

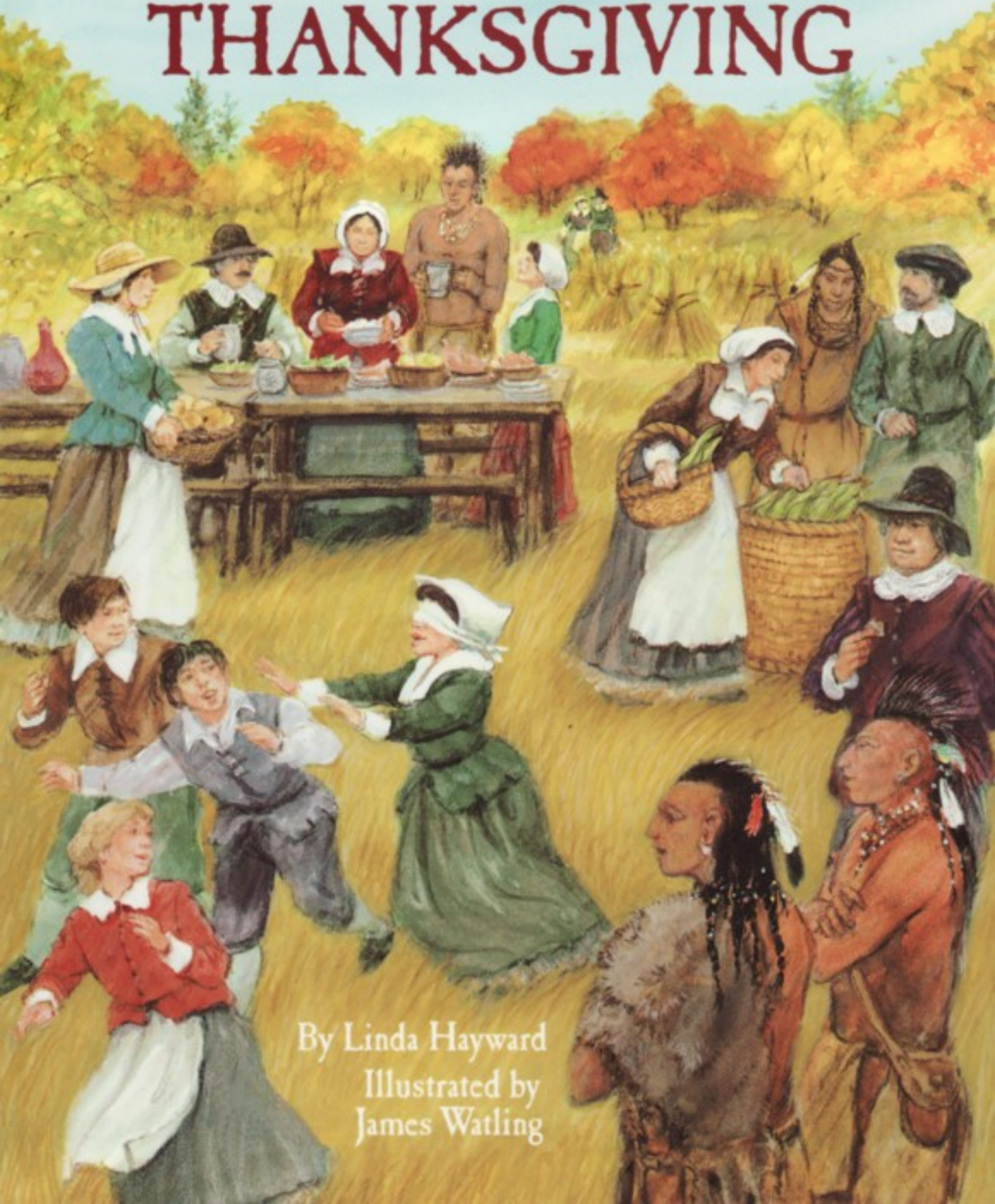
STEP INTO READING®

reading on your own

STEP

3

# THE FIRST THANKSGIVING



By Linda Hayward  
Illustrated by  
James Watling



Plymouth, England—1620.

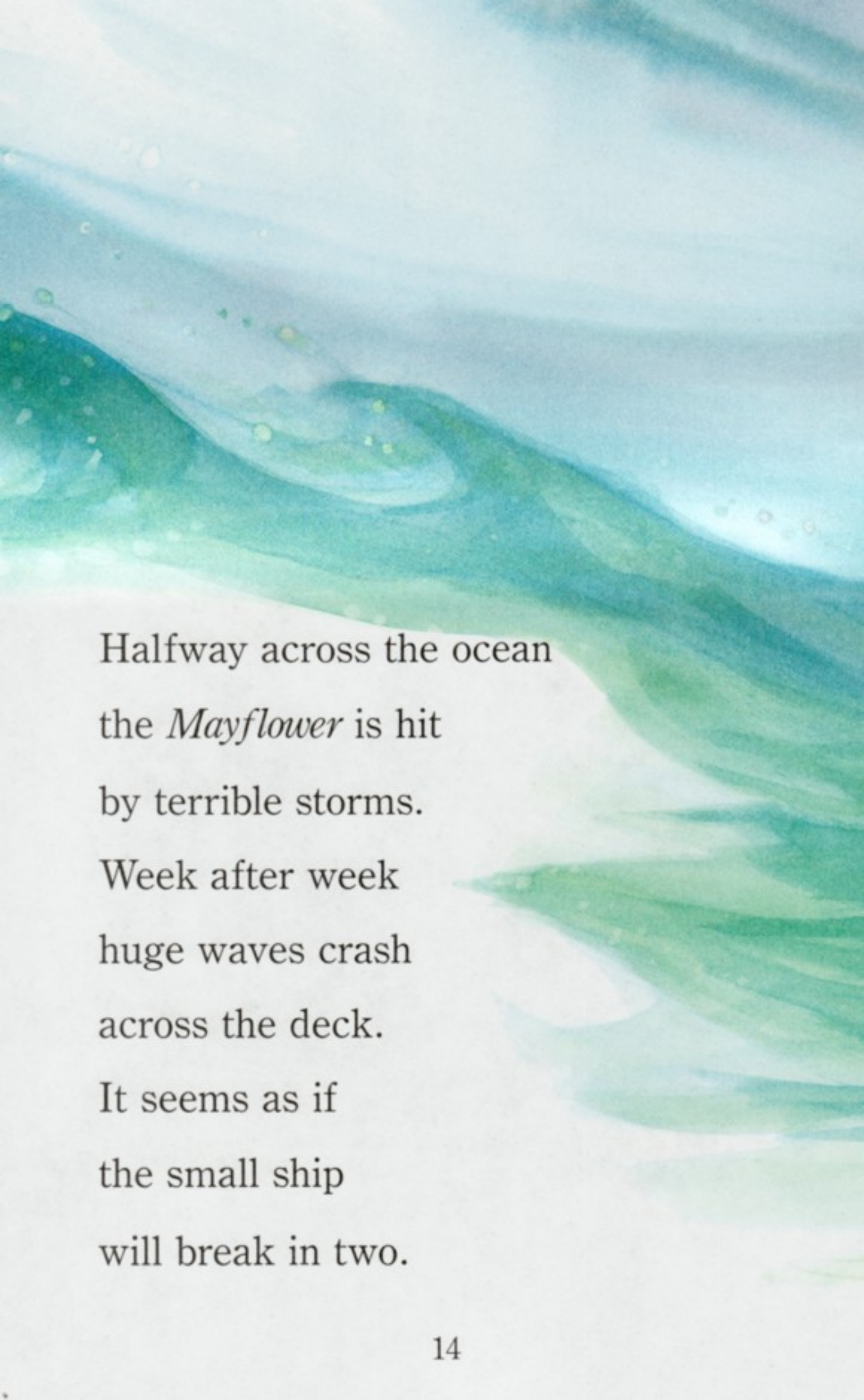
A ship is in the harbor  
taking on passengers.

The people going aboard  
seem too poor  
and too ordinary  
to ever be famous.

And yet their names  
are now in history books.

Now, almost 400 years later,  
we still tell their story.



A watercolor illustration of a stormy sea. The background is a pale, hazy blue. Large, dark green and teal waves are crashing over a white deck. The waves are rendered with soft, blended colors and some small white highlights, suggesting foam and spray. The overall mood is dramatic and turbulent.

Halfway across the ocean  
the *Mayflower* is hit  
by terrible storms.  
Week after week  
huge waves crash  
across the deck.  
It seems as if  
the small ship  
will break in two.



The Pilgrims begin a new life  
in a new land.

There is so much to do.

They must build houses  
before they can leave the ship.

But it is winter.

Bad weather slows them down.

It takes weeks  
to finish just one house.



STEP  
3

# STEP INTO READING®

reading on your own

It's time for YOU!  
Pick your favorite  
spot to read.  
This is going to be  
a great book!

What this book is about . . .

**The First Thanksgiving**

The Pilgrims set sail for far-off America  
in 1620. The cross-Atlantic journey was long  
and hard. So were the winters in the new land.



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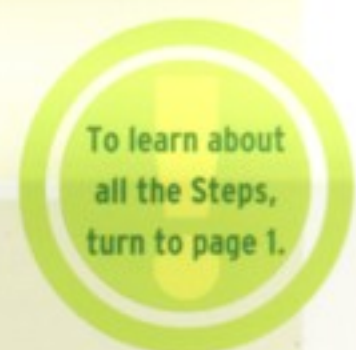
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