



# MERMICORN ISLAND #2

Narwhal Adventure!

BY JASON JUNE

Scholastic Inc.



# To Tayrra, Caytlyn, and Brennon! Dream so big that you'll never need a Grow Shell!

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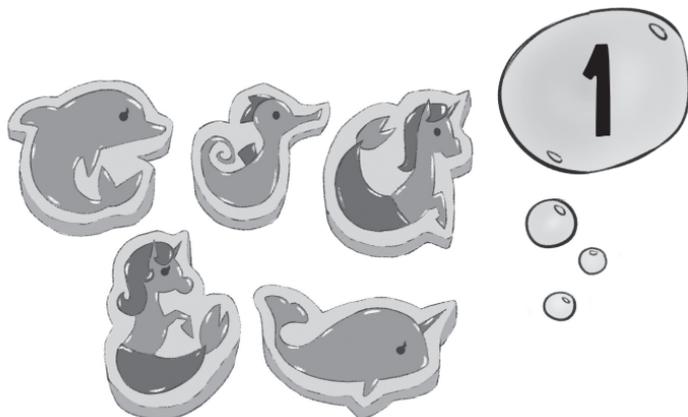
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## MEET NELIA NARWHAL

**“on my goldfish,** Ruby, this cake is **mer-mazing!**” I said, starting in on my second slice of sea sponge cake. It was vanilla-y and covered in frosting with barnacle berries on top.

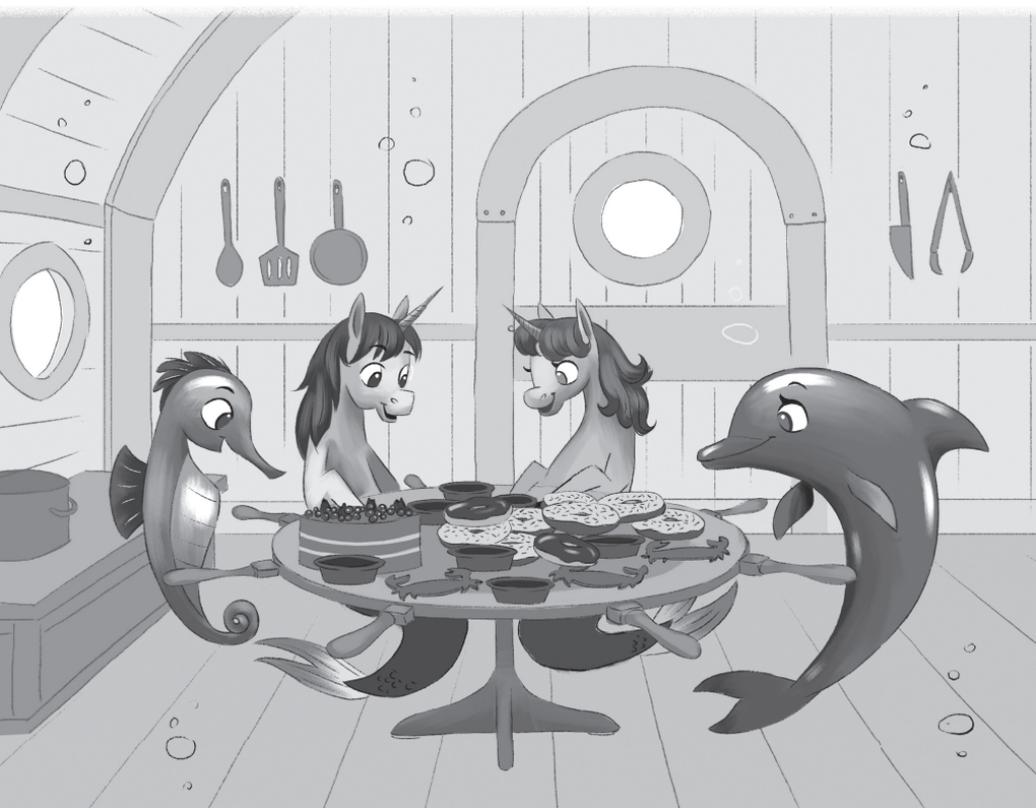
“And so are these angelfish food cake doughnuts,” Flash agreed. “And those crab cutout cookies, and these



sea-salted caramel tarts! All of it is **fin-credible!**”

Flash always talked a million miles a minute, but with his mouth full, about a million crumbs flew everywhere.

Echo’s dorsal fin shook with excitement. “You are for sure going to



win the Beluga Bakery Sugar Castle Competition tomorrow.”

The Sugar Castle Competition was the most **sea-licious** Mermicorn Island tradition. Every year, **any-fishy** who loved to make desserts could enter their own sandcastle made out of sweet baked treats. Ruby’s magic—her **Baking Sparkle**—was perfect for making Sugar Castles.

All sea creatures in Mermicorn Island have powers. We call it having **SPARKLE**. Echo and all the other dolphins have magic echolocation that helps them find things. Flash and all the other seahorses

have magical superspeed. Mermicornns each get their own unique SPARKLE, and Ruby's lets her make baked goods.

My SPARKLE hasn't come in yet, but I was still able to help with the competition. Ruby knows how much I love to draw, so she let me design the Sugar Castle.

"I've been working my tail off to get all these pastries and cakes just right," Ruby said.

Ruby squinted her eyes and wiggled her tail. She always did that before she was about to do magic. Red sparkles flew from Ruby's horn and turned into

a perfectly round, perfectly golden sea-salted caramel tart.

“You really have been working so hard, Ruby,” I said. “Remember when you could only make cupcakes with your magic?”

“*Mmm*, cupcakes,” Flash said. “Maybe you should make some more of those. I could always eat another cupcake. I love your cupcakes.” Flash was always hungry. He needed a lot of energy for his magical seahorse superspeed.

Ruby blushed. Her cheeks matched the color of her red tail. “Thanks! And now I can make pies, breads, cakes, cookies, and tarts like this one.”