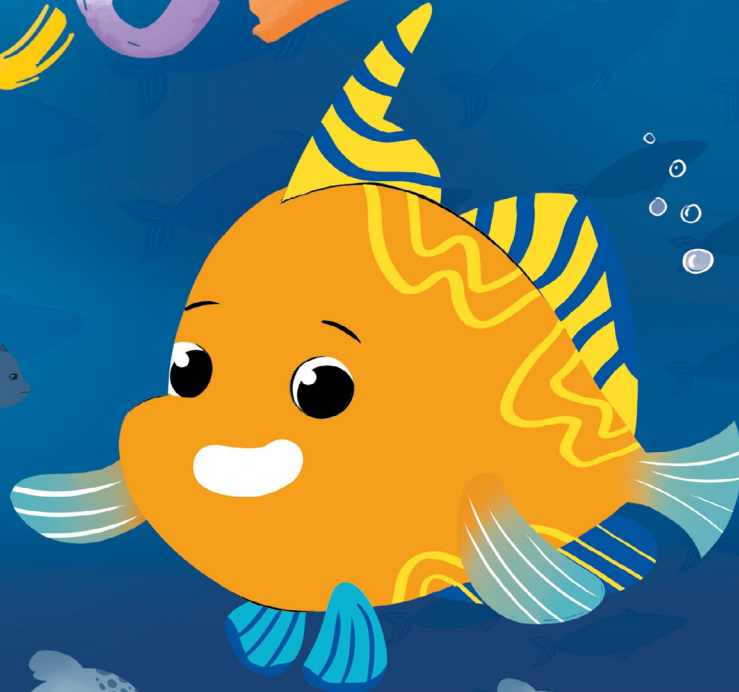


BE YOUR TRUE COLORS



CHAD BURMEISTER

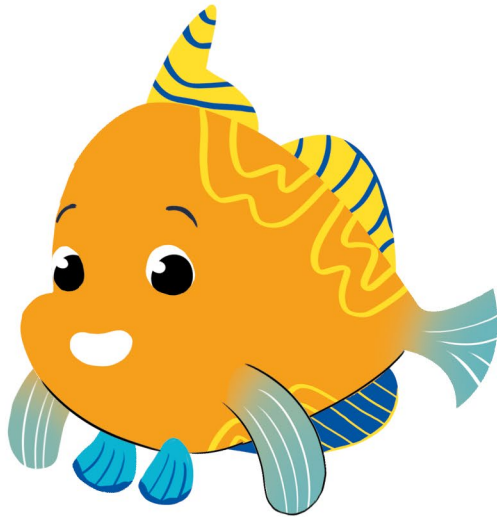
This book is dedicated to Mrs. Reisling, my favorite teacher at Douglas County High School my Sophomore year. Mrs. Reisling encouraged me to show the world my true colors, and to be myself, and when my parents weren't too sure of my transformation from grey fish into a colorful fish swimming in a different direction from the other fish, Mrs. Reisling was the voice of reason, and a champion of me being me. I still think of Mrs. Reisling and I am thankful for people like her who encourage us to be ourselves – and to remind us that we were all created for a purpose.

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Created with the help of Timmy Bauer
Produced by Dinosaur House

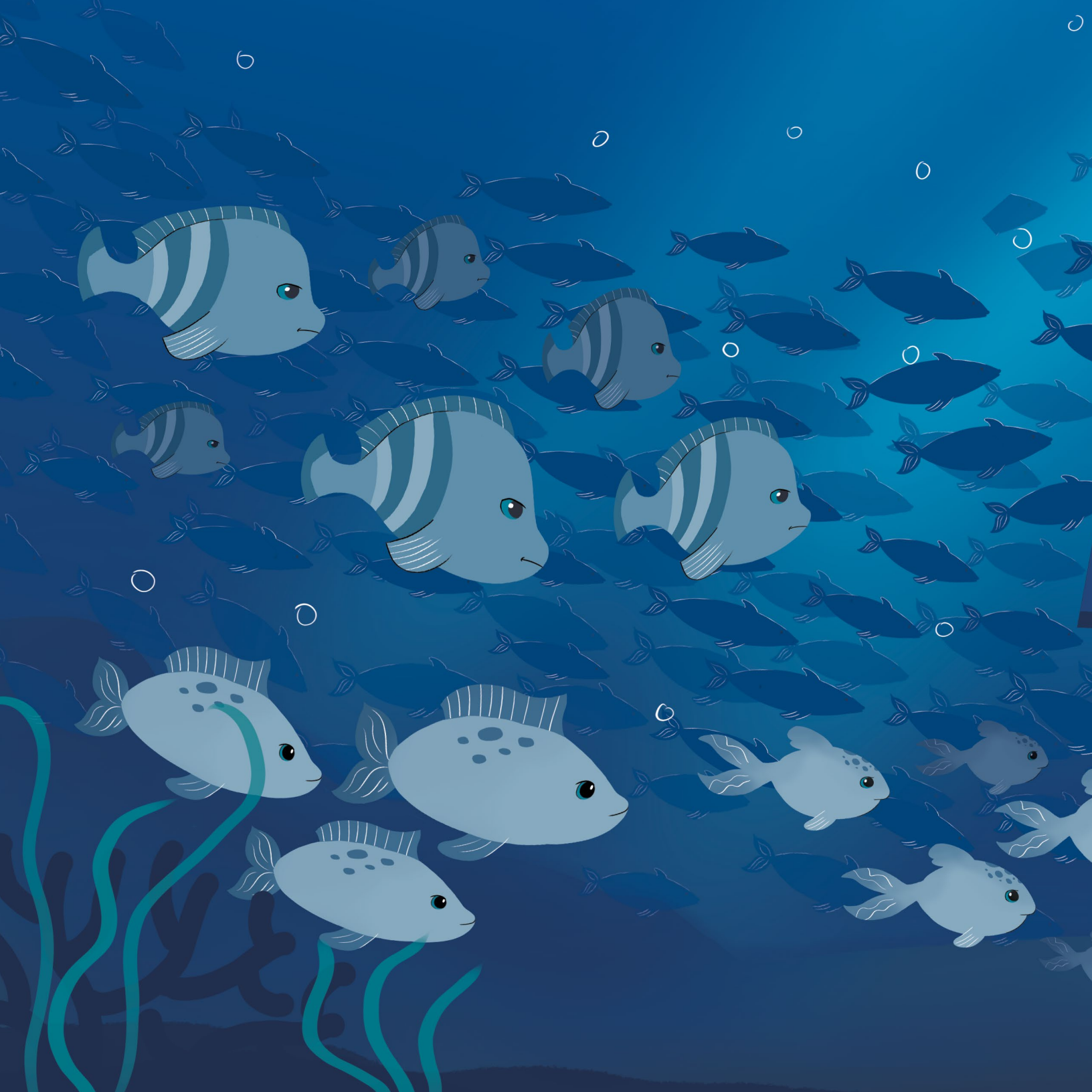


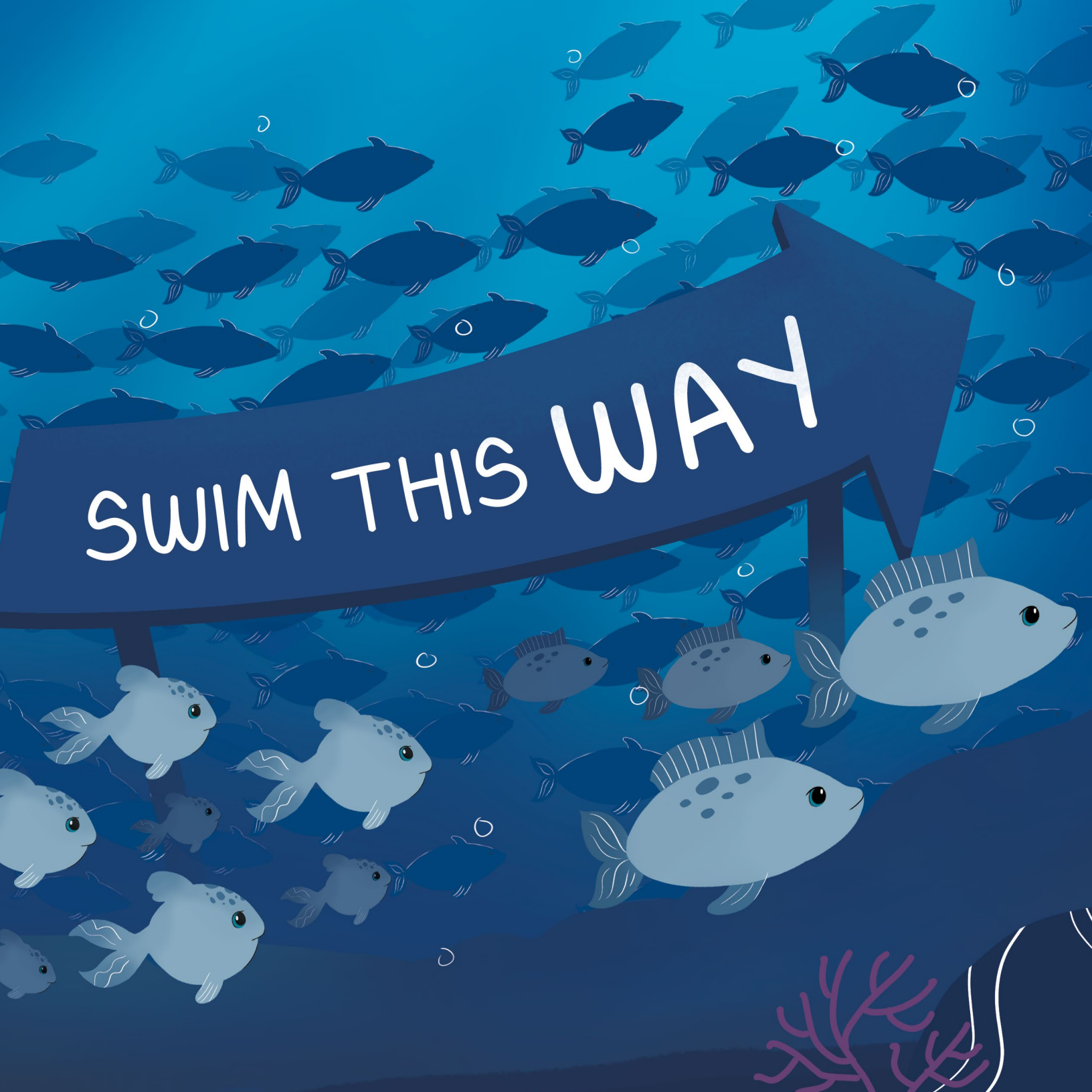
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BE YOUR
TRUE
COLORS



by
CHAD BURMEISTER





SWIM THIS WAY

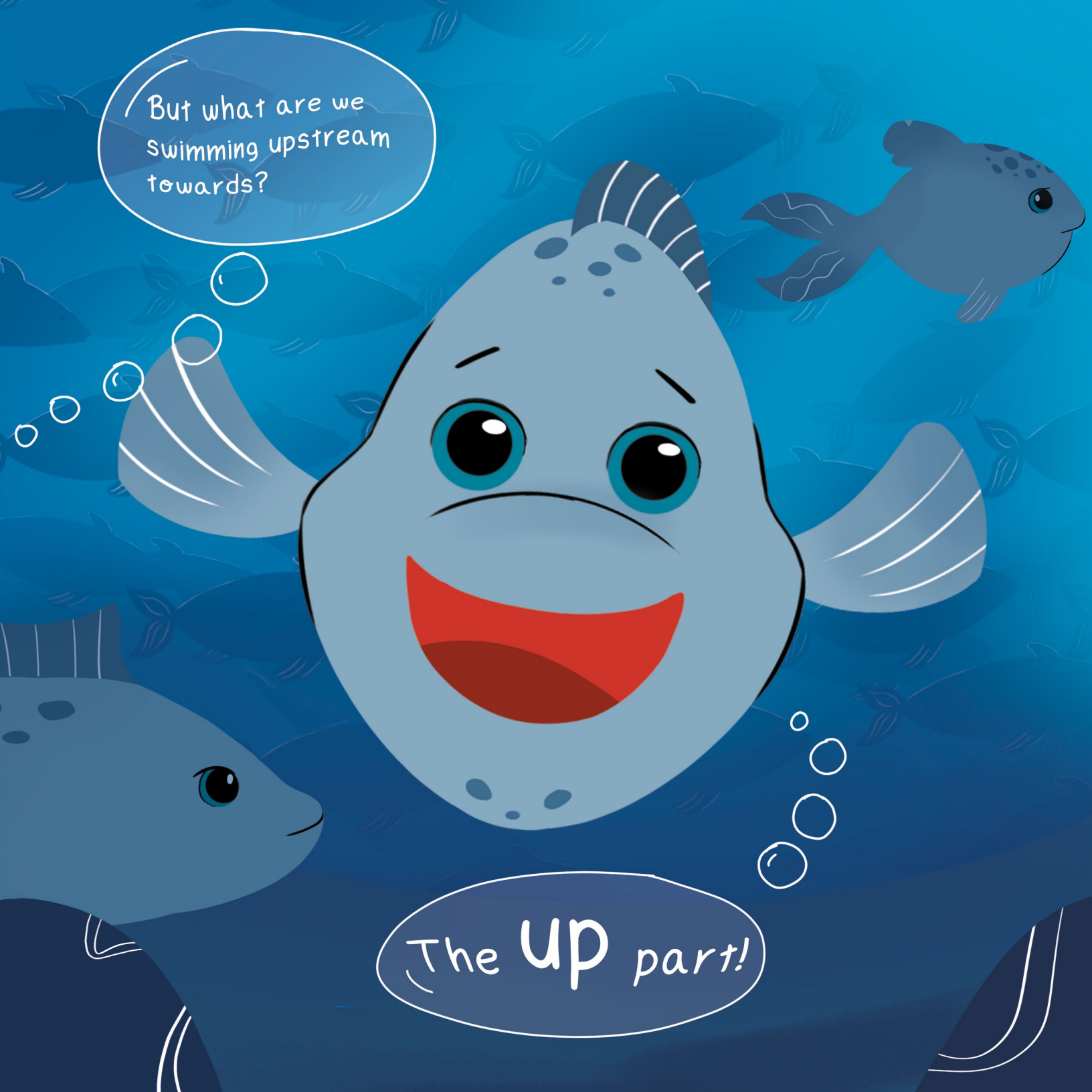


SWIM THIS WAY

Hey, what are you doing?

Is this the right way?

Of course, the sign says so.



But what are we
swimming upstream
towards?

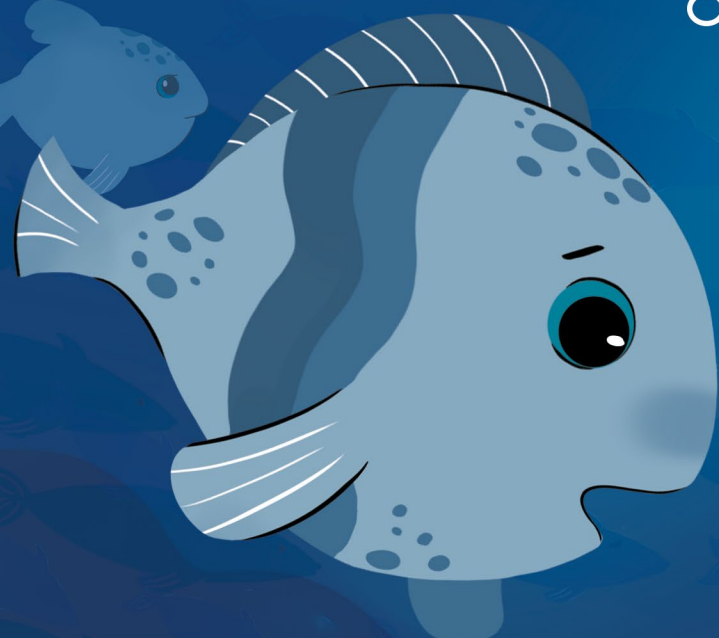
The up part!



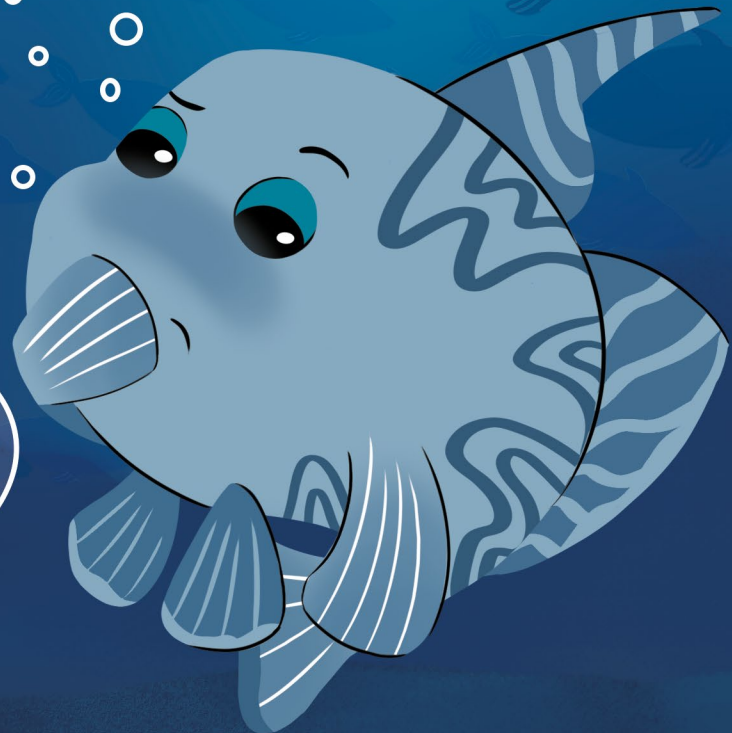
What if swimming that way isn't
the way we're supposed to go?



What if it's the reason
we're all grey?



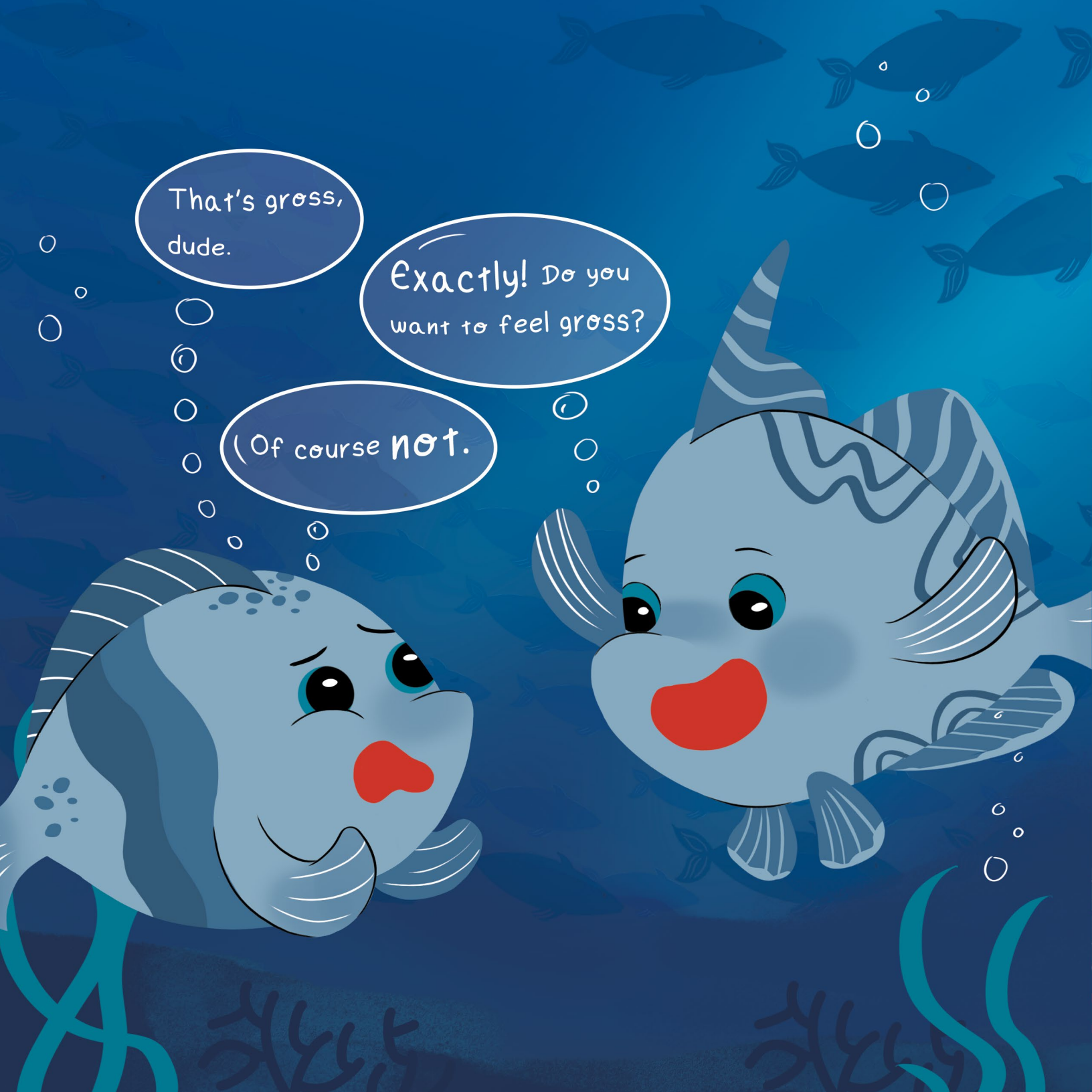
I think I saw light that way, maybe
we're not everything we're supposed
to be because we're not in the light.





Grey is safe. It feels
good to be safe.

Yes but grey is dull and predictable.
Grey is the color of fish poop!



That's gross,
dude.

Exactly! Do you
want to feel gross?

(Of course **not**.)

Then, let's go downstream
toward the ocean!

SWIM THIS WAY

But what will
the others say?

What about
the signs?

Look at
that!

I know! I can't
believe it!



Come on, buddy, think about this.

I am. I think we're supposed to go this way.

The ocean is huge and open.
What's wrong with wanting that?

Look I turned to face the light
and you can see some of my color!



WHAT MAKES YOU
THINK THIS IS OKAY?

I'm not hurting
anyone.

YOU DON'T THINK IT MAKES
HIM UNCOMFORTABLE TO
SEE YOU LIKE THIS?

Hey, Steve.

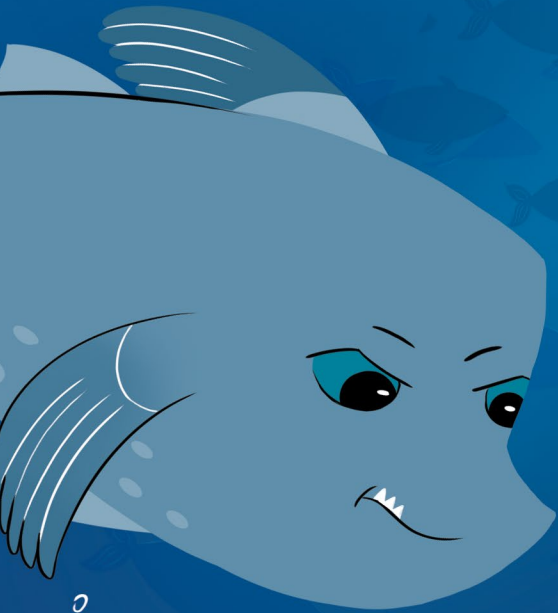
Hey

Steve looks pretty
uncomfortable to
me, dude.

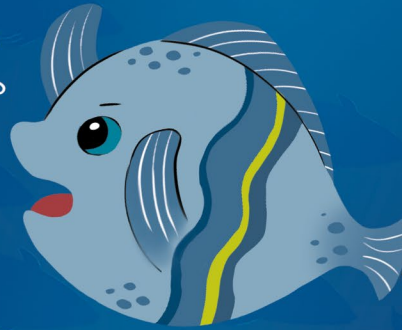


YOU'RE
EMBARRASSING
YOURSELF.

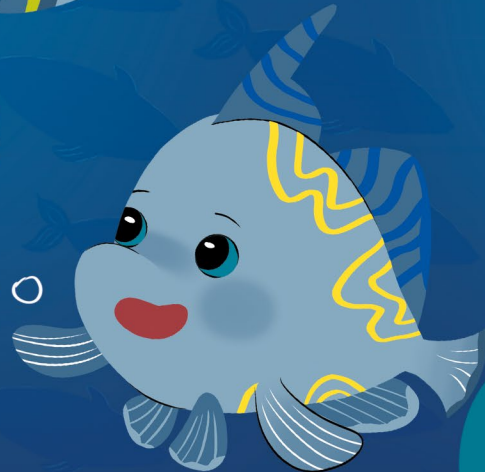
Whoa, hang on!



He's only going "the wrong way"
because no one questions it.
Maybe we can swim this way.



Hey you've got
some color too!

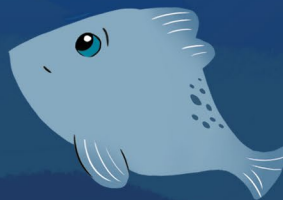
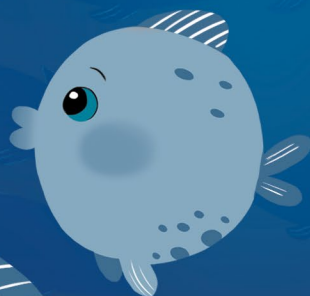
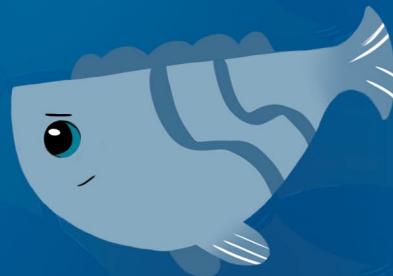
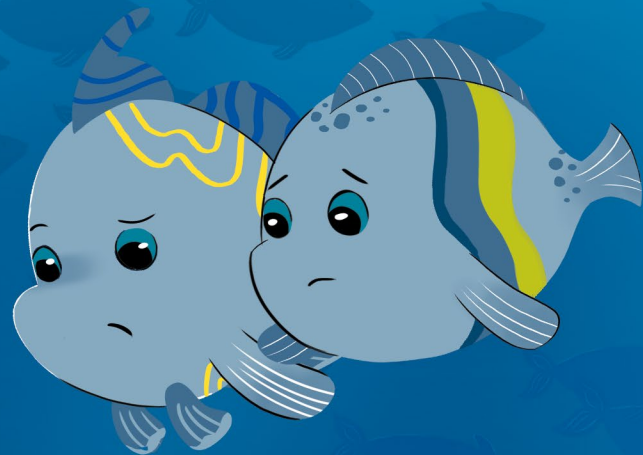
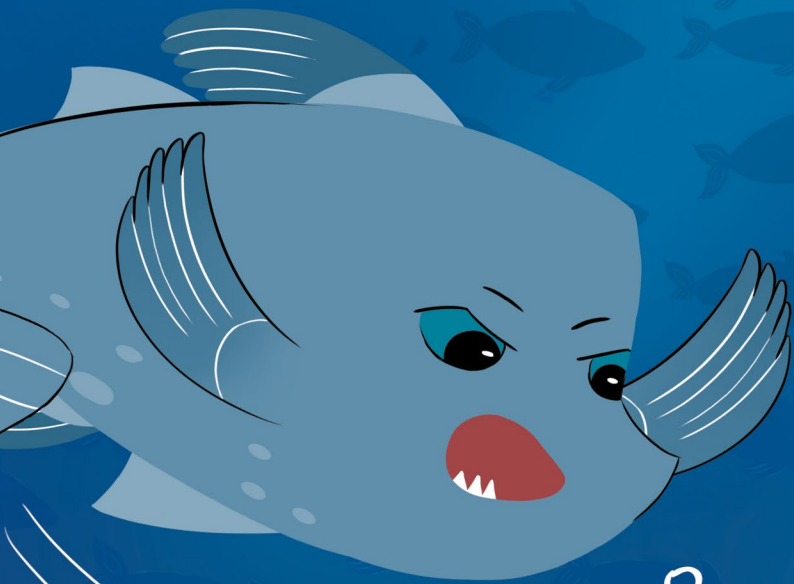


GOOD GREY FISH OF THE RIVER.
THESE TWO THINK THEY CAN RUIN
OUR BALANCE BY BEING DIFFERENT.

Ridiculous.

Who do they
think they are?

Anyone seen
Steve?



WE SWIM UPSTREAM
BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT HAS
ALWAYS BEEN DONE.

NO ONE IS SPECIAL.




EVERYONE IS!

Look, we're all unique! We all must have purposes besides swimming to whoever knows where!



You have a big nose.
That's awesome!



Your top fin
is beautiful!



We don't just exist.

We were designed to be
EXTRAORDINARY





YOU'RE AFRAID OF NOT BEING NOTICED
YOU JUST WANT ATTENTION!

You're afraid that you won't live up
to your potential. **But you will.**

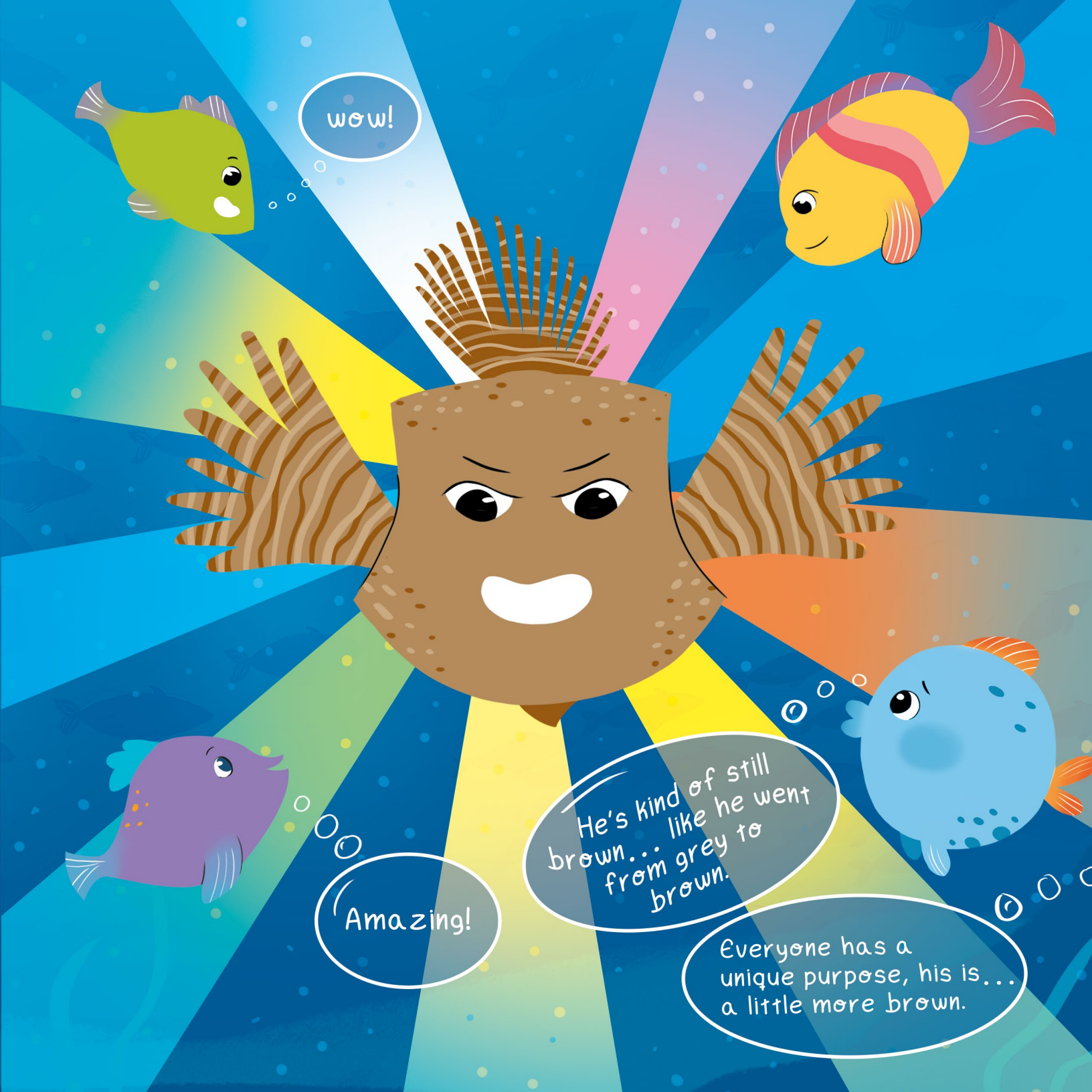


You can follow
God's plan for you.

How?

Turn around!
Be your true
colors!

Let it out, dude!



wow!

Amazing!

He's kind of still
brown... like he went
from grey to
brown.

Everyone has a
unique purpose, his is...
a little more brown.



What now?

One word. "The LIGHT".
Let's keep going toward
the LIGHT!

Light, dude!

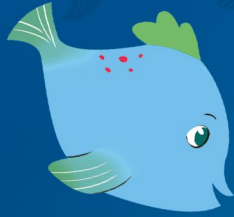
That's two
words.



Be Who You Were
MADE TO BE

DO WHAT YOU WERE
CREATED TO DO

DON'T BE BORING



Looking good,
Steve!





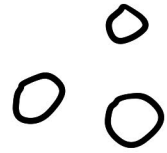
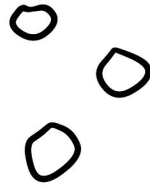
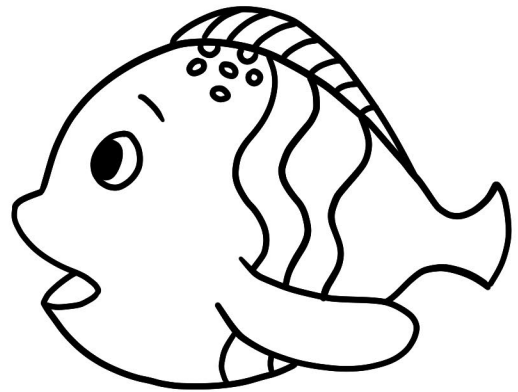
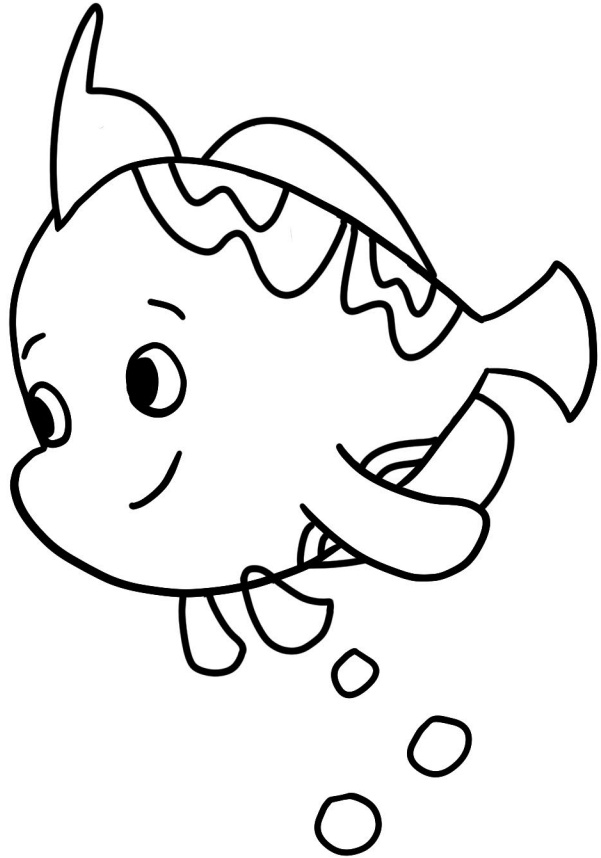
Thanks!

BE YOUR TRUE COLORS



Which fish
are you?

Why?



scan this QR code
to get more coloring
pages

