

Disasters at Sea



ANDREW DONKIN

“Abandon ship!”

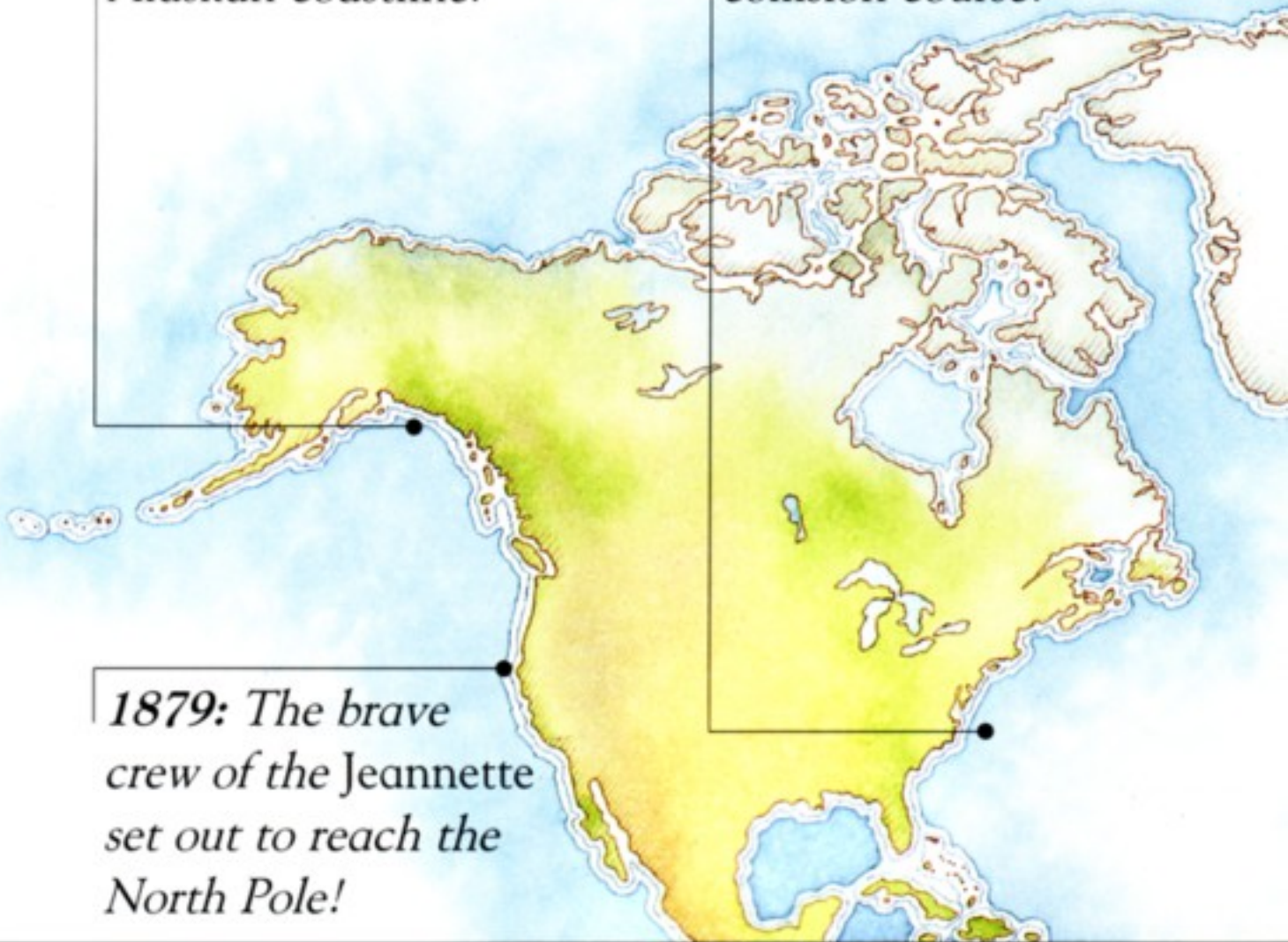
The oceans of the world can be dangerous, even for experienced sailors.

Hidden rocks and coral reefs can tear holes in a ship’s hull. Powerful storms and hurricanes can damage ships or rip them apart.

1989: The Exxon Valdez’s huge oil spill spreads pollution along 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) of the Alaskan coastline.

1854: The passenger liner, the Arctic, is traveling through fog when another ship suddenly appears on a collision course!

1879: The brave crew of the Jeannette set out to reach the North Pole!



“It’s another ship! Change course!”
ordered the Captain, but it was too late.

The *Vesta*, a smaller French vessel,
rammed straight into the *Arctic*’s side.
There was a horrible sound of metal
being stretched and then ripped apart.

The *Arctic*’s passengers and crew
were sent tumbling to the floor.

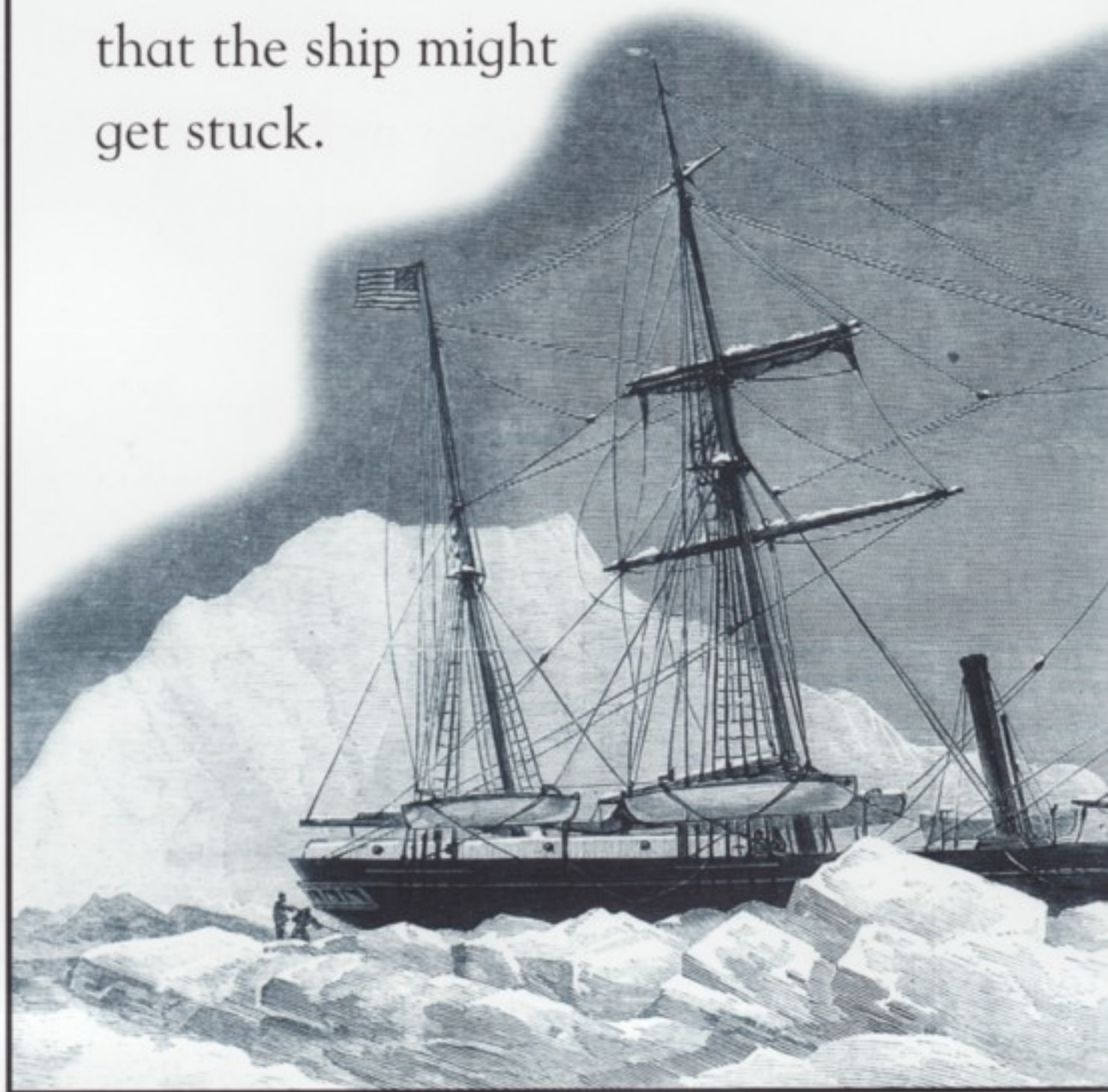
The two captains inspected the
damage to their ships.



“We can’t go forward any more, sir. It’s solid pack ice!” reported the second mate. He sounded anxious.

The ship headed northwest instead. The crew hoped to find openings that might lead through the icy mass.






Everybody was starting to worry that the ship might get stuck.



From deadly fog to cannon fire and torpedo attacks – read the exciting stories of five doomed sea voyages!

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