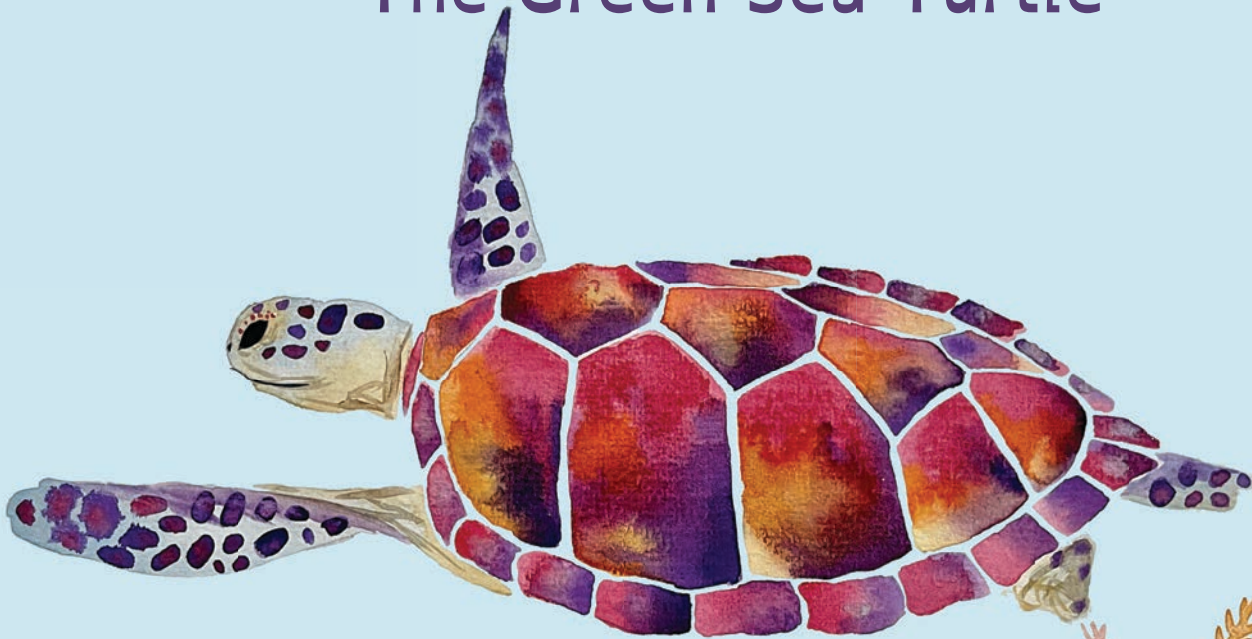


Plugga

The Green Sea Turtle



Written & Illustrated by Kirsty Esson

Based on a true story.



Plugga is a Green Sea Turtle.

When Plugga was young she was so small. In fact she was as small as a 50c coin!



COFFS
HARBOUR



Plugga was rescued in 1990 when she was found washed up on the beach with much of her left-rear flipper missing. She was looked after by the team at the Dolphin Marine Conservation Park, in Coffs Harbour, where she learned to swim with her handicap.





Plugga settled into her new life extremely well and made it her home for the next 30 years.



Now Plugga is no longer so small
and she grew so big that she
needed to find a new, and bigger,
forever home.

Plugga was now **120kg!**

Luckily the team at SEA LIFE
Sydney Aquarium had a huge
1.7 million litre Great Barrier Reef
oceanarium, and were happy to
welcome Plugga into the
Sydney family.

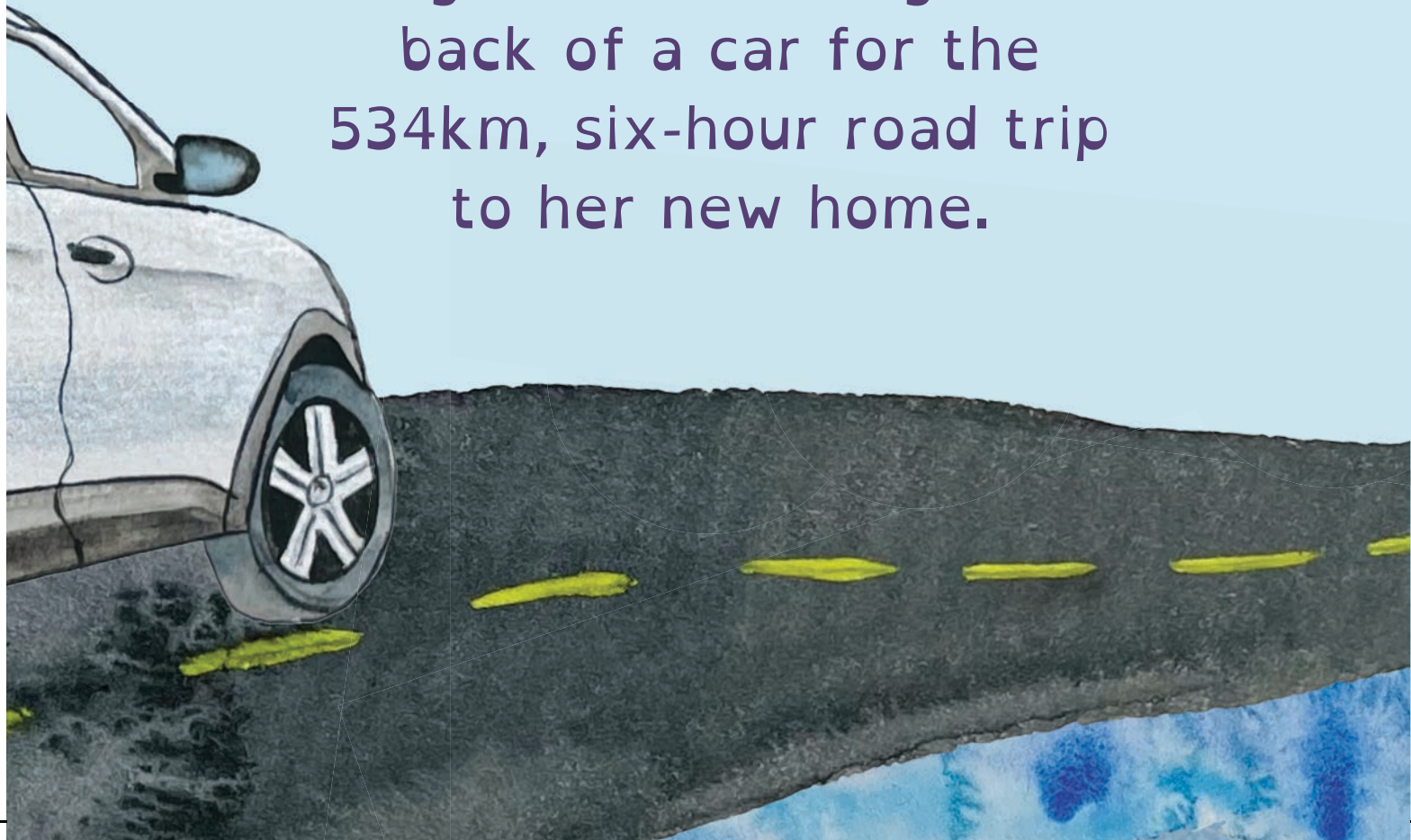






SEA LIFE Sydney aquarists Emily and Tish went to Coffs Harbour to meet Plugga.

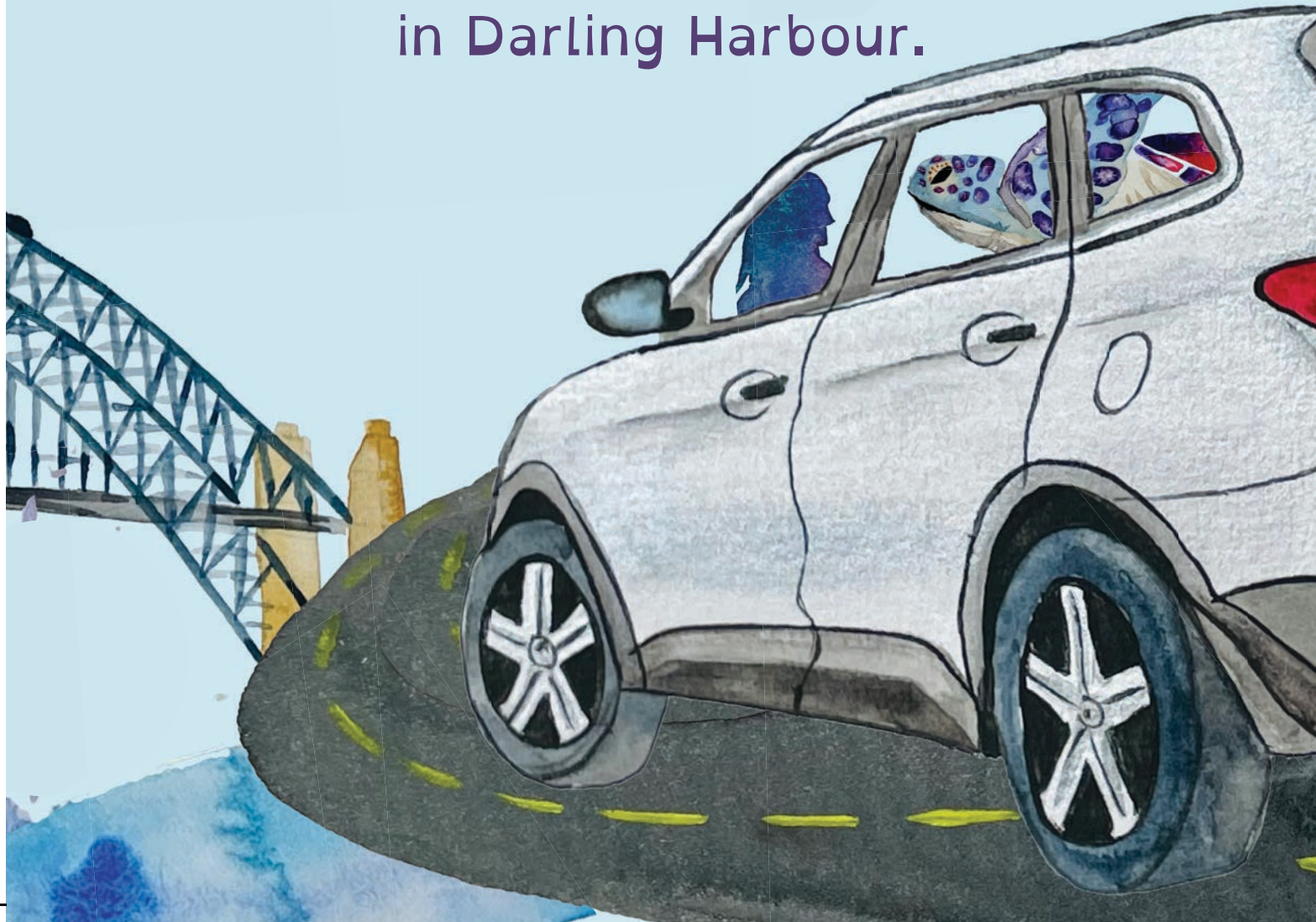
She was fitted into a custom designed turtle sling in the back of a car for the 534km, six-hour road trip to her new home.



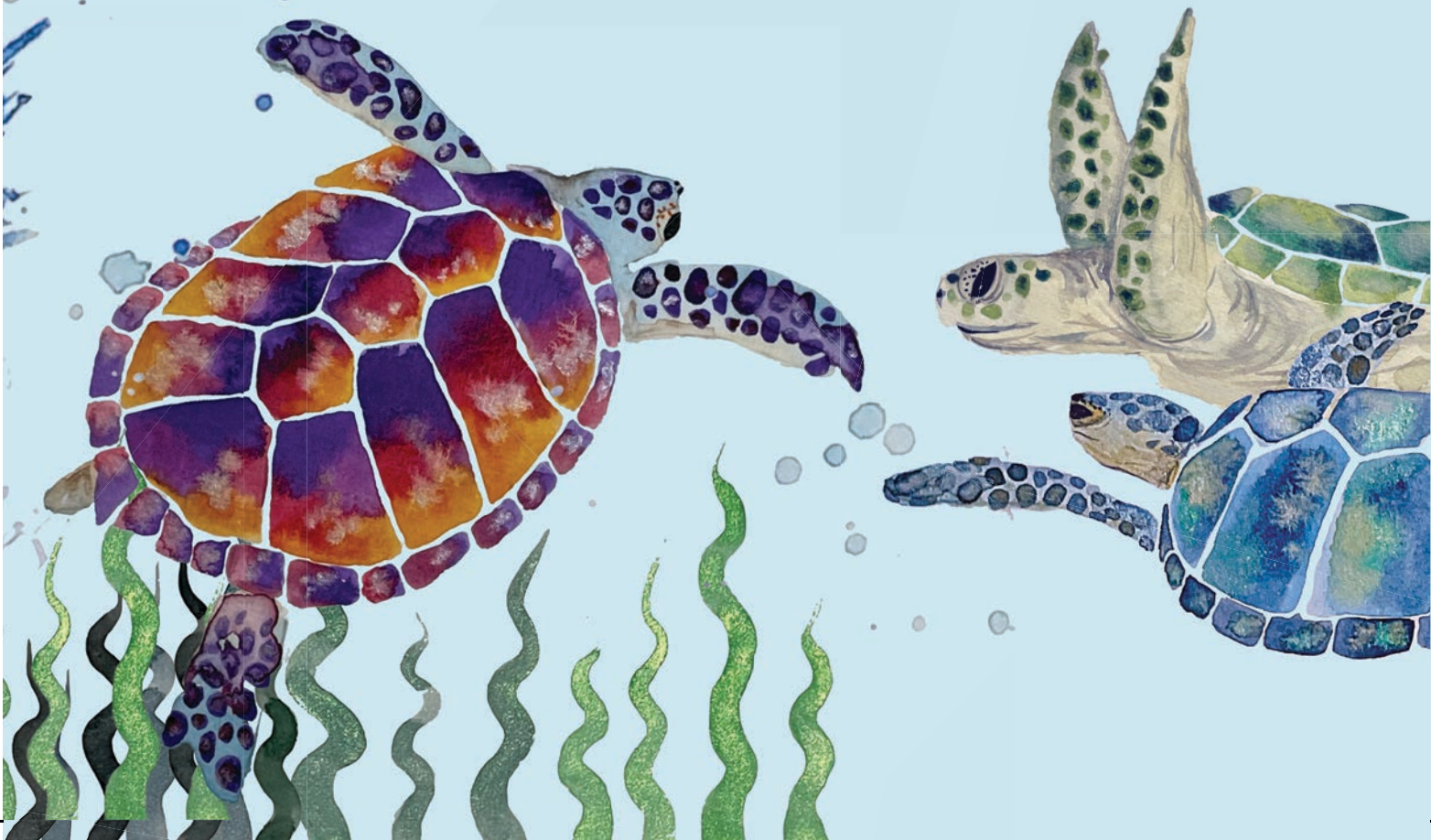
Emily and Tish made sure she was comfortable for the trip, checking on her regularly.



Plugga saw so much on her road trip,
she even drove over the Sydney
Harbour Bridge. Finally, Plugga
reached SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium
in Darling Harbour.



Plugga was ready to settle into
her forever home and make
friends with her two tank mates,
Loggerhead Turtles,
Dave and Chong.



Green Sea Turtles can live up to 80 years, have the potential to grow up to 1.5 metres long and weigh up to 300kg!

Plugga certainly has a fair bit of growing to do and she will do it under the careful watch of the SEA LIFE Sydney team, who love her very much.



Her injury may mean she can't be released, however guests from all over the world can now come to visit Plugga, and she is a great ambassador for the species.



Guests who visit her can learn all about the challenges Sea Turtles face in the ocean and the little changes we can all make to help secure their future.



Visiting Plugga at SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium is an excellent way for guests to get up close to an adult Green Sea Turtle. Plugga is a great ambassador for the species whereby guests can learn about the challenges Sea Turtles face in the ocean and the little changes we can all make to secure their future.

SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium has an animal rescue centre on site to help injured or sick turtles and other sea creatures. The centre has the approved permits to rescue animals from all of NSW and a dedicated team of curators and aquarists who rehabilitate and nurse the patients back to health, with the goal of releasing them back into the wild.



Plugga on her 534km journey to SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium



Plugga in her new home at SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium



All profits from the sale of this book will be donated to registered charity the SEA LIFE Trust, which will in turn put the funds to use on conservation campaigns, scientific research & inspiring education - all in the name of these majestic sea creatures who are facing very real threats in the wild.

For more information visit: www.visitsealife.com/sydney

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@Kirsty_esson_art



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