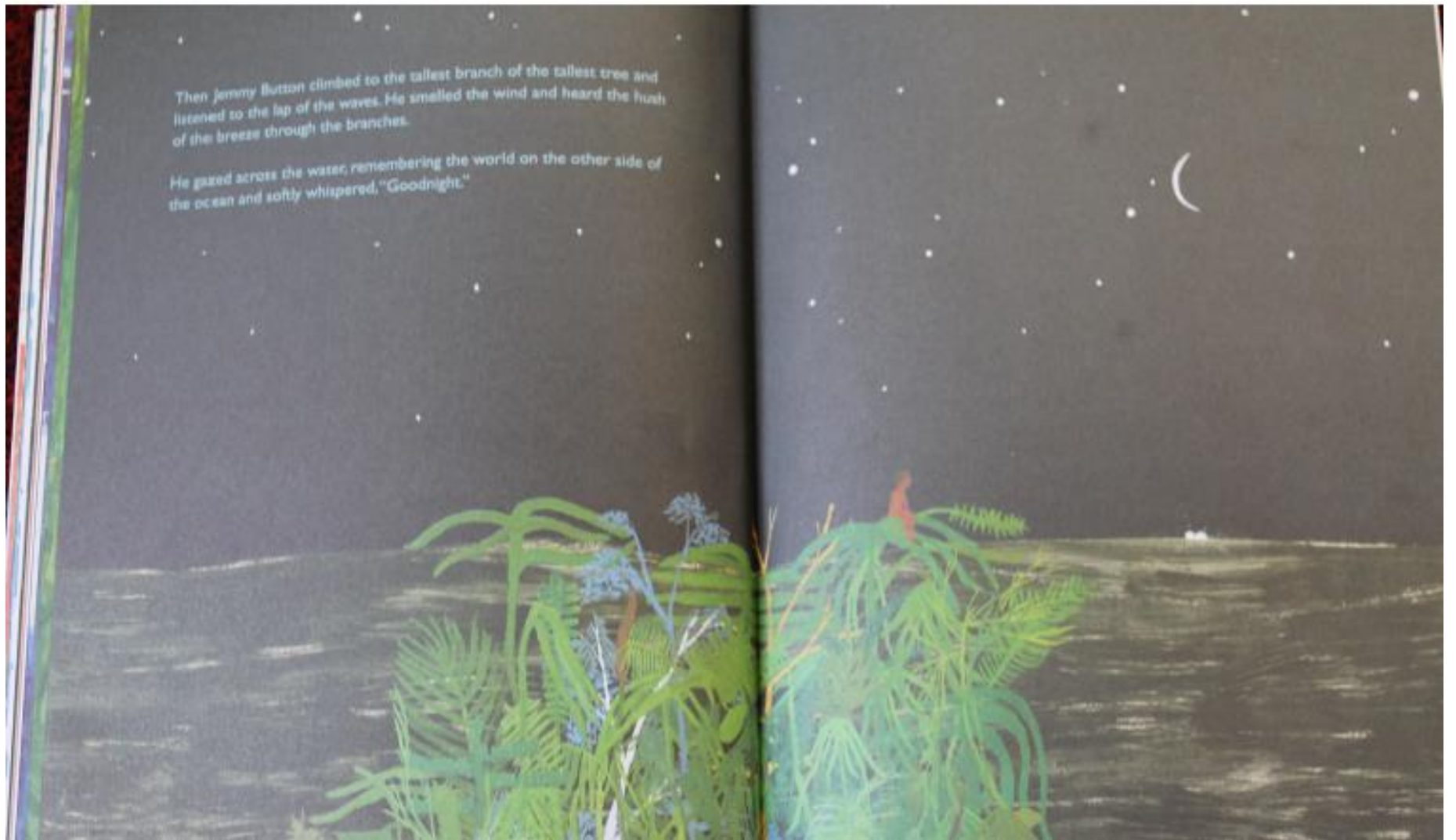


Then Jimmy Button climbed to the tallest branch of the tallest tree and listened to the lap of the waves. He smelled the wind and heard the hush of the breeze through the branches.

He gazed across the water, remembering the world on the other side of the ocean and softly whispered, "Goodnight."





In the early 1800s, Captain Robert FitzRoy set sail on the HMS Beagle from England to the islands of Tierra del Fuego at the tip of South America. The captain carefully watched the native people of these lands and thought they were savages. He believed it was possible to transform the most wild man into an English gentleman, and so he brought a boy named Orundellico back to England to educate the child in the ways of Christianity and Victorian upper-class manners. FitzRoy gave the boy's family a mother-of-pearl button in exchange, and this gave rise to Orundellico's new name, Jemmy Button. While in England, Jemmy had many exciting experiences and even attracted the attention of King William IV and Queen Adelaide.

In 1832, Captain FitzRoy returned Jemmy Button to Tierra del Fuego with the hope that he would spread civilisation among the natives. Charles Darwin joined them on the return voyage to study Jemmy in his original habitat. As the ship came into shore, Jemmy realised he was home and immediately shed his clothing. With great effort, he relearned his native language and at that point he understood where he had been, and knew where he belonged.

This book is inspired by the stories of Jemmy Button.

**JENNIFER UMAN** is a self-taught painter and illustrator. Jennifer's works have appeared in *The New York Times* and her art is owned by collectors and non-collectors around the world. This is her first illustrated book.

**VALERIO VIDALI** is an Italian illustrator of magazines and children's books. His work has received numerous awards and recognition in some of the most important international competitions and exhibitions such as the Children's Book Fair of Bologna; ILLUSTRARTE – the 5th Biennial International Exhibition of Children's Book Illustration (Lisbon); and the CJ Picture Book Festival (Korea). His books have been published in Italy, France, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Argentina and Korea.

Valerio Vidali and Jennifer Uman met on the Internet when they learned of each other's works. He only spoke Italian. She only spoke English. They formed a dialogue using an online translator for two years. Based on shared ideas of travel, homesickness, distance and the story of Jemmy Button they agreed to illustrate a book together. In 2010, Valerio and Jennifer met in New York City and began their first collaboration. *Jemmy Button* was completed one year later.