



Honu 5690

The true story of a remarkable green turtle

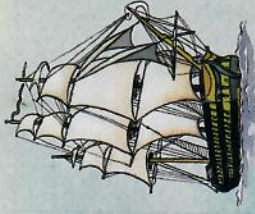
shaowei liu

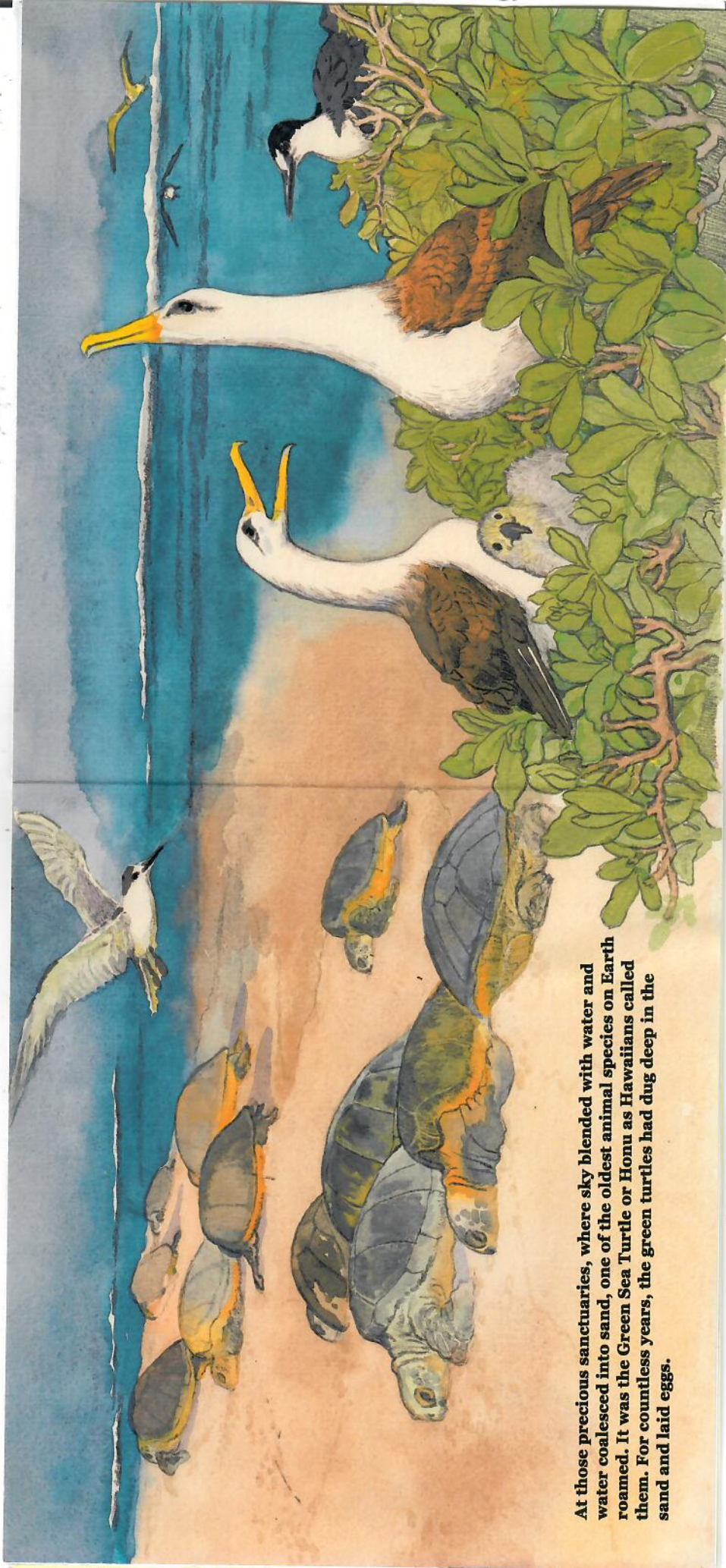


Yonder, in the great Pacific Ocean, northwest of the Hawaiian Islands, there stood rings of coral reefs. One of them was named French Frigate Shoals. With numerous small patches of sandy ground, it provided a natural refuge for sea birds and other animals to hatch their young.



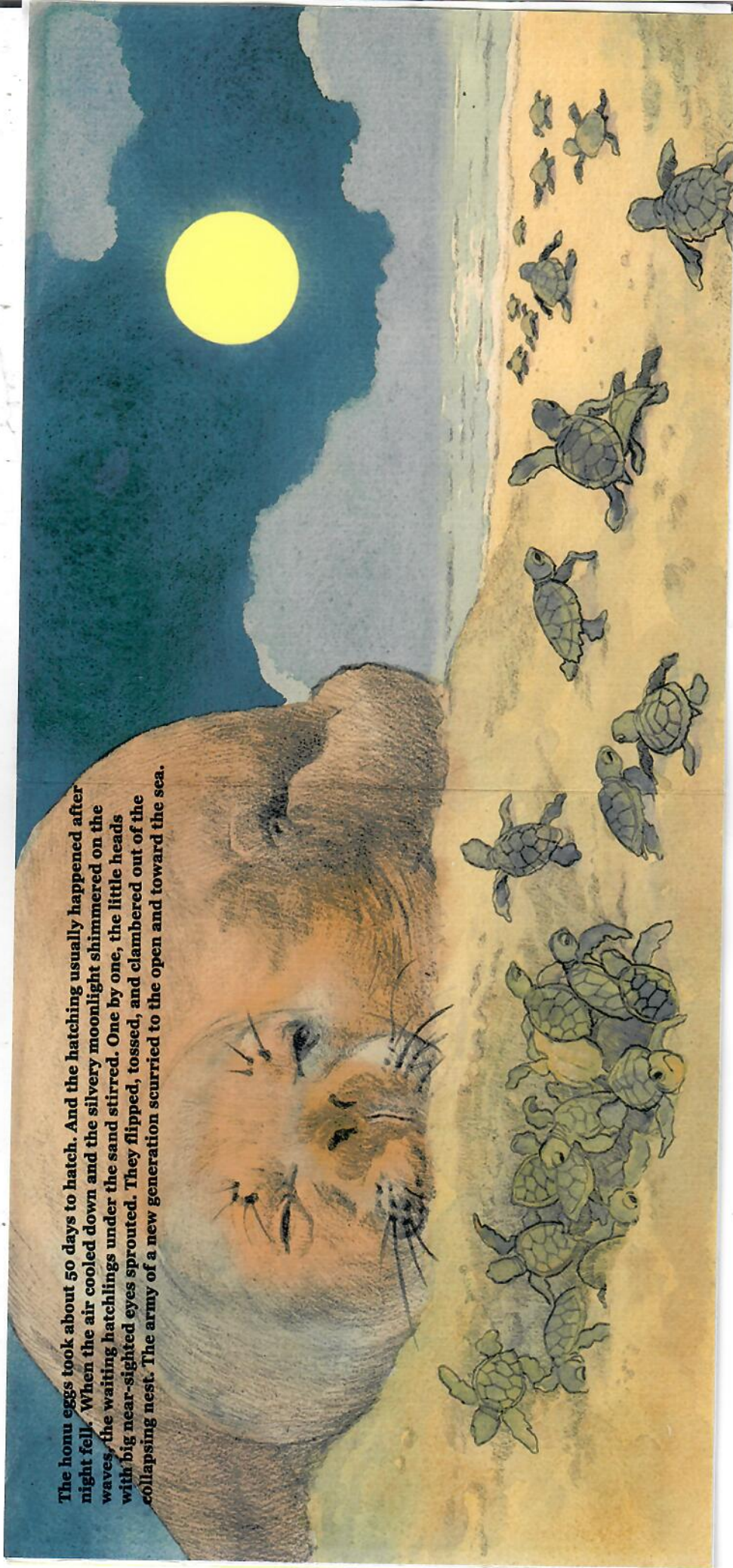
French Frigate Shoals

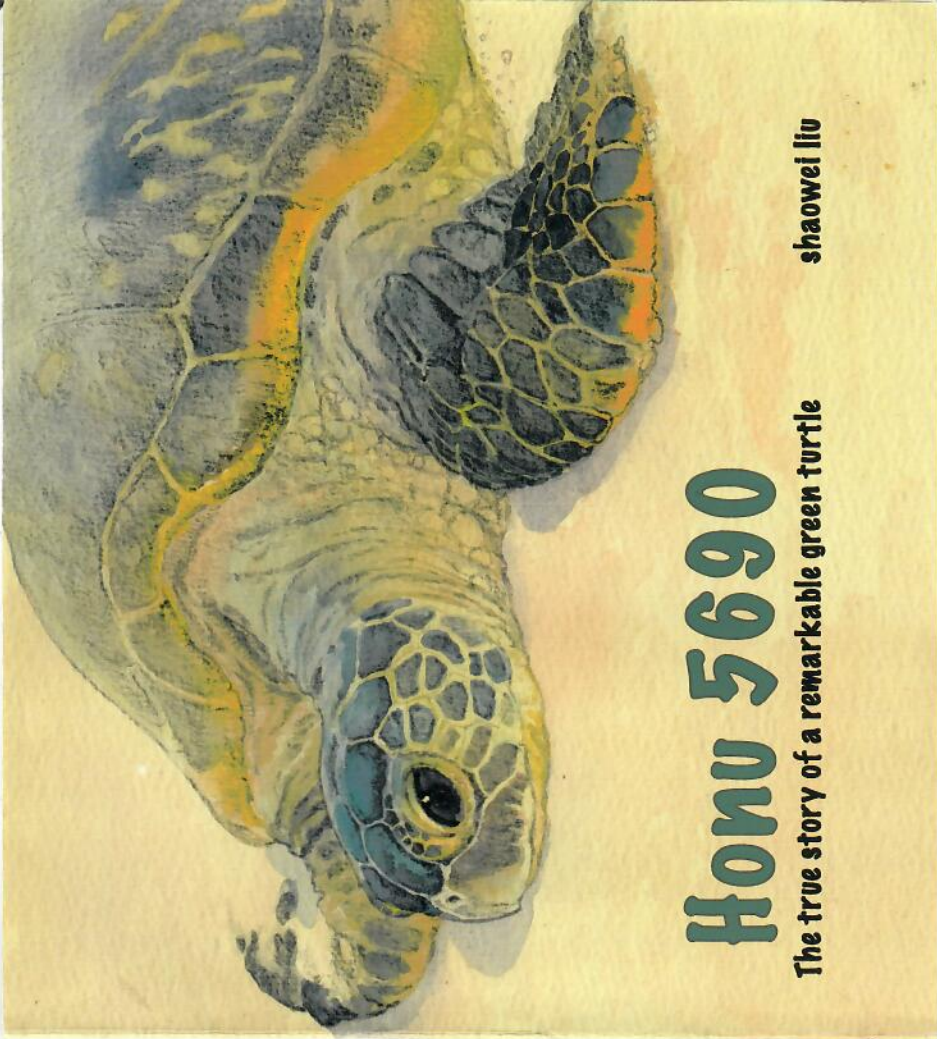




At those precious sanctuaries, where sky blended with water and water coalesced into sand, one of the oldest animal species on Earth roamed. It was the Green Sea Turtle or Honu as Hawaiians called them. For countless years, the green turtles had dug deep in the sand and laid eggs.

The honu eggs took about 50 days to hatch. And the hatching usually happened after night fell. When the air cooled down and the silvery moonlight shimmered on the waves, the waiting hatchlings under the sand stirred. One by one, the little heads with big near-sighted eyes sprouted. They flipped, tossed, and clambered out of the collapsing nest. The army of a new generation scurried to the open and toward the sea.





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