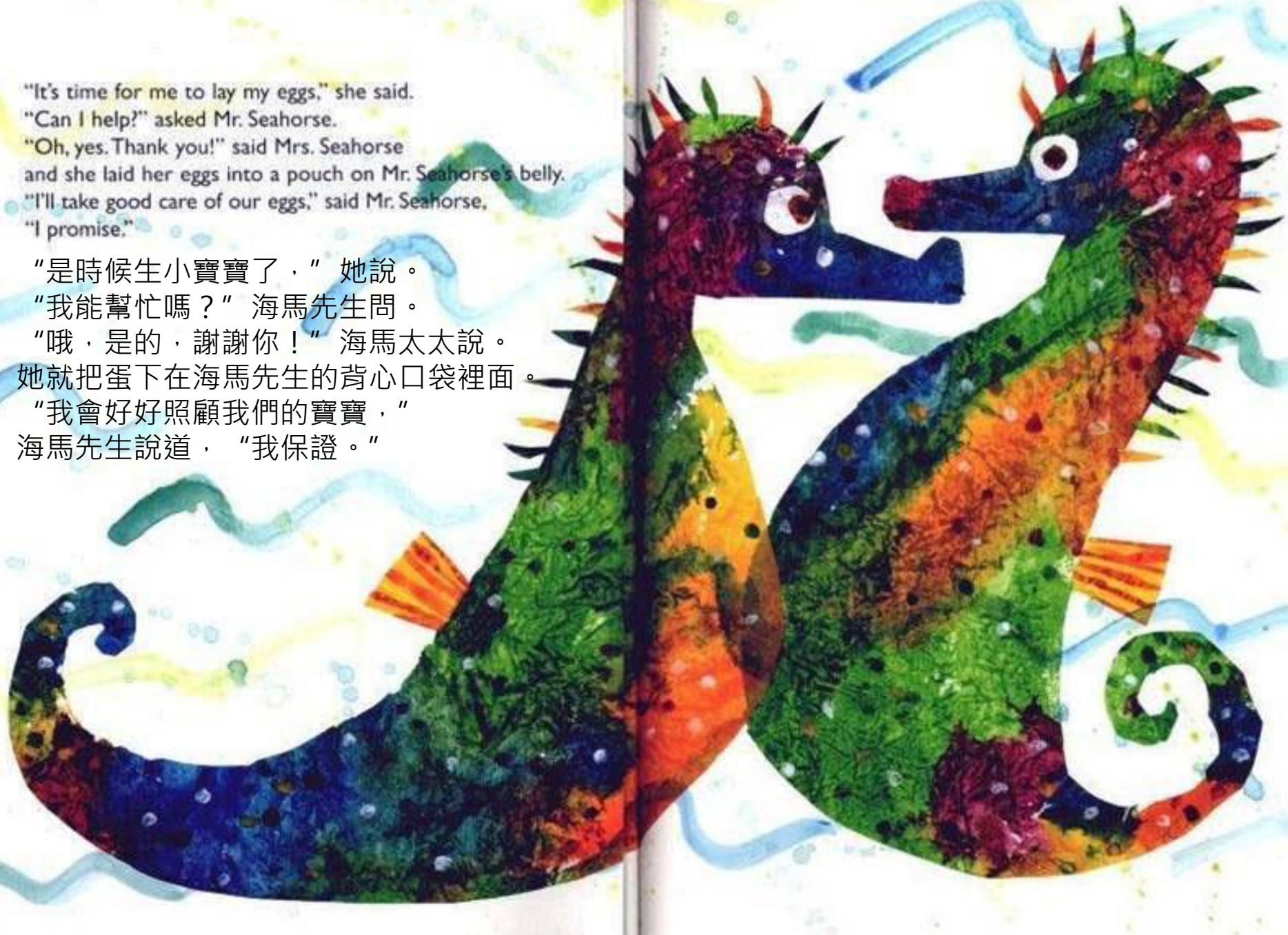
Mr. and Mrs. Seahorse drifted gently through the sea.
Mrs. Seahorse began to wiggle and twist, this way and that.

海馬先生和海馬太太輕輕遊過大海。
海馬太太忽然開始東搖西擺。



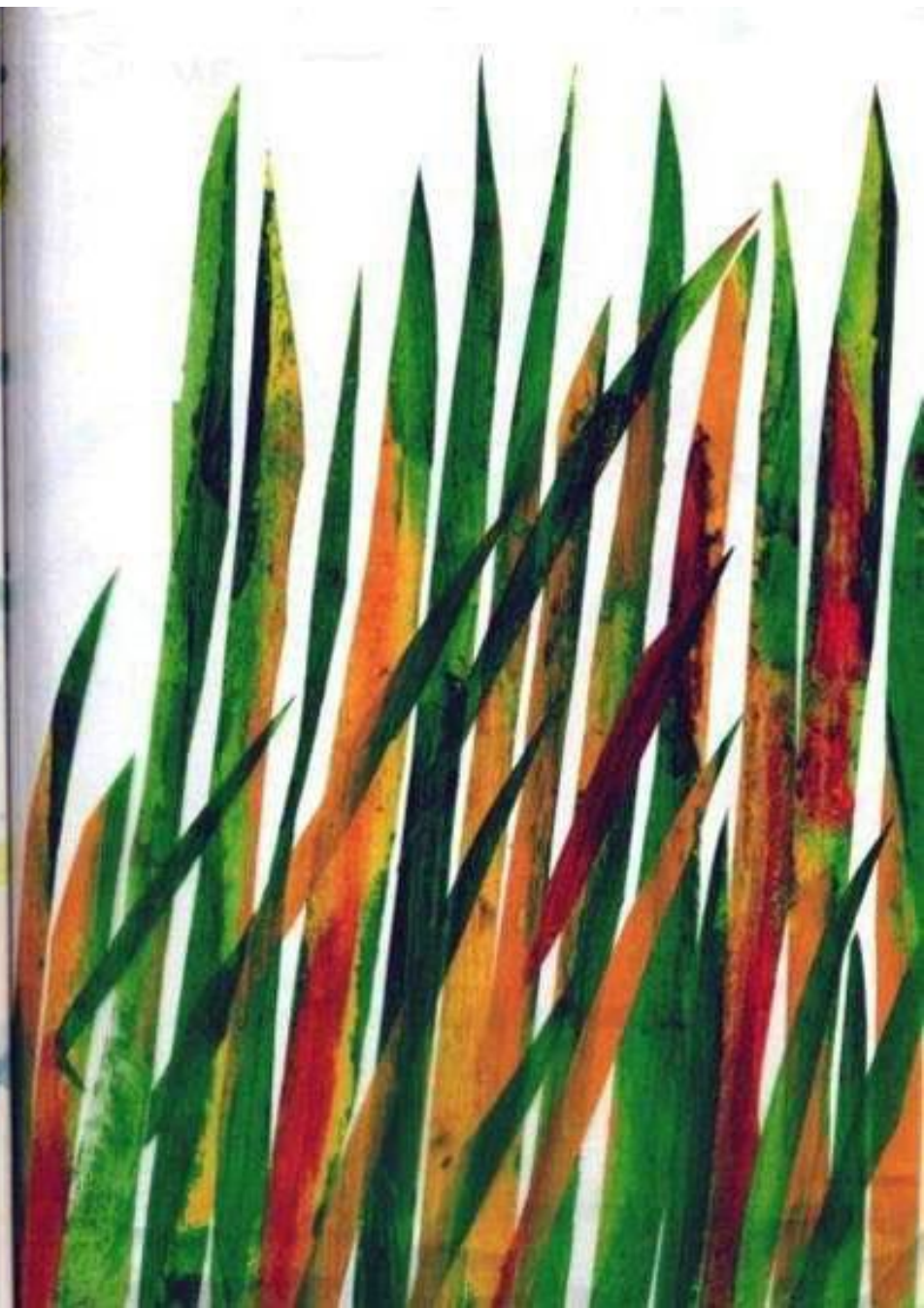
"It's time for me to lay my eggs," she said.
"Can I help?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
"Oh, yes. Thank you!" said Mrs. Seahorse
and she laid her eggs into a pouch on Mr. Seahorse's belly.
"I'll take good care of our eggs," said Mr. Seahorse.
"I promise."

“是時候生小寶寶了，”她說。
“我能幫忙嗎？”海馬先生問。
“哦，是的，謝謝你！”海馬太太說。
她就把蛋下在海馬先生的背心口袋裡面。
“我會好好照顧我們的寶寶，”
海馬先生說道，“我保證。”



As Mr. Seahorse drifted gently through the sea,
he passed right by ...

海馬先生輕輕遊過大海，他路過了.....

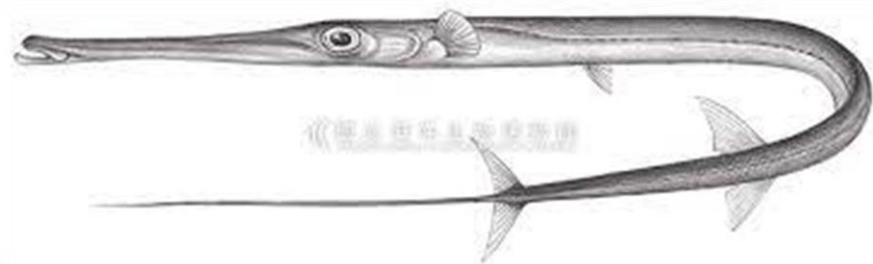


一隊藏在海草叢中的馬鞭魚。

a group of trumpet fish hidden in a patch of reeds.



注：喇叭魚具有細長的身體，最長約可到達61公分。喇叭魚經常出現在珊瑚礁區，並偽裝成珊瑚或海草，並會將頭部的顏色改變成與被捕食的小魚一樣，以便順利捕食。



But before long, Mr. Seahorse met another fish.
"How are you, Mr. Stickleback?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
"Delighted," replied Mr. Stickleback.
"I just built a nest and right away
Mrs. Stickleback laid her eggs into it.
Now I am taking good care of them until they hatch."
"Keep up the good work," said Mr. Seahorse
and swam on his way.

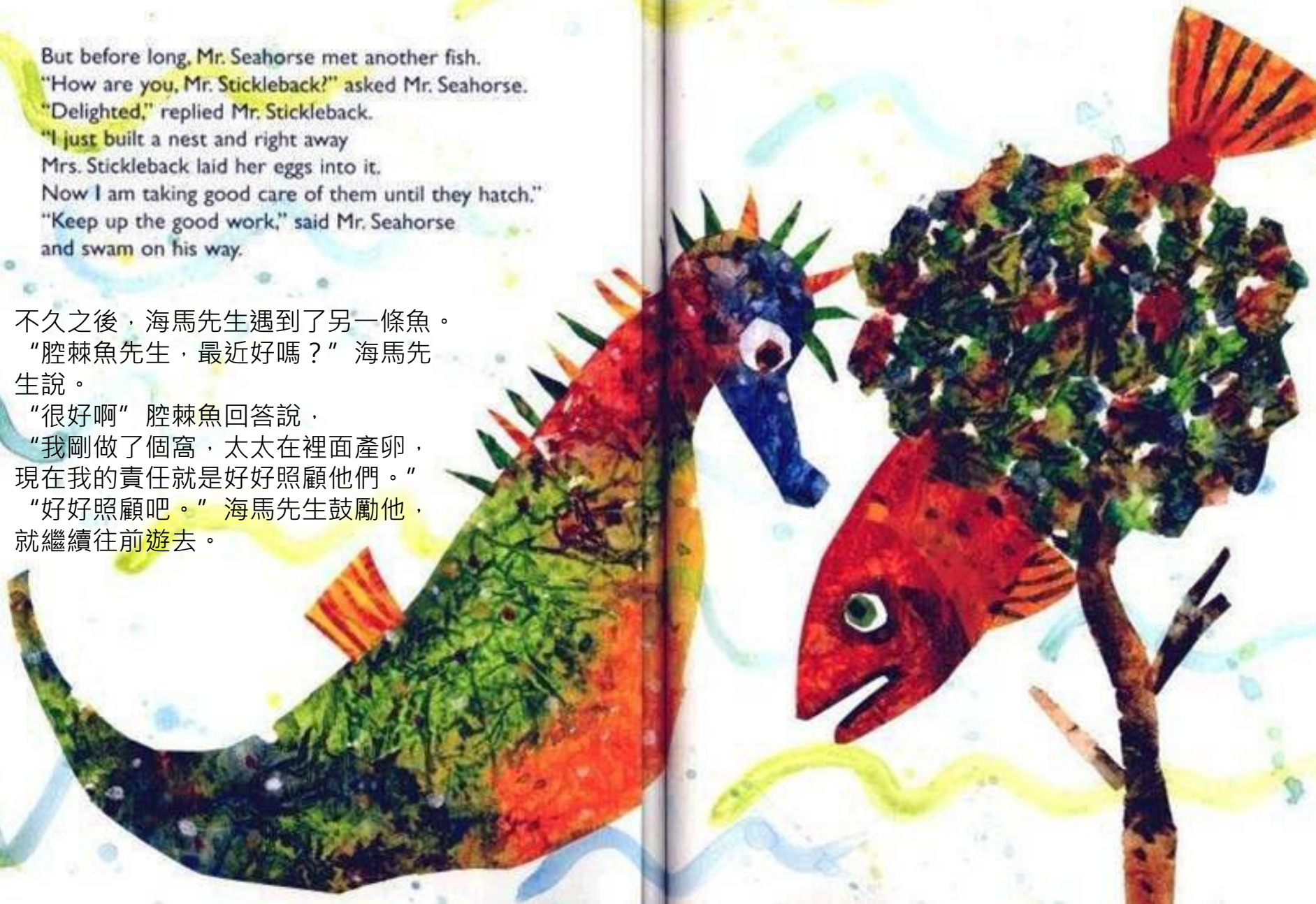
不久之後，海馬先生遇到了另一條魚。

“腔棘魚先生，最近好嗎？”海馬先生說。

“很好啊”腔棘魚回答說，

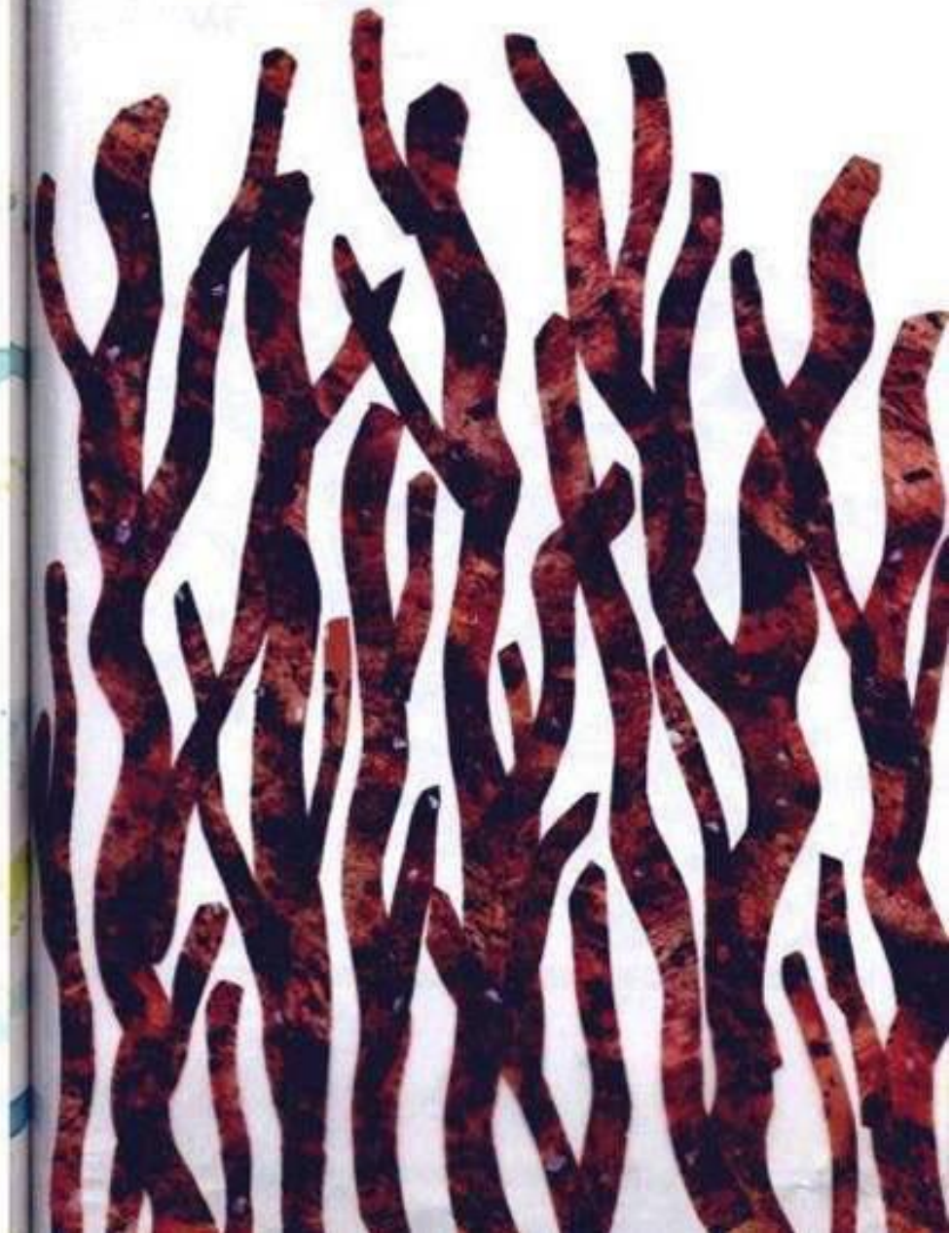
“我剛做了個窩，太太在裡面產卵，
現在我的責任就是好好照顧他們。”

“好好照顧吧。”海馬先生鼓勵他，
就繼續往前遊去。



海馬先生輕輕遊過大海，一會兒，他路過了.....

As Mr. Seahorse drifted gently through the sea,
he passed right by ...



a lionfish hidden behind a coral reef.

一條藏在珊瑚礁後面的獅子魚。



注：獅子魚的鰭很大，但不善於游泳，往往躲在礁縫中，等獵物接近時便立刻捕捉。背鰭有毒刺，平常由一層薄膜包圍著，當遇到敵害時，膜便破裂，而用毒刺攻擊對方。



But before long, Mr. Seahorse met another fish.
"How are you, Mr. Tilapia?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
Mr. Tilapia couldn't answer. His mouth was full of eggs.
"I know, I know," said Mr. Seahorse. "Mrs. Tilapia laid her eggs.
Now you are taking good care of them until they hatch."
Mr. Tilapia nodded his head.
"You must be very happy," said Mr. Seahorse
and swam on his way.

過了不久，海馬先生又遇到了另外一條魚。

“最近如何，吳郭魚先生？”海馬先生問道。
吳郭魚卻說不了話，他的嘴巴里塞滿了魚卵。

“明白明白，”海馬先生說，“吳郭魚太太生了卵，現在你要好好照顧他們，直到他們出世。”

吳郭魚點點頭。

“你一定非常幸福。”海馬先生恭喜他，就繼續往前遊去。



海馬先生輕輕遊過大海，他路過了.....

As Mr. Seahorse drifted gently through the sea,
he passed right by ...



several leaf fish hidden among the seaweed.

一群海藻中的葉魚。



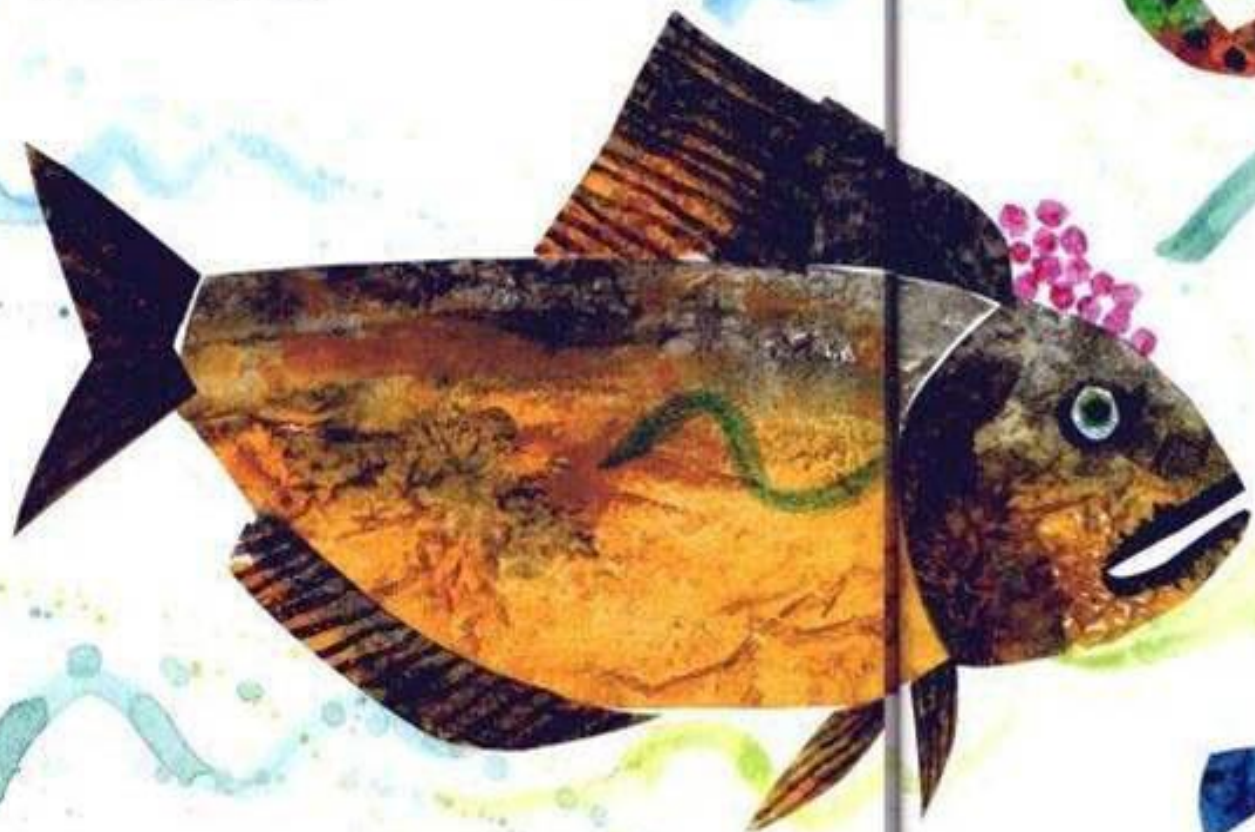
注：從外形看，完全像一片葉。
它能適應環境改變顏色，因此它能向獵物 實行偷襲。

習性：

肉食性，會獵食昆蟲及小魚蝦
在繁殖期，成魚相鄰游泳。雌魚
在岩石或植物葉子的下方產卵，
然後由雄魚受精並由雄魚照顧卵，
卵約3-4天後孵化



But before long, Mr. Seahorse met another fish.
"How are you, Mr. Kurtus?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
"Perfectly fine," replied Mr. Kurtus.
"Mrs. Kurtus laid her eggs and I have stuck them on my head.
Now I am taking good care of them until they hatch."
"You are doing a good job," said Mr. Seahorse
and swam on his way.



不久之後，海馬先生又遇到了一條魚。

“最近如何，鉤頭魚先生？”海馬先生問候道。

“完美極了。”鉤魚回答說，“鉤頭魚太太把卵生在我的頭上，我現在要好好照顧他們，直到他們出生。”

“你做的可真不賴。”海馬先生誇獎他，就繼續往前遊去。

海馬先生輕輕遊過大海，他路過了.....

As Mr. Seahorse drifted gently through the sea,
he passed right by ...



a stonefish hidden behind a rock.

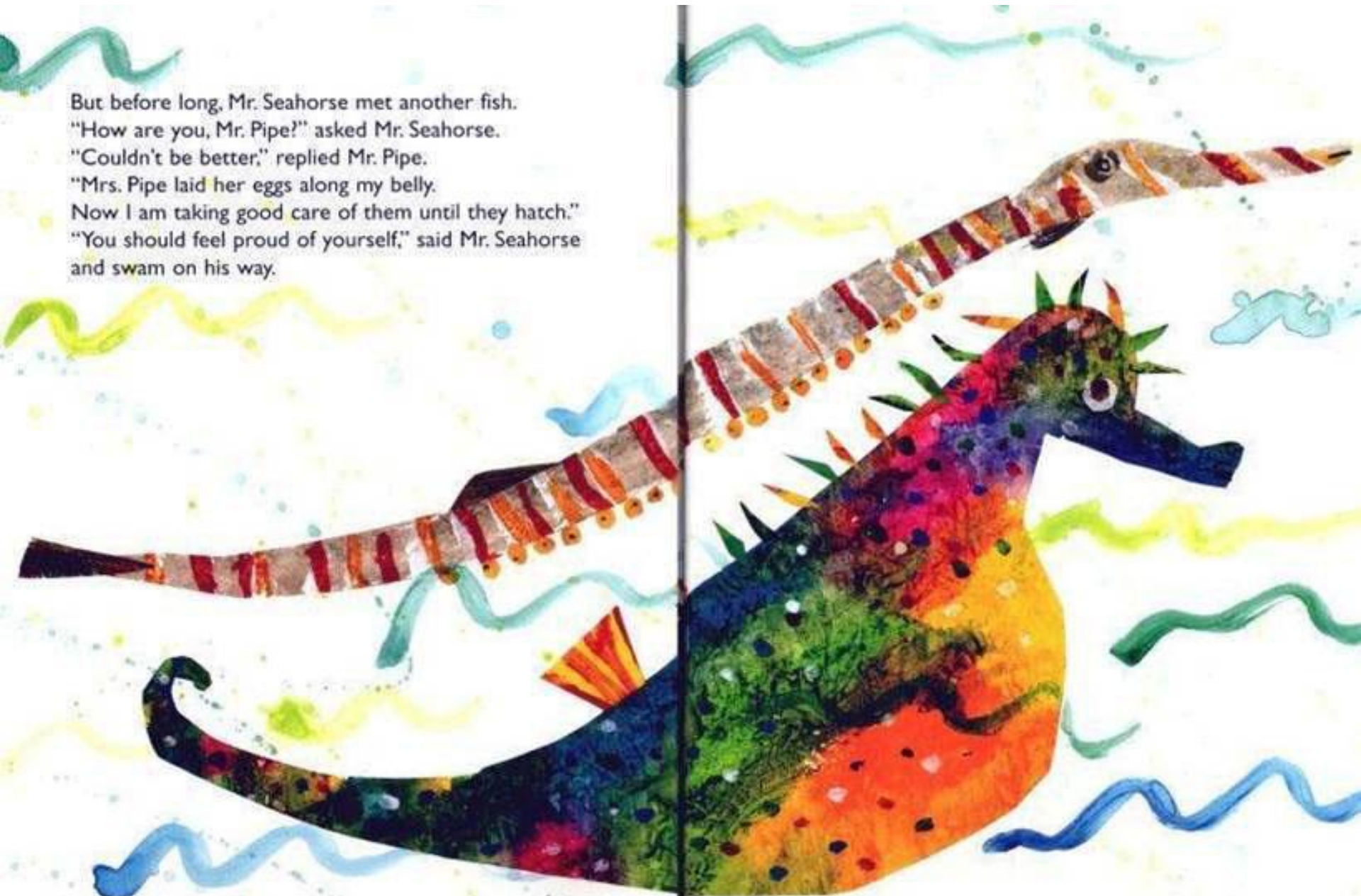
一條藏在石頭後面的石頭魚。



石頭魚又名玫瑰毒鮋、腫瘤毒鮋，是世界上最毒的魚種之一，牠的外型和石頭相似，背上擁有十幾根致命的毒刺，常讓人不小心誤踩而中毒。這些刺非常銳利，能貫穿鞋底讓毒液滲透；中毒後會產生劇痛，導致肌肉麻痺、呼吸困難、休克、心臟衰竭甚至死亡，因此被列為世界十大毒王之一。



But before long, Mr. Seahorse met another fish.
"How are you, Mr. Pipe?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
"Couldn't be better," replied Mr. Pipe.
"Mrs. Pipe laid her eggs along my belly.
Now I am taking good care of them until they hatch."
"You should feel proud of yourself," said Mr. Seahorse
and swam on his way.



不久後，海馬先生又碰到了另外一條魚。

“最近如何，剃刀魚先生？”海馬先生問候道。

“非常好”剃刀魚說，“我太太把寶寶放在我的肚子上，我要好好照顧他們，直到他們出生。”

“你肯定感覺很自豪吧。”海馬先生祝賀他，就繼續往前遊去。

But before long, Mr. Seahorse met another fish.
"How are you, Mr. Bullhead?" asked Mr. Seahorse.
"Tip-top," replied Mr. Bullhead.
"Mrs. Bullhead laid her eggs and the eggs hatched.
Now I'm baby-sitting."
"You are doing a fine job," said Mr. Seahorse
and swam on his way.



不久後，海馬先生又碰到了另外一條魚。“你好嗎，大頭鰻先生？”海馬先生問候道。“非常的好，”大頭鰻說，“我太太生的卵都已經孵好了，現在我要照顧這些小魚寶寶啦。”“真棒”海馬先生祝福他，就繼續往前遊去。



The time had come for the seahorse babies to be born. Mr. Seahorse wiggled and twisted, this way and that. At last, the babies tumbled from Mr. Seahorse's pouch and swam away.

One baby turned around and tried to come back into the pouch. "Oh, no!" said Mr. Seahorse. "I do love you, but now you are ready to be on your own."



海馬寶寶出生的日子到了。
海馬先生開始東搖西擺。
終於，海馬寶寶紛紛從育兒袋裡跑出來，遊走了。
有一只海馬寶寶卻想遊回去。
“噢，這可不行，”海馬先生說：“我很愛你們，
但是從現在起，你要開始獨立了。”



Dear Friends,
In most fish families,
after the mother has laid the eggs
and the father has fertilized them,
the eggs are left on their own.

But there are exceptions such as
the seahorse, stickleback, tilapia, Kurtus nurseryfish,
pipefish, bullhead catfish, and some others.
Not only are the eggs cared for by a parent
but—*surprise*—that parent is the father.
This may sound strange but it is the truth.
And this is my story about them.

I hope you enjoy my story.

Eric Carle

